M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-5-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1391	Press / Mis.
122-124	123-124
Dated 20-8-	1874.

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th August 1874.

No. 122. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th July 1874, No. 1822 :—

Read the following replies of Collectors, to Board's Proceedings, dated 14th October 1873, Miscellaneous No. 6,928 :—

From the Collector of	Ganjam,	dated	12th November	1873,	No. 2,716.
,, ,,	of Vizagapatam,	,,	8th April	1874,	,, 480.
,, ,,	of Godavery,	,,	30th October	1873,	,, 355.
,, ,,	of Kistna,	,,	2nd December	,,	,, 1,824.
,, ,,	of Nellore,	,,	27th October	,,	,, 2,412.
,, ,,	of Cuddapah,	,,	25th ,,	,,	,, 206.
,, ,,	of Bellary,	,,	24th November	,,	,, 410.
,, ,,	of Kurnool,	,,	14th ,,	,,	,, 378.
,, ,,	of Madras,	,,	26th May	1874,	,, 104.
,, ,,	of Chingleput,	,,	22nd October	1873,	,, 492.
,, ,,	of North Arcot,	,,	25th November	,,	,, 736.
,, ,,	of South Arcot,	,,	24th October	,,	,, 411.
,, ,,	of Tanjore,	,,	25th ,,	,,	,, 372.
,, ,,	of Trichinopoly,	,,	29th November	,,	,, 270.
,, ,,	of Madura,	,,	14th ,,	,,	,, 350.
,, ,,	of Tinnevelly,	,,	6th ,,	,,	,, 604.
,, ,,	of Coimbatore,	,,	8th December	,,	,, 287.
,, Commissioner of	Nilgiris,	,,	28th November	,,	,, 117.
,, Collector of	Salem,	,,	8th ,,	,,	,, 345.
,, ,,	of Malabar,	,,	17th ,,	,,	,, 262.
,, ,,	of South Canara,	,,	28th ,,	,,	,, 1,966.

In their Order of the 19th September 1873, No. 1,330, Financial Department, Government communicated to the Board a letter from the Government of India in which it was remarked : "It is probably a costly plan to supply quills for vernacular writing for which reeds procurable all over India are more suitable and cheaper," and asked the Board to report whether it is possible in this Presidency to substitute reed for quill pens for vernacular work.

2. The Board called on the Collectors for reports and their replies are as follows :—

3. *Ganjam.*—Telugu cannot be written with reeds and the paper in use is unsuitable for reeds.

4. *Vizagapatam.*—The Collector has tried reeds and finds they will not do for Telugu writing. They are not used for the purpose by natives in writing to each other.

5. *Godavery.*—Reeds cannot be used for writing in Telugu.

6. *Kistna.*—Reeds cannot be used for Telugu writing. If they are used, the paper can be written on on one side only. A reed and a quill cost the same at Masulipatam. The supply of quills may be reduced from twenty-nine a month to twenty-one.

7. *Nellore.*—There are no reeds in the district. Every Village Accountant uses quills.

8. *Cuddapah.*—It would be very inconvenient to revert to reeds instead of quills.

9. *Bellary.*—Reeds may be used instead of quills, but they will be troublesome to keep mended so that there will be delay, and the paper, ink and penknives used must be all of a different description.

10. *Kurnool.*—All clerks are taught as school boys to use quills. The paper and ink must be changed if reeds are introduced, and the new ink will be so expensive as to more than counterbalance any saving. The English figures which are used in the village accounts will not be so neat.

11. *Madras.*—Reeds may be suitable for writing Hindustani, Guzerati and Davanagari, but they are not suitable for Telugu, and they are still less suitable for Tamil.

12. *Chingleput.*—Reeds are not suitable for writing Tamil and Telugu.

13. *North Arcot.*—Reeds cannot be used for writing Tamil and Telugu and natives do not use them for that purpose.

14. *South Arcot.*—It would be impossible to write Telugu and Tamil with reed pens.

15. *Tanjore*—Reeds are altogether unsuitable for writing in Tamil. Their introduction would cause waste of time and labor, and the letters penned by them would be so large that much more paper would be wanted.

