

Educational (1910) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 592-93

DATED 18-10-1910.

105

[Despatch Abstract.]

Packets Requesting the Postmaster General to make enquiries regarding a packet of Thurston's "Castes and Tribes of Southern India" returned by the Dead Letter Office

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Cm. 2380/1911

[E. & L.]
57
1,800-15-3-02.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.
INDIAN

NOTES.

Educational Dept

Under rule 42 of the Post office rules, on page 22 of the Post office Guide, January 1910, articles bearing the name and address of the sender, in case of non-delivery, are to be returned to the sender unopened and without delay.

2. In the present case the article was posted on the 31st March 1910 and it bears the name and address of the sender and it is returned ^{opened} on the 19th Sept 1910, that is after full six months.

3. The article appears to have been posted without being addressed at all and for this the Despatcher is responsible. He may be asked to explain how the article came to be posted without being properly addressed.

7A.
28-9-10

Address office

Please say why this packet was posted without being addressed properly. Who is responsible for this carelessness?

RD
29-9-10

Despatcher L. Annachala Munshi to explain

Oct 1. 20 10

The 714 packets containing Thurston's Castles & Tribes of Southern India addressed to certain persons & individuals in the United

United Kingdom & on the Continent were received in the office all packed and addressed at the Gont. Press. The packets were also franked by the Supdt. Post. Press. They were checked & stamped in this office & duly posted. Special care was taken in checking the address on each packet with the original addresses given in the list in the current. When checking, the addresses on each & every packet were all very clear. The address on this particular packet is now very faint probably partly on account of the lapse of time & partly to the handling &c thereof in the transit. If the packet had been without any address at the time of posting the postal authorities would have returned the packet then alone & not accepted it for transmission. I therefore beg to assure the D.R. that I checked & satisfied myself as to the addresses of all the packets before sending them to Post office.

Lia

1-10-10.

The packet now returned is not one of the three about the loss of which there was recently some correspondence with the postal authorities. The return of the packet at this distance of time is rather inexplicable. I beg to submit

that it may reasonably be inferred that some people ~~at~~ have interfered with the packet in transit & returned this packet after the recent enquiries with the address removed very faint. As remarks the despatcher says at A, packets not bearing any address would not have been accepted for transmission at the time. It is not known where the packet was all these six months why it was not returned earlier. The despatcher of this office does not appear to have been misled in the present instance & he may be exempted from blame.

Nov. 9. 10. 10.

~~A forwarded of the label on the packet~~

Please note the cases in which complaints were made to this Govt. that copies of Johnston's Castles and Tribes posted to certain addressees did not reach their destination.

PR
5. 10. 10

The Complaints made were in the following cases:

(1) The Editor of the "Centralblatt für Anthropologie", Germany, complained that out of the seven volumes of the book sent to him he did not receive

the first three volumes - Genc. 337 R d 10 - 9 - 10.

(2) M. Emile Deschamps, the Museum für Völkerkunde, Antibes, has complained that he has not received any of the volumes of the book - Lett. No. 1824 - 1 d 22 - 9 - 10.

PR
11. 10. 10. The outer cover of the parcel bears the post

Recd. at Goly on
3. 10. 10.

Slip. R in the linked file.

vide linked file.

post mark of Fort St. George on the 11th March 1910, and if, as is now alleged by the Postal authorities, it did not bear any address at the time, the Postal authorities had only to return it through the Dead Letter office immediately afterwards, as they have done now. An examination of the label shows that the address ~~was~~ was there at the time of posting, but that it has ~~been~~ subsequently been erased. The impression still visible on the label shows that it was addressed to St. Petersburg, Russia. The packet appears to have been returned to the Madras Dead Letter office from the Bombay Dead Letter office on 18th July 1910, and it would be interesting to find out ~~where~~ where the packet was between the 11th March 1910, when it was received in the Fort St. George Post Office, and the 18th July 1910, and again between the 18th July and the 19th September 1910, when it was forwarded to the S.P. by the Madras Dead Letter office.

Q. Can the address be made up with a magnifying glass?
A. Yes. The Post Office may be asked.
12/10/10

p. 1 of notepad

p. 1 of notepad

12/10

The draft letter placed below is submitted for approval.

2. The address on the packet has been examined with the aid of a magnifying glass. But it cannot be made out as the writing has been almost completely obliterated.

Where is the glass?

AD
15/10

Shown
PP
15/10
Draft typed as revised.
PP
17-10-10

PP
15.10.10
AD
16.10.10

John
18/10

[S.O. nos 592-3 his d 18-10-1910]

Order N^o 592 of 18. X. 10
 -

The following letter will be
 despatched to the Postmaster General
 Madras

17.10.10
 18.10.10

LETTER N^o 593 of 18. X. 10

To

The Post-Master General,
 Madras.

best 7/11 18/10
 with enclosures
 18.10.10.

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for

reference and return, the marginally noted papers on the subject of the non-delivery and the return by the Dead Letter office, Madras, of an unregistered packet posted at the Fort Saint George Post office in March last and to state as follows.

1. Inventory of contents found in an unclaimed registered packet, d/19.9.10.
2. Label pasted on the packet and franked by the Supdt. Govt. Press, Madras.
3. Registered cover No. 23 addressed to the Under Secretary to Govt. by the Dead Letter Office, Madras.

2. The packet in question was posted at the Fort Saint George Post Office on 11th March 1910 and the office appears to have transmitted it to Bombay. The date on which the packet reached Bombay is not known.

#. 7 8

From the inventory which forms an enclosure to this letter it will be seen that the packet was returned by the Dead Letter Office, Bombay, to the Dead Letter Office, Madras, where it was received on the 18th July 1910, and that it was returned to this office on 19th September 1910, a note being entered in the inventory to the effect that it was "without address".

3. I am to point out that if the packet did not contain the address at the time it was posted at Fort St. George in March last, it should have been immediately returned through the Dead Letter Office to the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras, whose signature it bears on the lower left hand corner (Rule 42 of the Post Office Rules). But the packet appears to have been forwarded to Bombay and an examination of the outer cover of the packet shows that the packet bore an address at the time it was posted at Fort St. George, but that after it left Madras the address was tampered with.

4. I am directed to request that you will be so good as to make such enquiries in the matter as may be necessary and to let this Government know where the packet was lying between 11th March

8.
8
9
March 1910 when it was received in
the Fort St. George Post Office and
18th July 1910, the date on which the
packet was returned by the Dead Letter
Office, Bombay, and also between the
latter date and 19th September 1910
when it was returned by the Dead Letter
Office, Madras, to this office.

K.R.
17-10-10.

I have etc.

[Signature]

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

161

READ AGAIN G.O., No.

DATED
19 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
G = Copy heading only.