M.R.O. 1—77,066—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 20

(2) Date of repair 6-10-37

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Finance DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 326 Press
~~Mis.~~
40-41

Dated 22-7- 1869.

40-41 11/11

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
22nd July 1869.

No. 40. Read the following Proceedings of the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Simla, 25th June 1869, No. 1583.

Accounts.

Read again—

Financial Resolution, No. 1281, dated 27th February 1869, regarding the mismanagement of the Treasury at Port Blair.

Read—

An endorsement by the Home Department, No. 2720, dated 11th June 1869, on a letter from the Officiating Superintendent of Port Blair, forwarding correspondence with the Accountant General, British Burmah, on the subject of a payment of Rupees 6000 for certain clothing purchased in 1866.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor General in Council directs that, in continuation of Financial Despatch, No. 95, dated 30th April 1869, the papers be sent to the Secretary of State, with a letter detailing the circumstances of the case, and requesting him to obtain from Colonel Ford what explanation he can give of having submitted a false bill and drawn and kept the transfer receipt for Rupees 6000, No. 40, for some eight months, always supposing that it was this transfer receipt that was remitted to Madras in January 1867.

2. His Excellency in Council further desires that the sub-voucher tampered with was not submitted to the Accountant General, British Burmah, who, nevertheless, passed the charge. This neglect of an essential proof of payments charged in the treasury accounts should be explained, and the Accountant General should now go back through the account and test all Port Blair charges by sub-vouchers for the last five years, or since Colonel Ford became Superintendent.

3. His Excellency in Council also inquires why Mr. Gordon, now at Bombay, did not instantly report to the Chief Commissioner the grave irregularity, which, on the face of it, might have turned out, and may still turn out, to be something worse when it was brought to his notice by Colonel Man.

4. Colonel Man is also requested to inquire at Port Blair from Captain Fraser, and from the clerk who drew out the bill, into all particulars attending its submission.

5. The Accountant General, British Burmah, will report whether credit was afforded for the amount of the Transfer Receipt, No. 40, in the Port Blair Treasury Account, and on what date; and the Accountant General, Madras, in communication with the Superintendent of Port Blair, and the Officer of the Treasury which was drawn upon, will report whether advice of the issue of the transfer receipt was sent, and on what date, and whether it has been paid, and on what date, and whether there is any reason to doubt that the transfer receipt was *bonâ fide* issued on the date it bears, and not prepared later.

6. Finally, the Governor General in Council requests that the Government of Madras will cause an inquiry to be made in that presidency into the whole transactions with Ramasawmy Moodelliar, the contractor who supplied Colonel Ford with clothing, especially into the charge made by him for cloth; and the Superintendent of Port Blair should report what is the present system for the supply of cloth to the Settlement.

Ordered that a copy of these observations be sent to the Home Department for information.

And that a copy, together with the correspondence, be sent to the Comptroller General of Accounts, with reference to previous Resolution, No. 1281, dated 27th February 1869, for the purpose indicated in paragraph 2 to the Accountants General, British Burmah and Madras, for the purpose indicated in paragraph 5, and to Mr. Gordon and Colonel Man for that indicated in paragraphs 3 and 4, a transcript of the previous Resolution being sent to Mr. Gordon.

Ordered, further, that a copy of the above, and of the correspondence, as well as of the previous Resolution, be sent to the Government of Madras for the inquiry required to be instituted under paragraph 6.

(Signed) R. B. CHAPMAN,
Offg. Secy. to the Govt. of India.
(,,) G. H. M. BATTEN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
22nd July 1869.

No. 41.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd July 1869, No. 326.

A copy of the Resolution above recorded, together with the papers accompanying it, will be forwarded to the Acting Commissioner of Police, who will take immediate steps for instituting the inquiry directed to be made in paragraph 6 of the Resolution, and report the result for communication to the Government of India.

(True Extract).

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Acting Commissioner of Police, with an enclosure to be returned.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of India, 1869, July Nos. 40-41.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE AG. COMMISSIONER of POLICE

Dated July, 22nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 22nd July 1869, No. 326.

