

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th May 1873.*

No. 90. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1873, No. 669 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings dated 11th March 1873, Miscellaneous No. 1,402, and 12th March 1873, No. 359.

Read also the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., Acting Collector of Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Periacolum, 22nd March 1873, No. 89 :—

WITH reference to my letters Nos. 43 and 50, dated 17th and 22nd February, I have the honour to request sanction for writing off the accounts the sum of Rupees 133, being the value of three bags of one-pie pieces stolen out of the Periacolum Treasury on the night of 3rd February. No clue has been obtained, and there is at present no hope that the case will be detected.

2. I have arrived at the conclusion that this money has been lost in consequence of want of discipline in the Police force, and not in consequence of criminal connivance on the part of one or more Policemen. The character of the Constable who ought to have been on guard at the time, the unsuccessful attempt of the thief to break through the solid masonry of the treasury room, and the carrying off of bags containing copper, lead to the conclusion that the theft was committed by some one who knew that the Police kept no guard, but who did not know much about the treasury room or its contents.

3. Up to about one o'clock all the Constables were awake, hearing the Station Writer reading the Ramayanam. The Constable who has been convicted of neglect of duty signed the Guard Book to show that he had taken charge at 2 A.M., and he forged the signature of the man who should have taken charge from him at 4 A.M., through fear when he discovered what had happened during the night. But I believe that all the Constables at the Cutcherry were in the habit of sleeping from about one or two o'clock in the morning to day-light. The prisoners in the subsidiary jail would know this, and some one among them has been told enough to take advantage of the knowledge. The outer wall of the Cutcherry is made of mud, and the padlocks of the treasury room presented no obstacle to an experienced house breaker who felt certain that the Police guard would not interrupt him.

4. The Police Inspector informs me that the sentry is occasionally found asleep here and elsewhere, and that the offence is usually punished by fine, except when a prisoner escapes or some other evil consequence results. I would suggest that sentries found asleep should invariably be prosecuted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment.

COPIES of this letter and the previous correspondence on the subject will be submitted for the orders of Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to write off the accounts the stolen sum of Rupees 133.

2. The Board agree with the Collector that guards found asleep on their posts should invariably be prosecuted and not fined departmentally, and recommend that instructions may be issued accordingly to the Inspector-General of Police. As regards the suggestion that they should always be sentenced to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
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rigorous imprisonment, the Board observe that the measure and nature of punishment must depend upon the discretion of the Court before which they are tried.

No. 91.

ORDER THEREON, 14th May 1873, No. 483.

Miscellaneous.

THE Right Honourable the Governor
in Council authorizes the Collector of
Madura to write off the accounts the

sum of Rs. 133, stolen from the Periacolum Treasury.

2. Orders will be issued in the Judicial Department regarding the prosecution
of Police Guards found asleep on duty.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 29th April 1873.

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WITH reference to my letters Nos. 43 and 50, dated 17th and 22nd February, I have the honour to request sanction for writing off the accounts the sum of Rupees 133, being the value of three bags of one-pie pieces stolen out of the Periacolum Treasury on the night of 3rd February. No clue has been obtained, and there is at present no hope that the case will be detected.

2. I have arrived at the conclusion that this money has been lost in consequence of want of discipline in the Police force, and not in consequence of criminal connivance on the part of one or more Policemen. The character of the Constable who ought to have been on guard at the time, the unsuccessful attempt of the thief to break through the solid masonry of the treasury room, and the carrying off of bags containing copper, lead to the conclusion that the theft was committed by some one who knew that the Police kept no guard, but who did not know much about the treasury room or its contents.

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4. The Police Inspector informs me that the sentry is occasionally found asleep here and elsewhere, and that the offence is usually punished by fine, except when a prisoner escapes or some other evil consequence results. I would suggest that sentries found asleep should invariably be prosecuted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment.

COPIES of this letter and the previous correspondence on the subject will be submitted for the orders of Government, with the Board's recommendation that the Collector be authorized to write off the accounts the stolen sum of Rupees 133.

2. The Board agree with the Collector that guards found asleep on their posts should invariably be prosecuted and not fined departmentally, and recommend that instructions may be issued accordingly to the Inspector-General of

Police. As regards the suggestion that they should always be sentenced to rigorous imprisonment, the Board observe that the measure and nature of punishment must depend upon the discretion of the Court before which they are tried.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. Grose

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with Board's Proceedings dated 11th March 1873,
Miscellaneous No. 1,402, and 12th March 1873, No. 359.

„ the Acting Collector of Madura.

Copy to the Inspector-General of Police.

No 483. 14 May 73

*The Lt. Commr. the Gov. in Council authorizes the
Collector of Madura to write off the amount
the sum of Rs 133, stolen from the Periacolam
Treasury*

*Order will be issued in the Judicial
Dept regarding the prosecution of police & amts
found asleep on duty.*

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

*14 To the Secy of Rev Sec 21st May 73
6 - Acct General — " — "
5 - Judicial Dept — " — "*

Rs 90-91

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 29TH APRIL 1873, No. 669.

June 29 1873.

Received

May 7/73

APRIL.

No. 669.

Taluk Treasury—at Periacolam in Madras District.—Reports from Collector of robbery committed in—, submitted to Government, with recommendation that Collector be authorized to write off the accounts the stolen money amounting to Rupees 133, and that instructions be issued to Inspector-General of Police for protection of Police guards found asleep on the posts.

No 483-14 May 73