

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2685

Press
~~Mis~~

128.129

Dated

6 - 10 - 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th October 1866.*

No. 128. Read the following letter from the Collector of Malabar, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Calicut, 19th September 1866, No. 125 :—

1. Adverting to Government Order, dated 1st August 1866, No. 1,913, I venture to submit the following remarks for the consideration of Government before taking further action in the matter.

2. There are some 965 cases of Garden Ináms in Malabar. My proposition, concurred in by the Officiating Inám Commissioner, was to grant these on the quit-rents at present payable according to the Inám Rules, and ruling method of assessment in Malabar, and the necessary calculations have been made, so that the whole matter can be disposed of at once.

3. Only, as the principle of tree tax is not in accordance with the generally entertained opinions as now held, and, as remarked by Government, if a revision is made, the system of a tree toll will be abandoned, and an assessment fixed on the land, I thought it best to make the present arrangement temporary, so far that it should only hold till a general revision of the garden assessments be made.

There is nothing indefinite in principle in this arrangement.

It is, on the contrary, very clear and simple, and I can confidently state, is intelligible and generally agreeable to the people concerned.

4. But it is most undesirable, in my opinion, to fix permanently in reference to Inámdars, what we allow to be faulty and requiring revision as soon as it can be made with reference to the assessed garden cultivators generally—to settle in fact a portion, on principles which we concede are not appropriate to the whole.

5. To fix permanently the quit-rent on the Garden Ináms will require, first, a clear understanding of the principles on which the assessment is to be transferred from the trees to the land, on which the existing tree toll is to be converted into an equitable land tax.

This cannot be done without consideration, and will involve very considerable delay. Indeed, it indefinitely postpones the Inám Settlement. It will involve, moreover, to settle properly, a further amount of work quite incommensurate with the object.

6. On the other hand, if my proposition is adopted, the addition of a clause in the Inám Deed, a breach of uniformity which, I submit, the case sufficiently justifies, settles the question at once on intelligible principles, and will only require a modification of the quit-rent on equally clear and intelligible principles when the garden assessments are revised.

7. It is probable, I think almost certain, that the revision of garden assessment, when undertaken, will lead to the abandonment of the tree toll, and the assessment of the land. Surely that will be the most natural and appropriate time to fix the assessment on the land on the Maniems. Till then, I respectfully submit, we can best deal with the existing tree toll.

8. Copy of this is sent to the Inám Commissioner.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th October 1866.*

No. 129. ORDER THEREON, 6th October 1866, No. 2,635.

Land Revenue.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for report
after consulting the Inam Commissioner.
(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Malabar.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

22-2685.

*Forwarded to the Bd. of Revenue
for report after consulting the Inam
Commissioner.*

Ld S

6th Octr/66

*Bd of Revenue - 6th
of Malabar - 17*

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Pro 1st Augt/66 no. 5.6

12.7.05

Pro Board of Revenue
13 Novr/66 no. 4117-

N^o 125429

Recd. 1866 Department
Pro. of Govt. 20 October
1866
From N^o 3293.
The Collector of Malabar
To
The Secretary to Govt.
Fort St. George

Dated 19th } September 1866
Recd. 24th }
N^o 125

Re-
Remarking in reference to
of G. O. dated 1st August 1866
no. 7913 that the Quit rent
on garden Inams may be
fixed in accordance with
tree toll principle at present
obtaining in Malabar

N^o 2685. 6. Oct.

With answer L