

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2100	Press ~~MS~~
^{76-77.} Dated	6-8-	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th August 1868.*

No. 76. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Military Department:—

Authorizing payment of batta and travelling }
allowance to peons for serving processes on } (Here enter 30th July 1868, No. 2,991.)
certain parties, and witnesses for giving }
evidence, respectively.

No. 77. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1868, No. 2,100.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. SEWELL,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Military Department, No. 2,991.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Docket from the Secy. to Govt., Revenue Dept... Here enter 14th May 1868.

Report from the Contr. of Mily. Accounts..... „ 8th July „ F.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1868, No. 3396.

Read the following letter from J. H. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st April 1868, No. 276.

1. In the Board's Standing Circular No. LXI of 1865, the rate of batta for serving processes for the recovery of arrears of revenue is prescribed.

2. This district being a great recruiting field for the Native Army, we have been receiving from time to time numerous applications from the Officers Commanding the Regiments, requesting us to take the evidence and procure the signature of people said to be cognizant of the marriage of men in their Regiments; and on the death of any sepoy to procure the appearance, before the Station Committee for the investigation of claims of heirs to pension, of certain persons whose evidence is required. No batta for serving notices on these parties is sent by the Military Officers, and the Police have no orders to serve them, and nothing is paid to the witnesses for their travelling and other expenses in journeying to, and from, the station where they may be required to attend.

3. In one Sub-Magistrate's jurisdiction alone these cases amount to nearly 200 a year, batta peons getting nothing for their trouble, or those of the regular establishment of the Sub-Magistrate's office are deputed to fetch the parties.

4. As regards the peons of the regular establishment they are only two in number. Of these one is attached to the Subsidiary Jail, where he has to sleep every night; besides this he assists the second peon in other work.

5. As much inconvenience is felt, not only in serving processes, but in procuring the attendance of witnesses, &c., I beg to refer the matter to the Board for the Orders of Government, namely, whether the serving of processes of procuring witnesses, &c., at the instance of the Military Authorities, should or should not be paid for.

Submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that, under the circumstances stated by the Acting Collector, sanction may be granted for the payment of batta to parties employed in serving processes, and travelling allowance to witnesses summoned to give evidence in regard to marriage, &c., of men in Regiments, as it is for the benefit of the State and the sepoys that the inquiry is made, and the Revenue Establishments cannot do the work. The Board observe that Mr. Pelly had already brought the subject to the notice of Government in paragraph 6 of his letter, dated 30th August 1865, No. 1834, and suggested that the charge should be defrayed by the Military Department; but the Adjutant General having stated that the Registers ordered to be kept were nearly completed, no orders were passed on the subject. As it now appears from the Collector's letter that the work is still very extensive, the Board request that the Military Department may be requested to bear the charge.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,

Acting Secretary.

Transferred to the Military Department.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government, Rev. Dept.

14th May 1868.

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With report from the Controller of Military Accounts, 8th July 1868, F.

ORDER, No. 2991, 30th July 1868.

The Governor in Council authorizes batta being paid to peons or other persons employed by the Civil Authorities in serving processes on parties, whose evidence may be required to establish claims of heirs to pension. Travelling allowance will also be paid to witnesses at the usual rate. The charge incurred will be debitable to the Military Department.

(True Extract.)

W. A. Smith Major,

Offg. Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department. *with 20 spare copies*

- .. Controller of Military Accounts, with 2 enclosures.
- .. Adjutant General.
- .. Examiner of Claims.
- .. Superintendent of Pensions.

