

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3065

Press

~~Mis.~~

166. 167

Dated

19-12-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th December 1865.*

No. 166. Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Sydapett, 8th December 1865, No. 244:—

1. I have the honor to submit my report on the circumstances connected with Mr. Locke the Deputy Collector's insolvency; as called for in the Government Order, dated 24th November 1865, No. 2,896.

2. The four enclosures are, (1), a Memorandum drawn up by Mr Locke in accordance with my request, stating in detail the causes which led to his seeking the benefit of the Insolvent Act; (2), the first Schedule filed by Mr. Locke in the Court; (3), the amended Schedule; (4), the discharge order in Mr. Locke's case, which was passed on the 23rd November last.

3. On the first of these, no comment is necessary. Mr. Locke has entered into all the circumstances connected with his misfortunes in a straightforward and honorable manner, though there is much which it must have been extremely painful for him to make public.

4. As regards the Schedules filed by Mr. Locke, although it must be admitted that the liabilities are very large in proportion to Mr. Locke's salary, I am convinced that they are the result rather of a continued series of misfortunes, which it has been the lot of few men to cope with, rather than of any wanton and premeditated extravagance. It may be urged that Mr. Locke was wrong in accepting the post of Deputy Collector with liabilities to so large an amount outstanding; but it must be remembered that to Mr. Locke this was an opportunity, unexpectedly offered, of extricating himself from his difficulties by setting apart a monthly sum for his creditors. This he proposed to do soon after he was appointed to the post of Deputy Collector, and even made an offer of half his salary for that purpose, an arrangement which was opposed by only one out of his many creditors. In consequence of the persistent opposition of this one man, Mr. Locke was forced at last on on the 23rd October 1865 to seek the benefit of the Insolvent Act; and in accordance with the orders of Government was on the 16th ultimo suspended from office.

5. By the Judge's order it will be seen that Mr. Locke has now obtained his personal discharge in respect of all debts mentioned in his Schedule; and should he continue in his present office, he informs me that he has been ordered to pay a sum of 250 Rupees monthly to his creditors.

6. His whole case is now before Government, and I beg most strongly to recommend that he may be re-instated in his former post as Deputy Collector. Personally I have the highest regard for Mr. Locke as an upright and useful public servant, who has faithfully discharged the duties entrusted to him. If allowed to retain his present post he may hope within a few years to find himself free from all liabilities; whereas his removal would plunge him into new and probably inextricable difficulties. Mr. Locke has been in his present position for six years, and I have never heard a complaint against him as long as I have had charge of this District. In conclusion, I would request that as Christmas holidays are approaching, and as each day of suspense is an additional anxiety to Mr. Locke and his family, early orders may be passed on this matter. At present Mr. Wigram, the

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Assistant Collector, is in charge of the Treasury, and performing the other duties of the Deputy Collector. I also beg that Mr. Locke's Memorandum may be kept as private as possible, and returned to me with the final orders of Government.

No. 167. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1865, No. 3,065.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the restoration of Mr. Locke to his office in consideration of the earnest recommendation of the Collector in his behalf, and of the high character which he bears for ability and efficiency.

2. Mr. Locke must, however, distinctly understand that he will be removed from the public service if he incurs fresh liabilities or fails in his present engagements towards his creditors.

3. Mr. Locke will draw subsistence allowance (one-fourth of his salary) during the period he was under suspension.

Financial Proceedings of the Government of India, dated 26th September 1865, No. 2,528, published in "Fort Saint George Gazette," page 530, dated 10th October 1865.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Madras.
To the Board of Revenue.
To Mr. S. R. Locke.
To the Accountant General.

Read letter from the Collector of Madras

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creditors.

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Revenue 1865 Sept 15
Per. of Joseph H. Bloom

No 3065

Wm. J. W. W. W. W. W.
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Transacting the
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No 166-167