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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

666

Press

B.P. No.

Mis.

B.P. No. 302-303.

Dated

20.2.1966

FE

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1/666 1/666

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th May 1874.*

No. 302. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th May 1874, No. 1,120:—

Read the following letter from A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 23rd March 1874, No. 81.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Board's Proceedings, 3rd March last, No. 1,457, communicating G. O., dated 24th February 1874, No. 140, stating that no grounds are shown for appointing Oyitty Raman, Tahsildar, in the absence of the Preci-Writing qualification.

2. I must preface my remarks by saying that in Malabar the greatest difficulty is experienced in finding a man with the real essential qualifications for the post of Tahsildar.

I presume it is admitted that these must always take precedence of the artificial qualifications, and that, in the absence of reasonable certainty that a candidate possesses the necessary honesty, courage, capacity, temper, and force of character to enable him to act rightly and control his subordinates, no educational qualifications can justify an appointment. Owing to the character of the inhabitants of this district, the administration of justice and of revenue becomes a curse to the country if presided over by men wanting in the above qualifications.

3. On the occurrence of the late vacancies, I wrote to the Sub-Collector Mr. Logan, saying that I was of opinion that the two men for the appointments were Karunagara Menon and Oyitty Raman; to which he replied that I had singularly named the very two men whom he had a day or two before fixed on in his own mind, although we had had no previous conversation or correspondence on the subject. Mr. Logan has had more opportunity, both as Joint Magistrate and Acting Session Judge, of observing O. Raman's character than I have, and, as both our judgments coincide with that of his official superiors in the Police, I think it may be conceded that as regards real qualification he is the right man.

4. The two grounds on which I think exemptions from passing tests should be made are, first, when great individual hardship would be inflicted by refusing it and the public service is not likely to suffer; and, second, when the insisting on a test would deprive the public service of the advantage of the best man for the situation.

5. The mere fact of Oyitty Raman not having passed the Preci-Writing Test is no proof of his want of industry or educational requirements, and had he not been able to express himself clearly and to the point, he never could have distinguished himself as an Inspector of Police in the way that he has. He has, in fact, an extremely clear and logical mind, and can seize and arrange the facts of an intricate case with great clearness.

6. There is, however, difficulty for a man after a certain time of life and position in the service going to school again; and there are no books in the Malayalam language to aid a man in preparing for the Preci-Writing Test, which, moreover, did not form any portion of the Tahsildar's Test when Oyitty Raman passed it.

3

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th May 1874.*

7. In my letter of the 23rd ultimo, No. 55, I explained how difficult it had become to find qualified men even for the post of Sub-Magistrate, who had satisfied all the requirements; and I am utterly at a loss to name any man for Tahsildar who has all the qualifications. I trust, therefore, that Government will allow the present arrangement to stand.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government, with reference to G. O., 24th February 1874, No. 140.

2. The Board are strongly of opinion that Oyitty Raman should be appointed Tahsildar of Kottayam. It would be unsafe and unwise to set aside the judgment of two officers of the experience of Mr. Macgregor and Mr. Logan in such a matter.

3. Moreover, the Board respectfully submit that, in over-ruling their decision that Oyitty Raman should be allowed till the next Examination to pass in Precise-Writing, Government have virtually deprived them of a power which is conferred on them by G. O., 16th April 1867, No. 831, Revenue Department, and which they have found it necessary to exercise very frequently. If it were not for the reference required on very different grounds by G. O., 19th February 1873, No. 197, Revenue Department, Government would have had no opportunity of interfering, and the Board are sure that, when the order last quoted was passed, it was intended rather to strengthen than to weaken the Board's authority with regard to Tahsildars.

4. Moreover, the Collector says that Precise-Writing forms no part of the Tahsildars' Test when Oyitty Raman passed it. If so, Oyitty Raman is fully qualified for the post of Tahsildar, and need not pass in Precise-Writing at all. The Collector will report the page of the *Port St. George Gazette* in which it is notified that Oyitty Raman passed the Tahsildars' Test.

No. 663.

ORDER THEREON, 30th May 1874, No. 663.

Miscellaneous.

Oyitty Raman as Tahsildar of Kottayam without reference to his having passed the Precise Test.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
.. the Assistant General.
.. the Judicial Department

For F. B. P. P. P.

No. 1,120

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th May 1874.

Read the following letter from A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 23rd March 1874, No. 81 :—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Board's Proceedings, 3rd March last, No. 1,457, communicating G. O., dated 21st February 1874, No. 140, stating that no grounds are shown for appointing Oyitty Raman, Tahsildar, in the absence of the Precis-Writing qualification.

2. I must preface my remarks by saying that in Malabar the greatest difficulty is experienced in finding a man with the real essential qualifications for the post of Tahsildar.