JULY.
Nos. 40-41.

Forwarding papers regarding certain irregularities committed by Colonel Ford, late Superintendent of Port Blair, and directing that immediate steps be taken for instituting the inquiry directed to be made in paragraph 6 of the Resolution of the Government of India on the subject.

5

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Enclosure to Despatch No. 158 of 1869.

No. 1, dated Port Blair, the 11th May 1869.

From—Colonel H. MAN, Officiating Superintendent of Port Blair,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I HAVE the honor to forward copies of the correspondence which has passed between myself and the Accountant General, British Burmah, on the subject of a payment of Rs. 6,000 for certain clothing purchased in 1866, regarding which inquiry had been made by the latter officer.

2. As I understand it is desired that the correspondence shall be submitted to Government, I have had the documents printed in the Convict Press for more easy reference.

No. 34, dated 19th August 1868.

From—Captain J. H. FRASER, in charge of Treasury, Port Blair,
To—The Superintendent of Port Blair.

I HAVE the honor to invite your attention to this Office letter No. 14, dated 21st May 1868, requesting you to point out the original debit of Rs. 6,000 deducted from bill amounting to Rs. 13,201-12-0, on account of clothing supplied by Mr. J. Ramaswamy Moodlier. This information is urgently required by the Accountant General of British Burmah.

An extract of his letter No. 1960, dated 24th July last, is herewith forwarded for your perusal.

No. 902, dated 20th August 1868.

From—Colonel H. MAN, Superintendent of Port Blair,
To—The Treasury Officer of Port Blair.

IN reply to your letter No. 34, dated 19th instant, I have the honor to forward you copy of a letter dated 2nd January 1867, No. 3221, by which it will be seen that the Rs. 6,000 in question were transmitted to Ramaswamy at Madras by a transfer receipt and acknowledged by Ramaswamy in his letter, dated 12th April following, copy attached.

The original bill is herewith returned.

No. 908, dated 24th August 1868.

From—Colonel H. MAN, Superintendent of Port Blair,
To—The Treasury Officer, Port Blair.

I WROTE to you on the 20th instant, stating that I was unable to supply you with any explanation regarding the bill for Rs. 6,000 beyond an acknowledgment of its receipt by Ramaswamy Moodlier.

2. I have since discovered what appears to be a solution of the mystery, but which is of a most unsatisfactory nature, involving most serious discrepancies in accounts which have been long passed, but which certainly must now undergo a strict re-audit.

3. I will briefly describe, for the information of the Accountant General, the documents available for the purpose, beginning with those in his possession.

4. In the settlement accounts for April 1866, there will be found, under the head of miscellaneous, a charge for convict clothing amounting to Rs. 12,180 8 0. This is shewn as balanced by the following entries in the contingent charges for the same month :—

Cost of 1,800 needles	...	...	@ 0-8-0 per 100	9-0-0
Sewing 200 koorthas	...	...	@ 0-1-0 each	12-8-0
100 pieces of cloth	...	...	@ 12-8-0 ₱ piece	1,250-0-0
1,770 „ „	...	...	@ 6-4-0	10,875-0-0
Packing charges, &c.	...	...	...	... 34-0-0
			Total, Rs.	12,180-8-0

1740.

5. The money thus received is accounted for as follows: Rs. 21-8-0 local payments, and Rs. 12,159 remitted to Ramaswamy Moodlier at Madras in two P. S. transfer receipts No. 39 and 40, dated respectively 26th and 27th April 1866.

6. This would apparently have satisfactorily closed the account; but as I could find no other trace of the Rs. 6,000, I proceeded more closely to examine these bills, and I am sorry to say have arrived at the very undesirable conclusion, that the Rs. 6,000, we are now endeavouring to discover, can be no other than No. 40, above noted, which it was supposed had been devoted to the payment of the previous account.

