M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2965- Press ~~Mis.~~

355-360

Dated 15-12-~~19~~1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 19th December 1863.

No. 359. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India (Separate Revenue), to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 8th October 1863, No. 16:—

MY LORD,

With reference to your Despatch in this Department No. 20, dated 10th October 1862 regarding the size of water-marked paper to be used in the Stamp Office in India, I have now to inform you that it appears, by a communication lately received from the Government of Madras, and from the Proceedings of the Bombay Government (See Abstracts 377 and 614) (which were forwarded to your Government on the 21st April last, together with an Indent for large size paper, which has not at present been received in this country), that the sizes of paper at present authorized are not found to be adopted for public use in those Presidencies, and I have therefore to request you will communicate with those Governments, in order that any additional sizes of water-marked paper for the use of Stamp Offices in India, which the necessities of the Public Service in the several Presidencies may require, may be introduced with as little delay as possible.

No. 5,089.

Separate Revenue Despatch from Secretary of State, No. 13 of 1862, dated 9th July.
Home Department Endorsement No. 4,477, dated 25th August 1862.
Endorsement from Government of Bengal, No. 2,148, dated 22nd September 1862, with enclosures.

Ordered, that a copy of the above Despatch together with a transcript of the papers noted in the margin, be sent to the Governments of Madras and Bombay respectively, with a request that a report relative to the size of water-marked paper for the use of the Stamp Offices in those Presidencies, may be furnished to this Department with as little delay as possible.

Fort William Financial Department,
The 3rd December 1863.

(Signed) E. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Despatch from the Right Honorable Sir C. WOOD, Bart., Secretary of State for India (Separate Revenue), to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, dated India Office, London, 9th July 1862, No. 13.

MY LORD,

1. With reference to my Despatch of the 23rd May last (No. 9), on the subject of the supply of water-marked paper for the Calcutta Stamp Department, I have to acquaint your Excellency in Council that whilst making arrangements for the provision of the paper, it was brought to my notice that a considerable saving might be effected by substituting machine-made paper for that made by hand as hitherto supplied. This substitution would reduce the price of the paper by about 25 per cent. and nearly £ 4,000 would thus be saved in the provision of the annual supply required for Bengal alone. As however these water-marked papers are believed to be used for legal purposes and it may be desirable that they should be of great toughness to resist the wear and tear to which they are or may be subjected, I have decided to make no alteration in the qualities of papers supplied without previous reference to the authorities in India. Specimens of machine-made paper are therefore forwarded and the Officers of the Stamp Department in Calcutta should be requested to report at the earliest possible date upon their fitness for the purposes for which the hand-made water-marked paper is now used at the Stamp Office.

2. These specimens are only intended to show the quality of the paper which is capable of being water-marked in the same manner as the hand-made paper hitherto supplied. They should be returned to me with the report of the Superintendent of Stamps.

3. Pending the receipt of this information the supply of water-marked paper applied for in the Supplementary Indent for 1862 will be limited to 300 Reams of Paper No. 2 and 1,200 Reams of Paper No. 3, of qualities hitherto supplied. Compliance with the Indent for 1864 will be altogethr suspended.

4. I take this opportunity of requesting you to call the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to the circumstance noticed in the letter from the Officiating Secretary to that Government, dated the 20th March last, that the water-marked paper forwarded by the ship "Merchantman" reached the Superintendent of Stamps on the 12th March last, but that no advice of its despatch had been previously received in his Office. The Invoice, Packing Account and Bill of Lading were despatched from this country in time to have been received in India in the month of January, so that it would appear that the necessary intimation was omitted to be conveyed to the Department concerned.

No. 4,477.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Bengal with reference to Endorsement No. 3,203, dated the 28th June last.

Home Department,
Separate Revenue,
The 25th August 1862.

By Order,
(Signed) E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

From W. J. HERSCHELL, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 1,213, dated the 15th September 1863.

1. I have the honor by direction of the Board of Revenue, in compliance with your Office
A. Grote, Esq. Endorsement No. 1,761, dated 27th ultimo, to submit for the information of Government, the accompanying copy of a Report No. 1,547, dated 10th instant, from the Officiating Superintendent of Stationery, with a Memorandum from Mr. Crawford on the four samples of papers which accompanied the Right Honorable the Secretary of State's Despatch of the 9th July, No. 13, on the subject of the substitution of machine-made water-marked for hand-laid for stamps.

