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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1414.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	9-11-1874	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

144

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.*

No. 63. Read the following letter from Major the Hon. E. R. BOURKE, Postmaster-General, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 1st November 1874, No. 1,573-775:—

I BEG to enclose copies of correspondence that has passed between the Collector of South Arcot, the Inspector of Post-offices, Cuddalore Division, and myself, on the subject of the control of certain district post employes, viz., delivery peons who, by the orders of the Collector, have recently been removed from the Imperial post-offices named in the margin, on the control of the South Arcot district post being transferred to the Imperial Postal Department on 1st October last.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Chedambaram. | 7. Trivanellore. |
| 2. Virdachellam. | 8. Trinomallay. |
| 3. Villoopuram. | 9. Kullakoorehy. |
| 4. Tindevanam. | 10. Trikalore. |
| 5. Merkanam. | 11. Kurinjipadi. |
| 6. Gingee. | 12. Manargudi. |

2. It will be seen that the action of the Collector in contemplating establishing a separate agency, to be controlled by himself, for the delivery and collection of correspondence in the district over which the officers of the Imperial post-office are to have nothing to do with, is entirely opposed to the orders of Government and to the system that is being carried out in every other district that has been transferred.

3. The object, I understand, Government has in view in sanctioning the transfer is to relieve Collectors of all executive control over the district post employes, and to entrust the whole of the management and supervising authority to the Imperial post-office executive; the Collector retaining the power of appropriating and disbursing the district post grant in any manner he sees fit.

4. If the Collector is still, after the transfer has been made, to have a separate and distinct staff of delivery peons who are not to be subordinate to the Imperial post-office authorities, it appears to me that the transfer had better not be made, nor a Sub-Inspector of Post-offices entertained; for he will have hardly anything to do, and his pay will be, to a great extent, wasted. As a matter of principle, the course proposed by the Collector is a retrograde step, as the transfer is meant to relieve the local subordinate Revenue-officials of duties they have not sufficient time or departmental knowledge to attend to or control, and, if sanctioned, will place the postal service in the South Arcot District in a very unfavorable position; the scheme proposed does not, as far as I can see, provide for any supervision, and, in practice, I am bound to inform Government that I am confident it cannot be successful. Delay to correspondence, losses, and irregularities of every description must, of necessity, go unchecked and undetected, as is the case in every district which has not been transferred; for the simple reason that there is no departmental supervision by experienced post-office officers who understand post-office work and its various details, and know where to detect faults and how to rectify mistakes.

5. The Collector states that the correspondence for the district is to be sent to the taluq cutcherries; that these delivery peons will sign for registered letters and render their bearing-postage accounts to the post-office. Supposing they do not, and the accounts are wrong, incorrect, falsified, the return of the peon unpunctual, his delivery delayed, or not made at all, who is to punish, suspend, prosecute, or dismiss him? Hence, a serious clash in control arises which would materially affect efficiency. If there is no supervision, how is it to be ascertained that paid covers are all delivered?

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.

From the Postmaster-General, Madras, to the Collector of South Arcot, dated 3rd October 1874,
No. 1,418/775.

ADVERTING to paragraphs 4 and 5 of your letter, No. 37, of 23rd September 1874, addressed to the Inspector of Post-offices, Cuddalore Division, I would beg to remind you that the proposals you there make are entirely opposed to the system under which the district post is worked when the control is transferred from the Collector to the Postmaster-General.

2. You propose to remove the delivery peons at present paid from District Post Funds, which are now attached to twelve different Imperial post-offices for the purpose of making the rural delivery, and to attach them to the different Tahsildars or Deputy-Tahsildar's cutcherries.

You say "will cease to be delivery peons under your orders," and "will be under my orders," and that they will be utilised for "the work of distributing letters in the villages of the taluq,—a task which I shall proceed to elaborate as soon as I am freed from your department of the charge of all existing post-offices."

4. The great object in transferring the control from the Collector to Postmaster-General is to remove the former of all executive control of every description, to place all the district post employes, without exception, under the sole and immediate orders of the executive officers of the Imperial Postal Department. It is to get rid of divided authority which has impeded the development of postal communication that Government have determined on the transfer of all the district posts to the Postmaster-General.

