

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2563

Press

~~Mis.~~

600. 601

Dated 31—10—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
31st October 1867.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 600. From the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 9th September 1867, No. 2,446.

1. With reference to your letter No. 1,718, dated the 29th July 1867, I am desired to enquire whether the present excessive stock of Foreign Bill Adhesive Stamps in the hands of the Superintendent of Stamps, Madras, might not be utilized by permitting this class of Stamps to be used for all applications and petitions requiring one Anna Stamps under Article 10, Schedule B, Act XXVI of 1867.

2. If this be impracticable, the Stamps should be destroyed after a suitable reserve has been kept.

1. Referred for the opinion of the Board of Revenue.

2. It is observed that the 'values' of the surplus Foreign Bill Stamps are all in excess of one Anna.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

21st September 1867.

Secretary to Government.

No. 600A. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th October 1867, No. 6,968.

Read the following letter from the Superintendent of Stamps, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd October 1867, No. 619, of Fusly 1277.

1. In acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th ultimo, communicating Government Order of the 21st idem, I have the honor to observe that, as pointed out by Government, the surplus stock of Foreign Bill Stamps consists of values rising from 2 Annas to 24 Rupees, and that they must, by a fresh impression, be first reduced to one Anna before they can be made use of in the manner suggested by the Government of India. The old impressions of value cannot altogether be obliterated by a fresh Stamp, and their use, under such circumstances, as one Anna Stamps would, I fear, lead to fraud.

2. In the next place, we have separate one Anna Adhesive Stamps for applications to the Collector of Sea Customs and to Municipal Commissioners, and I have now nearly seven years' supply of them on hand. One Anna Judicial Stamps and one Anna Adhesive Receipt Stamps are also used, I believe, for the same purpose. To permit the use of Foreign Bill Stamps also, as proposed, even if it were not open to the other objection I have stated, would create confusion and be apt to mislead.

3. For these reasons, I deprecate the use of the Foreign Bill Stamps in the manner suggested.

4. The only way in which a part of the stock might possibly be utilized is by converting the 2, 4, and 8 Anna Stamps into Service Postage labels. This could be done by cutting off the words "Foreign" and "Bill" at the top and bottom, and by stamping the word "Service" across in some bright color. This would involve no alteration of value. At the same time, I have a quantity already so converted. The entire stock of Service Postage Stamps of 2, 4, and 8 Annas now

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in store will, at the present rate of consumption, last for eight, seven, and twenty-six years, respectively. I question, therefore, whether it is desirable to add to this large stock.

5. I send a two Anna Foreign Bill Stamp for inspection, and beg it may be returned when no longer required.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Two Anna Foreign Bill Stamp.

1. Resolved that the foregoing letter be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their docket, dated 21st September 1867, referring for the opinion of the Board a letter, dated 9th September 1867, No. 2,446, from the Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department, to the Secretary to the Madras Government, Revenue Department.

2. The Board concur with the Superintendent of Stamps in his opinion as to the inexpediency of utilizing the two Anna Stamps in the manner proposed in paragraph 1 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India.

3. They would recommend that the surplus Stamps should be destroyed, a suitable reserve being kept.

No. 601. ORDER THEREON, 31st October 1867, No. 2,563.

Separate Revenue, No. 23.

Stamps.

1. It occurs to Government that the surplus stock of Foreign Bill Stamps had better be retained until after the enactment of the new Stamp Act, which

will probably be passed in the coming session of the Imperial Legislative Council.

2. Its provisions may possibly allow of this stock being converted to some other use.

3. The Board will instruct the Superintendent of Stamps to bring the matter again under consideration at the proper time.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Chas. F. Smith

W-2563.

It seems to me that the simplest
mode of doing this is to
ask whether it is necessary until
after the enactment of the
new Stamp Act? Will it be
be passed in the coming
Session of the Imperial
Legislative Council. It is possible

may possibly allow of this
stock being covered at
some future time.

It is possible that
the Imperial Stamp Act may
be passed again under
consideration at the present
time.

Chas. F. Smith
1870