M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 18 32. 33	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 7 — 1 — 1862.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 32. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th December 1861, No. 6,717.

Read again the following letters :—

From the Collector of Malabar, dated 24th January 1861, No. 23.
(In Cons. 4th February 1861, No. 718.)

From do. do. 8th March 1861, No. 61.
(In Cons. 16th March 1861, No. 1,659.)

Read also the following letter from the same Officer, dated 7th June 1861, No. 120.
(In Cons. 15th June 1861, No. 3,649.)

1. Resolved that the letters above recorded be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. In the foregoing correspondence the Collector of Malabar submits an application for the retention, at the Sholakul Bungalow at the foot of the Sisparah ghât, of the two Peons heretofore allowed to it from the Public Works Department, for the purpose of aiding travellers ; the cause of the application being the objection raised by the Chief Engineer to the wages of the Peons being debited to the Public Works Department instead of to the Revenue Department.

3. The Board admit the force of the above objection, but as it appears that the establishment of Peons allowed to the Wallawanaud Táluq under the revised scale, will not allow of any of them being detached to Sholakul without serious inconvenience to the public service, and as the Sisparah route will probably fall into disuse when the Beypoor Railway is opened as far as Coimbatore, which may shortly be expected, they recommend that the existing arrangement with regard to the Peons be continued till this is the case, when the subject may be again considered.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 33. ORDER THEREON, 7th January 1862, No. 18.

1. The Government are of opinion that the wages ofthe two Peons kept up at the Sholakul Bungalow should not be charged to the Public Works Department. It appears that these Peons do not reside at Sholakul, but only go there to open the Bungalow when they receive notice of coming travellers. The route is specially unhealthy, and according to the Bungalow book only 27 halted at the Bungalow during 1860, or about two in the month ; and the practice is for these travellers to stay a few hours and proceed on their journey in order to avoid fever. Duty at the Bungalow is, therefore, very rare, and on the completion of the Railway to Coimbatore will altogether cease. The Government cannot, therefore, see why two Peons should be specially maintained for this rare service, nor why a Peon could not be spared from the Táluq Establishment to wait on the occasional traveller, his regular duty being discharged by a substitute, or why the Bungalow may not be left in the custody of the nearest village Establishment.

2. Pending further information on these points, present arrangements may continue undisturbed.

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

No. 921.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th February 1861.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Badagara, 24th January 1861, No. 23 :—

1. While the executive of the Public Works Department was under the supervision of the Collector, it was customary to keep up two Peons at the Sholakel Bungalow, at the foot of the Sisparah ghaut, to aid travellers. Their cost has always been charged to the Department of Public Works. This course has been followed since the transfer of the Department to the District Engineer. The Chief Engineer in his Proceedings, dated 22d ultimo, No. 8,384 (a copy of which was forwarded to me by the District Engineer) expresses it as his opinion, that their cost should be defrayed by the Revenue Department, and there is no doubt that the duties performed by them belong more properly to this Department. Their removal would cause serious inconvenience to travellers, as without their assistance, they would not be able to make use of the ghaut. The Sholakel Bungalow is at the foot of the ghaut midway between Wandur and Sisparah, distant 22 miles from each other; and without the certainty of finding the Bungalow open, and some one there to help, no travellers' servants would venture to go ahead there, some 7 miles of deep jungle. Elephants are not unfrequently to be met with, and the whole road is in the minds of the coolies of the country peopled with all sorts of horrors, which they are sure to recite in detail to the servants of travellers, by way of giving them assurance. The only thing that keeps their courage up, is the knowledge that a Bungalow and Peon are to be met with at the end of the stage. Without a Peon to look after the Bungalow, it will soon go to ruin of itself, or most likely be pulled down by Elephants, which for years past have paid stated visits to it. The year before last a Tusker would not desist from his attack on the fence around the building until fired on from within one of its rooms by a Peon.

2. Under these circumstances, I request that the sanction of Government may be obtained for the retention of the two Peons in question, at 5 Rupees each per mensem, on account of the Revenue Department.

The Collector is requested to state the number of Travellers frequenting the Sholakel Bungalow annually, and what fees are likely to be realized in it, if it is provided with furniture and servants according to the Bengal system.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary.

To P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 2,500.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th May 1861.

Read the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Chepauk, dated Manarghat, 8th March 1861, No. 61:—

1. I have received Proceedings Board of Revenue, dated 19th February 1861, No. 921.

2. It appears that the number of travellers who availed themselves of the Sholakel Bungalow last year is 27, so the entries in the bungalow book show; but I believe that many people passed up the ghat who never entered their names.

3. It would be useless to furnish the Bungalow after the Bengal system, as no one would ever halt in it more than a few hours, for fear of fever. When travellers proceed to Ootacamund *viâ* the Sissipara Ghat, orders are previously sent to the authorities in Wallawanad Taluk, and notice given by them to the Peons, who go to Sholakel and open the Bungalow.

