

1780

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th August 1872.*

No. 70. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th July 1872, No. 1,315 :—

Read the following letters :—

From W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th June 1872, No. 92.

ENCLOSED is a copy of a letter from the Officiating Director-General of Post Offices in India, wherein that official places his own construction on the term "Official Gazette" as used in the Resolution of the Government of India, Financial Department, No. 911, dated February 12th, 1872.

2. That Resolution was communicated by Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department, No. 103, dated February 26th, 1872, to all Collectors, from which I presumed, as I have already informed the Board, that Official Gazettes included District Gazettes. There is, moreover, nothing in the Resolution to justify the exception made by the Director-General that District Gazettes may not be franked, but must be prepaid by postage labels when issued to public officers.

3. If these charges are allowed District Gazettes will prove expensive publication to Government and private subscribers. The Board have already pointed out that the extra charge upon the latter may, to a great extent, be avoided by bundles of Gazettes for private subscribers being franked to a Tahsildar for distribution. Such a plan for avoiding the extra charge of postage is no doubt expedient; but that is all that can be said in its favour. However that may be, such a course cannot be followed now if the Director-General is to be accepted as an authority.

4. I recommend that the question, as to whether District Gazettes should or should not be franked when issued to public officers, be referred to Government.

—
ENCLOSURE No. 1.

CIRCULAR No. 13 of 1872-73.

Dated Madras, 7th May 1872.

The following is published for information and guidance with reference to Circular No. 84, dated 4th March 1872 :—

From F. R. HOGG, Esq., Officiating Deputy Director-General of the Post Office of India, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated Calcutta, 9th April 1872, No. 206.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 316-4,631, dated 25th March 1872, and in reply to state that the Financial Department Resolution, No. 911, dated 2nd February 1872, (*vide* this Office Circular No. 92, dated 10th February 1872,) applies only to Gazettes issued direct by the Government of India, or by local Governments or Administrations, and not to the Gazettes published by Collectors for district circulation.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. D. HORSLEY,
Collector,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th August 1872.*

From J. H. MASTER, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Bellary, 15th June 1872, No. 179.

WITH reference to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 621, dated 17th April last, and to Proceedings No. 2,672 of the 12th idem, I have the honour to bring to the notice of the Board that the system of forwarding District Gazettes in bulk to the Tahsildars was in force till the reduction of postage on newspapers took place at the beginning of the year.

2. Sent in bulk the Post Office charges the packets at book-post rates, viz., one anna per ten tolas. Sent as newspapers separately they are charged at half an-anna per ten tolas, and the Gazette is seldom much under that weight.

3. On the Regular Post lines, therefore, the Gazettes are being sent separately, and on the District Post lines they are sent in bulk.

4. The postage incurred on the Regular Post lines has been paid hitherto by this office. No order has yet been given to levy it from the subscribers; if the latter have to pay it, the subscription will be more than doubled and without doubt we shall lose the majority of the subscribers.

5. I request that the matter may again be taken into consideration.

THE Board resolve to request Government to obtain from the Government of India a declaration that District Gazettes in this presidency are Official Gazettes within the meaning of the Resolution of the Government of India, 2nd February 1872, No. 911. There is nothing in the Resolution to warrant the restricted interpretation put upon it by the postal authorities.

2. Under the orders of Government now in force, subscribers at reduced rates (and of course officials) get the District Gazettes free of postage. Further, subscribers at full rates may be relieved of postage by the system of sending the Gazettes in bulk to the Tahsildars by whom they are distributed. Subscribers at full rates who do not take their Gazettes through the Tahsildars have to pay postage, and this will now be prepaid at newspaper rates, with ordinary stamps, from deposits to be made by such subscribers.

3. Where the postage has been remitted (*i.e.*, Gazettes for officials and subscribers at reduced rates, and for full subscribers when sent in bulk), the Gazettes have hitherto been sent under frank, and as it is desirable that this system should continue, the Board wish that the Resolution of the Government of India above cited should be made applicable to District Gazettes. Until this is done, the Gazettes to officials and those sent in bulk to the Tahsildars for distribution must be prepaid by Service Postage Stamps, the cost of which will be borne by Government. The Gazettes sent in bulk should go by book-post. The Board have issued instructions to this effect in their Proceedings, 12th April 1872, Miscellaneous No. 2,672, and 10th July 1872, No. 1,258; but when the packets are sent entirely by District Post lines and pass through no Imperial Post Office, they may be franked without stamps as heretofore.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th August 1872.*

No. 71. ORDER THEREON, 9th August 1872, No. 1,180.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government see no need for any reference to the Government of India inasmuch as the Circular of the Director-General, Post Offices, is clearly inapplicable to this Presidency in which the District Gazettes are not "published by Collectors for district circulation," but are published under orders of Government for circulation throughout a much wider area.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th April 1872.

Read the following letter from G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 22nd March 1872, No. 991:—

ABSTRACT.—Bringing to notice that the new postal rules are likely very largely to interfere with the useful publication of the District Gazettes furnished to private parties.

THERE is nothing 'new' in the charge of postage on District Gazettes sent to private subscribers; but it may still be avoided to a great extent by the system described in paragraph 4 of G. O., No. 2,958 dated 28th November 1865.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of the Kistna District.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

Rev. 2556/72

No. 1,315.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th July 1872.

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No. 2,672, and 10th July 1872, No. 1,258; but when the packets are sent entirely by District Post lines and pass through no Imperial Post Office, they may be franked without stamps as heretofore.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. H. Master
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, R. D.,
with copies of Board's Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 2,672 of 12th April 1872,
and No. 1,258 of 10th July 1872.

Copy to the Collector of Cuddapah.
" to the Collector of Bellary.
" to all other Collectors.
" to the Postmaster-General, Madras.

