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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2591	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	8-12-1875	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

h.c. 382

1591

Mad Agt. Collector's Office

Camp. Arund.

30th November 1875

To

M. R. Harman Esq.

Ag. Mad Agt. Collector

To

James Hope Esq.

Ag. Collection of Arund.

Sir

Board's Proceedings h.c. 3021 dated 2nd

November 1875 (received on the night of the 28th

November) contain one conclusion (on a question
treated by the Board as relevant) which reads

I believe I can show on what appears to be a
misapprehension of 3 single but material facts

2. The Conclusion is that I have failed to
show any cause of complaint. My complaint
was that with the information before me, when
I wrote my letter h.c. 305 dated 16th September
I considered I had been wronged by you in
permitting the publication of some scandalous
allegations and that I had been treated disrespect-
fully by being led to believe that the petition containing
these allegations had been treated like all other
petitions about the division namely sent for
Report to the Office then sent to a Deputy Collector

3 The 3^d Apparent misapprehensions upon which the Board's Conclusion rests are -

- (1) that you had no English translation of the objectionable parts of the Petition before you when you sent it for report (para 3 of Proceedings)
- (2) that your letter of the 11th February 1875 would not lead a reasonable person to suppose that you intended to refer the Petition to the Head Assistant Collector's Office (para 3 of Proceedings)
- (3) that I imagine that your object in sending the Petition for report was with a view to the publication of the defamatory matter contained therein (para 5 of Proceedings)

With regard to the 1st point I beg to draw attention to the translation written in pencil on the margin of the Petition by your Vernacular Head Clerk over which it appears that your order of reference of the 7th of January is written - My translation gave little if any new information as to the contents -

With regard to the 2^d point all documents received in my Office during the time it was in charge of the Deputy Collector & intended to be filed & recorded in my Office were assigned (even in my absence) to the "Head Asst. Collector" or "Deputy Collector in charge of the Head Asst. Collector's Office" the Petition in question I subsequently discovered

V/2591

was assigned like records intended to be filed in the Head Asst. Collector's Office to "The Deputy Collector" of Head Asst. - I was unable to see how it was possible for you to expect (as stated in your letter of the 11th February) that a document intentionally referred to the Deputy Collector's Office should have been transposed to the Head Asst. Collector's Office - I therefore adopted the alternative that the Clerk addressing the wrapper had made a mistake preventing the filing in my Office of a record which you expected to be there -

With regard to the 3^d point I beg that this should be referred to you & that you should be satisfied, as the Board believe, - you could be attacked against me by making mistakes - I am sure be less likely to act in this way & if the Board thought - I entertained such an absurd idea - no wonder my imagination is believed to have been morbidly affected - I did believe you had read the English translation & that knowing what the Petition contained you thought the interest of Government called for its publication - I beg the Board in fairness to me to reconsider whether this belief on my part was reasonable and consequently whether I was not warranted

with the information then before me in preparing
the Complaint presented in para 2 and for which
the Board have stated I had no grounds - the depositions
taken by the Deputy Collector show that the
imputations which I complained of were read out
at least twice in Office -

4. With the information now for the first time
placed before me both causes of Complaint vanish
almost altogether - If in answer to my 1st reference
of the 8th February, I had been informed that
you were unaware of the existence of defamatory
articles against me & had referred the Petition to
the District Deputy Collector's Office on public
grounds, the matter would have probably ended
then & there - by an acknowledgment on my
part of the reasonableness of your referring the
Petition to the Dy Collector & by an expression
of regret from you that objectionable matter
had been unintentionally published - No infor-
mation not asked for (to the effect for instance
that the petition was pseudonymous but that
you were not aware of this) was volunteered
I could hardly have thought it probable that such
a simple solution of the whole matter existed & was
withheld - Had this all important information been
given to me I should have then recalled the Order

of being the cause of stirring up such a
repulsive mass of records in which I was but
too well aware that my own misconduct was
clearly evidenced -

5. The Board state that even if I had
shown cause of complaint my bad conduct tends
to entail the withholding of redress - All I
wished for was that the facts of the case might be
accurately stated, & I hoped that my acknowledged
bad conduct (for which I am heartily ashamed
and which I sincerely regret) would not prevent
orders being passed to provide in future cases against
a Collector's Office being used as a convenience
by unprincipled persons for the publication of
libels - Local rigging in this & other districts
would show whether the persons who make a
business of writing pseudonymous petitions
are not a source of terror to public Officials
whom it was intended to protect when Government
passed orders that anonymous petitions will be
totally disregarded -

6. In the hopes that this letter may if admissible
be considered by Government before orders are passed
on the Board's Proceedings of the 2nd November - I
have

have ventured as the matter is a personal one,
to submit a copy direct to the Secretary of
Government Revenue Department & beg that
you will forward the Original to the Board
of Revenue.

I believe you

(Signed) H. R. Turner

Ag. Asst. Asst. Collector

No 383

Copy submitted to the Secretary to Government
Revenue Department with reference to para. b.

Handwritten notes in a bracketed list:
Handwritten note
Handwritten note
Handwritten note

H. R. Turner

Ag. Asst. Asst. Collector

H. R.
H. C.

40 to March 175 No 339
360.

Decemr 1875. 6. p. 175

No 4701

From
W. R. Tamm
C. I.

to
the Library of
Congress

Reverend Mr. Tamm

Dear Sir,
I have the honor to
acknowledge the receipt of
your letter of the 17th inst.

of the 17th

relating to the
order in connection with

copy of the book on a former
note attached to the letter.

I am very
sincerely,
Yours,
W. R. Tamm

1875