

(1) Number of Pages..... 22 1
(2) Date of repair..... 10-8-67
(3) Initials of the Referencer.....

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

61

Press
Mis.

Dated

12-1-1875

196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th January 1875.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 130. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th April 1874,
No. 819:—

Read the following letter from O. G. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Ganjam,
to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chatter-
pore, 9th February 1874, No. 479:—

The correspondence noted in the margin has led to an inquiry as to the
mode in which the provisions of Board's
Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, dated 9th
April 1873, No. 2,252. Standing Order No. 248 have been ob-
To Board, 21st June 1873, No. 1,328. served in this district, more particularly
From do., 9th July 1873, No. 4,235, Miscellane- at Gopaulpore.
ous.

2. It has been ascertained that
practically it has not been attended to literally or strictly, and that if it was, very
great inconvenience would result to the public without any compensating advan-
tage to Government.

3. I find that in the District Gazette, dated 16th February 1867, Mr. Forbes
issued the following notice:—"Under orders from the Board of Revenue persons
importing goods are required to declare contents and value of their packages
before the goods can be passed. It is hereby notified that this rule will be strictly
enforced, and the attention of all persons who are in the habit of receiving packages
by the Coasting Steamers through the port of Gopaulpore is specially requested to
the provisions of the rule."

4. How completely this has been lost sight of may be inferred from the fact
that the present Superintendent of Sea Customs has lately addressed me, proposing
the issue of a similar notice.

5. The practice has been, I believe, for the Steamer Agent to pass goods to
the addressees on receipt, rendering to the Custom's Office a return sooner or later,
of the contents and value without reference to information received from the
consignees or otherwise. The consequence has been delay in some instances in
the entry of goods and some uncertainty as to the nature of the goods passed and
their probable value. This has led to correspondence with the Agent who cannot
see the necessity of any strict compliance with the rules, considering the quantity
of goods moved along the coast by land and which never appear in any import or
export manifest.

6. The first question seems to be whether any practical good is attained by
requiring the contents and value of free goods to be entered in the trade returns.
To me it appears that no benefit occurs to any one. There can be no real use
in knowing that a hundred dozen of beer have been imported into Ganjam when
it has already paid duty at Madras, and been entered in the import returns there.
If transported by cart, no Government department would be any the wiser, and
the mere fact that a coasting vessel acts as the carrier cannot really make much
difference. It would be sufficient to declare that when goods had been declared to
be free and port to port goods, no further hindrances to their transit should be
insisted upon.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th January 1875.*

7. If it was a simple matter to obtain contents and value, the case might be different. Practically, importers are not in a position to know the value of their order from shops in Madras, the invoices generally come long after the goods; but, according to the strict letter of the rule, the goods cannot be passed until contents and value are declared.

8. The monthly trade returns rendered to the Board, prior to the 5th April 1873, contained no provision for the entry of value of free foreign goods from and to ports subordinate to the Madras Presidency. I do not know under what circumstances therefore such detailed information about port to port goods was considered necessary; but Mr. Forbes' order, to which reference has been made, shows that the Board's Standing Circular No. 248 was considered universally applicable. However, on the 5th April last, the Board directed (Official Memorandum No. 446) the submission, monthly, of returns showing the total value of trade at each port, and for this it is needful that everything which comes and goes should be recorded. The return from Gopaulpore for December last of such imports is exactly seven feet in length, and must have involved very great labor in its preparation.

9. Private individuals are the chief sufferers by these rules. In regard to public consignments, the Board have ruled that it was never intended to detain them, but that the departments concerned should be applied to, to give the value. Very often the departments cannot do so. For instance, we receive cases of printing materials, or the Civil Surgeon receives medicines, or the Commissariat supplies gunpowder which cannot be immediately valued, and the monthly return cannot therefore be correct. Paper printed forms and such like can seldom be properly valued. I have had a long list sent me of consignments, for which the Gopaulpore Sea Custom Superintendent can get no value given.

