

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1785

Press
~~Mis.~~

294-95

Dated 22 - 8 - 1862.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd August 1862.*

No. 294. Read again Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 30th July 1862, No. 1,626:—

Read also the following letter from J. FRASER, Esq., Acting Collector of North Arcot, to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Chittoor, 8th August 1862, No. 31.

SIR,

25th July 1862, No. 2,602, Military Department.

30th July 1862, No. 1,626, Revenue Department.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 2nd instant, of the Proceedings of Government noted in the margin, directing me to proceed at once to Vellore, put myself in personal communication with Captain Mayne, and see the Records of the Pension Office formally and regularly delivered over to him; to furnish such assistance as may be necessary for the proper arrangement of the Records, and to submit a full explanation regarding their state; also to take steps to furnish the Superintendent of Pensions at Madras with certain information called for but not yet supplied. I am further directed to see, that the accounts connected with the payment of Military Pensioners, &c., at Vellore by the Civil authorities be forthwith rendered to the Officer presently in charge, and all advances adjusted.

2. In pursuance of the above instructions, I proceeded to Vellore on the 4th August, and met Captain Mayne at the Pension Office; where, assisted by Mr. Blair and Mr. Locke the Sub and Deputy Collectors of the District, we discussed the whole matter as touched on by Captain Mayne in his letter embodied in the Proceedings of Government, Military Department, which I have already quoted. I will reply to Captain Mayne's letter, paragraph by paragraph, as the best mode of giving to Government that information which they call for.

(1.) The Family Certificate Acquittance Roll used by the Civil authorities, is that which was prepared by the Military authorities themselves in May 1859 for a Payment of Families and Pensioners on unsafe Acquittance Rolls.

year or more, and handed over to the Civil. If it be unsafe, or incomplete, the fault rests with those who prepared it. There was no establishment allowed to hunt over old records, in order to test the correctness of the Roll. Some families, whose names are not in it, were paid by the Tahsildar of Vellore on the copies of the certificates held by them, but he had not the time or means of correcting the English Roll. He has kept a regular account in Tamil of all such disbursements, and it is now being translated for Captain Mayne. The Pension Acquittance Roll used by the Civil authorities, was that prepared by the Military authorities in September 1861, and paid on by themselves up to the end of that year; of course this was assumed to be correct. In preparing it, only the numbers of the pensioners are in many cases entered, and the names omitted.

(2.) I think Captain Mayne must be mistaken here. The Pension Muster Roll used by the Civil authorities, and dated January 1862, was, as usual, prepared from that of September 1861 (which was assumed to be correct) and was an exact transcript of it.

There was neither time nor establishment to test its correctness by a search among the records. Captain Mayne stated to me, that the names of full two hundred Natives, *old* pensioners (*i. e.* pensioned long ago), and entitled to pension now, did not appear on this Muster Roll. If this assertion be correct, the fault of the omission must rest with those who prepared the Roll of September 1861, and previous ones. Captain Mayne said he could not give me a list of these omitted names, nor mention even one. He said there was a Subadar, name unknown, and pensioned thirty years ago, who appeared before him to claim payment of his pension. It is strange that not one of these two hundred omitted men appeared before the Civil authorities from January to June 1862. He mentioned the name of one European pensioner, which he said should have appeared on the Muster Rolls of January and May 1862. It is Serjeant R. Longden.* From inquiry made at the time, I believe the following to be the correct explanation of this

* Vide Fort Saint George Gazette, 10th June 1862, page 909.

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22nd August 1862.*

apparent omission. The Serjeant belonged to the Garrison at Madras up to July of this year, but has for a long time been at Vellore on furlough. He was permanently transferred to Vellore in July 1862, and never drew pay at all from the Civil authorities there as a permanent resident.

Received letters for last six months
unfiled.

(3.) This is incorrect. Of the letters received 83 have been filed; and in answer to them and on other subjects connected with them, 323 have been written. The unanswered letters *only* have been sent to Captain Mayne. They were not filed certainly, but an intelligent Clerk could do this in half a day with ease: it is being done by a man deputed from this Office, and the files of answered letters (with replies) extracted from the general books for transmission. I leave Government to judge of the magnitude of the obstacle which has thus been thrown in Captain Mayne's way.

Confused state of the Records generally.

