M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1494 Press
~~Mis.~~

15-16

Dated 3-9- 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd September 1860.

No. 15. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department dated 24th August 1860, No. 1253.:—

Communicating the Resolution of the Supreme Government to forward to the several Local Governments and to the Local Administrations every paper of marked interest, or relating to any question of general concern, which shall be received from or addressed to any of such Local Governments and Administrations.

(Vide Public Proceedings 24th August 1860, Nos. 219, 220.)

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, 3rd September 1860, No. 1,494.

Ordered to be recorded.

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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Resolution by the Government of India.

No. 1,576.

FORT WILLIAM, HOME DEPARTMENT,
the 1st August 1860.

RESOLUTION.

Under the Governor General in Council, the Queen's Territories in India comprise the five* Governments noted on the margin, besides smaller jurisdictions† administered by Officers designated Chief Commissioner or Commissioner.

* The Presidency of Fort Saint George.
The Presidency of Bombay.
The Lieut. Governorship of Bengal.
The Lieut. Governorship of the N. W. P.
The Lieut. Governorship of the Punjab and its Dependencies.

† Oude.
Nagpore.
Pegu.
Tenasserim and Martaban.
Mysore.
The assigned Districts of Hyderabad.

2. These several Governments and Administrations, though subordinate to one common Authority, have no relations with each other, and consequently measures which may be taken in one Province for the improvement of some branch of its administration, for increasing its Revenues, or for the development of its material resources frequently remain unknown to the governing authorities of the other Provinces. Of late years indeed something has been done towards disseminating information regarding the more important and interesting affairs of the several Governments by the occasional publication of selected papers from the Proceedings of Government. The Annual Administration Reports likewise which have been prepared during the last four years, afford the means of acquiring much information respecting the systems under which the several Provinces of British India are governed, and the changes which from time to time take place in one or the other, and the general progress which is made in all.

3. But neither of the abovementioned publications at all answer the purpose of keeping the several governing Authorities in India *currently* informed of events in the other Provinces as they occur.

4. For example, the excellent measure which has been in progress for some time for the reconstitution of the Police in the Madras Presidency may possibly find a place in the Administration Report which will be published towards the end of the present year; or the correspondence connected with it may ultimately be considered worthy of being preserved in the form of a published number of the Selections of the Madras Government; but independently of the late period at which the information will thus be made available, it is questionable whether in either shape it will be likely to attract that attention which might usefully be given to it, if it came before the other Governments at an earlier date.

5. It is not necessary to point out how desirable it is that every public functionary entrusted with high authority in India should possess large and general information concerning the Government of the country in its several Departments and its several Provinces. Independently of other considerations it is evident that in India it must ever be an object of the highest importance to promote as far as possible a feeling of community between the several Presidencies and Administrations. To this end it cannot be doubted that the first step must be a knowledge of each other's affairs, and of the views and practice which prevail in the management of those affairs. Moreover it is only by such knowledge that anything like a real uniformity of system can be expected to obtain; for it is only by having a knowledge of differing systems which prevail in other Provinces that any Government will be brought properly to estimate the value of its own systems, and to adopt voluntarily and cordially that which recommends itself as the best, whether as respects a police system, or a judicial system, or a system of education, or any other branch of the public administration.

6. On these and other obvious considerations it appears to the Governor General in Council to be highly desirable that every important measure which is adopted in one Province for the improvement of its administration in any department, should be at once made known to the other Provinces by a special communication: and as no matter of great interest or importance

should be determined upon by any local Government or Administration without previous consultation with the Government of India, and as it is especially with reference to matters submitted to the judgment of the Supreme Authority in India, that it is desirable that information should be made generally available to all the Governments and Administrations, so that all may be fully acquainted with the views of the central Government and with the principles by which it is guided, the Governor General in Council has resolved to adopt the plan of communicating to the several local Governments, and to the local Administrations which are subordinate directly to the Supreme Government in India, every paper of marked interest, or relating to any question of general concern, which shall either be received from, or addressed to any of such local Governments and Administrations.

7. It is to be understood that all such communications will be made to the local Governments by the Government of India, and not by the local Governments to each other: as also that no official discussion of papers so communicated for information is required or expected.

8. His Excellency in Council is disposed to think that the absence of some systematic means of keeping the several local Governments constantly and correctly informed of the general views and actions of the Supreme Government has been productive of much misunderstanding, and he believes that by freely communicating to the local Governments in a confidential form all important decisions and orders passed by the Supreme Government, as well as copies of those Despatches to the Home Government which possess a common interest to all concerned in the Government of the British Territories in India, closer and more cordial relations between the Government of India and the subordinate Governments will be brought about, to the great advantage of the general administration of public affairs.

9. All papers communicated under this Resolution will be marked *extra-official*, and it will be understood that they are not intended to be brought on record by the Authorities to whom they are sent.

Government of Madras.
Government of Bombay.
Government of Bengal.
Government of North Western Provinces.
Government of Punjab.

Chief Commissioner, Oude.
Commissioner of Nagpore.
Commissioner of Pegu.
Commissioner of Tenasserim and Martaban.
Commissioner of Mysore.
Resident, Hyderabad.

Ordered, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to each of the Governments and Authorities noted in the margin for information.

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* Foreign.
Financial,
Military.
Public Works.

Ordered, that a copy be forwarded to each of the Departments* of the Government of India for information and guidance.

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1860, No. 1,253.

Communicated to the several Departments of the Secretariat, for information.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Military Department.
" Political Department.
" Judicial Department.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

10 spare copies

Revenue 1860 Repar
Pro: of Govt for Septr.

No. 1816.

Proceedings of the Madras
Govt in the Public Dept.

Dated 24 August 1860.
Recd 29 No. 1253.

Communicating the
Resolution of the
Supreme Govt to for:
:ward to the several
local Govts and to the
local administrations
every paper of marked
interest, or relating to
any question of General
concern, which shall be
received from or addres:
:sed to any of such local
Govts & Administrations.

No. 1491.

Recorded
3rd September 1860

No 1516.