

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Rudie DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	505	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	6-5-	1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
6th May 1867.

No. 38. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 27th April 1867, No. 1255.

Communicating papers on the subject of } (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Depart-
the precautions to be taken for prevent- } ment, dated 27th April 1867, Nos.
ing the abstraction of Stores received } 513—515.)
from England.

No. 39. ORDER THEREON, 6th May 1867, No. 505.

Communicated to the Superintendent of Marine, Inspector General, Medical Department, Superintendent of Stationery, Mint Master.

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

To the Superintendent of Marine.

„ Inspector General, Medical Department,
„ Superintendent of Stationery.
„ Mint Master.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
27th April 1867.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 513. From the Officer in charge of Public Works Store Department, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 10th April 1867, No. 41.

1. With reference to G. O. dated 3rd April 1867, No. 1,040, requesting me to report what measures are now adopted for preventing the abstraction of stores received from England during the examination of the cases, and what additional precautions I would propose to ensure that object being attained more effectually, I have the honour to state that on the stores being received from the Shipping and Landing Agent, if the cases are in good condition, they are at once removed to the Public Works Store rooms, and there opened, and their contents compared with the Packing Account in presence of the Storekeeper and his Assistant. When scientific instruments are received, the Mathematical Instrument Maker is also present. Any deficiency or damage is immediately brought to the notice of the General Superintendent of Stores, who satisfies himself of the fact by personal examination.

2. In the event of the cases or other articles being landed in a broken or damaged state, they are not removed until after inspection by a Committee of Survey, and the cost of making good the deficiency or damage is recovered from the responsible parties.

3. I would recommend, however, as an additional precaution, that where appliances are at hand, the cases, with their contents, should be weighed both before and after they are unpacked.

No. 514. From the Superintendent of Marine, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Madras, 24th April 1867, No. 1,571.

1. I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Proceedings of Government, Department of Public Works, of the 3rd instant, No. 1,040, on the subject of the abstraction of small parcels of stores from cases sent out from England, and to observe that the suggestion contained in the concluding part of the third paragraph of the despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India therein recorded, appears well calculated to lead to the detection of any loss that may take place after the case has been opened.

2. The Marine authorities have no concern with such bales, cases, &c., as are received in good order after they have been delivered over to the department to which they belong. Damaged packages are landed separately, and are at once surveyed in accordance with Rule 9 for landing consignments. No difficulty occurs in fixing the responsibility for losses, if any, in such cases. The question is rather how to ascertain whether articles are lost while being packed in the Store Department in England, or while being unpacked in this country.

3. The best way is to have the stores checked by careful and trustworthy servants as they are taken out of the cases ; but I think the third paragraph of the Regulations on the first page of the Packing Account may induce a haste in examining the stores, which is undesirable, as likely to lead to confusion and error ; the more particularly when stores from different ships are in course of delivery at the same time. This rule enjoins all possible exertion in opening the packages, in order that the contents of the whole may be scrutinized before the ship leaves. The

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reason given is that the amount of damage or loss, for which the ship is liable, may be recovered from the freight due ; but in real fact the delivery in good order is sufficient to absolve the vessel from all further responsibility. There is, therefore, no occasion for any undue haste in the operation of opening and examining the contents of such cases, and I would recommend the omission of the rule in future.

No. 515. ORDER THEREON, 27th April 1867, No. 1,255.

ACCOUNT, No. 43.

The Government consider that the measures which are now adopted for preventing the abstraction of stores

received from England with the additional precaution of weighing the cases, with their contents, before and after they are unpacked, will effect the object desired by the Secretary of State.

(True Extract.)



Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officer in charge of Store Department.
,, Public, &c., Departments.
,, Military Department.
,, Revenue ..