10. I have, therefore, to submit, for the consideration of the Board, whether it is not possible to relieve Government officers and private individuals (not regular merchants) of the necessity of rendering returns for goods which are transported from one place to another in the same Presidency.

11. I have, in the meantime, issued a notice, copy of which I enclose, pointing out to the public what their duties are. I have noted that in cases of perishable articles being received, the Superintendent of Sea Customs will pass them without waiting for detailed information. I think some such notice is necessary for the protection of the Superintendent in his duties. Previous laxity in the observance in the Board's Standing Order makes it difficult for him to act now in conformity with the rules.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Notice issued by the Collector.

It is of great importance for statistical purposes that the value of all goods exported and imported at ports should be recorded. If Standing Order No. 248 had been strictly enforced at Gopaulpore, the great inconvenience which the Collector anticipates would have almost disappeared by this time. The order must be adhered to in future.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th January 1875.*

2. The Collectors of all Maritime Districts will be requested to report if the order is attended to at their ports.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROS,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. T. MAYNE,
First Assistant.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th July 1874, No. 1,750.

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Godavery,	dated	7th May 1874,	No.	128.
"	"	Nellore,	6th "	" 942.
"	"	South Arcot,	5th "	" 218.
"	"	Tanjore,	11th "	" 117.
"	"	Malabar,	8th June "	" 137.
"	"	South Canara,	2nd "	" 1,010.
"	"	Vizagapatam,	23rd May "	" 768.
"	"	Kistna,	30th "	" 932.
"	"	Madura,	16th "	" 17.
"	"	Sea Customs,	22nd June "	" 67.
"	"	Tinnevely,	25th "	" 30.

In the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th April 1874, No. 819, Collectors of Maritime Districts were called upon to report whether the Board's Standing Order, No. 125, is strictly enforced at all the stations, and the letters quoted above are in reply.

2. The order is reported to be generally in force, though some difficulty is experienced with regard to the valuation of consignments to public offices. When Public Departments fail to give the information required, the matter should be brought to the notice of the Board, who will address the Heads of the departments concerned.

3. In some places, the valuation of free goods appears to be taken at the tariff rates, while in others, they are taken at the market rates. In future, the valuation of all free goods should invariably be taken at the market rates.

4. The Collector of Kistna inquires whether the Board are disposed to cancel their Proceedings, dated 26th January 1874, No. 125, which directs that free goods may be allowed to be handed over to the Steamer Agents without being taken to the Custom House, as that arrangement is not calculated to secure correct information. The Board are of opinion that in the event of the Agents agreeing to furnish the required information regarding valuation, before delivering the articles to the consignees, free goods may be allowed to be handed over to them without being brought to the Custom House; but if they do not consent to give

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th January 1875.*

the information, or fail to give it regularly, the goods should be kept in the Custom House and dealt with under the rules.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. T. MAYNE,
First Assistant.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 11th December 1874, No. 3,585 :—
Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 11th April 1874, No. 819, and 9th July 1874, No. 1,750.

Read also the following letter from W. S. FOSTER Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 31st October 1874, No. 388 :—

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 1,750, dated 9th July 1874, I have the honor to bring to notice, that some difficulty is experienced at the Custom House in obtaining the valuation of consignments to the various public offices in this district, and I therefore think it is desirable that the Board should issue a circular to the Heads of the departments in Madras, either to give the value of the articles to the Agents who ship them, so that it may be entered in the manifest, or forward a memorandum of the same to the Master Attendant or Deputy-Collector, to whose care they generally come consigned.

2. The offices with whom this difficulty has arisen in this district are the Public Works Department, Stationery Department, and Police.

