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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	802	~~Press~~
B.P. No.		Mis. ✓
Dated	4.4.1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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802/1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Military Department,
30th March 1876.*

Military Stores.

Read the following papers:—

No. 483. From Colonel H. K. BURNE, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Adjutant-General; Commissary-General; Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines; Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Service; Officiating Master Attendant; and Superintendent and Agent for Army Clothing; dated Fort William, 15th March 1876, Nos. 723—728. (*Military—Stores.*)

I am directed to inform you that the Government of India, in communication with the Secretary of State for India in Council, have decided to permit direct communication between Indenting Officers in India and the Director-General of Stores at the India Office, so as to lessen delay in supplying information connected with items of indents on either side.

2. It must, I am to state, be clearly understood that the direct communication now authorized must be restricted to the purpose of giving or seeking information on matters of detail connected with the items of indents, such as would not properly require a reference to the Government of India or the Secretary of State in Council.

3. I am to request that your communications to the Director-General, India Office, may be sent under flying seal through this department.

—
No. 730.

Copy of the above and of the correspondence,* forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, Military Department, with the request that, under the orders of His Grace the Governor in Council, similar instructions may be issued in the Madras Presidency.

(By order.)

(Signed) E. COLLEN, Lieutenant,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

From Colonel H. DRUMMOND, R.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, to Colonel H. K. BURNE, c.s., Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated Fort William, the 20th January 1876, No. 38-A-S.R.

Copy of the following, together with copy of papers referred to, forwarded to the Military Department for further action.

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From the Government of India, in the Public Works Department, to Sir LOUIS MALLET, dated the 20th January 1876, No. 37-A-S.R.

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated 13th instant, forwarding, for consideration and for such steps to be taken on it as may be deemed desirable by the Government of India, a memorandum and report by the Director-General of Stores at the India Office.

2. In reply, I am to say that the Government of India in the Public Works Department thoroughly concur with Mr. Talbot in his proposal that direct communication should be permitted between him and the officers in this country who indent for stores, so that any necessary explanations from either side may be rendered with the least delay. To give effect to this, I am

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to add that the Indenting or Consuming Officer will be authorized to write direct to Mr. Talbot under flying seal through this Secretariat.

3. As the papers received with your letter have reference also to ordnance and commissariat stores, a copy has been forwarded to the Military Department for such action as may be deemed desirable.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Secretary of State for India in Council has been pleased to appoint Colonel H. Hyde, R.E., late Mint Master at Calcutta, as Inspecting Engineer of State Railway Stores in England.

This appointment is attached to the Store Department of the India Office, and certain questions connected with the supply of stores to India having been lately submitted to the Secretary of State, he has directed me to confer officially with the Government of India on the subject.

The questions referred to are fully explained in the accompanying memorandum drawn up by Mr. Talbot, the Director-General of Stores at the India Office, and I forward it for consideration, and for such steps to be taken on it as may be deemed desirable by the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, CALCUTTA,
13th January 1876.

I have, &c.,
(Signed)

L. MALLET.

To the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.

Memorandum for SIR LOUIS MALLET, C.B.

INDIA STORES DEPARTMENT,
2nd November 1875.

On hearing of Sir Louis Mallet's contemplated visit to India, it occurred to me at once that it would afford an excellent opportunity, in conjunction with the authorities in India, to dispose fully of two questions which appear to me to be of very great importance, and which, if not so discussed, might give rise to much correspondence.

1. The first to which I allude is that to which attention is drawn in the concluding paragraphs of my report of the 24th of June last, (copy annexed,) on the supply of malt liquor for India, viz., the proper protection of the casks in which it is contained from the sun and weather.

I by no means assert that all proper precautions are *not* used in India; but viewing the importance of the subject, and the great care taken by the brewers in this country in regard to it, I think it is *most* desirable that it should engage Sir Louis Mallet's attention so far as to ascertain what has been done and what is intended. I may perhaps observe on this subject that by a telegram recently received, the report referred to is engaging the attention of the Government of India, so that it is to be hoped that so important a portion of it is not unnoticed; but I would nevertheless solicit Sir Louis Mallet's own notice of the subject.

