

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

Despatch from the Right Honorable the EARL of KIMBERLEY, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated India Office, London, 6th September 1883, No. 22 (Statistics and Commerce).

In continuation of my despatch, dated the 24th May last, No. 10, I forward, herewith, a copy of further correspondence with the Treasury respecting the interchange between the Imperial and Indian Governments of maps and other official publications.

2. In accordance with the decision arrived at in this correspondence, I request that no such publications may in future be supplied to the Intelligence department of the War Office, except on payment.

ENCLOSURES.

From Sir R. R. W. LINGEN, to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated Treasury Chambers, 25th June 1883, No. 9781-83.

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury your letter of the 24th ultimo (R.S. & C. 910) in answer to the inquiry of this Board whether, in view of the recommendations of the committee on the exchange of official publications, the Government of India desires to establish a complete interchange of its public documents with this country; and I am to request you to state to the Earl of Kimberley that, so far as the first seven paragraphs of the letter under reply are concerned, my lords have no remarks to make upon them, so long as no special questions arise under the existing practice.

2. As to paragraph 8, my lords have already expressed their views to the Secretary of State for War in terms which are sufficiently summarized in the following extract from the correspondence of the year 1880:—

“My lords are not prepared to give their assent to any such wholesale interchange of maps and other geographical, statistical and military publications as Lord Cranbrook has proposed in Mr. Stanhope's letter to the Office of Works, dated 25th February last, of which a copy was enclosed in the letter (7896) from the Treasury to the War Office of 7th May last. Any such interchange occurring as a matter of course cannot but lead to the accumulation of papers, most of which no one in the receiving office will ever look at, or have any occasion to look at.

“My lords do not seek to impose the rule laid down in the Treasury letter just quoted so strictly as to include under it (what the First Commissioner describes as) the supply of one or two copies out of a number printed for general use. But they are of opinion that this limited supply should be left to depend upon requisition, and that all special printing and all large supplies should be matter of payment. If there were found to be any real difficulty in drawing a line between payment and gratis, my lords would say that, between the Indian and Imperial departments, the principle of payment should be universal.

“It is quite another question how far the Indian Military department, the Intelligence department of the War Office, and the Survey department are kept properly informed of each other's undertakings, before they are begun. With this object it might, no doubt, be of advantage if the chief permanent officers of all these branches were required to keep themselves in frequent personal communication.”

3. My lords have no cognizance of the arrangement made with Major Wilson.

4. The questions to which the subject of maps gives rise do not lie wholly between the War Office and the India Office, because the Survey department is attached to the office of the First Commissioner of Works, and, although the survey itself is confined to the United Kingdom, yet, according to the rule that each of the public departments shall render to the rest of them such services as it is the best qualified to render, it is in the Survey department that, on many occasions, maps for the Intelligence department of the War Office are engraved.

5. My lords apprehend that the assumption of equality of exchange hardly provides with sufficient certainty against the imposition of Indian charges on the British exchequer, or *vice versa*, and the letter, dated the 12th ultimo, from the First Commissioner of Works to the Treasury, of which a copy is enclosed, raises this question in a very direct form.

6. If a simple and satisfactory plan of payment upon the lines of the extract given above could be settled between the Home and Indian Governments, my lords would agree to write off all past claims to which it could not be readily applied.

7. My lords do not understand that the Secretary of State for India disputes the First Commissioner's claim upon principle, but only on the special ground that it is inconsistent with the arrangement referred to in the preceding part of this letter between himself and the Secretary of State for War respecting the remuneration of Major Wilson.

From Sir E. SHAW-LEFEVRE, to the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, dated 12, Whitehall Place, S.W., 12th May 1883, No. 2501-83.

