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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	764.	Press / Mis.

Dated 16.4.1878 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

764/1

No. 676.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th March 1875.

Read the following letter from C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Namagheripett, 18th March 1875, No. 77 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter, received from Me[illegible]ilson and Co. (late T. H. Allen and Co., the successful tenderers for the arr[illegible]ntract for the ensuing Fasli), for such notice as the Board deem fit. It seems to me rather late in the day for Messrs. Wilson to come forward with a proposal to take the sale of toddy on contract. No doubt, as they say, arrack tenderers were placed at a considerable disadvantage from the fact that the relative consumption of arrack and toddy was *a matter of conjecture*—but I am, nevertheless, unable to support Messrs. Wilson's proposal, as it appears to me, setting all other considerations aside (such as the proposal being in direct opposition to the views of the Government), that it would be unfair to the unsuccessful arrack tenderers to make the concession now asked, which is virtually, that Messrs. Wilson become the Government agents for the sale of toddy in Salem.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Messrs. WILSON and Co., to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Madras, 16th March 1875.

WITH reference to the contract obtained by us for the exclusive privilege of manufacturing and selling arrack in the district of Salem, and to your advertisement in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th February, inviting tenders for the exclusive privilege of vending toddy in the taluqs or Zemindaries of the same district, we have the honor to suggest that the latter privilege should also be acceded to us on the following terms :—

2. That we guarantee to Government a minimum revenue of Rupees 64,000 (sixty-four thousand Rupees) equal to the upset price put on the respective taluqs, but that we vend the toddy entirely on account of Government, and that any revenue above the sum named shall belong to Government, while our remuneration will be 15 per cent. (fifteen per cent.) commission on the revenue as per accounts made up at the end of each year.

3. We are led to think that this proposal will meet the views of the Board of Revenue and Government, as we understand their object is to secure a maximum revenue with a minimum consumption of spirituous liquors! The amount of revenue we thus guarantee for arrack and toddy together will amount to Rupees 4,05,000 (four lakhs and five thousand Rupees) or considerably over what, we believe, has hitherto been obtained, and although at the commencement the new principle of employing different interests in the sale of arrack and toddy may (owing mainl[illegible]ur high guarantee for the arrack, based on a toddy consumptio[illegible]Rupees 50,100) show some increase of re[illegible]e, till the undue competition between t[illegible] cannot but thwart the ends of Government and interfere with the success of the exc[illegible]ystem which is now on trial.

4. We shall be obliged if you will kindly recommend our proposal to the favorable consideration of the Board of Revenue, and in the event of their agreeing thereto, we are prepared to engage that no undue repression of the sale of toddy in favor of arrack shall be permitted.

5. We may add that in guaranteeing a revenue from arrack alone, tenderers were placed at considerable disadvantage from the fact that the relative consumption of arrack and toddy was a matter of conjecture, and we would respectfully submit that a trial of the method now proposed by us for three years, would enable Government at the end of that period to know exactly what is the consumption of each liquor.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

Have no doubt but in some cases the arrack renters are the Toddy Renters also—

THE Board must decline Messrs. Wilson and Co.'s offer. They cannot recommend any departure from the mode of sale already decided on and advertised.

2. Copy of these Proceedings will be sent direct to Messrs. Wilson and Co., and submitted for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

H Elton

Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Salem,
Copy to Messrs. Wilson and Co., Madras.
,, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
~~with copy of enclosure~~

Exd. W. H. French.

No 1278

Received 1875. Board of Revenue, MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH MARCH 1875, No. 676.

Encl.

Received 10 April

MARCH.
No. 676.

Toddy—in Salem District.—Offer of Messrs Wilson and Co., to take up the contract for the exclusive privilege of vending — declined, with remark that Board cannot recommend any departure from the mode of the sale of the contract already decided on and advertised.