

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. *776*

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated *2* . *12* . 1858

B.no. 5-6

6.7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 7th December 1858.

No. 5. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Judicial Department, dated 20th November 1858, No. 1652.

(Vide Diary to Consultation, 23rd November 1858, Nos. 34 and 35.)

(Passing orders on the reports of the Court of Sudder Udalut and the Inspector General of Jails on Mr. Ricketts' scheme regarding the Travelling Allowances of Officers in the Civil Department.)

No. 6. To THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, dated 2nd December 1858, No. 776.

SIR,

With reference to para: 4 of the letter from this Department, dated 12th October last, No. 673, I am directed by the Governor in Council to forward, for submission to the Government of India, copies of the reports noted in the margin on the proposals of Mr. Ricketts regarding the Travelling Allowances of Officers of the Civil Department, Judicial Branch.

From Court of Sudder Udalut, dated 21st Sept. 1858, No. 80.
From Inspector of Prisons, dated 24th Sept. 1858, No. 384.

2. The Governor in Council sees no objection to the scheme for Travelling Allowance proposed by the Commissioner for the revision of Civil Salaries; but he is decidedly opposed to the Bills of the Inspector General of Jails being countersigned by the Secretary to Government, who could not perform the duty satisfactorily. He is of opinion that the necessary check should in this, as in the case of all other allowances, be exercised by the Civil Auditor.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

No. 1652.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 20th November 1858.

Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Financial Department, dated 18th October 1858, No. 684.

Read the following papers.

From the Director of Public Instruction.

(Dated 13th September 1858, No. 740.)

From C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Acting Register to the Court of Sudder Udalut; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 21st September 1858, No. 80.

SIR,

The Judges of the Sudder Udalut direct me to state that it does not occur to them to offer any remarks on Mr. Ricketts' report on the travelling allowances of Civil Officers, a copy of which was transmitted to them with Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 6th Instant.

From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 24th September 1858, No. 384.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 6th September 1858, directing me to submit my views on Mr. Ricketts' proposition in respect of my travelling allowances.

* 15th August 1858, No. 77. 2. The Government are aware that I objected* to the payment of my actual expenses, though at that time they exceeded the allowance I requested, in conformity to that drawn by the Inspectors in other Presidencies, as I could not without inconvenience submit Bills for every little charge incidental on travelling, I was also well aware that it would be often difficult to decide what charges were and what were not strictly "expenses of travelling," I was also particularly desirous of having my allowances placed on a footing which should remove the unpleasant, not to say degrading inquisition, of the audit Clerks.

3. The rate at which I am now paid for travelling, amounts to 3,000 Rupees a year, and I have no hesitation in asserting that it does not cover all charges *incidental to travelling*.

4. Mr. Ricketts proposes that all Inspectors of Prisons should receive 8 Annas per mile and 5 Rupees a day when absent from Head Quarters, that should they require tents they should be at liberty to indent on the Depot for them, the mileage not to be allowed while the Officer lived in a camp moved at the expense of Government. All Bills to be countersigned by the Secretary to Government.

5. Mr. Ricketts again adds his expectation. that Inspectors of Prisons will thus receive 1,500 Rupees mileage and 750 Rupees for the days of absence from Head Quarters, thus effecting a saving of 750 Rupees annually.

6. I hardly know what reply to give to this proposition. I have on every occasion on which I have been consulted as to travelling allowances given it as the result of long observation, that the better course is to pay a fixed allowance and to expect the Officer drawing it to do his duty, I mentioned to Mr. Ricketts in a letter, copy of which is annexed, my reasons for preferring a fixed allowance.

7. I must say that the countersignature of the Secretary to Government, proposed by Mr. Ricketts, is needless and the proposition offensive. If my signature is not sufficient guarantee, subject to the check of the Civil Auditor's office, my character must stand very low. Besides the

Secretaries, in this Presidency at least, have certainly enough to do without casting up my mileage accounts. If their signature is to be a matter of course, it is useless, if my Bills are to be subjected to scrutiny in their office in addition to the ordinary scrutiny in the audit Office, it can only be done by Clerks who will virtually be judges of my conduct. The Government can of course assign any travelling allowance it pleases, and I shall take care that my duty is done upon it, but I very much question the saving amounting to one half the sum Mr. Ricketts supposes, in fact he quotes Dr. Mouatt to the effect, that in a one year he has travelled near 11,000 miles, and that he is "locomotive" during the greater part of every year, I have already travelled near 4,000 miles this year, and purpose a tour of 790 miles, and one shorter trip before its close; or taking my last official year, the distance will be still greater. I do not therefore anticipate much saving to Government by the proposed change, it will involve much additional work in the Secretariat, unless as I suppose, the duty of passing the Bill is entrusted to a Clerk or a printing machine, and will induce much annoyance from reference, all of which is now avoided by giving a fixed allowance, certainly by no means excessive, for a person who must travel generally in a palankeen and with a servant likewise carried, and who has to keep up travelling conveniences.

