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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th March 1871.*

No. 135. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd March 1871 :—

Read letter from the Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th February 1871. No. 17.

THE question contained in Mr. Reade's Official Memorandum of the 11th February 1871, No. 90, was proper in itself and courteously worded, and it was one which his duty required him to ask.

2. Mr. Lister's reply is so extremely offensive and insubordinate, that the Board have no alternative but to submit it to Government, and recommend that severe notice be taken of its impropriety.

No. 136. ORDER THEREON, 9th March 1871, No. 424.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government concur in opinion with the Board that Mr. Reade did no more than his duty in calling on Mr.

Lister for explanation in regard to his extra tentage bill, and that he did so in no uncourteous manner.

2. The Board will call on Mr. Lister to withdraw his very offensive and insubordinate letter, and to make Mr. Reade such an apology in writing as the Board may deem proper, within a week, on pain of removal from office.

3. They will report the result for the information of Government.

4. Mr. Lister will be at once transferred to another district.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 3rd March 1871.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Killay, 16th February 1871, No. 47:—

I submit to the Board the accompanying copies of two memorandums* passed between Mr.

* From Collector, dated 11th instant, No. 90.
From Head-Assistant Collector, 14th instant, No. 28.

Lister and myself. The subject is Mr. Lister's tentage bill, for the past month of January. As the Board are aware, these bills from all Officers of the Revenue Department, require my countersignature or audit, before they are paid at the Treasury. I am not in the habit of examining them, but occasionally I do so; and the Deputy Collector invariably accepts my audit, and thus there is a degree of responsibility involved in the passing of these bills, from which, I fancy, no Collector can altogether free himself.

2. On signing Mr. Lister's bill voucher, I happened to observe Sarum, which I knew to be only about four miles from Tindivanam, and having myself met Mr. Lister at the latter place in the early afternoon of one of the days on which Sarum is entered, and having also accidentally heard that Mr. Lister merely drove out and back in the early mornings, and there being no mention in the bill of the distance of Sarum from his Head-quarters, I thought it my duty to call Mr. Lister's attention to the difficulty I felt in countersigning his bill without some explanation, and I can truly say I had no wish or thought to offend, much less to impugn his good faith in the matter.

3. Mr. Lister, in reply, not only protests against my interference with his extra tentage bill, but he does so in a manner and tone that seems to me to necessitate my submitting the matter to the Board, apart from his own wish for the reference, because if, as the Auditor of such bills, I am precluded from taking exception to charges, and am bound to accept and pass every bill without demur, my countersignature becomes wholly unnecessary, and I might as well be relieved from a duty which is liable, as in the present instance, to involve one in unpleasantness.

4. Mr. Lister has thought proper in his memorandum to throw out innuendoes against my own practice in regard to the charge of extra tentage, but I can with truth state, that I am very careful in making my own charge on this account; and, as to drawing the allowance when unaccompanied by tents, I am not conscious of any instance of the kind, except when I have visited Pondicherry for the day, and also when I have gone long distances, and my tents have been sent on to my final destination, on which occasions, I have not certainly had them actually with me while halting at intermediate places.

5. In paragraph 5, Mr. Lister refers, though not in so many words, to the circumstance that in one year I did the Jummahbundy of Villupuram, at Punchamadavy, while residing at Punrooty. It is quite true that in the year referred to, it being obligatory with me to make the settlement of Villupuram, I did hold it in the way described, owing to circumstances which I need not here detail, that is, I had my tents, office and private, at Punchamadavy, and I usually drove and rode over there from Punrooty in the early morning of one day, a distance of about eight miles, and remained there till late in the evening or about 7 o'clock of the following day, when I returned to Punrooty, and again the next morning I went back to Punchamadavy, returning in like manner the same or following evening, thus spending alternate nights at Punrooty until my work was over, and my records of the time will testify to the work I got through with during those days, and I drew the extra tentage because I was strictly entitled to do so. As regards Pondicherry, in reference to which Mr. Lister implies that I entered Cottacooppum in my extra tentage bill, I need only refer to past vouchers, when it will be found that Pondicherry has invariably been entered. Formerly this was not the practice, and Cottacooppum, an English village close to the French frontier, was the place entered in the Extra Tentage and Office Batta Bills, and on this coming to my notice, shortly after my first arrival in the district, I directed the practice to be discontinued, and Pondicherry has ever since been always entered in the bills when I have been there

on duty, and except for one or two days, when my tents were actually pitched at Cottacooppum for some special business, I have never on any occasion made an extra charge for visiting that Sayer station.