5. It would be impossible for me to undertake the management of any district post if district post delivery peons are to be removed from Imperial post-offices without my orders. These have been specially entertained for the purpose of effecting the delivery of articles for the district, the station delivery being made by the Imperial delivery peon. If they are to be removed, no means exist for effecting the delivery, the whole work of delivery and collection of articles sent post, together with the executive control of all district post employes, will, in future, be conducted by, and under the orders of, the officers of the Imperial Postal Department, the authority of the Collector being limited to the disbursement of the district post grant, keeping the district post accounts and the entertainment of new district post establishments or abolishing them wherever he may deem it necessary. He is solely responsible respecting all matters connected with the District Post Fund and its appropriation. Whatever changes he may at any time wish to make respecting the distribution of the grant or establishment, he has merely to intimate the same to the Inspector, who will entertain new delivery peons, open new district post-offices or lines just as the Collector may desire, the Inspector informing the Collector of the cost of such.

6. Regarding your instruction in the 5th paragraph of your letter under notice, I beg to say that to carry out your wishes "all letters for outlying villages should be sent to the cutcherries of the Tahsildar and Deputy-Tahsildar for delivery," would be a most retrograde step; this was the old mode of delivery, which the transfer of control is calculated to improve, viz., by having the delivery made direct from the post-office through the district post delivery peon attached to the post-offices and placing them under the immediate orders of the Imperial postal officials, thus removing all district post employes from the authority and control of the Revenue-officials.

7. If the correspondence for outlying villages was sent as proposed to the cutcherries of the Tahsildars and Deputy-Tahsildars, how could the bearing-postage account be kept? Who would sign for the receipt of registered articles?

I fear such a round-about mode of effecting delivery would be a most unsafe and tedious process, and one not calculated to develop the district post, and bring the rural delivery to the door of every ryot. The system that has worked remarkably well in other districts and the one that I believe best suited to the country is the Imperial system of delivery and collection of correspondence, which is the one about to be introduced into Cuddalore, with which all post-office officials are perfectly conversant.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.

9. I trust you will, under the circumstances as explained, cancel the 4th and 5th paragraphs of your letter to Inspector of Post-offices.

From the Collector of South Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 9th October 1874,
No. 47.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 1,418/775, of the 3rd instant, and, in reply, to refer you to your own letter printed in the Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 13th May 1872, in which you ask that orders may be issued to Collectors to defray the cost of district post establishments until your department is prepared to do so; and this course was followed here until the 1st instant, when the transfer of the district post system as then existing was handed over to your department, which had undertaken to pay the cost of eight post-office establishments and two short lines of runners from that date, and to manage all the other postal lines and post-offices (the latter three in number), but not to pay for them.

2. In accordance with this arrangement all the establishments at the eight post-offices taken over by your department and the four district post delivery peons, who had been temporarily attached to the only four Imperial post-offices in the district, were dismissed, and it then rested with your department to renominate the old men or appoint new ones, if required. What I do with the District Post Funds thus set free is not a matter on which I am bound to consult your department. The method of expending these funds has been fully explained to the Revenue Board who have approved my suggestions, and my object is to secure the delivery of letters among villages far away from post-offices by the only method the funds at my disposal will admit of.

3. If, hereafter, I find that I want a dozen new post-offices and lines of runners, I will write to the Inspector to ask him to let me know what these will cost, and he shall open and maintain the offices and lines, and I will pay for them from District Post Funds, till they pay well enough to induce your department to relieve those funds of the charge and reap the profits from the said offices.

4. At present every post-office has a circle of about three miles around it, within which an Imperial delivery peon has to deliver letters; with the country outside that circle the post-office has hitherto had little or nothing to do, and I propose to attach men to the post-office stations who shall go into those portions of the district and deliver and gather letters until correspondence becomes sufficiently developed to require the establishment of fresh post-offices, when I will apply to your department to establish and work them.