I presume it is admitted that these must always take precedence of the artificial qualifications, and that, in the absence of reasonable certainty that a candidate possesses the necessary honesty, courage, capacity, temper, and force of character to enable him to act rightly and control his subordinates, no educational qualifications can justify an appointment. Owing to the character of the inhabitants of this district, the administration of justice and of revenue becomes a curse to the country if presided over by men wanting in the above qualifications.

3. On the occurrence of the late vacancies, I wrote to the Sub-Collector Mr. Logan, saying that I was of opinion that the two men for the appointments were Karunagara Menon and Oyitty Raman; to which he replied that I had singularly named the very two men whom he had a day or two before fixed on in his own mind, although we had had no previous conversation or correspondence on the subject. Mr. Logan has had more opportunity, both as Joint Magistrate and Acting Session Judge, of observing O. Raman's character than I have, and, as both our judgments coincide with that of his official superiors in the Police, I think it may be conceded that as regards real qualification he is the right man.

4. The two grounds on which I think exemptions from passing tests should be made are, first, when great individual hardship would be inflicted by refusing it and the public service is not likely to suffer; and, second, when the insisting on a test would deprive the public service of the advantage of the best man for the situation.

5. The mere fact of Oyitty Raman not having passed the Precis-Writing Test is no proof of his want of industry or educational requirements, and had he not been able to express himself clearly and to the point, he never could have distinguished himself as an Inspector of Police in the way that he has. He has, in fact, an extremely clear and logical mind, and can seize and arrange the facts of an intricate case with great clearness.

6. There is, however, difficulty for a man after a certain time of life and position in the service going to school again; and there are no books in the Malayalam language to aid a man in preparing for the Precis-Writing Test, which, moreover, did not form any portion of the Tahsildar's Test when Oyitty Raman passed it.

G.O. of 1874 301A.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

A. G. S.

Dated May 30th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 30th May 1874, No. 606.

M. A. T.

No. 302,303.

To Mr. Raman, Inspector of Police, Malabar District. — Sanctions appointment of — in Tahsildar post of Kottayam without passing the Precis Test.



7. In my letter of the 23rd ultimo, No. 55, I explained how difficult it had become to find qualified men even for the post of Sub-Magistrate, who had satisfied all the requirements; and I am utterly at a loss to name any man for Tahsildar who has all the qualifications. I trust, therefore, that Government will allow the present arrangement to stand.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government, with reference to G. O., 24th February 1874, No. 140.

2. The Board are strongly of opinion that Oyitty Raman should be appointed Tahsildar of Kotteyam. It would be unsafe and unwise to set aside the judgment of two officers of the experience of Mr. Macgregor and Mr. Logan in such a matter.

3. Moreover, the Board respectfully submit that, in over-ruling their decision that Oyitty Raman should be allowed till the next Examination to pass in Precise-Writing, Government have virtually deprived them of a power which is conferred on them by G. O., 16th April 1867, No. 831, Revenue Department, and which they have found it necessary to exercise very frequently. If it were not for the reference required on very different grounds by G. O., 19th February 1873, No. 197, Revenue Department, Government would have had no opportunity of interfering, and the Board are sure that, when the order last quoted was passed, it was intended rather to strengthen than to weaken the Board's authority with regard to Tahsildars.

4. Moreover, the Collector says that Precise-Writing forms no part of the Tahsildars' Test when Oyitty Raman passed it. If so, Oyitty Raman is fully qualified for the post of Tahsildar, and need not pass in Precise-Writing at all. The Collector will report the page of the Fort St. George Gazette in which it is notified that Oyitty Raman passed the Tahsildars' Test.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. E.
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
.. the Collector of Malabar.

Ad. F. R. Bantleman.

order.
~~The Government must the~~
~~Collector's report which should~~
~~forwarded without the delay that has~~
~~occurred on the present occasion.~~

Rev. 1874. Secy.
Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH MAY 1874, No. 1,120.

Page 180: May 1874

Encl.

Received

MAY.
No. 1,120.

Oyitty Raman, — Inspector of Police in Malabar District, whose nomination as Tahsildar of Kotteyam was negatived by Government because he has not passed Precise-Writing Test. — Collector's letter requesting that case of — may be re-considered, submitted to Government with strong recommendation that O. Raman should be appointed to post referred to. Collector to report page of Fort St. George Gazette in which it is notified that this individual passed Tahsildars' Test.

N^o 666

7 666

G. O. on Board's P^{ro}: 13 May 1874
No 1120

On further consideration
the R. & C. is pleased
to permit the appointment
of Oyitty Raman as Tahsildar
of Kotteyam without reference
to his having passed the
Precis Test

C. J. L.
30 May 1874

List from
orders

to B. R. M.
and G. L. } 2/6 June
J. L. C. }

Copy
to
Collector

302

with order
20 May 1874 N. 1120

Revenue No 1624 ² 666

For orders. Is it necessary
to wait for further informa-
tion? or will the Government
sanction the appointments
solicited?

On the other
hand the
I would be glad
the Plein test
although the
the instance

Q. U.

MR. [unclear]
[unclear]