

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 532

Press
Mis.

Dated 21. 9

1859

B. No. 23-24

6/6

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1X

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
from 17th to 23rd September 1859.*

No. 23. Read the following letter from J. L. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Civil Auditor; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 15th September 1859, No. 715.

With reference to Extract from the Proceedings of the Honorable the President of the Council of India in Council, in the Financial Department, under date the 10th September 1858, No. 5092, allowing Covenanted and Uncovenanted Civil Servants to draw Travelling allowance at 8 and 4 Annas a mile respectively, who are forced to travel on the Public Service, but not such of them as are removed from one place to another on promotion, or at their own request; I have the honor to observe, that some instances have occurred both with respect to Covenanted and Uncovenanted Servants, in the Civil Department of this Presidency, in which they have been merely transferred to other Offices and therefore had no promotion by the change.

2. But I am unable in such cases to decide without reference in each case whether the transfer has been made at the pleasure of Government or at the request of the Officers transferred, and am therefore unable to pass the travelling allowance claimed for the distance travelled on the occasion of such transfer without first obtaining the said information. If therefore the Government when making such transfer for the future will be good enough to state in the appointment, that the transfer is made at the request of the Officer, it will remove the difficulty; and in all cases in which this information may be omitted, it will be taken for granted by this Office, that the transfer has taken place at the pleasure of Government and not at the request of the Officer so transferred. This course if adopted would obviate the references to Government now necessary on all such occasions.

ORDER THEREON, 21st September 1859, No. 532.

No. 24. The course suggested by the Civil Auditor at the end of his letter will be adopted for the future.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. A. P. W. Begbie.

bag, as the present size is more convenient for carrying or packing

24
Drums.

Mr Waterfield proposes, as I under-
stand him (for I am not quite
clear as to his meaning) that all
the bags of copper shall be filled
at the Mint - that the Mint-Master
shall furnish him with the means
of a large number of weighings as
a standard - that the bags shall
be weighed only (^{not} ~~not~~ counted) on
receipt at the Treasury - and that
such ^{bags} only as differ from, or at least
fall short of the prescribed standard

shall be counted, and the discrepancies
discovered carried to profit & loss.

I do not quite appreciate the
difficulty started by Mr Waterfield at
the end of his letter - no one is entitled
to demand payment in copper unless
where the sum payable is a portion of an
anna. For all payments above that
silver is the legal currency - no one
therefore can demand a bag of copper
in payment of any charge on the
Treasury. If it be paid, it must be as
a favor, and as an accommodation -
and the party may have the choice
either of taking the bag uncounted at his
own risk, or not having it at all.

3d.

3X
When I visited the Mints I found two
Rows of Shroffs and Assistants employed
on behalf of the General Treasury in weighing
copper coin in small hand scales,
upon which I ~~also~~ suggested to the
Sub-Treasurer that the Bags of copper
coin received from the Mint should
be weighed against an average Bag
of the same coin, according to the
practice in taking and making over-
charge of Treasuries in Upper India -
and this proposal is the result.

It should, I think, be approved -
and the latter part of the Sub-Treasurer's
letter should be criticised in the
sense of Mr Crofts' remarks

6 Sept 59. W. M. L.

Postpaid George, General Treasury.
30th August 1859.

N^o 570.

From,
W. Waterfield Esq.
Esq. Sub Treasurer,

To,
J. Pyewest Esq.
Chief Secretary
to Government.

Sir
I have the honor to report for the information of Government
that I have received replies to letters addressed by my
predecessor Mr. Dalmeida to the Sub Treasurers of Port
William and Bombay regarding the mode adopted
by them in receiving Copper Coin from the Mint.
2. The answers are very dissimilar. In Bengal the
whole is counted carefully by the hand; and as a check
bags of 50 Rupees are weighed in large scales. The weight
is never adjusted, and the result of receiving the coin by
weight will in no instance be found to be correct. In
Bombay on the other hand, the practice is carefully to count
the first 3 or 4 Bags, selected of Rupees 50 worth each,
and if these be found correct to weigh the remainder in large
scales bag by bag, and only in case any difference in the
weight is noticed to count the coin. I cannot but suspect
however that in the latter case our question has been mis-
understood, and that the Sub Treasurer has merely explained
his method of testing the accuracy of his shroff's reckoning.
If the coin were given out by weight alone, I do not think it
possible that 3 or 4 Bags could be found perfectly correct
when counted.

* Here we do
not consider it
necessary to apply
any such check
in the case of 60,000

3. I propose with the sanction of Government to aban-
don the test of counting altogether from the 1st Proviso.
I do not wish to make any change in the contents of such
bags, as the present size is more convenient for carrying or
packing

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

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packing, while an alteration would necessitate corresponding changes in the fashion of our bags and treasure chests. The half and quarter annas will therefore be packed still in bags of 30 Rupees worth, and the single pie in bags of 10 Rupees worth.

4. The Mint Master is now in the practice of giving out the pieces from the stamping room by thousands. On being counted by our people, they are distributed into bags. He informs me however that he will be able to have the proper division effected in the stamping room: e.g. 960 half annas will be weighed together instead of a thousand. Our officers will be directed merely to look to the correctness of the weight of such bags given them, and on no account to apply any other test. Major Cox has promised to give me the average of a large number of weighments, which will be adopted as our standard in preference to any particular bag we may happen to have selected and counted.

5. No doubt, although by this means we approximate to accuracy for any large amount, individual bags will vary more or less from the right number, and we are more likely to have the deficiency brought to our notice than the excess. It will be necessary therefore for Government to allow us to carry any discrepancies to 'Profit and Loss'. This will be far more than counterbalanced by the saving in the works of extra shroffs and collahs. At present, I reckon this at 3 of each for every working day or some thing like 67 Rupees a month. But if the out-turn of Mint Copper be reduced to its former rate, of course the saving will not be so considerable.

6. I cannot however conceal the fact that I see many difficulties in the way of the experiment, though I hope they will not be found insurmountable. The chief is, that parties who draw largely on the Treasury are accustomed to take the office seal as a guarantee

guarantee, and accept a bag as worth 10 or 30 Rupees without examining it. I am doubtful whether this will continue. They will of course be warned that the bag is filled by weight, and that if they please, they may run the chance of loss or gain: but if they object, and insist on the money being counted before shown, we shall lose much of the advantage we win in the Mint. In countries such as ours, change of profit and loss deficiencies reported by other than Government servants, and we shall be obliged to entertain extra shroffs for our payments, which will not be made so expeditiously as at present.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
W. Watfield
Agent Treasuries

Ex. C. H.

Order thereon 21st September/59. No 532.
 The course suggest-
 ed by the Civil Auditor at the
 end of his letter will be adopted
 for the future.
 J.P.

30 of 240

To the Public Dept. }
 " Revenue " } Sept. 27th
 " Civil Auditor. }

23. 54
 24. "
 25. "
 26. "

80

Financial Department
 1859, Pro 28 Oct 23 of the
 terms
 The Reg. and Accounts
 to
 The Chief Secretary
 to Government.
 No 411.
 Date 30th } August 1859.
 Received }
 No 411.
 Submitting sundry
 remarks on the above from
 the last measures of 1858
 and 1859, regarding the work
 allotted by them in receiving the
 Civil form the British and progress
 with the travelling of 1858 to
 abandon the text of Counting
 altogether. The Reg. being directed
 to look to convenience of the system
 1858, but given them at the
 Harrow Bank.