Recueil Départemental

N° 327

Dijon 15 — 3 — 1859

No. 69. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings from the Government of India; dated 5th February 1859, No. 247.

Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George.

Reporting the arrangements proposed for carrying into effect the contemplated measure for introducing into this Presidency the Bengal system of managing Public bungalows, and soliciting sanction for procuring articles required from England at an approximate expense of Rupees 31,617, and for the entertainment of servants at a monthly expense of 314 Rupees. (Here enter 20th July 1858, No. 992.)

No. 624.

FORT WILLIAM,
Financial Department,
The 22nd January 1859.

In sanctioning the above proposals of the Government of Madras, the Honorable the President in Council directs that a copy of the letter to the Home Department from the Officiating Director General of the Post office in India, No. 1966, dated the 19th November last, and its enclosures be forwarded to the Madras Government, and that enquiry be at the same time made whether, as supposed by the Officiating Director General the annual charge for Bungalow establishments amounting to Rupees 3,768 is exclusive of the pay of a Sweeper attached to each Bungalow.

Ordered that a copy of the above order be sent to the Home Department for communication to the Government of Madras, and to the Officiating Director General of the Post Office in India, with rference to the Extract from that Department, No. 4046 ,dated the 24th December 1858.

Ordered also that a copy of the above order be sent to the Civil Auditor and the Sub-Treasurer Madras.

By Order of the Honorable the President in Council.

(Signed) C. HUGH LUSHINGTON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

From W. GREY, Esq., Officiating Director General of the Post Office in India; to C. BEADON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department; dated Calcutta, the 19th November 1858, No. 1966.

SIR,

Having compared as nearly as I have been able to do, the estimated cost of furnishing the Travellers' bungalows in the Madras Presidency as stated in the letter from the Madras Government forwarded to me with your docket marginally noted,* with the cost of furnishing Travellers' bungalows in other parts of India, I have the honor to state that the outlay proposed for each bungalow in Madras appears to be very moderate.

* *No. 2045 dated the 7th August* 1858.

2. The outlay proposed for 47 of the most frequented bungalows is 175 Rupees for each bungalow, and for 219 other bungalows the scale is 136 Rupees for each. The details of the proposed expenditure are not given, but if I am correct in assuming that it includes all necessary furniture† such as beds, tables, chairs, &c., also linen crockery, kitchen utensils, and knives and forks and spoons, the estimated cost for each bungalow is less than the amount which is considered necessary either in this Presidency or in that of Bombay. And the actual outlay may possibly be found rather below than above the estimate if such articles as plated spoons and forks, crockery and cutlery are procured from England as proposed by the Madras Government. I annex for the information of the Madras Go-

† *I annex copy of a list of the articles considered necessary for a dâk Bungalow which I find to have been drawn up by Mr. Riddell.*

vernment a statement of the prices at which some articles of this description have been procured by Mr. Riddell for the bungalows in Bengal and Bombay.

3. With respect to servants, I gather from a correspondence which took place between this office and the Post Master General of Madras in 1856, consequent on the receipt of a reference from your office No. 1584, dated the 15th of October 1856, that a Sweeper or Toty has always been entertained at every Travellers' bungalow in the Madras Presidency, and I understand the term "extra servants" used in the present correspondence to signify servants in addition to the Sweeper.

4. The annual charge therefore of Rupees 3,768, mentioned in the 5th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Pycroft's letter as the expense of the establishment of servants to be attached to the 36 bungalows there referred to, must be taken I apprehend as being exclusive of the charge already incurred in those bungalows for Sweepers, which will amount assuming the pay to be uniformly Rupees 2-8 per mensem to Rupees 90 per mensem, or Rupees 1,080 per annum making the total annual charge for establishment on account of the 36 bungalows Rupees 4,848.

5. The only question regarding the establishment of servants appears to be that raised by Mr. Riddell in his letter to the Financial Department, No. 1065, dated the 27th of December 1855, namely whether a mate as well as a cook should be entertained as is proposed by the Madras authorities in 28 out of the 36 Bungalows. On this question I find referring to the same correspondence of 1856, adverted to above, that both the Board of Revenue at Madras and the Government of Madras expressed an opinion in reference to Mr. Riddell's suggestion that a cook and a sweeper were not sufficient on a frequented road; I think that the opinion of the Local Authorities on such a point should be acted upon, and I have the less hesitation in saying so because I find from a report* made to Government by Dr. Paton upon a reference from Bombay regarding the Scinde bungalow that the establishment allowed in the North Western Provinces to "much frequented" bungalows consists of 1 Kidmatgur, 1 Bearer, and 1 Sweeper. Mr. Riddell in his report above referred to of December 1855, remarked that when a Bungalow is much frequented the profits of the Cook or Kidmatgur increase proportionally and that he should be required to find an Assistant at his own expense. This is no doubt correct, but it is perhaps questionable whether it is applicable to the Madras case, for I apprehend that in Madras the Cook or Butler and his mate perform all the work which in the North Western Provinces is performed by the Kidmatgur and the Bearer. The proposal of the Madras Authorities therefore to allow three servants in "much frequented" bungalows may I think properly be assented to.

