MR.O. 1—32,000—15-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 118 Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 7-4-~~19~~1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department, 17*th April* 1863.

No. 22. Read the following letter from G. LEE MORRIS, Esq., Officiating Government Agent, Tanjore; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Tanjore, 31st March 1863.

Adverting to the Proceedings of Government, under date the 18th instant, No. 87, I have the honor to report that as directed in paragraph 1, I have despatched this day all the arms and pieces of weapons therein referred to, to the Arsenal at Trichinopoly.

2. With reference to paragraph 2, I beg to state that I am now sending all the articles of Regalia by Railway to Negapatam under the escort of a strong Police guard, in order to the same being thence transmitted to Madras by the Steamer "Sydney" which is expected to call shortly at that place for conveying a remittance from the Treasury of this Collectorate to the Presidency.

3. Annexed is a list of the packages containing the said articles, which will be handed over to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Madras Bank, whom I have requested to make such arrangements regarding their custody and disposal as the Government may direct. The packages are securely packed up and sealed with my seal.

4. From the description of the contents of the packages the Government will observe that the three State Carriages marginally noted, are not sent in their shape as such. These, as the Government are aware, were during the robbery committed by the Sepoys in 1861, striped of a part of the sheets of gold with which they were covered; the remaining gold which was left on them being in such a state, that it was utterly impossible to have them moved without opening a door for further theft taking place on the part of any persons whom I might employ for the purpose. I was therefore obliged to have all the pieces of gold which remained on the Carriages very carefully removed under my own personal superintendence, and it is these pieces of gold thus removed which form part of the contents of the chest marked No. 1.

1. Ratham or the Bullock dome Carriage.
2. Ambari or Elephant dome Carriage.
3. Another do.

5. In separating the gold from the wooden frames, the latter had to be broken up in order to admit of the bits of gold nailed up and adhering to them, being got at, and as all that remains consists of nothing but thin splinters of wood, I have not thought it necessary to send them up to Madras.

6. In the case of the Ratham or the Bullock Carriage, however I was able to separate the gold from the Carriage without breaking up the latter, and consequently the top dome, the bottom piece, and the 8 pillars remained uninjured. These are therefore sent with the articles of Regalia, in order that the Government may form an idea of the shape of this Carriage. The other two Carriages, viz., Ambaries or Elephant Carriages, were of a similar shape but smaller in size. The remaining State Carriage, viz., the network Handa is entire and as it always was, it having in no way been tampered with during the Sepoys' robbery, except that ten of the knobs on the tops of its corners which were only of gilt copper, have been made away with.

7. The weight of the whole of the gold found by me on the three Carriages which were tampered with by the Sepoys, amounts to 166 seers, 19 tolas, and the value thereof according to the standard valuation adopted in the compilation of all the lists of the valuables in the Palace is Rupees 60,045. This deducted from the aggregate value of the said Carriages, viz., Rupees 88,616-14-0 as entered in the Aláyidá Mahal list* and which represents the value of only the gold thereon shows a difference of Rupees 28,571-14-0 which is consequently the actual loss sustained by the Sepoy robbery.

* Enclosure No. 2 in letter from the late Commissioner, dated 29th March 1860, No. 941.

8. The two† keys of the box which contains the Crown jewels and the gold, are herewith forwarded by a Daláyet with directions to deliver them in person into your hands.

† Two more keys of the Handa case are also sent in charge of the *Daláyat*.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Political Department,
17th April 1863.

DESCRIPTION OF PARCELS.

1. A box containing the six State jewels set with precious stones consisting of Nos. 1, 2, 3, 10 and 11 on the Commissioner's list ‡ of State jewels, and also pieces of gold sheet removed from Ratham or the dome shaped Bullock Carriage and the two Ambaries or Elephant Carriages, weighing in the aggregate seers 166, tolas 19.

‡ Enclosure No. 1 in letter from the late Commissioner, dated 7th April 1860, No. 975.

2. A case containing gold network Handa.

3. An ivory throne packed in gunny cloth.

4. Another do. do.

5. A case containing the two State Swords called Nágin and Padmin.

6. A package containing the wooden dome top with its knob, and bottom of the Ratham or the Bullock Carriage.

7. Another do. containing eight pillars of do.

(Signed) G. LEE MORRIS,
Officiating Government Agent.

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1863, No. 118.

The first paragraph of the foregoing letter will be communicated to the Inspector General of Ordnance and Magazines with reference to the Order of Government of the 18th ultimo, No. 87.

2. A copy of the letter will be furnished to the Mint Master and the Accountant General, with instructions to arrange for the landing and custody of the packages containing the articles of Regalia in the Mint, until the receipt of further orders as to their disposal. The keys referred to in the last paragraph will also be forwarded to the Mint Master.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. McMootry.

Madras Mint, 18 April 1863

Received from the Political Department of the Government Secretariat a packet containing the Four Keys referred to in the Proceedings of that Depart.t dated the 17 instant No. 118.

Mint Master.

3 List

List

Political Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read letter from the
Offg. Govt: Agent at
Tanjore.

(Dated 31 Mar: '63 No —)

Order — 14 April 1863 No. 118.

The first para of the
foregoing letter will
be communicated to
the Inspector General
of Ordnance & Magazines
with reference to the
Order of Govt: of the
18th Ultimo = No. 87.

2 A copy of the letter will
be furnished to the Secy:
to ~~Treasurer of the Madras~~ Minister
Bank

Book by the Accountant
General, with instructions
to arrange for the landing
& custody of the packages
containing the articles
of Regalia in the ~~Bank~~ Treasury
until the receipt of
further orders as to their
disposal. The keys
referred to in the last
para will also be for-
-warded to the ~~Treasurer~~ Treasury
~~of the Bank~~.

Para 1 to Inspector Genl of
Ordnance & Magazines
To Secy to ~~Treasurer Bank of Madras~~ Treasury
" Accts General (with the keys)
Master Attendant

dupl. 18

Political Letter to Cuttack dt 12th Sept. No 18 of 1863.

Replied to 18th March No 84 of 1864

1863. *Department.*

No. 118

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT,

Dated 17 April 1863.

22 & 23