M.R.O. 1—$8,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1544	Press Mis.
105-106		
Dated	14-12- ~~19~~ 1863	

6/7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 14th December 1863.

No. 105. Read the following letter from JAMES INNES MINCHIN, Esq., Magistrate of Kurnool; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 21st September 1863, No. 32.

I have the honor to report that in accordance with the Government Order, dated 13th August 1863, No. 1300, the disbandment of the Kurnool Irregular Horse was carried out, on the 1st of this month.

2. The payment of compensation and gratuities has been made according to the scale sanctioned by Government in their Order, dated 11th July, No. 1123, at a total cost of Rupees 1,04,042-8-11, being Rupees 1860 within the sanctioned amount.

3. The total compensation to Assamies amounted to Rupees 90,800, being Rupees 1200 less than the sum calculated by me, owing to a Naib Duffadar having resigned the service, while the disbandment of the force was under discussion, and after the order not to fill up vacancies was received. He thus lost the Rupees 400 as compensation, to which he would have been entitled, and the remaining Rupees 800 were deducted from the granted compensation to four parties, who possessed valuable horses which they were unwilling to give up to Government.

4. The amount granted as gratuities to Bargheers, and Moonshees was also slightly below the sanctioned sum, as one man died before the disbandment was carried out, and the services of two other men were not correctly entered in the list previously submitted to Government.

5. The errors were fortunately not of consequence, as after paying every man according to the sanctioned rate of gratuity, the total is below the estimated and sanctioned amount.

6. A slight saving below the estimate was effected also in the payments on account of the Remount Fund, and for the purchase of clothing.

7. The clothing having been purchased on account of the Police, should be re-paid to the Government out of the Police Budget, and need not be included in the cost of compensation.

8. On the disbandment of the Force it became my duty to dispose of the horses, that had become the property of Government, to the best advantage.

9. Of the 230 horses in the Rissalla, one was taken away by the Naib Duffadar on his resignation of the service, as alluded to in paragraph 3; four were reserved by their owners, as being of greater value than half the amount of compensation, as permitted in paragraph 10 of the Government Order, dated 11th July, No. 1123; and two died shortly before the disbandment was actually carried out, though after the final orders on the subject had been received.

10. With reference to these casualties, His Excellency the Governor was good enough to direct, when in Kurnool, that the loss should be borne by Government, and that no deductions on this account need be made from the amount of compensation granted for the Assamy.

11. There remained therefore 223 horses to be disposed of on behalf of the Government.

12. Fifty-nine horses being required for the new Mounted Police, and it being advisable that the men selected for this force should mount themselves on the best horses procurable, the Superintendent of Police, with the consent of the men, proposed that he should be permitted to pick out the fifty-nine best horses at a fixed sum of Rupees 150 per head: the men of the Police preferring to pay this average price to running the chance of losing the best horses through competition of others, at public auction.

13. Considering that the interests of Government were involved in the efficiency of the Mounted Police, and that the sum offered, as an average price all round was a fair one, I agreed to the arrangement, and fifty-nine horses were handed over to the Mounted Police, on the disbandment of the Rissalla for the sum of Rupees 8850.

14. These horses were variously priced, according to their value, by the Superintendent of Police, from Rupees 200 downwards, so as to cover the total amount of Rupees 8850, and the right of selection after the prices were fixed, was given to the men by lot. No fairer arrangement could have been made; the new force is very efficiently mounted, and the men are pleased with their horses, and satisfied with the prices they paid for them.

15. There remained 164 horses to be disposed of, and considering the expense and risk that would have attended their dispatch to distant stations, and the fact that many of them were of a very worthless description, I determined to try the experiment of a local sale, disposing only of so many horses daily as to have it in my power to stop the sale at once, if I found the horses failed to fetch what I might consider reasonable prices.

16. From what I have seen of the sale of cast and surplus horses at other stations, I believe that fair prices were realized; and I therefore continued the sales daily until the whole were disposed of at public auction.

17. The sales were conducted under my personal superintendence by Inspector Vardon, of the Police, and as the duty involved some labor, and would have entitled a professional Auctioneer to a percentage, I remitted to Mr. Vardon the price of a horse purchased by himself, in consideration of his services.

18. The whole 164 horses realized Rupees 8389, and considering that about sixty of them were literally worthless, and but for the pending order of disbandment, would have been turned out by the Commanding Officer during the few previous months, the average price of the remainder was better than I ventured to anticipate.

19. The accounts of the sale were kept by the Moonshees attached to the Rissalla, and the money collected by its Nakibs or Troop Peons, and as these duties occupied this establishment completely until the 15th instant, while their pay ceased on the disbandment of the Rissalla, I have issued to them, half a month's pay, amounting to Rupees 49-8, out of the proceeds of the sale. This, with the sum of Rupees 110, the price of the horse remitted to Inspector Vardon, and the cost of keeping some of the horses for a few days, after the 1st instant, the details of which have not yet been made up, constitutes the whole deductions from the sum of Rupees 17,223.

