

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2732	Press
		~~Alis.~~
<u>63-64</u>		
Dated	5 th October 1869.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2732 *my*

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th October 1869.*

53. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th October 1869:—

the following letter from the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 2nd October 1869.

HAVE the honour to state that, in obedience to the orders of Government, yesterday entered on an examination of the quit-rent bills in the hands of the collectors attached to the office of the Deputy-Collector of Madras and of the al accounts of the department.

The bills of the Conicopillays are in much confusion, and before it is do even to test the numbers of bills of each Fusly in each Conicopillay's it is necessary to have them arranged Fusliwar by the Conicopillay himself.

I was engaged for several hours yesterday, and had three men so employed; so only one man's bills were arranged in time to be counted, and on examination by Mr. Jordan and the Head-Accountant, the bills of the individual were to be *in excess* of the proper number.

There are, as the Board know, fifteen Conicopillays; each man has 1 thousands of bills in hand; it will take many days even to count these bills, after that, the real work of audit must commence. The latter process must include the cancelled bills, of which there are also several thousands.

The experience of two days is not sufficient to enable me to say anything he probable upshot of this inquiry; but I have seen quite enough to confirm my opinion that the office is in a state of almost hopeless confusion.

I feel it to be absolutely necessary that the whole inquiry should be conducted under one responsible head. No great division of labour is possible, if an inquiry is to be made.

Under these circumstances, I deem it right to bring to the notice of the that it is out of the question for me to conduct the inquiry as it should be conducted, and, at the same time, to carry on the current duties of the Collectorate.

I feel that the nature of the investigation is such as to require that an engaged on it should be able to give his whole time and attention to it, as convinced that sooner or later it will be requisite to appoint a special officer work, I lose no time in asking the Board to take such steps in the matter as ink necessary.

I may add that three of the Conicopillays have admitted before the Deputy-Collector to a deficiency in the accounts: one to the amount of Rupees 2,200, to 500, and a third to 300.

MITTED for the information of Government.

Besides having this letter before them, the Board have been in personal communication with the Collector, and are quite satisfied that it will be necessary a special officer in charge of this very intricate and onerous duty.

The Government will observe that already three more of the Conicopillays have confessed to deficiencies which will probably lead to further criminal conduct; and the general impression seems to be that far larger amounts and more individuals will become involved in these investigations.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th October 1869.*

4. The Collector describes the office as in a state of hopeless confusion.

5. It is clear that the Collector cannot devote his time entirely to the duty which, the Board observe, cannot properly be entrusted to an Assistant or Sheristadar.

6. The Board beg therefore respectfully to recommend Government to make a special provision for the duty, and depute an officer to overhaul the Deputy-Collector's office thoroughly. This is the more urgently required, as collections are necessarily suspended for the present, and a large sum has been ordered to be written off as irrecoverable balance, the items of which will require to be well examined, as it is suggested that this sum includes irrecoverable embezzlements as well.

7. In support of this recommendation, the Board would point out that the duties now transacted in the Deputy-Collector's office, constituted so recently as 1860, the work of a separate Collectorate, and that the exceptional character of the town of Madras as regards size, population, and wealth, and the separation of Magisterial and Revenue functions is such as to leave little or no analogy between the position of the Collector with regard to it, and that of Collectors elsewhere, with regard to the principal towns of their districts.

No. 64.

ORDER THEREON, 5th October 1869, No. 2,732.

Miscellaneous.

UNDER the circumstances represented in the foregoing papers, the Government are pleased to sanction the Acting Collector reported by the Board of Revenue, that a Commission be appointed to conduct the inquiry under reference.

2. The Government accordingly resolve to appoint Mr. G. D. Leman to this duty, without prejudice to his acting appointment of Inam Commissioner. Mr. Leman should commence upon his investigations at once, reporting his proceedings from time to time to the Collector, for the information of the Board of Revenue.

2. The Government accordingly resolve to appoint Mr. G. D. Leman to this duty, without prejudice to his acting appointment of Inam Commissioner. Mr. Leman should commence upon his investigations at once, reporting his proceedings from time to time to the Collector, for the information of the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

„ G. D. Leman, Esq., Officiating Inam Commissioner.
„ the Acting Collector of Madras

the Acting Collector of Madras.

.. the Government Solicitor,

11th (Account and General)

Exd. F. R. Cattleman.

Jan 1889

77-2732

Under the circumstances
 the Board of Revenue
 is of opinion that the
 statement represented in
 the foregoing papers
 the fact are sufficient
 to sanction the A. S. Collyer
 recommendation, which
 is supported by the
 Board of Revenue, that
 a Special Officer should
 be appointed to en-
 quire into the
 conduct of the
 inquiry under reference

W. G. L.
A. A.

The Govt accordingly
 resolve to appoint
 Mr. G. D. Leman to
 this duty. Mr. Leman

without prejudice
 when other acting
 appointments of them
 are prior

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Secy, Secy, Secy,

Presd October 25th

Recd.

G. O. No. 111 October 1889, No. 2732

OCTOBER

NOV. 23-89

with C No 2288 of 1889

Refutations in Madras Deputy Collec-
 tor's Office.—Mr. G. D. Leman appointed to
 conduct the inquiry in connection with it.

St. James

Commence upon his
investigation at once
reporting his proceedings
from time to time to the Col. for the information
of the Board

The Board of Revenue
will be requested to
direct their Sub-Secretary
to take charge of
the main Com. Office
until Mr. W. J. Blair
returns from leave on
the 11th inst.

In Reply to the Col. of the 14 Dec 7.
G. D. Leman Esq. Off. Secy. Com. Office
13th - Asst. Secy. of the Com. Office
14th - Asst. Secy. of the Com. Office
15th - Asst. Secy. of the Com. Office
16th - Asst. Secy. of the Com. Office

W. J. Blair

Enclosed herewith is
a copy of the
report of the
Board of Revenue