M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1082 Press Mis.-

195-200

Dated 4-5-1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Vs 1082

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th May 1867.

No. 199. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th May 1867, No. 2,808.

Read the following letter from the Mint Master, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1867, No. 49:—

1. A complaint in this day's "Madras Times," regarding defective bi-coloured stamping of Bills of Exchange, may possibly have attracted the attention of the Board of Revenue, and I have the honour to forward one of a number of bills shewn to me yesterday by a member of one of the Mercantile houses, which is a fair illustration of the complaint. The complaint is divided into two heads—

First.—The defective nature of the printing.

Secondly.—The space occupied by the double stamp, and the defacement of important parts of the inscription on the bill.

2. Accepting the complaint to be quite as much against the Mint as the Stamp Office, I must observe that the defect is entirely attributable to the nature of the paper used in the Bills of Exchange, as the ink is the best printing ink procurable, and the bi-coloured impressions on the Judicial paper and sundry other "private goods" are clear, distinct, and altogether different from the very objectionable specimen of coloured stamping enclosed; if, therefore, bi-coloured stamps are to continue to be used for Bills of Exchange, a different quality of paper must be adopted.

3. As regards the second part of the complaint, exception being taken to the coloured stamp impression on the only blank portion of the bill which is sufficiently large to receive it, viz., that at the bottom, it follows that the inscription must be partially defaced, as it cannot be read through the coloured stamp, and the same objection exists in the case of Cheques, Bills of Lading, and similar documents, but which is not the case in the cold die impressions formerly in use.

Enclosure No. 1.—Bill of Exchange.

1. The bi-coloured stamps are clearly unsuited to Cheques, Bills of Exchange, &c., nor is the security which they afford against counterfeiture of very material consequence in regard to these documents. The Superintendent should revert to the use of impressed stamps—value and counterstamp—and treat as spoiled any Cheques or Bills of Exchange already stamped with bi-colour stamps which may be brought to him for exchange.

2. A copy of these Proceedings, with the enclosure to the Mint Master's letter, will be submitted for the confirmation of Government.

No. 200. Order thereon, 14th May 1867, No. 1,082.

Separate Revenue, No. 11.
Stamps.

The Government approve the Board's decision in this matter, as a present arrangement, but desire that they will obtain specimens of forms of Bills of Exchange, &c., stamped in Calcutta with the Bi-colour Stamp, and see whether the same objection as has been raised here applies to that manufacture.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

21-1082.

The Govt. approves
the Bd. decision in this
matter. as a precedent
arrangement. but desire
that they will obtain Specimens
of forms of Bills of Exchange
& Stamps in Calcutta
with the Bi-color Stamps. &
the Collector the same object
as has been desired from
Agents & Distributors.

[illegible]

14th May 67