7. I will, as briefly as possible, state my reasons for this very serious assertion.

8. I now proceed to offer extracts of settlement documents commencing with an account of Colonel Ford's transaction with Ramaswamy Moodlier:

9. On referring to the Office records, I find, under date 26th April, a letter from Colonel Ford to Ramaswamy Moodlier, transmitting the bill for Rs. 6,159 as in payment of Ramaswamy Moodlier's whole charges, and is duly acknowledged by that individual, and agrees with his receipted bill, *vide* Annexures A. B. & C.

10. On comparing this latter document with the contingent bill, it will be seen that the first items agree, but that, whereas in second and third items, Ramaswamy charges for 780 pieces of cloth at Rs. 6-4-0, total Rs. 4,875, the contingent bill is for 1,770 pieces at the same rate, the difference of cost being exactly Rs. 6,000.

11. I can discover no allusion in the subsequent correspondence with Ramaswamy Moodlier, or any other cloth-dealer, to any outstanding balance, nor to a Rs. 6,000 bill, till January 1867, when a remittance of this amount is made to Ramaswamy Moodlier as *an advance* for a further suppy, and so acknowledged, *vide* annexures D. and E. It can easily be ascertained, on reference to the Madras Treasury, whether this is the bill which was obtained from your Office in April 1866 by Colonel Ford. I am afraid it will be a more difficult matter to reconcile the discrepancies in the documents now forwarded.

P. S.—It will be observed that the P. S. transfer receipt makes no allusion to the Rs. 6,000 bill being required as an advance, but it appears simply as an additional payment to the former bill. An advance of Rs. 6,000 would of course have necessitated the direct sanction of Government.

No. 3057, dated Rangoon, the 23rd September 1868.

Memo. from W. E. Gordon, Esq., Offg. Accountant General, British Burmah.

To—The Superintendent Port Blair.

The undersigned has the honor to inform you, with reference to your letter No. 908, dated 24th ultimo, to the address of the Treasury Officer, that, with the exception of one Rupee, the account (*vide* annexure) with Ramaswamy Moodlier appears to be perfectly correct, and no further action need be taken in the matter.

Months.	Ramaswamy's Bills.	Charged in Cash Account.	Remitted by Draft.
	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
January 1866	6,159 0 0	.....	.....
April 1866	.....	12,159 0 0	12,159 0 0
August 1867 ... ... (Two Bills)	13,200 12 0	7,201 12 0	.....
... ...	3,540 5 6	3,540 5 6	10,741 1 6
Total ...	22,901 1 6	22,901 1 6	22,900 1 6

No. 1242, dated 29th October 1868.

From—Colonel H. Man, Superintendent of Port Blair,

To—The Accountant General, British Burmah.

In acknowledging the receipt of your memorandum No. 3057 of the 23rd ultimo, I shall feel obliged by your informing me if I am to understand that you are satisfied with the

explanation in my letter No. 908, regarding the Rs. 6,000, not only with reference to its application to the payment of the bill for clothing in 1867, but also to its original reference to the same accounts for 1866.

At present, there is no trace in the Office that Rs. 6,000 of the bill of 1866 have ever been paid, or indeed is it known to whom the amount would be payable.

No. 3809, dated Rangoon, the 7th November 1868.

From—W. E. Gordon, Esq., Accountant General, British Burmah,

To—The Superintendent of Port Blair.

In reply to your letter No. 1242, dated 19th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that I am satisfied that the draft drawn in April 1866 is identical with the one remitted in January 1867 to Ramaswamy Moodlier, and that there has been no double payment, although the same charge has been twice included in the contingent bills, once in that for April 1866, and a gain in that for August 1867.

I am under the impression, although I have no positive evidence in the matter, that Colonel Ford, finding that the year 1865-66 was closing, and that the Budget provision for the year for clothing had not been expended, considered very erroneously the best course would be to charge off whatever was available, and retain the money in hand to pay for a fresh supply of clothing whenever such was required.

He accordingly charged off in his accounts of the 27th April 1866, Rs. 6,000 more than was actually due, and included that sum in his contingent bill for that month, and again in the bill for August 1867, about which date it is probable that the new supply of cloth was received from the Contractor.

