

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
5th September 1871.*

No. 34. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th August 1871, No. 3,566 :—

Read again letters from the Acting Collector of the Kistna District, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 2nd June and 20th September 1870, Nos. 3,750 and 5,809.

Read also the following letter from the Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 27th July 1871, No. 2,258.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings, dated 20th September 1870, No. 5,809, regarding the absconding of a Mohatad (village Peon) with a remittance from the village of Jonnalagaddu, Guntoor Talook, amounting to Rs. 792-12-4, I have the honour to state that the Village Chitta of daily collections, Form No. 10 Village Manual, was duly examined by the Tahsildar, and found to correspond with the amount entrusted to the village Peon. I also sent for the chitta and examined it myself. I also informed the village officials at Jamabandi that unless they took immediate steps to trace and arrest the absconding Mohatad, they would probably be made responsible for the deficient amount, since they had allowed the Vetty, who accompanied him, to return to the village, and did not take any steps to secure the safety of the remittance entrusted to the single Mohatad. Upon this, the village-officers requested that I would give them the assistance of the Police, and they agreed to use every effort to trace the absconding party. In the meantime I requested the Acting Joint Magistrate, under Section 183, Code of Criminal Procedure, to issue a proclamation for the absconding party, and, under Section 184, Code of Criminal Procedure, to attach his property, of which the Revenue authorities had already taken charge; but Mr. Woodroffe never seems to have acted on this. The Vetty's property was released from attachment according to the Board's orders.

2. The absconding Mohatad was traced by the village-officers and Police, and arrested in the Nandigama Talook, apparently returning from the Nizam's territories. On his trial before the Joint Magistrate in Case No. 11 of 1871, he admitted having received the bag of collections for delivery at the talook, though he gave the circumstances of receipt somewhat differently to prosecution witnesses. He asserted that the Vetty accompanied him the whole way to Guntoor, and added that he there handed the money bag and a letter from his Village Curnum Chinna Appayya to one Potturi Venkatappayya employed by the Tahsildar as Local Fund Overseer on the Amaravati road; that this P. Venkatappayya gave him money for food till the following day, when both Chinna Appayya and Venkatappayya gave him Rs. 60, and told him to go away to the west for eight months to allow of the matter being forgotten, and meanwhile they promised to protect his interests. That he accordingly went away, and was arrested as he was returning. The Joint Magistrate convicted the Mohatad of criminal breach of trust under Section 409, Indian Penal Code, and sentenced him to simple imprisonment for six months, rigorous imprisonment for twelve months, and to pay a fine of Rs. 150, or in default to be rigorously imprisoned for a further period of three months.

3. The next step taken by the Acting Joint Magistrate was to hold a preliminary inquiry into the charge brought by the Mohatad against Potturi Venka-

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tappayya and the Curnum Chinna Appayya, and these two were committed to the Session Court for trial on charges of abetting criminal breach of trust under Sections 409 and 114, Indian Penal Code, and of dishonestly receiving stolen property under Section 411, Indian Penal Code, but in the trial in the Session Court both these parties were acquitted.

4. When Mr. Woodroffe tried and sentenced the Mohatad, who ~~was~~ the village remittance, to pay a fine of Rs. 150, he did not pass any order that the amount should be paid to the Revenue side, and the fine when realized was therefore credited in the ordinary course to "Law and Justice." Further, as Mr. Woodroffe did not issue any proclamation with regard to the absconding Mohatad, and did not attach his property on the Criminal side, I do not see how his property, which was attached on the Revenue side, can be made available towards recovering the amount he has been convicted of stealing. He is undergoing his sentence of imprisonment, and the total amount of the fine imposed has been recovered from him. Since he cannot therefore in any way be regarded as a Revenue defaulter in respect of the amount of the remittance he misappropriated, I have therefore the honour to request that the Board will be pleased to obtain the sanction of Government for writing off to the head of "Profit and Loss" as irrecoverable the whole sum of Rs. 792-12-4.

RESOLVED that the foregoing papers be submitted to Government with the Board's recommendation that the sum of Rs. 792-12-4, being revenue-collections misappropriated by the Village Mohatad (Peon) of Jonnalagaddu, who has been since convicted and sentenced to imprisonment and fine, be written off the accounts as an 'irrecoverable' balance. It is obvious from the facts set forth by Mr. Boswell that nothing further can be done.

No. 35.

ORDER THEREON, 5th September 1871, No. 1,523.

Land Revenue.

SANCTIONED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 3,750.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 2nd June 1870.

Read the following letter from B. HORSBRUGH, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of the Kistna District, dated Masulipatam, 30th April 1870,

No. 135:—

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith an Arzi from the Guntur Tahsildar, dated 5th March last, No. 151, reporting the loss of Rupees 792-12-4, being the amount of remittance of revenue collections of Jonnalagaddu village in his talook, made between 23rd and 26th February. Tahsildar reports that the money was put by the villagers in a bag in the village on the 26th February, sealed with the seal of the Shroff, and handed over to the Village Mohatad, Yammula Veerappa, for conveyance and delivery in the Talook Cutcherry, together with the Remittance Roll; that the Mohatad gave the money bag to the village Vettyan, named Pichigadoo, son of B. Bangarugadoo, and followed him, leaving the village for Guntur at 11 A.M. on the 26th; that the said two persons not returning to them with the receipt book up to 28th February, the villagers sent for the Vettyman, and on asking him, he said that he carried the money bag as far as Reddipalliem in company with the Mohatad, there he was attacked with stomach ache and fell down, and the Mohatad took the bag, saying that he would take it to the Talook Cutcherry, the Vettyman then returned to the village; that the villagers waited for the Mohatad till the 1st March, but he did not appear, and that the money was not paid into the talook.

2. From the Tahsildar's report it appears that the Mohatad has absconded with the money in question (Rupees 792-12-4), the Police have taken the matter up, and are on the look out for the man, but I do not see any prospect of recovering the money, even if the thief is convicted.

No. 1,753.

SUBMITTED for the information of the Board of Revenue.

2. The Tahsildar has been directed to institute further inquiries into the matter and report the result, when a further detailed report will be submitted, and application made for writing off the amount of remittance in question to "Profit and Loss," should it be found to be actually irrecoverable.

MASULIPATAM,

13th May 1870.

To the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

(Signed) B. HORSBRUGH,
Acting Sub-Collector in charge.

THE Board await the further report promised in this matter.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of the Kistna District.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

*Concurred in the Jy
of the Q3 of the
the last letter of
of 1870. 19 Aug 1871
No. 3576
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.*

PROCEEDINGS, 2ND JUNE 1870, No. 3,750.

Encl.

Received

No. 3576 / Mr. R. B. 24

JUNE.

No. 3,750.

Loss of Government money,—amounting to Rupees 792-12-4, being revenue collections of Jonnalagaddu village in Guntoor Talook, Kistna District.—Further report from Collector, regarding, awaited.

Kisumu District.—Further report from Collector, regarding, awaited.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

14. Folke O'Day October 12. 1841
15. Charles accountant General

Per 1871. *Dep*
Board of Revenue.
MADRAS. *No 2831*

PROCEEDINGS, 19TH AUGUST 1871, No. 3566.

Received. *1. Sep!* *Sup 29 Aug 171* *J* *Encl. 2*

AUGUST.
No. 3,566.

Revenue collections,—amounting to Rupees 792-12-4, misappropriated by village Mohtad (peon) of Jonnalagadu in Guntoor Taluq. Kistna District,—Recommendation to Government for writing off as an "irrecoverable" balance.

C. 4^e Septbr / R. 5^e Septbr

1523
 L. J. K.
 5 Feb 1911