

715

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd May 1872.*

No. 17. Read the following letter from E. C. G. THOMAS, Esq., Civil and Session Judge of Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated 27th January 1872 :—

With reference to the Government orders on the settlement of the Salem District, I trust I may be pardoned for requesting re-consideration of the orders passed on me; first, severely condemning, and then barely excusing my conduct of my duties as Deputy-Director of Revenue Settlement in that district—orders which utterly destroyed the reputation I had up to that time borne, and have heavily weighed on me ever since—an injustice which, though privately acknowledged, has never yet been publicly recorded.

2. I venture briefly to recall the circumstances as under :—

3. While I was absent from the country in 1862—65, the Government had my conduct as Deputy-Director so misrepresented to them, through the influence of private enemies, that they passed the severest censure upon my work, removed me from the department, and conditionally directed my having no further promotion in the service—an order most unusual in its severity, even had my negligence (nothing else was charged against me) been all that was represented.

4. It was impossible for me to benefit in health with such an undeserved imputation on my public character lying unreplyed to, and I, therefore, gave up the remainder of my leave, and returned to India to defend myself.

5. I was happily able to show from the records of my detractors that, far from having failed in my duty, I had performed fully three times more than had ever before been accomplished in that department of picked men.

6. The Revenue Board, on receipt of my reply, reported that I had deserved the thanks rather than the censure of Government, and the Government withdrew their censure.

7. As I had, while in poor health, so exerted myself as to have confessedly surpassed all former work in the department ever laid before Government, this meagre acquittal, where I had hoped for favourable recognition, was exceedingly discouraging.

8. My defence, however, was necessarily at that time confined to matters that could be proved in figures.

9. The most difficult and important portion of my work—the classification of the soils and assessment of the district—had to be left to the opinion of Government after final consideration.

10. I now learn that, by a recent order of Government, my proposals have, after much discussion, and after having been long set aside as faulty, been finally, in great part, adopted as correct.

11. This confirmation of my work, after ten years' condemnation, will, I trust, convince the Government of the value of the work then so severely condemned, and of the hardness with which I have been treated.

12. I trust the Government will not think it too late or unworthy of them to grant me at least the satisfaction so dear to a public servant of knowing that his exertions have been at last recognized and approved of, and the sweeping terms of condemnation, by which I was so unjustly disgraced, something more than barely withdrawn.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd May 1872.

No. 18.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd May 1872, No. 715.

Land Revenue.

THE Government, in their Order of 26th March 1866, No. 737, Revenue Department, relieved Mr. E. C. Thomas from the censure conveyed in their Proceedings dated 15th December 1863, No. 2,293, which had mainly reference to defective demarcation existing in the Salem District. Mr. Thomas's explanation on this point induced the Government which had passed the censure to withdraw it.

2. The Governor in Council does not deem it open to him to enter anew upon a question thus disposed of by a former Government; but he willingly records his opinion that Mr. Thomas performed good work in the Salem District as a Deputy-Director of Revenue Settlement, and that the more its quality has been tested, the more its value has become apparent.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,

Officiating Chief Secretary.

To E. C. G. Thomas, Esq.
,, the Director of Revenue Settlement.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Vizagapatam 27th January 1872
From, E. C. G. Thomas Esq.
Civil and Session Judge
Vizagapatam
To, The Honorable R. S. Ellis Esq.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

Sir
With reference to the Government orders on the settlement of the Salem District, I trust I may be pardoned for requesting re-consideration of the orders passed on me: first severely condemning and then barely excusing my conduct of my duties as Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement in that District - orders which utterly destroyed the reputation I had up to that time borne, and have heavily weighed on me ever since - an injustice which though privately acknowledged, has never yet been publicly recorded.

2. I venture briefly to recall the circumstances as under.

3. While I was absent from the country in 1862-65, the Government had my conduct as Deputy Director so misrepresented to them through the influence of private enemies, that they passed the severest censure upon my work, removed me from the department, and conditionally directed my having no further promotion in the service.

4. An order most unusual in its severity even had my negligence (nothing else was charged against me) been all that was represented.

5. It was impossible for me to benefit in health with

with such an undeserved imputation on my public character lying unrefuted to, and I therefore gave up the remainder of my leave, and returned to India to defend myself.

6. I was happily able to show from the records of my detractors that far from having failed in my duty, I had performed fully three times more than had ever before been accomplished in that department of picked men.

4. The Revenue Board on receipt of my
reply reported, that I had deserved the thanks
rather than the censure of Government, and the
Government withdrew their censure.

