Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th September 1873.

No. 218. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th August 1873, No. 1,653 :—

Read the following papers :—

From the Hon. V. RAMIENGAR, C.S.I., Superintendent of Stamps, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 28th July 1873, No. 966.

In acknowledging the receipt of your docket, dated 16th ultimo, No. 3,668, communicating an Order of the Government of India of the 22nd May 1873, No. 536, I have the honour to inquire whether it is intended that effect should be given to the proposal of the Committee appointed to consider the best method of guarding the forgery of stamped papers that special adhesive stamps should be used in the place of the present impressed stamps for hoondies.

2. As the Board are aware, the special water-marked paper imported from England for hoondy or bill stamps is at present sent, in the first instance, to the Stamping Department and there impressed with a blue-and-black stamp ; it is next counterstamped in this office and then despatched to the districts. The proposal of the Committee, as I understand it, is that in the place of this bi-colour impressed stamp the bill-paper should have affixed to it the special adhesive stamps now used in the case of Bills of Exchange and certain other documents presented in the Private Goods Department of this office and defaced with a stamped machine before issue to the districts. Immediate effect cannot be given to this change with my present stock of special adhesive stamps. A considerable addition to it will be necessary, and I beg accordingly to submit an emergent indent for transmission to England. At present I have no special labels of 1 Anna value. They have never been supplied, but a large quantity of it will be required for the hoondies and is included in the indent.

Vide Resolution of the Governor-General in Council, published at pages 182 and 183 of the *Gazette of India*, dated 18th March 1871.

3. The aggregate number of impressed hoondy stamps supplied to the districts during the last three years amounted to 6,26,281, giving an average of 2,08,760 per annum or 17,396 per mensem. Allowing twenty working days in the month, it will be necessary to have 869 bills prepared daily by affixing the required values of the special stamps to each bill and then defacing them with the stamping machine. From the experience acquired in the Private Goods Department, in which these labels are, as above stated, already used, I calculate that two parties of three men each will be required to prepare the daily average of 870 bills. One of the three men will detach the labels from the sheets and hand them to another, who as fast as he receives them will wet the back of each label and pass it on to the third man, who will affix it to the paper. Thus employed the three men will be able to prepare 400 or, say, 500 bills at the outside per diem. Nearly twice this number being the quantity required for issue, six workers will be required altogether. I would fix the pay of these men as follows:—

		RS.	A.	P.
2 men at 10 Rupees		20	0	0
2 ,, at 8 ,, ...		16	0	0
2 ,, at 7 ,, ...		14	0	0
6	Total...	50	0	0

A Clerk will be needed to keep the daily account of the stamps issued and of the bills prepared and to look after the men while at work, and as this Clerk, entrusted, as he will be, with stamps every day, will have to give ready-money security, say for 500 Rupees, I would fix his salary at 35 Rupees per mensem. The total cost, then, of the additional establishment which will be required is—

	RS.	A.	P.
6 workers costing	50	0	0
1 Clerk	35	0	0
Total...	85	0	0

85 Rupees per mensem, or Rupees 1,020 per annum, and for this accordingly I request sanction.

4. As this office is still in a state of transition owing to the changes already introduced and still pending, I propose that the additional hands above specified should be entertained temporarily till the office establishment is duly revised, which it must be on the introduction of the still-impending change affecting the blue and black stamps used under the Government Stamp Act.

5. As the Stamping Department will be relieved of a portion of their work by the substitution of adhesive labels for the present impressed stamps, I applied to the officer in charge of that department to know whether any reduction could be effected in the establishment now at his disposal in the event of impressed stamps being dispensed with for hoondies. I enclose the correspondence (to be returned) on the subject, from which it will be perceived that no reduction is considered practicable unless my requisitions for non-judicial stamps for supply to the districts can be confined to 10,000 or 12,000 a day. I cannot at present undertake to limit my indents in this manner. The proportion of bill stamps to the stamps of all other descriptions supplied by the Stamping Department during the last year is shown in the margin.

