M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 12.

(2) Date of repair 7-10-39

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 611	Press / Mis.
Dated 18-7-	18 39.

30-31 617

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
19th July 1869.

No. 30. Read the following letter from the Magistrate of Bellary, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George ; dated Bellary, 23rd June 1869, No. 46.

Adverting to the Order of Government, dated 19th March last, No. 145, Financial Department, I regret to be obliged to state that I have been unable to ascertain who should be held responsible for the disappearance of the Currency Note alluded to in the Proceedings of Government of the above date. In my letter to the Magistrate of Salem quoted therein, I stated that a number of other letters had disappeared about the same time in a most mysterious manner, all attempts to trace which on the part of this office and Mr. Kelsall's entirely failed. Shortly after the receipt of the Government order under reply, I placed the matter in the hands of the Police ; but, as will be seen from the enclosed report of the Assistant Superintendent who was specially deputed for the purpose, all endeavours to fix the responsibility upon any one have failed. I am inclined to think that the note, if not accidentally lost, must have been abstracted by one of the employés in Mr. Kelsall's office, as, when letters are sent by Village Taliaries or Toties, they are enclosed in a sealed bag, which has to be delivered intact at the nearest taluq cutcherry ; but at this distance of time it is of course impossible to determine which of them should be held responsible.

From the Assistant Superintendent of Police, to the Superintendent of Police, Bellary ; dated Bellary, 7th June 1869.

I have the honour to forward to you the result of my inquiry respecting the loss of a Currency Note of 50 Rupees, No. $\frac{B}{10}$ 56,623, the property of one Aroonachella Moodelly of Wallajahpett, in the North Arcot district, which was alleged to have been posted at Harpenhully on the 24th January 1868, and addressed to Mr. Wilkinson of North Arcot.

2. Upon arriving at Harpenhully I asked to see the list of records, &c., belonging to the Deputy Collector's office, with a view of finding out if the Tappal book of the office, which has mysteriously disappeared, was down in the list. I found it was not down in the list which I saw, which list appeared not to belong to the office, but was the property of one of the clerks, Baskera Row by name, who had prepared it for his own guidance and information. There appeared to be no regular list of records kept in the office.

3. The above clerk, Baskera Row, I saw and interrogated. He is now Magisterial Clerk in the Deputy Collector's office. Formerly, under Mr. Kelsall, he was the Revenue Clerk, and, according to the statement of the above gentleman, he would have had nothing to do with the despatch of English letters. I was advised, however, to interrogate him, which I did accordingly. I put to him several questions, and asked him where the camp of Mr. Kelsall was on the date in which the note in question was posted.

4. He stated at Mosalwand, which is about ten miles distant from Harpenhully. I then asked him what practice obtained of sending letters when absent from the Cusbah stations. In reply he said that he would give so many letters to the Reddi of the village where they were encamped, that the above would sign his name in token of receipt, and forward them to Cusbah by whomsoever he might think proper.

5. I remarked upon the mysterious disappearance of the Tappal book, and the abovementioned clerk, Baskera Row, who was formerly the Revenue and is now the Magisterial Clerk of the Deputy Collector's office, swears that it was not handed over with the other papers and records belonging to the office, and that he had never seen it since Mr. Kelsall had given over charge. I have a letter in my possession written by Mr. Kelsall, where he says, " My goomastah swears that the Tappal book was handed over with other records of the office."

6. It is impossible to ascertain which of these statements is the true one. The fact of there not being a proper list, duly signed by some person authorized to sign it, renders it impossible to say with any certainty if it was handed over or not when Mr. Kelsall gave over his former charge to the Deputy Collector.

7. Another clerk whom I interrogated was one Hanumanta Sing, who, on the 24th January 1868, (the date in question,) was Moochee in the Head Assistant Magistrate's office at Mosalwand. It was the duty of this man to put English letters into covers and despatch them by tappal. Perhaps, as it is the general practice, he handed over this letter to the Reddi to send into the Cusbah, and it was lost in transmiss ion from Mosalwand to Harpenhully. As the Tappal book of the office is missing in which the Reddi would have signed his name by way of receipt, no proof can be obtained of the Reddi having received the letter or not.

8. So far I have ascertained that the Tappal Goomastah at Harpenhully never received any letters at all from the Head Assistant Magistrate's office neither on the 27th, 28th, nor the 29th of January 1868. I examined the Tappal book, and no entry was made on either of these three dates. The Post Office authorities accordingly cannot be held responsible for the loss of the Currency Note in question.

9. I venture to suggest that some safer method of forwarding letters might be adopted in future. The Reddi, when he receives the letters, probably gives them to one of his own villagers to take on to the next village, where the letters change hands.