The entry in the latter bill was probably an oversight, but had it not been for this circumstance, the manner in which Colonel Ford conducted this transaction would certainly have never come to light.

I should feel much obliged if you will once more make enquiries into the case, and inform me if you consider that I am correct in my suppositions, as in the absence of Colonel Ford I feel reluctant to report the matter to the Chief Commissioner without that a proof which can only be procured in your own Office, either from the records or from the recollection of persons who were employed there at the time.

No. 1408, dated Port Blair, the 28th November 1868.

From—Colonel H. Man, Superintendent of Port Blair,

To—The Accountant General, British Burmah.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3809 of the 7th instant, requesting me to make inquiries in regard to the sum of Rs. 6,000 charged against the year 1865-66 as clothing expenditure.

2. You state that you are under the impression that Colonel Ford, finding that the budget provision for clothing had not been expended, considered that the best course would be to charge off whatever was available, and retain the money in his own hands for fresh supply.

3. The budget estimate for the clothing for 1865-66 is entered as Rs. 47,500, while the actual expenditure, including the Rs. 6,000, was Rs. 29,686.

4. If Colonel Ford wanted to apply the balance of one year's budget to the next year's supply, why limit himself to so small a sum as Rs. 6,000, when there were Rs. 23,814 available, and why not adopt the same course to other heads of expenditure, and above all, why support his action by a bill in which true and apparently fictitious quantities of purchases are so blended together that they can be only separated by reference to the accounts of the tradesmen with whom the transaction took place.

5. I have, however, furnished you with all the data at my command, and must leave the matter now in your hands. I would only further remark that the expenses of 1865-66 have been either overcharged to the amount of Rs. 6,000, or a sum of that amount is still due to some person or persons unknown for goods supplied.

Memorandum by Colonel H. Man, Superintendent of Port Blair.

I subsequently endeavoured to clear up this unpleasant matter, following Mr. Kiernander's suggestion as to the probable cause of Colonel Ford's conduct; but I grieve to say the further investigation by no means tended to improve the position.

If the Rs. 6,000 had been taken, as suggested by Mr. Kiernander, to save the appropriation of the current year from lapsing, it would naturally have been applied to the discharge of the first subsequent account; but I find that a fresh supply of cloth was received from Ramaswamy Moodlier in July, a second in September of the same year, (both which bills were paid in full in October 1866,) a third in March 1867, paid likewise in full in the same month, and it was not till August 1867, when the payment of the fourth supply of clothing received in April 1867 was made, that any reference appear to the Rs. 6,000 bill obtained from the Treasury, 16 months before I shewed these documents to Mr. Kiernander when on his tour of inspection, and we both agreed that we could do no more here to clear up the accounts.

After April 1866, *the following consignments were received and paid for in full as under:—*

Date of Despatch.	Quantity and Value.	Paid on.	Remarks.
July 1866 ...	8,820 yards Punjum cloth, Rs. 3,140-11-9	18th Oct. 1866	
Septr. 1866	37,800 yards Punjum cloth, Rs. 13,505-8-0	Ditto	
March 1867	37,800 yards Punjum cloth, Rs. 13,201-12-0	March 1867	* 7,201-12-0 6,000-0-0 taken in Apl. 1866. Total 13,201-12-0
April 1867 ..	37,800 yards Punjum cloth, Rs. 13,201-12-0	August 1867*	

Extract from Inspection Report by Mr. Kiernander, *of the Accountant General's Office, British Burmah, dated* 1869.

Paragraph 13.—I availed myself of the spare time at my disposal to examine the Clothing Account and documents connected therewith, with reference to the sum of Rs. 6,000, regarding which there has been some correspondence with the Superintendent.