(4.) The great bulk of the Records received by the Civil authorities being old, and not required for the transaction of current business, was never moved from Vellore, and is now in the precise state in which these papers were handed over by the Military authorities. Of course, they should, so far as they are useful, be arranged and indexed; but I need not remark that considering the sudden manner in which the payment of the pensioners was imposed on the Civil authorities, they could not, without either leisure or Clerks to do the work, be expected to meddle at all with Records which they had no occasion to refer to.

Cash receipts.

(5.) Many cash receipts *do* remain undrawn, simply because the recipients have never appeared to claim the amounts. Such money is never drawn till the party entitled to receive it appears and claims it. The correspondence regarding such as have been paid remains in this Office; and I do not see that Captain Mayne has any occasion for it, since the accounts, &c., regarding the money with vouchers have gone into the proper quarter, and no demand can ever be made against him for the money.

Cash balances.

* Dated 12th July 1862.
† Dated 16th do.

advanced. I presume he wanted in addition an abstract of the expenditure; this is now being prepared for his information.

3. In conclusion, I beg respectfully to submit to Government, that when the duty of paying pensioners, &c., was assigned to the Civil authorities, it was at the busiest time of the year, that no establishment was assigned for performing the work connected with it, and that we were never furnished with the various forms of returns, reports, &c., required by the Pension Department in Madras. The whole of the correspondence, and preparation of return, &c., was, by the order of Government, assigned to the Treasury Deputy Mr. Locke, an Officer already *fully* employed; and I trust that Government will therefore excuse any slight omission, such as filing of letters in order, or omitting to answer queries of the Superintendent of Pensions, in consideration of the admitted inability of the Civil authorities to discharge the additional duty imposed on them.

4. As all the papers connected with the Vellore Pension Department will be, in a few days, in Captain Mayne's hands in a complete state, I hope that Government will allow the Superintendent of Pensions to look to him for any information now due.

From Captain R. MAYNE, in charge of Pensioners, Vellore, to the Acting Sub-Collector of North Arcot, dated Vellore, 12th July 1862, No. 12.

SIR,

I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with a statement showing what sums of money have been advanced to the pensioners at this station since December 1861 up to the 31st of May 1862, showing the sums paid to each individual monthly.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. W. BARLOW,
Acting Sub-Collector.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd August 1862.*

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of North Arcot, to Captain R. MAYNE, in charge of Pensioners, Vellore, dated Vellore, 16th July 1862, No. 88.

SIR,

As requested in your letter of the 12th instant, No. 12, I have the honor to inform you that the total amount advanced to the pensioners and Family Certificate holders at this station, from January to 31st May 1862, is Rupees 1,35,467-9-5. The payment made monthly to each individual will be found in the Acquittance Roll Books.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. W. BARLOW,
Acting Sub-Collector.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. FRASER,
Acting Collector.

No. 295. ORDER THEREON, 22nd August 1862, No. 1,785.

1. In this letter the Acting Collector of North Arcot reports that he has complied with the instructions of the Government, contained in paragraph 4 of the Order dated 30th July last, by proceeding to Vellore with a view of formally delivering over to Captain Mayne, now in charge of Pensioners, the Records of the Pension Office.

2. The Acting Collector does not report that this transfer of Records has actually taken place, but, as in the last paragraph of his letter, he states that all papers connected with the Vellore Pension Department will in a few days be in Captain Mayne's hands, the Governor in Council concludes that the whole of the Records are now made over.

3. Mr. Fraser proceeds to answer certain statements made by Captain Mayne, as to the condition in which he found the Pension Records.

4. The Acting Collector explains that in however imperfect a state may have been the Acquittance Rolls, the Pension Muster Roll Books, and the other Records of the Pension Office at Vellore, the Civil authorities are not responsible for their condition, inasmuch as the state in which they have been delivered back to the Military authorities, is that in which they were originally received from them.

5. The Family Certificate Acquittance Roll used by the Civil authorities was the same as that prepared by the Military authorities in May 1859. There was no sufficient establishment provided when the payment of pensions was transferred to the Civil authorities, to enable the accuracy of this Roll to be tested by a comparison with the Records—indeed, the Acting Collector states that some families not included in the Roll have been paid by the Tahsildar of Vellore on the copies of the certificates held by them, but that the Tahsildar had not the time or means of correcting the English Roll. He kept an account of these payments in Tamil, and this account is now under translation for Captain Mayne.

