M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1830	Press / ~~Mis.~~

313-14
Dated 12-11-1920 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 313. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th September 1870, No. 5,795 :—

Read the following replies from the Collectors to Board's Proceedings, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125.

From Collector of Ganjam, dated 18th June 1867, No. 1,754.
„ Acting „ Vizagapatam, „ 25th Oct. „ „ 866,
recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 17th December 1867, No. 8,116.
From Collector of the Godavery District, dated 15th June 1867, No. 158.

„	Officiating	„	Kistna District,	„	7th Oct. 1869,	Extra No. 123.
„	Acting	„	Nellore,	„	4th June 1867,	No. 166.
„		„	Bellary,	„	31st May „ „	90.
„		„	„	„	25th Sept. „ „	188.
„		„	Cuddapah,	„	22nd Oct. „ „	142.
„		„	Kurnool,	„	30th Sept. 1869, „	312.
„		„	Madras,	„	29th March 1870, „	90.
„	Acting	„	South Arcot,	„	19th Augt. 1867, „	211.
„		„	Tanjore,	„	13th July „ „	133.
„		„	Trichinopoly,	„	21st June „ „	155.
„	Acting	„	Madura,	„	2nd Dec. 1869, „	374.
„	Officiating	„	Tinnevelly,	„	22nd June 1867, „	333.
„		„	Salem,	„	18th Oct. 1869, „	246.
„		„	Coimbatore,	„	29th April 1868, „	132.
„		„	South Canara,	„	22nd Oct. 1867, „	198.
„	Acting	„	Malabar,	„	12th Nov. 1869, „	315.
„	Officiating					

THESE reports will be submitted to Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 27th April 1867, No. 946, paragraph 3.

2. A consideration of the Collectors' suggestions, and of the Gazettes themselves, calls attention to a variety of points in which they are all capable of very great improvement. The first thing to be observed is, the great difference in the *paper* and the *style* in which the Gazettes are printed—a difference for which there does not appear to be the slightest reason.

3. The next point is perhaps the arrangement of the subjects; the order in which they shall be printed. This is a matter of considerable importance, and there is again no reason why this order should not be uniform throughout the Presidency. It is obvious how much such uniformity would facilitate reference.

4. As to the *form* in which the subjects should be published, there is no doubt that Mr. Boswell's plan of carefully summarizing everything in the form of a precis, couched in simple and familiar language, and *so carefully translated* as to be really intelligible to the people, is the only one that is deserving of consideration. The practice of printing the headings and conclusions of letters down to the very signature is the merest waste of type and paper. There *are* occasionally papers* and proceedings so clear and condensed as to need no explanation; but, as a rule, all the most important items which find place in a District Gazette, such as Rulings,

*Proceedings of the High Court for instance.

Proceedings, Judgments in Civil and Criminal cases, and descriptive Notices of the cultivation of exotics, require to be most carefully manipulated before they can be expected to become intelligible to the mass of the people. About *half* the space will be saved by a careful observance of this system of publishing Notices.

5. The question then arises who is to do all this? And, in the first place, it is necessary to consider a suggestion made by more than one Collector, viz., that an Editor should be appointed at Madras whose business it would be to make all such selections as might be approved by the Board, to *precis* them, and to send them to Collectors with guaranteed translations. No doubt this would save an immense amount of labour, for, as observed by Mr. VansAgnew, "one Translator of superior "qualifications would be doing what seven or eight of inferior ability are doing "all over the country."

6. Taking the Court Fees' Act as a specimen of the kind of precis that is published, for the information of the people, on a subject which is as widely important and interesting as any subject could ever be, it is quite clear that *some* reform is imperatively needed on this point. Not one of these so-called precis (not even his own) comes up to Mr. Boswell's description of what it ought to be, to be really and fairly intelligible to the public. Few of the niceties of the Act are touched upon much less explained or compared with the provisions of the old law; and, in fact, most of these publications are, if anything, less intelligible than the Act itself. The careless manner in which some of them are printed (though not a matter affecting the precis as such) shows how very little real interest is taken by the officers entrusted with the duty of publishing them. That in the *Kistna Gazette*, for instance, is *full* of the most glaring mistakes in spelling and misprints. There are also serious inaccuracies in the precis themselves. It is pretty clear, therefore, that it would be a great gain in every way to have the precis in this and all similar cases made in the Board's Office and sent to Collectors for insertion in their Gazettes. It might also be the duty of some one in the Board's Office to extract useful Circulars from the various District Gazettes, and communicate them to other Collectors for insertion in theirs.

7. The Board are not, however, of opinion that it would be at all advisable to relieve the district officials of the duty of making the translations of papers so communicated to them. It is evident they are better able to adapt their translations to the peculiar idiom of their districts than any one at Madras could be; and there would be considerable delay in getting them made in Madras, even if the Government Translators could be fairly saddled with the extra labour.

8. It would still be necessary to provide for a *local* Editor (or rather Sub-Editor, the Collector himself being, of course, always responsible as *Editor*,) and he must be the resident Assistant, or, in his absence, the Deputy-Collector in charge of the Treasury. This officer must be held strictly responsible for the general get-up of the Gazette. He must also write all the local paragraphs, abstracts of Court's decisions, (the Judge being requested to allow copies of summaries and judgments to be made,) and collect, revise, and arrange Circulars received from divisional officers. To show how very little active interest has been shown by divisional officers, generally, it is observed that the Collector of South Arcot called on all his subordinates to furnish him with matter of local interest in December

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd November 1870.

1865; but up to August 1867 had not received a single contribution. It is impossible to suppose that nothing worthy of notice had occurred during all that time. Revenue Inspectors' Diaries alone afford constant themes for useful notices, and the only conclusion to be drawn is, that the district officers do not appreciate the advantage of having the results of their experience and their suggestions printed and circulated for general information.

9. Almost all the Collectors complain that no one has any time to write for the Gazette, and that the Press has no time to print any more. Neither of these objections is of much weight. No Gazette need be more bulky than many are at present, and it is not so much more matter that is wanted as [illegible] now is in some of the Gazettes, at any rate, well arranged and [illegible] communicated to all the rest.

10. Mr. Wedderburn suggests that the Gazette should be published *fortnightly*, emergent notices only being issued weekly as Supplements; and the Board resolve to support this suggestion, and recommend Government to adopt it at any rate for a time on trial. There is a vast deal of very useless repetition in a weekly Gazette, and there is no particular advantage to compensate for the immense* amount of time taken up in printing it.

*Not less, it is said, than two-thirds of the whole time of the Press.

11. The preparation of the Index is another important point which appears to be almost entirely neglected by every Collector, except one or two.

12. The object of an Index, of course, is to show the *subject-matter* of a notice by means of the first word; but to take the *Nellore Gazette* for the 9th of April, 1870, as an example, it is scarcely too much to say that not one of the headings (except perhaps "Holidays") begins with the index word.

13. Lastly, all periodical notices about the treasury, the laying of dâks, holidays, and such like, should be printed at the end of the Gazette in small print, such as is used for the advertisements in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*.

14. A memorandum* showing the order in which subjects should be printed is appended to these Proceedings, and the following brief rules should be carefully attended to:—

*Appendix I.

I.—The first word of the Index must express the leading idea of the subject.

II.—The use of vernacular figures even in the vernacular Index should be discontinued. It is of the greatest importance to extend the knowledge of English figures as widely as possible.

III.—The orderly arrangement of the subjects must be carefully attended to, separate Supplements (separately paged and filed for convenience of reference) being kept for miscellaneous Notices, Rulings of Government, Rulings of the High Court, District Administration, Department of Public Works, the Police Sheet, etc., etc., as shown in the memorandum.

IV.—All important and generally interesting Circular Orders and descriptive Notices of divisional officers, such as remarks on the conduct of business by Sub-Magistrates, and the like, must be submitted to the Collector for insertion in the

Supplet demenvoted to district administration (which will include Revenue and Magisterial Circular Orders).

V.—Officers writing Circulars or Notices for their Gazettes should bear in mind that they are intended *primarily* for the instruction of village-officers and others, whose capacity of understanding is as limited as their need of instruction is great. They should adopt the form of a readable narrative. The translation must *generally* be made in the Collector's Office, but it will be well for divisional officers, in many cases, to send their own to ensure their orders being really intelligible.

VI. —— ditor must be made jointly responsible with the translator ...he translations. He must have them read over to him, and ... *translation* as well as the original.

VII.—An *annual* Index must be made and filed with the Gazette, and a copy sent to each subscriber and to the Board.

VIII.—If it can possibly be done, it is very desirable that all Gazettes should be *cut* before they are issued. They should be printed on Double-Double Pott paper.

15. If any Collector finds any difficulty in understanding any of these instructions, or can suggest any further improvements, he is requested to apply to the Board, and a rough model of a District Gazette will be sent for his information and for remarks.

16. As to the circulation of the Gazette to subscribers, the best arrangement, for the present, is that described in the *Tinnevelly Gazette* for the 7th August 1869.—(See extract marked as Appendix II.)

17. One and perhaps the most important object of the District Gazette is, to diffuse intelligence as to the real intentions of Government, to act, that is, as an official exponent of them, (as Mr. Cole observes,) and to counteract the influence of corrupt or designing officials.

18. To carry out this object, the first thing to be done is, to publish a clear and straightforward statement of the Objects and Reasons of every Act, and every novel inquiry instituted; that of Dr. Day, for instance, or the Birth and Death Returns, but especially of all *statistical* inquiries.