* *No.* 1838, *dated the* 17*th Jan.* 1857.

6. I see no objection to the scale of rent proposed to be levied from Travellers occupying the bungalows. For single Travellers it is the same rate which obtains in Bengal and the North Western Provinces, namely 8 annas for an occupation of less than 4 hours, and 1 Rupee for an occupation of more than 4 hours and less than 24 hours. It is proposed however that a married couple occupying the same room should pay instead of double rates an addition of 50 per cent. only, namely 12 annas and 1 Rupee 8 annas. And at bungalows which have no extra servants, that is no servants but the Sweeper, it is proposed to charge only half the above rates.

English prices of plated Articles and Crockery.

From Messrs. Theophilus Richards and Company of Birmingham.

	£.	s.	d.
Table spoons per dozen...	0	52	0
,, Forks ,, ,, ...	0	48	0
Desert spoons ,, ,, ...	0	40	0
,, Forks ,, ,, ...	0	37	0
Tea spoons ,, ,, ...	0	24	0

Subject to a reduction for discount of 15 per cent. and to the addition of freight, commission, &c., which charges about equal the discount.

From Messrs. Copeland, 160 new Bond Street, London.

	£.	s.	d.
12 10 inch Plates...	0	4	0
6 8½ do. do...	0	1	10½
6 7 do. do...	0	1	6
2 16 do. Flat dishes	0	6	6
2 12 do. Hotwater dishes...	0	16	0
2 11 do. Covered dishes...	0	6	0
6 Cups and Saucers	0	2	3
1 Milk Jug, 1 Sugar basin, 1 Slop basin ...	0	2	7½
	2	0	9

* *The number of plates allowing for breakage.*

This is the cost of a set* of crockery for each bungalow, packing charges freight and insurance have to be added to the price, these charges amounted on the quantity ordered by Mr. Riddell, namely 70 sets to about 11*s.* 6*d.* for each bungalow.

(Signed) W. GREY,
Offg. Director Genl. of the Post Office in India.

List of articles for a Dâk bungalow.

For each room.

1 Cot with musquito curtains and pillows,
1 Table,
1 Teapoy,
3 Chairs,
1 Punkah,
1 Row of pegs,
Floor cloth or matting,
1 Small looking glass.

To each bath room.

1 Commode.
1 Chamber pot,
1 Bidet,
1 Brass basin and stand,
1 Row of pegs.

For the bungalow generally.

Cooking utensils* and linen,*
3 Stewpans,
1 Frying pan,
1 Spit,
1 Kettle,
1 Pestle and mortar,
4 Table cloths,
24 Napkins,
12 Towels,
4 Sheets,
8 Pillow cases.

Cookery and plate and knives and forks.

1 Tea pot,
1 Milk jug,
1 Sugar basin,
6 Cups and saucers,
3 Dishes,
1 Pair curry dishes,
8 Large plates,
6 Small plates,
4 Tumblers,
4 Wine glasses,
2 Salt cellars,
6 Table knives,
3 Steel forks,
6 Desert knives,
3 Plated table forks,
6 ,, desert,
3 ,, table spoons,
6 ,, desert ,,
6 ,, tea ,,
2 ,, salt ,,
A small Almirah with lock and key.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) C. HUGH LUSHINGTON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

* These are provided once at the expense of Government but are expected to be renewed by the Cook or Kidmatgur.

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 15th March 1859.

No. 247.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Madras, together with a copy of the Despatch from the Officiating Director General of the Post office of India, No. 1966, dated the 19th November last, herein alluded to for compliance with the requisition therein made.

(Signed) R. B. CHAPMAN,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, No. 326; dated 15th March 1859.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, for their information and guidance with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 20th July 1858, No. 991. The Government of India will be informed that the proposed Establishment for each Travellers' bungalow is exclusive of the Sweeper.

See para. 3 of Board's letter June 7, 1858, No. 1996.

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

Ordered that the following reply be despatched.

No. 71. Form J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Fort Saint George, 15th March 1859, No. 327.

