M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 494 Press ~~Mis.~~

97-98

Dated 12 — 3 — ~~19~~ 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 12th March 1863.

No. 97. Read the following letter from W. ROBINSON, Esq., Inspector General of Mofussil Police, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 6th March 1863, No. 522:—

SIR,

I forward to you, for such notice as it may deserve, ten copies of a Circular Memorandum sent to District Police Officers on the subject of Salt Guards.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT, No. 15 of 1863.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM.

Dated 28th February 1863.

1. The Inspector General has observed instances in which he is satisfied, that relief to the Police watching Salt Work Treasuries might be effected, and the establishment become in consequence more utilized by further co-operation between the Police and Salt Department Officers, with a view to reduce the number of the Treasuries and enable freer scope to the Guards at the Works and Store yards.

2. Collectors are every where exerting themselves to concentrate their balances and abolish petty Treasuries. A great deal has every where been done in this direction; but in some Districts more perhaps remains to be effected in the Salt Department. And Police Officers will undersand that it is their duty to bring to the notice of the Collector and of the Inspector General, with a view to immedate arrangement, any case, however apparently trifling, where improved departmental arrangement on either side would lead to relief of the Police and reduction of Establishment, or to greater freedom in utilizing the Force necessarily maintained in its proper duty of preventing smuggling and theft.

3. In most instances, the Cash box of the Salt Division is kept at some neighbouring village—convenient for the residence of the Superintendent and other officials; but so far from the Salt swamps and Store yards, that a separate appropriation of men is necessary to watch the Treasury: and the men so employed cannot be made use of in watching the Store yards and manufacture at the same time. This may frequently be rectified.

4. The Inspector General thinks that in several places, all payments, except those made on account of petty retail sale, might be made at the nearest *Talook* Treasury without unreasonable inconvenience. In most instances, payment of large amounts on account of wholesale trade might easily be effected in this way, as the carriers pass through or near some Revenue Treasury Station on their way to the coast. Wherever arrangements of this kind can be effected, Salt Treasure boxes should disappear altogether.

5. Every facility will be afforded by Police Officers for making daily remittances from Salt Stations to Revenue Treasuries. It is less expensive to supply one or two men permanently on this duty than to keep up a standing guard, with its reliefs, &c., to watch a small sum. On this duty a man may generally make a good long march, going out to the Salt works in the morning and returning to the Revenue Treasury Station in the evening, or *vice versâ*. Two men might even take alternate days when the distance is a good day's march.

6. A Policeman detailed for remittance duty might perhaps carry the Treasure himself, if it does not exceed in amount what he could easily defend if attacked without being hampered in the use of his weapons. The state of the country and road, &c., will be considerations in deciding on this point; when the sum exceeds what a man can conveniently carry or peculiar circumstance attach to the case, the Collector will give the requisite carriers. This suggestion is thrown out for consideration with the admission that several Officers of the Salt Establishment and Police have objected to introducing such a practice.

7. Remittance duty will be entrusted to known and trustworthy men.

8. The Inspector General has observed some instances in which he would recommend that the Cash Chest, if necessary to maintain one, be removed to the watch shed in the most central Salt Store yard adjacent to the Salt works. This would concentrate the duty and have a useful effect on the watching of both Store yards and pans. For the responsibility attaching to watching a Cash Chest will prevent men from sneaking off to the village from these ungenial localities.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th March 1863.

9. This last move, as well as the endeavours to do away with Salt Treasury Guards will every where meet with opposition. Policemen prefer the village life to residence amongst the Salt swamps. Villagers and Salt Establishment like the presence of a party of Police in the village. A Potail pleaded with the Inspector General that he would be afraid to keep his Revenue collections in his house if the Salt Guard were removed. The Salt Superintendent pointed to some useless old records as requiring the presence of the Guard at his Office.

10. The above remarks apply to Sea and Land Customs Treasuries.

11. Frequently it may be convenient to place the boxes of such Treasuries in the nearest Police Stations.

W. ROBINSON,
Inspector General of Madras Police.

No. 98. ORDER THEREON, 12th March 1863, No. 494.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue, who are requested to urge on Collectors the necessity of reducing the number of Salt Treasuries as much as possible, in order that the Salt Guards may not be withdrawn from the more important duty of protecting the places of manufacture and sale, and preventing the surreptitious removal of Salt from them.

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

Chief Office of the Insp.r
General of the Police
Madras, 6th March 1863.

General Department
No. 522

From,
W. Robinson Esqre
Inspector General of the Police

To
J. D. Sim Esqre
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Sir,

I forward to You, for such notice as it may deserve, 10 Copies of a Circular Memo sent to District Police Officers on the subject of Salt Guards

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
W. Robinson
Inspector General of the Police

Rec. B. of Rec. 9/20 Feby/64
No. 531.

No. 497 & 498.

C. of Inst. 13 Rec.

Rec. 1863 Department
Pro. of Govt. for March.
No. 553

From,

W. Robinson Esqr.
Insp. Genl. of Police

To,

The Hon. Sir Geo. E.
Secretary to Govt.
Rec. Depte.

Dated 6th March 1863

Rec. 6th

No. 494 - 12 March

No. 522.

Subject.

Forwarding Returns
Collieries of Fire: Memo
sent to District Police
Officers on the subject
of Salt Guards &c.
&c. &c. &c.

No. 494.

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Fort St. George
12th March 1863.

To Offices of the Board of Rent
with 3 Offices of the Board of Rev. Dept.