1071

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 6th October 1873.

Read again G. O., No. 251, dated 4th March 1873.
,, ,, ,, 456, ,, 6th May ,,

No. 42. Read also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd August 1873, No. 1636 :—

Read again letter from the Collector of Nellore, dated 14th June 1873, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 11th July 1873, No. 1,259.

Read also the following letters :—

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 24th July 1873, No. 425.

I HAVE the honour, with reference to paragraph 3 of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 17th April last, No. 585, to report that all the officers who have been consulted in the matter speak favourably of the transfer of the District Post to the Imperial Postal Department. The present system is generally liked by the people, and is reported to work better than the former (District Post).

2. The Taluq Sheristadar in charge of the Arcot Taluq however, reports that people do not like the system in consequence of either slow delivery or loss of letters, but states at the same time that he has received no complaints on the subject, either written or verbal.

3. The Narrainavanam and Wallajah Sub-Magistrates report that when letters have to be delivered at a distance, over fifteen miles from the Post Town, considerable delay takes place, in many cases, exceeding fifteen days ; but this, I should think, was the case under the old system.

4. The Wandewash Tahsildar recommends that the postal line between Tindivanam and Wandewash should be re-opened to avoid the great delay that takes place in the arrival of letters at Southern Stations at present. If this be unobjectionable, I beg the matter may receive the favourable consideration of the Board.

5. The Chittoor Tahsildar seems to think that neither the present system nor the old one is sufficient for the requirements of his taluq. He proposes that the Village Munsif of each village in which a Police Station is placed should be made a Rural Postmaster, remunerated by a commission on the sale of lables, and that he should have one peon, on a salary of Rupees 5 a month, for the carriage of letters. To regulate the whole, he proposes a Taluq Postmaster on Rupees 10 a month. This would entail an expenditure of Rupees 50 for the taluq, and he considers that the receipts from correspondence would more than cover this. As he counts, however, upon Police correspondence being sent by the post, he does not seem to be aware that the beat Constables convey such correspondence. One great reason for his recommending this arrangement is, that he finds it difficult now to send out his official correspondence rapidly, and has to employ a large number of peons in carrying his letters about among the villages.

6. In my opinion the plan of making Munsifs Postmasters is undesirable, they cannot be relied on, nor do I think they would be satisfied with a mere commission on the sale of stamps, which would in most cases be extremely trifling.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 17th July 1873, No. 223.

WITH reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th April 1873, No. 585, I have the honour to report that the change sanctioned in G. O., dated 23rd March 1872, No. 503, has not produced any important result in this district. The only complaint made is that branch Post Offices cannot send bearing letters direct to other branch offices, but must send them through a Head Office, an arrangement which causes great delay.

2. It remains for the Revenue Department to devise some system of letter delivery to connect the villages with the Post Offices which have already been established. Mr. Bliss proposes a scheme for this purpose in the enclosed letter, dated 30th June, No. 193, and I recommend that his plan be tried in the Sub-Division. It may prove sufficient for existing wants in Government taluqs, though I believe it cannot be worked in the large Zemindaries.

3. To secure to ryots the power of buying stamps in their villages, Mr. Bliss proposes to allow a commission of 2 or 3 Annas in the rupee to certain Nattamgars. This would probably

effect the desired object, but so liberal an allowance is not likely to be sanctioned. The demand for stamps in remote villages is small and uncertain, and cannot easily be met, but the Nattamgars of the large villages might be encouraged to keep stamps by an allowance of discount at the rate of 1 Anna in the rupee.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, dated Palni, 30th June 1873, No. 193.

WITH reference to your foot-note to Board's Proceedings, No 585, dated the 17th April last, I have the honour to inform you that, so far as I know, the transfer of the supervision of the District Post to the officials of the Imperial Postal Department has had no effect whatever ; either good or bad. The Post Office still remains entirely useless to the great majority of the people, as it always was, and always will be, until some scheme for the distribution and collection of letters in the villages is set on foot.

2. In his letter, embodied in Board's Proceedings No. 4,545, dated 30th October 1871, Mr. Crole has sketched such a scheme, which I have no doubt would answer well, though I believe the same end might be even more cheaply secured by utilizing the bi-weekly Village Circle Tappals established under the orders, marginally noted, for the carriage of private as well as of public correspondence.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 5,795, dated 19th September 1870.

