(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works. **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1179 Press —Mis.—

582-583

Dated 25 - 4 —— 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 25th April 1864.

No. 582. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department :—

Calling upon Captains Moberly, Barber and Paxton for explanation for forcibly entering and interfering with the Post Office at Palamcottah. } (Here enter 20th April 1864.)

No. 583. ORDER THEREON, 25th April 1864, No. 1,179.
Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES, A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, 20th April 1864.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant Colonel A. C. PEARS, Post Master General; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Public Department, Fort Saint George, dated 11th April 1864, No. 8118.

With reference to the Proceedings of Government, No. 257, dated 1st ultimo, deciding that the Post Office at Palamcottah should not be moved from the building in which it is held, I have the honor to subjoin, for such notice as may be deemed necessary by Government, copy of a letter to the address of the Inspecting Post Master, 12th or Palamcottah Division, from the Acting Post Master of Palamcottah No. 203, dated 26th ultimo, bringing to notice that Captains Moberly and Barber, and Major Paxton had forcibly entered and interfered with the Post Office on the latter date.

2. I have only to add that the proceeding of the above officers in entering the Post Office without the permission of the Post Master General, is an infringement of Section X of the General Rules for the Management of the Post Office Department.

From J. SEERUNGA RAJAH, Acting Postmaster, Palamcottah; to the Inspecting Postmaster 12th or Palamcottah Division, dated Palamcottah, 26th March 1864, No. 203.

I beg to bring to your notice that Captain Moberly, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, accompanied by Major Paxton and Captain Barber, called at the office this morning, and requested me to open, for their inspection, the room at present occupied as a store room, &c., and which is set apart, under the new arrangements, for the accommodation of the District Post establishment on amalgamation. As it was not of much consequence whether I did so or not, I complied. Having inspected it, they required me to take them through that portion of the building (consisting of two verandahs and a side room) walled off as a private residence for the Postmaster, agreeably to orders. I did not consider them justified in making the request, and therefore said that as I, as Acting Postmaster, lived there, it would be most inconvenient for me to do so, not to say that I had received no instructions from my superiors on the matter, and proposed that I should write and obtain permission, which I considered absolutely necessary before I complied. Captain Moberly said he could not wait, but that as he had the orders of the Governor General, what I referred to was of no consequence, and further intimated that he could, if he wished, force an entrance. I then said that as it was a private residence, it would be improper for him to do so. Major Paxton then suggested that Captain Moberly might give me three days' notice. He has accordingly granted me the three days, and has strictly enjoined me to have the doors thrown open on Wednesday morning.

2. The Postmaster is *ordered* to live on the premises, and as it would be inconvenient (in fact impossible in the case of illness, &c.,) to comply with such requisitions (the more so, since there is no knowing when and how often they may be made), I earnestly beg you will be pleased to bring the circumstance to the notice of the Postmaster General, so as to prevent a recurrence of such interference. I cannot think that Government ever intended that Postmasters should vacate their premises, and remove *everything* at a moment's notice, and whenever a Government officer may deem it necessary to inspect the building.

3. In the meantime, I beg to be favored with your instructions as to how I am to act in the present instance.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. C. PEARS,
Postmaster General.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
20th April 1864.

Resolved that copies of the foregoing letter and of its enclosure be sent to the undermentioned officers for any explanation they may have to offer :—

Captain F. J. Moberly.
Captain W. Barber.
Captain J. Paxton.

(True Extract.)

G. J. Chamier
Chief Secretary.

Fort Saint Geroge,
20th April 1864.

To Captain F. J. Moberly.
„ Captain W. Barber.
„ Captain J. Paxton.
To the Department Public Works.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd, J. Tulloch.

N.W. 1864 Copies
Pro. of Govt. for April
No. 1812.

Prot. M. Gork. in the
Public Cash

Dated 27
Recd 28 } April/64

No

cNo. 1179 - 25th April/64

Calling upon
Captains Mowbray
Barber and Paton
for explanation for
forcibly entering
and interfering with
the Post Office at
Palamcottah.

No. 552. 553

Recorded

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cNo. 1179

Recorded

Chepauk
25th April/64 }