19. Being impressed with the great importance of making the information contained in the Gazettes as freely accessible to the public as possible, the Board resolve to recommend that the subscription be reduced to 1 Anna a-month for official and 2 Annas for non-official subscribers, (this being a necessary consequence of publishing it only twice a-month instead of four times); that the rate for advertisements be lowered to half what it is at present, and that no postage be charged on the *District Gazette* on delivery either within or without the district. During the past official year only 62,818 Gazettes were sold at the full rate of subscription, or about one subscriber to 25,000 of the population. It is only subscribers at the full rate who pay any postage, and probably 99 per cent. of them receive their Gazette through the Talsildars, and so avoid any charge for postage; so that if the Postal Department agreed to deliver all such, it would only be burdened to the extent of 172 Gazettes per diem throughout the Presidency, or about 9 or 10 for each district. In accordance with Government Order, No. 2,958, of the 28th

November 1865, the great bulk of the Gazettes are already free from postage, and the loss of revenue to the Post Office would, therefore, be very trifling. If, however, this suggestion is considered inadmissible on this account, the Board strongly recommend that, at any rate, the charge be reduced to a uniform one of half an Anna. They are confident that the increased circulation would soon raise the revenue to its present amount again, and, with a half-penny postage on ordinary newspapers in England (with the perfection of postal arrangements), it seems scarcely reasonable to tax the Government Gazette three times as much for such, comparatively speaking, very inferior service. It must be remembered that the distances to which District Gazettes are carried are very small, seldom beyond the limits of the district. Ordinary newspapers in India even are carried at least ten times the distance for the same charge. The charge for the Gazette is purposely made as low as possible to ensure extensive circulation, but the charge for postage adds 133⅓ per cent. to its present cost, or, in other words, more than *doubles* it.

20. With reference to this point, and the general question of simplifying the arrangement of subjects, the Board would draw the attention of Government to a report by Mr. H. S. Thomas on the working of the Press in South Canara for 1868-69, paragraphs 4 to 19 inclusive.

APPENDIX I.

Memorandum showing order of subjects in District Gazettes.

LEAVES and Appointments (whenever there are not enough of these to fill a whole sheet, the blank space may be filled up with miscellaneous Notices.)

II. *District Administration*, including all Circulars, Magisterial, and Revenue, and all Notices about the management of jails, etc.

III. *Rulings of Government* (carefully *summarized*). Sufficient must be collected to fill a sheet before printing.

IV. *High Court Rulings in full.*

V. Postal Department.

VI. Department of Public Works.

VII. Police Weekly Sheet.

VIII. Revenue Survey and any other independent departments that may be working in the district.

IX. Miscellaneous Notices.

X. Advertisements.

XI. Statistics.

XII. Municipal Notices.

This order might be altered by putting Miscellaneous Notices before Postal Department, but this is comparatively immaterial, the great point being to keep all subjects carefully distinct. Ultimately, of course, each subject will be filed *separately*, so that its place in any individual Gazette is unimportant.

APPENDIX II.

Extract from Circular Order No. XVIII. of 1869, *published at page* 512 *of the District Gazette, dated 7th August* 1869.

XIII. Each taluq will be divided into a certain number of circles, each circle to contain a certain number of villages adjacent to each other. Some village centrally situated as regards the circle of villages, will be styled the cusbah (capital) of that circle, and the circle will be called by its name. Each central village will send a Kavalgar (village servant) twice a-week to the

Taluq Huzur to take all orders, etc., for delivery in villages attached to that circle. Again, each village composing the circle will send a Kavalgar to the central village on certain appointed days and take the tapal for that village. The Munsif of each village will be held responsible for the due delivery of letters, etc., within his village. He will keep a book in which the date should be entered and the signature of the recipient obtained.

XIV. The Gumastas will give all orders, etc., to villages to the *Dufterbund* (Record-keeper), and have them sorted by him and distributed to the Head-quarter Kavalgars when they come to the taluq station. The same rules will apply to District Gazettes sent to the taluq for delivery.

XV. Revenue Inspectors will see that each Munsif delivers orders, etc., sent to him, without delay.

No. 314. ORDER THEREON, 22nd November 1870, No. 1,830.

Miscellaneous.

IN submitting a file of Collectors' replies to G. O., dated 27th April 1867, No. 946, regarding the embodiment in the District Gazettes of more generally interesting matter than they contain at present, the Board also suggest other improvements of which these Gazettes are susceptible.

2. At present the Gazettes are published weekly, and furnished gratis to the more important offices in the district. Village servants and officials, drawing less than Rupees 25 per mensem, are regularly supplied at a subscription rate of two Annas per mensem, and the public are charged three Annas per mensem.

3. The Board propose that the Gazettes should be issued fortnightly instead of weekly, and that the above-mentioned charges should be lowered respectively to one Anna and two Annas.

4. The Government resolve to accede to both these propositions. Giving effect to the first will occasion little inconvenience, if, as is suggested, emergent Notices are issued as a Supplement, and will relieve the Presses from a great deal of unnecessary work; while a reduction in the rate of subscription, which naturally follows, may increase the circulation.

5. That the first measure will produce an improvement in the form and style of the Gazettes, proportionate to the decrease in the quantity of matter printed, may reasonably be expected. The Board have already, in paragraph 13 of their Proceedings, forwarded detailed instructions to the Collectors as to the method to be adopted in future. Rule III. which, in effect, directs that separate Supplements (separately paged and filed for convenience of reference) shall be kept for each of the subjects named in Appendix I., will, the Government apprehend, be found to require modification. This arrangement would preclude all economy of space, for it is obvious that the transactions and requirements of such departments as the "Postal" and "Revenue Survey", etc., will, unless they are unduly dilated, seldom fill a sheet. If publication is to be suspended until matter for a full sheet is provided, some delay must ensue. The piece-meal publication of so many Supplements would render the Gazettes more unwieldy than they are now, and if, as the Board have judiciously ordered, an index be drawn up at the close of each year, the Government do not think that separate paging is necessary to the extent proposed

Proceedings of the Madras Goverment, Revenue Department, 22nd Novembr 1870.

For the "Police Sheet," for the proceeding of Municipalities (where they are lengthy), and for the publication, *in extenso*, o legislative enactments, separate Supplements will probably be advisable; but al other matter should, as a rule, be contained in the body of the Gazette.

6. In paragraph 19, the Board advocatcabolition of, or reduction in, the rate of postage on District Gazettes. The Goverment are unable to reconcile the two arguments on which the Board base the expediency, respectively, of abolition and reduction. Having first advocated the withdrawal of all Postal charge on Gazettes, on the ground that, if this measure were decied on, the Postal Department would only be burdened to the extent of 172 Gazttes per diem (the *present* estimated circulation of Gazettes to subscribers who pay the full rate), they proceed to show that, if the Postal charge were *reduced* insted of abolished, the increased circulation would soon compensate for the loss in Pstal revenue. However this may be explained, the Government are averse to aconcession of the nature proposed, especially as it would accompany a considrable reduction in the price of the Gazettes. The Postal reform, which appears most called for, is indicated by paragraph 8 of Mr. Thomas's letter, dated 22nd October 1867, No. 198, in which a very unsatisfactory state of things is hinted at. In submitting their report on the working of the District Presses for 1870-71 Collectors should notice this remark, and state whether all subscribers are regularly supplied with the Gazette.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant-General.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

From D. F. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 18th June 1867, No. 1,754.

1. Adverting to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings of the 21st ultimo, No. 3,125, I have the honour to submit an Indent, for Press materials for the current year 1867-68, in which have been included all such articles as are actually required to conduct the business of the Press efficiently, and to request that, as the stock in hand according to the statement subjoined to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 7th December last, is, with the exception of the Kistna and Kurnool Districts, less than all the other Districts, the Board will be pleased to pass it, although the amount is beyond the limit* provided in the Budget for the current year. The extra charge on this account will, as truly remarked in paragraph 9 of the Government Order, prove good economy in the end.

* Rupees 600.

2. Private work is in this District paid for immediately on delivery. But with respect to the balance of Rupees 3-9-0 lying over at the close of the official year 1865-66, I have to explain that the sum was due on account of *private advertisements*, which were published in the last issue of the Gazette for that year. This sum was collected in the beginning of the succeeding month. I should add that the balance of Rupees 3-4-11, outstanding at the close of March of the year just expired, is also the amount due on account of private advertisements published on the last issue of the Gazette for that year. This amount also was collected in the following month, and credited in the accounts.

Vide paragraph 5 of the Press Report for 1866-67, dated the 15th April last.

3. Subscriptions to the Gazette are always collected in advance, and when the period for which the subscription has been paid is about to expire, the subscriber is advised of this, and requested to renew the payment, if he wishes that the Gazette should continue to be sent to him.

4. With reference to the printing of selections and other points mentioned in the Proceedings under reply, I beg to refer the Board to my predecessor's letter of the 31st January last, No. 127, by which it will be seen that little or nothing remains to be done in this respect.

5. I beg to remind the Board that *not one of the articles indented for on the 10th August last, just ten months ago, has up to this date been supplied by the Superintendent* of the Fort Saint George Gazette Press. I would submit that that functionary be called to strict account in the matter. It cannot be the expectation of the Board that we should make bricks without straw.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Estimate.

Exd. J. Wright.

6

No. 8,116.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 17th December 1867.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th October 1867, No. 866:—

1. Referring to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, I have the honour to suggest the publication of the abstracts of decisions in Civil and Criminal cases of the Administration reports, and of short extracts from standard works on subjects calculated to instruct as well as amuse the native mind.

