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MA RAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	231	Press
<u>B.P. No.</u>		<u>Mis.</u>
Dated	20-2-	1874 -196-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

231

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th February 1874.*

No. 176. Read the following endorsement of the Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, dated Fort William, 9th February 1874, No. 761 :—

Read the following despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India :—

Judicial.
No. 71.

INDIA OFFICE, LONDON,
16th December 1873.

MY LORD,—WITH reference to your letter in the Separate Revenue Department, No. 5, dated 28th February last, reporting your decision that the stamped papers shall be brought into use in India as soon as each denomination or value

* 18th October 1873.
† 3rd December „

is received, I enclose for your information copy of a letter* received from Messrs. De La Rue & Co. and of a report†

by the Director-General of Stores on the subject, and I request to be informed at an early date what quantities of stamped papers will be required for the purpose of stocking the offices in India in addition to the quantities intended for current use.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) ARGYLL.

His Excellency the Right Honourable
the Governor-General of India in Council.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From M. M. DE LA RUE, to the Hon. G. C. TALBOT, India Office, dated 110, Bunhill Row, E.C., 18th October 1873.

WE beg to inform you that unless some unforeseen difficulty arises, we shall soon be prepared to commence and maintain the delivery of the stamped papers at the rate of about 630,000 per week, so as to complete the first two years' supply by the stipulated date, September 16th 1874.

2. We believe that at the time the contract was under discussion, it was thought that the authorities in India would refrain from using any of the stamped papers until a sufficient quantity of each value had reached them, and so it was reckoned that this two years' supply would suffice, not only to stock the offices in India, but also to admit of the accumulation of the floating stock (one years' estimated consumption) which is to be kept at the Store Department.

3. Since, however, it has been decided to bring each denomination into use as soon as possible without waiting for its fellows, and we imagine that it will take at least one year's consumption to afford a proper working stock to the offices in India, it seems that those which are used up to September 1874 must be drawn from what it was originally proposed should accumulate at Lambeth, so that it is very likely that hardly any or no stock will have accumulated there by September 1874. If, therefore, we were then to curtail the rate of production to that of the actual consumption, there would be no opportunity of accumulating the stock which it is a condition of the contract should be kept in this country. It consequently appears that it would be desirable to continue the double rate of production up to September 1875. This is a question which we think may require reference to India, and we beg to advance this as our excuse for raising it thus early.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th February 1874.*

Copy of Report by the Superintendent of Stamps, dated 28th November 1873.

I beg to report for the information of the Director-General of Stores, that it is extremely difficult to give precise answers to the foregoing queries. After some delay, occasioned by the pressure of business, Messrs. De La Rue & Co. have furnished me with certain particulars giving a general idea of their proposed arrangements for the supply of the stamped papers, judging from which the deliveries are likely to be sufficiently important and continuous to warrant the commencement of the shipments in less than a month from the present time.

2. The whole of the plates of Class 5, that is, of the 2, 4, and 8 Anna values are completed and in actual use, those of Class 4, it is stated, can be finished in a week or so, and will probably be ready quite as soon as Messrs. De La Rue are prepared to print from them.

3. Several cases of the 2 Anna value of the stamped papers have already been delivered at the Store Depot; by Monday next the 1st proximo, the quantity so delivered will exceed 1,000,000; and probably 600,000 more of this value will be prepared for shipment in the ensuing week.

4. After that, and until the close of the year, Messrs. De La Rue are likely to be in a position to make delivery, conjointly of the whole of the values comprised in Class 5 (that is 2, 4, and 8 Anna) at the rate of from 600,000 to 680,000 per week.

5. From the commencement of 1874, Messrs. De La Rue could probably deliver Class 5 and Class 4 stamped papers conjointly, at the rate named above, and they could proportion the supply of each value as might be desired, but they are giving preference to the lower values as they are required in by far the larger quantities.

6. Messrs. De La Rue think they may safely promise the whole of the stamped papers of Class 3 by April next.

7. Those of the Lower Section of Class 2 by August.

8. Those of the Upper Section of Class 2 and 1 by September.

9. And they further state that it is impossible to give more detailed particulars of these classes than to say that they will endeavour to complete the plates in the order of their values, i.e., from the lowest to the highest.

Copy of Report of the Director-General of Stores, dated 3rd December 1873.

I have to report that by the terms of the contract entered into with Messrs. De La Rue for the preparation of stamped papers for India, it has been arranged that two years' estimated supply shall be ready for delivery by September 1874, to allow for issue to India and a year's stock in hand in this country.

2. It was understood when the contract for the supply of the stamped papers was arranged, that they would not be brought into use in India until after the two years' supply had been completed, but it appears from India Separate Revenue letter, No. 5, dated 28th February last, that the Government proposes to bring each denomination into use as soon as possible without waiting for its fellows.

