M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 286 Press ~~Mis~~

246. 248

Dated 17. 2 - ~~19~~ 186y

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th February 1864.

No. 216. Read the following letters:—

From J. L. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Acting Accountant General, to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort Saint George, 9th February 1864, No. 376.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit in original (to be returned) Proceedings of the Board of Revenue No. 399, dated 20th ultimo, together with copy of their previous Proceedings of the 6th idem, therein referred to, regarding the practice existing in this Office of holding direct communication with the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury in matters concerning the removal of treasure, which they consider to be objectionable, and are of opinion that the subject should be submitted for the decision of Government.

2. The practice of such direct communication appears to have been adopted for sometime past, to avoid delay in carrying out the instructions of this Office, when such required despatch, and till now has not been objected to.

3. In my opinion this course is very necessary, especially when the instructions and reply are communicated by telegrams, for it frequently happens that the Collector is absent from the Hoozoor Treasury on the duties of his District, and thus delay would ensue were *he* addressed instead of the Treasury Deputy.

4. When the case is not *urgent* the Deputy Collector would of course take his orders from the Collector, but when a sudden demand is made by telegram by the Government of India for the transmission of large sums to other Presidencies, as in two recent instances, this Office is under the necessity of employing the speediest means of effecting the object required, and unless its directions are addressed direct to the Officer actually in charge of the Treasury, the opportunity for the transmission of the treasure may frequently be lost.

5. A case in point has just occurred. On the 24th ultimo, a remittance of Rupees twenty-five lacs was ordered in a telegram from the Government of India, dated 22nd ultimo, to be sent immediately to Bombay. To enable me to comply with this order I addressed an urgent letter to the Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury Nellore, on the 25th idem, requiring all the silver that could be spared after reserving sufficient for current expenditure to be sent down to Madras. On the 27th idem he replied that my letter had been referred for the orders of the Collector, and up to this time I have heard nothing further on the subject.

6. It is only in urgent cases that the Deputy Collector need act on his own responsibility; in ordinary cases he would in all probability be too glad to be relieved of responsibility by obtaining orders from the Collector.

7. In the case of supply Bills, drawn on different Treasuries, which are presented to the Deputy Collector, no reference is previously made by that Officer to the Collector whether they can be paid or not, though the Treasury may be largely drawn upon and to a larger extent than may have been anticipated by the Collector.

8. The Board consider that the Collector is the most competent judge of the requirements of his District; but as all the money requirements and transactions of the District are submitted to the Collector through the Treasury Officer, who furnishes to this Office the monthly Estimate of all receipts and disbursements of his District for the current and two ensuing months, and he must, I submit, be fully cognizant not only of the state of the Treasury but also of the requirements of the District.

9. Admitting that the Collector is responsible for the contents of his Treasury, and that he may be the most competent judge of the requirements of his District, it is only recommended that the Deputy in charge of the Treasury, who it must be admitted is also well acquainted with the requirements of the District, should act on his own responsibility on orders received from this Office, and only in urgent cases, and it appears to me that Government may with safety delegate to him this extent of authority.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th February 1864.

No. 247. From J. L. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Acting Accountant General, to A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort Saint George, 13th February 1864, No. 382.

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter No. 376, dated 9th instant, I have the honor to state that I have this day received intimation from the Deputy Collector of Nellore of the despatch on the 10th instant of two lakhs of Rupees to the Presidency, so that owing to the reference to the Collector it has taken just a fortnight to despatch the above amount after receiving an urgent requisition from this Office.

2. A similar requisition was made to the Deputy Collectors of Salem and Coimbatore, who, respectively, despatched three lakhs of Rupees within three days of receiving the telegram sent to them.

3. In the absence of all intimation regarding the Nellore remittance, I was obliged to make other arrangements for sending the money to Bombay, and wrote to the Collector on the 9th instant, countermanding his remittance, but probably my letter had not arrived in time to prevent its despatch.

4. I hope, therefore, the Government will be pleased to accede to the request contained in my letter above alluded to.

No. 248.

ORDER THEREON, 17th February 1864, No. 286.

1. Considering that in communications between the Accountant General and the Collector on Treasury matters, the saving of time is often a great object, and that the Collector is frequently at a considerable distance from his head quarters, the Government think it desirable that the Accountant General should communicate direct with the Deputy Collector in charge. But when the Collector is at head quarters, the Deputy Collector will immediately obtain the Collector's orders on these communications. When the Collector is absent the Deputy Collector will refer the matter for his orders, unless it be of an ordinary character not requiring special instructions, or too urgent to admit of delay. In the latter case the Deputy Collector must of course act on the Accountant General's instructions to the best of his judgment, reporting immediately to the Collector what he has done.

2. The Government consider that when a Collector is likely to be absent from head quarters for a considerable period, as for instance during the settlement, the Board and the Accountant General should be furnished with a note of the places to which up to specified dates, communications requiring the Collector's personal and immediate attendance should be addressed.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue Department

No. 286.

Proceedings of the Madras Government under date the 17th February 1864

Read the following letter from the Accountant General—

State that the circumstances stated in it is very necessary for the Collector to hold direct communication with the Deputy Collectors in charge of Treasury in matters connected with the removal of Treasure which the Bd of Revenue consider to be objectionable—

(Here enter letter dated 13th Feb. 1864 No. 382)

Considering that communications between the Accountant General and the Collectors on Treasury matters the saving of time is often a great object and that the Collector is frequently at a considerable distance from his Head Quarters the

of this it desirable that the Accountant General should communicate direct with the Deputy Collector in charge. But when the Collector is at Head Quarters the Dy. Collector will immediately obtain the Collector's orders on these communications. When the Collector is absent the Dy. Collector will refer the matter for his orders unless it be of an ordinary character not requiring special instructions or too urgent to admit of delay. In the latter case the Dy. Collector must of course act on the Accountant General's instructions to the best of his judgment, reporting immediately to the Collector as soon as the Accountant General considers that when a Collector is likely to be absent from Head Quarters for a considerable period, as for instance during the settlement, the Board and the Accountant General should be furnished with a note of the places to which at specified dates, communications requiring the Collector's personal and immediate attendance should be addressed.

No. Copies to the Registrar Civil 18
3 " Accountant General Auditor & Landowners

Revenue Sick Dept.
Pro: of Govt for February.

No. 286.

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dt 17th Feb: 1860.

Accountant General
authorized to communicate
with Dr Collectors regarding
the removal of Treasuries in
emergent cases.

No. 246 & 248.