2. Adverting to the 3rd paragraph, I have to state that the type in the Press is sufficient for twelve pages in English, and ditto in Telugu. Of this type for six pages in English and the same in Telugu is unserviceable. So that I have only type for six pages in each of the languages to work with. The quantity of type being very limited, I am obliged to break up the matter in the standing forms, (vide list attached,) and to use it for other Returns urgently required. To avoid such inconvenience, and to place the press on an efficient footing, I suggest that fourteen pages of solid matter in English and a similar quantity in Telugu may be supplied. This will give twenty pages of type in each of the languages. Of this eight will be available for twenty pages of Gazette and twelve for other works. By this addition, the twelve standing forms will remain undisturbed thereby, saving a deal of manual labour which can profitably be employed in printing Returns required by the Huzoor and Talook offices. I, therefore, venture to avail myself of this opportunity of enclosing an Indent, amounting to Rupees 2,323-4-10, or Rupees 1,818-4-10 above the Budget provision for 1867-68, comprising all the requirements of the Press. I regret that, of the Indents dated 5th August 1865, and 20th February 1867, the first was only partially met, and the second could not be responded to, because the articles therein indented for were not procurable at the Presidency. Had these requisitions been fully complied with, the present Indent would have been considerably reduced. As the Government are prepared to sanction all reasonable proposals for additions to the present stock, I trust that the Board will have no difficulty in passing the full amount of the Indent. In the event of the Board passing the whole amount of Indent, but not being able to supply the requisite amount of type, I beg to suggest that permission be granted to me to procure it myself.

3. In answer to the 4th paragraph, I beg to state that the balance outstanding, on account of private work done in this District, is Rupees 6-11-0; and this is owing to the following reason.

4. The work for which the balance was outstanding consisted of certain private advertisements which were to be published in several issues. Up to the date of the Press Report for 1865-66, a few of these only had been published. The custom then obtained of not taking payment except for work *done*. The money due for the few notices already issued was put down as amount due. This has been, however, remedied, by requiring the pre-payment of the prescribed charges.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Memorandum of materials required for the District Press.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Telugu type required for Vizagapatam Press.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

ABSTRACT.—Indent in Telugu for materials required for Vizagapatam Press.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

ABSTRACT.—Estimate of quantity of type required.

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1. The subject referred to in paragraph 1 of the Acting Collector's letter will be disposed of together with the replies from the other Collectors on the same point. The Collector should not have brought forward this matter in a letter submitting an Indent for Press materials. The Indent should have been submitted before 31st May, as directed in paragraph 8 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 6th June 1867, No. 3,468.

Dated 17th December 1867.

No. 8,116.

Declining to pass Indent for Press materials to Vizagapatam Collectors office, amounting to Rupees 2,323, as the amount is very much in excess of the Budget provision but requesting Superintendent of the Government Printing establishment to supply the Collector a moiety of the articles applied for at a cost not exceeding Rupees 1200.

2. With reference to paragraph 2, Mr. Master is informed that the Indents for Press materials, amounting to Rupees 2,323, received with his letter cannot be passed, as the amount is very much in excess of the Budget provision, from which only Rupees 456 are available at present, as appears from the Progress Report of Receipt, and Charges in comparison with the Budget Estimate for the month of October 1867.

3. The Indents will, however, be forwarded to the Superintendent of the Government Printing Establishment, who will be requested to supply the Collector a moiety of the articles applied for, at a cost not exceeding Rupees 1,200.

4. The Collector can send, soon after the close of the current official year, his Indent for a further quantity of the materials absolutely required, restricting of course the amount of the estimate to the Budget provision of Rupees 600 for 1868-69.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

Copy to the Superintendent of the Government Printing Establishment,
with four Indents.

Exd. J. Wright.

7

From J. FRASER, Esq., Collector of the Godavery district, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 15th June 1867, No. 158.

1. Adverting to the Board's Proceedings of the 21st ultimo, No. 3,125, I have the honour to state that I know of no information which I could publish without obtaining the previous sanction of Government so as to make the District Gazette more attractive than it is now. On this point I beg to refer the Board to my letter of 23rd January 1864, No. 12, contained in the volume of Proceedings for March of that year, at page 1,419. The fact that the Gazette is prized for its usefulness, is evidenced by its present circulation, * but the circumstance of the reading classes in this agricultural district being few in number should not be overlooked. Official information of every kind finds a place in the Gazette. Three days in the week are fully devoted to the getting up and printing of the Gazette. All Acts of the Legislature are supplied gratis to the subscribers. All Rulings, Circulars, Notices relating thereto, and Statistical details, are published therein. It is already a bulky paper, and considering the tendencies of the Legislature and the Public Offices and Officers, to require the publication of various Notices, &c., in the Gazette, I think it will continue growing in size. I receive often for insertion large Notices from Commissariat and Upper Godavery Public Works Departments, calling for tenders which are of no general interest. It would be economy if the officers would have a few Notices printed separately instead of the Notice finding a place in 1,000 impressions and sometimes for weeks together. Those interested in them are generally in one locality, or one or two large towns in this district.

* Years.	Average Circulation.
1862-63	445
1863-64	560
1864-65	625
1865-66	781
1866-67	959
In the present month...	1,055

2. It has been invariably the practice to print the various forms used in the Villages, Taluks, and the Huzoor in the Revenue and Magisterial departments. Besides, the demand from other Police Offices† for printing forms, &c., has of late become so very large and pressing, that it has not been practicable without extra help and great exertion, to keep the Office free from arrears.

† Judicial Department.
Public Works do.
Marine do.
Police do.
Medical do.
Educational do.
Superintendent of Central Jail.

3. With respect to Selections, to the printing of which the Government and the Board attach great importance, I have to observe that two lists of important records were submitted to the Board by the late Collector Mr. Purvis, with his letters of the 15th September 1860, No. 148, and 12th September 1862, No. 173. All the papers mentioned in the first list, the Report on Curnum's office excepted, were printed. While this was being pushed on, the Board in their Proceedings of the 24th May 1862, No. 3,354, required the printing of the permanent records to be undertaken. It was upon this reference that the second list was drawn and sent up. It includes two papers mentioned in the first list and since printed. Latterly the state of the current work not permitting me to do more, I brought the same to the Board's notice in my letter of 4th August 1865, No. 176, whereupon the Board in their Proceedings of 7th September 1865, No. 5,520, asked the permission of Government for printing them at Madras, and this was accordingly sanctioned by Government in their Proceedings of the 16th September 1865. I addressed the Board on the 23rd June 1866, No. 140, in regard to the more general list called for. There is no sort of Index whatever to the English records, and one is being prepared, but it will take a length of time to complete. I would take this opportunity of requesting the Board to permit me to have a copy of their office Index.

4. In reply to paragraph 4, I beg to state that the balance of Rupees 4-6-0 at the end of 1865-66 was due from the European Firms of Cocanada and the Narsapur School, for work done in the latter part of April. The same was made good in the following month.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From J. A. C. BOSWELL, Esq., Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Dachapalli, 7th October 1869, Extra No. 123.

I HAVE received an Official Memorandum, dated 21st September 1869, requesting a reply to the Board's Proceedings, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, inviting suggestions to render *District Gazettes* more capable of disseminating useful information than at present.

2. I replied to these Proceedings when Acting Collector of the Nellore District, and I have since endeavoured to give practical effect to my views in improving the *Gazettes* of Nellore, South Canara, and Kistna Districts.

1st. *Arrangement of subjects.*—This may be a matter of minor importance, but it is one that considerably affects the usefulness of a *Gazette*. Instead of leaving the printer to arrange the materials for each week's issue as best suits his views of type, I have fixed a regular order of subjects thus:—Extracts from *Fort Saint George Gazette*, District Appointments, Rulings of Government, etc., Proceedings of High Court, Proceedings of Board of Revenue, Revenue Circulars, Magisterial Circulars, Session Reports, Official Notifications, Official Advertisements, Private Advertisements. Nothing is inserted without a heading of the subject, which greatly facilitates reference and assists the reader's eye. In separate Supplements are printed Proceedings of the Municipal Commissions, Proceedings of Civil Dispensary Committee, Standing Circulars of the Board, and a monthly Calendar.

2nd. *Materials adapted to wants of subscribers.*—In every district the great bulk of subscribers are the village officials, and therefore every effort should be made to insert in the *Gazette* what is calculated to be useful to or instruct this class of men, who at present everywhere are grossly ignorant of their duties. With this view I expressly insert Circulars from time to time, explaining the duties of Village Officers on different points, and pointing out the provisions of the law. It must be remembered that these men have not the means of obtaining books, and that they require a thing to be explained to them in the simplest language before they can understand it. The language used in the translation of Regulations, Acts, etc., is often quite unintelligible to even the most educated native officials. Those who know English always refer to the English version. Those who do not, get the English translated to them in a simple manner. Now if this is the case with regard to the higher officials, how much more perplexed must men of the class of village officials be with the matter that is usually supplied in *District Gazettes*. The translations of the Acts are simply unintelligible. The use of statistics occupying so many pages of each number is quite unknown, and much of the matter furnished has little interest for any except a certain class of officials. What would really make the *District Gazettes* a useful means of disseminating information would be to explain in them the different laws in the simplest terms, avoiding technicalities, and similarly to treat those orders of Government or Proceedings of the Board which have any interest for the people at large. I am afraid as a general rule, even when the *Gazette* is subscribed for in villages, it is very little read. The matter has no interest, and the style is beyond the comprehension of the simple rustics, but I know it is otherwise when materials are specially compiled for the use of this class and trouble is taken to explain a thing to them.

