

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	538	Press ~~Misc~~
Dated	17-7-1918	1837

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 21st July 1857.

No. 21. From the Accountant General ; to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort Saint George, 10th July 1857, No. 85.

SIR,

In Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated the 23rd April last, the Government have been pleased to determine that the account rendered by the Dewan of the Carnatic Sirkar from the date of the demise of His Highness the late Nawab should be examined and its general correctness certified. They have entrusted this duty to me with instruction to apply through the Chepauk Agent for such Vouchers and explanation as may be necessary, to enable me to check the account and satisfy myself that the several items of Receipts and Disbursements are correct without entering into details. The Government have further directed that I should report for their information the result of my examination of the Account Current in question, as soon as completed.

2. I have the honor to report for the information of Government that on applying to the Government Agent at Chepauk to obtain and forward to this Office the Vouchers in support of the Account, he stated in reply that the Vouchers were numerous, about 15000 for the 15 months, that the Mootsuddies were employed in arranging them, and that the whole of the Vouchers would be sent when obtained. I requested the Agent to forward to me the Vouchers as he obtained them arranged, in view to the Check being proceeded with gradually as the Vouchers reached this Office.

3. These Vouchers have accordingly been sent to me by the Agent at five different periods between 26th May and the 7th Instant. The Vouchers of the 7th Instant are stated by the Dewan to be the last. Their total number is 12542.* They are written and signed invariably in the Persian language.

* *The total of Disbursements to be checked with Vouchers is Rupees 12,38,636-2-0.*

* *Dated 2nd Ultimo.*

4. I was informed by a Memorandum* from the Deputy Secretary to Government in reply to my Official Memorandum of the 20th May last, that the services of the Hindoostanee Translator attached to your Office could not be spared for the purpose of endorsing in English on the back of the Persian Vouchers the names and designations of the parties signing the same, also their purports and sums.

5. I then applied to the Persian Translator to Government to order the attendance at this Office of his Moonshee for the above mentioned purpose. The Translator, in sending his Moonshee accordingly, explained to me that the duty which I wished the Moonshee to perform might be estimated to occupy about 15 Months of Office hours. It was therefore obvious that the services of the Moonshee, who had his own duties in that Office, could not be made available here for such a lengthened period, I have however asked the same Moonshee who attended at this Office for 6 days, to endorse on the back of Vouchers the purports above described, for trial, and I am satisfied, as will appear to Government from the following explanation, that Doctor Balfour has not over estimated the period for which the services of his Moonshee would be required in this Office. I have also tried the work by a few other Persian Moonshees and find that the same period would be required to complete the work by one Moonshee of his description. The average number of the Vouchers, taking one with another, endorsed by the Moonshee, is 30 per day, and assuming that to be the rate, the work will occupy him for 418 working days or 16 months and 18 days, assuming 25 working days per month.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 21st July 1857.

* For the purpose of checking the Vouchers with the entries in accounts, and making references and calling for necessary explanation in respect thereof.

† As a maximum rate, but to be drawn by me in such sums as may be necessary, and to be debited to the account of the late Nawab of the Carnatic.

‡ It is not easy to get Moonshees of this description who understand English and Persian, more especially as the occupation in this case will be quite temporary.

6. Instead however of keeping on hand the business of checking the Accounts under reference, with the original Vouchers for such a length of time, I would propose to employ 4 Persian Moonshees at different rates of salaries not exceeding Rupees 60 each per month on an average, one English Accountant* on Rupees 70 per month, and one Assistant at Rupees 30, making an aggregate of Rupees 340 per mensem. If the Government will be pleased to sanction that sum per month† for a temporary Establishment for a period of about six months, I will procure the services of Persian Moonshees‡ of adequate intelligence and of good character, with the aid of the Chepauk Agent if necessary, and proceed with the work at once.

(Signed.) G. L. PRENDERGAST,
Accountant General.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, No. 558; dated 17th July 1857.

The Government authorise the Accountant General to entertain a Temporary Establishment at an aggregate charge of Rupees (340) Three hundred and forty per mensem for a period of six months, for the purpose of examining and checking the Accounts of expenditure rendered by the Dewan of the Carnatic Sirkar. The amount will be drawn by the Accountant General in such sums as may be necessary, and debited as proposed to the Account of the late Nawab.

No. 558

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Fort St. George,
17th July 1857.

To the Acct^{nt} General. Dispd. 17th.
in Capt. Munro's } Dispd. 21st.
" Esq. Agent at Madras }