From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to H. RICKETTS, Esq., Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments throughout India, dated Rajahmundry, 28th April 1857, No. 154.

SIR.

In reference to your letter of the 13th Instant, I have the honor to state that I have not, for upwards of 20 years, drawn tentage or other travelling allowance or had occasion to consider the matter till I took up my present appointment, I do not see how any one rule can be applied in the various circumstances under which the allowance is drawn, any system would in all probability induce loss to one while another would profit by it. In Ganjam I can travel for 6 Annas a mile for myself and a servant, in Tinnevely bearers for a single palankeen have cost me including their travelling batta more than twice as much; one man pushes on from station to station with no other object than the saving of time; another sits down and calculates how he can travel at the least cost. In some cases travelling expenses need include nothing beyond the hire of a single set of bearers or couple of bullocks, in another they must be calculated to include the cost of dawk travelling, carrying a servant, moving baggage, road expenses of servants, and the maintenance of a travelling establishment and equipments.

2. In regard to the general question, my own impression is in favor of a consolidated allowance, when an Officer has duties to perform which involve regular tours of duty.

3. Taking the classes you refer to, I do not think any rule would generally apply, I very much doubt whether any mode more economical to Government could be devised than that in use in this Presidency, though I think public tents for Cutcherries should be provided to ensure efficiency. I am also of opinion, that a consolidated allowance to Collectors and others moving in certain ranges for the expense of their private tents and travelling, would be preferable to the present system, I could not hazard my opinion on a Collector's expenses, but I believe that while some derive profit from the allowance, those who maintain efficient establishments do so at a loss.

4. In regard to other classes travelling within their respective ranges, I believe the better course to be, to consolidate travelling allowance and pay, except in cases where they may be required to travel post or otherwise than by easy stages.

5. I know to my cost, that it is impossible to form any estimate of the incidental expenses attending a travelling appointment. The purchase and maintenance of conveyances, the destruction, loss and injury of property, the extra wages required by servants and extra charges to which a stranger is liable and other trifles, add considerably to the bare cost of conveyance. As facilities for moving increase, expenses will of course be lessened, but just now, except on much fre-

quented high roads, the expenses of dawk travelling are higher than I have ever known them, while the necessity for resorting to various modes of travelling often adds considerably to the cost.

6. I can not lay down any table of probable cost.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

(Dated 2nd October 1858, No. 3684.)

From the Officiating Chief Engineer.

(Dated 11th October 1858, No. 4400.)

Ordered that the foregoing reports on the proposals of Mr. Ricketts regarding "the Travelling allowances of Officers of the Civil Department," be referred for consideration to the Departments to which they respectively relate.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Order.—With the above Extract Minutes Consultation, the reports of the Court of Sudder Udalt and the Inspector General of Jails on Mr. Ricketts' scheme regarding the Travelling allowances of Officers in the Civil Department, are referred for consideration.

2. The Court of Sudder Udalt state, that it does not occur to them to offer any remarks on Mr. Ricketts' proposals; but the Inspector General of Jails prefers a consolidated allowance, as at present, to so much per day while actually travelling, and mileage as recommended by Mr. Ricketts.

3. The Governor in Council sees no objection to the scheme for travelling allowance proposed by the Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries, &c., but he is decidedly opposed to the Bills of the Inspector General of Jails being countersigned by the Secretary to Government, who could not perform the duty satisfactorily. The necessary check should in this, as in the case of all other allowances, be exercised by the Civil Auditor.

(True Extracts and Copies.)

(Signed) M. H. Parley.

Acting Secretary to Govt.

To the Financial Department. *dup 24/11*

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Despatch 14th

Financial Department

No. 776

To
The Secretary to the Govt of India
Sir,

With reference to para
4 of the letter from this
Department dated 12th De-
cember last No. 693, I am di-
rected by the Governor
in Council to forward for
submission to the Govt of
India copies of the re-
ports noted in the mar-
gin on the proposals of
Mr. Picketts regarding
the Travelling allowances
of Officers of the Civil
Department Judicial
Branch.

2. The Governor in
Council has no objection
to the scheme for Travelling
allowances proposed
by the Commissioner for
the revision of Civil Sala-
ries, but he is decidedly
opposed to the Bill of
the Inspector General of
Sails

7th October 1858
No. 776

29th Dec 1858
Financial. 1858. 776

Extract Minutes of Council
in the Financial Department. 1858.

29th Dec
1858

1858

Resolving order on the report
of the Joint of the Judicial
and the Revenue, several of
which are attached to volume
regarding the travelling al-
lowances of Officers in the
Civil Department.

51
Sails being countersigned
by the Secretary to Govt who
could not perform the
duty satisfactorily. He is
of opinion that the neces-
sary check should, in
this, as in the case of
all other allowances, be
exercised by the Civil Au-
ditors.

Fort St George, }
2 December 1858. }

W. H. B.

12/5/58

Postpaid mailed 7/12/58.

By the way, I have
announced 1858 departure

Wm. J. B.

To the day to the day
of India

at 1858 December 1858.