With regard to the Income Tax for instance the grossest ignorance prevails. Large sums are paid to designing persons to secure *immunity* from taxation. The people do not know the basis on which incomes are taxed nor the limits, what the rules are or the time allowed for appeal, etc. We have had the Income Tax, the License Tax, the Certificate Tax, and the Income Tax again, all so close one upon the other that the public mind is utterly confused, and the ignorant many are fleeced by the knowing few. If in our *District Gazettes* a brief Summary were published of every new law passed, giving in very simple language its principal provisions and showing how the public are to act, and what their remedies are under certain contingencies, I am sure that this would be most acceptable, and that the *Gazettes* would be far more valued than they are now. There is

for instance the new Stamp Act that comes into force on 1st January 1870. Probably translation may be circulated a month or so before it comes into force, or perhaps a few months after, what knowledge can the mass of the people, whose interests it so materially affects, obtain of its requirements. In how many villages is it known that there is to be a new rate of stamps shortly introduced! The *District Gazettes* should supply to the native villages what the newspaper and Almanac do to the general community. They should put the people in possession of the information which Government wishes to be disseminated in such a form as to be clearly within their comprehension, and thus save them on the one hand for gross misconception of the intentions of Government, and on the other for being imposed upon by those who turn their knowledge to an evil account.

3rd. *Providing matter.*—Most Collectors find their time so fully occupied with their other duties that they have not the leisure to undertake writing articles for the *District Gazette*, but if one official were specially appointed for this purpose he could prepare papers on different subjects, which might be translated and published in all the *Gazettes*. This would secure harmony in the views expressed and the method of treating them, but the officer so deputed should be a man of some experience who has had a practical knowledge of the people and their wants and difficulties. His office would be a most important one and require the exercise of considerable judgment and tact to disabuse the people's minds of prejudices, to clear away mistakes and misconceptions, and to give the people correct information as to their relations with Government and its officers, as well as all points which are regulated by the law, and all matters in which they have an interest, which belong to the administration or the executive.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

From J. A. C. BOSWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th June 1867, No. 166.

1. I have the honour to reply to the Board's Proceedings dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125.

2. I believe that the Nellore District Gazette will be found to compare very favourably with any other District Gazette in the Presidency, both in the way in which it is got up and the subject matter of its contents. As I receive copies of all other District Gazettes, I have been able to institute a comparison. I shall use my best endeavours to increase the circulation according to the wishes of Government, but I find this District very backward in the way of education and general enlightenment. Few of the Heads of Villages can read or write, and the contents of a District Gazette are not sufficiently interesting to the general public to command any large number of subscribers.

3. This leads me to the second point suggested by Government, as to how District Gazettes may be made more interesting and useful. I must observe that a Gazette is not a Newspaper, that Government have expressly prohibited the insertion of leading articles explanatory of the views of Government on public questions of the day or of summaries of news. In our District Gazette are published all the Standing Circulars of the Board of Revenue, all the new Acts in the Vernacular, all important orders of Government, interesting to the general public, any important Proceedings of the High Court, an epitome of all the cases tried at each Sessions. A Police Weekly Sheet, the Proceedings of the Municipal Commission, the Committee for the Civil Dispensary and the Langarkhana, the Collector's and Magistrate's Circulars, as well as those of the Public Works and Educational Department, those of the Commissioner of the issue of the Paper Currency and those of the Inam Commission as well as Shipping intelligence, a Weekly Calendar and a Weekly Price List. &c. I carefully examine the Gazettes of all other Districts, and transfer to our column whatever I find calculated to be useful or interesting. I don't know that I can suggest the addition of anything else unless it be a Monthly Statement of all cases disposed of by the European Magistracy such as is inserted in the Vizagapatam Gazette, and a Statement of crimes and occurrences which are daily reported to the Magistracy. These additions would very considerably increase the size and cost of the Gazette, and I doubt whether any corresponding benefit would accrue.

4. An Official Gazette is a very different thing from a Newspaper. It must have a circumscribed and local circulation, and there are no Messes and Reading-rooms to take it in.

5. The printing of Selections from our District Records shall have my earliest attention, but at present our Printing Office is so overwhelmed with work, that I have temporarily had to engage two extra hands. The Municipal Commission and the introduction of the new License Tax and the Road Cess have given it a considerable increase of work. The District Records have been allowed to accumulate for so many years and are in a state of such utter confusion, as to be quite unmanageable. The Board have lately submitted to Government Mr. Dykes',s proposal for the entertainment of a temporary establishment for their arrangement and the destruction of those considered useless. I have requested Mr. H. E. Stokes, the Acting Head Assistant, to examine the English Records and prepare a list of the most interesting for future publication. The undertaking of a District Manual such as Mr. Carmichael has compiled for Vizagapatam would be very desirable, and would form an excellent basis and skeleton for the publication of particular Reports hereafter. If the Board approve, I will endeavour to have a beginning made in this way by the collection of materials.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp Ramandroog, Taluk Hospett, 31st May 1867, No. 90.

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, requesting suggestions to be made in order to render the District Gazette more interesting, I have the honour to state that Circulars pointing out the advantages of sanitary improvement, vaccination, remedies for cattle disease, description of the manner of cultivation of exotic products, and generally such subjects as may be thought to interest an Agricultural population, have been duly published in the Gazette. Its very extensive circulation in the district, 1,500 copies weekly, seems to show that it is appreciated by the people.

2. All orders of a general nature such as may tend to improve the administration of business, or to affect the welfare of the people, are likewise published, together with the Circular Orders of the Board of Revenue, and Acts of the Legislature.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 25th September 1867, No. 188.

1. I have the honour to annex copy of a Circular in the Mysore Gazette, which, I think, might be adopted with advantage.

2. A large space of the District Gazette is occupied by notices of the sale of land for arrears of revenue, which possess no interest, beyond the village in which the land is situated.

I. I would suggest that the insertion of notices of sale of land should be confined to land, the amount due on which, exceeds Rupees 50.

II. The same with regard to unclaimed property.

III. Not required.

IV. Might be followed.

General No. 2,084 / 296 } 1867-68. Mysore Commissioner's Office.

" "

Circular Memorandum, 11*th July* 1867.

The attention of Heads of Departments is solicited to the following instructions, which have been issued, with a view to the necessity of curtailing the matter, supplied for insertion in the Mysore Gazette:—

I. Notices of sales of landed property, of small value and of little interest, beyond the locality in which it is situated, should not be sent to the Gazette for insertion.

II. Notices of stray cattle and unclaimed property of small value will not in future be inserted.

III. In the lists sent for publication, fines imposed upon subordinate officials for petty offences should not be notified. It is left to the discretion of Heads of Departments, to intimate such punishments in this manner, in exceptional cases.

IV. The insertion of appointments, promotions, leave, transfers, &c., in the Mysore Gazette, will in future be restricted as follows:—

1*st*.—All Covenanted and Uncovenanted officials, whose appointments have been, in the first instance, gazetted by the Government of India.

2*nd*.—Officials, whose appointments, &c., &c., require the sanction of the Commissioner, will be gazetted under Notification from the Commissioner's office.

3*rd*.—In all other offices and departments of the administration, the appointments, &c., of the senior subordinate officials, and of those who draw a salary of Rupees 100 and upwards, will be inserted in English in the local Gazette.

4*th*.—The appointments, &c., of all officials inferior to those described in the preceding paragraph, will continue to be inserted in Canarese only, and should be notified in this form to the Compiler of the Gazette.

" By Order,"

(Signed) T. G. CLARKE,
Officiating Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Collector.

Exd. J. Wright.

From H. G. SMITH, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd October 1867, No. 142.

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, communicating to Collectors, with remarks, orders of Government on Board's report on operations of District Presses during 1865-66, and requesting Collectors to offer suggestions to render their District Gazettes more capable of disseminating useful information than at present, I have the honour to state that the information which I consider essentially requisite for the guidance of the public is invariably published in the District Gazette, which, at present, generally consists of sixteen to thirty-two pages. The circulation of copies of the District Gazette is on the increase in comparison with previous years, and I do not, therefore, at present think it necessary to make any further suggestions as to render the District Gazette more capable of disseminating information than at present.

Exd. J. Wright.

From T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 30th September 1869, No. 342:—

In reply to Board's Proceedings, No. 3,125, dated 21st May 1867, paragraph 2, I have the honour to inform you that I have no suggestions to offer to render the *District Gazette* more capable of disseminating useful information than at present.

2. In the *Gazette* are published all the Collectors' and Magistrates' Circulars, as well as those of the Civil Court, Police, Public Works, Educational, and Vaccine Departments. Proceedings of the Municipal Commission and the accounts of the Dispensary, and all the Circular Orders of the Board of Revenue, some Government Orders and the rulings of the High Court, and other information which affect the agricultural class and the public generally, are also invariably published in the *Gazette*.

3. The circulation of the copies of the *Gazette* is on the increase when compared to previous years, I am therefore of opinion that any additions would only increase the size and cost of the *Gazette*, without any corresponding benefit.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

From W. T. BLAIR, Esq., Acting Collector of the Madras District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 29th March 1870, No. 90.

I HAVE the honour to reply to the Proceedings of the Board, dated 21st May 1867, No, 3,125.

2. I find that the Collector of this district in 1866, undertook to publish in the *Gazette* selections from the records bearing upon the revenue and political history of the district. This has, however, not yet been done, owing to the scattered and confused state to which the records have been reduced by the present unsettled location of the office.

Vide Board's Proceedings, 6th March 1866, No 1,545.

3. On comparing our *Gazette* with those of some of the best districts, I must confess that it does not appear to advantage in respect of editing, information, or letter press. These shortcomings of publishing, I would remedy by putting the *Gazette* in charge of the Junior Assistant for the time being. It would not tax him very severely to approve the copy, advertisements, etc., to suggest extracts from records and current correspondence for insertion, and to correct the proofs.

