M.R.O. 1—77,606—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 1-16

(2) Date of repair 26-7-37

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 196	Press / Mis.
53-54	
Dated 20-4-	18 69.

53-54 1 of 4

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, 20th April 1869.

No. 53. Read the following letter from the Accountant General, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Fort Saint George, 14th April 1869, No. 18.

Post Audit Department.

I have the honor to submit, for the consideration and orders of Government, the accompanying letter from Mr. Sullivan, the Collector of Bellary, dated 26th March 1869, No. 398, declining to carry out the instructions issued by the Deputy Accountant General, under my direction, to withhold payment of all Salary Bills for the month of March, until certified that the Annual Returns required by this Department for the preparation of the list of establishments had been duly furnished to it.

2 I refrain from making any comment on the terms in which the Collector has thought proper to refer to my Deputy, as I feel assured that the Government will not permit an officer, acting in the strict performance of his duty, to be treated with marked disrespect. I will only observe, therefore, that the instructions to withhold payment of salaries, until the requirements of the Audit Department were fully satisfied, have been issued in this Presidency every year since 1857; that similar instructions are yearly issued by the Audit Departments of every other Presidency, and Administration; and that sanction for the same is contained in an Order of the Government of India, dated 18th August 1842.

3. In conclusion, I beg to point out that the Accountant General is held personally responsible by the Government of India for the punctuality with which these and other returns are submitted to that Government; and His Excellency the Governor in Council will, doubtless, not have failed to observe the very stringent terms in which the orders of the Financial Department on this subject have of late been couched. It seems then only just to the Accountant General that he should be permitted to secure himself from the penalties threatened by the Government of India, by adopting every means in his power to exact equal punctuality on the part of the officers on whom he is dependent for the returns which are necessary to enable him to meet its requirements. It may, perhaps, be said that the Accountant General, without resorting to the extreme step of withholding salaries, might report each defaulting officer to Government; but looking to the very large number of officers having establishments under their control, I am satisfied that this measure would not prove effectual, while the Accountant General would have a very invidious duty, and large amount of additional labor cast upon him, and the Government would be inundated with vexatious appeals to their authority.

From H. E. SULLIVAN, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Accountant General, Madras; dated 26th March 1869, No. 398.

I have the honor to ask your attention to paragraph 3 of Circular No. 51, Post Audit Department, dated 4th instant, from the Deputy Accountant General, received to-day, in which he instructs Collectors to withhold the salary due in arrears for March from all officers drawing pay for themselves and establishments from Civil treasuries until they have certified that they have submitted the Annual Returns of Establishment, the forms for which by the way have not* yet been received.

* Have since been received.

2. I feel perfectly certain that these "instructions" of the Deputy Accountant General did not receive your sanction. Whilst fully appreciating Mr. Lodwick's zeal for the despatch of business, and his desire "to prevent delay," I have yet to learn that he is authorized to carry out his ideas by stopping the pay of the officers of Government as he would the wages of his butler. If such authority has been delegated to him he should have quoted the order of Government. In the absence of such sanction for this arbitrary proceeding, I do not feel myself bound to carry out the Deputy Accountant General's instructions.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th April 1869.

No. 54.

ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1869, No. 196.

The order of Government in the Judicial Department, dated 14th instant, No. 622, will be communicated to the Collector of Bellary.

