

Educational (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 357-58

Dated 16-6-98

INDEXED.



10-10

[Despatch Abstract.]

Forwarding, with remarks, to the Director Genl of Stores, India Office, ~~letter~~ copy of letter from the Principal of the College of Agriculture, Saidapet, regarding the inferior quality of the glass-ware supplied in 1897 by the India Office for the use of the laboratory of the College.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Enclosure to D.D. No. 6357 RR No 6419 of 98
6 June 1898

Ed. 7

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educational (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 531

From

E. Grant Burs. Esq.
Director General of Stores

Enclt. No. 14 M. J. 25-4-1898.
Order

No. S. 2995.

Referred to the Director
of Public Instruction for remarks.

(By order)

S. R. R.
Ag Assistant Secretary.

Dated 1st April, 98.

Received 19th (At Madras, 21st At.)

Registered 21st April, 98

Enclosures 3.

Spare copies.

7/2
21/4/98

Q No. 400
u. 5-98

No 5157 dated 3rd May 1898

SUBJECT.

Referred to the
Principal College of
Agriculture, for remarks

By order

V. Venkatasubrahmanyam
Ag Personal Asst to the
D.P.O.

Requesting to give him information as to the indent upon test-tubes to which were sent by him to the Madras Agricultural College & which were complained of were supplied, so as to aid him in the further investigation of the complaint.



BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	91-2	Exc.	16-2-98
	190	Rat - u -	12-5-97
	710	Hub - u -	14-11-96
	600-1	- u -	29-9-96
	277-8	- u -	2-5-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

COPY REPORT BY DR. MACNAMARA, DATED 28th MARCH 1898.

The test tubes seem to me to be of ordinary quality and I should have no objection to such tubes for use in this laboratory.

I might say the same as regards the flask, but Messrs Griffin assert that it is not one of those which they supplied. I very well remember the increase of breakages which would occur in my laboratory at Calcutta on the introduction there of a rough fingered, new or 'budli' bearer.

We have today sent the samples returned at the India Store Depot, and the sample flask there, to the manufacturer Messrs Griffin, who supplied to the Government of India the above described test tubes and flasks. We have also to send a report on the quality of the above described test tubes and flasks, which we have received from the manufacturer. The report states that the test tubes and flasks supplied to the Government of India are of ordinary quality, and that the increase of breakages which would occur in my laboratory at Calcutta on the introduction there of a rough fingered, new or 'budli' bearer, is due to the quality of the test tubes and flasks supplied to the Government of India.

22 GARRICK STREET, COVENT GARDEN,
LONDON, W. C. 24th March 1898.

Sir,

We beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter S.2995 of the 23rd inst., reporting that a complaint had been received from the Principal of the College of Agriculture, Saidapet, with reference to some glass-ware supplied to this college under Contract 59/332 dated 25th June 1896.

In reply we beg to say that all our glass-ware is purchased from the leading glass-houses on the continent and we have not received from any other source, a single complaint as to the quality of what we have supplied and we can only think that the cause of this complaint arises from some want of care on the part of the user in India.

We have today, seen the samples returned at the India Store Depot, and the sample Flask there, is of German manufacture whereas the Flasks supplied to the above order were of Bohemian manufacture. We beg leave to remind you in reference to the above contract that a remark appeared on the enquiry to the effect that some German Glass Flasks previously supplied, were too thick and on this account it was reported that they broke readily on heating and we therefore suggested in our letter of the 16th June /96, that Bohemian Flasks, which we could thoroughly recommend, should be supplied instead of the German Flasks and our suggestion was approved and Bohemian Flasks were supplied instead of German ones as specified in the enquiry. It is evident therefore that there has been some mistake in regard to this item and also with regard to the Retorts because we find that only 3 Retorts were supplied and it was therefore impossible that 5 of them should be broken.

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The 2 Test Tubes we inspected, which are stated to be part of some supplied under the above order, appear to be the ordinary quality and we venture to suggest that it might be desirable for Dr. Macnamara to use them and to get his report on them.

We have &c.,

JOHN J. GRIFFIN & SONS, Ltd.

(Sd) John R. Griffin.

The Director General of Stores,

India Office,

Whitehall, London, S.E.

22 GARRICK STREET, COVENT GARDEN,
LONDON, W.C., 16th June 1896.

One enclosure.

Sir,

In handing you herewith our Tender to supply the apparatus required for the Madras College of Agriculture Saidapet, and in reference to the remarks on page 2 item 9, concerning the German Glass Flasks supplied on the 22nd June 1895 - we beg to inform you that we will take the greatest possible care in selecting the Flasks required for the present order. We would however, point out that the Bohemian Glass Flasks No. 1521 on page 159 of our "Chemical Handicraft" are to be preferred to any German Glass Flasks, being much thinner and better annealed.

A short time ago we submitted for trial at University College some Bohemian Glass Beakers from a new source in Bohemia, and the following is the report we have received:-

"I have examined the beakers which your representative left with me, and have much pleasure in informing you that they have passed in a most satisfactory manner through the most severe tests. Two, filled with cold water and wet on the outside, were boiled over the naked Bunsen flame and others also filled with cold water were boiled over the blowpipe flame, appearing none the worse for the treatment."

The Bohemian Glass Flasks we are now supplying are made from precisely the same glass as the above Beakers.

We have &c.,

JOHN J. GRIFFIN & SONS, Ltd.

(Sd) John R. Griffin.

The Director General of Stores,
India Office,
Whitehall.

1898

Ed.

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531

India Office,

Whitehall,

London, S.W.

It is requested that in any further communication on this subject the under-mentioned letter and number may be quoted, and the reply addressed to

The Director General of Stores,
India Office,
Whitehall,
London, S.W.