5. I have recently transferred to the control of your department the whole of an existing system; but I do not consider that on that account I am to be debarred from attempting to elaborate a Rural Messenger Service from funds at my disposal. With all deference to you, I think that such elaboration can be better carried out by the Revenue Department than by the Postal. When it is so established to my satisfaction as to meet at regular intervals all the wants of rural portions of the district, I shall have no objection to hand it over in its entirety to your control or to abolish it by degrees by substituting post-offices and runners to be managed by you.

6. I enclose two specimens of the books to be kept by these messengers who will keep regular accounts of bearing postage and sign for the receipt of registered letters, and be responsible for money collected, which will be paid into the post-offices to which they are attached.

7. In conclusion, I would draw your attention to that portion of your letter under reply in which you say the Collector "is solely responsible respecting all matters connected with the District Post Fund and its appropriation," and ask how you reconcile this admission with your request to me to cancel paragraphs 4 and 5 of my letter of the 23rd September last, which I must decline to do,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.*

How is the collection of covers to be made? The two books to be kept by the delivery peons, as proposed by the Collector, which form enclosure to his No. 47, dated 9th October 1874, are herewith forwarded, together with the two forms in use by this department by rural messengers. It will be seen that the departmental forms are much more complete.

6. There are also numerous other checks in the Imperial system of supervision by which the district is calculated to benefit much, which cannot be introduced under the Collector's proposals.

7. A specimen map showing the beats of the delivery peons in the Toryore Taluq is forwarded for information (to be returned). Every preparation has been made and is now ready to carry out the system. I have most successfully introduced into other districts of a rural delivery and collection, but which I cannot at present introduce into South Arcot, as the Collector has withdrawn the delivery peons who are paid for from District Post Funds, and through whom the rural delivery should be made; and I am precluded from employing Imperial delivery peons for this service.

8. In conclusion, I would explain that the reference made by the Collector in his No. 47, dated 9th October 1874, to my predecessor's No. 940/239 of 4th May 1872, has no reference whatever to the question at issue, as the transfer of the District Post Funds has never been applied for by me or sanctioned by Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Inspector of Post-offices, Cuddalore Division, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 4th August 1874, No. 3,891.

I beg to bring to your notice that, since the opening of the eight experimental post-offices in the South Arcot District, the services of the district post peons attached to the district post-offices, whose places they have taken, have been withdrawn, notwithstanding that I pointed out to the Collector the necessity for retaining them in connection with the new offices; and the consequence is that covers for the numerous villages, which the station delivery peons cannot be expected to visit, lying as they are at from five to twenty miles and more distant from the nearest post-office, are undelivered and are accumulating.

2. I beg, therefore, that the Collector may be moved to appoint at least one district peon to each of the offices concerned, in order to obviate the evil pointed out, and which is daily increasing.

No. 890/775.

True copy forwarded to the Collector, South Arcot, with a request that the Inspector's recommendation may be attended to, if possible.

BELLARY,
11th August 1874.

(Signed) E. R. BOURKE, Major,
Postmaster-General.

From the Collector of South Arcot, to the Postmaster-General, Madras, dated 26th September 1874, No. 40.

In reply to your endorsement, No. 890/775, dated Bellary, 11th August 1874, on Mr. Kinsley's letter of the 4th idem, No. 3,891, I have the honor to inform you that, although the district post delivery peons hitherto attached to the Imperial post-offices and the eight district post-offices recently transferred to your department have been withdrawn from them, the withdrawal is only nominal. I have issued orders that all these men, together with sixteen

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.*

additional ones, making thirty for the whole district, are to be formed into the nucleus of a Rural Messenger Service under the orders of the Revenue authorities, but attached to all post-office stations, and by means of these men I propose to distribute letters and papers through the villages of the taluqs. The scheme I have in view has been only roughly elaborated as yet; but when it is in good working order, and I have been able to bring the whole of every taluq within the influence of a regular village postal service, I shall consider the propriety of handing the whole over to your department. The rapidity of the development of my scheme will, of course, depend on my having more funds at my disposal by your department undertaking the cost of the payment of the existing postal lines of runners.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to the Inspector of Post-offices, Cuddalore Division, dated 23rd September 1874, No. 37.