2. The Board agree with Mr. Crawford that the machine-made specimen, No. 4, might be substituted for hand-laid paper. They think, indeed, that this paper, of its present texture would answer all purposes.

3. Mr. Crawford's other suggestion for using two sizes of paper only in the bi-color machines and for dispensing with the two extreme sizes, Nos. 1 and 4, also meets the Board's approval.

4. The enclosure and sample papers are herewith returned.

No. 2,148.

Copy of the above letter, and of its encl[illegible], forw[illegible]ed to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Home Department for information, with reference to his Endorsement No. 4,477, dated 25th ultimo. The original samples of paper are returned.

By order of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal,

Fort William,
The 22nd September 1862.

Signed J. D. GORDON,
Offg. Junior Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

From A. D. JONES, Esq., Officiating Superintendent of Stamps, to W. J. HERSCHELL, Esq., Officiating Junior Secretary to the Board of Revenue, No. 1,547, dated the 10th September 1862.

1. With reference to your Office Memorandum No. 1,153, dated 3rd instant, I have the honor to submit a report from Mr. Crawford, dated 8th instant, on the four samples of paper which accompanied the Right Honorable the Secretary of State's Despatch of the 9th July last, No. 13, on the subject of the substitution of machine-made water-marked paper for hand-laid for stamps, and to state that I concur in the opinion expressed by Mr. Crawford that Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are not at all adapted for the use of this Office; No. 4, if made somewhat thicker, would, I think, answer quite as well for writing upon as the hand-laid paper now in use, a sheet of which I submit for the Board's inspection; but it will not, in my opinion, be so durable.

2. It is desirable that the sheets of paper should be of the same length, and the parts into which they are divided by the water-marks showing where they are to be cut, of the same width as the paper at present in use; otherwise, in consequence of the position of the plates being unalterably fixed in our machines, the impressions from the two side plates will not be given exactly in the middle of the sheet with referenee to its width.

3. The enclosures of your letter are returned.

Memorandum by J. A. CRAWFORD, Esq., Superintendent of Stamps, dated the 8th September 1862.

I have carefully examined the four descriptions of machine-made paper sent out by the Right Honorable the Secretary to State for India with his separate Revenue Despatch, No. 13, dated 9th July 1862, I am of opinion that Nos. 1, 2 and 3 are not at all adapted for the use of the Stamp Office. They are too thin, and even in their present state absorb ink too readily This objection would be still greater after the papers had been wetted and passed through the machines, as the paper would be still more likely to cause the ink to run after being wetted than

before. No. 4 will I think, answer every purpose if it can be made a little thicker. It must be borne in mind that what the Stamp Office requires is a paper of sufficient substance to bear writing upon after having been wetted, impressed with the stamp and then dried. I would suggest another mode of effecting a saving in the cost of paper, and that is by abolishing the use of Nos. 1 and 4 papers, that is of the largest and smallest sizes now used; the two medium sizes, Nos. 2 and 3, will answer every purpose. No. 2 is so very little smaller than No. 1, that it will answer every purpose to which No. 1 is applied, and No. 3 being bigger than No. 4, no objection can be taken to substituting it on account of size. Whenever No. 1 paper is impressed with stamps only two stamps can be struck where three of the other sizes are impressed. For instance, at present it takes 12,000 sheets of No. 1 to give 24,000 stamps. If No. 2 were substituted 24,000 stamps would be struck on 8,000 sheets, a fact which speaks for itself.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) J. E. COOKE,
Offg. 3rd Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 360. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1863, No. 2,345.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for early report.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2042

Forwarded to the Board
of Revenue for early Report

3

Port of Geo. 19 Dec 1863.
H.C. Bd of Rev. Calcutta 21st

Revenue 1863 Despatch
Rec.d from Govt of Deer.
No. 3069.

From the Secty. to
the Govt. of India

Dated 31st October
Recd 12th " 1863

No. 5989.

359-56

From Bo. Mem 23 Dec/63
No. 3150.

Forwarding Despatch
from Home Government, re-
questing the size of water, or
Marked paper to be used
in the Marine Office in India
and requesting a report on
the size of paper required
for use in this Presidency.

Wm Ogden
No. 2345 - 16 Dec