4. At present the *Gazette* contains Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue with Vernacular translations, Legislative enactments, important Orders of Government, rulings of the High Court, the Weekly Calendar, Price Lists, etc., together with the several Notifications required under various legislative enactments, and the Supplement contains Police sheets and the proceedings of the Municipal Commission. To these I would add summaries of important Revenue and Magisterial cases decided in the district, to be supplied from the offices of the Courts in which they have been tried, season and health reports, and (whether the bills at present under the consideration of Government become law or not) a monthly or quarterly detail Statement of all expenditure of the Local and Municipal funds.

5. In addition to these changes of detail, I would suggest for the approval of the Board that the *District Manual*, when completed, might be published with a translation in the weekly numbers of the *Gazette*. The Assistant in charge might also, from time to time, contribute notes on the cultivation of useful exotics, such as Carolina paddy, Queensland maize, Casuarina, etc., the introduction of improved agricultural implements, and many other subjects which occupy much of the time of Government, but rarely reach the ears of those most interested. In this way many subjects of real importance might be explained to the people through the medium of the *Gazette* with little trouble to the editor, beyond selecting from the copious proceedings of the Board and Government.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

From C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tindevanum, 19th August 1867, No. 211.

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, I have the honour to state that the sums due, for the private work executed at the District Press, are being rapidly collected. Out of Rupees 195-6-6 outstanding at the close of the past official year, Rupees 90-4-3 have since been realized, and bills for the remainder have been prepared, and the money will be collected shortly. The rule as laid down in the Board's Standing Order, No. 353, that private work should be paid for on delivery will be rigidly enforced, and I trust that this arrangement, with the restriction on private work, will hereafter prevent any accumulation of unadjusted balances on this account.

2. As regards the balance of Rupees 653 due for subscriptions to the District Gazette, as shown in my Press Report of 1865-66, I may observe that this sum was added to the demand of 1866-67, thus swelling it to Rupees 1,702, of which Rupees 643 was adjusted in the last year's account, leaving a balance of Rupees 1,059 on the 1st April 1867, but since then Rupees 795-5-6 have been collected, and there remains only a balance of Rupees 263-5-9, which it is expected will be realized in the current month. Orders have now been issued to the Tahsildars requiring them to collect quarterly in advance the subscriptions to the District Gazette from subscribers in their talooks.

3. The Board will have seen from my letter of the 27th April last, No. 104, what has been done in this District in the way of printing the accounts and returns used in my office and in the Talook Cutcherries.

4. I have no particular suggestions to offer for rendering the District Gazette a medium of disseminating more useful information than at present. The Circular Orders of the Board, the Rulings of the High Court, the Legislative Enactments and other information which affect the public generally already find a place in the Local Gazette; but it is not surprising that a publication restricted as it is to such items should have little popularity or interest with the Native Community. The preparation of other matter or information would occupy time, and it would be difficult to draw the line, and what local Officers might approve of might be condemned as objectionable by the Board or Government, and with such censorship no one would like to undertake the task of rendering Local Gazettes more attractive to the native public, otherwise I see myself no difficulty in the matter.

5. I enclose copy of a paper circulated by me to all my subordinates so far back as the 11th December 1865, but which has met with no response whatever from any one.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

No. 1,301.

Official Memorandum.

1. In order to render the Local Gazette somewhat more interesting than it has been hitherto, and in view to keep up its circulation, the Collector proposes to reserve a column in each weekly issue for local intelligence, to contain any items of general interest that may have occurred during the previous week. The present week's Gazette will have such a column prepared by the Collector, and which will give to all Officers of Division an idea of what is intended, and he requests the co-operation of the Sub-Collector, Head Assistant, and Deputy Collector Mr. Wright, in giving effect to the suggestion, by furnishing any incident or event for publication which they may deem sufficiently interesting or important, and which may have reached them during the week previous. The column to be devoted to this purpose will be kept open till Friday morning, and all items to appear in it, and which should be drawn up in as brief and succinct a shape as possible, should be transmitted under blank cover both in Tamil and English, so as to reach the Collector's office, if possible, by Thursday evening, or the early morning of Friday.

2. It is not, of course, intended to publish any original matter, but simply facts and incidents reported from the talooks, or which may have come under the personal cognizance of Officers in connection with public matters, and those having an obvious interest with the people in general.

(Signed) C. W. READE,
Collector.

CUDDALORE,
11th December 1865.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. BALIAH,
Officer in charge of Treasury,
South Arcot.

Exd. J. Wright.

From G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Point Calimere, in Tritrapundi taluk, 13th July 1867, No. 133.

1. I have the honour to reply to the Board's Proceedings of the 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, communicating the orders of Government on their report on the working of the Collectorate Presses during the year 1865-66.

2. First, as to rendering the District Gazettes more capable of disseminating useful information. I do not think that any new matter, besides what is already embodied in the Gazette of this district as now issued, can be introduced into it, without interfering with the more important and essential work of the Press.

3. In their report* on the operations of the District Presses during the year 1863-64, the Board reviewed this subject at length (paragraphs 7 to 10) with reference to the various suggestions which had been made by the several Collectors in view of the object above indicated, and the decision then come to by them was, that the only additional items of official record that could be published in the Gazette were the Circular Proceedings of the High Court and the Proceedings of the Board and Government on matters of general interest. The Government, in their orders on the said report, signified their approval (paragraph 4) of the proposition of publishing these papers with the previous sanction, in the case of the latter, of the Board and Government respectively, but at the same time observed that the size of the Gazette should not, however, be increased to such an extent as to retard the other work of the Press, or to render additional establishment necessary.

* Dated 9th January 1865, No. 84.

Dated 3rd April 1865, No. 718.

4. The Circular Proceedings of the High Court have since been inserted in the Gazette of this district. As to publishing the Proceedings of the Board and Government, besides what are contained in the Board's Circulars now regularly published, this may, with advantage, be done in exceptional cases when the subject-matter is of particular local importance; but, so far at least as this district is concerned, I am not prepared to recommend any measure calculated to extend the Gazette much beyond its present size, as any such measure must, unless the fixed Printing establishment is increased, interfere with the efficient and expeditious performance of the essential current work now devolving on the Press, and which added to the printing of selections from the records, in which but very little progress has yet been made, is more than the present establishment can possibly undertake.

5. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings under acknowledgment, I beg to submit, herewith, an Indent for Press materials required for the current year. The cost of the articles therein included, and which amounts to Rupees 585-12-0, can be met from the sum of Rupees 600, provided for this item in the current year's Budget as passed by the Madras Government.

6. The Indent now submitted is restricted to Printing materials only, and for which alone the available Budget provision is sufficient. In addition to these, the Treasury Deputy Collector strongly urges that a Cylinder Printing Machine, commonly called the "Caxton Press," should be provided, and the necessity for this addition to the plant is so fully shown in the subjoined paragraphs of a letter which he has addressed to me on the subject, that I need hardly add anything in support of his application. In the absence, however, of the requisite Budget provision, it is for the Board to consider whether any special arrangement can be made for providing the Press now asked for, by passing the necessary charge for the same against any other item that may be available generally in the Budget of the current year. The estimated cost of this, as communicated by the Superintendent of the Government Printing Establishment, is Rupees 1,300.

7. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, I beg to state that the rule laid down by Government that all private work should be paid for on delivery, is strictly enforced. The small balance, however, which remained uncollected at the end of the year 1865-66, arose from parties by whom it was due living some distance off, which necessarily caused some delay between the execution of the work and the actual payment of its value into the Treasury.

Extract from a letter from the Treasury Deputy Collector, dated the 1st July 1867, No. 317.

5. "At present we have but one Columbian and one Washington Press. I make no account "of the Wooden Press, which is so clumsy and so old as to be fit for nothing but Galley proofs. "It has been a standing complaint that the two Presses above alluded to are utterly inadequate "to the work demanded of them, and I can now speak from my own knowledge, that the complaint "is too well founded.

6. "An enormous quantity of miscellaneous work has to be done, but which is at present done "under great difficulties, and often not without serious delay. Besides the usual Village Account "Forms, Taluk Treasury Account Forms, and Mortuary Registers for the whole district, the innume- "rable forms required for twenty-seven Magisterial Courts, two Civil and Session Courts, two Small "Cause Courts, two Principal Sudder Ameens' Courts, and thirteen District Munsiffs Courts, eight "Salt Pans, six Sea Ports, and five Municipalities impose upon the District Press a vast mass of work "which I believe is singularly heavy in this district. I need scarcely allude to the calls from other "offices, such as the Public Works Department, the Jail, the Hospital, the Police Department, the "Post office, to all of which forms of more or less intricacy have to be punctually supplied by the "Press.

7. "The difficulty which I have said is experienced in meeting the various demands upon "the Press, is owing to the want of a proper Printing Machine, and this want, I feel confident, will "be fully met by the addition of a Caxton Press, such has been supplied to some districts of the "Presidency, and now included in the Indent."

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Indent for Press materials, &c., required for the use of the Tanjore Collectorate Press, for the year 1867-68.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From G. VANSAGNEW, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st June 1867, No. 155.

1. Adverting to the latter part of paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 21st ultimo, No. 3,125, I have the honour to state that I do not think that much, if any thing, can be effected here towards rendering the District Gazette more capable of disseminating useful information than at present.

2. Considering that its circulation rose from 178 in 1865-66 to 577 in 1866-67, I should scarcely be justified in admitting that, as at present conducted, its contents are as uninteresting to the public as the Government are inclined to suppose.

3. The Press here is at present, as far as my limited experience permits me to judge, a remarkably well regulated establishment, owing no doubt to the constant personal supervision exercised over it by Deputy Collector Ragoonath Rao, and I know that this officer devotes much time and trouble towards turning out the Gazette in as attractive a form as the means at our disposal admit of.

