

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	815	Press Mis.
Dated	16 - 12 - 1838	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1 X

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 21st December 1858.

No. 7. From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 13th December 1858, No. 199 of G. A.

SIR,

It is with much regret that I have to report to Government the discovery, this day, of a robbery, by abstraction from the records of the Carnatic Circar Persian Department. It has been made from within an Almirah, wherein was placed a wooden box containing a tin box with the Treaty of 1801 and old Seals of the late Nabob.

2. I had personally spoken to the Receiver and had written to him in his presence this morning, requesting him to receive charge of, and take great care with all such Seals.

3. In the Sircar time, all Seals were under the charge of the Meer Munshi of the Durbar, shortly after the Nabob's demise, the Dewan of the Durbar reports that he commanded all Seals to be sent to him, and all those in current use were so returned to the Dewan's possession. By some neglect or oversight two or three Seals which had been almost eleven years out of use remained in the records of the Darool Inshai Farsee, and when the Records came under my care, the wooden box containing the above articles was brought along with them and placed on a Shelf in the Almirah. So soon as I became acquainted with the nature of the contents, I asked the late Meer Munshi of the Durbar (Carnatic Stipendiary, No. 1327, Chief Officer,) Dbeer ood Dowlah Bahadoor to examine and ascertain the correctness of the contents. This he did and re-sealed the whole in the usual manner with his own Seal. The key of the box along with a bunch of keys of importance remaining always in my own Office box from which they were only taken or given by my permission for special purposes and on no occasion for the Darool Inshai Farsee Department.

4. On Saturday the Record Officer Rajah Hoolass Rae Daya Bahadoor reporting that the Seals of Dubeer Ood Dowlah Bahadoor was on the box, I sent for him to be present at 11 o'clock this morning for him to deliver over to the Receiver the contents of that box, it having been my most careful duty not to allow a Seal to be broken but by its owner, or a record Almirah, &c., to be opened but by the record Officer in charge. When the record Officer, (Carnatic Stipendiary, No. 2533, Rajah Hoolass Rae Daya Bahadoor, in my own presence and in that of Dubeer Ood Dowlah Bahadoor, was commanded by me to bring the Box alluded to he returned stating that the Seal seemed to have been broken, and when the Box was brought the Cloth wrapper was found without a Seal, the outer wooden Box was found open and empty.

5. I immediately, 11½ A. M., reported the occurrence of a robbery to the Commissioner of Police.

6. It is with much pain that I have to report this abstraction. I watched over these Records and all their contents with an anxiety and care, taking which I did hope would have been rewarded by their perfect preservation. And this loss occurring is therefore very painful.

7. The Box contained the Original Treaty of 1801 and two Seals of the Nabob. Not Seals which he latterly used but two or three Seals which he employed for about two years after he came to the Throne.

8. It is reported to me by the Dewan of the Durbar that they were employed by His Highness for sealing the Commissions of his Officers. He used them on one occasion for Sealing a Purwanah or Deed of Gift making a Grant of a Garden. They were used in writing to the Governors, and one of them for countersigning the Carnatic Stipendaries Receipts.

9. The Dewan of the Durbar reports that none of them was ever on any occasion made use by the Nabob for any of his money borrowing or purchasing transactions, and Dubeer Ood Dowlah Bahadoor repeats the same, and both add that no Nabob has ever employed them for such purposes since the time of Oomdut Ool Oomrah Bahadoor. Their intrinsic value is estimated at above a hundred Rupees. But for their having been stolen, from what I gather, they would have been regarded as only of interest because they were once used by the late Nabob, but the robbery, has been to obtain possession of them as the original Treaty of 1801, was discovered after the Police came, concealed in a leather box of old papers.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 21st December 1858.

No. 8. ORDER THEREON, No. 815; dated 16th December 1858.

The Superintendent of Police will, in communication with the Government Agent, take every means for the recovery of the Seals alluded to in the above letter, and for the detection of the parties who have abstracted them.

The box from which the Seals were taken is stated to have been kept within an Almirah. The Government would wish to know what other articles were deposited in the same Almirah; in whose charge the Almirah was; and how access could have been had through it to the box.

Dr. Balfour will likewise ascertain and report as early as practicable whether all the Seals which were at any time used by the late Nawaub are forthcoming or have been accounted for, except the two (or three) now under report.

He will further state, in communication with the Receiver of the Carnatic Property, what arrangements should be made for the Custody of the Palace Records on the premises being taken possession of by the Receiver.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

Political Department

No 815.

*Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
D/16 December 1858*

*The Superintendent of
Police will in commu-
nication with the fort
Agent take every
means for the recovery
of the seals alluded
to in the above letter &
for the detection of
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abstracted them -*

*The box from which
the seals were taken
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kept within an Almirah.
The fort would
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Other articles were
deposited in the same
Almshouse - in ~~which~~
whose charge the Alm-
-shouse was, and how
access could have
been had through it
to the box.

Dr Bulfinch will
likewise ascertain
and report as early
as practicable whether
all the tools which
were at any time
used by the Int. Am.
-Society are for the co-
-munity or have been
accounted for except
the two / or three / now
under report -

3X

He will further state
in communication
with the Receiver of
the Lunatic Property
what arrangements
should be made
for the custody of the
Palace accounts on
the premises being
taken possession
of by the Receiver.

Int. Am. Chp. }
Sup. of Police } Sep. 10th JPS
Receiver of Lunatic Prop. } Sep. 10th

15th Sep. 1840

In 29th Nov. 21st Dec.
Physical 1855 & 1856

1855

1855
1856
1857

Physical 1855 & 1856

1855

Physical 1855 & 1856
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