6. There was nothing in my call on Mr. Lister to evoke the reply he has thought fit to send me, and his remarks strike me as unofficial and offensive, but I leave to the Board to deal not only with Mr. Lister's appeal against my interference as he designates it, but also with my own protest against the style and manner in which he has taken exception to that interference.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Memorandum from the Collector of South Arcot, dated 11th February 1871, No. 90.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Memorandum from Head-Assistant Collector, dated 14th February 1871, No. 28.

The question contained in Mr. Reade's Official Memorandum of the 11th February 1871, No. 90, was proper in itself and courteously worded, and it was one which his duty required him to ask.

2. Mr. Lister's reply is so extremely offensive and insubordinate, that the Board have no alternative but to submit it to Government, and recommend that severe notice be taken of its impropriety.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. Grose
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two original enclosures.

Copy to the Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Extra Tentage Bill—of Mr. Lister, Head Assistant Collector of South Arcot, for January 1871.—Correspondence between this officer and Collector on subject of, submitted to Government, with recommendation that severe notice be taken of impropriety of Mr. Lister's letter.

MARCH.
No. 951.

Received

9 March 1871
424

PROCEEDINGS, 3RD MARCH 1871, No. 951.

MADRAS.

BOARD OF REVENUE,

1871.

738

No 47

From

Charles W. Reade Esq^r

Collector of South Arcot

To James Grose Esq^r

Acting Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

From Collector
dated 11 Inst No 90
From 12 April 1871
14 Inst No 28.

I submit to the Board the accompanying copies of two memos passed between Mr Lister and myself. The subject is Mr Lister's tentage Bill for the past month of January. As the Board are aware these Bills from all officers of the Revenue Department require my counter-signature or audit before they are paid at the Treasury, I am not in the habit of examining them, but occasionally I do so, and the Deputy Collector invariably accepts my audit, and thus there is a degree of responsibility involved in the passing of these Bills from which, I fancy, no Collector can altogether free himself.

2. On signing Mr Lister's Bill Voucher, I happened to observe Larum which I know to be only 4 miles from Indivannum, and having myself met Mr Lister at the latter place in the early afternoon of one of the days on which Larum is entered, and having also accidentally heard that Mr Lister merely drove out and back in the early morning, and there being no mention in the Bill of the distance of Larum from his Head Quarters, I thought it my duty to call Mr Lister's attention to the difficulty I felt in countersigning his Bill without some explanation, and I can truly say I had no wish or thought to offend, much less to impugn his good faith in the matter.

Mr

3. Mr Lister in reply, not only protects against my interference with his extra Tentage Bill, but he does so in a manner and tone that seems to me to necessitate my submitting the matter to the Board apart from his own wish for the reference, because, if, as the Auditor of such Bills, I am precluded from taking exception to Charges, and am bound to accept and pass every Bill without demur, my countersignature becomes wholly unnecessary, and I might as well be relieved from a duty which is liable, as in the present instance, to involve me in unpleasantness.

4. Mr Lister he thought proper

proper in his Memoirs to throw
out invendoes against my own
practice in regard to the charge
of Extra Tentage, but I can
with truth state that I am
very Careful, ^{in making my own charges} on this account,
and as to drawing the allow-
ance when unaccompanied
by Tent. I am not conscious
of any instance of the
kind except when I have
visited Pondicherry for the
day, and also when I have
gone long distances, and
my tents have been sent
on to my final desti-
-nation, on which occasions

I

I have not certainly had them actually
with me while halting at intermediate
places.

