

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	248	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	1 6 .	1860

B. No. 1-3.

4/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled*Ch. 24-6-31*

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
1st June 1860.

No. 1. Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel J. J. LOSH, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 16th May 1860.

1. I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to lay the following circumstances before the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

2. In the course of the last few months I have frequently lost Bank Notes, which were stolen by some person evidently well acquainted with the places in which I keep my money, and with great moderation, seldom more than two small Notes at a time being taken away.

3. On the 10th of February last, I advertized in the Fort Saint George Gazette the loss of two Notes, one for 20 and the other for 10 Rupees. I had some days before communicated my loss to the Secretary of the Bank, and requested that their circulation might be stopped.

4. I took the precaution to remove my Bank Notes to another place where they were under the protection of a spring drawer very difficult to open or shut.

5. Notwithstanding this, on or about the 4th March I missed two Bank Notes one for 500 Rupees and one for 25 Rupees.

6. I advertized in the Fort Saint George Gazette of the 9th March, and two other issues of the paper, this last loss, gave my address and offered a reward of 100 Rupees for the recovery of the Notes and the detection of the thief, having given the necessary information to the Secretary at the Bank.

7. Three of the above Notes were received at the Madras Bank in the course of last month, and the annexed memorandum contains the account of the Police respecting their circulation since their disappearance.

8. I had hoped that the amount of the 500 Rupees Note would have led to its detection, but it appears that it passed through the hands of the Collector of Madras, and was by him paid into the General Treasury.

9. I consider it my duty to bring these circumstances to the notice of Government, as it is evident that at present stealing Notes is much more facile than stealing money, and some measures ought to be taken to prevent this, now that there is a prospect of Bank Notes being largely circulated.

10. The suspected person is a common servant, from whom no person with a regard for his own character would have taken a Bank Note for 500 Rupees without due enquiry, and, what is more strange, this Note was taken by several respectable parties when it was advertized in the Fort Saint George Gazette and a reward offered for its recovery.

No. 4,538 for.....	Rupees 500.	Colonel Losh says he lost these Bank
No. 8,540 for.....	„ 25.	Notes from his house between the 1st and 7th
No. 14,637 for.....	„ 10.	March 1860.

No. 4,538 for Rupees 500.—Was received by the Madras Bank on the 12th April 1860 from Colonel Bell the Chief Engineer who got it from the Sub-Treasurer on the 5th of the same month, who obtained it from the Collector of Madras on the 31st March into whose Treasury it was forwarded by Mr. Deputy Collector Smith of the Salt Pans on the 20th March, who stated that it was received by his Cash-keeper Pareasawmy Chetty on the same day from Sheik Mohedeen a Mundee merchant at Pareamettoo—who admits having given it to Pareasawmy Chetty and states that he does not keep any Register of Bank Notes received by him; this man is a respectable merchant dealing largely in money and goods at Madras. No further trace can be made by the Police.

No. 8540 for Rupees 25.—This Note was received at the Madras Bank on the 20th April 1860 from Soobboo, servant of rice merchant Ramdoss. Soobboo received it from Lutchmee-narasoo Naidoo, rice merchant at the Bankshalls, who states that he keeps no Register of Bank

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
1st June 1860.

Notes received or paid by him. His accounts were produced and all entries stand as money or Rupees received or paid. This man is also a respectable rice merchant. No further trace can be obtained beyond this.

No. 14,637 for Rupees 10.—This was received at the Madras Bank from one of the Bill Collectors named Soondara Rajoo on the 25th April 1860. Soondara Rajoo received it on the 16th of the same month from Moorogasa Moodily of the Agra Bank, who got it on the same day from Mr. Andrews the Shop-keeper in Black Town, who states that he never keeps any Register of Bank Notes received or paid by him. No further trace than this can be made by the Police.

9th May 1860.

(Signed) T. RAMACHENDRA ROW,
Dy. Commissioner of Police.

The 3 Bank Notes must be returned to the Madras Bank without any more delay.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) J. J. LOSH, Lieut. Colonel.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Police for his remarks.

18th May 1860.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 2. From Colonel J. C. BOULDERSON, Commissioner of Police, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 22nd May 1860, No. 56.

"I regret to state that although many of the stolen Bank Notes are traced from hand to hand, yet that I know of only two instances in which principals robbing them were brought to justice, for the stolen Bank Notes have been passed through successive hands and while we trace them to a certain extent the link is snapped and the last holder of the stolen Note or the one preceding him having bona fide obtained possession we can proceed no further, and the result of our enquiries has been generally unsatisfactory, because every person who comes into possession of Bank Notes does not keep Registers of them, neither do the leading houses of Agency, nor respectable Native merchants of Madras adopt this precautionary measure. If it were rendered incumbent upon all persons to keep Registers of the Bank Notes passing through their hands, it would enable us more easily to detect and trace the principals concerned in Bank Note robberies, but I am not prepared to say how far it would interfere with the free currency with which Bank Notes have passed hitherto.