6. In the same manner the Pension Acquittance Roll used by the Civil authorities was that used by the Military authorities in September 1861, and it was assumed to be correct. It would appear however that in preparing it only the numbers of the pensioners are in many cases entered, and the names omitted.

7. Mr. Fraser considers that Captain Mayne was mistaken in supposing that the Pension Muster Roll Books are incorrect. They have not, Mr. Fraser states, been tested, but are those handed over by the Military authorities, and Captain Mayne was not able to show that any names had been omitted, except in the case of Serjeant Longden, who however was not regularly transferred to Vellore until July 1862.

8. As regards the letters not having been filed the Acting Collector explains that this was only the case with regard to unanswered letters. These letters, the number of which is not stated, are now being filed by a Clerk in the Collector's Office, and the files of answered letters with

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
22nd August 1862.*

replies are being extracted from the general books for transmission to Captain Mayne. As regards cash receipts the Collector explains that there are a large number, as stated by Captain Mayne undrawn, but this is caused by parties not having appeared to claim the amount.

9. The correspondence regarding those receipts which have been paid remains in the Collector's Office, the accounts, &c., regarding the money, with vouchers, having been despatched to the proper quarter. No demand can therefore, the Acting Collector explains, be made against Captain Mayne. The Acting Collector also reports that Captain Mayne was informed of the exact amount of advances, and how and to whom they were advanced. The abstract of expenditure, which may be required by Captain Mayne, is being prepared for his information.

10. As far as can be judged from the Collector's report, as contained in the above letter, no attempt was made by the Civil authorities to ascertain the accuracy of the Pension Records at Vellore; and as regards the Acquittance Rolls, it is evident that they are incomplete and irregularly prepared.

11. The older Records have not been touched it would appear, and are exactly in the same state as when received from the Military authorities.

12. The Acting Collector explains that, throughout, the documents received from the Military authorities were considered to be correct, and payments made without any of the Rolls or Lists being tested in any way.

13. The Governor in Council is of opinion that Captain Mayne was perfectly justified in his hesitation to disburse large sums of money, on Pension Rolls in the incomplete state described, and in reporting the general state of the Records to Government.

14. As regards the correspondence with respect of advances, the Governor in Council observes that the total amount was notified by the Acting Sub-Collector to Captain Mayne, and for the particulars he was referred to the Acquittance Roll Books which appeared to Captain Mayne to be incomplete, and which are so, if the names of those pensioners paid by the Tahsildar are not entered therein.

15. Although there was no establishment specially set aside for the payment of pensioners the Governor in Council is of opinion that the state of the Acquittance Rolls should have attracted the attention of the Civil authorities, and that the necessity of testing their accuracy should have been reported to the Government when the necessary assistance would have been afforded.

16. It is very desirable that the accuracy of all these Pension Rolls, upon the authority of which payments of pensions are made, should be tested without any further delay, and that the Records of the Pension Office at Vellore should be systematically arranged.

17. This correspondence will be forwarded to the Superintendent of Family Pensions with a view to his ascertaining from Captain Mayne what steps are being taken by him for this object; and reporting whether any small temporary establishment is necessary for the arrangement of the Records of the Pension Office at Vellore.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

W-17862

*Proceedings of the Madras Govt
22^d Augt. 1862*

*Read again Pro: of the Govt
P. O. dated 30th July 1862.*

*Read letter from J. Fraser
Esq. Acting Collector of the Dist.
dated 20th August 1862.*

*In this letter the Acting Collector
of the Dist. reports that he
has carried complied with
the instructions of the Govt
contained in Para 4 of the
Order d/ 30th July last, by
proceeding to Vellore with
a view of formally delivering
over to Capt. Mayne, now
in charge of Pensioners, the*

words of the Pension Office -

The Acting Collector does not
assert that this transfer of
Records has actually taken
place. But as in the ^{last} ~~corresponding~~
para of his letter, he states
that all papers connected
with the Vellu Pensioners
department will in a few
days ^{be} in Captain Magnie's
hands, the Governor in Council
concludes that the ~~rest~~
whole of the Records are now
~~made over~~
in Captain Magnie's charge.

Mr. Fraser proceeds then
to answer certain statements
made by Captain Magnie,
as to the condition in which
he found the Pension Records.