I beg leave to acquaint your lordships, in reference to Sir Ralph Lingen's letter of the 13th of September 1880, No. 14242-80, on the subject of the supply of maps to the India Office by this department, that the Board, after considerable further correspondence, received from the India Office, on the 17th of March 1881, a letter (of which a copy is enclosed for your lordships' information) forwarding copy of a letter which the Secretary of State for India in Council had addressed to the War Office on the same date (copy also enclosed). Since then the Board have made repeated applications for payment to the India Office, but without avail. To their last letter, written so recently as the 28th ultimo, they have received a reply, dated the 5th instant, in which the Secretary of State for India in Council informed them that he in turn had made repeated references to the War Office, to which no answer had been received, and that, until such a reply had been obtained, no steps could be taken for the settlement of the Board's claims against the India Office, which now amount to £280-13-8.

2. Meanwhile, the Board are being pressed by the Comptroller and Auditor-General who, on the 19th instant, addressed a letter to them, requesting that the circumstances of the case may be brought under the notice of your lordships. Accordingly, I now beg leave to ask for your lordships' instructions in the matter.

From Sir L. MALLEY, to the Secretary to the Treasury, dated India Office, London, 2nd August 1883.

I am directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 25th June last, on the subject of the interchange of official documents between the Imperial and Indian departments.

2. On the general question discussed in the letter from this office of 24th May, the Earl of Kimberley has no further remarks to make, as his lordship understands that the Lords of the Treasury agree with him that the present system should be maintained.

3. With reference to the second and following paragraphs of your letter, I am directed to state that, as regards the supply of maps or of geographical, military or statistical publications by the India Office to departments of the Imperial Government, or *vice versa*, Lord Kimberley understands the view of their lordships to be that, while all special printing or all large supplies should be matters of payment, a few copies of any publication should be supplied on requisition gratis, and that, if a simple and satisfactory plan of payment upon this basis can be arranged, their lordships will agree to write off all past claims to which it cannot readily be applied.

4. Lord Kimberley apprehends that the adoption of this principle, which, under the circumstances of the supply of publications to the Intelligence department of the War Office, is likely to operate to the detriment of Indian revenues, would be found difficult in practice, and would lead to further complications in the future. He would prefer, therefore, to adopt the alternative principle laid down by their lordships in 1880 that, in such transactions between the Imperial and the Indian departments, payment should be universal.

5. The question at issue at present stands thus:—The Office of Works have claims against the India Office for maps supplied (chiefly copies of Major Wilson's Map of Afghanistan), which that office states as amounting to £280-13-10 (the separate accounts received in this office appear to

aggregate £278-4-0). The India Office on the other hand claims from the War Office £119-17-9 for maps supplied to the Intelligence department during 1879 and 1880, and £150 for the Secretary of State's contribution in cash towards the production of the Afghanistan Map, or £269-17-9 together. His lordship is ready to give instructions that the difference, £10-16-1, shall be paid at once, subject to further examination of the accounts, in final settlement of all outstanding claims.

6. It will be distinctly understood that, for the future, maps and similar publications will be supplied by the India Office to the Intelligence department of the War Office only on payment.

ORDER—dated 8th October 1883, No. 1970, Public.

Communicated to the several departments of the Secretariat, the Director of Public Instruction, and the Superintendent, Government Central Museum, in continuation of G.O., 23rd June 1883, No. 1245.

(True Extract.)

Subscribed

for Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.

- „ Public Works Department.
- „ Military Department.
- „ Director of Public Instruction.
- „ Superintendent, Government Central Museum.
- „ Librarian, Chief Secretariat.
- „ Superintendent, Government Press.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

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Continuation of
G.O. No 1952 Way
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Mr. C. 9130

Govt. of (1883) Madras.

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Issued

Recd. 20/10/83

Encl.

G.O., 8th October 1883, No. 1970.

No 2997 Way 23-10-83

OCTOBER.

Official Publications.

Communicating to the several departments of the Secretariat, &c., despatch from the Secretary of State forwarding copy of further correspondence with Her Majesty's Treasury respecting the interchange between the Imperial and Indian Governments of maps and other —, and requesting that no such publications may in future be supplied to the Intelligence department of the War Office, except on payment.

with order
Sut. Dir. Receipts