

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	879	Press ~~Mis.~~
	340. 341	
Dated	28-4-186-	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd April 1865*

No. 340. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, dated 10th April 1865, No. 1,979 :—

Read again paragraphs 248 to 258 of the English Commissioner's Report on the Indian Civil Accounts.

RESOLUTION.

Vernacular Accounts.

In these paragraphs, it is pointed out that the Accounts of Civil Treasuries are rendered more voluminous and intricate than necessary by the practice which is in force in many Treasuries of keeping the Accounts in two languages, and the changes in this respect recommended by the Commissioners are in general approved by the Local Governments and the Officers of Account.

2. In the Punjab and North-Western Provinces, the original Accounts are chiefly kept in Oordoo written in the Persian character, and these are translated into English for the General Books. The Treasurer's Accounts are in Hindee, and in many Treasuries, the complex Rukkum Symbols are in use in place of the simple Persian or English figures.

3. Vernacular Accounts at Tehseel Treasuries must continue, and the reception at the Sudder Treasuries of Vouchers and documents written in the Vernacular may to some extent be unavoidable; but at this stage, the use of the Vernacular in the Account Branch of the Sudder Treasury should entirely cease, except that the Treasurer, who generally does not understand English, may be allowed to keep his record of receipts and payments in his own characters. Even here, however, the use of English figures should be encouraged.

4. The direct posting of the vouchers into the English Accounts can be much facilitated by the use of biglot vouchers as shewn in the specimens attached. By having the substance of the vouchers printed in the Vernacular on one side, and in English on the opposite side of the page, there remain only the blanks to be filled up, and this can readily be done in both languages; so that whilst serving the purpose of a Vernacular voucher, the materials are there for posting it direct into the English Accounts. The simplicity which will follow the introduction of the new system will also add facilities to the abolition of the double Accounts in two different languages.

5. There may be in some cases a difficulty in obtaining Clerks competent to conduct the English Accounts, but by the reduction of the Vernacular Office, a saving of expenditure will arise which can be appropriated to meet any additional remuneration which it may be necessary to grant in order to secure a better qualified class of Clerks in the English Branch of the Office.

6. His Excellency the Governor General in Council is therefore pleased to direct that measures be at once taken to confine the Accounts kept in the Account Branch of the several Sudder Treasuries of India to the English language, and that all Vernacular Accounts now in use in that Branch shall cease on the 1st May next, or as soon as it is practicable to carry out the necessary arrangements; the several Accountants General reporting through the Local Government to the Financial Department all cases where the obstacles to the course laid down are such as to render delays in carrying out these orders desirable. Such increase of charge in

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th April 1865.*

the English Offices as may be necessary will be sanctioned by Government out of the savings caused by the reduction of the Vernacular Offices.

7. The success with which the Vernacular Accounts have lately been abolished in the Treasuries of the Central Provinces, shows that the difficulties to be overcome are not so great as might have been anticipated.

8. A list of the Accounts and Returns that may be dispensed with in the Vernacular is appended; such as are necessarily retained being kept in English only.

9. The above orders apply solely to the Account Branch of the Treasuries, but a reduction of Vernacular Accounts and Returns in the Revenue Branch also should be encouraged, as the knowledge of the English language advances.

10. A practice obtains in some Treasuries of keeping exact copies of receipts granted by the Treasuries to public Officers and private individuals. With rare exceptions, the record of the transaction in the Official Books is quite sufficient, and the discontinuance of this useless practice is strongly insisted upon in all such Treasuries where it prevails.

11. The Deputy Auditor and Accountant General in each Province will report at the end of three months how far these instructions have been acted upon, and what further arrangements he would recommend to give effect to them.

Ordered, that copies of the foregoing Resolution be sent to the several Local Governments, and Administrations, and to the several Deputy Auditors and Accountants General.

(A true Extract)

(Signed) E. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 341.

ORDER THEREON, 28th April 1865, No. 879.

Miscellaneous.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue
for early report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 1979.

*EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial
Department, dated 10 April 1865.*

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RESOLUTION.

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E. W. Henderson
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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413. 8-4-65.

H-879.
 Forwarded to the
 Hon. Sec. Revenue Dept.
 early report -
 J. B. Thompson
 28. Sept. 1858
 J. B. Thompson
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New = 1865. Deport
 and of South America
 1860.
 Extract from the
 No. of the Govt. of
 India in the Annual
 Report —————

Dated 10th of Feb.
 Received 24th } 1865

North Buxley St. 1979.
 No. 579. 25th of Feb. 1865.
 Witness that
 measures be adopted
 taken to provide the
 accounts kept in the
 account books of
 the several districts
 under of India with
 such language and
 style as is necessary
 to provide for in all
 in that branch shall
 read on 1st May next.