3. To this end I would propose that a number of tin post boxes, of about the size of an ordinary octavo volume be made up, with slits in their tops to admit letters and depressions in their sides to receive seals, which would thus be preserved from intentional and accidental injury. Two of these would be issued (sealed) to the Nattamgar of each village Circle Casbah, and he would hang one up outside his house for the receipt of letters. On the tappal leaving, he would send the box in with any letters there might be in it, and hang the other up ; and so with each box, turn and turn about. The boxes being small and light, half a dozen of them even would form no appreciable addition to the weight to be carried by the Taliaries, whose employment in this way would obviate the necessity and the cost of engaging special runners.

4. On arrival at the Taluq Cutcherry, the boxes would be sent to the Post Office to be opened, the contents taken out, and the boxes re-sealed and returned. The Taliaries would at the same time receive, either direct, or (which would be preferable) through a Postal Gumastah in the taluq, sealed packets containing the letters which might have accumulated since last despatch for the villages of his Circle. The letters for each village, would be in a separate packet, and accompanied by a Chellan, and it would be the duty of the Nattamgar of each village to see to the delivery of such letters as might so reach him, and to take the signatures of the addressees in the Chellans which he would return in due course by the Tappal Taliari next despatched by him.

5. This scheme would provide for a postal despatch and delivery twice in the week in each village of the country, and would, for many years, I have no doubt, suffice to meet the reasonable requirements of the people. The expense would be a mere trifle. For a taluq like Dindigul it might amount to Rupees 10 or 15 for making up post boxes, once for all, and Rupees 7 per mensem, to pay a Tappal Gumastah in the Taluq Cutcherry afterwards. Even if no increase of correspondence and consequent profit resulted, it is not much to ask for so trifling a grant from Government to facilitate the correspondence of a population of, on an average in each taluq, some 2,50,000 people who now, it may be said, derive no benefit whatever from the Government monopoly of the carriage of letters, which causes a dead loss every year to be paid by the people, and can only be made profitable by some scheme which will connect the Post Office with the masses.

6. Two objections only can I see to my proposals. The first is, that it is no good establishing these rural Post Offices, if I may so call them, without the provision of some agency for the sale of stamps for the people to put on their letters ; and, the second, that the delivery of letters might be neglected by the Nattamgars.

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7. As to the first, I would propose that the Nattamgars of Village Circle Cusbahs who would keep the letter boxes, should be appointed Vendors of postal labels, and remunerated for the present by a commission of 2 or 3 Annas in the rupee. It may be objected that this high rate of commission might lead to fraud, by Nattamgars buying stamps and re-selling them to existing Vendors, who are only entitled to a lower rate of discount, and dividing the profit. This would, however, be a matter very easy of detection, by comparison between the average number of stamps purchased by any Nattamgar and the average number of letters received from his village. And if it were found that his *bona fide* sales, as thus checked, so increased as to give him more than a fair remuneration for his trouble, the rate of commission allowed him might be reduced, and it would be time to consider the question of establishing a regular Post Office in a place where such a considerable development of correspondence, as would thus be indicated, had taken place.

8. As to the objection that Nattamgars would not take the trouble to deliver letters, I would remark that I am now in the habit of sending through Nattamgars notices to ryots to appear in Darkhast, etc., cases, which I find are regularly delivered to the addressees, as is proved by their appearance on the appointed days : and I don't see why letters sent out with a Chellan should not be delivered with equal regularity. If not, a stimulus might be given to the Thoties by allowing them to charge a fee of 3 Pies on each letter delivered, under existing rules. But I do not think this would be necessary.

9. Should this scheme commend itself to the Board and Government, I should be glad to make the experiment of carrying it out in the Sub-Division. If it was found to answer after a fair trial, it might gradually be extended to other taluqs and districts.

From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th July 1873, No. 374.

IN reply to Board's Proceedings, No. 585, dated 17th April 1873, I have the honour to inform you, that the District Post now travels with greater despatch and punctuality since it has been under the charge of the Inspecting Postmaster. Several improvements in the lines traversed have been effected, and some useless offices abolished. I should be very sorry to see the District Post re-transferred to the charge of the Revenue Officers.

2. As to the delivery of letters, we have some difficulty in Tinnevelly where there are but few Taliaries ; the letters were formerly delivered by the Kavalgars, but as the latter are private and not public servants, their services cannot be depended on.

3. In the Settlement now in progress, one or more Taliaries will be appointed to each village, and the system of letter delivery will then be improved. As an experiment, the Inspecting Postmaster has appointed rural messengers, and I do not think that anything further can be done for the present.

4. I enclose a copy of the Inspecting Postmaster's letter.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From E. H. GREGORY, Esq., Inspector of Post Offices, 12th Division, to R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevelly, dated Palamcottah, 8th July 1873, No. 773.

