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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2040	Press Mis.
³¹⁶⁻¹⁶ Dated	15-12-1870 M.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1870.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 314. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th November 1870, No. 6,502.

Read the following letters :—

From P. F. BELLEW, Esq., Commissioner of Paper Currency in charge of Stamp Paper Department, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 22nd August 1870, No. 133.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, the annual Return of papers, etc., stamped at this Office and sent to the Superintendent of Stamps from July 1869 to June 1870, or Fasli 1279.

2. The operations of this department are confined to impressing on water-marked and other papers stamps of the following descriptions, viz :—

- (1.) Judicial, red and black.
- (2.) Non-judicial, blue and black.
- (3.) Bills of Exchange and Bills of Lading.
- (4.) Private documents from public.
- (5.) Bicolour stamps on embossed.

3. The number and value of stamps turned out during the year as compared with the previous year are shown in the following statement :—

	Fasli 1278.			Fasli 1279.			INCREASE		DECREASE	
	Number of Stamps.	Rs.	A.	Number of Stamps.	Rs.	A.	Number of Stamps.	Rs.	Number of Stamps.	Rs.
Judicial	84,53,334	25,78,874	0	85,52,677	1,20,01,880	7	97,448	94,23,513	7	...
Non-judicial	6,90,076	12,31,439	5	39,05,874	1,00,39,057	1	53,17,108	87,17,617	12	...
Bills of Exchange and Bills of Lading	1,55,724	53,204	0	3,34,308	8,95,230	9	1,78,579	3,42,030	9	...
Private documents	3,20,343	1,85,053	9	2,29,137	1,05,317	11	...	50,664	2	1,200
Bicolour Stamps on embossed	...	...	...	3,34,522	2,26,783	3	3,34,522	2,26,783	3	...
Do. on embossed Bills of Exchange	120	50	0	8,109	1,510	11	2,008	1,474	11	...
Total	93,29,805	40,09,336	14	99,26,705	2,28,50,310	0	38,29,505	1,87,70,083	11	1,200

From the above it will be observed that 38,29,805 stamps, amounting in value to Rupees 1,87,70,083, have been stamped herein excess of the previous years outturn.

4. The great increase of business subsequent on the introduction of the new Stamp and Court Fee Acts has necessitated an addition to the establishment of twelve extra hands, at a monthly cost of Rupees 219, who were engaged from 1st

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1870.*

April last, under the sanction of Government, conveyed in their Order, Revenue Department, No. 565, dated 23rd April 1870. The demand for stamps continues very heavy, averaging 40,400 per diem.

5. Several cases of forged stamps having occurred and the necessity for introducing a better and more elaborate style of bicolour stamp being apparent, a thorough investigation was made by the Board into the subject, and after much careful consideration and correspondence, three new designs of dies for Madras stamps prepared by me as noted below were adopted by the Board, and their use authorized by Government in their Proceedings, No. 3,226, dated 30th December 1869 —

For Anna values oval die.

For Rupee values round die.

For higher values octagonal die.

6. It is to be regretted that on the abolition of the Mint in June 1869, the great increase of work that has occurred in this department could not have been foreseen, otherwise doubtless provision would have been made on the permanent establishment retained for the services of workmen to keep the dies and bicolour presses in order and repair, these machines from constant use being very liable to derangement. When the Mint was in existence, these repairs were done as part of the ordinary duty of the mechanics employed in it; for the future, therefore, some contingent allowance will be necessary under this head.

7. The accounts and correspondence of this department has been considerably increased.

The present salary of the Accountant, namely, Rupees 75 a-month, is very small, considering the arduous and responsible nature of work devolving on him. This salary was considered a fair remuneration at a time when the Judicial stamps were confined to about 22,000 a-day, Bills of Exchange 200, and private documents 500. It will be apparent from the comparative statement given in paragraph 3, that the Judicial stamps have now been increased to about 40,000 a-day, Bills of Exchange 1,114, and private documents 997. This increase adds considerably to the Accountant's work, and very largely to his responsibility. During the year, the total stamps turned out amount to Rupees 228,69,320, or Rupees 187,70,084 in excess to those of the preceding year.