In the case of Colonel Losh, he gave no information to the Police, until the 9th March and after attention was drawn to his advertisement of the loss of Bank Notes in the Gazette and Newspapers and after the European Inspector of the Division was sent to wait upon him and to obtain full particulars of his loss. He returned shortly after with the enclosed memorandum* and produced a domestic servant named Badshaw who had been given into custody by Colonel Losh. The Inspector reported that he had searched this man's house and that of his kept woman and could find no trace of the missing Bank Notes. This man was kept in custody for 2 or 3 days, during which time the Native detectives were employed in inquiring regarding his antecedent and recent doings, but nothing transpiring to prove his guilt in robbing the Bank Notes from his master, he was released, not however before he had stated to the Inspector as well as to myself

1. With reference to the Order of Government, dated 18th instant, Financial Department, endorsed on back of a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Losh to your address, of date 16th idem, forwarded to me for remark, in which he reports the loss of certain Bank Notes and requests that the circumstances connected with that loss might be laid before His Excellency the Governor in Council, I have the honor to submit in margin, an Extract from a Report made to me on that subject by Mr. Deputy Commissioner of Police R. P. Campbell, who caused the first enquiry after the missing Bank Notes to be made, and to forward also for the inspection of His Excellency the

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
1st June 1860.

that certain females had had access to Colonel Losh's Rooms at stated hours day and night, one of whom was well acquainted with his Drawers and Boxes and might have purloined the keys or used some from a bunch which she herself was seen to have and belonging to her and had probably stolen one or more Bank Notes. In the absence of some satisfactory and more reliable information on oath, I felt that I would not be justified in searching or issuing search Warrants on four parties, and that the statement of the domestic who was then in custody of the Police upon the complaint of his master for robbing the missing Bank Notes should be received with caution, and even if his story was true, sufficient time had elapsed to enable the Bank Notes to have passed from hand to hand."

2. Colonel Losh was not satisfied with the result reported to him, and requested that further enquiry might be made as to the Notes which had turned up at the Bank, my object therefore in forwarding the Register, is to point out that in this, as indeed in most of the cases reported, it was impossible to go beyond the mark reached, when they were traced into the possession of parties, who, though unable to inform us by whom they were paid into their hands, being well known and esteemed members of society in this city, are placed beyond suspicion of having any connection with the parties by whom the Notes were stolen.

A.

The Bank Notes were deposited in a spring drawer which is difficult to open or shut. They were in a Pocket Book full of papers of various kinds.

The 500 Rupees Note was in a separate cover, the 25 Rupees Note was with about 6 others from 50 Rupees down to 10 Rupees.

I suspect Badshaw a servant of mine, because he is a drunken and dissipated man, and is the only person in my service who can read English.

I wish him to be apprehended and that his house and person may be searched for the recovery of the Notes.

(Signed) J. J. LOSH.

9th March 1860.

I lost two Notes for 20 Rupees and 10 Rupees last month in the same manner but from a different place. The advertisement has hitherto had no effect.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) J. C. BOULDERSON,
Commissioner of Police

No. 3. ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1860, No. 248.

Resolved that Colonel Losh be informed, in reply to his letter of the 16th ultimo, that the Government have communicated with the Commissioner of Police regarding his stolen Notes. It does not appear that more could have been done by the Police than has been done.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

the Register, is to point out that
in this, as indeed in most of the
Cases reported, it was impossible
to go beyond the mark reached,
when they were traced into the
possession of parties, who, though
unable to inform us by whom they
were paid into their hands, being
well known and esteemed members
of society in this City, are placed beyond
suspicion of having any connection
with the parties by whom the
Notes were stolen.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obed^t servant

Wm. ...
Commissioner of Police

From dtd. Col. J. J. Losh. ^{Pro. of the Madras Govt.} Read the following papers.
Here enter 16th May 1860. No 56.
Commissioner of Police. 1st June 1860. ^{22nd May 1860.} Col Losh be
informed in reply to his letter
of N 16 ^{ultim.} that the Govt
have communicated with
the Commissioner of Police
regarding his stolen notes.
It does not appear that what
could have been done by

26 Aug 1860

the Price has been done.

Col Losh.

J.P.

Commissioner of Police -

has sent copy of order only to Col Losh.

Supd. 11A

Pro R. 800 for the purchase of furniture 1860 W. H. 15 June

Colonel W. H. 15 June 1860
(Commissioner of Police)

W. H. 15 June 1860
Chief of Police
with a "George"

W. H. 15 June 1860
Chief of Police

W. H. 15 June 1860
Chief of Police

W. H. 15 June 1860
Chief of Police
with a "George"

Adverse to former answers

W. H. 15 June 1860

W. H. 15 June 1860