M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 650 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 8 - 11 - ~~19~~ 1859

Not to be folded or roughly handled

MRS

No. 34. Read the following letter from W. WATERFIELD Esq., Acting Sub-Treasurer; to T. PYCROFT Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 1st November 1859, No. 754.

My attention has been directed to the present mode of paying the Carnatic stipends, which so far as the Treasury is concerned appears to me by no means satisfactory.

2. The system is as follows. Every pensioner has his separate number, according to which his name is entered in the Books of the Chepauk Office. The Paymaster advertises at the beginning of the month that he will pass all the Bills in the regular series of their numbers, assigning so many for each specified day. If any stipendiary whose number lies within the limits of the 9th fails to make his appearance on that date, he is not permitted to interrupt the order fixed for the 10th or 11th, but must wait till the 25th, which is the day fixed for passing the Bills of all absentees from the regular audit. To those, who fail a second time, Bills are not granted till their day comes round in the next month, when they may draw for both at once.

3. By the regularity thus ensured, the Paymaster is able to pass some 500 a day, but when the Bills are cashed in our Office, the result is very different. Our Establishment was not increased when the number of stipends was quadrupled in 1857, and under the most favorable circumstances would be inadequate to the work: but now as the pensioners are not directed to cash their Bills in rotation, they of course only attend at the Treasury when it suits their convenience. Being obliged to make up our Books daily and not monthly, we can prepare no lists before hand but must enter each name and number in the order of presentation by the applicants. Thus even with assistance from other Departments, we are not able to pay in a day above half the Bills that can be granted at Chepauk, and are compelled to reject all applicants who do not present themselves early in the morning—and some even of those who do, are occasionally put off till the following day. The consequences are obvious: annoyance and discontent on the part of the rejected, and frequent complaints to Government of partiality and corruption exhibited by the Treasury servants.

4. Our accounts are in no better state. Each of the 3000 items has to be transcribed afresh monthly (excepting the column for the signatures of the recipients.) The copy is sent to the Civil Auditor, who has no slight labor in comparing a list so destitute of arrangement with that sanctioned by Government. Having checked the whole, he forwards it, with his certificate attached, to the Accountant General, who accepts it as a voucher for the amount of our monthly payments under that head. Of the working of this plan, it will be sufficient to say that (the Accountant not receiving assistance from other Departments like the Clerk who registers the Bills) the last statement we submitted was for the month of January, although some others are prepared, and only await examination and signature.

5. To remedy these evils, I thought at one time of paying the stipendiaries at Chepauk; but considerations of the risk, expense and delay to be incurred in sending our people with so much money, (great part of which must be in small coin) to that distance, have determined me against it: and I think the object will be gained by assimilating our Registers to those of the Government Agent at Chepauk and the Civil Auditor: that is to say by preparing our Book before hand, and making entires in the order of the stipend numbers. But as me must keep our daily payments separate, this can only be done by enforcing the regularity of the Chepauk Office, and attaching a similar penalty to want of punctuality.

6. I propose therefore that when the Government Agent advertises his days of audit, he should also notify that Bills passed on the 9th will be paid by us on the 10th and on that day only, &c. For those who miss either the first audit or the first payment, there will be a second day of payment on the 26th the day after the second audit. Those who fail again must, as in the case of the audit, cash two Bills together in the ensuing month.

7. In this way, with perhaps a little extra assistance from the Cash Department, I think we shall be able to pay as many Bills per day as can be passed at Chepauk. There will no doubt, be some confusion, the first month, and many of the pensioners will probably fail to appear: but, if the rule be preserved strictly, they will soon learn to be as punctual here as at Chepauk, and

the result will be so much for their advantage as well as ours, that I think we need have no scruples on the point: nor indeed do I believe that they themselves will be averse to a plan to which they are already accustomed; and in fact the question lies between regular attendance with regular payment, and attendance when they please with the chance of payment being deferred. I may add that I have consulted the Accountant General, the Civil Auditor, and the Government Agent at Chepauk: and all agree that it will be impossible to keep the Registers properly without some restriction of the kind.

8. Our Registers are at present kept in the following form and prepared anew each month.

Date of payment.	Treasury No.	No. of Receipt.	Name.	For what month.	Amount.	Total.	Signature of Pensioner.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1859.							
Octr. 13	1	1508	Syed Gholam Hoossain,	1859 Septr.	Rs. A. P. 2 10 0	R. A. P.	
„ „	2	1653	Ummathool Habeeb, ...	„	10 0 0		
„ „	3	1570	Beemah Sahibah,.....	„	3 8 0		

I wish to substitute this:—

No. of receipt.	Name.	Arrears of September. Treasury No.	1st Payment. Date.	1st Payment. Amount.	2nd Payment. Date.	2nd Payment. Amount.	Arrears of October. Treasury No.	1st Payment. Date.	1st Payment. Amount.	2nd Payment. Date.	2nd Payment. Amount.
1	Abdul Kadir.....	1	1859 Octr.	10 5 0 0	1859	.....	1	1859 Novr.	10 5 0 0		
2	Ismail....	2501			Octr.	26 5 0 0	2	...	... 5 0 0		
3	Hussain..				Septr. & Octr...	.....	3&4		... 10 0 0		

I thus retain the first four columns of the old Register and the sixth: but the entries are arranged according to, No. 3, instead of, No. 2, though the latter is retained as a convenient check. Nos. 1 and 6 are divided into two, for the two payments, so that one can shew the daily totals apart. Columns 5 and 7, are no longer required, and the last column I also abandon. It is, I think, quite useless. In nine cases out of ten the entry is made by ourselves "the mark of so and so," and were any fraud committed, it would be impossible for us to recognize the person who presented one out of the three thousand Bills we receive monthly.

