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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE**GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS***Revenue* DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

203.

Press

B.P. No.

Mis.

Dated

23. 7-1874 1967.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 111. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Coimbatore, 21st May 1874, No. 40:—

The Town of Caroor, with a population of 8,231, situated in a richly-cultivated

Enclosures three.

1 copy of Mr. Buick's letter, No. 264, of 10th December 1872.

1 draft Notification.

1 rough Sketch.

3

country, and on a line of Railway—inhabited by many well-to-do people, tenanting 461 terraced, and 334 tiled houses, out of a total of 1,984—is in much want of sanitation. The village-site is fully occupied.

2. The people are, as I found on my personal visits, fully alive to the advantages of sanitary measures, and have attempted a sort of voluntary Municipal taxation for cleaning and lighting the streets.

3. Voluntary associations, however, are open to the disadvantages of want of method and permanency, and at last a general opinion seemed to be evinced of the necessity of the establishment of a regular Municipality.

4. This subject would have been submitted earlier, but that the opinion of a former Sub-Collector, Mr. Buick (*vide* letter, dated the 10th December 1872, on the question of a union for educational purposes), was adverse to the establishment of a Municipality.

5. His arguments are entitled to considerable weight, to one of which it is submitted that it might not be necessary to have an establishment out of proportion to the needs of the town.

6. The argument for postponement is not, I think, sufficiently valid, for the reasons for sanitation are the same now as they will be hereafter, and the drawbacks to voluntary action are permanent—indeed the advantages of Law and Government cooperation are adverted to in the petition.

7. This compact town is conveniently bounded on the north side by the Railway line, on the south and east by the Ambravatty River, and on the west by cultivated lands and the large temple.

8. Being so accessible by rail it can be easily visited by the Sub-Collector, whose headquarters will be at Erode.

9. A sufficiently intelligent number of Commissioners are obtainable.

10. In case of Government approving the scheme, I have enclosed a draft Notification and specification of boundaries, with a rough sketch.

From D. BUICK, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Coimbatore, to A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, dated Erode, 10th December 1872, No. 264.

In reply to your letter of the 23rd September, No. 842, I have the honor to inform you that I have given the subject of the extension of the Municipal Act to the Town of Caroor my consideration, and I am of opinion that the town is not of sufficient size to justify the measure for some time to come.

2. The population of Caroor is only 8,231. The number of houses is 1,984, of which 461 are terraced, 334 tiled, and 1,189 thatched. Of the number, however, only 1,128 are of the estimated value of Rupees 50 and upwards, and these are the ones on which most probably taxation would alone fall. The Tahsildar estimates that if the House-tax under Act IV. of 1871 is imposed it would realize Rupees 1,636-8-0, and under Act III. of 1871 I do not suppose that a greater

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
8th July 1874.*

annual revenue could be drawn from houses than Rupees 2,500. From the registration of carts, &c., perhaps Rupees 500 per annum might be expected, or Rupees 3,000 from both sources. This amount, however, would be nearly swallowed up by the establishment necessary for a Municipality. Indeed, the permanent establishment of the Erode Municipality, inclusive of the portion kept up for conservancy purposes, costs more than this. It would, therefore, be absolutely necessary to impose tolls which might not afford any considerable revenue, and in which it is likely the Local Fund Board would desire to share.

3. What I do suggest, however, is that Caroor be constituted a Local Fund Union as soon as possible. The income obtained from the House-tax will suffice for a beginning in the way of conservancy and will probably also afford something for the extension of elementary education. The task of looking after the sweepers, &c., can be very properly entrusted for the present to the local officials, and I have no doubt it will be as well done as if it was entrusted to a Municipal Overseer.

4. If Caroor succeeds as a Local Fund Union it can easily be elevated to the higher and more independent status of a Municipality.

Translation of a Petition from the Inhabitants of Caroor.