3. In the accompanying letter, dated 18th ultimo, Messrs. De La Rue draw attention to this decision of the Government, and state that as stamped paper equal in quantity to at least one year's consumption will be required to afford a proper working stock for the offices in India, it seems that those thus used, up to September 1874, must be drawn from what it was originally proposed should accumulate in this country, and that in consequence it is very probable that hardly any or no stock will have accumulated here by that date.

4. The preparation of the stamped papers occupies a considerable time, and it is absolutely necessary that a stock equal to about one year's consumption for each Presidency should be retained in this country in order to meet at once demands from India, as any delay in complying with requisitions would lead to serious consequences to the Public Service. If, however, Messrs. De La Rue are limited to the terms of their contract and only allowed to manufacture stamped papers equal in quantity to the estimated yearly consumption after September 1874, it will be

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
20th February 1874.*

impossible that the required stock in this country can be accumulated, and at the same time a sufficient supply for a working stock for the offices in India prepared.

5. Messrs. De La Rue therefore propose to be allowed to continue the present rate of production, viz., double the estimated annual requirements, up to September 1875.

6. In the absence of information from India, I am unable to furnish an opinion on the point Messrs. De La Rue & Co. have raised, and I beg, therefore, to suggest that the Government of India be requested to report, as early as possible, what will be their probable requirements for stocking the offices in India in addition to the quantities required for current issue.

7. In order to guide the Government in their decision, I annex a copy of a report by the Superintendent of Stamps, showing the dates by which the stamped papers will probably be ready for shipment from this country.

8. A draft despatch is annexed for approval.

COPY of the above, and of its enclosures, forwarded to the Governments of Bengal, Bombay, and Madras for early report. It is believed that it will be necessary at first to issue both the old and the new stamps simultaneously in order to use up the stock of old stamps in hand, and it should be considered whether this will not enable the Superintendents of Stamps to accumulate a sufficient stock of the new stamps.

(By order.)

(Signed) D. BARBOUR,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 177. ORDER THEREON, 20th February 1874, No. 231.

Separate Revenue, No. 12.
Stamps.

REFERRED to the Superintendent of Stamps through the Board of Revenue for report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Ed. W. H. French.

India Office London

16th December 1873.

Judicial
No. 41.

To

His Excellency the Right Honble the
Governor General of India in Council

My Lord,

With reference to your letter in
the Separate Revenue Department No. 5 dated
28th February last, reporting your decision that
the Stamped Papers shall be brought into use
in India as soon as each denomination or value
is received, I enclose for your information copy
of a Letter received from Messrs De La Rue & Co.
and of a report by the Director General of
Stones on the subject, and I request to be
informed at an early date what quantities
of Stamped Papers will be required for the
purpose of stocking the offices in India
in addition to the quantities intended for
current use.

I have &c

S^g. Argyll.

no

18 October 1873.

32 December 1873.

GOVT. OF INDIA

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

India, 28th February 1874.

G. O. No. 504 February 1874, No. 284.

FEBRUARY
Nos. 176-177.

Stamped Papers.—Referring to Superintendent of Stamps, through Revenue Board, to review of Government of India, forwarding copy of a Memo despatch inquiring what quantities of — will be required for stocking in addition to those intended for current use.

Copy of the above, and of its encls.

By Order Jca

The 9 Feby 1874

Under Secy to the Govt. of India

Ami

Let Rev. Mr. [unclear]

№ 23/

Reported to the Capt of
thru the Board of Revenue
Hampden for report.

✓ R. H. L.

20: Feb/74

14578.3 Rev: des: ip-2-75

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110 Bunhill Row! E. C.

18th October 1873.

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The Honble G. C. Talbot
India Office.

Lix

We beg to inform you that unless some unforeseen difficulty arises, we shall soon be prepared to commence and maintain the delivery of the Stamped Papers at the rate of about 680,000 per week, so as to complete the first two years' supply by the stipulated date September 16th 1874.

We believe that at the time the contract was under discussion, it was thought that the authorities in India would refrain from using any of the Stamped Papers until a sufficient quantity of each value had reached them, and so it was reckoned that this two years supply would suffice, not only to stock the offices in India, but also to admit of the accumulation of the floating stock (one year's estimated consumption) which is to be kept at the

Stone Department.

Since, however, it has been decided to bring each denomination into use as soon as possible, without waiting for its fellows, and we imagine that it will take at least one year's consumption to afford a proper working stock to the offices in India, it seems that those which are used up to September 1874 must be drawn from what it was originally proposed should accumulate at Lambeth, so that it is very likely that hardly any stock will have accumulated there by September 1874. If, therefore, we were then to curtail the rate of production to that of the actual consumption, there would be no opportunity of accumulating the stock which it is a condition of the Contract should be kept in this country. It consequently appears that it would be desirable to continue the double rate of production up to September 1875. This is a question which we think may require reference to India and we

beg

beg to advance this as our excuse for raising it thus early.

