M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. / 718 Press ~~Mis.~~

444-46. Dated 18 — 6 — No 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th June 1868.

Read the following :—

No. 444. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd May 1868, No. 3,203.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 24th February 1868, No. 50.

With reference to the Board's Objection Statement, dated the 13th instant, on the Land Revenue Contingent Bills for November last, I have the honor to forward a letter, in original, from Mr. Grahame, regarding the mileage disallowed, for the Board's consideration.

From the Assistant Collector, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated Cocanada, 22nd February 1868, No. 11.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Board's Proceedings, No. 707, dated 29th ultimo, declining to pass extra tentage for my journey to Guntoor to attend the first Standard Examination. I have also the honor to acknowledge Board's Objection Statement, (herewith returned,) disallowing mileage for my journey to Chillangy in October.

2. I beg to protest against these deductions, and beg you will be good enough to request the Board to re-consider their decision in these two cases.

3. With regard to my Mileage Bill for going to Chillangy, I think the question is very simple. The Board refer me to their Circular Order, No. I., dated 18*th January* 1867. In that they say that they are prepared to pass one day's extra tentage for every ten miles travelled. If the Board will look at their Proceedings of nearly two months later, No. 1,523, dated 12th March 1867, in which they decide on a similar case referred by Mr. Wigram, Acting Head Assistant, they will see that they there observe that "An officer is at liberty to charge either extra tentage or mileage for any "particular tour on duty, but he cannot be permitted to draw mileage for one portion of the tour, "and tentage for another portion." I drew mileage according to the Board's decision in Mr. Wigram's case. I considered that a decision of 12th March overruled one of 18th January, and extra tentage did not cover my actual expenses on the occasion of my journey to Chillangy.

4. The question of the extra tentage I drew for my journey to Guntoor rests on a different footing.

5. The Board say that "they are unable to pass my bill for extra tentage, as, under Government Order, dated 18th April 1866, No. 390, I am only entitled to draw travelling allowance on one occasion when attending the examination according to each standard."

6. I beg to submit that "extra tentage" is quite a different thing from "travelling allowance," and that I drew travelling allowance only once ; and that other Assistants have drawn extra tentage on similar occasions. At least Mr. Happell, who drew travelling allowance of eight Annas a mile for going to Guntoor, in August 1866, for his first Standard Examination, drew extra tentage for going to Guntoor in January 1867 also for the first Standard Examination.

7. If I understand aright the Government Order, No. 390, 18th April 1866, travelling allowance was disallowed on all except the first occasion of attending each Standard Examination, owing to the fact that Assistants were found going up for examination, evidently only "for the fun of the thing," and quite unprepared in the subjects of examination, and the disallowance was intended as a punishment to them for their ignorance of the said subjects of examination.

8. I was informed that I passed in each subject of the examination except Evidence, while I scored as high as 75 per cent. in some subjects, and even in Evidence, in which I failed, I scored 50 per cent. of the total marks. I submit, therefore, that I cannot be said to have shown ignorance of the subjects, especially as I failed in only one, and was very ill during the whole examination, chiefly, if not altogether, owing to having had to travel so long a journey in the height of the hot season.

9. I beg to point out that three examinations in succession were held at Guntoor, and that if the Godavery Assistants deserved punishment for not passing, those of the Kistna, *who had been*

a longer time up-country without passing, equally deserved it. The fact is that the Assistants in the Kistna District have now attended four examinations in succession in their own district.

10. I would respectfully suggest that the Board of Revenue, all the Members of which, as well as the Secretary and Sub-Secretary, are, I believe, Members of the Committee for examination of Assistants, should make some arrangement by which the Assistants of Godavery District should be examined in their own district, especially at the June examination, as it is no joke to have to travel over 300 miles in the month of June. The consequence to myself, of travelling in June last, was that I had an attack in the head, from which I did not recover for five or six weeks, and to which I attribute my failure in the one subject in which I broke down.

11. In conclusion, I trust that you will support my request that the Board will re-consider their decision in the case of my extra tentage for June, and that in the case of my mileage in October: the former, because I drew the extra tentage for being absent from my head-quarters, because extra tentage is not travelling allowance, and because extra tentage had been previously drawn, on a similar occasion, by an Assistant of this district under precisely similar circumstances; the latter, because I drew mileage in accordance with the Board's own ruling in Mr. Wigram's case.

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1. Resolved, that Mr. Grahame's letter, received with the foregoing, be forwarded to the Committee for the Examination of Assistants, with reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 29th January 1868, No. 707.

2. The Board are inclined to think that Mr. Grahame has succeeded in showing his case, as regards the examination, to be a hard one; and they would be glad to know the opinion of the Committee as to the advis bility of submitting the charge for extra tentage for the special sanction of Government.

3. It should be observed that the extra tentage, passed to Mr. Happell in January 1867, (alluded to in paragraph 6 of Mr. Grahame's letter,) was passed in the absence of information as to the mileage previously drawn by Mr. Happell in August 1866.

No. 445. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd June 1868, No. 4,093.
Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd May 1868, No. 3,203.

Read also the following letter from the Secretary to the Committee for the Examination of Assistants, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 13th May 1868, No. 185.

1. With reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 29th January 1868, No. 707, and 2nd May 1868, No. 3,203, I am directed to state that the Committee agree with the Board in thinking that the rules, as they stand at present, have pressed hardly on Mr. Grahame, and that they hope that Government will sanction the payment either of his travelling allowance or extra tentage.

2. The Order of Government, that travelling allowance should be passed to Assistants on one occasion only of their going up for each standard of Examination, was passed on the recommendation of the Committee to prevent Candidates who were totally unprepared from presenting themselves before the examiners; but experience has shown that the action of the rule is unequal, and that the object which the Committee had in view is not attained by it. Most of the Assistants are now examined in their own districts, so that the expense of travelling is *nil*, and they may present themselves before the Divisional Committee again and again without suffering for doing so in any way, however decided their failure may be. On the other hand, occasional circumstances may require that any Assistant should

be sent to distant places, time after time, (as was the case with Mr. Grahame,) and if he fails, be it by ever so little, he is mulcted in a heavy sum.

The Board resolve to submit this letter for the consideration of Government, and to recommend that Mr. Grahame's application for extra tentage on account of his journey to Guntoor may be sanctioned as a special case, although this was the second occasion in which he applied for travelling allowance on attending the First Standard Assistants' Examination.

No. 446. ORDER THEREON, 18th June 1868, No. 1,718.

Miscellaneous. Sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Lxd. F. R. Bantleman.

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Rev- 1868. Department
Pro: of Govt for June

No. 2000.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 3rd June 1868.

No. 4,093.

Submitting a letter from Committee for Examination of Assistants, and recommending that application of Assistant Collector Mr. Grahame of Godavery District for extra tentage on account of his journey to Guntoor for attending First Standard Assistants Examination on a second occasion may be sanctioned as a special case.