SIR,

In reply to the enquiry contained in the Financial Resolution of the Government of India, dated 22d January 1859, No. 624, sanctioning the arrangements proposed by this Government for introducing the Bengal system of managing Public bungalows, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to inform you that the Establishment sanctioned in that order is exclusive of the pay of a Sweeper already employed for each bungalow.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
20th July 1858.

No. 992.

From

T. PYCROFT, ESQ.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India.

SIR,

1. With reference to Mr. Secretary Lushington's letter dated 25th June 1856, No. 417, (Financial Department), furnishing copy of a Report from the Director General of the Post Office in India, on the proposal for introducing into this Presidency the Bengal system of managing Public Bungalows for the convenience of travellers, I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to submit the accompanying letter, with its enclosure, from the Board of Revenue, containing the arrangements they would propose for carrying into effect the contemplated measure.

2. Mr. Riddell's Report having been referred to the Board of Revenue, a discussion ensued, with which it is unnecessary to trouble the Government of India. It is sufficient to state that in furtherance of the instructions issued by this Government on the subject, the Board in their letter of the 26th May 1857, No. 1766, roughly calculated the cost of furnishing the more frequented bungalows at 131 Rupees each, and those less resorted to at 93 Rupees each; requesting permission at the same time, to order out the necessary articles from England, as the more economical plan in the end; but as the Government were unable to form any idea of the total expense of the arrangements proposed, they requested that an approximate estimate of the cost of the entire arrangement might be laid before them, in order that the approval of the Government of India might be obtained, both in respect to the contemplated measure, and the outlay it was likely to involve. As to occupation fees, the Government had previously determined that each traveller was to be charged eight annas for a halt of not more than four hours, and one Rupee for a halt exceeding that time; but as the Board apprehended that a large class of travellers would find these charges beyond their means, the Government left it to them to fix the rate of fees. The mode in which the best effect could be given to the improved system of bungalow management appeared to the Government to be, on roads having a continuous line of bungalows, to furnish each for the convenience of travellers, and in addition, to attach extra servants for the supply of provisions to those bungalows more frequently resorted to. As an experiment, the Government authorized the introduction of the Bengal system on the Southern line from Madras to Trichinopoly.

3. With their present letter which accompanies, the Board have forwarded a list of the several bungalows on the different lines of road in this Presidency, shewing which of them should be furnished according to the first standard, and which according to the second, regulated with reference to the number of travellers generally halting at them, and noting those to which extra servants are proposed to be entertained. From this Statement which exhibits 241 bungalows in all, exclusive of 14 already furnished on the Southern road and in Coimbatore, it will be observed that 219 are proposed to be furnished, 47 on the higher scale and 172 on the lower, and that in 36 bungalows extra servants are to be entertained. The Board report that they now find that their former estimate of the cost of furniture, viz. 131 Rupees for the first class, and 93 Rupees for the second, was too low, because good and serviceable cutlery and plated ware cannot be obtained for the prices calculated upon by them at first. They therefore revise their estimate to 175 Rupees and 136 Rupees respectively, which meets

with the approval of this Government. The 14 bungalows which have been already furnished are situated on the Southern road from Madras to Trichinopoly, and thence to Ootacamund; but having been furnished on the scale originally estimated by the Board, the cutlery and plated ware were complainedof by the travellers for their great inferiority, and the Government have accordingly in compliance with the recommendation of the Revenue Board, sanctioned an estimate of 1,107 Rupees for re-furnishing these 14 bungalows, on condition that the articles now in use will be sold, and the proceeds credited to Government.

4. The next question for consideration is that of occupation fees. The Board submit fresh proposals in this respect; for although they consent to charge each traveller the full rate of one Rupee for a halt beyond four hours, and eight annas for a halt less than that time, at bungalows provided with furniture and extra servants, they would only charge eight annas for the whole day at furnished bungalows without extra servants, and but four annas for a stay not exceeding six hours at such places; the period being extended in the latter case, as the traveller may be reasonably allowed more time to procure his supplies and meals, at places not provided with regular and efficient servants. They would also make allowance in the case of a gentleman and his wife occupying the same room, and with that view, propose a charge of twelve and six annas respectively for both at furnished bungalows without servants, and one Rupee and a half and twelve annas respectively at furnished bungalows provided with servants. The Government approve these rates on the Board's present shewing, and would recommend adoption until circumstances should hereafter point out the necessity of revision.