4. It must be borne in mind that the necessity for publishing in diglott imposes a material limit upon the amount of matter which it is possible to prepare for each issue, especially in a district where neither the Serishtadar nor the Head Vernacular Clerk know English, and very much of the Translator's time is consequently devoted to their assistance.

5. We publish nothing which it is not necessary to publish, and I do not think that for the reason given above we could possibly enlarge our issues to more than their present ordinary size without the aid of another competent Translator.

6. Under these circumstances, if it be desired that our Gazette, in common with other District Gazettes, should include in its contents information of a more popular and, therefore, more attractive character, the only practical suggestion it occurs to me to offer is, that such papers should be selected and translated either in the Board's or in the offices of the Government Translators, and transmitted for publication in the several District Gazettes.

7. The Board will not fail to observe that considerable economy of labour together with better results would be secured by this plan. One Translator of superior qualifications *actually* turning out in Madras the identical work upon which it seems to be *expected* that some seven or eight overworked and probably inferior Mofussil Translators should each be employed.

8. Adverting to paragraph 4 of the Proceedings under acknowledgment, I beg to state that the work, on account of which the balance noticed is outstanding, was executed prior to the promulgation of the rule referred to. In paragraph 6 of my letter, No. 141, of the 11th instant, I have requested sanction to write it off the accounts as irrecoverable.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From J. R. ARBUTHNOTT, Esq., Officiating Collector of Madura, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd December 1869, No. 374.

I HAVE the honour, in reply to Official Memorandum, No. 979, dated 21st September last, forwarded to me by the Board, to report that the Madura *District Gazette* already affords information on all official topics connected with the district and calculated to make it useful and instructive.

2. I am at present issuing a Supplement, in which the contents of the Tamil Translation of Mr. Mackenzies's Treatise on Native Medicine and the elements of Hygiene are being published for information of those who receive copies of the *Gazette*.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd June 1867, No. 333.

1. In reply to the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,125, dated 21st May 1867, I have the honour to inform you that the Press establishment here consists of six Compositors, two Apprentices, two Ballmen, and two Pressmen (costing 188 rupees a month) working two small Hand-Presses. For the first three days in the week they are mostly employed in printing forms required by Public offices, and for the last three days in printing the Gazette; they cannot get through half the printing that might be done, and Circular Orders, Miscellaneous forms, &c., are still prepared in manuscript. Printing Selections from the records has not been commenced, and there is no chance of commencing with our present strength of establishment. I am about to look through the records for data for the preparation of a history of the district to submit with my Settlement Report, and can at the same time revise all those that are worthy of being printed. The opportunity should not be lost, but an extra press and fount of type will be needed if the printing is done in this office. A Columbian press and fount of type will cost 1,500 rupees, and a Ballman and Pressman on 17 rupees a month will have to be entertained. Our Press Office consists of a whole range of building 118 feet long by 12 wide, and is admirably well suited to the purpose. The building will easily accommodate another press, but want of supervision is the present difficulty; even with two presses the cost last year was 2,317 rupees, against 1,133 rupees of receipts, and the difference 1,184 rupees is a heavy price to pay for the official issue of the District Gazette.

2. The Circular Orders and Tabular Statements contained in the Gazette are so dry and uninteresting, that subscribers are procured with difficulty. It might be advantageous to introduce readable narratives of local criminal trials or Police cases such as appear in the Newspapers; quarterly or half-yearly accounts of progress made in Public Works; occasional Notices of large irrigation works, and of the villages dependent on them; a resumé of the important events of the year; detailed accounts of Muncipal improvements, &c., &c.; but the officers capable of preparing such papers have but little spare time as it is. Tabular Statements and Statistics are entirely thrown away on non-official people who will read and understand a narrative. I have, therefore, drawn up the enclosed as a specimen, and think that something of the sort might be of general interest, and certainly would be useful as a record of what had been done in the district.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Specimen of the narratives of local criminal trials, &c., referred to in the above letter.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

From C. N. POCHIN, Esq., Collector of Salem, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 18th October 1869, No. 246.

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, I beg to suggest that *District Gazettes* should contain, besides the present contents, the more important Circular Orders and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, and of the Government of Madras, the rulings of the High Court, the principal Resolutions of the Government of India and its Acts, and despatches of general interest and importance which pass between the Secretary of State for India and the Government of India, and records of this and of other districts.

2. This is merely an extension of the *Gazette* as it is now published. An increase of the Press establishment would be necessary, there being now more work for it than it can do. Matter intended for publication has been sometimes omitted, as it could not be printed in time. The press is fully occupied with the printing forms of puttahs, and talook and village returns in addition to the *Gazette*. Of puttahs and receipts alone 91,463 were printed last year.

3. The time of the Translator is now fully occupied, as the *Gazette* must be published in diglot, the services of another Translator would be needed, who must of necessity be well paid in order to secure a faithful rendering of the original.

4. Much of the matter to which I have referred above might be printed in diglot at the Presidency, and supplied to the *District Gazettes* in the form of a Supplement. A greater quantity of information could not be otherwise published without an increase in the charge for establishment.

5. From my own experience I have found that, with the exception of Government officials, very very few read its contents. Now and then a stray application may be made for a copy; but, as a rule, no private people take any interest in the *Gazette*. Were even the *District Gazette* as voluminous as the Presidency *Gazette*, I doubt if its circulation would be any larger than it is at present. A small periodical newspaper would be far more tempting and sought after by private individuals.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 29th April 1868, No. 132.

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, I have the honour to annex copy of correspondence with the Deputy Collector and Head Assistant Collector on the subject of making the *District Gazette* more interesting to its subscribers.

2. Looking at the demands which are made on the time of the Press Department for printing forms and other official work, which we are often unable to meet, and considering that the printing of the *Gazette* occupies two-thirds of the time of the department, I am in favour of the Deputy Collector's suggestion, that the *District Gazette* might be printed with advantage fortnightly instead of weekly; any emergent notices might be issued as supplements. It would thus occupy one-third instead of two-thirds of the time of the press.

3. The appointments and dismissals of Village Officers might interest village subscribers.

4. Papers on the treatment of cattle and agricultural topics might be usefully introduced. I always made a point of printing such papers while in the Ceded Districts, as well as matters of Hygiene, which, though commonly enough known in other countries, are unknown, or at least not practised in this country. A book on the elements of Hygiene, published by Dhanakote Rajoo, is highly spoken of by the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department, and might be reprinted as a supplement to the *Gazette*.

5. Instructions to subordinates, as suggested by the Head Assistant Collector, when of a general and standing character, are already published in the *Gazette*.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From B. COOPPA RAO, Deputy Collector, to the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 21st June 1867, No. 567.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Official Memorandum, No. 225, of the 14th instant.

2. The *District Gazette*, as at present published, is generally confined to local matters of official routine, and is therefore too meagre to be of much interest to the public. It occurs to me that the announcement of all appointments, transfers, leaves, etc., as extracted from the Government *Gazette*, as well as the insertion of important items of news from other newspapers, will render the publication more useful and interesting generally.

3. The periodical returns, such as the demand, collection and balance, sale of stamps, receipts and issues of currency notes, etc., may be printed in a separate sheet in the shape of a supplement instead of being embodied in the *Gazette* itself. Such is the case with reference to Police intelligence, and the same course may be pursued in revenue matters also.

4. The selection and arrangement of subjects might be entrusted to some officer, who could conveniently devote his time to this particular work. Perhaps the probationary Deputy Collector may, for the present, undertake it.

5. In publishing the Standing Orders of the Board and other official papers, the insertion of the number and date of the paper would quite suffice. At present all the formalities, namely, the opening part of the Proceedings and the several signatures, etc., are printed, which unnecessarily takes much time and type.

6. It is also a matter for consideration whether *District Gazettes* should not be published bi-monthly instead of weekly as at present. Such an arrangement will allow sufficient time to render the *Gazette* as perfect as possible.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 24th April 1868, No. 43.

I HAVE the honour to submit my reply to your Official Memorandum, No. 143, dated 16th instant, requesting me to make any suggestions which may occur to me, in order to render the *District Gazette* more capable of disseminating useful information than at present.

2. The circulation of the *District Gazette* amounts at present to 764 copies as follows:—

154 Free to public Officers.
53 Public Servants, E. G. Writers, Talook Goomastahs, etc.
81 Curnums.
440 Monigars.
13 Pleaders.
9 Merchants.
14 Private persons.

764

3. More than two-thirds, therefore, of those who receive the *Gazette* are Village Officers, and in selecting matter for publication I am of opinion that we should mainly endeavour to choose subjects of interest to that class of people. I do not think that the insertion of ordinary items of news from newspapers will be much appreciated by them. I would rather suggest that papers on the treatment of cattle disease, on manuring and agricultural operations generally, should be extracted from such agricultural papers as "The Field" or "Lucid and Water." All reports of Dr. Thacker, and official papers on subject of interest to agriculturists, might be inserted with advantage. The rest of the subscribers to the *Gazette*, such as Pleaders, Merchants and public Officers probably take in some English or local newspaper, and are in a position to make themselves acquainted with ordinary items of news long before it could possibly appear in the *District Gazett e*.

4. I quite concur with the Deputy Collector in his suggestion that the announcement of all appointments, transfers, grants of leave, etc., should be extracted from the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, and I would recommend that the heads of the different departments should be requested to notify all appointments, transfers, suspensions, etc., in their respective departments.

5. At present the Revenue Department alone makes use of the *Gazette* for that purpose, and even the Revenue Department does not notify the appointments of Village Officers. All Officers in independent charge might be instructed to send for publication notices of all appointments, transfers, suspensions, and dismissals of every public servant subordinate to them. I have no doubt that there are many who would take an interest in such information.