In reply to your letter, No. 5,208, dated 16th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I shall be prepared, although I have not yet received the Government order to which you allude, to make the transfer of the district post to your department on the 1st proximo.

2. I enclose two lists, one showing the three remaining district post-offices and their cost, the other the existing district post-lines, their respective lengths, the number of stages into which divided, the number of runners on each line, the monthly pay of the runners and the total annual cost of each line.

3. Your department have already taken over the post-offices at Merkanam, Gingee, Trinomallay, Trikalore, Trivanellore, Kullakoorchy, Kurinjipadi, and Manargudi, and assumed the charge of the lines of bearers from Punrutti via Arasur to Villoopuram and from Chedambaram to Manargudi, so that the transfer of the remaining offices and lines will put the whole district post-office system under the management of your department; the cost of the offices and lines now transferred only continuing to be a charge on District Post Funds to the extent of Rs. 2,880 for runners and Rs. 36 for post-offices, as detailed below:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Cost of lines of runners as detailed in my letter to the Revenue Board, dated 1st June 1874, No. 260...	3,000	0	0
Less cost of bearers from Punrutti to Arasur	120	0	0
	2,880	0	0
Post-office establishment at district post-offices at Ellavanasur, Ulandurpett, and Chengum...	432	0	0
	3,312	0	0

4. From the 1st proximo the delivery peons that have been hitherto attached to the Imperial post-offices at the twelve following places, viz., 1, Chedambaram, 2, Virdachellam, 3, Villoopuram, 4, Tindevanam, 5, Merkanam, 6, Gingee, 7, Trivanellore, 8, Trinomallay, 9, Kullakoorchy, 10, Trikalore, 11, Kurinjipadi, and, 12, Manargudi, will cease to be delivery peons under your orders, but will be entertained as rural messengers along with the two Huzur delivery peons, and will be under my orders as part of the village postal establishment; and will be attached to the different Tahsildars or Deputy-Tahsildars' cutcherries for the work of distributing letters in the villages of the taluq,—a task which I shall proceed to elaborate as soon as I am freed from the department of the charge of all existing post-offices.

5. From the date of the transfer, all letters for outlying villages should be sent to the cutcherries of the Tahsildars or Deputy-Tahsildars for distribution. At Trivanellore and Kurinjipadi, a rural messenger will be detailed to call at the post-offices either daily or two or three times a-week as experience may prove to be practicable for letters.

FORM 1-11.

MEMORANDUM BOOK.

Post-office.

Rural Messenger No. 100 attached to the

Of

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.*

[illegible]

FORM Y-10.

Post-office.

No. attached to the

Visit Book of the Rural Messenger, named

[illegible]

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th November 1874.*

No. 63. ORDER THEREON, 9th November 1874, No. 1,414.

Miscellaneous.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue
for their early remarks.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Post-Master General's Office
Colombo 13th November 1874

No. 1573
775

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department,
Fort St. George

Sir,
I beg to enclose copies of
Correspondence that has passed
between the Collector of South
Arcot, the Inspector of Post Office
Cuddalore Division, and myself
on the subject of the Control of
certain District Post Employees, viz
Relivity Peons, who by the orders
of the Collector have recently been
removed from the Imperial Post
offices named in the margin, on the
Control of the South Arcot District
Post being transferred to the Imperial
Postal

1. Chedambaram.
2. Virudachellam.
3. Villupuram.
4. Tirunelveli.
5. Kanyakumari.
6. Gingee.
7. Tirunelveli.
8. Tirunelveli.
9. Kullakurichi.
10. Tirupur.
11. Kuringipatti.
12. Munargudi.

Govt. of 1874
REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
Secy, Secy, Secy.

Dated November 9th

Post.

Post.

G. O., 2nd December 1874, No. 1411.

NOVEMBER
Nos. 63-61.

