

110
1. Date of receipt
2. Initials of Officer
M.B.O. 1-82,400-22-11-80

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1012	Press Mis.
Dated	18-8-	1868

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 149. From the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 16th July 1868.

It will not have escaped the attention of Government that the London Mail of the 19th June, which was received in Bombay on the morning of the 11th instant, arrived at Bangalore at 8-5 p. m. on the 13th idem, but was not forwarded by the train which left at 8-30 p. m., and consequently remained in the Bangalore Post Office until 9 a. m. of the 14th, or upwards of 12 hours, and thus was not delivered in Madras until 7-15 p. m. of that day. The outward Overland Mail was closed at 2-30 p. m. of the 15th instant, and a very inadequate interval was thus allowed for replying to the letters which were delivered that morning. It is understood by the Chamber that the Postmaster at Bangalore has nothing to do but sign a receipt for the mail parcels, and send them on to the Railway station; and it is believed that if, knowing that the mail was due, he had had a cart ready for forwarding it to the Terminus, the detention would certainly have been avoided.

2. It is a matter of so much consequence to the mercantile community that such unnecessary detention as the above should be avoided for the future that I have been instructed to solicit you to invite the consideration of the Government to the present postal arrangements between Bangalore and Madras, which do not provide for the despatch of the Overland Mail at any other hours than 9 a. m. and 8-30 p. m. It is understood that a special train cannot be got ready within several hours, but it occurs to the Chamber that were the despatch of the mail telegraphed to Bangalore from some more northerly station, as for example Hurryhur, sufficient notice might be given to the Railway authorities for providing such a train to be ready to start immediately on arrival of the runners. The train would only be needed at all on such occasions as there is a probability of the letters arriving too late for despatch by the ordinary train, and of a detention in consequence of upwards of six hours. That a mail should take 24 days in transitu from London to Bangalore, and 12 hours from the Bangalore Post Office to the Railway station, is a circumstance which will doubtless commend to the attention of the Government the needed development of postal arrangements between Bangalore and Madras.

Referred to the Postmaster General for early report.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
16th July 1868.

(Signed) C. G. WALKER,
Under Secy. to Govt.

No. 150. From the Postmaster General, Madras, to the Under Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Ootacamund, 7th August 1868, No. 2529-1438.

I have the honor to return the letter from the Chamber of Commerce, received with your endorsement of the 16th ultimo.

2. The Chamber of Commerce complain that the London Mail of the 19th June, which was received in Bombay on the morning of the 11th July, arrived at Bangalore at 8-5 p. m. on the 13th idem, but was not forwarded by the train which left at 8-30 p. m., and consequently remained in the Bangalore Office until 9 a. m. on the 14th, or upwards of 12 hours, and thus was not delivered at Madras till 7-15 p. m. on that day.

3. I find that the mail in question did not reach Bombay on the 11th July, as stated by the Chamber, but on the previous day (the 10th). I allude to this, as this statement led to my calling for special reports on the subject before reporting to Government, and some delay has been caused thereby.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
18th August 1868.*

4. The 25 minutes which elapsed between the receipt of the packets in the Bangalore Post Office and the starting of the train are not sufficient, under the arrangements hitherto in force, for the packing and sorting of the large number of packets received on these occasions; but special arrangements, which have been under consideration for some time past, have since been ordered, under which the bags containing the English mail will be distinguished from others, and the cart be driven straight to the Railway station where a clerk will be in attendance to receive them and transfer them to the train.

5. That this mail should have arrived at Bangalore too late for the evening train of the 13th is to be regretted, but as (weighing 593 lbs.) it travelled from Hurryhur to Bangalore at upwards of 7-5-37 miles an hour in heavy rain, and as a great part of the distance over a muddy road, I do not think that the Postal Department can be fairly blamed.

6. I have proposed the employment of a special mail train from Bangalore to Madras whenever sufficient time might be thereby gained to justify the expense, but the subjoined copy of a letter,* lately received from the Director General of

* No. 944, dated 23rd June 1868.

the Post Office, will show that this measure cannot at present be adopted.

7. With regard to the suggestion that the progress of the mail might be telegraphed from Hurryhur, the Chamber of Commerce is probably not aware that there is no Telegraph office at Hurryhur, or at any place on the line south of Dharwar.

