

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2476	Press
	417-419	Mis
Dated.	21-10-1918	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st October 1867.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 417. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st September 1867,
No. 6,076.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of the Kistna District, to the
Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 16th August 1867,
No. 278.

With reference to Government Order, No. 1,836, dated 8th current, I have the honor to report that, on the 10th April 1867, a letter No. 65, dated 6th April 1867, was received from the Commanding Officer, Samulkottah. The blank depositions sent with it were at once forwarded to the talook to be filled up; while there, and before inquiry had been completed, a docket No. 93, dated 18th May last, was received from the Commanding Officer, requesting that the "depositions forwarded with his former letter might be *re-transmitted*." The English of this is perhaps a little faulty, and led probably to the depositions being called for from the talook, and sent blank as they had been received to the Commanding Officer, who returned them with a letter, No. 100, dated 13th June 1867, which was received here on 17th June 1867, requesting that they might be filled up and forwarded. They were accordingly returned to the talook from which no report has been received as yet; a reminder for speedy disposal of the matter has gone. I must, however, point out with reference to the Commanding Officer's complaints of the vexatious delays which his communications have met, that they are not to be ascribed to Civil Officers but to the witnesses cited: they are summoned true enough; but there is no power on earth to compel their attendance, which they never as a rule condescend to give at the first time of asking.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be submitted to Government, with reference to Order of Government, dated 8th August 1867, No. 1,836.

No. 418. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th October 1867,
No. 6,506.

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 6th September 1867,
No. 246.

With reference to the Order contained in the Proceedings of the Government, dated 8th ultimo, No. 1,836, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from my Acting Head Assistant, which affords the explanation required relative to the delay which occurred in the preparation of depositions in certain cases referred to.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated Rajahmundry, 4th September 1867, No. 74.

1. I have the honor to submit the explanation called for in your letter, dated 14th ultimo, enclosing the Proceedings of Government, dated 8th August 1867, No. 1,836.

2. The greater part of the delay complained of occurred before I took charge of this Office on the 7th of May last.

3. The first forms of depositions sent to be filled in in this Office were received by Mr. Wigram on the 5th November 1866, and filled in and returned on the 5th of December. These two forms along with two fresh ones were sent to me with a letter, dated 11th February 1867, but

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
21st October 1867.

did not reach me until the 26th of that month. I forwarded them to Mr. Wigram who filled them in, and returned them with a letter, dated 23rd March. These were again returned with a letter from Captain Pereira, President of the Committee on claims of heirs for pension, dated 27th March 1867. This letter reached Mr. Wigram on the 30th of the same month. In it he was requested to fill in the age, general appearance, trade, or employment, and village of the witnesses from whom the depositions were taken. Nothing was done by Mr. Wigram until he gave over charge of the Head Assistant's Office to me. When he received this letter he was at Chintalapudi engaged in the Jummahbundy of the Ellore talook. Soon after he returned to head-quarters he was gazetted to Ganjam District.

4. On the 14th of March a letter was received by me at Ellore enclosing two forms of depositions to be taken from two other witnesses. On inquiry one of these witnesses could not be found, but a deposition was taken from the other, and returned on the 18th May. In the letter from the Officer Commanding Samulcottah, printed in the Proceedings above referred to, it is stated that the depositions returned with his letter of 26th March were returned without anything being done to them with my letter of 18th May. This is, I think, a mistake, as there was only one deposition sent with that letter, and that was a fresh deposition taken from another witness. The depositions returned on the 26th of March were two old ones that had been superseded by those sent with Mr. Wigram's letter of the 23rd March. These latter were again returned along with the deposition I had sent on the 18th May with the Commanding Officer's letter, dated 13th of June. The required corrections were made in all three depositions, and they were finally returned on the 16th of July. The delay of a month was owing to my absence inspecting Subsidiary Jails, and attending the examination of Assistants at Guntoor.

5. In conclusion, I beg to remark that none of this delay would have occurred if in sending the depositions at first a full statement of the information required had been sent along with them. The depositions were originally filled in by Mr. Wigram, and attested in the usual form in which depositions are made in a Court of Justice. It could not be expected that he should be acquainted with the Orders of Government, in the Military Department, respecting claims to pensions.

6. This explanation would have been submitted sooner, but I was engaged for seven days in superintending the Special Test Examinations.

The Collector's letter, with its enclosure, will be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Order, dated 8th August 1867, No. 1,836.

No. 419. ORDER THEREON, 21st October 1867, No. 2,476.

Miscellaneous.

1. Ordered that the above papers be communicated to the Military Department, with reference to the endorsement in that Department dated 5th August 1867, on Memorandum from the Adjutant General.

2. It does not appear that any avoidable delay occurred in the matter in question through the act or neglect of the Revenue Officers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Military Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue Department

N^o 2476

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 21st October 1867.

Read the following
Proceedings of the Board of
Revenue. —

Submitting to Gov^t letter
all^s of Rishra District
as to Gov^t Order N^o 1836
regarding delay caused
by authorities in the in-
vestigation of claims of heirs to

(Here enter 21st Sept^r/67 N^o 6076)

Submitting to Gov^t letter from
Rishra District for
explanation of his delay
regarding delay which
in preparation of depositions
was referred to by Gov^t.

(Here enter 10th Oct^r/67 N^o 6506)

Ordered that the above
papers be communicated to the
Military Department with
reference to the endorsement
in that Department dated
5th August 1867, on Memo.
from the Adjutant General.

It

It does not appear
that any avoidable delay
occurred in the matter
in action thro' the Act
or neglect of the Revenue
officers.

[Signature]

7 Copies To the Military Dept. Dec 20 22
14 ———— P. of Paul

[Signature]

Revenue 1864 Deptt
Pro of Court for Actn

No 2476.

Pro of the Madras Court
121 October 1864.

Pro of 161-162 -
5/8/67

No 417 @ 419.