The transaction is as follows:—

In April 1866, a sum of Rs. 12,180-8-0 was charged in the cash account on account of clothing and the bill in support corresponded therewith. This bill was passed by the Chief Commissioner, but without any sub-vouchers, and was admitted by this Office. The sub-vouchers are, however, in the Superintendent's Office; and from these, it is evident that the bill was an incorrect one, and that the entries therein were utterly false, several of the quantities and amounts having been doubled with the intention of increasing the total of the bill by Rs. 6,000

The amount charged in the cash account is credited *per contra* as "Bills issued" in favor of Ramaswamy Moodlier, the clothing contractor; but while the amount actually due to him was immediately remitted, a draft for Rs. 6,000 in his favor was retained by the Superintendent, Colonel Ford.

The contractor, after this date, continued to supply clothings, and was in each instance paid in full; but in January 1867, the draft for Rs. 6,000 issued in April 1866, was remitted to him as an advance on account, and so acknowledged by the contractor. In March 1867, he supplied more clothing, when he was again paid off in full; but in April 1867, when a further supply of clothing to the value of Rs. 13,201-12-0 was received from him, while the amount charged in the cash account is only Rs. 7,210-12-0, the cause being explained in a note on the face of the bill, stating that Rs. 6,000 had already been charged and remitted.

It will be observed from the enclosed account that no loss has accrued to Government in respect to the amounts charged, and remitted to the contractor; but it is not clear why Colonel Ford should have thus deliberately falsified his accounts and bills, and retained in his own hand for upwards of eight months a sum of Rs. 6,000, which he was fully aware was not due by the Government to the contractor, or to any other person. It is also a very odd coincidence that the draft was remitted about the time when it was rumoured that some Officer would be deputed by Government to inspect the Settlement, and that the amount thus remitted was not considered as an adjustment of any amount due by Government until the actual arrival of the Inspecting Officer.

It is possible that Colonel Ford may be able to throw some light upon the subject, but until then the transaction in question cannot be considered but of a most unbusiness-like and unsatisfactory character.

Her Majesty's Indian Government ... ... Dr.

To Contingent Expenses incurred on account of the Penal Settlement of Port Blair during April 1866.

				Rs.	A.	P.
*		*				
*		*				
*		*				
Clothing.						
Cost of 1,800 Needles, @ 0-8-0 per 100...				9	0	0
Sewing 200 Koortahs, @ 0-1-0 per each				12	8	0
100 pieces of Cloth, @ 12-8-0 per piece				1,250	0	0
1,740 pieces of Cloth, @ 6-4-0 per piece				10,875	0	0
Packing charges, &c.				34	0	0
*		*	Total ...	12,180	8	0

1*st May* 1866.

B. FORD, *Major,*
Superintendent of Port Blair.

Extract of the Monthly Cash Account of the Superintendent of Port Blair for the month of April 1866.

No. of Voucher.	Head of Service.	Adjusted.		Unadjusted.		Total.		Remarks.
		Arrear Charges.	Charges for the year 1865-66.	Arrear Charges.	Charges for the year 1865-66.	Arrear Charges.	Charges for the year 1865-66.	
	Miscellaneous							
10	Clothing for Convicts		12,180 8 0				12,180 8 0	

B. FORD, *Major,*
Superintendent, Port Blair.

B

Extract of Register of P. S. Transfer Receipts drawn on the Madras Treasury in April 1866.

No.	Date.		By whom remitted.	To whom remitted.	Amount.			Remarks.
	1866.							
39	April	26	Superintendent ...	Mr. J. Ramaswamy M.	6,159	0	0	
40	Do.	27	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	6,000	0	0	

Extract from the Register of Daily Payments, Port Blair Treasury.

C.	T.	To whom paid.	On what account.	Cash.	Transfer.	Total.	Remarks.
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
21	...	Mocarbee ...	Wednesday, 4th April 1866. Sewing Convict clothing ...	12 8 0	...	12 8 0	
	127	M. J. Ramaswamy Moodr.	Wednesday, 25th April 1866. Purchase of cloth for Convict clothing.	...	6,159 0 0	6,159 0 0	
133	...	Golam Hussain ... Moodlier	Friday, 27th April 1866. Purchase of cotton, needles, &c.	9 0 0	...	9 0 0	

R. BERRILL,
Accountant.

A.