20. The above sum has not yet been entirely collected, as the usual privilege of paying by three monthly instalments was granted to the Officers of Government.

21. In accordance with paragraph 3 of the Government Order, dated 13th August last, No. 1300, Pension Certificates are being prepared, and will be hereafter submitted. There is, however, one subject connected with the compensation granted to the Rissalla, on which I venture respectfully to request the re-consideration of the Government.

22. Annexed is a valuation, framed by the Public Works Department, of the houses, stables, and guard rooms, forming the Rissalla lines, in which the total cost of the whole, at the rates in force at the time the building were erected is set down at Rupees 30,605, while their cost at present rates would be Rupees 33,946.

23. In their Order of the 11th July 1863, No. 1123, Government refused compensation for these lines, but offered to grant the sites of the houses and stables rent free, and on freehold tenure.

24. As regards the houses, the boon thus offered is of great value: directions have been issued for the preparation of the Title Deeds, which will be submitted hereafter for the seal of Government, and these houses will thus be constituted valuable private property. It is solely with reference to the stables, and the guard rooms, the joint property of the late Rissalla, to which the issue of Title Deeds will give no value, that I respectfully request a re-consideration of the Government decision.

25. The total value of these buildings amounts to Rupees 7894, the guard rooms, as well as stabling for one troop, are required for the use of the Police, while the rest of the stabling if purchased by Government, could be disposed of at some loss to the Irrigation Company, whose Chief Engineer would convert them into workshops.

26. If the Government are pleased to sanction the payment to the Rissalla, of Rupees 7894, the Engineer's valuation of those public buildings, out of the sum realized by the sale of the horses, a portion of the outlay would be certainly recovered, while the late members of the Rissalla would feel the consideration shown to them, as conformable to the perfect justice with which all their other claims to compensation on disbandment have been met.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
14*th December* 1863.

27. I will not trouble the Government with arguments against the abstract justice of the grounds adduced by the Inspector General of Police for withholding compensation for the lines. The guard rooms at least being required for public purposes must be purchased from their owners, and if a liberal price be paid to the Rissalla for the stabling, constructed by them at a great expense under the orders of their superiors, there will not remain one point in which they would not acknowledge the considerate justice that has been extended to them on their disbandment.

28. The price of these buildings, the joint property of the late Rissalla, would be divided amongst the owners of Assamies, on whom the cost of construction and repairs has fallen in the same proportion.

29. I cannot conclude this letter without recording my thanks to Captain Robinson, the Superintendent of Police for the prompt and efficient way in which he has carried out all the details attending this measure.

Abstract of the valuation of the Rissala Houses, Stables, and Guard rooms.

Description of building.	Valuation at present rate.			Valuation at former rate.			
Valuation of Rissala houses...	25,175	0	0	22,711	0	0	
Front and rear guard rooms.	771	0	0	694	0	0	Required for the use of the Foot Police.
1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Troop stables.	8000	0	0	7200	0	0	One line required for the Mounted Police.
Total valuation of the whole.....	33,946	0	0	30,605	0	0	

(Signed) JAMES INNES MINCHIN,
Magistrate.

KURNOOL, MAGISTRATE'S OFFICE,
21st September 1863.

No. 106. ORDER THEREON, 14th December 1863, No. 1944.

The Governor in Council approves and confirms the arrangements reported in paragraphs 1 to 20 of the letter above recorded.

2. In paragraph 23 and the following paragraphs the Magistrate requests the Government to re-consider their decision against purchasing the stables and guard rooms belonging to the late Rissala of the Kurnool Horse. He observes that the guard rooms and stabling for one troop will be required for the use of the Mounted Police, and that the rest of the stabling could be sold, though at some loss, to the Irrigation Company whose Chief Engineer would convert them into workshops.

3. Under all the circumstances of the case, the Governor in Council is willing to admit that the arguments urged by Mr. Minchin in support of his recommendation are deserving of consideration; and he accordingly sanctions the payment, to the men of the late Rissala, of the sum of Rupees (7894) seven thousand eight hundred and ninety-four, the estimated value of the buildings in question. The Magistrate will report what arrangement can be made for the sale of that part of the stabling which is not required by Government.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. McMootry.

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part of the Stabling lot
is not [illegible] by

[illegible]
[illegible] Health General [illegible]
the Inspector General of Police
[illegible]

Judicial 1863 Dep.t.

No. 1944.

Proc. to Govt

Dated 14th December 1863.
F.S. No. 792/64

Passing orders respecting the Stables and Guard-rooms belonging to the late Ressala of the Kurnool Horse.

1054-106