

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

Read—the following paper:—

G.O., dated 23rd November 1887, No. 7168, Revenue.

Read—again the following G.O., dated 20th September 1887, Mis. No. 5631, Revenue:

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 11th August 1887, No. 446:—

J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., C.S.I.

Read—the following letter from the Honorable R. W. BARLOW, Superintendent of Stamps, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, 29th July 1887, No. 991:—

I have the honor to report, for the information of the Board, that the “store-room” accommodation for stamps in the present office is very inadequate. When the present store-room was built, in 1868, it was estimated to hold some 200 cases of water-marked paper, which used to be converted into judicial and non-judicial stamps as occasion required; while the then limited quantity of postage labels were found room for in the Superintendent’s room.

2. Matters, however, have completely changed since, owing to the introduction of stamped papers of English manufacture and postage envelopes and cards of various denominations, and the number of cases in

			Postage cases.	Other stamp cases.
1881	...	...	200	513
1887	...	...	1,436	434

store has gradually increased so much—as shown in the margin—that some years ago the accommodation in the store-room was found so insufficient that a room in

the office building—till then used for records, packing, &c.,—was converted into a second store-room.

3. This additional accommodation, however, has proved insufficient, and at this moment both store-rooms are fully crammed with cases and several are outside, while about 200 more cases are expected in the course of this and the next month, which I cannot see my way to secure under lock and key except by enlarging the present store-rooms, and I understand that this overcrowding has been going on for many years past, and the fact brought to the notice of the Board before this by Mr. Melville, who, in his report to them on the result of stock-taking, dated 10th May 1882, No. 186, embodied in Board’s Proceedings, dated 18th August 1882, No. 2074, states, “* * * * In the same way the godown in which unopened cases of stamps are kept is so crowded with packing cases that it would be a physical impossibility for any but a slender man to conduct the examination.” No action, however, was taken except the Superintendent’s report furnished in reply to the Proceedings above referred to contained in their Proceedings, Mis. No. 7607, dated 2nd October 1882.

4. I have therefore to request that the Board will move the Public Works Department to inspect the buildings at an early date and take immediate steps to

prepare estimates. The plan of extension most feasible, as it seems to me, would be to connect the two large rooms on the southern side of the main building of the Stamp Office—one of which is the second store-room above referred to—with the old store-room, and so convert the three into one large store. This measure, I submit, is most imperative. Sealed cases should clearly be under lock and key till opened. When opened as required for use, their contents—all sealed packets—are at once put in the strong-room.

5. There is another grave objection to the present state of things. The store-rooms are literally crammed—piled to the ceilings—so that when more cases are received they cannot be properly arranged—in view to the cases of any denomination, received longest ago being issued before subsequent consignments. The opposite course has had to be adopted, and the top cases issued and the bottom ones allowed to remain—for how long I cannot say—untouched, and the latter may therefore be possibly found damaged.

6. I should have brought this important matter to notice sooner even than I have, were it not that there seemed a prospect of the High Court buildings becoming available, but Government, in their Order, Reference No. 949 of 1887, dated 16th July 1887, Financial Department (copy enclosed), having stated that this cannot possibly be the case for another $3\frac{1}{2}$ years, I request early orders as it would be impossible to let matters go on as they are for so long a further period.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Reference on No. 949 of 1887, Financial Department.

Read—letter from the Superintendent of Stationery, Madras, dated 29th June 1887, No. 575.

There is no chance of the High Court buildings becoming available within three and-a-half years. The Superintendent will therefore state for how long he considers it will be necessary to rent godowns for the Stationery Office at a rent of Rs. 120 per mensem, which is allowed only as a very temporary measure. The stabling at the Stationery Office must rather be turned into godowns.

(By Order.)

OOTACAMUND,
16th July 1887.

(Signed) W. S. MEYER,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

To the Superintendent of Stationery.

Read—the following letter from the Honorable R. W. BARLOW, Superintendent of Stamps, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, 2nd August 1887, No. 1009 :—

In continuation of my letter, No. 991, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Board that, since its despatch, I have received 226 cases of stamps from England, and there are now 175 cases containing stamps to the value of Rs. 1,72,240 outside the store-rooms.

Resolution—dated 11th August 1887, No. 446.

Submitted to Government for orders.

2. The Board are not aware whether any action has been taken in the Public Works Department on paragraph 10, G.O., dated 22nd July 1882, No. 755, Financial. There is urgent need for more storage room in the Superintendent's office.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary.

Order—dated 20th September 1887, Mis. No. 5631, Revenue.

