M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial **DEPARTMENT**

G.O. No. 1652 Press ~~Mis.~~

34-35

Dated 20—11— ~~1917~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 34. Read the following Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Financial Department, dated 18th October 1858, No. 684.

Read the following papers.

From the Director of Public Instruction.

(Dated 13th September 1858, No. 740.)

From C. F. CHAMIER, Esq., Acting Register to the Court of Sudder Udalut; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 21st September 1858, No. 80.

SIR,

The Judges of the Sudder Udalut direct me to state that it does not occur to them to offer any remarks on Mr. Ricketts' report on the travelling allowances of Civil Officers, a copy of which was transmitted to them with Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 6th Instant.

From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 24th September 1858, No. 384.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, 6th September 1858, directing me to submit my views on Mr. Ricketts' proposition in respect of my travelling allowances.

2. The Government are aware that I objected* to the payment of my actual expenses, though at that time they exceeded the allowance I requested, in conformity to that drawn by the Inspectors in other Presidencies, as I could not without inconvenience submit Bills for every little charge incidental on travelling, I was also well aware that it would be often difficult to decide what charges were and what were not strictly "expenses of travelling," I was also particularly desirous of having my allowances placed on a footing which should remove the unpleasant, not to say degrading inquisition, of the audit Clerks.

* 15th August 1858, No. 77.

3. The rate at which I am now paid for travelling, amounts to 3,000 Rupees a year, and I have no hesitation in asserting that it does not cover all charges *incidental to travelling*.

4. Mr. Ricketts proposes that all Inspectors of Prisons should receive 8 Annas per mile and 5 Rupees a day when absent from Head Quarters, that should they require tents they should be at liberty to indent on the Depôt for them, the mileage not to be allowed while the Officer lived in a camp moved at the expense of Government. All Bills to be countersigned by the Secretary to Government.

5. Mr. Ricketts again adds his expectation. that Inspectors of Prisons will thus receive 1,500 Rupees mileage and 750 Rupees for the days of absence from Head Quarters, thus effecting a saving of 750 Rupees annually.

6. I hardly know what reply to give to this proposition. I have on every occasion on which I have been consulted as to travelling allowances given it as the result of long observation, that the better course is to pay a fixed allowance and to expect the Officer drawing it to do his duty, I mentioned to Mr. Ricketts in a letter, copy of which is annexed, my reasons for preferring a fixed allowance.

28th April 1857, No. 154, enclosed.

7. I must say that the countersignature of the Secretary to Government, proposed by Mr. Ricketts, is needless and the proposition offensive. If my signature is not sufficient guarantee, subject to the check of the Civil Auditor's office, my character must stand very low. Besides the

Secretaries, in this Presidency at least, have certainly enough to do without casting up my mileage accounts. If their signature is to be a matter of course, it is useless, if my Bills are to be subjected to scrutiny in their office in addition to the ordinary scrutiny in the audit Office, it can only be done by Clerks who will virtually be judges of my conduct. The Government can of course assign any travelling allowance it pleases, and I shall take care that my duty is done upon it, but I very much question the saving amounting to one half the sum Mr. Ricketts supposes, in fact he quotes Dr. Mouatt to the effect, that in a one year he has travelled near 11,000 miles, and that he is "locomotive" during the greater part of every year, I have already travelled near 4,000 miles this year, and purpose a tour of 790 miles, and one shorter trip before its close; or taking my last official year, the distance will be still greater. I do not therefore anticipate much saving to Government by the proposed change, it will involve much additional work in the Secretariat, unless as I suppose, the duty of passing the Bill is entrusted to a Clerk or a printing machine, and will induce much annoyance from reference, all of which is now avoided by giving a fixed allowance, certainly by no means excessive, for a person who must travel generally in a palankeen and with a servant likewise carried, and who has to keep up travelling conveniences.

From J. ROHDE, Esq., Inspector of Prisons; to H. RICKETTS, Esq., Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries and Establishments throughout India, dated Rajahmundy, 28th April 1857, No. 154.

SIR.