16. *Trichinopoly.*—The substitution of reeds for quills is impracticable. They are suitable for writing Tamil and Telugu on very thick paper, but cannot be used on French foolscap.

17. *Madura.*—The Collector has tried reeds and finds they will not do. If there were no other objection the delay caused in making and mending the pens and dipping for ink after every two or three words, would more than counterbalance any saving.

18. *Tinnevelly.*—Tamil cannot be written well or quickly with reeds.

19. *Coimbatore.*—Reeds are not adapted for writing Tamil on the usual official paper with English ink, and if these are changed, the records will become bulkier and postage more expensive.

20. *Nilgiris.*—Reeds cannot be used on the French foolscap which is provided for Vernacular work.

21. *Salem.*—The Collector has tried reeds but finds they will not do for Tamil writing which is executed on thin paper in a running hand.

22. *Malabar.*—Reeds cannot be used for writing Malayalum.

23. *South Canara.*—Reeds may be substituted for quills, but boys are taught in the schools to write with quills, and the proper description of reeds is not to be found in South Canara, though certain sticks might be used instead. The Collector presumes from such a reference having been made, that some saving important to the Empire will result from the substitution of reeds for quills or he would venture to deprecate the measure.

24. The Board are of opinion that quills are suitable and reeds unsuitable for writing the vernaculars of this Presidency used in official correspondence, etc., viz., Tamil, Telugu, Malayalum and Canarese. Reeds could not be substituted for quills without causing grave inconvenience and seriously retarding work all over the Presidency. The substitution would make it necessary to revise the sanctioned supplies of stationery and perhaps even to increase establishments at a considerable cost.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 124. ORDER THEREON, 20th August 1874, No. 1391.

The Governor in Council agrees in opinion with the Board of Revenue, and directs that copy of their Proceedings be sent to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue, with enclosures returned.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Govt. of 11874 Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated August, 20th.

Recd.

G. O., 20th August 1874, *No.* 1391.

AUGUST.

Nos. 122–124.

Substitution of Reeds for Quills for Vernacular writing.—Concurrence expressed in the opinion of the Board of Revenue that "Reeds" cannot be substituted for Quills, for transcribing the Vernaculars of the Madras Presidency in official correspondence. Copy of the Proceedings forwarded for the information of the Government of India and for submission to the Secretary of State.

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Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following ~~letter~~

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 15 July 1874. No. 1822.

Order thereon dated 20 August 1874. No. 1391

The Govt in Council agrees in opinion with the Board of Revenue, and directs that copy of their Proceedings be sent to the Govt of India.

30 Aug

The Bd of Rev with Mr Underwood's letter } dated 28/8

dated 28/8

No 1392.

To the Secretary to the Government of India Financial Department.

Sir

With reference to your letter dated the 8th Sept. 73. No. 2898, I am directed to forward for the information of the Govt of India, the accompanying

to the Secretary of State for India, copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated the 15. July 1874. No. 1822, and to state that the Governor in Council agrees with the Board of Revenue in opinion that "Leeds" cannot be substituted for "Smith"; for transcribing the memorandum of this Presidency in Official Correspondence.

I have &c.
Secretary
Board.

Ordered
20th August 1874

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

To

Frist.

The Board of Revenue
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Dated 20 Aug 74
Recd. 1874, No. 1391.

Nos. 122-124.

Substitution of Reeds for Quills for Vernacular writing

Concurrence expressed in the opinion of the Board of Revenue that "Reeds" cannot be substituted for Quills for transcribing the Vernaculars of the Madras Presidency in official correspondence - Copy of the Pros: forwarded for the information of the Govt. of India

& for submission to the Secy of State -

Copied

Govt. of Madras. 1874

Print.

To

The Secretary to the
Govt. of India
Print. Dept.

G. O. 20 Augt., 1874, No. 1392.

Nos. 122-124.

Substitution of Reeds for Quills for Vernacular writing. Copy of Proc. of the Board of Revenue forwarded for information with an intimation that the Madras Govt. agrees with the Board of Revenue in opinion

that "Reeds" cannot be substituted for "Quills" for transcribing the vernaculars of the Madras Presidency in official Correspondence.