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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	731	Press
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Dated 13.4.1875 196 .		

Not to be folded or roughly handled

731
1
No. 606.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th March 1875.

Read the following letter from G. VANSAGNEW, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to
H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
2nd March 1875, No. 621:—

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 1st instant, the day on which I opened the tenders for the arrack contract, of the Proceedings of Board, dated 8th ultimo, No. 287; too late, therefore, for the purpose of the Board in calling for an immediate report to be fulfilled in respect to arrack.

2. I do not understand whether it is proposed to license breweries here, or merely shops in which beer brewed on the hills or elsewhere may be sold, and I am quite in the dark as to the maximum number either of breweries or such shops which it would be "reasonable" to license. The reasonableness seems to me altogether to depend upon what to me are two unknown considerations, viz., what sort of stuff the beer is likely to be, whether manufactured here or brought from the hills, and whether, be it what it may, it is likely to find favor in this part of the country.

3. I cannot guess what the Government mean by "a liberal allowance" of licenses. The Board advocated "the issue of a *limited* number of licenses in towns." It is a question what population entitles a place to be considered a town. There are only twelve places or villages in this district with a population of over 5,000.

4. If the beer experiment is to be tried at all (Mr. Honeywell will perhaps think better of it now that the duty has been quadrupled), I think it would be better to test it in the first instance by licensing a single shop in the town of Nellore. The result of this would give us something to go upon in judging of the reasonableness of multiplying licenses. For my part, I shall not believe that decently palatable and wholesome country-beer can be sold in the plains until I have actually seen and tasted it.

THE Board have made a reference to Government in view to steps being taken for testing the wholesomeness of the beer now brewed, and they will await the result of this reference before issuing instructions in detail.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

H. E. Stokes
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Nellore.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,

with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated

8th February 1875, No. 287.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

Sept 1875.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.
No 1106

PROCEEDINGS, 12TH MARCH 1875, No. 606.

Copy. 2591106/75
Encl. 1

Received
J. S. S. S. S.

MARCH.
No. 606.

Country-brewed Beer.—Collector of Nellore informed that Board have made a reference to Government in view to steps being taken for testing the wholesomeness of —, and that they await their orders before issuing instructions regarding brewing or selling such beer.

1 To the Board of Revenue 14 April

244/75 No 2 24/75

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