District Post Delivery Post, South Arcot—
Referring to Revenue Board, in early remarks
let from the Postmaster-General forwarding
copies of correspondence between the Collector
and the District authorities regarding the
control of certain post-offices by the Collector
from certain post-offices to their transfer to
the Imperial Post Department.

10/11/74

10/11/74

10/11/74

Postal Department on 1st October last.

It will be seen that the action of the Collector in contemplating establishing a separate agency to be controlled by himself for the delivery and collection of Correspondence in the District area, which the officers of the Imperial Post office are to have nothing to do with, is entirely opposed to the orders of Government and to the system that is being carried out in every other District that has been transferred.

The object I understand Government has in view in sanctioning the transfer is to relieve Collectors

14/14
Collectors of all Executive Control over the District Post Employees and to entrust the whole of the management and supervising authority to the Imperial Post office executive, the Collector retaining the power of appropriating and disbursing the District Post Grant in any manner he sees fit.

If the collector is still, after the transfer has been made, to have a separate and distinct staff of delivery persons who are not to be subordinate to the Imperial Post office authorities, it appears to me that the transfer has

had better not be made, nor
a Sub Inspector of Post offices
discontinued. for he will have
hardly anything to do and
his pay will be to a great
extent wasted. As a matter
of principle, the course proposed
by the Collector is a retrograde
step, as the transfer is meant
to relieve the local subordinate
Revenue officials of duties they
have not sufficient time or
departmental knowledge to
attend to or control, and if
sanctioned will place the
Postal Service in the South
West

West District in a very
unfavorable position; the
scheme ^{proposed} does not as far as I
can see provide for any
supervision, and in practice
I am bound to inform Govern-
ment that I am confident
it cannot be successful.
Delay to correspondence, losses
and irregularities of every description
must of necessity go unchecked
and undetected, as is the case
in every district which has
not been transferred, for the
simple reason that there
is

is no Departmental supervision
by experienced Postoffice
officers who understand Post-
office work and its various
details, and know where to
detect faults and how to rectify
mistakes.

The Collector states that
the correspondence for the district
is to be sent to the Taluk Katcheries
that these Delivery Peons will
sign for Registered letters and
render their bearing postage
accounts to the Post office.
Supposing they do not, and
the accounts are wrong, incorrect,
falsified, the return of the
Peon

Peon unpunctual, his delivery is
delayed or lost. Who is to
punish, suspend, prosecute
or dismiss him? Hence, a serious
clash in control arises which
would materially affect Efficiency.
If there is no supervision how is
it to be ascertained that post
covers are all delivered? How
is the Collection of Covers to be
made? The two books to be kept
by the Delivery Peons as pro-
posed by the Collector which
form enclosure to his No. 47
dated 9th October/74 are herewith

forwarded

forwarded together with the two
forms in use by this Department
by Rural Messengers. It
will be seen that the depart-
mental forms are much more
complete.

There are also numerous
other checks in the Imperial
System of Supervision by which
the District is calculated to benefit
much which cannot be introduced
under the Collector's proposals.

A Specimen Map showing
the beats of the Delivery Peons in
the Loryose Taluk is forwarded
for information to be
returned

1:10
14/14
returned). Every preparation
has been made and is now
ready to carry out the system.
I have most successfully
introduced into other districts
of a rural delivery and
collection, but which I
cannot at present introduce
into South Arcot as the
Collector has withdrawn
the Delivery Peons who are
paid for from District Post
funds and through whom the
rural delivery should be
made, and I am precluded
from

from employing Imperial
Delivery Census for this Service.

In conclusion I would
explain that the reference
made by the Collector in his
No. 47 dated 9th October 1874 to my
predecessor's No. $\frac{940}{239}$ of 4th May
1872 has no reference whatever
to the question at issue, as
the transfer of the District
Post-fund has never been
applied for by me or sanctioned
by Government.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

M Douch
Post Master General

Copy of a letter from Inspector of Post Offices.
Cuthalore Division No. 3891 dated 4 August
1874 to the District General Manager.