Copy of a letter from the Director General of the Post Offices in India, to the Postmaster General, Madras; dated Simla, the 23rd June 1868, No. 944.

In reply to your letter, No. 63-29, dated the 20th ultimo, I beg to state that, pending the result of a reference which has been made to the Secretary of State, the Government of India is not disposed to sanction the use of special trains, except under circumstances of very decided advantage to the public.

2. The only lines on which special trains are occasionally used for Overland Mails are those on which only one through train runs each way per diem, and where by the use of a special train a full day or 24 hours can be saved. The Calcutta mails and the Governor General's express are subject to this rule, no special train being allowed, except where 24 hours can be gained.

3. On the Bangalore and Madras line no such saving could be effected; and under these circumstances, I consider it useless to apply to Government for leave to employ special trains at a cost of about Rupees 648 per trip. That sum is very high when compared with the total of the Indian inland postage credited on the Overland Mails for the city of Madras.

4. Should the further reference which has recently been made to the Secretary of State result in an alteration of the conditions for the employment of special trains, I shall inform you.

(True Copy).

(Signed) A. C. PEARS,
Postmaster General.

No. 151. ORDER THEREON, 18th August 1868, No. 1012.

A copy of the Postmaster General's letter will be furnished to the Chamber of Commerce.

(True Extrac).

Chief Secretary.

To the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce.

„ Postmaster General.

Ed. J. Tallooh.

No. 2529
1438

Post Master General's Office,
Cottamund Madras, 7th Aug^t 1868.

Desp^d 10th — — —

From
Lieutenant Colonel A. C. Pears
Postmaster General
To
C. G. Walker Esq^r
Under Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir,
I have the honours to return the letter from the Chamber of Commerce received with your endorsement of the 16th ultimo.
2 The Chamber of Commerce complains that the London mail of the 19th June which was received in Bombay on the morning of the 11th July arrived at Bangalore at 8.5 PM on the 13th idem but was not forwarded by the train which left at 8.30 PM and consequently remained in the Bangalore office until 9 AM on the 14th or upwards of 12 hours and thus was not delivered at Madras till 7.15 PM on that day.

3

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in question did not reach Bombay on the 11th July as stated by the Chamber but on the previous day (the 10th). I allude to this as this statement led to my calling for special reports on the subject before reporting to Government and some delay has been caused thereby.

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from others and the cart be driven straight to the Railway station where a clerk will be in attendance to receive them and transfer them to the train.

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244 J 23 June 68

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Office

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Sir

Your Most Obedt Servt

J. J.

Postmaster General

17
Copy of a letter from the Director General of the Post Offices in India to the Postmaster General Madras dated Simla the 23rd June 1868. No 914.

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employ special train at a
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the overland mails for the
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Enc copy

Yours
Postmaster General.

Wm. T. Lee

20th 1295

See the following letter

from Sec. A. H. Chanler
of Tennessee

Reuben's General
No. 1212 of 1872 (August 1874)

8 copies of the Reports

General's letter and the printed
to the Chanler of Tennessee

Wm. T. Lee

20th 1295

the Chanler of Tennessee
of the West

with an order

copy 1490157

Chamber of Commerce.
Madras 16th July 1868.

From C. A. Lawson Esq.
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.
To The Hon'ble A. S. Ellis C.B.
Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

It will not have escaped the attention of Government that the London Mail of the 19th June, which was received in Bombay on the morning of the 11th instant, arrived at Bangalore at 8.5 P.M. on the 13th idem, but was not forwarded by the train which left at 8.30 P.M. and consequently remained in the Bangalore Post Office until 9 A.M. of the 14th, or upwards of twelve hours, and thus was not delivered in Madras until 7.15 P.M. of that day. The outward Overland Mail was closed at 2.30 P.M. of the 15th instant, and a very inadequate interval was thus allowed for replying to the letters which were delivered that morning. It is understood by the Chamber that the Post-master at Bangalore has nothing to do but sign a receipt for the Mail parcels, and send them on to the Railway Station; and it is believed that if, knowing that the Mail was due, he had had a cart ready for forwarding it to the Terminus, the detention would certainly have been avoided.

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Yours

Your most obedient servant,

C. S. Lawson

Secretary.

