

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2 2 2 3

Press

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673.674

Dated

27-8-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th August 1866.*

No. 673. Read the following letter from the Commissioner for the Government of the Territories of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Bangalore, 14th August 1866, No. 2,208-16 :—

No. 1,984-13, dated 1st August 1866. 1. In continuation of my letter noted in the margin, I have the honor to enclose, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a docket No. 1,466-58, dated the 10th instant, and its annexure, from the Acting Superintendent of Ashtagram, intimating that no prohibition against the export of grain has been issued either by the Deputy Superintendent of Mysore or by the Amildars of the frontier Talooks.

2. The apprehension excited by the reported plundering of the Gooduloor bazaar may, in my opinion, have temporarily prevented Mysore dealers from exporting grain to Wynaad, but so far as the action of the Mysore Government is concerned, strict injunctions not to interfere either with selling rates or the exportation of grain have been issued, and these orders have recently been emphatically repeated in a Circular which appeared in the Mysore Gazette of August the 11th, a copy of which is herein enclosed.

From the Superintendent Ashtagram Division, to the Secretary to the Commissioner, dated 10th August 1866, No. 1,466-58.

This Office No. 1,357-57 of the 4th instant.

In continuation of the above, submits copy of a docket from the Mysore Deputy Superintendent, from which it would appear that no prohibition against the export of grain has been issued.

From the Deputy Superintendent Mysore District, to the Superintendent Ashtagram Division, dated 8th August 1866, No. 1,055-433.

In continuation of this Office letter, No. 1,009-412, dated 3rd instant, forwards four original reports, Nos. 308-325, 251-263, 327-252, and 252-253, dated 4th, 5th, and 6th instant, respectively, from the Amildars of Periapattam, Heggadevankota, Chamrajnugur and Goondulpett (to be obligingly returned), bringing to notice that they have not issued any Takeed prohibiting the exportation of articles to Her Majesty's territories.

CIRCULAR.

Revenue, No. 2,000-13, 1866-67.

To the Superintendents of Nundidroog, Ashtagram, and Nugur Divisions, and Coorg.

1. In transmitting to you the enclosed copy of the Circular instructions issued in 1822, by the Government of Sir Thomas Munro, with a view to prescribing the duties of Executive Civil Officers in times of scarcity and threatened famine, I am directed by the Commissioner to observe that in the analogous circumstances which now exist, it is his urgent desire that no interference should be exercised by any Officer holding executive authority in this Province, with respect either to the selling prices of grain or to its free exportation. The necessary effect of such interference, he remarks, is to set aside, arbitrarily, all arrangements entered into between grain dealers and the ryots, and it is difficult to foresee the consequences which may arise from such measures.

2. The Commissioner desires that these instructions may be communicated in an explicit manner to any Officer, whether European or Native, subordinate to you, whose proceedings or

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
27th August 1866.*

views in this matter may be known by you to have differed from them, and that you will enjoin upon them the absolute necessity of conforming strictly to the directions which have now been laid down for their guidance.

MYSORE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
BANGALORE,
3rd August 1866.

(Signed) T. G. CLARKE,
For Secretary.

CIRCULAR.

Judicial Department, No. 274.

First.—It having been brought to the notice of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that an Assistant Magistrate recently issued a Proclamation requiring the dealers in grain to keep and sell in the bazaar a large quantity of grain as usual, under pain of severe punishment; and that the Criminal Judge of the same Zillah passed sentences of heavy fine and imprisonment upon persons for raising and intending to raise the price of grain, I am directed to point out to you the illegality and impropriety of proceedings of such a nature.

Second.—It is universally found that a free market adjusts the supply to the demand, and the price to the expense of production, with an accuracy and rapidity with which the most enlightened exercise of public authority could not vie. Supply and price must necessarily fluctuate with the circumstances on which they are dependant; but the free competition of buyers and sellers fixes them always for the time at the point which those circumstances denote. The case of a scarcity forms no exception to the general rule against the interposition of authority to augment the supply or reduce the price. If the crops have been scanty, no other means than those of a diminished supply and an increased price will enable them to last through the year. The price must also rise to cover the increased expense of production and importation. There is no danger that the price will rise higher or the supply fall lower than these objects require, since the competition among the dealers in grain will make them keep it at a fair price, and their common interest will induce them, in the course of the year, to bring out the whole stock for consumption.

Third.—The whole duty of the Magistrate, therefore, consists in guarding against popular tumult, and removing every impediment to the most perfect openness and freedom of the market. To punish dealers for not selling or for selling too dear, is, besides the illegality of the proceeding, to pretend to understand their interest better than they do themselves.

Fourth.—The Governor in Council trusts that your conduct will invariably be regulated by the principles explained above.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
12th July 1822.

(Signed) D. HILL,
Secretary to Government

(Copies.)

(Signed) L. BOWRING,
Commissioner.

No. 674. ORDER THEREON, 27th August 1866, No. 2,223.

Separate Revenue, No. 29.
Customs.

Communicated to the Collector of Malabar.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Malabar.
,, the Editor's Table.
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro-11 Aug/66 N^o 280-2.
2608/56

Rev. 1866 Oct 10th ✓
From The Commissioner of Mysore
To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St. George.
Dated 14th August.
Despatched 15th August.
Received 18th.

Enclosures No. 4.
General N^o 2208 } 1866-67.
Revenue N^o 16 }

In continuation of letter
N^o 1984 dated 1st August 1866,
encloses for information with
certain remarks, copy of a docket
N^o 1466 dated the 10th Instant,
and its annexure from the Acting
Superintendent of the Ashagram Division
reporting on the alleged prohibition
of export of grain to the Wynand
by the Mysore Officials.
Comd to the C. W. of
Malabar.

J. D. S.
Ed: Table. 27th Aug 1866

N^o 673-674.

Copy to the Collector of Malabar Despatched 27th