M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 8.

(2) Date of repair 11.9.38.

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 158	Press / Mis.
65-66.	
Dated 18-3-	18 68.

65-66 5/2

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, 18th March 1868.

No. 65. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort William, 29th February 1868, No. 1263.

In transmitting a copy of the correspondence noted on the margin, I am directed to request that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to allow Stamp Vendors at Madras to pay in Pice for their purchases of postage labels.

From Director General of Post Office, No. 347B, dated 13th January 1868.
Reply to do.

2. I am also to request that, with the permission of the Government of Madras, the result of the permission accorded to Railway Companies to pay the copper proceeds of their traffic earnings into Government Treasuries may be reported.

From the Director General of the Post Office of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department; dated Calcutta, 13th January 1868, No. 347B.

The Government are aware that a discount of one Anna in the Rupee is allowed to all Postmasters who are required to keep a stock of postage stamps for sale, but that this rate of discount is not allowed in Presidency Towns where the business is performed by Licensed Vendors, where sales being of a considerable amount make it worth their while to undertake the work, receiving on their purchases only the lower rate of discount (half an Anna in the Rupee) allowed to all persons who purchase stamps wholesale from the Treasury.

2. In September last, the Postmaster General of Madras forwarded to me a copy of an Order of the Madras Government, No. 347,* dated 24th July, giving permission to the Mint Master to sell copper coin at a discount of six Pies per Rupee, together with a representation from the Stamp Vendor in Madras, to the effect that this order practically takes away his entire profits. Almost the whole of the stamps purchased from him by those who post letters are paid for in copper, and he loses as much in converting this copper into silver as he gains by the discount in the purchase of stamps.

* Copy enclosed for ready reference.

3. There were two ways by which this result could be obviated, *i. e.*, either by asking the Madras Government to receive copper in excess of one Rupee in payment of the stamps purchased by the Vendor, or to allow the latter the higher rate of discount. The latter seemed to me to be on the whole the preferable course, and I therefore intimated to the Postmaster General that he had better consult the Accountant General, and that if that officer concurred in regarding a temporary increase of the rate of discount, as the best way of meeting the difficulty, it might be carried out in anticipation of formal order.

4. I submit, for the information of Government, a copy of the Accountant General's reply† to the reference made to him on the subject, and solicit the confirmation of Government to the temporary increase of the discount rate, which has been provisionally granted to the Stamp Vendor of the Madras Post Office.

† No. 4454, dated 15th November 1867.

From the Secretary to the Government of India, to the Director General of the Post Office of India; dated Fort William, 29th February 1868, No. 1262.

In reply to your letter, No. 347B, dated 13th January 1868, I am directed to state that the Governor General in Council confirms, as a temporary measure, the increase from six Pies to one Anna per Rupee of the discount allowed to Stamp Vendors at Madras on their purchase of postage labels.

2. It is preferable, however, that the old rate of half an Anna per Rupee should be reverted to as soon as possible, and the Stamp Vendor be permitted instead to pay for his purchases in copper.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
18th March 1868.

3. If, as apprehended by the Accountant General, the Stamp Vendor buys Pice at the Mint at a discount of half an Anna per Rupee, and tenders the Pice in payment of postage labels, he will at most gain merely the advantage hitherto secured to him by the extra discount (to be now discontinued) of half an Anna per Rupee on his purchase of postage labels, while the copper which he receives from the sale of his postage labels will be thrown on his hands.

4. So long, therefore, as the discount at the Mint does not exceed the discount allowed to purchasers of postage labels, the latter cannot profit by the discount on the purchase of Pice in their further purchases of postage labels.

5. The Government of Madras will, accordingly, be moved to allow payments in copper by Stamp Vendors at Madras on account of their purchases of postage labels, so long as the discount on the latter is not less than the discount allowed at the Mint to purchasers of Pice, and simultaneously with this permission the exceptional discount of one Anna should be reduced to half an Anna per Rupee on the sale of postage labels to Stamp Vendors in Madras.

