

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

134

Press

~~Mis.~~

Dated

26-2

1859

B no. 10-11

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 1st March 1859.

No. 10. From J. RATLIFF, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Cuddalore, 7th February 1859, No. 4.

SIR,

The Civil Auditor having felt unauthorized in passing, in its integrity, my Contingent Bill for Travelling Allowance, and extra Tentage, on the occasion of my recent journey to and from, and residence at Madras, on duty—and having furthermore suggested direct application to Government, I have the honor accordingly, to submit the correspondence, as per margin, for its consideration, and solicit its sanction for the passing of the accompanying Bill, dated January 20th, and amounting to Rupees 45.

2. The amount at issue is so trifling, that, (as observed to the Civil Auditor,) I should have preferred waiving my claim, to the pressing it, at the cost of such detail and trouble—had it not been for the sacrifice of *principle* thereby involved, and a, *de facto*, apparent inferential admission that I had, originally, claimed what I did not feel absolutely entitled to and what would not bear pressing for.

3. My original Bill was, as you will perceive, simply for the ordinary Travelling Allowance for distance actually travelled on duty and the for Ordinary Extra Tentage, when residing on duty, at a place distant from my Hoozoor Station.

4. The one, has been reduced by six miles (or Rupees 3) because the Quarter Master General has been peased to certify that the distance to this place from Madras is 3 miles less than it is *actually indicated to be by the Mile stone's erected by Government Officers*, (the 118th Stone being on the Madras side of my (*i. e.* the Government) House and Cutcherry): the other has been wholly disallowed: and it is for the balance still due for the deduction made in these two items from my Original Bill, that I forwarded the supplemental one now re-submitted for the sanction of Government.

5. The course suggested by the Civil Auditor, in closing para: of his letter under date 2nd current, I have been precluded from adopting, in as much as I kept no *account* of such expenses; though I recollect, that the for the *one*, necessary and wholly Extra, item of conveyance hire alone, in Madras, I paid half the sum claimed to cover my Extra expenses incurred by residence there.

6. Regretting much that the Civil Auditor's inability to deal with the matter, on his own responsibility, should have involved the necessity for my troubling Government and yourself by a reference.

From F. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Civil Auditor; to J. RATLIFF, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, dated 18th January 1859.

SIR,

In returning passed for Rupees 115-0-0, your bill for Travelling and Extra Tent Allowance amounting to Rupees 160-0-0, I have the honor to inform you that, the distance from Munja-coopum to Madras being as certified by the Quarter Master General's Department, only 115 and not 118 miles, the charge for your journey to Madras and back to your Station, has been altered accordingly in the bill. The charge of Rupees 42-0-0 for Extra Tentage entered in this bill during your absence on special duty at Madras, I do not feel myself at liberty to pass in addition to Travelling Allowance already admitted in your bill for the same occasion: nor do I think it is admissible during absence on special duty *out of your District* except under the special orders of Government, I have therefore struck out the amount from the bill.

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 1st March 1859.

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.....	Dr.
To my Travelling Allowance from Munjacoopum to Madras (being 118 miles at 8 Annas per mile) whither I proceeded on duty as per order of Government, copy of which is herewith annexed.....	59-0-0 57-8-0
To my do. from Madras to Munjacoopum being do. at do. do.	59-0-0 57-8-0
To my Extra Tent Allowance from 29th December 1858 to 5th January 1859, being the period of my residence on duty at Madras, at 5½ Rupees per diem.....	42-0-0
	160-0-0 115-0-0

SOUTH ARCOT,
COLLECTOR'S CUTHERRY,
CUDDALORE, 11th January 1859. }

(Signed) J. RATLIFF,
Acting Collector.

Received on the day of January 1859, from Her Majesty's Government of India through the Acting Collector of South Arcot, the above mentioned sum of Company's Rupees one hundred and sixty fifteen.

(Signed) J. RATLIFF,
Acting Collector.

Passed in the Civil Auditor's Office for Company's Rupees one hundred and fifteen,
Company's Rupees..... 115-0-0

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
CIVIL AUDITOR'S OFFICE,
18th January 1859. }

(Signed) F. LUSHINGTON,
Civil Auditor.

To
The Acting Collector of South Arcot.

From J. RATLIFF, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot; to the Civil Auditor, Fort Saint George, dated Pondicherry, 20th January 1859, No. 6.

SIR,

I am in receipt of your communication under date 18th Current, No. 23, returning my Contingent Bill partially passed and submitting your grounds for striking off such portion as had not been so.

2. As regards the distance to Munjacoopum which you are pleased to observe, has been over estimated in my Bill, by 3 miles, I have only to state that the 118th mile stone, is on the Madras side of the Village, and that the Quarter Master General's Department are altogether in error, in informing you that the distance is 115 only.

3. With reference to your observations upon the item of Rupees 42, I would venture to suggest, that even stronger claim appears to exist to such allowance when on duty beyond the limits of one's District, than when in it intended as it, of course, is, to meet the necessarily additional expences to which an Officer is put, when away from his permanent residence.

4. You mention your not feeling at liberty to pass this in addition to my Travelling allowance to and fro, as though you considered the one affected or would suffice for the other, but must pardon my suggesting that they can have no connection soever, the latter being a specific fixed mileage, or allowance for distance actually travelled on duty—the former for residence on duty, whether in Tents or in other private accommodation by self provided, at a distance from the Hoozoor Station.