9. It is evident that a single list of this kind may serve for many months. If the alterations are numerous, fresh Books may be prepared annually or as required.

10. For the Civil Auditor, another Book will be kept, corresponding exactly, save that as his Office is not concerned with the dates of disbursement, the former and latter payments will not be distinguished in separate columns. The entries will not be copied into this, till after the close of the month. With the Book an abstract will be forwarded exhibiting the total amount: and the Civil Auditor, after examining the items, (which, finding them methodically arranged to agree with his own Books, he will be able to do without difficulty,) will forward to the Accountant General the abstract attested by his pass, as the voucher for our disbursements, and return the Book to us in time to receive the entries of another month.

11. I have only to add my views regarding the arrears. I purpose to prepare no more copies for audit: but to send our Treasury Register accompanied with an abstract to be passed for the Accountant General, when the former has been examined and returned to us.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department, for the month of November 1859.

12. In conculsion, I request that if my scheme be approved, I may receive the Orders of Government as soon as possible, so that I may notify the new arrangements and prepare the lists before the day of payment comes round.

No. 35. ORDER THEREON, 8th November 1859, No. 650.

The Government approve of the course proposed to be adopted by the Acting Sub-Treasurer as explained in paragraph 6 of his letter, for the payment of Carnatic Stipends for the future; and they see no objection to the Form of Register proposed to be substituted for the one at present kept in the Treasury. When a complete List of the Stipendiaries has been prepared in the new Form, it should be printed at the Government Press, and the requisite number of copies struck off for the use of the Treasury. The Sub-Treasurer will arrange with the Superintendent of the Government Press accordingly.

2. The mode of payment now sanctioned will commence from next month; in the mean time the Government Agent at Chepauk will thoroughly explain it to all Carnatic Stipendiaries.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. W. J. Boyton.

Political Department

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

Read the following
letter from the Acting Sub
Treasurer.

(Dated 1st Novr 1859. No 754)

Order thereon. 8th November 1859. No. 650.

The Govt approve of
the course proposed to
be adopted by the Acting
Sub Treasurer as explain-
ed in para 5 of his letter,
for the payment of Ca-
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complete List of the Re-
-mittances has been pre-
-pared in the new Form,
it should be printed
at the Forty Parts
and the requisite num-
-ber

number of copies struck off for the use of the Treasury. The Sub Treasurer will arrange with the Superintendent of the

2. The mode of payment now sanctioned will commence from next month; in the meantime the Govt Agent at Chepauk will thoroughly explain it to all Canadian Stipendiaries.

J.P.

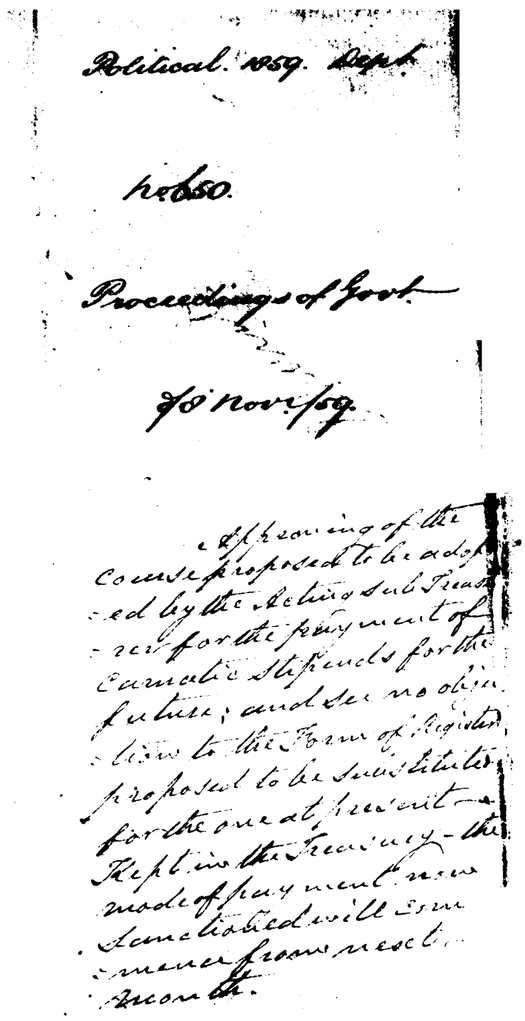
To the Post Master General
" Civil Auditor
" Sub Treasurer
" Govt Agent at Chepauk.
Supt for Roads
} Despd 9th

Political. 1859. Dept.

No 650.

Proceedings of Govt.

28 Nov/59.



67 Nov. 28 - 31 to 35