

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 417

Press
~~Mis.~~

320-321

Dated

22-2-1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd February 1861.*

No. 320. Read the following letter from J. D. ROBINSON, Esq., Acting Collector of North Arcot, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government Fort Saint George, dated Chólangavaram, 7th February 1861, No. 5:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of Government and Order thereon, dated 31st ultimo, No. 255, calling upon me to explain under what circumstances the Military Pensioners at Arnee were required to proceed from that station to Chittoor to receive payment, and were even then paid so long after the proper time.

2. The Establishment from Arnee joined my Office on the 13th October last. On the 29th of that month the Abstracts for September were forwarded to the Military Paymaster, and on the 24th of the following month, those for October were likewise transmitted. The Paymaster's draft for both Abstracts was received on the 17th December 1860. As the Christmas holidays were at hand, and every Pensioner had, according to the Accountant General's Circular dated 11th September 1860, No. 1,148 to be mustered on the occasion of being first paid by the Civil Authorities, the delay was, I respectfully submit, not greater than was under the circumstances to have been expected. These Arnee Pensioners are in number above 800, and are not all resident at that station, but are scattered about the Pólr, Wandawash, Triuvatúr and Pallikonda Tálúqs. Had even their places of residence been known (which was not the case), and had it also been determined that a first payment might with propriety be made in their respective Tálúqs, the arrangement would probably have been attended with even greater delay than has now occurred, as the Tálúq Authorities are unacquainted with English, and to have enabled them to muster the Pensioners, each Certificate would have had to be translated into the vernacular, a work which would have taken the two writers attached to the Department much time and labor to accomplish.

3. I have not, as Government are well aware, a single Officer Covenanted or Uncovenanted whom I could have deputed, nor could I, I respectfully submit, be expected under the risks above described, and in face of the Accountant General's instructions, to undertake the responsibility of making this first payment without a very careful and complete identification. This work, was entrusted to Mr. Locke who being in charge of the Treasury and Pension Departments was, I thought, the proper Officer to conduct it. Mr. Locke being by the very nature of his duties stationary had thus no alternative but to summon the Pensioners to Chittoor; and thus by an unfortunate complication of difficulties over which the Revenue Department had no control, much real hardship and inconvenience has resulted. Under the new arrangement, this need not again occur; and I therefore trust that the explanation now offered will satisfy Government that the contretemps is not attributable to the want of consideration and mismanagement of this Department:

No. 321. ORDER THEREON, 22nd February 1861, No. 417.

1. Ordered to be communicated to the Military Department with reference to the Order in that Department, dated 25th January 1861, No. 329.

2. It appears to Government that Mr. Robinson made the best arrangement for paying the Pensioners, that the circumstances permitted.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

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North Arcot
Collector's Circuit Office
Cholaucaram 7th February
1861

I have the honor to be
Sir
Yours Most Obedt. Servt.

[Signature]
Acting Collector

To J. Pycroft Esq
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

[Faint handwritten text at bottom]

1861
11 February 1861

Received
1861
of the Secretary
of the Treasury
for the sum of \$342.

of the Secretary
of the Treasury
for the sum of \$342.

of the Secretary
of the Treasury
for the sum of \$342.

of the Secretary
of the Treasury
for the sum of \$342.

No 320 + 321.

C. M. B. R. P.

of the Secretary
of the Treasury
for the sum of \$342.

1861

Ordered to be
paid to the
Department of the
Treasury

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for the sum of \$342.

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