6. I would in the third place recommend that the *Gazette* should be more extensively used for the publication of instructions to subordinates.

7. Heads of other departments might be requested to send for publication any Circular Orders to their subordinates which they would wish to be generally known.

8. The Government, in paragraph 4 of their Order, dated 27th April 1867, which accompanied your Official Memorandum, state that Collectors should avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by their presses of placing the valuable information which may be found in their records before the public in a convenient form.

9. Some papers were selected by Mr. Grant for publication. They have been copied, and are, I believe, ready for publication, but have not yet been forwarded to the Press department.

10. I fear, however, that the press is at present so fully occupied that it will not be possible to print them for the next three or four months.

11. With regard to the Deputy Collector's proposal, that the *Gazette* should only be issued bi-monthly, I beg to point out that there are some notices, such as notifications of sale of waste lands, notices of date of commencement of Sessions, which must be published weekly. Such notices as these, where it is of importance to save time, might be published in a supplement on the Saturdays on which no *Gazette* is issued, and in that case there would be no objection to a bi-monthly publication of the *Gazette*.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Collector.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

From H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Beltangadi, in Uppinangadi talook, 22nd October 1867, No. 198.

1. I have the honour to reply to Board's Proceedings, dated the 21st May last, No. 3,125, in which Collectors are requested to offer any suggestions which may occur to them, in order to render their District Gazettes more capable of disseminating useful information, than at present.

2. In reply, I beg to state that every opportunity is taken for inserting in the Gazette all Public Notifications and Orders of a general nature concerning the different branches of the administration; and in short everything of an official character, calculated to prove of interest to the public, is carefully extracted and published.

3. While the Gazette is considered purely an official organ of communication, it does not appear that much further matter can be properly admitted into its columns.

4. The most part of the export trade of this District is with Bombay and the Persian Gulf. The Bombay Price List will, therefore, be an addition, if obtainable.

5. I would suggest lowering the price charged for private advertisements to half the present rates. They will still be more than self-paying, and their presence is, I think, desirable, and likely to be considered specially interesting by some portions of the community.

6. The average number of pages published in each issue amounts to not less than twenty-five, while three years ago it scarcely attained half that number. This is found to give sufficient work to the Printers for three out of the five-and-a-half working days in a week, and to add to this would interfere with, and retard other work, of which there is already more than enough to occupy the time and attention of the existing establishment.

7. I conceive it is not so much the lack of useful information in the Gazettes, as the paucity of intelligent readers interested in matters affecting the general administration of the District, that bars the wider circulation of the District Gazette. The progress of education must be looked to as the only remedy, I imagine, for this apathy. Indeed some of those who even now take in the District Gazette, take it only for their children to spell out Canarese and English, from the diglot being to them better than a dictionary, and very much cheaper.

8. Something may, perhaps, be done towards expediting the delivery of the Gazettes, which appear not unfrequently to find a resting place with the village officials, and are sometimes delayed a little longer than is quite necessary in the Talook Cutcherries. To this matter I am giving attention.

9. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Proceedings under reply, I beg to state that the order of Government that private work should be paid for on delivery is observed. The small balance of Rupees 24-7-6, which appeared on this account at the end of 1865-66, was almost entirely due from the office of the Adjutant of the 14th Regiment, M. N. I., and from the Superintendent of Coorg, for work executed at the close of that year, and the amount was collected by bills immediately after.

Exd. J. Wright.

From A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Officiating Collector of Malabar, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 12th November 1869, No. 315.

As requested in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st May 1867, No. 3,125, I have the honour to state that if *District Gazettes* are to become more popular they should contain more general information than they at present afford. This again will entail a considerable increase to the bulk of the *Gazette*.

2. The mass of the people are undoubtedly interested in the object of fresh legislation, and it would, I think, be advisable that on the passing of any Act a brief summary of its provisions, and of the reasons for the measure, be prepared in the Board's office and circulated to each district for publication in the *Gazette*.

3. The publication of commercial and other statistics of the district, important decisions in Revenue and Criminal cases, judgments in Civil suits, and annual reports on the state of the district, would tend materially to increase the circulation.

4. Under the judicious management of Mr. Cole, (his report is enclosed,) who takes a great interest in the work, the circulation of the *District Gazette* has increased from 55 copies in October 1868 to 98 copies in October 1869. Measures are being taken for the more extended publication of Criminal and Civil judgments, and I anticipate a still further increase.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From P. A. COLE, Esq., Deputy Collector in charge of Press, to the Officiating Collector of Malabar, dated Calicut, 8th October 1869.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Proceedings, No. 3,125, dated 21st May 1867, referred to me, and to offer suggestions for inserting useful information in *District Gazettes*.

2. *Statistics.*—The publication of statistics would interest the European mercantile community that exists in many districts, chiefly the maritime. A few months ago I originated a complete system of Trade Returns to be published weekly, monthly, quarterly, and yearly. In these the exports and imports *beyond* the *district* are shown, so that the real trade appears, which would not be the case were the trade with the other districts of the Presidency excluded, as is done in the Imperial Returns. I think the system might with advantage be extended to all Maritime Districts, and then a few years would place valuable information, not otherwise readily obtainable, at the disposal of the Board and Government, showing the progress made in the several districts. I have as yet been able to publish only weekly and monthly returns, and not the quarterly and annual, owing to want of type. The Board have copies of all published on their file of the *Malabar Gazette*.

3. I would also suggest the publication, occasionally, of statements showing the trade of each port in a district for a number of years, whither the exports go and whence the imports come, what the chief articles of trade at each port are, etc. Such statements would be of use to Government and its officers, and would be readily accessible instead of being buried among records. I believe they would also interest the mercantile community. Much attention has of late been directed to the importance of collecting and preserving data from which the progress of the empire might be deduced, and great difficulty has been felt in effecting this object owing to the inaccessibility of the facts. I submit that if a thorough and comprehensive system of publishing statistics relative to all departments and subjects were established in *District Gazettes* this want would soon disappear.

4. As much of an ephemeral nature appears in *Gazettes*, such as notices of the finding of property supposed to be stolen, of attachment of lands, etc., it is advisable to keep separate matter of a more permanent interest. I may instance the manner in which I now print statistics. They are published as a supplement, headed "Statistics of Malabar," and the pages numbered separately, so that at the end of each year (when an Index will be prepared) they may be bound up separately and form a useful volume for reference; whilst the body of the *Gazette* (which the Board have directed should never be bound) will be merely filed, and destroyed when no longer required.

5. *Proceedings of Government and the Board of Revenue.*—All Proceedings of Government and of the Board of Revenue *concerning the public* would, of course, be interesting to those concerned. Under this belief, I have published all such Proceedings that occurred this year in a supplemental form, headed "Official Papers," and a reference to those published will show that they were of interest to one class or other of the people. The selection of papers requires some discrimination, but I trust it will be found that I have published nothing objectionable. In some cases it would be advisable to entrust the task of selection to some other than the Press Officer, in which instances one of the unattached Assistants might be employed for the purpose. I append a list of the Proceedings already published by me for ready reference.

6. *High Court's Rulings.*—From my own experience as a Magistrate in charge of a Division, I have known errors in procedure committed by Sub-Magistrates, which would have been avoided had the rulings of the High Court been regularly communicated to the Sub-Magistrates. The Vakeels who practise in the Mofussil Criminal Courts are also ignorant of important points of law on which the High Court have ruled. To meet the wants of these two classes, I have begun publishing the rulings, with a vernacular translation. The number of Civil Courts in Malabar, and consequently the number of Vakeels practising in them, is large, but no system exists of communicating to them the rulings on Civil law. At my instance the late District Magistrate, Mr. Thomas, applied to the High Court to be furnished with copies of such rulings as they are issued for publication in the *Gazette*. The High Court declined, but stated no doubt the Civil Judge of Calicut would furnish copies if asked. I am enabled to publish the rulings through the courtesy of the Judge, but I beg to suggest, as the subject is important and would improve the circulation of the *Gazettes*, that the High Court be moved to furnish copies of all Civil and Criminal rulings to each Press Officer direct. Several Vakeels have subscribed to the *Gazette* since I began the publication of the rulings. I have adopted the supplemental form, separately paged and indexed, to admit of their being bound apart from the *Gazette*.

7. *Law Reports—Criminal.*—At my suggestion Mr. Thomas directed all the Divisional Magistrates to forward copies of the "Summary of Evidence" entered in their Calendars for insertion in the *Gazette*. Not only will such publication improve the Sub-Magistrates' ideas of law, but the people at large will obtain a better knowledge of their rights and liabilities. I may quote as an instance in point the case in which some merchants were fined for floating timber down the river so negligently as to damage a bridge. So many instances occur of this that the knowledge of them will have the best effect on those engaged in the business.

8. As the most important cases occur in the Sessions Courts, I endeavoured to obtain short reports for the *Gazette*. The Superintendent of Police kindly promised that the Court Inspector would furnish them, but the plan did not succeed, as the Inspector could not spare time. The publication of such reports is most desirable, and I venture to urge the adoption of some system for the purpose. The most simple plan would be for the Judge to forward copies of his notes and judgment to the Press Officer direct. This involves the labour of a copyist merely, and avoids the necessity of a report or abstract.