Caroor is a large town containing 2,000 houses, with a population of 8,000 inhabitants. The houses are built very closely, and the town is gradually extending. Such a town has no village-common, that is, there is no other Government Peramboke in any part of the town, except the Ambravatty, for people to ease themselves and to deposit the town refuse. As the houses are built closely to each other, and as there are no spacious backyards, the daily sweepings have to be carried outside, and the people, except females, to go out of their houses to answer the calls of nature. For want of a proper place for all these, the refuse are unavoidably deposited into the town, and the result is a great nuisance. We were subjected to many troubles under the Police Act. While we, the resident inhabitants of the town, are thus suffering, it is manifest that other people, such as suitors and Vakeels, &c., who come on Government business to the Taluk Cutcherry and to the Munsif's and the present Subordinate Courts, and the travellers who attend the car festival of Pasupatheswaraswami and the weekly markets of this place, which is a large town, are subjected to great difficulties. For remedying these evils as far as possible, the chief residents made arrangements to levy a House-tax, and, with the money collected, to employ carts for scavenging the sweepings, and also for lighting the town during dark nights. But it is still impossible to carry it out equally or on a par with other towns to which the Municipal Act has been introduced; for it is from the House-tax alone that all the monthly expenses have to be incurred; the present enhanced rate also is not sufficient; this tax is not properly collected; and there is no cooperation of Government.

If the Municipal Act be introduced into this town, a small tax imposed, and the town improved with the collection thereof and with the toll and other collections, there would be a great tendency to remove the refuse, keep the town clean, light it with lanterns, keep streets and lanes in good repair and fit for the passage of persons and carts, freely drain the water off roads, construct latrines for the use of the people, and produce many other conveniences. We, therefore, pray that the Act may soon be introduced.

No. 112.

ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1874, No. 1143.

His Excellency in Council approves the Collector's recommendation that the Towns Improvement Act should be extended to the Town of Caroor, and the draft Notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

2. Under the provisions of Section 6 the introduction of the Act must be deferred until three months after the date of the publication of the Notification.

3. The Collector will submit a list of Commissioners for appointment, and an estimate of receipts and expenditure.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
8th July 1874.*

NOTIFICATION.

Under the provisions of Section 5 of the Towns Improvement Act III. of 1871 (Madras), the Right Honorable the Governor of Fort St. George in Council hereby notifies that, from and after the first day of November 1874, the said Act is to be extended to, and come into force in, the Town of Caroor, in the District of Coimbatore, and His Excellency in Council is pleased to define, for the purposes of the said Act, the limits of the Town of Caroor as follows:—

North.—Railroad.

East.—Ambravatty River.

South.—Ambravatty River.

West.—The path leading from the Ambravatty River past the Brahma Tirthom to the Coimbatore Road; the Coimbatore Road from the junction of the said path to the junction of the path at the back of the temple of Pasupateswaraswami; along this path at the west and north sides as far as the south-west corner of field No. 650 called "Koochityamaday Nanjai Vayal;" a line drawn from this corner to the north-west corner of the same field; a line from this north-west corner to the north-east corner of field No. 288, called "Kottaimandé Nanjai;" a line from this north-eastern corner to the Railway crossing on the Pogalore Road.

(By order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.)

Asst. Secy
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore, with map returned.

„ Revenue Department.

„ Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 2457
Revenue Department,
Govt. of 1874 **SECRET.**

FINANCIAL

THE COLLECTOR OF COIMBATORE,

to
the
Hon.
the
M.
C.

Dated July, 8th.

Recd. " 20-

G.O., 8th July 1874, No. 1143.

JULY.
NOS. 111-112.

By Mr. L. B. Munn 2/30/74

Town of Caroor, Coimbatore District—
Collector's recommendation that the Town Improvement Act should be extended to the Town of Caroor approved, and the draft Notification ordered to be published in the Fort St. George Gazette. The Collector requested to submit a list of Commuters for appointment and an estimate of costs and expenditure.

No. 203, 23 July 74
Commuted to 5 1/2

102 of Revenue C. 111