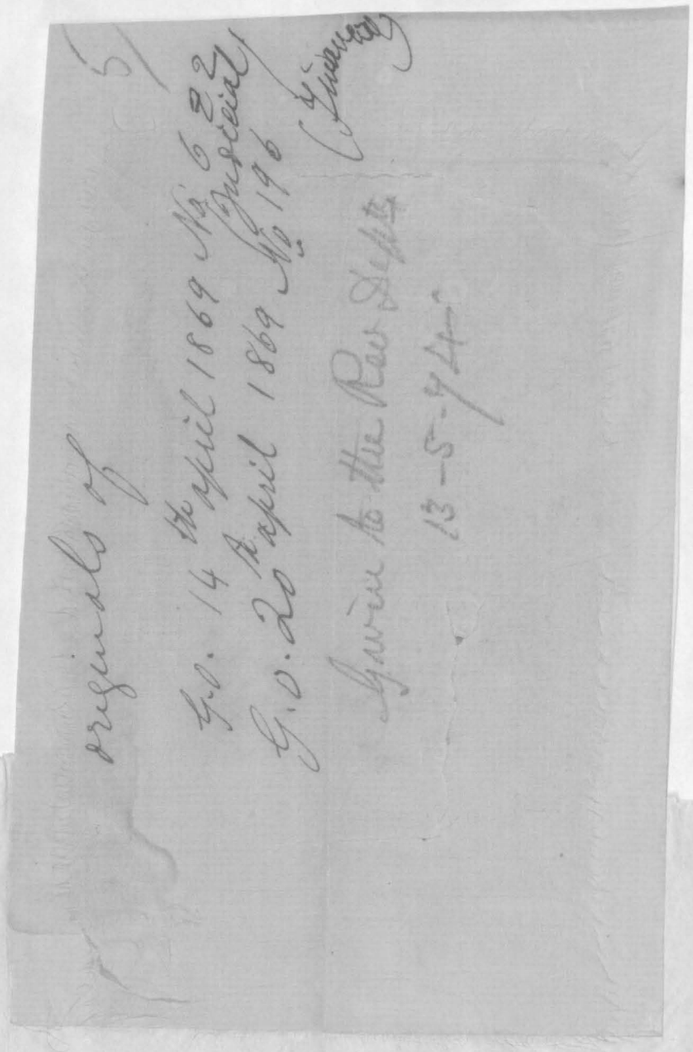
2. If that officer had taken the trouble to make himself acquainted with the records of his office he would have learnt that the Circular issued by the Deputy Accountant General is not of recent origin ; and he would have refrained from using expressions which are unbecoming officia correspondence.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Bellary, with No. 622.
,, Accountant General.

Ed. J. Wright.



Govt. of {1869} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF BELLARY.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 20th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 20th April 1869, *No.* 196.

APRIL.
Nos. 53-54.

Communicating G. O. in the Judicial Department, dated 14th instant, No. 622, approving of the Circular issued by the Deputy Accountant General, instructing Collectors to withhold payment of Pay Bills until the usual Annual Returns are submitted.

Papers to be selected
for the Editors'
Table
and
Despatches.

21/4/74
485

24/4/74
494

24/4/74
504

Post Audit

~~Book~~ Department.

No. 18

Fort Saint George,
Accountant General's Office,
14th April 1869.

From The Accountant General,
to the Government of Madras.

To The Chief Secretary to Government -
Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the consideration and Orders of Government the accompanying letter — — from M.^r Sullivan the Collector of Bellary dated 26th March 1869 N.^o 398 declining to carry out the instructions issued by the Deputy Accountant General under my directions, to withhold payment of all salary bills for the Month of March, until certified that the annual returns required by this Department for the preparation of the list of Establishments had been duly furnished to it.

in original

I refrain from making any comment on the terms in which the Collector has thought proper to refer to my Deputy, as I feel assured that the Government will not permit an Officer acting in the strict performance of his duty to be treated with marked disrespect. I will only observe therefore that the instructions to withhold payment of salaries, until the requirements of the Audit Department were fully satisfied, have been issued in this Presidency

Presidency every year since 1857, that similar instructions are yearly issued by the Audit Department of every other Presidency and Administration, and that sanction for the same is contained in an Order of the Government of India dated 18th August 1862.

