379

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	379	Press / Mis.
Dated	24-3-1874 -196	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 24th March 1874.

No. 213. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th March 1874, No. 535.

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 4th February 1874, No. 50:—

I have the honour to forward, for the consideration and orders of the Board, a letter, dated 29th ultimo, No. 26, from Mr. Lister, Head-Assistant Collector of this district, explanatory of the delay commented on by the Board, in paragraph 8 of the 12th December last, No. 2,572A, in the disposal by him of an application from the Salt Deputy-Collector, for an advance of money to salt ryots, to enable them to commence the manufacture of salt during the past season.

Enclosure No. 1.

From A. L. LISTER, Esq., Head-Assistant Collector, South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Virdachellem, 29th January 1874, No. 26.

In paragraph 8 of their Proceedings, No. 2,572A., of the 12th December, the Board of Revenue were pleased to observe that an application for an advance to salt ryots was eventually forwarded by the Salt Deputy-Collector Mr. Freer, "in March, but was delayed by the Acting Collector Mr. Lister, for six weeks, by which time half the season has been lost. In the circumstances, this delay by Mr. Lister was very reprehensible."

2. I have the honour to request you to lay before the Board of Revenue, my respectful application for a reconsideration of this censure.

3. Mr. Freer's letter, which is dated 31st March, was received by me at Kaludur (55 miles from Cuddalore) on Saturday the 5th April: the Sheristadar was not on circuit with me; the Head Vernacular Clerk, P. Ramachendra Row, who is most conversant with the conduct of general business in the Collector's office, was absent on privilege leave, which Mr. Sullivan had granted him, and the Magisterial Clerk who was with me could not tell me whether there had been any previous correspondence on the subject; I was, moreover, doubtful whether I could authorize the advance myself, or whether a reference had to be made to the Board of Revenue; I knew too that there had been difference of opinion between Mr. Sullivan and his Deputy; under these circumstances, I trust the Board will consider that I was right in sending the letter to Head-quarters for any information that might be available on the subject, before issuing any orders myself.

4. There were only three days before the Easter holidays, which I had arranged to spend out of the district, and as it was impossible to get a reply, and to take action upon it before the holidays, I directed the Magisterial clerk to find out all he could about the matter, and to bring the paper to me for disposal immediately after the Easter holidays; the letter was referred by me to nobody; it bears my initials and the date of its receipt, the mark I invariably put upon papers kept for personal disposal; had I had the faintest intention of delaying the paper until Mr. Sullivan's return, I should have written instructions to that effect on the letter.

5. I joined the district after the Easter holidays in the southern part of Chellembrum Taluq, forty miles from Cuddalore; I found a letter from Mr. Sullivan to say he was returning before the expiry of the leave, and that he would relieve me in the forenoon of Monday the 21st.

6. I had, therefore, but four working days to look into the accumulated holiday tappal of two offices, for I was not relieved of the charge of the Sub-division while I acted as Collector, and to march into Cuddalore. I do not remember that this application was again brought to me, and I must plead guilty to having forgotten it under the pressure of a considerable amount of work, combined with almost daily marching.

7. The Board will see that from April 5th to 19th was all the time which I delayed the application; I hope it will not be considered that I showed a want of judgment in waiting until after the Easter holidays to dispose of it, that my clerk might, in the meantime, find out any correspondence that might have taken place on the subject; this reduces the delay from six weeks to four days, for which I hope the Board will not consider me deserving of censure.

8. As the Proceedings censuring me have been submitted to Government, I hope this explanation will be sent on to be considered with them.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 15th December 1873, No. 2,572A.

2. Mr. Lister has shown that he was responsible for a portion only of the delay which occurred in the disposal of the application for advance to the ryots; and his conduct is so far palliated. The Board however do not think his explanation is such as to completely exonerate him from blame.

No. 214. ORDER THEREON, 24th March 1874, No. 379.

Separate Revenue, No. 19.
Salt.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

COPY OF PAPER FORWARDED
TO
THE BOARD OF REVENUE.
Dated March 1874.
Read
MARCH
No. 535 of 1874.

Advance to certain Salt Ryots of South Arcot District.—Records Board's Proceedings, No. 535, March 1874, forwarding Mr. Lister's explanation regarding delay in despatch of Proceedings, 12th December last, No. 2,572A.

(315)
3

No. 535.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th March 1874.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

H. Eltrolm

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of South Arcot.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

6th February/74 No. 41/2

Revenue 1874. Depte

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

No. 840

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH MARCH 1874, No. 535.

Dup 2/30 March/74

Encl

Received 14

MARCH.

No. 535.

Advance to Salt Ryots—of South Arcot District for manufacture of salt during past season.—Collector's letter forwarding explanation of Head-Assistant Mr. Lister of his delay in disposing of an application from Deputy-Collector, Salt Department, for — submitted to Government, with remarks.

13 to B. of Rev. des. 25. 3. 74

C.W. March/74 - R. 9th March/74

No. 379

Recd.

24 Jan