IN reply to your docket No. 707, dated 25th ultimo, forwarding Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 585, dated 17th April 1873, I have the honour to furnish some information regarding the District Post and its working in the Tinnevelly District.

2. That post under the control of the Revenue authorities till then, was taken charge of by me on the 1st April 1871, though it was not formally sanctioned, and handed over to the Postal Department till April of the following year.

3. There were in all thirteen offices when I first took charge ; of these Gungigondan (1) the Huzur (2) Watrap (3) were closed. The first and third were closed since the covers for delivery through them were very few, and the revenue derived did not cover even one-fifth of the cost of establishment. The Huzur Post Office was not necessary, and since it involved a monthly expenditure of Rupees (30) thirty, it too was closed : though these offices were disestablished, adequate provision was made to meet existing wants, both as regards official and private correspondence.

4. One other office, viz., that at Alencolum was also closed since the covers to and from did not average more than two or three daily. The wants of this place have been met by other arrangements. The services of the Gumastah were retained, and he was attached to the Inspecting Postmaster's Office to carry on the Tamil correspondence in connection with District Postmasters, and help in other District Post work.

5. There has been change in the routes as well. Some lines have been closed and others have been re-arranged. It is unnecessary to detail *all* the changes. I shall hence simply mention one or two of the more important as briefly as may be. The line from Strivelliputtur to Sankaranainarcovil was abolished since I found that though the road establishment involved a monthly expenditure of 25 Rupees, the inter-communication between the two places was so limited that very often the runners started with an empty bag ; as an instance where a line has been re-arranged, I would mention the Palamcottah to Tenkasy line which instead of going *via* Alencolum as before, now goes *via* Shermadevi, the Sub-Collector's Head-quarters and Ambasamudram a Cusbah station. This change has been of manifest advantage since Shermadevi letters from Madras, etc., are now delivered the same day instead of the next as formerly, while letters from all three stations are now exchanged without having to pass through Palamcottah in the first instance : again a cover posted at Ambasamudram, intended for Tenkasy, reaches that place on the following morning and not on the third day as under the old arrangement. This will, I think, suffice to illustrate the principle by which I have been guided in carrying out any changes.

6. *Vide* paragraph 3 of Mr. Barlow's letter to the Board. Great stress is laid upon "letter delivery through the Village and Taluq Agency." That agency is not available in Tinnevelly, and the same may be said, I believe, of all districts in which the Inams have been resumed and where Kavilgars are paid a small monthly sum in lieu ; when I first took charge of the District Posts in April 1871, I drew up a set of rules in view to the more remote rural hamlets, etc., being reached by postal communication, and as an inducement to the Kavalgars, provided that they should receive 3 *Pies* on every cover delivered through their means. This was a modification of the system advocated by Mr. Pennington when he was Sub-Collector of Tinnevelly. His plan was to allow the Kavalgars to collect a like fee on every cover *received for posting*. This change was introduced because I found that the people were both to pay the fee and preferred walking the distance or delaying postage till occasion took them to a post town ; where as they were not so averse to pay for receiving as from their hopeful natures, and the laws governing native correspondence, a letter was generally expected to contain something to the receiver's advantage or interest : purely business, or the happy tidings of a birth or marriage being ordinarily the chief occasions on which writing is resorted to.

7. The Kavalgars in Tinnevelly are very poorly paid, Rupees 2-8-0, if my information be correct, being the uniform salary ; and for this sum, they apparently have more than enough in the way of legitimate duty to perform. In illustration, I would here observe, that it was the practice hitherto for the Kavalgars to take charge of the District Post Bag and hand it to the Imperial Post runner as he ran past. This involved no work to speak of, and yet the men represented it in the light of a grievance. The plea was admitted, and I received letters both from the Sub and Heal-Assistant Collectors to try and arrange to relieve the men from these duties, since they received very small salaries and had quite enough to do already.

8. I have lately introduced what is a new Institution in Tinnevelly, viz :—The appointment of "Rural messengers" as the name indicates, it is the duty of these men to visit those places

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not reached by the ordinary delivery. They make a certain circuit every day, visiting a number of villages at stated intervals, receiving covers for the Post, and delivering as well.

9. Since all the Casbah Stations, Salt pans, etc., have been placed in efficient postal communication, I think that with an extension of the agency referred to in paragraph 8, nothing will be left to be desired in Postal matters in Tinnevelly.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. K. PUCKLE,
Collector.