In conclusion I beg to point out that the Accountant General is held personally responsible by the Government of India for the punctuality with which these and other Returns are submitted to that Government, and His Excellency the Governor in Council will doubtless not have failed to observe the very stringent terms in which the Orders of the Financial Department on this subject have of late been couched. It seems then only just to the Accountant General that he should be permitted to secure himself from the penalties threatened by the Government of India by adopting every means in his power to Exact equal punctuality on the part of the Officers on whom he is dependent for the Returns which are necessary to enable him to meet its requirements. It may perhaps be said that the Accountant General without resorting to the extreme step of withholding salaries might report each defaulting Officer to Government, but looking to the very large number of Officers forming Establishment under their Control, I am satisfied

satisfied that this measure would not prove effectual, while the Accountant General would have a very invidious duty and large amount of additional labor cast upon him, and the Government would be inundated with vexatious appeals to their Authority.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

F. Cuthbertson

Accountant General

Copies to A.G.C.

Copies to Controller General

2

BELLARY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

No. 398. Date, { Camp Tindavanum 11 / 26 March 1869. /

From, H. E. Sullivan Esquire,

COLLECTOR OF
BELLARY.

To,

F. Lushington Esquire,
Accountant General,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to refer Your attention to para 3 of Circular Board Orders Establishment dated 4 Instant from the Deputy Accountant General received today in which he enjoins Collectors to withhold the salary now in arrear for March from all Officers drawing pay for Establishments from Civil Departments until they have certified that they have submitted the annual returns of Establishment for forms for which by the way have not yet been received -

2. I feel perfectly certain that these "instructions of the Deputy Accountant General are at variance with Your sanction - Which fully appreciating the Collector's zeal for the despatch of business and his desire "to prevent delay" I have yet to learn that he is authorized to carry out this order by stopping the pay of the Officers of Government

x have been read

ac

Rec. 30th March 1869 Explanation from the Accountant General to the Chief Secretary to Government Dated 27th March 1869 Rec. 30/3/69 Extract S. O 196 Rec. 1/4/69 Extract Order No. 1918 Secretariat Rec. 1/4/69

Submitting for Order a letter from the Collector of Bellary requesting to carry out the instructions issued by the Deputy Accountant General for the withholding from the Collectors certain Returns and Orders forwarded to the Revenue Board

Order thereon

C 16 of 12
R 20.

53

as he would the wages of his butler. If such authority has been delegated to him he should have quoted the order of Government. In the absence of such sanction for this arbitrary proceeding I do not feel myself bound to carry out the Deputy Accountant Generals instructions.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant

A. Cazenove
Collector

D A & A G. Office
Recd 5) 4 18 9
Ansd 5/4 No 107

Ve

Off

DEPARTMENT.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS
RECEIVED.

Dated, 28th March 1859 No. 898

To,

The Accountant General
Madras

Enclosure.

Received,

Fort St. George, the 30th March 1859

Endorsement to the Revenue Department No. 18 dated 14th April 1859.

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Accountant General.
(Dy 16 Apl 1859 No 18.)

Order thereon No 196. 20 April 1859.

The Order of Govt. in the Judicial Depart. dated 14th instant No 622, will be communicated to the Collector of Bellary.

2. If that Officer had taken the trouble to make himself acquainted with the records of his Office he would have learnt that the Circular issued by the Deputy Accountt. General

General is not of recent
origin, and he would
have refrained from
using expressions which
are unbecoming official
correspondence.

HL

Colonial

I would omit
this. There is not
much harm in
the expressions. The
Lieutenant is a
little hair-splitting.

AJB.

21 Dec 1840

To the Lords of Bellary
with No 622
— Secretary Govt &c.

3

27/12

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

Financial

To

The Collector of Ballary.

Dated April 20 } 1869. No. 196.
Recd.

Nos. 53. 54.

forwg. G. O. in the Jud. Dept. dy 14 Inst. No. 622, approving of the Circular issued by the Dy Accountant Genl. instructing Collectors to withhold payment of pay Bills until the usual annual Returns are submitted.