The Board resolve to request Government to direct the Heads of the several departments in Madras, whenever they send any packages by sea to any Maritime District, to invariably forward a memorandum showing the contents of those packages, with their approximate values, to the Master Attendant or the Deputy-Collector of the place to which they are consigned, and also to furnish the Agents who ship the packages with a copy of the memorandum.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 131. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th December 1874, No. 3,632 :—

Read the following letter from W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 1st December 1874, No. 449 :—

Two packages, containing an Aneroid and a Copper Compass Tripod, sent to the address of the Master Attendant of this port from Madras were cleared by him

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th January 1875.*

on the 6th and 17th ultimo from the Custom House; but he expresses his inability to furnish me with the value, etc., of the goods, and in bringing this to the notice of the Board, I have the honor to request that the value of the articles may be intimated to me as early as practicable for entry in the monthly returns. I also beg to state that twenty-eight bales clothing and nine bales printed forms were also cleared by the Master Attendant on the 17th ultimo, addressed to the Superintendent of Police here, who, on my application, states that he cannot furnish me with the value, etc., of the said articles.

The Board have already addressed Government on the subject, requesting them to direct the Heads of the several departments to furnish the required information regularly, and no orders have been as yet received.

2. The Collector will, however, be requested to ascertain and report under what circumstances the Master Attendant of the port and the Police Superintendent stated that they are unable to furnish the information called for by him.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 132.

ORDER THEREON, 12th January 1875, No. 61.

Miscellaneous.

The Superintendent of Revenue Survey and the Director of Revenue Settlement will comply with the sugges-

tions of the Board of Revenue. The Heads of other departments at Madras will also be requested, through the several departments of the Secretariat, to follow the same course.

2. The Government must remark, with reference to paragraph 1 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 15th December, that their Proceedings of 11th December were received in the Government Office on the 17th, and those of the 15th on the 16th idem.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.

„ the Director of Revenue Settlement.

„ the Board of Revenue.

„ the Public Department.

„ the Marine do.

„ the Judicial do.

„ the Military do.

„ the Public Works do.

Ed. W. H. French.

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1870-2624

7. If it was a simple matter to obtain contents and value, the case might be different. Practically importers are not in a position to know the value of their orders from shops in Madras, the invoices generally come long after the goods; but, according to the strict letter of the rule, the goods cannot be passed until contents and value are declared.

8. The monthly trade returns rendered to the Board prior to the 5th April 1873 contained no provision for the entry of value of free foreign goods from and to ports subordinate to the Madras Presidency. I do not know under what circumstances therefore such detailed information about port to port goods was considered necessary; but Mr. Forbes' order, to which reference has been made, shows that the Board's Standing Circular No. 248 was considered universally applicable. However, on the 4th April last, the Board directed (Official Memorandum No. 446) the submission monthly of returns showing the total value of trade at each port, and for this it is needful that everything which comes and goes should be recorded. The return from Gopaulpore for December last of such imports is exactly seven feet in length, and must have involved very great labour in its preparation.

9. Private individuals are the chief sufferers by these rules. In regard to public consignments, the Board have ruled that it was never intended to detain them, but that the departments concerned should be applied to, to give the value. Very often the departments ~~do~~ do so. For instance, we receive cases of printing materials, or the Civil Surgeon receives medicines, or the Commissariat supplies and gunpowder which cannot be immediately valued, and the monthly return cannot therefore be correct. Paper printed forms and such like can seldom be properly valued. I have had a long list sent me of consignments for which the Gopaulpore Sea Custom Superintendent can get no value even.

10. I beg, therefore, to submit, for the consideration of the Board, whether it is not possible to relieve Government officers and private individuals (not regular merchants) of the necessity of rendering returns for goods which are transported from one place to another in the same Presidency.

11. I have, in the meantime, issued a notice, copy of which I enclose, pointing out to the public what their duties are. I have noted that in cases of perishable articles being received, the Superintendent of Sea Customs will pass them without waiting for detailed information. I think some such notice is necessary for the protection of the Superintendent in his duties. Previous laxity in the observance in the Board's Standing Order makes it difficult for him to act now in conformity with the rules.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Notice issued by the Collector.