8. Under the above circumstances, the salary of the Accountant should, in my opinion, be raised to 100 Rupees a-month, and an Assistant Clerk, on 35 Rupees per mensem, should be attached to the department, as it is quite impossible for one man to attend to both accounts and correspondence. Work in the Assay Office during the past year having been slack, the two Writers of that department have assisted the Accountant, and but for this arrangement, I could not have cleared off the extra accounts and correspondence of the Stamp Paper Department.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Annual Statement of papers, etc., and documents stamped in the Stamp Paper Department at the Bullion Depot during Fasli 1279.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1870.*

From P. F. BELLEW, Esq., Assay Master in charge of Stamp Paper Department, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 28th September 1870, No. 154.

With reference to your Official Memorandum, No. 1,058, of the 19th instant, I have the honour to forward, in duplicate, the Budget-estimate for the Stamp Paper Department for the official year 1871-72, and to state that the increased charges therein inserted, are due to the great increase of work in the department, as explained in my Annual Report to the Board, dated 22nd August 1870, No. 133.

2. A regular Tabular Statement for the increased charges will be immediately submitted for the Board's sanction.

3. The Board will observe from the Annual Report for Fasli 1278, submitted by the Superintendent of Stamps, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, No. 158, dated 10th January 1870, that the Superintendent's salary and his establishment amount to Rupees 25,296-9-7 per annum, and contingent charges to Rupees 2,863-10-8, making in all a total of Rupees 28,160-4-3, whilst the amount in my Budget-estimate for the ensuing official year amounts to Rupees 10,136 only.

4. In Fasli 1279 or last year, the value of stamps turned out amounted to Rupees 228,69,320, against 40,99,236 turned during the previous year. The Board will here therefore see an increase of revenue of Rupees 187,70,084, which necessitates a corresponding increase in the cost of production.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—B. I. Estimates—Civil Services for the year ending 31st March 1872.

From the same Officer, dated Madras, 4th October 1870, No. 161.

Referring to paragraphs 6, 7, and 8 of my Annual Report to the Board, No. 133, dated 22nd August 1870, and to my letter, No. 154 of 28th September, I have the honour to submit for sanction a Tabular Statement in the prescribed form for increase to the Accountant and Counters, and for additional establishment required for the Stamp Paper Department.

2. I have included the increased charges in the Budget-estimate for 1871-72.

3. Two Writers of the Assay Office have hitherto given their assistance in keeping the accounts and correspondence of the Stamp Paper Department, but their services were dispensed with from the 1st instant, in consequence of a considerable reduction in that office, under orders from Government. To prevent, however, the work from falling into arrears, I have appointed the Assistant Clerk on 35 Rupees per mensem on the 1st instant, and I beg the Board will be pleased to accord their sanction to this arrangement, authorizing the Accountant-General to pass the salary of the Assistant Clerk.

4. Funds are available to meet this charge for the current official year by the savings effected in the amalgamation of the Bullion Depot with the Assay Office.

5. The services of the three temporary Counters, sanctioned in Proceedings of Government, Revenue Department, No. 565, dated 23rd April 1870, having been dispensed with from the 1st instant, it becomes necessary that the Head

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1870.*

Counter should at once be appointed, I therefore request that the Board will be pleased to authorize my employing this additional hand from the 1st instant. This charge can also be met from the source pointed above.

Enclosure No. 1.—Tabular Statement of Increase.

In the foregoing letters the Commissioner applies for the following permanent addition to the establishment of the Stamp Paper Department at a monthly cost of Rupees 75:—

	RS.
1 Assistant Clerk	35
1 Head Counter	20
2 Examiners of Stamps, at 10 Rupees each	20
	75

2. He also recommends that the salary of the Writer and Accountant should be raised from Rupees 75 to Rupees 100 a-month, and those of the three existing Counters from Rupees 15 to Rupees 18 each, and that an annual contingent allowance of Rupees 1,580 should be sanctioned for the establishment employed in keeping in order the Bicolour Machine Presses and Dies.

3. The Government are aware of the large amount of work which devolved on the offices of the Superintendent of Stamps and the Commissioner of Paper Currency, in connection with the universal issue of Bicolour stamps in supersession of embossed stamps, the division of stamps into judicial and non-judicial, and the large increase in the number of values introduced by the recent enactments Nos. XVIII. of 1869, and VII. of 1870. On the score of the increased work which devolved on the two offices, temporary establishments have been from time to time sanctioned by Government, which are still continued on a small scale.

