M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2522 Press ~~Mis.~~

10-12 Dated 1—10— 19 1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/12

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st October 1868.

Read the following papers:—

No. 10. From the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Sydapet, 18th July 1868, No. 129.

I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of Government, a letter received from one Mr. Robert Stanes, requesting me to obtain the sanction of Government for the general adoption of a set of standard Measures* that could not be easily tampered with, and as sample he has sent three sets made of earthenware, glass, and metal, respectively, which accompany this.

* 1 Wooden box by the bearer Syed Ahmed, cooly paid.

From R. STANES, Esq., to the Collector of Madras, dated Coimbatore, 13th July 1868.

1. I have the honor to send you to-day, through my Agents Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair and Co., three sets of Measures (Madras standard) which I have had made in England.

2. The advisability of having one standard measure in our bazaar has often been discussed at our Municipal Meetings, but the chief difficulty appeared to be that of introducing a measure that could not be tampered with. This engaged my attention for some time, and after a good deal of trouble I obtained from England the three sets now sent you, made of earthenware, glass, and metal, respectively.

3. The Madras full measure should contain, I believe, 100 cubic inches, the half measure 50 cubic inches, and so on. I therefore ordered measures of this standard, according to our late Collector's (P. Grant, Esq.) advice.

4. The earthenware Measures prove to be a failure, being so brittle and very liable to breakage; besides the great difficulty experienced in making them *exact*.

5. Those in glass are exact, having been tested by a Chemist at home before they were despatched. They are strong, clean, and cannot be tampered with, but could not be supplied in Madras under Rupees 2-15-0 per set of five measures.

6. The galvanized iron measures sent, though not exact, can be made so. I ordered these as I feared the two larger sizes in glass would be too heavy for general use. The set of metal measures could not be supplied in Madras under Rupees 2-8-0 per set.

7. But as the two larger measures in metal are so much cheaper than those of same size in glass, and the three smaller in glass considerably cheaper than similar sizes in metal, I think a good and serviceable set of measures could be supplied in Madras at Rupees 2-4-0 per set, as follows:—

			Rs.	A.	P.
Full	Measure	in Metal	0	12	0
Half	do.	do.	0	9	0
Quarter	do.	Glass	0	8	0
One-eighth	do.	do.	0	4	0
One-sixteenth	do.	do.	0	3	0
		Total	2	4	0

The measures would be stamped in a similar manner to those now sent, (say Madras standard), and would be guaranteed exact in cubic contents, &c.

8. I may mention that I have already communicated with Colonel Denison, President of Municipal Commission, on this subject, and he thoroughly approved of the glass measures, and wished much they could be introduced into the Madras bazaars, though he had no power of doing so himself. He sent me a set of the cheap iron measures made and passed in your office, I believe; but I find them anything but exact.

9. Our Coimbatore bazaar contains no standard measure, some use a local measure, others the Madras measure, as it best suits their convenience for buying and selling. If Municipalities were furnished with a few hundred sets of these measures, and they were adopted as a "*standard*"* within Municipalities, I fully believe we should soon perceive a most beneficial result throughout the districts, and much roguery with measures be thereby overcome.

* By which all other measures could be tested.

10. I shall feel obliged by your giving this letter your fullest consideration, and by your laying the matter before Government at an early date.

11. I should be happy to supply measures to Government at the abovementioned rates, and having been put to some expense and much trouble in the matter, I am in hopes my object may be gained, not only as a matter of business to myself, but also because of the vast benefit the country would derive in having a standard measure throughout.

Transferred to Revenue Department.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for their remarks.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
21*st July* 1868.

No. 11. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th September 1868.

Read Endorsement of Government on a letter from Collector of Madras, dated 18th July 1868, No. 129.

1. The advantage of standard measures of capacity, such as those proposed by Mr. Stanes, is undeniable.

2. The difficulty in dealing with the subject arises from the fact of the alteration of the standard being at present under discussion.

3. The Committee appointed in Madras in 1864, to consider the question, gave it as their opinion in favor of the scheme of Mr. Bayley, based as the adoption of a measure equivalent to the English Imperial quart, sub-divided by eighths.

4. A Committee appointed by the Supreme Government has recently considered the subject of the weights and measures of India, but neither the result of their deliberation, nor the decision of the Supreme Government, have yet been made public.

5. Under this condition of uncertainty, the Board would not feel themselves justified in advising any scheme involving considerable cost, suitable solely to the present standard.

6. They are of opinion, however, that as an experiment a certain number of sets, say 2,000, might be ordered by Government for sale in the various districts and Municipalities.

7. At present an establishment is maintained for testing and marking the measures of the existing standard, and this would be merely an extension of the system.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1*st October* 1868.

8. The set proposed by Mr. Stanes is as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Quart, metal	0	12	0
Pint, ,, ...	0	9	0
Half do. glass	0	8	0
Quarter do. ,, ...	0	4	0
One-eighth do. ,, ...	0	3	0
	2	4	0

No. 12. ORDER THEREON, 1st October 1868, No. 2,522.

Miscellaneous.

The Government are not of opinion that it is desirable at present to take any steps towards introducing the Madras measure as the general measure of capacity. The Board of Revenue were directed in G. O., under date 20th December 1864, No. 2,291, to require all sales of country spirits to be made by Imperial measure after 1866. If this provision has not been inserted in the Abkarry licenses for the present Fusly, it should not be omitted in those for Fusly 1279, and due notice of the provision should be given to the renters and to the public.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, all Collectors.
,, the President of the Municipal Commission of Madras.
,, the Public Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 1st.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 1st October 1868, No. 2,522.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 10-12.

Standard Measures.—Mr. Stanes' report to introduce the Madras measure as the standard measure of capacity, declined. Board to introduce the Imperial measure in the sale of country spirits.

No. 2522.

3x

The Govt are not of opinion that it is desirable at present to take any steps towards introducing the Madras measure as the Imperial measure of capacity. The Board of Revenue were directed in G. O under date 20th Dec. 1864 No 2291 to require all sales of country Spirits to be made by Imperial measure after 1866. If this provision has not been inserted in the Abkary licenses for the present fasli, it should not be omitted in those for fasli 1269 and due notice of the provision should be given to the Renters and to the public

1470 Bd of Rev. Despos
49 all Collectors
1 Dept of the Govt and Comm. of Madras.

1st. Octr. /68.

Revenue 1868 Deptt
Fo 8 Court Jan Dc Ans
N. 2999

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 18th Sept. 1868
Desp.d 18-
Rec.d 19th

From the Sec.y to the Board of
Rev.e dd 10 April 69 C.N.o 1163.

Recommending
that Govt. should order
a certain number of
sets of the Standard
Measures of Capacity
proposed by Mr. Staines
for sale in the several
D.ts & Municipalities
No 2522. dd.d
with order

Rec.o 10-11

26 Sept 68