2. I have long felt the want of greater freedom in the discussion of the items of demand in the various indents sent to this country, when not clearly understood here, or when they appear to be insufficiently expressed. The necessary formalities when a submission conveying a request for explanation has to be made through a Departmental Secretary and Corresponding Committee of Council, and, under recent arrangements, through the Stores Committee, to the Secretary of State, after all of which a despatch has to be sent to the Government of India, which I presume goes through a similar gradation of authorities there before the question to which a reply is wanted can reach the Indenting Officer, whose reply has again to be returned with the same routine before it reaches me—occupy a very great, and, I must be permitted to say, a very needless amount of time, much of which would be saved (and the supply of stores proportionally expedited), if I could convey to the Indenting Officer *directly* the points which need elucidation.

What I very earnestly desire is that I may be permitted to write direct to the Indenting Officers in India on any point of detail in executing any demand, or where explanation is desirable, that such officers may be empowered similarly to address me. I should not propose to

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commence such a correspondence before an indent has been sanctioned by the Secretary of State in Council, but if, when that is once done, I may write as I suggest, I venture to assert that in many cases the stores would be supplied in half the time now occupied.

I think Sir Louis Mallet's presence in India, simultaneously with that of Colonel Hyde, (recently appointed to this department,) with whom I conferred on this subject before he left to return to India, and who, as I understood him, entirely concurs with me, affords an opportunity to make this arrangement with the concurrence of the Indian authorities, which will never recur, and I am most anxious that it should be availed of.

(Signed) F. G. C. TALBOT.

From the Most Honorable the MARQUIS of SALISBURY, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor-General of India in Council; dated India Office, London, 27th January 1876, No. 30.

I have considered in Council your Financial letter, dated the 14th October last, No. 330, requesting my assent to an arrangement by which the India Office and the Comptroller-General, Calcutta, may be placed in direct communication with each other on matters of routine, such as communications with the Public Debt Offices in England and in India, or with the India Office, about lost interest drafts, the payment of which has been stopped; remittances by public officers in India, or between service funds in India and the India Office, London; or for the exchange of Accounts Current between the Comptroller-General and the India Office; or the transmission of the general books and of periodical returns by the former; or of packing accounts and invoices of stores by either; or the transmission of last pay certificates of officers who have proceeded to Europe on leave, or on duty, or on pension; or the transfer, for payment in

Calcutta being made to the Financial Secretary of this office.

3. It must be distinctly understood that the communications now authorized must be restricted to the purpose of giving or seeking information on matters of detail such as would not properly require a reference to the Government of India, or the Secretary of State in Council, and that they should on no account contain anything that might have the effect of giving instructions, or of modifying orders issued by the Government of India or Secretary of State in Council.

No. 484. ORDER THEREON, 30th March 1876, No. 1621.

Communicated to all departments of supply for information and guidance.
(True Extract.)

Michael Col onel,
Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant-General.
" Inspector-General of Ordnance and Magazines.
" Commissary-General.
" Superintendent and Agent for Army Clothing.
" Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
" Controller of Military Accounts.
" Public, &c., Departments, } for information.
" Revenue Department,
" Public Works Department,

Exd. J. Wright.

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Communicated to the Board of Revenue
and to the Settlement Survey and Forest De-
partments, for information and guidance.

4: The Board of Revenue April
1: The Board of Revenue
1: The Dept of Revenue
1: The Conservator of Forests

4: April 1/6

Revenue Department

No 12940

Cost of 1876. 3000000.

MILITARY.

To THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Mr. Mr. Mr.

Dated March 30th.

Recd. April 1/6

G.O. No. 30th March 1876, No. 1621.

MARCH
Nos. 483-484.

Continuing correspondence from the
Government of India, purporting direct com-
munication between the Director of Forests and
the Director-General of Forests on matters con-
nected with the issue of licenses, and requesting the
issue of similar instructions to the British Forest
Department.

No 802. 4. April 1876

With Recd

DEPARTMENT

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

Press
Mis.