Forwarded to the Under Secretary to Government, Public Department, with reference to his Official Memorandum, No. 271, dated 2nd July 1869.

BELLARY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
6th July 1869.

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Collector.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 19th July 1869, No. 314.

As it appears from the foregoing papers that the responsibility of the loss of the Currency Note, No. $\frac{B}{15}$ 56,623, for Rupees 50, which was enclosed in a letter to the address of Mr. Wilkinson, the Head Assistant Magistrate of North Arcot, cannot be fixed upon any person in the office of the Head Assistant Magistrate of Bellary from whence the letter was despatched on the 24th January 1868, His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that any further inquiry into the matter is unnecessary.

(True Extract).

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Magistrate of Bellary.
,, do. of Salem.
,, Accountant General.
,, Commissioner of Issue of Paper Currency.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers

Govt. of {1869} Bellary.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE MAGISTRATE OF BELLARY.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 19th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 19th July 1869, No. 314.

JULY.
Nos. 30-31.

Considering it unnecessary to make any further inquiry regarding the loss of the Currency Note for Rupees 50, the property of one Aroonachella Moodelly.

BELLARY MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE.

No. 46 Date, { 23rd June 1869

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From, W. E. Sullivan Esquire,

MAGISTRATE OF
BELLARY.

To, The Honorable R. A. Dalrymple, C.B.
Chief Secretary to Government
Madras.

Sir,

Adverting to the order of Government dated 19th March last No 165, Financial Department, I regret to be obliged to state that I have been unable to ascertain who should be held responsible for the disappearance of the Currency Note alluded to in the Proceedings of Government of the above date. In my letter to the Magistrate of Salem quoted therein I stated that a number of other letters had disappeared about the same time in a most mysterious manner, all attempts to trace which on the part of this Office & Mr Ticknell entirely failed. Shortly after the receipt of the Government Order under reply I placed the matter in the hands of the Police but as will be seen from the enclosed report of the Assistant Superintendent who was specially deputed for the purpose, all endeavors to fix the responsibility upon any one have failed.

Rec. X
10/Jul/69

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from

Financial Department. 97

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PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from the Magistrate of Bellary. (Rec'd under 23rd June Pg. No. 46)

Order thereon 19th July 1869. No. 314.

As it appears from the foregoing papers that the responsibility of the loss of the Currency Note No. B/15 56623 for Rupees 50, which was enclosed in a letter to the address of Mr. Wilkinson the Head Assistant Magistrate of North Arcot, cannot be fixed upon any person in the office of the Head Assistant Magistrate of Bellary from

Void

Rec'd 19th July 1869.

Fort DEPARTMENT.

MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE BELLARY

Dated, 23rd June 1869 No. 46

To,

The Chief Secretary to Government of Madras

No. 314.

Enclosure. 1/-

Received, 28th June 1869

Referring to the letter from Government dated 31st May 1869 No. 314 F.D. copied in the margin, I have the honor to report that the responsibility for the loss of the Currency Note No. B/15 56623 for Rupees 50, which was enclosed in a letter to the address of Mr. Wilkinson the Head Assistant Magistrate of North Arcot, cannot be fixed upon any person in the office of the Head Assistant Magistrate of Bellary from

Rec'd 19th July 1869.

Fort DEPARTMENT.

MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE BELLARY

Dated, 23rd June 1869 No. 46

To,

The Chief Secretary to Government of Madras

No. 314.

Enclosure. 1/-

Received, 28th June 1869

Referring to the letter from Government dated 31st May 1869 No. 314 F.D. copied in the margin, I have the honor to report that the responsibility for the loss of the Currency Note No. B/15 56623 for Rupees 50, which was enclosed in a letter to the address of Mr. Wilkinson the Head Assistant Magistrate of North Arcot, cannot be fixed upon any person in the office of the Head Assistant Magistrate of Bellary from

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2.13/7 P.S.H.

from whence the letter
was despatched on the
24th January 1868, His
Excellency the Governor
in Council is of opinion
that any further enquiry
into the matter is
unnecessary -

27/1210

To The Magistrate of Bellary.
-"- Magistrate of Salem
-"- Accountant General
-"- Commissioner of Excise
of Paper Currency

dispd 24/1

Govt. of {186} Madras.

Jud

To

The Magte. of Bellary
&c

Dated July 19. } 1869, No. 314.
Recd.

Nos. 30-31

Considering it unnecessary to make any further enquiry regarding the loss of the Currency Note for Rs. 50, the property of one Aroma-chella Moodelly.