From Major The Honourable E. R. BOURKE, Postmaster-General, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 21st July 1873, No. 5,417-1,279.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Statement asked for in the Board's Proceedings, No. 760, dated 10th May 1873, showing the routes of the District Post and the cost of the establishments as now employed in the Districts of Trichinopoly, Tinnevelly, Madura, North Arcot, Nellore, and Coimbatore, now under the control of the Postmaster-General.

2. I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Board, the great improvement in the District Post service of these districts since their transfer to the Imperial Post.

3. An increase has taken place in the correspondence of the District Post of all these districts, which indicates development, and it has been ascertained that the postage on the correspondence of the District Post and Imperial Post together, has exceeded the cost of the District and Imperial Post establishments of each of these districts, including the cost of a Sub-Inspector for their special supervision, which indicates satisfactory results as regards economy, and proper supervision in the Account Branch.

4. In each of these districts, the mails are now carried much more regularly and at increased rates of speed. The delivery of letters is conducted with greater regularity and punctuality, and no trouble or pains are spared to effect delivery of letters—the number of undelivered letters has consequently been reduced. There can be no better criterion of the improved working of the District Post Offices than is shown by these figures.

5. I enclose a Memorandum, containing Statistics, which fully bear out these statements. As further proof, I quote as follows from a letter from the Collector, Tinnevelly, on the occasion of the transfer of the District Post of Tinnevelly.

* Inspector of Post Offices, 12th Division.

"Mr. Gregory* however, though nominally working under me, as the Assistant Collectors did, has been able in a few months to increase the efficiency of the Service very considerably, and I recommend that it be made over to him altogether."

6. The improvement in the working of the District Post under Imperial Post management is simply the result of officers specially trained to the Postal Service supervising and insisting on the rules and regulations of the Department being strictly enforced and carried out, regular inspections and special reports of each office. Numerous irregularities have been put a stop to. Instances have not long since come to my notice of letters being returned as undelivered by District Post Offices without any attempt having been made towards delivery by the District Post Delivery peons ; of unchecked fraud by District Delivery peons levying an illegal rate on their own account ; lengthy and frequent delays in remission of District Post collections, leading to all sorts of irregularities, and some instances even of misappropriation, and loss of District Post collections.

7. The working of the Nellore District Post has not been so satisfactory, as I could wish, the late Inspector was an old servant, who had done good work in past years, and was not equal to constant travelling, which is necessary. He has now been replaced by a much younger and more energetic man, who, I have little doubt, will now institute thorough reforms. I would beg

to suggest, for the consideration of the Board, if it would not be advisable that orders be issued for closing all District Offices at stations where an Imperial Office already exists, or where one may be permanently established, for it appears to me the cost of such District Post establishments might be more advantageously expended at places where there is no Post Office.

8. The principles upon which the District and Imperial Post are maintained are so well known to the Board, that I need not here dilate upon them; but I wish to impress upon the Board the fact that though on the transfer of any district to the control of the Postmaster-General the local Revenue officer retains the entire control of the disbursement of the District Post Grant and can open or close any District Post Office or line; yet the duty of supervising and working these lines rest completely with the Postmaster-General. This, I think, is the proper light to view the matter, that while the local Revenue Officials know best what offices and lines are required for Revenue purposes, the duty of managing and controlling should rest with the Postmaster-General.

9. Before concluding, I would wish it clearly and distinctly understood, that I am not desirous of taking over the management of any District Post unless with the full consent of the local Revenue authorities whose assistance and cordial support is absolutely necessary for its good working and further development. On the other hand, I am inclined to think that the District Post cannot be properly worked or developed unless the entire control and direct supervision of the interior economy is placed under the Postmaster-General.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement showing the routes of the District Posts and the cost of Establishments as now employed.