The Government observe that an estimate, amounting to Rs. 24,240, was sanctioned in G.O., dated 14th March 1884, No. 695 W., for the works referred to in paragraph 10 of G.O., dated 22nd July 1882, No. 755, Financial, and that, in his letter printed in G.O., dated 31st October 1882, No. 1196, Revenue, the Superintendent of Stamps mentioned that, if these works were carried out, there would be sufficient accommodation for stamps. It has been ascertained from the Public Works Department that they were. Mr. Barlow's statement in the concluding portion of paragraph 3 of his present letter is not, therefore, understood. Further information should, under these circumstances, be furnished regarding the necessity for the present proposal.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Read—also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 17th November 1887, Mis. No. 4594 :—

H. S. THOMAS, Esq., F.L.S., F.Z.S.

Read—the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., C.S., Superintendent of Stamps, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, 25th October 1887, No. 1424 :—

With reference to the Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 20th September 1887, No. 5631, communicated with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), dated 18th instant, Mis. No. 3860, I have the honor to report that the statement at the close of paragraph 3 of my letter, No. 991, dated 29th July 1887, is an error, which I greatly regret, and the misstatement arose from my want of knowledge of the past history of the office.

2. The works referred to in paragraph 10 of G.O., dated 22nd July 1882, No. 755, Financial, I find, have been carried out, and it was owing to these that the second store-room, referred to in my letter to the Board, dated 29th July 1887, No. 991, was made available a few years ago for stamps in cases, and Government are also quite correct in stating that the late Superintendent thought in 1882 that such accommodation would "I, however, trust" suffice.

3. The urgent necessity for the additional storage room asked for in my letter under reference, however, I regret, remains; for the anticipation of the late Superintendent has proved erroneous, the number of cases having greatly increased since 1882 (*vide* my paragraph 2) and things are as I described them.

4. I have carefully inspected the present store-rooms, which are piled to the roofs, and there is no further space available. At this moment, I have 301 cases, worth Rs. 2,92,720, in the room usually occupied by the supervisors (whom I have turned out) which is barred, and therefore the most secure place I have available for temporary storage. The removal of these officers, however, is very inconvenient, and crowds the issue room terribly, while the stamps, after issue till despatch, are not as securely lodged as I could wish.

Resolution—dated 17th November 1887, Mis. No. 4594.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., dated 20th September 1887, Mis. No. 5631.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) M. HAMMICK,
Secretary.

Order—dated 23rd November 1887, No. 7168, Revenue.

The papers will be transferred to the Public Works Department for issue of orders with reference to paragraph 4 of the Collector's letter dated 29th July 1887, No. 991.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Secretary to Government.

ORDER—dated 30th November 1887, No. 3263 W., Public Works.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, V Circle, who will arrange for the Stamp Office building being inspected at an early date, and the requisite additional accommodation estimated for.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Superintending Engineer, V Circle.

Exd. E. Fernandez.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of (1887) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated November, 30th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 30th Nov. 1887, No. 3263 W.

NOVEMBER.

Stamp Office Building, Madras

The Superintending Engineer, V Circle,
directed to arrange for the —, being in-
spected at an early date, and the requisite
additional accommodation estimated for.

BOARD OF REVENUE (LAND REVENUE), 1st JUNE 1888, No. 489.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(LAND REVENUE).

THE HON. W. S. WHITESIDE.

READ—the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., C.S., Superintendent of
Stamps, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated
Madras, 5th May 1888, No. 570 :—

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st April
1888, Mis. No. 2558, communicating to me the orders of Government, Revenue
Department, dated 11th idem, No. 2171, I have the honor to report as follows.

2. The cubic contents of the largest number of cases of stamps stored at any
one time during a year is about 15,200 cubic feet. These cases are now placed in
rooms measuring about 27,650 cubic feet, and this accommodation is but barely
sufficient to hold the cases with scant room for any one to go round and examine
them, and arrangement of them so that the denomination of each should be seen is
quite out of the question. The extension applied for in my letter, No. 991, dated
29th July 1887, recorded in Board's Proceedings (Land Revenue), dated 11th August
1887, No. 446, will to some extent obviate the difficulty, but even this will not render
possible the precise arrangement of cases contemplated by Mr. Underwood, when
advising the removal of the stationery to the old Mint buildings, and if one of the
large store-rooms of the Stationery office is added to the stamp store-rooms, the stamp
cases could, no doubt, be so arranged, but such course would necessitate corresponding
additions to the Stationery office, or that the whole stock and establishment should be
removed to the mint, which latter course is not in my opinion practicable, unless the
Collector is relieved of all charge of stationery for the reasons stated further on.

3. Mr. Underwood, in his letter to Government, No. 320, dated 13th March last,
is not clear as to whether the whole Stationery office and stores are intended to be
transferred to the old Mint buildings, or only a portion of the stock, to admit of room
being made available for storing stamp cases without the necessity for the extension
proposed to the present building, nor whether he intended the transferred stationery
to be in his charge or in that of the Superintendent, Government Press, but I presume
the former.

