M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2069	Press Mis.
660-661	
Dated 23. 9. 1862.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 23rd September 1862.

No. 440. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel T. McGOUN, Controller of Military Finance to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort Saint George, 18th September 1862A :—

SIR,

1. With reference to the letter from Captain Mitchell in charge of the Government Central Museum, referred to me for report on the 6th September 1862, I have the honor to state that the excess levy of Stamp duty of which Captain Mitchell complains, was probably occasioned by the Paymaster, Presidency omitting to intimate to the Bank that a Stamp had been affixed to Captain Mitchell's Abstract, under the impression that the Abstract and not the cheque should be stamped : the Secretary to the Bank however considered that he was not authorized to disburse the amount of cheques drawn by the Paymaster, unless it was shown that the Stamp duty had been levied : this omission has now been rectified, and the Paymaster is required to notify on each cheque that a Stamp has been affixed to the Abstract of the Officer in whose favor the cheque is drawn.

No. 71, 4th September 1862.

2. Captain Mitchell, in common with all other Officers who drew pay in the early part of the month, was subjected to the inconvenience complained of in consequence of the sudden introduction of the Stamp duty on Military Abstracts, and the unavoidable incompleteness of the arrangements connected therewith, and if he had referred to the Examiner, Pay Department, his unnecessary reference to Government on this subject would have been avoided.

No. 441. ORDER THEREON, 23rd September 1862, No. 2,069.

Ordered to be communicated to Captain J. Mitchell, with reference to his letter dated 4th September 1862, No. 71.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS,
Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Captain J. MITCHELL, Officer in charge of the Government Central Museum, to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 4th September 1862, No. 71 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit the following subject for the consideration of Government.

2. G. O. G. 21st August 1862, page 331 of the "Fort Saint George Gazette," re-publishes an Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, in which it is directed that the receipts of payees for salaries exceeding 20 Rupees a month must have a stamp of one Anna affixed to each, like other receipts for the payment of money.

3. By the existing Rules of the service my pay, amounting in all to less than Rupees (600) six hundred, is drawn in four distinct abstracts. My Military pay proper is drawn from the Military Paymaster. My Military allowances from the Civil Paymaster, my salary as Superintendent of the Mounted Police, in the abstract of the Police Troop, and my allowance for the Museum in the Museum abstract.

4. On presenting the abstract for my pay proper to the Military Pay Office it was returned with directions that a one Anna stamp should be affixed, which was complied with. When the Paymaster's cheque was presented at the Bank for payment it was returned because a one Anna stamp was not affixed to it also, so that these authorities require me to give two stamps for one payment.

5. I have already said that my pay is drawn in four abstracts, so that on this principle for each month's pay I must give eight stamps, I may be wrong, but I conceive the Government never contemplated such an arrangement, but merely that every man on receiving his monthly salary should attach one Anna stamp as a receipt. But the Pay Department first makes me affix a stamp on the abstract, and then the Bank demands another stamp in the Paymaster's cheque, and this process, if the Civil Department follows the example of the Military, has to be repeated four times a month, and I beg to submit that this is not the intention of Government, nor the correct reading of the order. The words "each receipt" being plainly intended to mean the receipt of "each individual" for his monthly pay.

ORDER THEREON, 6th September 1862, No. 1,905.

Referred to the Controller of Military Finance for report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,

Chief Secretary.

He must pay the four annas but he has a right to demand that his pay should be given him without deduction by the Paymaster from whom convenience only in the payment may by cheque

To the Controller of Military Finance.

Shown in Council
14-9-62

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro: 6th Septr 1862 No 107-108

Rec'd 1862 Sept 6th
Treasury Office No 2687

From
The Comptr of Civil Finance
To
The Chief Secretary
to Government
Dated 1st
Recd 19th September 1862

Enclosures

Reports upon the circumstances that occasioned the Excess levy of Stamp duty on Captain Mitchell's Abstracts and how the Reference to Govt could have been avoided

No 2440 & 41.

No 2069. 23rd Septr

With an order

No 2069

Ordered to be communicated to Captain J Mitchell with Reference to his letter dated 4th September 1862 No 71.

Fort St George
23rd Septr 62

JP

Captain J Mitchell Deputy
Controller of Military Finance
Military Dept Deputy 25th