No. 66. ORDER THEREON, 18th March 1868, No. 158.

The Governor in Council is pleased to direct that payment from Stamp Vendors at Madras for their purchases of postage labels be accepted in copper coin.

2. The Accountant General is requested to furnish Government with a report on paragraph 3 of the first of the foregoing letters from the Secretary to the Government of India, No. 1263.

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Accountant General.
,, Postmaster General.
,, Superintendent of Stamps.
,, Mint Master.
,, Directors of the Bank of Madras.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

№ 347 B. 2 / 3

From

A. M. Monteath Esquire
Director General of the Post Office of India

To

C. H. Lushington Esquire
Secretary to the Government of India
Financial Department
Calcutta 13th January 1868

Sir

The Government is aware, that a discount of one anna in the rupee is allowed to all Postmasters who are required to keep a stock of Postage stamps for sale, but that this rate of discount is not allowed in Presidency Towns, where the business is performed by Licensed Vendors, where sales being of a considerable amount, make it worth their while to undertake the work, receiving on their purchases only, the lower rate of discount (½ Anna in the Rupee) allowed to all persons who purchase stamps wholesale from the Treasury.-

2. In September last, the Postmaster General of Madras forwarded to me a copy of an order of the Madras Government № 347 × dated 24th July, giving permission to the Mint Master to sell copper

Copy enclosed for ready reference

been provisionally granted to the Stamp Vendors of the Madras Post Office.-

I have &c.

(Sd.) Hugh A. Browne

For Director General of the Post Office of India

No. 1262.

To

The Director General of the Post Office of India

Financial Deptt

Sir

In reply to your letter No. 347 B dated 13th January 1868, I am directed to state, that the Governor General in Council confirms, as a temporary measure, the increase from six pie to one anna per Rupee, of the discount allowed to stamp Vendors at Madras on their purchase of postage labels.

2. It is preferable however, that the old rate of half an anna per rupee should be reverted to, as soon as possible, and the Stamp Vendor be permitted instead, to pay for his purchases in Copper.

3. If, as apprehended by the Accountant General, the Stamp Vendor buys pice at the Mint at a discount of half an anna per Rupee, and tenders the pice in payment of postage labels, he will at

No. 1263

X 7

To.
The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George.

Financial Deptt Sir,

In transmitting a copy of the correspondence noted on the margin, I am directed to request, that His Excellency the Governor in Council may be moved to allow Stamp Vendors at Madras, to pay in specie for their purchases of postage labels.

From Director Genl of Post Offices No 3473. 13 Jany/68
Reply to Do

2 I am also to request, that with the permission of the Government of Madras, the result of the permission accorded to Railway Companies to pay the Copper proceeds of their traffic earnings into Government Treasuries, may be reported.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant

For Williams
The 29 February 1868

Ed. H Lushington
Secy to the Govt of India

Rec'd 29/2

Financial Board Dept

Rec. 27th July 18 65

Treasury Chambers

27 July 1865

Sir

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to request that you will cause to be laid before them a Report stating the reasons why the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High Admiral have not complied with the Minute of the Board of Treasury of the 27th day of June 1865 directing that the Accounts of the Expenditure of the Naval Reserve Force for the year ending 31st March 1865 should be laid before Parliament by the 31st day of July.

I am Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
[illegible]

The Secretary
to the Admiralty

65-66

Treasury Chambers 27th March 1865

Sir

The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury in Council is pleased to direct that pay=ment be stopped under Sta=tutes for Revenue purposes of postage which is ac=cepted in Copper Coin

2. The Accountant, be=is prohibited to punish pay=ment with a refusal to ha=2 or the first is the Lords=letters from the Secretary=the Government of Ireland

1865.

To the Treasury Department
" " Accountant General
" " Paymaster General
" " Superintendent of Packets
" " Storekeeper
" " Director of the Bank of England