Sir,
I beg to bring to your notice that, since
the opening of the 8 Experimental Post Office
in the South West District, the Services
of the District Post Pans attached to the
District Post Offices whose places they
have taken, have been withdrawn. Not-
withstanding that I pointed out to the Collector
the necessity for retaining them in con-
-nection with the new offices, and the
consequence is that carriers for the numerous
Villages which the Station delivery Pans
cannot be expected to visit, being as
they are at from 5 to 20 miles and more
distant from the nearest Post Office, are
unhelmed and are accumulating.

I beg therefore that the Collector
may be moved to appoint at least one
District Pan to each of the offices concerned
in

No.
from
Plumtree General
to
Collector
Revenue Office
dated 1-11-74
Recd
Subject
The Pan in the above
of the 8 Post Offices

in order to obviate the evil pointed out
and which is daily increasing.

Jan 18.

Mr. Kierke

Inspector of Police

Cuttack Division

No. 890
9775

One copy forwarded to the Collector
South Arcot with a request that the
Inspector's recommendation may be
attended to if possible.

Bellary

11th August 1878

Mr. E. R. Bourke

Postmaster General

Copy of a letter from Collector of South
Arcot to the Postmaster General Madras
No. 40- dated 26th Sept 74.

Sir,

In reply to your Embroidered No.
890 dated Bellary 11th August 74, in Mr.
Windsor's letter of the 4th June, No. 3891
I have the honor to inform you that at this
the District Post Delivery Persons hitherto
attached to the Imperial Post offices
and the 8 District Post Offices recently
transferred

transferred to your Department ^{13/1414} have been
withdrawn from them; the withdrawal
is only nominal. I have issued orders
that all these men together with sixteen
additional ones, making 30 for the whole
District, are to be formed into the nucleus
of a Rural Messenger Service under
the orders of the Revenue authorities
but attached to all Post Office Stations
and by means of these I propose
to distribute letters and papers through
the Villages of the Taluqs. The scheme
I have in view has been only roughly
elaborated as yet, but when it is in
good working order and I have
been able to bring the whole of
Every Taluq within the influence
of a regular Village Postal Service
I shall consider the propriety of
handing the whole over to your
Department. The rapidity of the
development

1018

heads of my scheme will of
course depend on my having more
funds at my disposal by your Depart-
ment undertaking the cost of the
payment of the Existing Postal Lines
of runners.

I have &c.

W. J. H. Gardiner
Collector

South Arcot
No. 37

Collector's Office
Cuddalore.

23 September/74

Sir,

W. J. H. Gardiner Esq^r

Collector of South Arcot

The Inspector of Post Offices
Cuddalore Division

Sir,
In reply to your letter No. 5208 dated
16 August, I have the honor to inform
you that I shall be prepared, although
I have not yet received the G.O. to which
you allude, to make the transfer
of

of the District Post to your Department
in the 1st Province.

2. I enclose 2 lists, one showing the
three remaining District Post offices
and their cost, the other the existing
District Post Lines, their respective
lengths, the number of Stages into
which divided, the number of Runners
on each line, the monthly pay of the
runners and the total annual cost
of each line.

3. Your Department have already
taken over the Post Offices at
Merkurum, Gingee, Trincomalee,
Trikaloor, Trinavallur, Kullakore, Kullakore,
Kurinipati and Managudi; and
assumed the charge of the lines of
bearers from Pururuthi via Arasar to
Villapuram and from Chelumburam to
Managudi so that the transfer of
the remaining offices and lines will
be

put the whole District Post Office System under the management of your Department. The Cost of the Office and Lines now transferred and continuing to be a charge on District Post Funds to the extent of Rs 2880 for Runners and Rs 36/- for Post offices as detailed below.

Post Office Runners as detailed in my letter to the Government dated 18th Decr 1874 No 260	3000-0-0
Less Cost of bearers from Paurahis to Arun	120-0-0
	<u>2880-0-0</u>
Post Office Establishment at District Post offices at Ellammanur, Chundur, Bett and Chengam.	432-0-0
	<u>3312-0-0</u>

4. From the 18th Proximo: the delivery of Pours that have been hitherto attached to the Imperial Post Office at the 12 following places viz: 1. Chedambaram.