No. 2502, dated Port Blair, the 26th April 1866.

From—Major B. Ford, Superintendent of Port Blair,

To—Ramaswamy Moodlier, Madras.

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 5th January last, advising that you have shipped to my address 14 bales of Punjum Cloth per Steamer *Bushire*.

2. The cloth has been received correct, and I enclose herewith a transfer receipt for Rs. 6,159, being the amount of your bill received with the above, and I shall feel obliged by an acknowledgment for the same.

B.

From—J. Ramaswamy Moodlier, Madras,

To—The Superintendent of Port Blair.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, stating that the 14 bales of Punjum cloth forwarded by me per steamer *Bushire* had been received correct.

The transfer receipt for Rs. 6,159 has been duly received.

C.

Duplicate.

Major B. Ford, *Superintendent, Port Blair*	Dr.
For 3 bales contained 100 pieces of Punjum Cloth of 36 yards each, @ Rs. 12-8-0 per piece	1,250-0-0
For 3 bales contained 10 pieces do. do. of 18 yards, @ Rs 6-4-0 per piece	62-8-0
11 bales contained 770 pieces of Punjum cloth of 18 yards each, @ Rs. 6-4-0 per piece	4,812-8-0
Packing charges, coolies, cart and boat hire, &c.	34-0-0
Total Rs. ...	6,159-0-0

Contents received, *viz.* Six thousand one hundred and fifty-nine.

Madras,
5th June 1866.

Ramaswamy Moodlier.

D.

Extract from letter No. 3221 *of the* 2*nd January* 1867, *from* Lieutenant Colonel Ford, *Superintendent, Port Blair, to the address of Mr. J.* Ramaswamy Moodlier, *Madras.*

P. S.—A transfer receipt for Rs. 6,000 is herewith enclosed on account. Please acknowledge receipt.

E.

Extract from letter, dated Madras, the 1*st March* 1867.

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3221, dated 1st January 1867, enclosing a transfer receipt for Rs. 6,000.

J. R. M.

Extract of a letter from Ramasawmy Moodlier *to* Colonel B. Ford, *Superintendent, Blair, of Madras,* 12*th April* 1867.

Para. 2.—The Rupees 6,000 forwarded to me in your letter of the 1st January last No. 3221 is still in my hands to your credit.

J. Ramaswamy.

No. 2720, dated Simla, 11th June 1869.

Endorsed by Home Department.

Forwarded to the Financial Department for the adoption of further measures, and with a request that the result may be communicated to this Department. Original papers to be returned.

No. 1281, dated 27th February, 1869.

Previous Resolution

No. 133.] *OBSERVATIONS—By the Government of India,* Financial Dept.

Read the following correspondence regarding the mismanagement of the Treasury at Port Blair :—

Endorsement of the Home Department No. 416, dated 21st January 1869, and enclosures.
Ditto from the Accountant General, British Burmah No. 4969, dated 12th January 1869 and enclosures.
Ditto from the Home Department No. 967, dated 20th February 1869.

Observations.—The following defects and irregularities in the administration of the Treasury at Port Blair are reported in these papers.

1*st.*—The accommodation for the Treasury is altogether inadequate.

2*nd.*—The Treasurer has not given security.

Fin. 577
in Fin. 2584/69.

Rec. 22nd July 69 No 40 —
P.P.C. 3/9/69

3*rd*.—The Head Accountant is unfit for his office.

4*th*.—The Officer in charge has not been in the habit of signing and verifying the Cash Book daily.

5*th*.—The assets of the Local Fees Fund were not, till lately, brought to account in the Treasury Books.

6*th*.—A sum of Rs. 152-8 has been disbursed and charged twice without proper authority, and without any report of the circumstances being made.

7*th*.—Supply bills have been on more than one occasion granted to Lieutenant-Colonel Ford, the Superintendent, without simultaneous payment of the amount to the Treasury.

8*th*.—Funds at credit of the Local Fee Fund have been improperly applied by Colonel Ford's orders towards payment for a supply bill.