S. 2995.



Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 92 of 16th February 1898, I have the honour to inform you that the test tubes, flasks and retorts supplied to the Madras College of Agriculture in accordance with your letter No. 278 of 2nd May 1896, were obtained from Messrs Griffin & Sons whose name was mentioned in the indent.

The indent in question asked for 3 doz: 6 oz: flasks and $\frac{1}{2}$ doz: 30 oz: flasks, and stated that those supplied on the previous indent were much too thick and broke readily on heating. Bohemian glass flasks were therefore supplied as recommended by Messrs Griffin & Sons in the accompanying copy of their letter of 16th June 1896.

The indent also asked for 1 doz: hard German flasks, wide necks, 5 oz: but stated that the complaint as to brittleness did not apply to these.

The present complaint has been referred to Messrs Griffin and Sons and I enclose for your information a copy of their reply, dated 24th March 1898. As the sample flask sent home is a narrow necked German flask it appears that the complaint must refer to some other supply than that indicated by your letter and this view is strengthened by the fact that only 3 retorts were supplied on that occasion and not six as mentioned in your letter.

If therefore you consider it desirable that the complaint should be further investigated it will be necessary that I should

The Secretary to Government,
Educational Department,
Madras.

1919-1920

W. Mitchell

London, N.W.



It is requested that you will be good enough to forward to the Director General of Stores, War Office, a copy of the report by Dr. F.N. Macnamara, Examiner of Medical Stores, upon the subject and you may perhaps consider that, in view of the opinion therein expressed, a further investigation will not be necessary.

should be informed as to the indent upon which the articles complained of were supplied.

I enclose a copy of a report by Dr. F.N. Macnamara, Examiner of Medical Stores, upon the subject and you may perhaps consider that, in view of the opinion therein expressed, a further investigation will not be necessary.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Grant Aulds

Director General of Stores.

SUBJECT

Educational (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 723.



Refer 14 M 26 a 98 284/97 paper

From the Secy of Pub. Instruction, Madras

Read no 531 & this.

Order no 357 of 16-6-98

No. 6359

It is observed that the D.P.S. formerly said that the articles were supplied in 1896. The mistake is regrettable.

Dated 6th June 1898.

Received 8-6-98

Registered 8-6-98

Enclosures 2 (Two)

Spare copies -

2. The following letter with the despatched to the D.G. of S. S.

To the D.P.S. 940. Letter no 357 of 16-6-98

To The D.G. of S. S. India Office.

Sir,

With ref. to your letter no 5.2996 of 15th April 1898, I am directed to inform you that the articles complained of were supplied on the indent forwarded with my letter no 285 of 15th May 1897 and to enclose a copy of a letter from the Principal of the College of Agriculture on the subject.

SUBJECT.

Ency copy of a letter from the Principal, College of Agriculture, giving information as to the indent upon which lost tubes which were copies of were supplied.



8
723

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	91-2 his E.S.		16-2-98
	426 Ront -		11-11-97
	284-5 his -		15-5-97
	190 Ront -		12-5-97
	710 his -		14-11-96
	600-1-a -		29-9-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No 398. 9th May 1898.

From

The Principal,

Madras College of Agriculture, Saidapet.

To

The Director of Public Instruction,

Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement No 5157 dated 3rd May 1898, I have the honour to submit the following remarks.

2. The articles, about which I complained in my letter No 1051 dated 15th December 1897, were supplied in 1897 and not in 1896, as Messrs. Griffin appear to think. A reference to my 1897 indent will show that 6 stoppered retorts (6 Oz) were asked for at an estimated cost of 4/. These were duly supplied at a charge of 5/6.

3. I beg to state that the complaint regarding test tubes and flasks was made as the result of my personal experience in the laboratory attached to the College of Agriculture. I have worked in this laboratory for 12 College sessions (1896.97-1897.98) with test tubes and flasks supplied by the India Office and for the first 11 sessions was satisfied with the test tubes and flasks I used. This session (1897-98) I noticed that the glass-ware mentioned could not stand the usage I had been accustomed to give it. Hence the complaint. I had no occasion to use the retorts. My complaint about them was based on what Mr. Collins, Assistant Agricultural Chemist to the Government of India who used them, told me. This officer also used the test tubes and flasks and he concurred in my estimate of them.

4. I may add that the glassware under reference looked when it arrived as good as that supplied to me on former occasions. It was only after it had been in use for a little while that I noticed that the test tubes and flasks were not able to stand the usage I had for 11 years been accustomed to give such apparatus. I have already explained the complaint about the retorts.

The D.P.S. said that the supply was made in 1896.

5. Regarding Dr. MacNamara's report I beg to state that the excessive breakage was not due to the vagaries of a "rough fingered, new oribudli bearer" for both my laboratory attendants are experienced men. As I have explained my complaint was based on what happened under my personal observation and on what Mr. Collins told me.

I have &c
(Sd) W. Keess.
Principal.

/True Copy/

S. Duncan
Director of Public Instruction.

CURRENT No. 723.

No. 6359

From

THE HONORABLE MR. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.SC., LL.D.,

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

~~Educational~~ DEPARTMENT,

Fort St. George.

SIR,

In returning the papers referred to me for remarks under endorsement No 14-M dated 25th April last, I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter No 598 dated 9th May 1898, from the Principal, College of Agriculture, from which it is seen that the articles complained of were supplied in 1897 in accordance with G.O. No 284 Educational, dated 15th May 1897. Mr. Keess still thinks that the articles supplied were of inferior quality.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

S. Duncan

Director of Public Instruction.

1898
Sol Dept.
Enclos. No. 1
To
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When given for copying 3166
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____

1898.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____ DATED _____
189 _____

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO O. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT. _____

STATEMENT WITH DITTO. _____

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.