5. In para 5 Mr Dister refers, though
not in so many words, to the circumstance
that in one year I did the Jambund of
Villupuram at Panchamadavy while residing
at Poonrootty. It is quite true that in the
year referred to, it being obligatory with me
to make the settlement of Villupuram, I
did hold it in the way described owing
to circumstances which I need not here
detail, that is, I had my Tent, Office
and Private, at Panchamadavy, and I usually
drove and rode over there from Poonrootty in the
early morning of one day a distance of
about 8 miles and remained there till late in
the evening or about 7 O'clock of the following
day, when I returned to Poonrootty, and
again the next morning I went back to
Panchamadavy returning in like manner
the same or following evening, thus spend-
ing alternate nights at Poonrootty until
my work was over; and my records of the
time will testify to the work I got thro'
with during those days, and I drew the
Extra Tentage because I was strictly en-
titled to do so. As regards Pondicherry
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in reference to which Mr Lister implies that I entered Cottacooppum in my Extra Tentage Bill, I need only refer to past vouchers when it will be found that Pondicherry has invariably been entered. Formerly this was not the practice, and Cottacooppum, an English Village close to the French frontier, was the place entered in the Extra Tentage and Office Batta Bills, and on this coming to my notice shortly after my first arrival in the District I directed the practice to be discontinued, and Pondicherry has ever since been always entered in the Bills when I have been there on duty, and except for one or two days when my Tents were actually pitched at Cottacooppum for some special business, I have never on any occasion made an Extra charge for visiting that Sayer Station.

6. There was nothing in my call on Mr Lister to evoke the reply he has thought fit to send me, and his remarks strike me as unofficial and offensive, but I leave to the Board to deal not only with Mr Lister's appeal

114
against my interference as he designates it, but also with my own protest against the style and manner in which he has taken exception to that interference.

South Arcot Collector's Office. - } I have &c
Camp Hillay 18th February 1871 } (sd) C. W. Reade
Collector

True Copy

J. Grose
Acting Secretary

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.
dated 3^d March 1871.

Read letter from the Collector of South Arcot
dated 16th February 1871 No 47.

The question contained in Mr. Reade's
Official Memorandum of the 11th February 1871
No 90 was proper in itself and courteously
worded, and it was one which his duty required
him to ask.

Mr. Lister's reply is so extremely offensive
and insubordinate, that the Board have no alterna-
-tive but to submit it to Government, and
recommend that severe notice be taken of its
impropriety.

(True Extract)

J. G. Gole
As Secretary

To,

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

with copy of Collector's letter & 2 original
enclosures

Ch. M. 1. 14

Enclosure in Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue
to the Secretary to Govern-
ment, Revenue Depart-
ment, dated 3^d March
1871.
Copy of letter from the
Collector of South Arcot
submitting with remarks
evidence of correspondence
between himself and the Sec-
retary on the subject
of latter's charge bill for
last month.

Dr. Bates.

Dr. Bates. 3 March 71.

Such correspondence relative
to the Extra Duties of
Mr. Bates. Dr. Bates. Dr. Bates.

I think the Dr. characterizes
the correspondence as it
deserves. J. B.
4. Mar. 71.

The Chief signature being requisite
under the rules. It is not often. b
but obliging that he should take for
himself of the correctness of each &
every charge or claim. Mr. Herde did
his more than his duty in seeking
explanations from Mr. Lister - and
he sought it in no uncourteous way.

I think Mr. Lister should
be required to withdraw his
very offensive & intemperate
letter and to ~~pro~~ make Mr. Herde

Dec: 1871 Copy

W. B. 3/38

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue.

March 3^d 1871

Dr. Bates 3^d 8th 80

Dr. Bates 4th 80

Dr. Bates 11th 80

Dr. Bates 11th 80

on subject of extra
duties bill of head
concurrent action for
of the Board of Revenue
submitted to you

such an apology as the
Board deem proper - within
a week - on pain of removal
from office.

Mr. Lyden is likewise
braving counter charges against
Mr. Kende - but these can be
separately disposed of.

R

J. D. S.

R. D.

I agree with Mr. Kende's remarks entirely
but I don't think it possible even after
an apology has been made that Mr.
Lyden can properly be left in
official relations with Mr. Kende.
I would therefore suggest that he
should be removed to another
position of corresponding grade.

A. P.

Revenue Department.

No. 1424

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 9th March 1871.

Read the following letter No. 1 of the

Board of Revenue.

Subj: correspondence on
subject of extra tentage bill
of Head. App. (M^r. of South
Arcot &c

H. E. 3rd March 1871

J. D. S.

The Gov^t. concurs in
opinion with the Board
that M^r. Reade did no
more than his duty in
calling on M^r. Kuter for
explanation in regard to
his extra tentage bill
and that he did so
in no uncourteous
manner

manner.

2. The Board will call on Mr. Lister to withdraw his very offensive and insubordinate letter, and to make Mr. Reade such an apology in writing as the Board may deem proper, within a week, on pain of removal from office.

3. They will report the result for the information

information of Govt

4. Mr. Lister will be at once transferred to another district



14 Feb 1859



18/352136