	No.
Blue and Black Stamps	23,60,676
Bills of Lading	12,525
Private goods, both blue and black and red and black	2,72,244
Total...	26,45,445
Bill or Hoondy Stamps which is 6·089 per cent. on the other stamps.	1,61,100

6. The temporary establishment applied for will be entertained only after the receipt of the stamps included in the indent now submitted.

Enclosures Nos. 1 to 3.—Indents for Stamps.

Enclosure No 4.—Correspondence between the Superintendent of Stamps and the Commissioner of Paper Currency in charge of Paper Stamping Department.

No. 1,034.

Official Memorandum.

With reference to the Official Memorandum from the Acting Sub-Secretary, dated 6th instant, the undersigned begs to explain that stamping does not go on all the year round. It commences in each quarter generally about the middle of the first month (for the District Indents do not come in in any numbers before that time), and is over by about the end of the third. The daily requisitions of this office on the Stamping Department vary according to the requirements of the districts, and are generally for 15,000 or 18,000 stamps, never for less; but they are sometimes for 21,000 or even 24,000. For instance, stamping commenced in the current quarter on the 15th ultimo; the daily indents on the Stamping Department have since been for 18,000 rolls, but as some very heavy indents have come in from districts, and also a few supplemental emergent requisitions, the rate of stamping has had to be raised since Tuesday last to 21,000. As soon as these more-pressing demands are met it may be practicable to reduce the indents to 18,000 again.

2. If the quantity required for the whole year could be equally spread over 300 working days, it is true that no more than between 8,000 and 9,000 stamps would be required daily; but, as every Saturday is devoted to counting the paper required for the next week's issue, stamping, while it continues, goes on only for five days in the week; and allowing for the Christmas and Easter vacations, and the native holidays which so frequently intervene, and also allowing for the intervals which pass without any stamping between the closing of work in one quarter and its commencement in the next, and which vary in duration according to circumstances, the number of working days, so far as stamping is concerned, is very much reduced. In the past twelve months

there was stamping on 150 days; the total number of non-judicial stamps supplied by the Stamping Department in that period was 23,60,676; the daily average was, therefore, 15,738.

Madras, 8th August 1873.

(Signed) V. RAMIENGAR, Superintendent of Stamps.

To the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

Submitted for the orders of Government whether the suggestion made by the Committee is to be carried out or not.

2. If it is, the proposals of the Superintendent of Stamps have the Board's approval. It appears impossible to effect any saving by reduction of the Stamping Establishment in the Accountant-General's office.

No. 219. Order thereon, 25th September 1873, No. 1,037.

Separate Revenue, No. 10.
Stamp.

The Indent submitted by the Superintendent of Stamps will be forwarded to the Secretary of State through the Government of India; but the use of adhesive stamps for hoondies may be postponed until the revision of the establishment consequent on this and other impending changes can be definitely settled.

2. The Government observe that the work of stamping was crowded into 150 days, and desire to be informed why it cannot be steadily followed each day in anticipation of the district Indents. They observe that were it spread over 250 days, the reduction mentioned by the Officiating Assistant Accountant-General could probably be effected.

(True Extract.)

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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No. _____

INDENT OF STORES required for the Stamp Department at the

Presidency of Madras for the service of the Indian Government.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Stores enumerated in this Indent are absolutely required for the Service of the Stamp Department for a period of Twelve Months; and I further certify that I have by a personal Inspection of Books and Stores satisfied myself that they comprise the least possible quantity necessary for the above period.

Dated the 28th day of July 1873, at Madras

Sy^d V. Ramiengar
(Signature.)
Supt. of Stamps.

—The Indent should be paged, and the Signature be also annexed to the last line of the Indent.

CEIVED by the DIRECTOR-GENERAL, in England, the _____ day of _____ 187 .

MADRAS.

Indent No.

Dated Department.