9. *Law Reports—Civil.*—The common law of England is, though unwritten, recorded. By the publication of reports the law has been moulded into form and consistency; but the common law of India, though administered by our Courts for half a century and more, remains vague and chaotic. A few books have been written, but these chiefly on inheritance and collateral subjects, where there is no doubt as to the law to be administered. The vast body of civil rights, violations of which are technically called "Torts," still remain undefined. It is true that an attempt has been made within the last few years by a high authority to mitigate the existing confusion. But it is more than doubtful whether the English law expounded by Mr. Collett does apply in India. From my own personal inquiries in Coimbatore I found material differences to exist between the customs of the country (the exact analogue of the English *lex non scriptu* and the bases here as at Home of common law) and the English law. The most perplexing question that presents itself to the student of law in India is whether the common law of England applies to the country, and if so to what extent. As far as I am aware the only paper in which it is discussed is the judgment in the case of Martine *v.* the Mayor of Lyons, Privy Council Reports. With the exception of a few broad principles, the mass of the people are ignorant of their rights and liabilities, and have no means of acquiring a knowledge but by personal experience, apt to be of a painful nature. The High Court reports are useful, but they discuss laws applicable to the whole Presidency, and not those of peculiar localities, unless an appeal happens to occur. Knowledge of the law, as administered by the Mofussil Courts, is therefore a great desideratum. By the Civil Procedure Code Judicial Officers are obliged to write judgments containing the objects of suits and the reasons for their decision. In these the materials for publication, and in the *Gazettes* the means already exist, and need but to be brought in communication to confer an invaluable boon on the public. All judgments of Civil and Sudder Ameen's Courts should be published in extenso, and those of Moonsiffs whenever they discuss an important or novel principle. All that is required is that the Civil Judges should forward copies of the judgments, *with vernacular translations*, to the Press. I am so much, interested in the matter, and have felt the want of the information indicated so much that I trust the Board will pardon me if I venture to urge the subject on their attention as are calculated more than any other to render *District Gazettes* useful, and to increase the circulation.

10. In mentioning Statistics, Criminal Law Reports, and the Proceedings of the Government and Board, I have enumerated the principal innovations I have made in the Malabar *Gazette*. That they interest the people may, I think, be inferred from the fact that the number of private (full) subscribers has increased more than 72 per cent. within the last six months.

11. *Official News.*—The Board forbad the publication of anything like articles or news, but I respectfully submit a slight modification of this rule would be advantageous. All comment on the action of Government and its officers, and all news of a *non-official nature*, should not be allowed. But all actions of Government might be explained in a simple manner, and official news given. My meaning will be best expressed by exemplification.

(1.) The objects of a new law, and a summary of its provisions expressed in plain language and without any comment, would be both useful and interesting. The Road Cess, Madras Education, and Registration Acts, might have been treated in this way.

(2.) An explanation of the objects of Government in deputing Dr. Day to inquire into the present state of fisheries might be given, and would contradict any absurd rumours that might be circulated amongst the ignorant mass. I have heard it stated, for example, that the object is to ascertain the exact number of fish caught, so that a tax might be levied on each.

(3.) The announcement, that the lands under a ruined tank had been granted on favourable terms to certain ryots on condition of their repairing the tank, might have the effect of stimulating others to follow the example. Such an instance occurring in Salem would not penetrate to Coimbatore, for the great body of ryots rarely travel beyond a radius of a few miles from their villages. As all village officers are furnished with *Gazettes* the fact of this occurring in one district might be disseminated throughout the Presidency. It is true that the rules for granting such lands may be known to some ryots, but the fact of an instance actually occurring would bring the idea more home.

(4.) A summary of the recent despatch on the extension of Railways would interest many.

(5.) So also accounts of Governor-General's durbars, of the arrival of the Duke of Edinburgh in India, etc.

I trust I have made clear by the above examples the term "Official News" that I have employed. By such a system the intentions and acts of Government, represented in their true light, would penetrate to the remotest parts of the country, and ryots would learn to appreciate the advantages of education when they found that they could furnish themselves with valuable information without the intervention or favour of corrupt officials. Each *Gazette* might thus be made the official exponent of Government, and with great advantage, as no native press exists in this Presidency.

12. All papers of this sort might be inserted after approval by the Collector, and where the Press Officer could not write them one of the unattached Assistants might be directed to do so. Should the Board doubt the advisability of the plan, I earnestly beg they will be pleased to sanction it experimentally in this district for one year, at the end of which the Collector might report on its working and results.

13. *Annual Reports.*—A great deal of interesting matter is contained in the Annual Reports made by the Heads of Departments in the district, such as the Jummahbundy Report, Reports on Dispensaries by the Medical Officers in charge, etc. These, omitting such parts as may be supposed to be confidential, such as the conduct of subordinates, might be published with advantage. The people might have an increased interest in dispensaries if they saw the actual amount of good done by such institutions.

14. *Defects in present system of managing Gazettes.*—I trust I shall not be thought to exceed the scope of the present suggestions by venturing to indicate certain modes of publication which now render *Gazettes* wearisome. The more notifications by beat of tom-tom or by hand-bills are repeated the greater the chance of the subject matter becoming known. But the *Gazettes* reach only a certain number of people, the subscribers, and therefore a reiteration has no more effect than a single announcement. Most notices, even of a trifling nature, are at present inserted in three or more issues, by which a mass of stale matter is accumulated in each issue utterly uninteresting to the subscribers. Important notices, and those needing repeated publication *by law*, should, of course, be reiterated.

15. Orders of a purely departmental nature, not affecting the public in any way, are very often published. This is usually done to save Clerks the trouble of making fifteen or twenty copies. Such orders should be rigidly excluded, and the Circulars could easily be printed separately, as is now done in this office.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Enclosure in the Pro: of the Bd of Rev^e to the Sec^t to Gov^t R.D. dated 19th Sep^r 1870 No: 5795.

Rev: 3045/70
Pro: 22nd Nov^r 70 No 2813.

Rev^e Department

No: 1830. 27

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 22^d from ~~October~~ 1870.

Read the following

Pro: of the Bd of Revenue.

Sub^t replies of Coll^rs to Board's Pro: of 21st Jany 1867 requesting them to submit suggestions for rendering ~~more~~ District Gazettes more capable of disseminating useful information.

(R.C. 19th Sept^r /70 No: 5795)

In submitting a file of Collectors' replies to G.O. dated 24th April 1867 No: 946 regarding the embodiment in the District Gazettes of more generally interesting matter than they contain at present, the Board also suggest other

other improvements
of which these Gazettes
are susceptible. [A re-
=port by Mr. A. S. Thomas
on the same topic com-
=prises useful sug-
=gestions.]

2 ... At present the
Gazettes are published
weekly, and furnished
gratis to the more im-
=portant offices in the
District, Village servants
and officials drawing
less than Rs. 25 per
mensem are regularly
supplied at a sub-
=scription rate of 2 as. per
mensem

mensem and the Pub-
=lic are charged 3 as.
per mensem.

3 ... The Board pro-
=pose that the Gazettes
should be issued fort-
=nightly instead of week-
=ly and that the above-
mentioned charges should
be lowered respectively to
1 anna & 2 annas.

4 The Govt. resolve
to accede to both these pro-
=positions. Giving effect
to the first will occasion
little inconvenience, if, as
is suggested, emergent no-
=tices are issued as a
supplement, and will
relieve

relieve the presses from a great deal of unnecessary work: while a reduction in the rate of subscription which naturally follows, may increase the circulation.

5. That the first measure will produce an improvement in the form and style of the Gazettes proportionate to the decrease in the quantity of matter printed may reasonably be expected. The Bd. have already (in para 13 of their Pro.) forwarded detailed instructions to the Coll[rs] as to the method to be adopted in future. Rule III which in effect directs to take separate supplements (separately prayed and filed for

will the first ob. prehend, be found to

~~Extracts~~

I think the plan first as regards the II. III. IV. ~~VIII~~ subject which are important. The other might form the "Heading"

6. If your Excellency is to be burdened with matter for a rule that is provided, time delay must ensue.

for convenience of reference) shall be kept for each of the subjects named in Appendix I, requires modification. This arrangement would preclude all economy of space, for it is obvious that the transactions and requirements of such departments as the "Postal" and "Revenue Survey" &c will, unless they are unduly dictated, seldom fill a sheet. The piece-meal publication of so many supplements would render the

the Gazettes more unwieldy than they are now, and if, as the Board have wisely ordered, an index be drawn up at the close of each year, the Government do not think that separate paging is necessary to the extent proposed.

7. For the "Police Sheet" for the proceedings of

of Municipalities (where they are lengthy) and for the publication in extenso of legislative enactments separate supplements will probably be advisable but all other matter should as a rule be contained in the body of the Gazette.

6. In para 19 the Board advocate abolition of, or reduction in the rate

reduction

rate of postage on District Gazettes. The Govt are unable to reconcile the two arguments on which the Board respectively base the expediency of abolition and reduction. Having first advocated the withdrawal of all postal charge on Gazettes, on the ground that if this measure were decided on, the Postal Dept: would solely be burdened to the extent of 172 Gazettes per diem the

(the present estimated circulation of Gazettes to subscribers who pay the full rate) they proceed to shew that if the postal charge were reduced instead of abolished, the increased circulation would soon compensate for the loss in postal revenue. However this may be explained, the Government are averse to a concession of the nature proposed: especially as it would accompany a considerable reduction

I could concede it if we could let us limit the circulation to the limit of 172 subscribers @ 5d.

reduction in the price of the Gazettes - The (only) postal reform which appears most called for is indicated by 8th paragraph of Mr. Thomas' letter dated 22nd October 1867, No. 198, in which a very unsatisfactory state of things is hinted at. In submitting their report on the working of the District Presses for 1870/71, Collectors should notice this remark and state whether all subscribers are regularly supplied with the Gazette.

14 Extra Asst Post Mast Genl 23rd
Asst Genl

5/4