4. Unless the whole charge of the stationery is to be handed over to the Superin-
tendent of Government Press or some other officer, I am not in favor of the change.
Stamps, moreover, do not require *all* the large rooms of the Stationery office: one room
of these is all that is required and would be ample, and cases could then be arranged
back to back—in double rows—piled up only 10 or 12 high, with room for the Superin-
tendent to move round and accurately examine the denomination of each case; but it
is clearly not advisable to remove the whole office, or part of the stores to other
buildings, only to effect this; adding to the building seems, I think, preferable. The
Collector (Superintendent) could not supervise a second office situated so far off as
the mint—even now my check over the stationery cannot be nearly what I should
wish—nor could arrangements be made, when vacating a large store-room, to move
only such stationery as might conveniently be placed in charge of the printer, and
only such stores should be removed if the present office arrangements are to continue.
Numerous articles, requiring daily check by the storekeeper and his staff, would be
in the separated stationery at the mint, and this could not be done without overtaking
the storekeeper or adding to the establishment.

5. Under these circumstances, I would advise, as the better course, that the Public Works Department inspect the present stamp and stationery buildings, and suggest the best manner of enlarging them in view to meet all objects. The necessity for this measure is very emergent.

READ—the following letter from R. W. BARLOW, Esq., C.S., Superintendent of Stamps, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Madras, 29th May 1888, No. 691:—

Adverting to my letter, dated 5th instant, No. 570, I have the honor to request that the Board of Revenue will be pleased to obtain the early orders of Government on the same, as till such are received I cannot dispose of a plan and estimate for enlarging the store-rooms, forwarded to me for countersignature by the Superintending Engineer, V Circle.

RESOLUTION—dated 1st June 1888, No. 489.

Submitted to Government with reference to G.O., dated 11th April 1888, No. 2171.

2. Mr. Barlow, it will be seen, does not recommend the transfer of the stationery to the mint, but prefers the arrangement proposed in paragraph 4 of his letter, dealt with in G.O., dated 23rd November 1887, No. 7168.

3. He adds, however, that to permit of the piling of boxes, suggested by Mr. Underwood, even those arrangements will not prove sufficient, and asks for an early inspection and report on the premises by a Public Works Department officer. The Board support this request.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. A. SIM,
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery.

no 3263W 730-11-87 (s.c)
" 3593W 718-12-89

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1888.

Board of Revenue

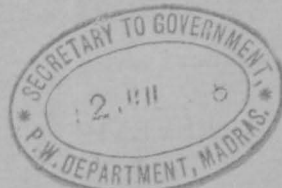
(Land Revenue),
MADRAS.

Sum
6978/88

Printed June 12th.

Proceedings, 1st June 1888, No. 489.

Submitting to Government Mr. Barlow's letter reporting the inadvisability of the removal of the Stationery office to the old Mint buildings, and asking for an early inspection and report on the present stamp and stationery buildings by a Public Works Department officer in view to enlarging them.



REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

* copy attached

Read the following:-

1. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Rev.) dated 1st June 1888, No. 489.
2. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Rev.) dated 2nd June 1888, No. 1985 Routine, ordering the return to Government of certain enclosures to G.O. dated 11th April 1888, No. 2171 Misc.

Order thereon, 9th July 1888, No. 4004.

Under the circumstances, the only feasible course seems to be to improve the existing accommodation for the storage of stamps.

2. It is observed that in G.O. dated 30th November 1884, No. 3263 W, Public Works, the Superintending Engineer was directed to arrange for the stamp office building being inspected and

the requisite additional accommoda-
 tion estimated for; and it appears
 from Mr. Barlow's letter, dated 29th
 May 1888, 71:691 that the Superintend-
 ing Engineer has already forwarded ^{to}
 to him for countersignature, a
 plan and estimate for enlarging
 the store-rooms. If Mr. Barlow con-
 sider that the space provided for
 in the plan and estimate referred
 to is insufficient to allow of the
 cases containing stamps being arranged
 in the manner suggested by Mr. Under-
 wood, so as to admit of their being in-
 spected and identified with ease,
 he may in communication with
 the Superintending Engineer, have
 them revised prior to their sub-
 mission to Government.

2203 Wd/17/88
 Communicated
 to the Superin-
 tending Engineer
 in the circle in
 continuation of
 90 326310 d/
 66 03263 W d/
 30th November 1887

Jan
 13/7/88

1 True Extract
 H. Almont.

3263 W 30-11-87
 695 W 16-3-84
 1201 W 21-4-83

Under Secretary to Govt.

To the Comptroller of Land Revenue
 Public Works Dept.

St. I Circle
 St. II Circle

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