5. If proceeding to any distant locality in my own District, I should, unquestioned, draw a daily Extra Allowance of Rupees 5½, during progress thither—and on return thence irrespective of the same allowance during such time as I might halt there—or, if on any account, necessary or

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 1st March 1859.

more convenient for the public service to dak out to any distance, should draw Extra Tentage, at the rate of one day's allowance for every 10 mile thus travelled continuing the same after arrival at my destination—and until return to Hoozoor. Why therefore, you should consider, that because the locality to which I have in this instance proceeded and halted, on duty, is out of my District, that I, therefore, must forfeit the compensation that would have been claimable in it, I am unable to appreciate—the less so, as if any difference were made it should be on the side of augmentation, seeing the really additional expence in the former case is more considerable—the mere necessary item of carriage hire in Madras, having, I may incidentally observe in this present instance, amounted to nearly half the sum drawn for.)

6. The sum at issue is a comparative trifle—and I would have preferred at once foregoing it, to the entering upon any detail or argument, in pressure of it, were it not for the therefrom consequent possible inference, that I had in the first instance claimed that, to which I did not consider my title full and just—and had therefore allowed it to drop, as soon as questioned.

7. Under this view and feeling accordingly, I have the honor, in re-submitting a fresh Bills, for this item, as well as for the mileage you have erroneously struck off, to solicit the favor of your submitting the correspondence to Government—and requesting its orders on the subject should you, still, feel unauthorized in passing the Bill on your own responsibility.

HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.....	Dr.
To a portion of my Travelling Allowance to and from Madras (being 6 miles at 8 Annas per mile) erroneously struck off from the Bill, dated 11th January 1859.....	Rs. A. P. 3-0-0
To my Extra Tent Allowance from 29th December 1858, to 5th January 1859, being the period of my residence on duty at Madras, as explained in the annexed letter, at 5½ Rupees per diem.....	42-0-0
	45-0-0

Received on the day of January 1859, from Her Majesty's Government of India through the Acting Collector of South Arcot, the above mentioned sum of Company's Rupees Forty-five.

(Signed) J. RATLIFF,
Acting Collector.

From F. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Civil Auditor; to J. RATLIFF, Esq., Acting Collector of South Arcot, dated 2nd February 1859.

SIR,

I have the honor to return without Audit the Bills submitted with your letter of the 20th Ultimo, and to inform you that as the distance from Madras to Cuddalore, has been certified by the Quarter Master General, who is the proper authority, to be 115 miles, it is not competent to me to admit your claim for Travelling Allowance, for any distance in excess—and in respect to your claim for Extra Tentage, I must again observe, that, the rules in force do not provide for the grant of that Allowance to any Officer travelling beyond the limits of his District.

I beg however at the same time to remark, that I do not intend for a moment to dispute the reasonableness of either of the above claims. It is quite possible that as regards the distance the Quarter Master General may be wrong and that you are right, and so far as my own personal recollection will serve me, I believe such to be the case. Again, in respect to the Extra Tentage, the expenses which you incurred may be quite sufficient reason for either relaxing the rule in your favor or for granting you compensation in some other form—but this Office can exercise no discretion on such points being strictly tied down by the rules in force.

I beg in conclusion to remark that it appears to me, that the proper course for you to pursue will be to submit to Government a Bill for the *bond fide* expenses incurred by you in travelling to and from Madras, and obtain their special sanction for the same when the amount already passed to you as Travelling Allowance would be deducted on Audit and the Bill passed for the remainder.

Fort Saint George, Financial Consultation, 1st March 1859.

No. 11. ORDER THEREON, No. 134; dated 26th February 1859.

The Government resolve, under the special circumstances of the case, to authorise the Civil Auditor to pass to Mr. Ratliff Extra Tentage at $5\frac{1}{4}$ Rupees per diem from the 29th December 1858, to 5th January 1859, the period of his residence on duty at Madras.

2. Mr. Ratliff states that the amount of his Bill for Travelling Allowance has been reduced by the Civil Auditor by three Rupees, because the Quarter Master General's Department has certified that the distance from Madras to Munjacoopum (Cuddalore) is only 115 miles—whereas it is actually indicated to be 118 miles by the Mile-stones erected by Government Officers, the 118th Stone being on the Madras side of his (*i. e.* the Government) House and Cutcherry. This Travelling Allowance for the additional three miles or three Rupees will be passed to Mr. Ratliff and the matter will be communicated to the Quarter Master General in view to the error being corrected in his Tables.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Financial Dep.

No. 134

*Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
under date 26 February 1859.*

*Read the following
letter from J. Ratliff Esq.
Acting Collector of South
Arcott.*

(Dated 7th February 1859. Mr. S.)

*The Govd resolve, un-
der the special circum-
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*2. Mr. Ratliff states
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by the Civil Auditor by
three Rupees, because
the Quarter Master
General*

Master General's Department
has certified that the dis-
tance from Madras to Kun-
-jacopam (Cuddalore) is only
115 miles. whereas it is
actually indicated to be
118 miles by the Mile Stone
erected by Govd Officers,
the 118th Stone being on
the Madras side of his
(i.e. the Government) House
and Cutchery. This point
will be referred to the
Quarter Master General,
in order that if the dis-
tance certified by him
proves to be incorrect,
it may be altered. He
will report which is

whether he takes the trouble
to ascertain correctly? the correct distance.

The travelling allowance for the
additional three miles or three
hundred miles is passed to the
Buttiff and the master
is communicated to the Gen-
-l's master general is seen
the error being corrected in
his table.

Jps

I should have
informed you
of this ever. I have had
to the Civil Auditor with the Bill.
S. Buttiff Esq
By Collr of South Street.
Paras. to Lt. Genl
of the Army.
Disptd 3rd
P. 10-12

10411

By the Court / Received of
Financial 1859 Depts

No 134

Exhaust. Minis. of the

of 26 February 1859