8. As I had while in poor health so exerted myself as to have confessedly surpassed all former work in the department ever laid before Government, this meagre acquittal, where I had hoped for a favorable recognition, was exceedingly discouraging.

9. My defence however was necessarily at that time confined to matters that could be proved in figures.

10. The most difficult and important portion of my work, the classification of the soils and assessment of the District, had to be left to the opinion of Government after final consideration

11. I now learn that by a recent Order of Government my proposals have after much discussion, and after having been long set aside as faulty, been finally in great part adopted as correct.

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 a Father to
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 father.

Revenue Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.
Under date the April 1872.

Read the following
letter from E. C. G. Thomas,
Esq; Civil & Session Judge
of Vizagapatam.

Requesting reconsideration
of the Orders of Govt regard-
ing his Settlement proposal
for the District of Sateen

H. E. 27 January 1872.

The Govt having in their
order of 26 March 1866, No 737
Rev. Dept. relieved Mr. Thomas
from the censure conveyed
in their Pro^s of 15 December
1863, No 2293, do not deem
it necessary to take any
further action in the matter.

E.C.G.

some more liberal acknowledgment
of his service than this order.

For this is with my
res. B.L. my
A.A.

I cannot help thinking that
Mr. Thomas was entitled to a
more handsomely worded with-
drawal of the very severe censure
passed upon it him. The Board
have recorded that he is ~~not~~ entitled
to praise rather than censure. Good
idea I must suggest
Ed. W.D.

J.S.

Revenue 1872. D.M.

7-430.

From
E.C.G. Thomas Esquire,
Civil and Session Judge,
Vizagapatam.

10th Decr. 27th January
The Honble. Secy to Govt.
Chief Secretary to Government
and Secy to Govt.

Dated 27 January
1872.

Requesting reconsideration
of the Order of Government
regarding his Settlement
proposal for the District
of Sateen.

J.C. D. 115-37ms

Revenue Dept. R. 13. R. C. 23. R. 25.
C. 12. 14. 17. R. 15. R. C. 17. R. 19.

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draft

No 775

Under dat the 3^d May. April 1872.

Read the following letter from E. C. C.
Thomas Esq^r Civil & Sessions
Judge of Nagapatam

Requesting reconsideration
of the Orders of Gov^r regard-
ing his Settlement proposal
for the D^y of Salem. } (N.E. 27th January 1872)

I am quite willing
to smooth down Mr
Thomas' ruffled feelings
in any reasonable way

He worked very zealously
to the best of his judgment
of ability. But in
Salem his work
cannot be termed
"Excellent" for it

The Gov^{ts} in their
Order of 26th March 1866, No.
737 Rev. Deftt. relieved
Mr. E. C. Thomas from the
Censure conveyed in their
Proc: of 15th December 1863,
No. 2293 which had mainly
reference to defective prepara-
tion existing in the Salem

District. Mr. Thomas's explanation on this point induced the Govt. which had passed the Censure to withdraw it.

2. The Governor in Council does not deem it open to him to enter upon a question thus disposed of by a former Govt. but he willingly records his opinion that Mr. Thomas performed ~~much excellent~~ ^{good} work in the Salem Dist. as a Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement, and that the more its quality has been tested, the

more it from the view of his known temperament. No member of the Board I think I may add none of my ~~former~~ colleagues - has seen his work. I distinctly inspected it in Cambridge in the Sir William Duntson & Mr. Buckle, at Oxford - & I try, from the evidence of my own eyes - that his demonstration there was the reverse of excellent - and his classification was very peculiar. He never lent in any report

Puckle had buried it!

I have no objection to any general white washing - but I doubt that we should not call a black thing white out of regard for any man's feelings - I fail entirely to see or to hear his present request in book - where is the G.O. to which he refers - and how does it alter his case?

I lay especial reference to the Draft G.O. 15 Decr 63. and my marginal note on it. It was drafted in accordance with the Sir W. Duntson's verbal instructions. As far as relates to Mr. J. and I specially drew the attention of the members present to its terms - /

more its value has become apparent.

P.S. / I must substitute his word "good" for much excellent upon the order. A.P.

Shelton refers to the fact that the last revision of the classification of the Salem District was made approximately nearly 10 years ago.

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By the
Bergman
Bergman
Bergman

Bobt. of 1872: 21/10/72.

REVENUE.

To

E. C. G. THOMAS, Esq.,

Esq.,

Esq.,

Esq.

Dated May 3rd.

Recd.

Recd.

G. O., 3rd May 1872, No. 715.