No.	Routes. Lines.	Miles.	Stages.	Runners. No.	Runners. Cost.	Stations. Names.	Whether Taluq, Casbah, Sub-Magistrate or other station.	Gumastahs. No.	Gumastahs. Cost.	Letter Peons. No.	Letter Peons. Cost.	Grand Total including Runners. No.	Grand Total including Runners. Cost.
	Nellore District.				RS.				RS.		RS.		RS.
1	Raypoor to Doograjapatam *viâ* Gudur.	48	10	10	50	Nellore	Zillah...	1	7	1	5	...	...
2	Nellore to Kistnapatam	17	3	3	15	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Nellore to Gungapatam	17	3	3	15	Ramapatam	Casbah	1	7	1	5	...	...
4	Kavaly to Kalighery	23	2	2	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Alloor to Eskapally	5	1	1	5	Pamoor	Do.	1	7	1	5	...	...
6	Pamoor to Dursy	64	11	11	55	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Singaroyakonda to Pakala	5	1	1	5	Sreehareekota	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
8	Doograjapatam to Sreehareekota... ...	20	4	4	20	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Ramapooram to Soonnapagoonta... ...	5	1	1	5	Dursy...	Do.	1	7	1	5	...	...
10	Woolvapollem to Alloor	5	1	1	5	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	Kavaly to Toommalapenta	23	4	4	20	Sungum	Casbah	1	7	1	5	...	...
12	Ongole to Addunki	8	2	2	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	Ongole to Padarty...	3	1	1	5	Ongole	Taluq...	...	...	1	5	...	...
14	Ramapatam to Thettoo...					.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total...	248	45	45	225	.....	.....	6	42	7	35	58	302
	North Arcot District.												
1	Chittoor to Nursingaroyapetta	10	2	2	10	Nursingaroyapetta ...	Poliyam	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Vencatagherry	Do.	1	7	1	5	...	...
2	Palamnair to Vencataghericotta	25	5	5	25	Vencataghericotta ...	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
3	Palamnair to Gooriattum	25	5	5	25	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Arcot to Wandewash	37½	7	7	35	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Ranigunta to Chendragherry	14	2	2	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Arnee to Chetput	17	3	3	15	Chetput	Casbah	1	7	1	5	...	...
7	Arnee to Poloor	17	3	3	15	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Banaveram to Sholinghur	12½	2	2	10	Banaveram	Do.	1	7	1	5	...	...
9	Maderpauk to Suttiavidu	4	1	1	5	Maderpauk	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...

Statement showing the routes of the District Posts, etc.—(Continued.)

No.	Routes. Lines.	Miles.	Stages.	Runners. No.	Runners. Cost.	Stations. Names.	Whether Taluq, Casbah, Sub-Magistrate or other station.	Gumastahs. No.	Gumastahs. Cost.	Letter Peons. No.	Letter Peons. Cost.	Grand Total including Runners. No.	Grand Total including Runners. Cost.
					Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
10	Viringipooram to Railway Station ...	2½	1	1	5	Viringipooram	Casbah	1	7	1	5	...	...
11	Naranaveram to Railway Station ...	4	1	1	5	Trivullum	Do.	1	7	2	10	...	...
						One District Mail Guard from Mailputty to Cautpaudy.	.....	1	7	...	...	...	...
						One District Mail Guard from Cautpaudy to Banaveram.	.....	1	7	.	...	...	...
	Total...	168½	32	32	160	.....	.....	10	70	9	45	51	275
	Coimbatore District.												
1	Teroopoor to Pulladum	9	2	2	10	Pulladum	Taluq	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Avenashy	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
2	Railway Station to Perandooray... ...	4	1	1	5	Perandooray	Taluq	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Konghiem...	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
3	Caroor to Aravacoorchy	18	3	3	15	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Pollachy to Annamalay	8	1	2	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Sattiamungalum to Talavady	36	7	7	35	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Darapooram to Oodoomulpett	23	4	4	20	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Darapooram to Pulney...	8	1	1	5	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Oodoomulpett to Pulney	10	2	2	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Collegal to Nursipoor	15	3	3	15	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Erode to Bhowany	8	1	2	10	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
						Caroor	Taluq...	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Coimbatore	Collectors' Head quarters.	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Sattiamungalum ...	Taluq	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Collegal	Do.	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Bowany	.....	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Erode...	.....	...	...	1	5	...	...
		139	25	27	135	.....	.....	4	28	10	50	41	213
	Contingent allowance to meet Contingent expenses, Rs. 40, per annum.												
	Trichinopoly District.												
1	Trichinopoly to Laulgoody	12	2	2	10	Trichinopoly	Huzur	1	20	3	15	...	...
2	Laulgoody to Arealore...	30	5	5	25	Laulgoody...	Sub-Magistrate...	...	...	2	10	...	...
3	Arealore to Perambalore	18	3	3	15	Perambalore	Taluq Casbah ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
4	Perambalore to Trichinopoly	32	5	5	25	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Moosery to Thoriore	18	3	3	15	Moosery	Taluq Casbah ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Thoriore	Sub-Magistrate...	...	..	1	5	...	...
6	Trichinopoly to Manapaurai...	24	4	4	20	Manapaurai	Do. ...	1	7	2	10	...	...
7	Arealore to Jeyancondasholapooram ...	22	4	4	20	Arealore	Other Stations ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
						Jeyancondasholapooram	Taluq Casbah ...	1	7	2	10	...	...
8	Jeyancondasholapooram to Rajandra-patam...	18	3	3	15	Rajandrapatam... ...	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
9	Moosery to Kulitalai	2	1	1	5	Kulitalai	Taluq Casbah ...	..	...	1	5	...	...
	Total...	176	30	30	150	.....	.....	4	41	15	75	49	266
	Contingencies, Rs. 2-8-0, per mensem.												
	Madura District.												
1	Madura to Teroochooly *via* Cariaputty.	30	5	5	25	Madura	Huzur	1	20	...	...	...	...
							Taluq Casbah ...	1	10	2	10	...	...
2	Teroochooly to Permagoody *via* Moo-doocalattoor	47	7	7	35	Do.	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Teroochooly to Aroopoocottah	8	1	1	5	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Ramnad to Authungarai	7	1	1	5	Ramnad	Other Station ...	...	...	1	5	..	...
5	Ramnad to Tinnevelly boundary *via* Keelakarai	36	6	6	30	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Ramnad to Meenpassal, in Tanjore District	39	8	8	40	Tondy	Other Station ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
7	Shevagunga to Tondi *via* Terunadonai.	39½	6	6	30	Shevagunga	Do. ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
8	Poodoovacoody to Denicottah	10	2	2	10	Denicottah	Do. ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
9	Shevagunga to Mana Madura	12	2	2	10	Mana Madura	Do. ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
10	Shevagunga to Terupattoor	22	4	4	20	Terupattoor	Do. ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
11	Terumungalum to Oosoolumputty ...	18	3	3	15	Oosoolumputty	Sub-Magistrate ..	1	7	1	5	...	...
12	Ammanaikanoor to Chinnammanoor *via* Pareacoolum	49	7	7	35	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	Periacolum to Kodicanal	17	2	4	28	.....	... .	...	...	...	...	...	...