4. The traveller generally carries with him his own food and gram for his horses; and whether ascending or descending the ghat, he so manages as a rule to breakfast at Sholakel and dine at Sissipara or Wundoor, as the case may be.

5. Once the Railway is completed to Coimbatore, which is expected to be accomplished in a few months, no one, except an ardent admirer of scenery, will ever attempt the Sissipara route; but until the results of the Railway in withdrawing travellers from this route have been tested, the retention of the two Peons is recommended.

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1. The Board infer from the foregoing letter that the Peons in question do not remain at Sholakel Bungalow, but are sent out there when travellers are expected.

2. This seems somewhat at variance with Mr. Grant's previous letter, and the Board wish to be distinctly informed where the Peons generally reside, and at what distance from Sholakel, and how they are employed when travellers are not expected at the stage Bungalow.

3. He will also mention the number of Peons available at Wallawanad Kusbah, at Wundoor and at Sissipara.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

Exd. J. Wright.

1861 Department

No.

PROCEEDINGS of the BOARD of REVENUE.

Dated 16*th May* 1861.

No. 2,500.

Requesting certain explanation relative to the Sholakel Bungalow in the District of Madura.

Enclosure 2. in Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 16th May 1861. No. 2,500.

Letter from the Collector of Malabar to the Board of Revenue dated 8th March 1861. No. 61, stating that Peons at Sholakul Bungalow are Bde. Rd. Atkeron.

P 29 May 61

IN CONS. 15TH JUNE 1861, No. 3,649.

From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of MALABAR,

dated Calicut, 7th June 1861, No. 120.

I have received the Board's Proceedings, dated 16th ultimo, No. 2,500.

2. I regret my letter of March 8th, No. 61, was not more explicit as to the place where the peons adverted to, reside.

The peons nominally reside in a shed near the Bungalow, but in reality they live beyond the limits of the jungle, some seven miles deep, in the Toovoor Umshom. There are times of the year when they can live near Sholakul, but, at the best, the locality is most unhealthy, and they seldom remain in it for any protracted period. It may be assumed of a Sholakul Bungalow peon that he is more or less affected with fever, and the chances are that his duties are partly carried on by himself and partly by some relative, according as the one or the other is free from fever. At present, to sleep one night at Sholakul would probably cost any one his life. From August to the end of the year, the place is least unhealthy, and it is in those months that the peons reside most there.

3. The number of peons at the Wallawanad Kusbah, 18 miles distant from Sholakul is, *at present*, 37; but these will be reduced to two shortly, when the place will be a Sub-Magistrate's station only, as the taluq of Wallawanad will ere long be amalgamated with that of Nedinganad, and the Kusbah will then be at Cherpoolcherry, some 12 miles distant.* The number of peons allowed to a Tahsildar by the new scale, which will be introduced on this amalgamation, is only 21. These will be more than fully engaged with the business of the taluq,† and it will not be possible to detach any of them to Sholakul without serious inconvenience.

* From the present Wallawanad Kusbah.

† 1,161¼ square miles.

4. There are no peons at Wundoor; but there are two at Sissipara, at top of the ghat, where their services are indispensable, and cannot be made avilable for any other duty, on account of their isolated position.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 6,717.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 4th December 1861.

Read again the following letters :—

From the Collector of Malabar, dated 24th January 1861, No. 23.

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3. The Board admit the force of the above objection, but as it appears that the establishment of Peons allowed to the Wallawanaud Taluq under the revised scale, will not allow of any of them being detached to Sholakul without serious inconvenience to the public service, and as the Sisparah route will probably fall into disuse when the Beypoor railway is opened as far as Coimbatore, which may shortly be expected, they recommend that the existing arrangement with regard to the Peons be continued till this is the case, when the subject may be again considered.

(A true Extract.)

L. Stokes

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Malabar.

Exd. J. Wright.

Proc of the Bd of Rev Dy
1 April 62 C No 1006

To Public Work Dept 3/15
Feb 62 C No 1494

3 Copies to Accts Genl Office
2 — Civil Payers
1 — D. P. Works

No 32 & 33.

15 Dec 61 R 4 Jany

Rev 1861 Department
Proc of Govt for Jany 1862
No. 2926

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 4th December 1861.
Despatched. 11 Dec 61
Received. 12 Dec 61
C-3-

No. 6717.

Submitting a letter from the Collector of Malabar and recommending the retention at the Sholakul Bungalow of the peons allowed to it from the Public Works Department.

No 18. 7 Jany
Bothan Order

No 18

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duty being discharged by a substitute, or why
may not be left in the custody of the nearest village
Establishment.

Pending the
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which
was called
for