5/7
I have &c

Sof. M. M. De La Rue.

Copy of Report by the Superintendent of Stamps dated 28th November 1873.

I beg to report for the information of the Director General of Stamps, that it is extremely difficult to give precise answers to the foregoing queries. After some delay, occasioned by the pressure of business, Messrs De La Rue & Co. have furnished me with certain particulars giving a general idea of their proposed arrangements for the supply of the Stamped Papers, judging from which the deliveries are likely to be sufficiently important and continuous to warrant the commencement of the shipments in less than a month from the present time.

The whole of the Plates of Class 5, that is, of the 2, 4 and 8 anna values are completed and in actual use, those of class 4 it is stated can be finished in a week.

week or so, and will probably be ready quite as soon as Messrs De La Rue are prepared to print from them.

Several cases of the 2 Anna value of the Stamped Papers have already been delivered at the Stone Depot, by Monday next the 1st proximo, the quantity so delivered will exceed 1,000,000, and probably 600,000 more of this value will be prepared for shipment in the ensuing week.

After that, and until the close of the year, Messrs De La Rue are likely to continue to make delivery, conjointly of the whole of the values comprised in Class 5 (that is 2, 4, and 8 anna) at the rate of from 600,000 to 680,000 per week.

From the commencement of 1874, Messrs De La Rue could probably deliver Class 5 and Class 4 Stamped Papers conjointly, at the rate named above, and they could proportion the supply of each value as might be desired, but they are giving preference to the lower values as they are required in by far the larger quantities.

Messrs De La Rue think they

may safely promise the whole of the Stamped Papers of Class 3 by April next. ^{9/2}

Those of the lower section of Class 2 by August.

Those of the upper section of Class 2 and 1 by September.

And they further state that it is impossible to give more detailed particulars of these Classes than to say that they will endeavour to complete the Plates in the order of their values i.e. from the lowest to the highest.

(Copy)

Report of the Director General of Stones dated 3^d December 1873.

I have to report that by the terms of the contract entered into with Messrs De La Rue for the preparation of Stamped Papers for India, it has been arranged, that two years estimated supply shall be ready for delivery by September 1874, to allow for issue to India and a years Stock in hand in this country.

It-

It was understood when the contract for the supply of the Stamped Papers was arranged, that they would not be brought into use in India until after the two years supply had been completed, but it appears from India - Sep. Revenue Letter No 5 dated 28th February last, that the Government proposes to bring each denomination into use as soon as possible without waiting for its fellows.

In the accompanying Letter, dated 18th ultimo. Messrs De La Rue draw attention to this decision of the Government, and state that ~~that~~ as Stamped Paper equal in quantity to at least one year's consumption will be required to afford a proper working stock for the offices in India, it seems that those thus used up to September 1874, must be drawn from what it was originally proposed should accumulate in this Country, and that in consequence it is very probable that hardly any or no stock will have accumulated here by that date.

The preparation of the Stamped
Papers.

Papers occupies a considerable time, and it is absolutely necessary that a stock equal to about one year's consumption for each Presidency should be retained in this country in order to meet at once demands from India as any delay in complying with requisitions would lead to serious consequences to the Public Service. If however Messrs De La Rue are limited to the terms of their contract and only allowed to manufacture Stamped Papers equal in quantity to the estimated yearly consumption after September 1874, it will be impossible that the required stock in this country can be accumulated, and at the same time a sufficient supply for a working stock for the offices in India prepared.

Messrs De La Rue therefore propose to be allowed to continue the present rate of production, vizt double the estimated annual requirements, up to September 1875.

In the absence of information from India. I am unable to furnish an opinion on the point Messrs De La Rue & Co have raised, and I beg therefore to suggest that the

the Government of India be requested to report as early as possible, what will be their probable requirements for stocking the offices in India in addition to the quantities required for current issues.

In order to guide the Government in their decision I annex a copy of a report by the Superintendent of Stamps shewing the dates by which the stamped papers will probably be ready for shipment from this country.

A Draft Despatch is annexed

Sgt. Gerald C. Talbot
Director General of Stamps

Aug
9/2

Revenue 1874 Depts: .
No 75.

From
The Under Secy to the
Government of India
Financial Depts.

Dated 9: } Feb 14.
Recd 14: }

No 76,
S.O. No 231 - 20 Feb 74
Forwarding for report copy
of letter from Secy of State
enquiring what quantities
of stamped papers will be
required for stocking the Office
in India in addition to the
intended for use

With order

176-177.