Statement showing the routes of the District Posts, etc.—(Concluded.)

No.	Routes. Lines.	Miles.	Stages.	Runners. No.	Runners. Cost.	Stations. Names.	Whether Taluq, Casbah, Sub-Magistrate or other station.	Gumastahs. No.	Gumastahs. Cost.	Letter Peons. No.	Letter Peons. Cost.	Grand Total including Runners. No.	Grand Total including Runners. Cost.
					Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
14	Dindigul to Pulney	35	6	6	30	Dindigul	Taluq Casbah ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
15	Pulney to Oodoomulpetta	12	1	1	5	Pulney	Do. ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
16	Dindigul to Vadasundoor	12	1	1	5	Vadasundoor	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
17	Pulney to Darapooram...	12	1	1	5	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	405½	63	65	333	.....	.....	4	44	12	60	81	437
	Tinnevelly District.												
1	Palamcottah to Tencasy	45	9	9	54	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Do.	Overseer.		1	12	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Palamcottah to Sunkernainarcoil ...	36	6	6	30	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Coilpatam to Trichendore	5	1	1	5	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Streeviguntum to Tuticorin...	20	4	4	20	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	Tuticorin to Arasady	5	1	1	5	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Palamcottah to Colasagrapatam	44	8	8	40	Trichendore	Other Station ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
7	Palamcottah to Villaticolum	54	10	10	50	Marapanaud	Do. ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Villaticolum	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
8	Vullyoor to Viziapathy	17	3	3	15	Radapooram	Do. ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Vullyoor	Other Station ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
9	Sattoor to Streevilliputtoor	24	4	4	20	Streevilliputtoor ...	Taluq Casbah ...	...	...	1	5	...	...
10	Keytar to Tuticorin	28	5	5	25	Keytar	Sub-Magistrate...	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Palamcottah	Do. ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Coilputty	Other Station ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
						Sivacasy	Do. ...	1	7	...	...	...	...
						Vypaur	Do. ...	1	7	1	5	...	...
	Total...	278	51	52	276	.....	.....	10	70	10	50	72	396

Enclosure No. 2.

Memo andum showing the Postage receipts as well as the cost of establishments of District Post Offices and Lines and the cost of Imperial Post Offices situated on District Post Lines in the following districts, also the speed of the District Post Lines and number of cover returned as undelivered by District Post Offices.

