M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3369 Press ~~Mis.~~

222. 223

Dated 13 — 12 — ~~19~~ 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th December 1866.

No. 222. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th December 1866, No. 8,652.

Read the following letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 19th November 1866, No. 230:—

1. In acknowledgment of the Board's Proceedings, dated 25th ultimo, No. 7,710, paragraph 7, I beg strongly to recommend that the Madras Act III. of 1866 be not brought into operation in this district until after the close of the present Fusly year. My reasons for this recommendation are the unusually adverse character of the past season, and the consequent distress which will be felt for some time to come among the agricultural, as well as all other classes of the community.

2. The arrangements can be made for introducing the Act from the commencement of Fusly 1277, or from the 1st July next year.

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1. Submitted to Government, with reference to paragraph 3 of Government Order dated 10th October 1866, No. 2,736, Revenue Department.

2. The Board are not prepared to advocate the introduction of the Act at an early date than that recommended by the Collector.

No. 223. ORDER THEREON, 13th December 1866, No. 3,369.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government are unable to admit the validity of the Collector's argument.

2. There has no doubt been considerable distress in the South Arcot District among the poorer classes, but the resources of the agricultural community have not been impaired. The present season, from the produce of which the cess will be paid, is very promising, and prices continue high.

3. The new cess will, according to the Collector's estimate, yield Rupees 42,000 more than the present Road Cess of 1 Anna per Cawnie in some parts and 4 Pice in the Rupee in other parts of the district. But the new cess, it must be remembered, will relieve the poorer soils subject to the Cawnie rate, and will fall more heavily than the latter only on lands assessed above 2 Rupees per acre, which can very well bear the slight additional charge.

4. The cess on good Nunjah land rated at 7 Rupees per acre will amount only to 3 Annas and 2 Pice per annum.

5. The introduction of the new cess will have the further advantage of ensuring contributions from the Inámdars of the district, who have hitherto escaped taxation for roads, though deriving benefit from them equally with the Government ryots.

6. The introduction of the new cess in the middle of the year will not involve much trouble; the ryots will be required to pay 6 Pice per cawnie or 2 Pice in the Rupee, as the case may be, for the half-year ending 31st instant, and 3 Pice in the Rupee for the remaining period.

7. The necessary Notification will now be issued, introducing the cess at the full rate from the 1st proximo.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant General.
„ the Public Works Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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Revenue 1866 Dispatch
Pro of Govt for December

Pro. No. 242. 245 d 10.1.0.66.

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Pro of the Madras Govt
D/ 10th December 1866.

Passing orders
with reference to the
introduction of Road
Cess Act in the D.t of
South Arcot.

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