5. From the data gathered from the accompanying Statement, the Government calculated the approximate cost of furnishing the 219 bungalows proposed to be furnished, at Rupees 31,617 as shewn in the margin*; but this expense the Board explain makes no provision for breakage and such like. The expense of the establishment of servants, to be attached to the 36 bungalows to be so provided, will amount to Rs. 3,768† per annum, or 314 Rupees a month; but this expenditure, it is expected will be covered by the occupation fees, while the batta of several pensioned Sepoys now employed will be saved, when the new arrangements come into operation. The remarks of the Board attached to the Statement will shew what bungalows it is proposed to provide with a cook only, and what with a cook and maty in addition. As to the table equipage and other necessaries with which it is proposed to furnish the bungalows, this Government agree with the Board of Revenue in thinking that the best plan, and the one which will be found to be the more economical in the end, will be to procure the articles from England, not only because every thing wanted is not easily obtained in this country, but to ensure a superior description of articles for about the same prices, if not for less.

* 47 *Bungalows at* 175 *Rs*..... 8,225
172 *Do. at* 136 „ 23,392
31,617

†36 *Cooks at* 6 *Rs. per mensem*. 216 0 0
28 *Maties at* 3½ *Rs*..... 98 0 0
Per mensem... 314 0 0
12
Per annum... 3,768 0 0

6. In reporting these arrangements for the approval of the Government of India, I am desired to convey the recommendation of this Government that sanction may be granted for procuring the articles required from England at an approximate expense of 31,617 Rupees, and for the entertainment of the extra servants noted in the margin of para. 5, at a monthly expense of 314 Rupees, or an annual expenditure 3,768 Rupees, which, it must be remembered, is expected to be covered by the occupation fees, and the saving of the batta of several pensioned Sepoys, who will be dispensed with when the new arrangements come into operation. I am also directed to point out that on the full introduction of the new system, comfortable provision will be made for the accommodation and convenience of travellers on the following six main lines of road.

1. Northern Trunk road to Calcutta, with branch lines to Hydrabad from Ongole and Masulipatam.
2. Southern Trunk road to Trevandrum, viâ Chingleput, Tindevanum, Trichinopoly, Madura, and Palamcottah.
3. North West road from Madras, viâ Cuddapah, to Bellary and Dharwar, with branches to Kurnool and Hydrabad.
4. Coast line through Malabar and Canara.
5. Line from Madras to Bangalore viâ Chittoor.
6. Line from Madras to the Western Coast, viâ Salem and Coimbatore, with cross lines to Trichinopoly and Ootacamund.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Fort William
Financial Department
the 12th January 1839

Read a Letter proposing the Abkarie proposed by the Govt of Madras the Honble the Vice President in Council Directs that a Copy of the Letter to the Home Depart. from the Offg Director General of the Post Office in India No 1966 dated the 19th Ult. and Enclosures be forwarded to the Madras Govt and that enquiry be made the same time made whether as supposed by the Offg Director General the annual Charge for Bungalow establishments is to Rupees 3765 exclusive of the pay of a Sircar attached to each Bungalow

Ordered that a Copy of the Abkarie Letter be sent to the Home Department for Communication to the Govt of Madras and to the Offg Director General of the Post Offices in India with reference to the Extract from that Department No 4046 Dated the 24th December 1838.

Ordered also that a Copy of the above Letter be sent to the Civil Auditor and the Sub Treasurer Madras

By Order of the Honble the President in Council
(Sd) C. H. Lushington
Secy to the Govt of India

No 247.

Copy forwarded to the Govt of Madras together with a Copy of the Despatch from the Offg Director General of the Post Offices of India No 1966 of the 19th Ult. and Enclosures alluded to for compliance with the requisition therein made.

Fort William
Home Depart.
the 5th July 1839

(Sd) [illegible]
Under Secy to the Govt of India

R Cons: 20th July 1858 Nos 61 & 63

From Bengal Revenue 21st May, to Govt 1859 in No.

Pron. of the Bd of Revenue 19 March 62 Cs No 806 in

No 69 & 70.

3d June 62 11

Revenue 1859 Dept.
Cons 15th March.

No. 281.

From the Under Secty to the Govt of India -

Dated 5th February 1859.
Recd 19th

1 Encl.

Sanctioning the proposal for extending in to the Presidency the Bengal System of managing Public Bungalows for the convenience of travellers & forwarding Copy of Despatch to the Bengal Govt from the Offg Director Genl of the Post Offices of India for Compliance with the requisitions therein made regarding the annual charge for Bungalow Establishments.

No. 326 - 15th March 1859.

With an order

No. 326

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue, for their information and guidance with reference to Cons Items of Cons dated 20 July 1858 Nos 99 & 100. The Government of India will be requested that the proposed Establishments for each Presidency Circle of the Service

See Paras 3 of Bd's letter June 1858 No 996

and that all the following letters be despatched

Encl. No 6 to 15 March 1859

To the Secy to the Govt of

3 Copies to the Board of Rev Dated 16th

(Here enter 15 March 59 No 326)