Names of District.	Monthly average of postage on correspondence of District Post Offices and Lines and Imperial Post Offices situated on District Post Lines. Rs.	A.	P.	Monthly cost of District Post Offices and Lines and Imperial Post Offices situated on District Post Lines. Rs.	A.	P.	Speed per hour while under Revenue management formerly. M.	F.	P.	Speed per hour under Imperial management at present. M.	F.	P.	Undelivered covers sent to Dead Letter Office under Revenue management. No.	Undelivered covers sent to Dead Letter Office under Imperial management. No.	Remarks.
Trichinopoly	782	8	4	570	8	0	3	3	4	3	4	15	2,856	228	
Madura	2,784	3	0	1,128	8	0	2	4	10	3	1	12	2,616	2,021	
Tinnevelly	1,487	2	3	653	0	0	3	2	34	3	4	21	1,334	1,121	
North Arcot	4,252	11	0	1,379	8	0	4	4	5	5	0	0	3,340	1,551	
Nellore	1,081	5	1	440	0	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	2,254	2,439	These districts have not been long under Imperial management.
Coimbatore...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	15	2	7	28	1,032	732	

With reference to G. O., dated 6th May 1873, No. 456, and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th April 1873, No. 585, the Board submit the above letters to Government with the following remarks—

2. The introduction of the system of the Imperial Department appears to benefit the districts where it has been introduced.

3. The statements appended to the Postmaster-General's letter show an improvement in most important particulars.

4. The Board regret to see that North Arcot and Nellore to each of which districts a grant of Rupees 7,000 was allotted propose to expend 3,300 and 3,624 respectively. The Postmaster-General and the Collector of North Arcot will consider whether further use cannot be made of the grant in that district. Similar orders have already been given in the case of Nellore. Board's Proceedings, dated 11th July 1873, No. 1,259.

5. Tinnevelly.—The Collector of Tinnevelly reports his complete satisfaction with the administration of the Post within his district : and the Imperial and late District Lines are no doubt well served. The experiment of Rural Messengers which is being tried here, should be watched carefully. The Board do not gather how their work is checked nor what inspection they are under and desire more information on the point than is conveyed in the letter of the Inspecting Postmaster, 12th Division, enclosed in the Collector's letter.

6. North Arcot.—The Collector of North Arcot reports that all the officers who have been consulted speak favourably of the results of the transfer. His observations in paragraphs 3 and 4 will no doubt be considered by the Postmaster-General to whom they should have been directly addressed. The proposal of the Chittoor Tahsildar for a Rural service conducted through the Headmen of such villages as have Police Stations may be considered together with the other suggestions which have been made for extending distribution, and the one now forwarded from Madura.

7. Madura.—The Collector of Madura does not consider that Imperial management has appreciably improved the system obtaining in his district. He forwards a scheme submitted by his Sub-Collector for the organization of a village postal service. Mr. Bliss would remunerate the Heads of Villages on whom he would lay the duty of distribution by a percentage on the sale of stamps as has been proposed by the Chittoor Tahsildar. Under the new Rules for the sale of stamps published in the Gazette of India July 12th, (Rules V. VIII. IX.) the discount is limited to half an anna in the rupee, and this amount will in most instances be an inadequate remuneration.

8. Nellore.—The Postmaster-General has pointed out in his letter reviewed above that deficient inspection in Nellore occasioned the inefficiency complained of by the Collector in some stations : a new Inspecting officer has been appointed, and improvement in this respect may be looked for.

9. From the evidence before them the Board would be glad to see more districts brought under the control of the Imperial Department.

No. 43. Order thereon, 6th October 1873, No. 1,071.

Miscellaneous.

The Government are glad to learn that the anticipations* formed as to the benefits to be derived from placing the District Post under the supervision of the Postmaster-General have been fairly realized.

* *Vide* G. O,, No. 503, dated 23rd March 1872.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th October 1873.

2. Thus much is clear from the reports of the Collectors now received, and it is also evident that where the results have not been wholly satisfactory, the fault has mainly lain with the Revenue authorities who have failed to utilize their grants. This probably arose from a misapprehension of their position which recent orders (G. O., 23rd July 1873, No. 770) will have removed, and it now only remains for them to co-operate heartily with the Postal Department and in concert with it to devise means for improving the existing system of delivering and collecting letters in out-lying villages.

3. The Government have received no special report regarding the Tanjore District Post in reply to G. O., 4th March 1873, No. 251, but they see no reason to doubt that it too may with advantage be placed under the control of the Postmaster-General and they therefore authorize the Board to transfer to that officer's charge both it and the District Post in Chingl .

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Statement showing the amount provided on account of "District Post" for the Madras Presidency for 1873-74.