2. Virudachellam, 3. Villupuram, 4. Tiruvannamalai, 5. Merthalam, 6. Gurjee, 7. Tiruvallur, 8. Trinamalai, 9. Kuttavayal, 10. Tirukaloor, 11. Kurinjipatti, 12. Manjgalur.

will cease to be delivery Pours under your orders but will be entertained as rural messengers along with the two Huzur delivery Pours and will be under any orders as part of the Village Post Establishment and will be attached to the different Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars Katcheries for the work of distributing letters in the Villages of the Taluk - a task which I shall proceed to elaborate as soon as I am freed by your Department of the charge of all Existing Post Offices.

5. From the date of the transfer, letters for outlying Villages should be sent to the Katcheries of the Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars for distribution.

Yr

At Trinellore and Kiringipatti, a
Royal Messenger will be detailed to call
at the Post Office either daily or 2 or
3 times a week as experience may
prove to be practicable for letters.

I am &c.

W. H. Martin
Collector

Copy of a letter from the Postmaster
General Madras to the Collector of
South Arcot No. 1418 dated 3^d October
1874.

Sir,
Adverting to paras 4 & 5 of your
letter No. 37 of 23^d September 74 addressed
to the Inspector of Post Offices Andalore
Division, I would beg to remind you that
the proposals you there make are entirely
opposed to the system under which
the District Post is worked when the
Control

Control is transferred from the Collector
to the Postmaster General.

You propose to remove the delivery
Peons at present paid from District
Post funds which are now attached
to 12 different Imperial Post Offices for
the purpose of making the Peon
belong to and to attach them to the
different Subdivisions or Deputy Divisions
Kitcheries.

You say "will cease to be delivery
Peons under your orders" and "will
be under my orders" and that they
will be utilized for the work of
"distributing letters in the villages of
the Taluk a task which I shall pro-
ceed to elaborate as soon as I am free
from your Department of the charge
of all existing Post Offices."

The great objection in transferring
the Control from the Collector to the
Post

Post-Master General is to relieve
the former of all Executive Control
of Every Description, to place all the
District Post Employees without Ex-
ception under the sole and immediate
orders of the Executive officers of the
Imperial Postal Department. It
is to get rid of divided authority
which has impeded the development
of Postal Communication, that Government
have determined on the transfer
of all the District Posts to the
Postmaster General.

It would be impossible for him
to undertake the management
of any District Post if District Post
Binary Peons are to be removed
from Imperial Post Offices without
any orders. These have been specially
established for the purpose of effecting
the delivery of articles for the District,
the

12
the station delivery being made
by the Imperial Delivery Peons.
If they are to be removed no means
is left for effecting the delivery,
the whole work of delivery and
collection of articles, sent by Post
together with the Executive Control
of all District Post Employees will
in future be conducted by, and
under the orders of the officers
of the Imperial Postal Department.
The authority of the Collector being
limited to the disbursement of the
District Post Grants, keeping the
District Post accounts and the enter-
tainment of new District Post
Establishments or abolishing them
wherever he may deem it necessary.
He is solely responsible respecting
all matters connected with the District
Post.

104
Post fund and its appropriation.
Whatever changes he may at any
time wish to make respecting the
distribution of the grant or Establis-
ment, he has merely to intimate the
same to the Inspector who will enter-
tain new delivery Papers, open
new District Post Offices or Lines
just as the Collection may desire,
the Inspector informing the Collection
of the Cost of such.

Regarding your instruction in the
5th para of your letter under notice
they say that to carry out your
wishes "all letters for outlying
Villages should be sent to the
Kutcherries of the Tahsildar and
Deputy Tahsildar for delivery" would
be a most retrograde step. This
was the best mode of delivery
which

13 18/10
which the transfer of control is
calculated to improve - viz. by having
the delivery made direct from the
Post Office through the District Post-
delivery person attached to the Post
office and placing them under the
immediate orders of the Imperial
Postal officials, thus removing
all District Post Employees from
the authority and control of
the Revenue officials.

