

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3018

Press
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829. 350

Dated 19-12-1918

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th December 1867.*

No. 349. Read the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 5th December 1867, No. 7,858 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, to the Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated 15th November 1867, No. 635.

In reply to the Court's Proceedings No. 5,514, dated 26th August 1867, I have the honor to inform you that as the Oorkad Minors, boys of eleven and nine years of age, are removed from the Court's guardianship, I have no authority to enforce their studies; the enclosed has been circulated to them, but has met with no response. There are so many people interested in retarding the progress of Minor Zemindars that there is but small chance of getting any of the boys educated even up to the standard of an ordinary Gumastah. Several Zemindaries are now being sold to pay for the reckless extravagance of the Zemindars, and in the course of another generation, there will be few estates in the hands of the families who now own them; the Zemindars fill a peculiarly difficult position; surrounded as they are by flatterers, and taught from infancy that labor is undignified, their minds and bodies grow enfeebled, and sloth becomes habitual; there are some rare exceptions of men who look after their own affairs, but the general rule is to leave all business to others, and the estates get involved accordingly.

Circular to all Zemindars of the Tinnevelly District.

There are several Zemin estates now under the management of the Court of Wards, and the Collector intends giving the Minors intrusted to his charge the best education procurable by sending for them to Tinnevely, and having them taught in the Anglo-Vernacular School. At a time when education is making such rapid strides everywhere, it is much to be regretted that those whose position in life places them above the necessity of working for a livelihood, should let the golden opportunity pass by, and too often permit their children to spend their time in idleness, when they should be improving their minds. The higher the position in life, the higher should be the standard of education; book-learning alone is not sufficient, practical knowledge of the world is needed, and this cannot be acquired in distant villages; the most useful sense is common sense, and those who mix most with the world usually have this in the highest degree. A Zemindar fills a responsible situation, and has many duties to perform. It is worse than foolish for him to think that the sole object of life is to draw a large income and spend it on personal comfort, while a fine estate is neglected, and the ryots are ruined, and consequently estranged from one whom they ought to regard as their benefactor, as well as their landlord. The deplorable state of certain Zemindaries in this district is warning sufficient for those who naturally hope that their estates may always remain in their families, and the Collector takes the present opportunity of having some boys to educate, to propose a general scheme for all the sons and relations of Zemindars; and this education, he hopes, may be accepted, and be found beneficial for all. The Collector must always be at head quarters from October till the end of the year, and during that time, it will give him great pleasure to generally superintend the instruction of the Zemindars' boys in the Anglo-Vernacular School, to examine them personally every month, to receive them at his house occasionally, to introduce them to European gentlemen, and towards the close of the year, to distribute prizes to those who best deserve them. Each Zemindar is requested, on receipt of this notice, to signify his wishes in writing; and if this scheme meets his approval, he should lose no time in sending his boys to the care of friends in Tinnevely, if he cannot conveniently bring them in himself.

TINNEVELLY,
1st October 1867.

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,

Collector.

Communicated to Government, with reference to paragraph 5 of Government Order, 9th July 1867, No. 1,527.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th December 1867.

No. 350.

ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1867, No. 3,018.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government regret to learn that Mr. Puckle's effort to interest the Zemindars in the education of their children has met with no response, but they rely confidently on his best exertions for the improvement of any Minor Proprietors of estates who may come under his charge. His remarks as to the difficulties in the way of educating Minor Zemindars are doubtless intended to apply to the case of the children of Zemindars in charge of their own estates. The law provides powers for properly educating Minors in charge of the Court of Wards, which have not proved inadequate for the important object in view, where the duration of the minority and other circumstances allow a fair trial of them; and the Government do not doubt that both the Court of Wards and the Collector, as their local agent, will make full use of those powers when necessity arises.

2. In the case of the Oorkad Minors they have no power to interfere.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Court of Wards.

Exd F. R. Bantleman.

Communicated to Government, with reference to paragraph 5 of Government Order, 9th July 1867, No. 1,572.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. G. Gole
Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Tinnevely.

Exd. J. Wright.

W. 3018.
The Govt. regret to learn that Mr. Puckle's effort to interest the Zemindars in the education of their children has met with no response. But they rely confidently on his best exertions for the improvement of any Minor Proprietors of estates who may come under his charge. His remarks as to the difficulties in the way of educating Minor Zemindars are doubtless intended to apply to the case of the children of Zemindars in charge of their own estates. The law provides powers for properly educating Minors in charge of the Court of Wards, which have not proved inadequate for the important object in view, where the duration of the minority and other circumstances allow a fair trial of them - and the Govt. do not doubt that both the Court of Wards and the Collector, as their local agent, will make full use of those powers when necessity arises. In the case of the Oorkad Minors they have no power to interfere.
14 Copies To the Court of Wards Dec 22/67

W. 3018-350.
14.12.67

W. 3018-350.
14.12.67

Communicating to Government letter from the Collector of Tinnevely pointing out difficulties in enforcing the studies of Oorkad Minor Zemindars.

No. 7,858.

Dated 5th December 1867.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Rev. 1867.
Department.
No. 3346.