4. It will be observed from the tabular statement, received with the Commissioner's last letter, that he has a Manager on Rupees 50 and a Writer and Accountant on Rupees 75 a-month, for correspondence and for keeping accounts and registers, and that the rest of the establishment consists of 3 Counters and some workmen.

5. The Board observe that during the greatest pressure of work in the department, the Accountant was assisted by two Writers belonging to the Assay Office, whose services have since been dispensed with in consequence of a considerable reduction in that office under orders from Government.

6. To help the Accountant, the Commissioner recommends the entertainment of an Assistant Clerk on a salary of Rupees 35 per month, as he considers it impossible for one man to attend to both accounts and correspondence.

7. Taking into consideration the increasing magnitude of the stamp operations, and the fact that there has been in consequence a general increase in the work of the department and the responsibility involved in it, the Board are of opinion that the permanent addition to the establishment is called for, and accord-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1870.*

ingly resolve to recommend, for the sanction of Government, the following hands:—

	RS.
1 Assistant Clerk	35
1 Head Counter	20
2 Examiners of Stamps, at 10 Rupees each	20
Total...	75

8. The Board do not concur with the Commissioner in the necessity for increasing the salary of the Accountant, because the Assistant Clerk now recommended, together with the Manager, should relieve him from over-work both in accounts and correspondence.

9. With regard to the proposed increase of salaries in the case of Counters, the Board observe that their duties cannot be more arduous than those of the Attenders employed in the several public offices of the Presidency, whose salaries range from 8 to Rupees 15 at the most. The present Counters are already in receipt of the maximum rate of salary allowed to the most superior men of that class.

10. Before disposing of the application for an annual contingent allowance of Rupees 1,580 on account of a Mechanical Establishment for keeping in order the Stamp Dies and Bicolour Presses, the Board desire to be furnished with more particulars. The monthly cost of this establishment would be Rupees 131-10-8, which appears to be heavy,

	RS.
1 Engine Turner...	50
1 Filer	30
1 Blacksmith	25
Total...	105

and the necessity for it is not apparent, since the permanent establishment already includes the Mechanics marginally noted at a monthly cost of Rupees 105.

11. As the services of the Assistant Clerk and Head Counter were urgently needed, the Commissioner reports having, in anticipation of the sanction of Government, engaged them from 1st October 1870. The Board request that the Government will be pleased to authorize the Accountant-General to pass the salaries of these men.

REFERRED to the Accountant-General for report as to whether the cost of the additional establishment recommended by the Board can be met from the current year's Budget provision.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
18th November 1870.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 315. From the Accountant-General, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated 28th November 1870, No. 258.

In returning the accompanying Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,502, dated the 5th instant, referred for my report, I have the honour to state that the Budget Grant under the head of Stamps, to which the cost of the proposed

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th December 1870.*

additional establishment is debitable has already been nearly exhausted, in consequence of the sales of non-judicial stamps having turned out to be larger than was anticipated at the time the Budget was prepared.

2. A transfer therefore to this head from the savings under Law and Justice will become necessary, and should Government be pleased to sanction the establishment now proposed by the Board, this office will look to its cost also being met by such transfer.

No. 310. ORDER THEREON, 15th December 1870, No. 2,040.

Separate Revenue, No. 13.
Stamps.

Before passing final orders on the above papers the Government resolve to request the Board of Revenue to report in whose charge they would propose to place the Stamping Department, now that the Office of Commissioner of Paper Currency has been transferred to the Accountant-General.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
the Accountant-General.

Ed. F. R. Dantlomas.

Rev. Sept.

*77-2040.
Pros of the Madras Govt*

Under date the 15th Decr. 1870

Read the following

papers:

Pro. Board of Revenue.

Requesting to sanction a permanent addition to Estab^t. of Stamp Paper Dept. at a monthly cost of Rs. 75.

From the Acct. General

*Reporting on the above Pds
Proceedings.*

H.E. 5th Nov. 1870 No 6502

H.E. 28th Nov. 1870 No 258

Before passing final orders on the above papers, the Govt resolve to request the Board of Revenue to report in whose charge they would propose to place the Stamping Paper Dept.

now

now that the office of
Accountant General
Paper Currency has been

transferred to the Ac-

-countant General

L. B.

to Bd. of Revenue
& Accountant General

10/24

By [Signature]

Stamp Paper Dept.

1860

1861

1862

1863

Beaufort

last