If the correspondence for
outlying Villages was sent as
proposed to the Kutcherries of the
Tahsildar and Deputy Tahsildar,
how could the bearing passage
account be kept? Who would
sign for the receipt of Registered
articles?

I fear such a plan is about
impossible

mode of effecting delivery would
be a most successful and tedious
process and one not calculated
to develop the District Post and
bring the Rural delivery to the
door of every ryot. The System
that has worked well in other
Districts and the one that I believe
best suited to the Country, is the
Imperial System of delivery and
Collection of Correspondence which
is the one about to be introduced
into Cutchalore, with which all
Post Office officials are perfectly
conversant.

I trust you will understand the
circumstance as explained in the
the 4th and 5th paras of your
letter to Inspector of Post Office.

Sd/- E. R. Bunker
Postmaster General

Copy of a letter from the Collector of
South Arcot to the Postmaster General
Madras No 47 - dated 9th October 1876.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge
receipt of your letter No. 1418 of the
3rd Instant and in reply to refer
you to your own letter printed in
the Proceedings of the Madras Govern-
ment, Revenue Department, dated
13th May/72 in which you ask that
orders may be issued to Collectors
to defray the cost of District Post
Establishments until your departure
is prepared to do so. and this course
was followed here until the 1st
Instant when the transfer of the
whole District Post System with
Existing was handed over to your
Department which had undertaken
to pay the cost of Post Office Estab-
lishments and two short lines of run
from

Copy

from that date and to manage
all the other Postal Lines and Post
offices (the latter three in number)
but not to pay for them.

2. In accordance with this arrangement
all the Establishments at the 8
Post offices taken over by your
Department and the four District
Post delivery persons who have
been temporarily attached to the
only 4 Imperial Post offices in the
District were dismissed and it
then rested with your Department
to re-nominate the old men or to
appoint new ones if required. What
I do with the District Post funds
thus set free is not a matter on
which I am bound to consult
your Department. The method
of

15th 20/11/14
of expending these funds has been
fully explained to the Revenue
Board who have approved my
suggestions. and my object is to
secure the delivery of letters among
Villages far away from Post offices
by the only method the funds at
my disposal will admit of.

3. If hereafter I find that I want
a dozen new Post offices and lines
of runners I will write to the
Inspector to ask him to let me
know what these will cost and
he shall open and work the
offices and lines and I will pay
for them from District Post funds
till they can pay well enough

to induce your Department to
relieve those Funds of the Charge
and reap the profits from the said
offices.

4. The present every Post office has
a circle of about 3 miles around
it within which an Imperial
Delivery Man has to deliver letters
with the country outside that circle
the Post office has nothing to do
or nothing to do. and I propose
to attach even to the Post office
stations who shall go into those
portions of the district and deliver
and gather letters until correspondence
becomes sufficiently developed to
require the establishment of fresh
Post offices when I will apply to your
Department to establish and work them

5. I have recently transferred to the
Control

15 2/14
Control of your Department, the whole
of an existing system but I do not
consider this on that account. I am
deterred from attempting to
elaborate a rural Messenger Service
from funds at my disposal. With
all deference to you, I think that such
elaboration can be better carried out
by the Revenue Department than
by the Postal. When it is so
established to any satisfaction
as to meet at regular intervals
all the wants of Rural portions
of the district, I shall have no
objection to hand it over in its
entirety to your Control or to abolish
it by degrees by substituting Post
offices and runners to be managed
by you.

6. I Enclose two specimens of the
books

Revised (1874) 1874

From
The Postmaster
General, Reading

No 1573
of 1795

Recd 12 1873
Recd 2 1874
No 14, 114. 9 1874

Remains, good
entry, copies & car
preparation not
has passed between
the Col. & S. West,
the Inspector of the
Office, Circulars
division, & himself
on the subject of
the contract & etc.
delivery, please
Wm. Olin

63-64

No 1414.

Revised to the Board of Revenue

for their study purposes.

W. L.

9 1874

To the Board of Revenue with 3 copies
2. Old Board for Prime & No. 8410