M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1666 76-77	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 10—12— 1859.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 76. Read the following letter from W. GREY, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, 25th November 1859, No. 2354.

I am directed by the Governor General in Council to forward to you the accompanying extract* of a letter from the Superintendent of Electric Telegraphs, No. 25, dated the 6th of January last, regarding the distribution of Telegraph Stamps, intended for the payment of messages despatched from places at which there are no Telegraph stations, and with reference to the concluding paragraph of the extract, to state that the Superintendent of Stamps in Calcutta has been instructed to forward to the Superintendent of Stamps at Madras the undermentioned Telegraph Stamps:

* *Paragraph* 1 *to* 7.

4-Anna Stamps	8,000 Stamps.
1-Rupee do.	8,000 do.
4-Rupee do.	1,600 do.

I am desired to request that, upon the receipt of these Stamps at Madras measures may be taken, under the directions of the local Government, for their transmission to suitable localities, and that the residents of the stations selected may be apprised of their being procurable. As these Stamps are intended to be used only when it is necessary to transmit a message by post to the nearest Telegraph Office from a place where there is no Telegraph station, they will not of course be kept in store at the treasury of any station where a Telegraph Office is established.

2. I am desired to suggest that it may suffice in the first instance to furnish the Collectors to whom the Stamps are sent for disposal, with brief directions to the following effect:

The stamps will be sold from the local treasury.

A discount at the rate of one anna in the Rupee will be allowed to all persons who purchase not less than fifty Rupees worth of Stamps.

For the convenience of the public, any quantity of Stamps will be sold by the District Treasurer, who will be allowed for his trouble a discount of half an anna in the Rupee on all sales below 50 Rupees, no discount on any such sales being allowed to purchasers.

3. The transactions in these Stamps will be so trifling that the custody and disposal of them under the simple rules above given will not, it is apprehended, cause any appreciable addition to the work of a Collector's Office. The usual rule will of course be observed by each Collector in regard to certifying periodically to the value of Stamps in store, and generally, the same precautions and rules will be enjoyed with respect to the custody and issue of the Telegraph Stamps as are prescribed for observance with respect to other Stamps, judicial or postage.

4. I am directed to request that each Collector to whose treasury the Telegraph Stamps are sent, may be specially enjoined to report to Government, at the expiration of three months from the date of his receiving the Stamps into store, what number of each denomination has been sold, and whether he is of opinion that an intermediate Stamp between one Rupee and four Rupees would be convenient. It is very desirable that these reports should be punctually furnished, and an abstract of them forwarded to this Government without delay, with a view to the transmission to England of an indent for a further supply of Stamps.

Extract of a letter from Sir W. B. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Kt., Superintendent, Electric Telegraphs in India, to R. B. CHAPMAN, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, No. 25, dated Bangalore, 6th January 1859.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2790, dated the 21st December last, regarding the distribution and use of the Telegraph Stamps received from England.

2. In reply I have to state that the stamps are intended to obviate the difficulty experienced in the remittance of small sums of money from places not having Telegraph stations, to the nearest Telegraph office, for the pre-payments of messages.

3. The original copy of a message thus franked by an adhesive Stamp, will be sent, in all cases, to the office of the Deputy Superintendent of Telegraphs of the particular circle,

there cancelled by defacement, and an exact account kept of the value of the stamps so defaced.

4. Of the places where such stamps will prove of most use, Simla and Mussourie afford good examples, the former being within 60 miles of Umballa, the latter within 130 miles of Meerut, the nearest Telegraph stations.

5. I would suggest that the distribution of the stamps to particular towns should be effected by the several local Governments and Commissioners. I am not myself competent to point out the particular places or districts where the stamps may prove most useful.

6. The local Governments would also be best able to indicate the persons to whom the Stamps should be entrusted for sale.

7. In estimating the quantity required, I would suggest that a supply equivalent to six months' consumption, at 200 Rupees 1,200 Rupees (and those chiefly of the smaller value,) would be sufficient for a commercial town of ordinary rank; for places of much commerce, or the chief sanitaria, such as Simla, Mussourie, or Darjeeling, double that amount would be enough.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 77. ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1859, No. 1666.

Ordered that this letter and its enclosure be forwarded to the Board of Revenue, and that they be requested to report to Government at their earliest convenience the stations to which the Telegraph Stamps should be sent, the quantities that should be supplied, and the person to whom they should be entrusted at each place. The Board will also state whether any further regulations are necessary for carrying out the views of the Government of India.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Rev Dept.

No 1666.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Under date the 10th December 1859

Read the following

letter from the Secretary to

the Govt. of India.

Forwarding a letter from the Supt. of Electric Telegraphs, regarding the distribution of Telegraph Stamps, and stating that a supply of these Stamps has been ordered to be sent to the Supt. of Stamps at Madras.

(Here enter 25 Nov/59 No 2354)

Ordered that this letter and its enclosure be forwarded to the Board of Revenue, and that they be requested to report to Govt at their earliest convenience the stations to which the Telegraph Stamps should be sent, the quantities that should be supplied, and the person to whom they should be entrusted at each place. The

The Board will also state whether any further regulations are necessary for carrying out the views of the Govt. of India.

6 Copies. Board of Revenue.
Encl-10

Revenue 1850 Dept. No
Fort St. George the
No. 1666.

To: The Madras Govt.

Dated 10th December 1850.

Rec'd 18th Dec. 1850.
Ans'd 31st Dec. 1850.
Forwarded to Board of Revenue
No. 3387 dated 20th Dec. 1850

Read 20th March 1851
No. 688 dated 30th April 1851
from Govt. Dept. Public Works
Copied

Board of Revenue

To report regarding the Madras Irrigation Company's Telegraph Contract.

A/764/77.