In reference to your letter of the 13th Instant, I have the honor to state that I have not, for upwards of 20 years, drawn tentage or other travelling allowance or had occasion to consider the matter till I took up my present appointment, I do not see how any one rule can be applied in the various circumstances under which the allowance is drawn, any system would in all probability induce loss to one while another would profit by it. In Ganjam I can travel for 6 Annas a mile for myself and a servant, in Tinnevelly bearers for a single palankeen have cost me including their travelling batta more than twice as much; one man pushes on from station to station with no other object than the saving of time; another sits down and calculates how he can travel at the least cost. In some cases travelling expenses need include nothing beyond the hire of a single set of bearers or couple of bullocks, in another they must be calculated to include the cost of dawk travelling, carrying a servant, moving baggage, road expenses of servants, and the maintenance of a travelling establishment and equipments.

2. In regard to the general question, my own impression is in favor of a consolidated allowance, when an Officer has duties to perform which involve regular tours of duty.

3. Taking the classes you refer to, I do not think any rule would generally apply, I very much doubt whether any mode more economical to Government could be devised than that in use in this Presidency, though I think public tents for Cutcherries should be provided to ensure efficiency. I am also of opinion, that a consolidated allowance to Collectors and others moving in certain ranges for the expense of their private tents and travelling, would be preferrable to the present system, I could not hazard my opinion on a Collector's expenses, but I believe that while some derive profit from the allowance, those who maintain efficient establishments do so at a loss.

4. In regard to other classes travelling within their respective ranges, I believe the better course to be, to consolidate travelling allowance and pay, except in cases where they may be required to travel post or otherwise than by easy stages.

5. I know to my cost, that it is impossible to form any estimate of the incidental expenses attending a travelling appointment. The purchase and maintenance of conveyances, the destruction, loss and injury of property, the extra wages required by servants and extra charges to which a stranger is liable and other trifles, add considerably to the bare cost of conveyance. As facilities for moving increase, expenses will of course be lessened, but just now, except on much frequented high roads, the expenses of dawk travelling are higher than I have ever known them, while the necessity for resorting to various modes of travelling often adds considerably to the cost.

6. I can not lay down any table of probable cost.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. ROHDE,
Inspector of Prisons.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

(Dated 2nd October 1858, No. 3684.)

From the Officiating Chief Engineer.

(Dated 11th October 1858, No. 4400.)

Ordered that the foregoing reports on the proposals of Mr. Ricketts regarding "the Traveling allowances of Officers of the Civil Department," be referred for consideration to the Departments to which they respectively relate.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, No. 1652; dated 20th November 1858.

With the above Extract Minutes Consultation, the reports of the Court of Sudder Udalut and the Inspector General of Jails on Mr. Ricketts' scheme regarding the Travelling allowances of Officers in the Civil Department, are referred for consideration.

2. The Court of Sudder Udalut state, that it does not occur to them to offer any remarks on Mr. Ricketts' proposals; but the Inspector General of Jails prefers a consolidated allowance, as at present, to so much per day while actually travelling, and mileage as recommended by Mr. Ricketts.

3. The Governor in Council sees no objection to the scheme for travelling allowance proposed by the Commissioner for the Revision of Civil Salaries, &c., but he is decidedly opposed to the Bills of the Inspector General of Jails being countersigned by the Secretary to Government, who could not perform the duty satisfactorily. The necessary check should in this, as in the case of all other allowances, be exercised by the Civil Auditor.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Govt.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Judicial Department

№ 1652

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Dated 20 November 1858

Read the following Exd. Mins
Cons: in the Financial Dept.
(Here enter 18 Oct/58 № 684.)

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sees no objection to the scheme for travelling allowance proposed by the Commissioners for the revision of civil salaries &c.; but he is decidedly opposed to the Bills of the Inspector General of Sails being countersigned by the Secretary to Govt. who could not perform the duty satisfactorily. The necessary check should in this, as in the case of all other allowances be exercised by the Civil Auditor.

W. H. B.

Copy to Finl. Dept. dispatch 24/11.

50 Off

W. H. & Co's Bank &c.
Judicial 1852. No. 194.

Lr 1/1852

Copy of Minute of Council

Dr Sir. Forwarded for
Exn. 1402/05.

3/5/1852

16 Nov. 1852