9*th*.—Postage on Colonel Ford's private letters have been charged in the public accounts.

10*th*.—Colonel Ford has employed the Treasurer as his private banker.

11*th*.—The sum of Rs. 6,000 was drawn by means of an account from a clothing contractor said to be falsified, and retained for many months [illegible] important irregularities are reported.

2. The Officiating Superintendent should report what specific measures he has taken for remedying each of the various administrative disorders above detailed.

3. The Hon'ble Captain Fraser's administration of the Treasury appears to have been inefficient. The explanations of his conduct, which he has tendered, were inexcusably delayed and are wholly unsatisfactory. Enquiries are being made in the Home Department into the misconduct imputed to him. The result should be communicated to this Department.

4. A special report must be made of the circumstances under which an ex-constable entirely unfit for the post was appointed to be Accountant, in substitution for an experienced man of good character.

5. Colonel Man should be required to investigate the whole circumstance of the double payment of Rs. 152-8 for milk, and to report his opinion as to whether the Government or the Treasury Officer should bear the loss.

6. The papers should be sent to Her Majesty's Secretary of State at once, in order that Colonel Ford may have an immediate opportunity of explaining the several very grave irregularities which are imputed to him.

7. The result of the further enquiry that is being made into Colonel Ford's accounts with the clothing contractor is awaited.

No. 1583.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNTS.

SIMLA, THE 25TH JUNE 1869.

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2. His Excellency in Council further desires that the sub-voucher tampered with was not submitted to the Accountant General, British Burmah, who, nevertheless, passed the charge. This neglect of an essential proof of payments charged in the Treasury accounts should be explained, and the Accountant General should now go back through the account and test all Port Blair charges by sub-vouchers for the last five years, or since Colonel Ford became Superintendent.

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Colonel Ford with clothing, especially into the charge made by him for cloth; and the Superintendent of Port Blair should report what is the present system for the supply of cloth to the Settlement.

ORDERED, that a copy of these Observations be sent to the Home Department for information.

And that a copy, together with the correspondence, be sent to the Comptroller General of Accounts, with reference to previous Resolution No. 1281, dated 27th February 1869, for the purpose indicated in paragraph 2 to the Accountants General, British Burmah and Madras, for the purpose indicated in paragraph 5, and to Mr. Gordon and Colonel Man for that indicated in paragraphs 3 and 4, a transcript of the previous Resolution being sent to Mr. Gordon.

Ordered further, that a copy of the above, and of the correspondence, as well as of the previous Resolution, be sent to the Government of Madras for the enquiry required to be instituted under paragraph 6.

R. B. CHAPMAN,

Offg. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Under Secy to the Govt of India

Financial Dept.
Govt
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

ACCOUNTS.

To Rec'd 22nd July 69

No. 326.

No. 1583.

Dated Simla, 25th June 1869.

Received — 15 July

Encl 5 P.C. Rec'd 3 P.C.
letter.

Revenue Century Register
Expediting Cashier's Office.
Police Commissioner's Office
Cal. Ex. Cal. Register
Police

Financial Dept.

17

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following ~~letter~~ *Resolution of the Government of India in the Financial Department.*

(Here Enter, 25th June 1869, No 1583)

Order thereon, No 326. 22 July 69.

WOK

A Copy of the Resolution above recorded, together with the papers accompanying it, will be forwarded to the Acting Commissioner of Police, who will take immediate steps for instituting the enquiry directed to be made in para. 6 of the Resolution, and report the result for communication to the Government of India.

The Chief Secretary suggested that the enquiry should be made thro' the Commissioner of Police.

15 A.O

To the Actg. Police — with an Encl to be retd disposed 26/7

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

Jud.

To

The Actg. Commr. of Police

Dated July 22 } 1869, No. 326
Recd.

Nos. 40-41.

Forwarding papers regarding certain irregularities committed by Colonel Ford late Supt: of Port Blair, & directing that immediate steps be taken for instituting the enquiry directed to be made in para 6 of the Resolution of the Govt of India on the Subject.