

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	894	Press ~~Mis.~~
	18-19	
Dated	2-5-1865.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd May 1865.*

No. 18. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st April 1865, No. 1,998 :—

Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1865, No. 164 :—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge Miscellaneous Circular, No. XVIII., forwarding copy of the Minutes recorded by His Excellency the Governor on his recent tour to Nellore and the Northern Sirkars, together with the Proceedings of Government thereon, and calling upon me to report on paragraphs 21 to 24 of His Excellency's second Minute.

2. The question raised in those paragraphs is how funds for the *maintenance* of purely local roads leading from the coast to the interior can best be obtained by local taxation; and attention is drawn to a suggestion made to His Excellency by Mr. Minchin of Aska "to levy a duty upon all the grain brought down and shipped "in coasting craft," such as is now levied on grain shipped to foreign countries.

3. I see no reason to doubt, that, as soon as these important roads are *constructed* by the State, (and in a District which your Third Member lately branded, in an official report, as a "waste, howling wilderness," they can scarcely be said to be commenced,) the community concerned will cheerfully contribute this additional taxation towards their *maintenance*. Besides grain and pulses, however, I should be inclined to tax in the same way, the following articles :—Seeds, drugs, *lac*, hides, horns, tobacco, bees-wax, spices, piece-goods, gunnies and gunny-bags, oils and provisions.

4. The total value of these exports (coast-wise) at present is seven lacs. An *ad valorem* duty of 5 per cent. would produce 35,000 Rupees; add an Anna in the Rupee, during the new assessment, to the Puttahs of our Ryots in the two Government Talooks of Sarvasiddhi and Golconda, and you have a total of 50,000 Rupees, which would be found amply sufficient for the maintenance of the lines of road which the Government propose to construct.

5. As pointed out by the Superintending Engineer, (Appendix I. of the little pamphlet on the District which I compiled for His Excellency Sir W. Denison on his visit to Vizagapatam, and copy of which I had the honor of sending the Board, without receiving as yet any acknowledgment of its arrival,) this District commenced its career of road-making in the year 1850 only. "At the close of the preceding year, the Collector reported that there was not a mile of road or highway in the District." Being called upon to state the condition of the roads, he submitted, in the simplicity of his heart, a detailed description of the anchorage at the several ports, and on being informed that a report was required on the other kind of roads, Mr. Smollett's *ipsissima verba* then were that "there is not a mile of road in the District along which you can drive either a gig or a pig." Matters have considerably improved since that time. We have now "About 200 miles of fair "road at a cost of 3½ lacs, and kept in repair by an annual outlay of Rupees 27,000, "but to put the communications of the District on a moderately good footing, there "remain still upwards of 320 miles of road below the gháts to be made and bridged,

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"the probable cost of which will be six lacs, besides which, two good communications with Jeypore will have to be established at a cost of three lacs more. Of the 320 miles below gháts remaining to be done, 78 are already sanctioned, and in progress."

Submitted to Government, with reference to the Order quoted by the Collector. The Board doubt the expediency of levying exceptional export duties for the maintenance of roads leading to the port of export. They would prefer to see sufficient funds collected for the *maintenance* of all roads once made by means of a Wheel Tax, combined with a Road Cess on the lands of all proprietors, whether the lands be held on Zemindary or Ryotwary tenure.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, 2nd May 1865, No. 894.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to lie over pending the reports called for in G. O., 14th March last, No. 545.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 1,998.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 21st April 1865.

Read the following letter from D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st March 1865, No. 164:—

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3. I see no reason to doubt, that, as soon as these important roads are *constructed* by the State, (and in a District which your Third Member lately branded, in an official report, as a "waste, howling wilderness," they can scarcely be said to be commenced,) the community concerned will cheerfully contribute this additional taxation towards their *maintenance*. Besides grain and pulses, however, I should be inclined to tax in the same way, the following articles:—Seeds, drugs, lac, hides, horns, tobacco, bees-wax, spices, piece-goods, gunnies and gunny bags, oils and provisions.

4. The total value of these exports (coast-wise) at present is seven lacs. An *ad-valorem* duty of 5 per cent. would produce 35,000 Rupees; add an anna in the rupee, during the new assessment, to the Puttahs of our Ryots in the two Government Taluks of Sarvasiddhi and Gollonda, and you have a total of 50,000 Rupees, which would be found amply sufficient for the maintenance of the lines of road which the Government propose to construct.

5. As pointed out by the Superintending Engineer, (Appendix I. of the little pamphlet on the District which I mailed for His Excellency Sir W. D. Wilson on his visit to Vizagapatam, and copy of which I had the honor of sending the Board, without receiving as yet any acknowledgment of its arrival,) this District commenced its career of road-making in the year 1850 only. "At the close of the preceding year, the Collector reported that there was not a mile of road or highway in the District." Being called upon to state the condition of the roads, he submitted, in the simplicity of his heart, a detailed description of the anchorage at the several ports, and on being informed that a report was required on the other kind of roads, Mr. Smollett's *ipsissima verba* then were that "there is not a mile of road in the District along which you can drive either a gig or a pig." Matters have considerably improved since that time. We have now "About 200 miles of fair road at a cost of 3½ lacs, and kept in repair by an annual outlay of Rupees 27,000, but to put the communications of the District on a moderately good footing, there remain still upwards of 320 miles of road below the ghauts to be made and bridged, the probable cost of which will be six lacs, besides which, two good communications with Jeypore will have to be established at a cost of three lacs more. Of the 320 miles below ghauts remaining to be done, 78 are already sanctioned, and in progress."

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

R. A. Dalyell
Acting Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to D. F. Carmichael, Esq., Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright.

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Richard D.
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22 May 1865
1865 11/11/85

18-19.

21 May 1865

Rev. 1865. Department
Lieverbury

No. 1075.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 21st April 1865.
1865 24 June
1865 25.

For 11/11/85
22 May 1865 2433

No 1,998.

Submitting with remarks, letter from the Col-
lector of Vizagapatam on the subject of raising
funds for the maintenance of purely local roads
leading from the Coast to the interior.

1865 24 June
1865 25