Districts.	District Tappal Establishment.	Country Stationery or Saderward.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Ganjam	4,100	15	4,115
2. Vizagapatam ...	11,300	100	11,400
3. Godavery	7,400	225	7,625
4. Kistna	8,300	80	8,380
5. Nellore	7,000	60	7,060
6. Cuddapah	4,800	20	4,820
7. Bellary	8,600	30	8,630
8. Kurnool	3,900	80	3,980
9. Chingleput	3,200	60	3,260
10. North Arcot	7,000	210	7,210
11. South Arcot	4,700	210	4,910
12. Tanjore	6,100	170	6,270
13. Trichinopoly	4,000	20	4,020
14. Madura	5,100	20	5,120
15. Tinnevelly	6,000	150	6,150
16. Coimbatore	1,500	40	1,540
17. Salem	4,000	300	4,300
18. South Canara... ...	3,000	120	3,120
19. Malabar	6,000	90	6,090
Total...	1,06,000	2,000	1,08,000

FORM.

Statement showing the Routes of the District Posts and the cost of Esta[illegible]shments as now employed in the District of

No.	Routes. Lines.	Miles.	Stages.	Runners. No.	Runners. Cost.	Stations. Name[illegible]s.	Whether Taluq Kusbah, Sub-Magistrate, or other station	Goomastahs. No.	Goomastahs. Cost.	Letter Peons. No.	Letter Peons. Cost.	Grand Total including Runners. No.	Grand Total including Runners. Cost.
1					Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		
2	From Chetterpore to Chicacole.	105	20	20	100	Huzur	... ...	1	20	.....	.....	...	...
3	,, Nursanapet to Buttely *via* Purla Kimedy	52	7	7	35	Berhampore	T. K.	1	7	1	5	...	...
4	,, Ruganathapuram to Nowpada	6	1	1	5	Itchapur	S. M.	1	7	1	5	...	...
	,, Itchapur to Somapoor *via* Soorla	4	1	1	5	Pudmanabu[illegible]re ...	O. S.	1	7	1	5	...	...

Revenue Board Office,
Madras,

No. 452.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 25th March 1873.

Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 4th March 1873, No. 288, Financial Department:—

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 19th December 1872, No. 1,699, Revenue Department.

ORDER THEREON, 4th March 1873, No. 288.

THE Governor in Council sanctions the estimated charge of Rupees (1,08,000) one lakh and eight thousand for 1873-74 for the district tappal in this Presidency and directs that the charge be included in the Budget Estimate for Provincial Services.

2. The Board of Revenue will be requested to furnish for the information of Government in this department a detailed list of the district postal stations and of the establishment employed at each station.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

COMMUNICATED to Collectors with a request that they will submit a statement showing the routes of the District Posts and the cost of establishments in the annexed f

2. A statement showing the amount provided for each district accompanies.

(True Extracts.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) M. JORDAN,
Acting First Assistant.

To all Collectors, except Madras, with Form and Statement.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

Revenue Department.

No. 1071

Proceedings of the Madras Govt
Dt. 6 Octr 73

Read again

G.O. No. 251 dated 4th March 1873
" No. 156 dated 6th May 1873

Read also the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting reports from Collrs of Nellore, Salem, Madura and Tinnevelly on the result of the transfer of the Dist Post to the management of the Imperial Postal Dept together with statement from the Post Master General showing routes of Dist Post & cost of establishments in those and two other Dists where a similar transfer has been made.

} R. 25th August 1873 No. 1636.

*Vide G.O. No. 503 dated 28 March 1872

The Govt are glad to learn that the anticipations formed as to the benefits to be derived from placing the Dist Post under the supervision of the

the Post-Master General have been fairly realized.

2 Thus much is clear from the reports of the Collectors now received, and it is also evident that where the results have not been wholly satisfactory, the fault has mainly lain with the Revenue authorities who have failed to utilize their grants. This probably arose from a misapprehension of their position which recent orders (G.O. 23rd July 1873 No. 770) will have removed and it now only remains for them to co-operate heartily with the Postal Department and in concert with it to devise means for improving (or altering) the existing system of delivering and collecting letters in out-lying villages

3 The Govt have received no special report regarding the Tanjore District Post in reply to G.O. 4th March 1873 No. 251 but they see no reason to doubt that it too may with advantage be placed under the control of the Post-Master General and they therefore authorize the Board to transfer to that officer's charge both it and the Dist. Post in Chingleput.

To B. of Rev.
Post Master Genl } Sep 17-10-73

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