M R. O. 1—89,009—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1818. Press Mis.

288-89
Dated 21-11-1820 19 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 288. Read the following letter from Major R. H. BEDDOME, Conservator of Forests, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Ootacamund, 8th November 1870, No. 2,405 :—

Copy of letter, No. 32, dated 12th May 1870, from the Head Clerk to the Deputy-Conservator of Madura Forests.
Copy of letter, No. 34, dated 20th May 1870, from the Head Clerk to the Deputy-Conservator of Madura Forests.
Letter, No. 69, dated 21st May 1870, from the Deputy-Conservator of Madura to the Conservator of Forests.
Letter, No. 57-1,495, dated 28th June 1870, from the Postmaster-General to the Conservator of Forests.
Letter, No. 675-1,495, dated 1st July 1870, from the Postmaster-General to the Conservator of Forests.
Letter, No. 261, dated 27th September 1370, from the Deputy-Conservator of Madura, to the Conservator of Forests.

In forwarding the correspondence as per margin, I have the honour to point out the extreme inconvenience, delay, and increase of work that has been put upon our department by the new Postal Rules, which have not allowed our department the privilege of franking letters within their districts, though this privilege is accorded to all the Revenue-officers, the Police, and the Department Public Works; and I would earnestly request Government to allow our officers and their subordinates to frank all communications within their districts, an account being kept of the same at the Post Office, as is the case with other departments.

2. Under the present system, continual mistakes on the part of the Post Office and of our subordinates involve much trouble and correspondence; and the contingent bills of postage and their preparation and submission, together with vouchers to the Treasury and Central Office, is almost work of itself for one Clerk, and, by certain Post Office Rules, correspondence sent "Service Bearing" is often forwarded by very circuitous routes, and much delay occurs.

3. In every district we have Overseers, Sub-Overseers, Duffadars, and Peons, stationed in most out-of-the-way places; our officers themselves have often great difficulty in procuring labels, so it is easy to imagine what difficulty our subordinates must experience, and, if the latter were entrusted with a large stock at any time, much loss would probably result from the great exposure which our department have always to suffer.

4. If the present system remains in force, it will be necessary to provide every subordinate with proper Letter Weighing Machines.

No. 289. ORDER THEREON, 21st November 1870, No. 1,818.

Miscellaneous.

TRANSFERRED to the Postmaster-General for report as to the expediency of declaring any offices belonging to the Forest Department privileged offices under Section 1 of the Rules for the treatment of official correspondence.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21*st November* 1870.

2. In the meantime, Major Beddome is requested to specify distinctly the grades of officers to which he wishes the privilege of franking letters to be extended.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Postmaster-General.
„ the Conservator of Forests.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 1818.

3½

Transferred to the Post Master General for report as to the expediency of declaring any offices belonging to the Forest Department privileged offices under Sec: 1 of the Rules for the treatment of official correspondance.

2. In the meantime Major Beddome, is requested to specify distinctly the grades of officers to which he wishes the privilege of franking letters to be extended.

(Signed) H. Wellesley

Ag Under Secy. to Govt.

Fort St. George

21st Nov. 1870

1 To the Post Master General with 6 Enclo. Decd. 22

13 — Conser. of Forests

Exd.

Govt. of [1870] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL

&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 1870

[illegible]

G. O., 21st November 1870, No. 1,818

[illegible]

Nos. 209-210.

Franking of letters by forest officers [illegible] — Letter from the Conservator of Forests on this subject transferred to the Postmaster-General for report. Major Beddome to specify the grades of officers to frank.

From Conservator of Forests 19 December 70 No. 3938

From the Postmaster Genl. 16 Decr/70 No. 3992