

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	108	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	16 - 1 -	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th January 1868.*

No. 210. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Judicial Department:—

Accepting the explanation afforded by Mr. Bliss }
regarding the publication of a Notification for } (Here enter 10th January 1868, No. 22.)
candidates for vacancies in his office.

No. 211. ORDER THEREON, 14th January 1868, No. 108.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of
Revenue and to Mr. Bliss.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. BRANDT,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, }
„ H. W. Bliss, Esq., } With Proceedings Judicial Department, No. 22.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
8th January 1868.*

No. 40. Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Agnumpudy, 12th December 1867, No. 1018.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, No. 1959, dated 2nd instant, on the subject of the Notice which appeared in the *Kistna District Gazette* of the 15th June last, signed by Mr. Bliss, then Acting Principal Assistant of this District, I have the honor respectfully to submit at his request an explanation of the reasons which induced him to publish it.

2. As the notice appeared in the *Gazette* of this District also the G. O. above mentioned shall be published.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting Principal Assistant Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam; dated Waltair, 10th December 1867, No. 169.

I have the honor to request that I may be allowed to offer an explanation of the reasons which induced me to publish a notice in the *Gazette* of the Kistna and other Districts, to which exception has been taken in the public prints, and which Government have noticed in their Order, No. 1959, dated 2nd December 1867.

2. At the time I found it necessary to call for candidates for these two Taluq Sheristadarships, I had under my orders 33 Native subordinates drawing Rupees 10 a month or upwards. Of these 33, 25 were Brahmins and 8 only of other castes. Among the 25 Brahmins were my two Tahsildars, two Taluq Sheristadars, my own Office Sheristadar, and my two Sub-Magistrates. It is needless for me to point out the evils which may ensue from such a preponderance of one caste in official positions, for they have already been frequently and fully recognized; more especially, I believe, in recent instances in the Tinnevely District. I felt in June last, and feel now, that some such combinations exist and have existed here also, and thought, therefore, that in endeavouring to strengthen the non-Brahminical element in the public service in my division, I should be meeting the wishes of Government. I would respectfully refer to Board's Standing Order, No. 400, new edition, where the following words occur:—"Endeavour should always be made to divide the principal appointments in each District among the several castes; for instance, where the Head Sheristadar is a Mahratta Brahmin the Sub-division Sheristadar should be a member of some other class. A proportion of the Tahsildars in each District should belong to castes other than the Brahmin, and it should be a standing rule that the two chief Revenue servants in the Collector's office should be of different castes." I trust it will not be thought necessary for me to take any notice of newspaper statements as to my hatred of this or that caste, or of Natives generally.

3. I request that, if you think fit, you will be good enough to forward this letter to Government.

No. 41. ORDER THEREON, 8th January 1868, No. 22.

The Governor in Council, while accepting the explanation offered by Mr. Bliss, desires to point out, that although Mr. Bliss might properly have exercised a discretion in the selection of candidates for the vacancies to which the Notification which appeared in the *Kistna Gazette* referred, the terms of the Notification itself were liable to misconstruction.

(True Extract).

H. W. Bliss

Chief Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.
,, Revenue Department.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