Description of Stores.	Established Proportion.	Balance in Store.	Due on former Indents.	Quantity now Indented for.	Remarks with reference to the Stores Indented for.	Price, if obtainable on the spot.	Shipped, or under provision.	Proposed to be provided.	Remarks by the Director-General.
	Stamps	Stamps	Stamps	Stamps					
Special Adhesive Stamps									
1 Anna	120000	"	"	360000					
2 Annas	15000	19175	"	25000					
3 — "	30000	15829	"	75000					
4 — "	20000	25294	"	35000					
6 — "	25000	5829	"	70000					
8 — "	15000	15571	"	30000					
12 — "	20000	4615	"	56000					
1 Rupee	15000	13448	"	32000					
2 Rupees	5000	6331	"	10000					
3 — "	5000	2290	"	13000					
4 — "	2000	5059	"	1000					
6 — "	1500	2832	"	2000					
9 — "	500	271	"	1250					
10 — "	1500	2779	"	2000					
25 — "	100	140	"	200					

Required for Bills of Exchange or Boondies Vide order of Government of India dated 22nd May 1873 No. 536.

Signed W. Remmington
Supdt of Stamps.

Note.—The Red Ink columns to be left blank, for filling up in England.

Pro: Board of Revenue

Letter from Supt. of Stamps regarding Stamps for Woondies.

No 1653 / 25 Aug. 1873, No 1653

Memo for Orders

In June last a suggestion made by the Committee of Council to consider the best method of guarding against the forgery of stamped papers was communicated to the Supt. of Stamps. This suggestion was that special adhesive stamps should be used for Woondies, being fixed to the water-marked paper during disposal by the Supt. of Stamps who would then issue to Custodi Treasuries.

2. The Supt. of Stamps now reports to the Board that if immediate effect is to be given to this suggestion he will

Ex. (Financial) 783
dated 4th June 73.

Lucas
25 Sept 1873
Sept 1027

require more adhesive
stamps for which he
accordingly submits an
estimate in detail
and will also need
an extra establishment
costing £5 10s per annum.
This establishment
he would rely entirely
upon supernumeraries
pending a revision of
that part of the whole office
which he remarks must
be undertaken "on the
introduction of the still
impending change
affecting the blue &
black stamps".

3. He does not say
what change he
refers to but it is
submitted that the
change from unperforated
to adhesive stamps
for Newspapers is not
one of pressing
necessity but may

Yes. but he must
let the stamps
be in use, without
delay. J. D.S.

† Vide Supt's O. to C.
B.O.R. dated 8th Augt 73.

But are they not
otherwise employed?
Better ascertain J.D.S.

⊙ At the lower rate
of £10,000 daily 250
days would be sufficient
& this leaves a wide margin
for Sundays, holidays, &c
Lee.

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be safely postponed
until the revision of
the Supt's establishment
and of that of the
Stamping Department
under the Commissioners
of Paper currency are
taken up.

4. It is observed that
the latter officer states
that if the Supt: could
reduce his demand to
10 or 12,000 units a day
the establishment
might be reduced by
Rs 50 a month. If
seems that there are
many days in the
year on which the
establishment does
no stamping. If this
were altered & the
work not all hurried
into 150 days thus
precipitating the
maintenance of an
establishment sufficient
to work two papers
the saving might be
made but the Supt:
prefers to wait for a

not anticipate the
Requirements of the
Districts by keeping
Stamps in Store.

Sec.

Memo: for Orders

Boards Proceedings &c
Letter from Supt of Stamps
regarding Stamps for Hoondies

1037

Revenue Dept.
15 Sy

No 1037

Pros of the Madras Govt

Under date the 25 Sept. 1873.

Read the following
Pros of the Board of Revenue

Subms: to Govt Letter from Supt of Stamps enquiring whether it is intended that special adhesive stamps should be used for Hoondies in place of impressed stamps; &c

M.E. 25 Augt 1873, No 1653

The Indent submitted by the Supt of Stamps will be forwarded to the Secretary of State through the Govt of India, but the use of adhesive stamps for Hoondies may be postponed until the revision of the establishment consequent on this and other impending changes

Can

191

c 16 Sept 73 h. 17 Sept h.c. 23/9 h 25/9

can be definitely settled.

2. The Govt observe that the work of stamping was crowded into 150 days and desire to be informed why it cannot be steadily persisted with in anticipation of the District indents. They observe that were it spread over 250 days the reduction mentioned by the Offg: Accountant General could probably be effected.

3/30

4 B of J Rumsmith & Eale
Offg 4-10-72

1886

Despatch Stamps for Mauritius

20

c. 28 Sept. 53 to 25 Sept.