M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1163 Press ~~Mis.~~

158-159

Dated 13-7-1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th July 1860.

No. 158. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 9th July 1860, No. 1,005.

Observing that the monthly report of rain-fall to the Board of Revenue, and daily report of gun-fire may cease. (Vide Public Proceedings, 9th July 1860, Nos. 60-61.)

No. 159. ORDER THEREON, 13th July 1860, No. 1,163.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue for information.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Extract from a Report on the Madras Observatory embodying propositions for remodelment.

30. *Diverson of Establishment from regular work a source of arrear which has been partly remedied.*—A second source of arrears, is the diverson of the establishment from the duties for which they are appointed. This occurs whenever the reduction of work from other places is ordered to be done here, or returns have to be made of our results. It is true that in the former case Government have usually sanctioned a temporary establishment, but temporary writers on low pay cannot be trusted alone; a trained Assistant's time is taken from his work which is imperfectly performed by the temporary writer. In making returns generally involving a certain amount of provisional reduction, which, not being systematically made, has eventually to be done again; this occurs of course. These or "Extracts of observations," which are analogous, are wanted from all quarters and it is frequently abundantly evident from the terms of the request, that no notion exists as to the labor of extracting, reducing and verifying large quantities of observations. I have very materially reduced the last item, having since the publication of a regular weekly abstract of the Meteorological Register declined furnishing extracts except on special grounds. I trust that Government will approve of this. I now only make a monthly return of rain-fall to the Board of Revenue, and a daily report of the time of gun-fire in the evening, to the Master Attendant and the Government Office for the Gazette. Both of these I consider needless. The daily rain-fall is given in the Statements in the Gazette, and could be as easily summed up in the Revenue Board Office as here; with the advantage of avoiding all risk of the return being irregularly made. As regards the evening gun it is I think superseded as a time signal by the Time Ball, and I conclude that it is no longer required to ascertain the performance of the Clock of St. Mary's Church.

31. *Proposed mode of relieving the Observatory of irregular work which is not considered necessary.*—There are two more species of work which might be discontinued, viz. The rating of Chronometers, and the comparison of Barometers &c. except as exceptional cases. It is well known that the shore rate of a Chronometer in an Observatory shelf is useless at sea, and the former work is therefore perfectly useless, indeed, I believe that Chronometers are brought to the Observatory, more for gratuitous care than for their rate, which the Time Ball furnishes abundant means of ascertaining. As regards Barometers, when a valuable instrument is to be employed for a scientific purpose, of course every precaution should be observed in obtaining its error; when however such instruments as the common levelling Barometers and Aneroids on which no reliance can be placed are in question, the care of the Observatory is thrown away. These demands have come from two sources; the Chief Engineer's Department, and the Irrigation Company. It appears to me that each might well compare such Barometers for its own purposes. The Irrigation Company on sending a good Barometer here, could have its error ascertained; and I could get a Barometer filled in Calcutta as a subsidiary Standard for those in the Public Works Department. Both these Departments would thus be able to attain all necessary, or possible, accuracy in their results without calling on the Observatory. Barometers might similarly be given as subsidiary Standards to any other Departments wanting such.

ORDER THEREON, 9th July 1860, No. 1005.

Paragraphs 30—31. 8. Major Tennant solicits permission to discontinue the practice of granting copies and Extracts of observations, except upon special grounds, and of receiving Chronometers and Barometers for adjustment. This is approved. The course proposed in paragraph 31, may be adopted. The monthly report of rain-fall to the Board of Revenue, and daily report of the time of gun-fire may also cease. The latter will however be resumed temporarily should the Time Ball at any future time get out of order. The information supplied hitherto by the former can in future be obtained from the register of rain-fall published in the Gazette.

(True Extracts.)

Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

To The Revenue Department.
for communication to the Board of Revenue.

Revenue 1860 Depart.
Proc: of Govt for July
No 1410

Proceedings of the Master
Gen.l in the Public Dept.

Dated 9
Rec.d 12 } July 1860
No 1005.

Observing that the
monthly report of
rain-fall to the Board
of Revenue and daily
report of Guns fire may
cease.

No 1163.
Ordered to be com-
municated to the Board of
Revenue for information

Fort St. Geo
13 July 1860

Quarters

5 Copies to the Board of Rev.
with Rev. Sub. Dept.t No. 1005.

Dep.t Sec.y

No 158 & 169.

No 1163. 13. July.
With an Order