It is of great importance for statistical purposes that the value of all goods exported and imported at ports should be recorded. If Standing Order No. 248 had been strictly enforced at Gopaulpore, the great inconvenience which the Collector anticipates would have almost disappeared by this time. The order must be adhered to in future.

2. The Collectors of all Maritime Districts will be requested to report if the order is attended to at their ports.

(A true Copy and Extract)

(Signed)

J. GROSE,

Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed)

J. T. MAYNE,

First Assistant.

To the Collector of Ganjam.

„ all Collectors of Maritime Districts.

Exd. W. H. French.

Goods exported and imported at Ports.—
Collector of Ganjam informed that it is of great
importance that value of — should be recorded
in all cases. Collectors of Maritime Districts
requested to report if Board's Standing Order
on this subject is attended to at their ports.

APRIL.
No. 819.

Received

Recd 11/7/74
Correct

Encl.

PROCEEDINGS, 11TH APRIL 1874, No. 819.

1874.
BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

No. 1,750.

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

Read the following letters:—

From the Collector of Godavery, dated 7th May 1874, No. 128.	
Nellore, " 6th " " 942.	
" " South Arcot, " 9th " " 218.	
" " Tanjore, " 11th " " 117.	
" " Malabar, " 8th June " " 127.	
" " South Canara, " 2nd " " 1,010.	
" " Vizagapatam, " 23rd Ma " " 768.	
" " Kistna, " 30th " " 932.	
" " Madura, " 16th " " 133.	
" " Sea Customs, " 22nd June " " 679.	
" " Tinnevely, " 25th " " 305.	

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2. The order is reported to be generally in force, though some difficulty is experienced with regard to the valuation of consignments to Public Offices. When Public Departments fail to give the information required, the matter should be brought to the notice of the Board, who will address the Heads of the departments concerned.

3. In some places, the valuation of free goods appears to be taken at the tariff rates while in others, they are taken at the market rates. In future, the valuation of all free goods should invariably be taken at the market rates.

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(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. T. MAYNE,
First Assistant.

To all Collectors of Maritime Districts.

Ed. W. H. French.

No. 3,585.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 11th December 1874.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 11th April 1874, No. 819, and 9th July 1874, No. 1,750.

Read also the following letter from W. S. FOSTER Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 31st October 1874, No. 388:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 1,750, dated 9th July 1874, I have the honor to bring to notice, that some difficulty is experienced at the Custom-house in obtaining the valuation of consignments to the various public offices in this district, and I therefore think it is desirable that the Board should issue a circular to the heads of the departments in Madras, either to give the value of the articles to the agents who ship them, so that it may be entered in the manifest, or forward a memorandum of the same to the Master Attendant or Deputy-Collector, to whose care they generally come consigned.

2. The offices with whom this difficulty has arisen in this district are the Public Works Department, Stationery Department, and Police.

THE Board resolve to request Government to direct the heads of the several departments in Madras, whenever they send any packages by sea to any maritime district, to invariably forward a memorandum showing the contents of those packages, with their approximate values, to the Master Attendant or the Deputy-Collector of the place to which they are consigned, and also to furnish the agents who ship the packages with a copy of the memorandum.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. Grose
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copies of the Board's Proceedings, dated 11th April 1874,
No. 819, and 9th July 1874, No. 1,750.

Copy to the Acting Collector of the Godavery District.

Exd. W. H. French.

1874.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 9TH JULY 1874, NO. 1,750.

Received

Per 14/7/74

Encl.

JULY.
No. 1,750.

Goods exported and imported at ports of
Madras Presidency, consigned to Public Offices.
—When departments concerned fail to give re-
quired information as to value of — matter to
be reported to Board. Valuation of all free
goods to be taken at market rates. Cases in
which such goods may be handed over to Stea-
mer Agents without being taken to Custom
House, &c.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 15th December 1874.