The Acting Collector explains
that ⁱⁿ however imperfect ^{a state}, may
have been the acquittance
Books, the Pension Master Roll
Books, and the Misc Records
of the Pension Office at Vellu. -
The Civil authorities are not
^{for their condition,} responsible, inasmuch as the
~~condition~~ ^{state} in which they have
been delivered back to
the Military authorities, is that
in which they were originally
received from them. -
^{Family certificate}
The Acquittance Rolls and
by the Civil authorities was the
same as that prepared by the
Military authorities in May 1859
there was no sufficient est-
ablishment provided when
the Pension payment of Pension
was transferred to the Civil
authorities, to enable the accuracy
of this Roll to be tested by

a comparison with the Records,
Indeed, the Acty Collector states
that some families not included
in the Roll have been paid
by the Sahildar of Villore on
the copies of the certificates held
by them - but that the Sahildar
had not the time or means of
correcting the English Roll. He
kept an account of these pay-
ments in Tamil & this account
is now under translation for
Captain Maigue -

In the same manner the Pension Acquittance Roll used by the Civil Authorities was that used by the Military authorities in September 1861. and it was assumed to be correct. It would appear however that in preparing it only the numbers of the pensioners are in many cases entered, & the names omitted.

Mr. Fraser considers that Captain Mayne was mistaken in the supposing that ~~any~~ ^{any} ~~names~~ ^{names} had been omitted, except in the case of Sergeant Lingden, who however was not regularly transferred, to Vellure until July 1062.

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having been filed the Acty
Collector explains that this
was only the case with
regard to unanswered
letters - There is being compiled

Then letters, the number of which
is not stated, are now being filed
by a clerk in the Collector's Office
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with replies are being extracted
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transmission to Captain Mayne.

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are a large number, as stated
by Captain Mayne undrawn,
but this is caused by parties
not having appeared to claim
the amount.

The unsoundness regarding
these ^{receipts} which have been paid
remains in the Collector's Office,
the accounts ~~are~~ regarding the
money, with vouchers, having
been despatched to the proper
quarter. No demand can therefore,
the Actg. Collector explains, be
made agt. Captain Mayne.

The Actg. Collector ~~also~~ also
reports that Captain Mayne
was informed of the exact
amount of advances & how &
to whom they were advanced
The abstract of expenditure which
may be required by Captain
Mayne is being prepared for
his information -

As far as can be judged
from the Collector's report
as contained in the above
letter, no attempt ^{was made} ~~has been~~
^{by the civil authorities} ~~made~~ to ascertain the
accuracy of the Pension Records
at Vellore; and as regards
the Acquittance Rolls, it is
evident that they are incom-
plete and irregularly pre-
pared.

The ^{older} Records have not been
checked, it would appear

Carba The City Collector explains that throughout, the documents received from the Military authorities were considered to be correct, & payments made without any of the Bills or lists.

The Governor in Council is of opinion that
Captain Mayne was perfectly

general
the state of the Records to Govt.

Governor in Council observes
that the total amount was

notified by the Aeg Subcomm
Chairman Magne & for the
particulars he was referred

Although there was no Est-
-ablishment specially set
aside for the payment of
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is of opinion that the state
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have attracted the attention
of the civil authorities, & that
the necessity of testing their
accuracy should have been
reported to the Govt. where
the necessary assistance would
have been afforded.

It is very desirable that

the accuracy of all ^{the Pension} rolls upon
the authority of which, payments
of pensions are made should
be tested without any further
delay, and that the Records
of the Pension Office at
Vellore should be properly
~~systematically~~ ^{systematically}
and arranged. ~~and~~

This correspondence will be
forwarded to the Supt of
Family Pensions with
a view to his ascertaining
from Captain Muzne what
steps are being taken by
him, ~~with a view to~~ ^{& reporting}
for this object; ~~and~~ whether
any ^{small} temporary Establishment
is necessary for the arrangement
of these Records of the Pension
Office at Vellore.

- 14 Copies to the Secy of the Deptt
1 - Military Deptt
1 - Collyer & Adm
2 - Supt of Family Pensions

MR
JP

Vellore Pension Office

Revenue 1862 Department
Pro: of Govt. for August

No. 1785.

Rev. No. 102-103
3a-7-62

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dy 22 August 1862.

For the Collector
Capt. Pro: Madras Dep. C. S.
3759 of 1862. in Pro: 29 Oct/62 N 389, 90
Capt. & Secy 17.

Passing orders on
Vellore Collector's report on
the imperfect state of the
records of the Pension Dept.
in that District.

No 294 + 295.