Read the following:-

No. 449

From, H. S. Foster Esquire
 Dy Collector
 To, J. Grace Esquire
 Secretary to the Board of
 Revenue Madras
 Sir

Two packages containing
 an Aneroid and a copper Compass
 Tripod sent to the address of the
 Master attendant of this Port
 from Madras were cleared by
 him on the 6th and 17th ultimo
 from the Custom House; but
 he expresses his inability to
 furnish me with the value of
 the goods and in bringing
 this to the notice of the Board
 I have the honor to request that
 the value of the articles may
 be intimated to me as early as
 practicable

No. 449

Revenue 1874. No. 449

Board of Revenue

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 11th DECEMBER 1874, No. 3,585.

Dec 21 8 00 PM

Encl. 2

Dec 6 11 10 AM 1874

Received
 H. S. Foster Esquire

DECEMBER.
 No. 3,585

Goods exported and imported—consigned
 to Public Officers.—Government requested to
 direct heads of several departments in Madras,
 whenever they send any packages by sea to
 maritime districts, to invariably forward
 memorandum showing contents of those packages,
 with their approximate values, to the Master
 Attendant or Deputy-Collector of the place to
 which they are consigned, and to furnish agents
 who ship them with a copy of the memorandum.

practicable for entry in the
monthly Returns. Sales beg to
state that 28 Bales Clothing
and 9 Bales Printed forms
were also cleared by the Master
Attendant on the 17th & items
addressed to the Superintendent
of Police here, who on my appli-
cation states that he cannot
furnish me with the value
of the said articles.

Godavery District
Collector's Office
Coimbatore
1st December 1874
I have
/sig. b/ W. S. Foster
By Collector

The Board have already
addressed Government on the
subject requesting them to
direct the heads of the several
Departments to furnish the
required information regularly,
and no orders have been as
yet received.

2. The Collector will however be
requested to ascertain and
report under what circum-
stances the Master Attendant
of

Board's Pro-
ceedings
dated 11th
December 1874
No 3585.

of the Port and the Police Superin-
tendent stated that they are
unable to furnish the informa-
tion called for by him.

/True Copy & Extract/
/sig. b/ J. Grose
Secretary

To, The Collector of the
Godavery District
/True Copy/

J. Grose
Secretary

The Secretary to
Government Revenue
Department

/Signature/

Cop. Syd. Kh. D. B. Shab

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 12 December 1875
January

Read the following
Proc. of the Board of Revenue

Requesting Govt. to direct heads
of several depts in Madras, when-
ever they send packages by sea
to maritime districts, to invariably
forward memorandum show-
ing contents of those packages,
with their approximate values, to
the Master Attendant or Dy. Collector
of the place to which they are
consigned, so furnish agents
who ship them with a copy of the
Memorandum.

H. E. 11 Decr. 1874, No. 3585.

Intimating Mr. G. J. G. that
no orders on the above subject
have been received from Govt.

H. E. 15 Decr. 1874, No.

The Superintendent of
Revenue Survey and the Director
of Revenue Settlement will
comply with the suggestions

No 414 37

Madras 1874 District

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

Decr 61-12 January 1875

Decr 15 Decr 1874

Decr 15 Decr 1874

Subordinating Collector

Madras 1874 No 1000

from Govt. regarding

information in the file

concerning in connection

with the 2nd and 3rd

part of the 1st and 2nd

part of the 1st and 2nd

part of the 1st and 2nd

of the Board of Revenue.

The heads of other departments
at Madras will also be
requested through the several
Departments of the Secretariat
to follow the same course.

2. The Govt must re-
mark, with reference to para 1
of the Board's Pro. dated 15th
December, that the Pro. of 11th
December were received in the
Govt. office on the 17th and those
of the 15th on the 16th idem

[Signature]

- 13 To the Supdy Secy Secy, Dec 1880
- 13 To the Secy Secy, Dec 1880
- 14 Board of Revenue
- 5 Public Department
- 5 Marine Department
- 5 Judicial Department
- 7 Military Department
- 21 Public Works Department

Gifts
Packages sent by
sea to public of
fices at Maria
town District

North America