

Financial (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 909

DATED 20-10-88

6/6

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Declining to reconsider para 2 of No. 10705 Dated 16th August 1888, directing that the cost of the telegram, sent to the Secy of State requesting him to make certain alterations in the indent for school books forwarded to him in July last, be recovered from the Manager of the Stationery Office who made the error in preparing the indent.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
<i>Two</i>							
<i>3068/98</i>							

Financial (1898) Department.

note

*M.O. written to for
G.O. 2382 of 7-10-84.*

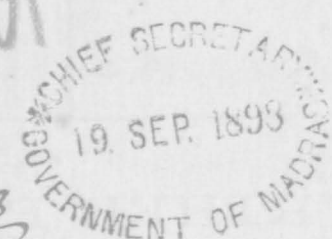
CURRENT No. 2581

19/9/98

in Cmt 20/9/98

for M.O.

19/9/98



From

*The Superintendent of
Stationery, Madras*

Cb. Order No. 909 of 20-10-98

Para 2 of G.O. No. 705 of 1898

No. 2226

*of 16th August 1898 cannot be
recommended*

*Cmt
18-10-98*

19-10/98

Dated 17th September 1898

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

*Supdt. of Stationery (9 to). despatched
22/10/98*

SUBJECT.

*Not The Supdt. makes no
recommendation on behalf
of the petitioner Cmt
18-10-98*

Very much the contrary.

19-10/98

*Submitting for orders of Govt
a letter from the Manager Sta-
tionery Office, praying to be
relieved from the payment
of the cost of the telegram, al-
lowed to be despatched to the
Secretary of State for India
in the G.O. quoted.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
705:	16-8-98	Min	
2382:	7-10-84		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Madras

7th September 1898

To

The Honble Mr. E. Stokes J.C.S.

Chief Secretary to Govt. F.D.

Also: the Superintendent of Stationery

Maoras

Most Honored Sir,

With reference to L.C.

A No 705 Final dated 16th August 1898 ordering that a sum of Rs 81/0/1 incurred in the despatch of a telegram to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India should be recovered from me, I most humbly beg to submit the following facts for your honors kind consideration.

2. The indent on Messrs Baker & Co. London was submitted more

Date of indent 9th July 98 }
 Date of commencement of leave } 23rd May 98 } than a month after I had fallen ill and taken leave. It was prepared by the Acting

Acting Head Accountant and I had no hand whatever in it.

3. A few days before I took leave an urgent letter was received from the Dy. Asst. Adjutant General for British Army Schools Bombay and Madras Commands urging the supply of certain books according to a new curriculum recently introduced into the Army Schools which was not previously communicated to this office. Thereupon I asked the Head Accountant to prepare a list of the books required from the indents of the schools, with a view to ascertain whether they could be procured locally. He was unable to do it as expeditiously as the nature of the urgency required owing to illness. I then got it prepared with the assistance of some of the clerks and the Head accountant. The books were never before kept in stock and we had no idea of their size or form.

About

About 500 items were involved in the tabulation and the list was prepared by myself reading out the figures at one time and one of the clerks posting them in the statement and vice versa. The Bacon & Co's Natural History Pictures in question comprise 18 varieties. In the indents of the schools they were demanded in some cases as "sets", in some as "1 to 6" and in others as "12". The mistake was in having the entry "12" taken as 12 sets in totalling the column and was not discovered until it was recently pointed out by the Dy. Asst. Adjutant General although there had been a continued correspondence in respect of the same pictures in connection with their purchase locally. Considering the urgency which required the speedy despatch of the work and the indefinite entry of the figures in the school indents, I beg permission to submit that the mistake was purely

accidental

accidental and I had no direct concern in it.

4 - Further I beg leave to state that the list in question was prepared for the time being merely for the purpose of ascertaining whether the books could be procured from any of the local booksellers and if so at what cost, as will be evident from the letters then written to the different booksellers and it was not intended for any indent or order. Any regular indent or order should have been prepared independent of this list. The indent on Messrs Baker & Co. was prepared and despatched long after and the error in question could have been avoided if it was prepared independent of the list or, at least if the list was checked before adopting the figures therein. I beg also to add that under the Rules sanctioned by L. C. No. 2382 Mis. dated 7th October 1884 for the transaction of

of business in the Stationery Office, the Head Accountant is responsible for the preparation and correctness of all accounts, indents, estimates &c.

5 - In the above circumstances I most humbly pray that the Govt. will be pleased to reconsider the case and excuse me from paying the amount.

I beg to remain

Most Honored Sirs

Your most obedient servant

L. Ramakrishnaiah

Manager Stationery Office
on leave.

500-6-7-98.

Stationery Office,

Madras, 17th Sept: 1898.

No. 2226

From

J.N. Atkinson Esquire, I.C.S.,

SUPERINTENDENT OF STATIONERY,

MADRAS,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

Sir,

A

With reference to para 2 of Government Order No. 705 dated the 16th Ultimo, I have the honour to submit for order a letter from the Manager, Stationery Office, praying to be relieved from the payment of the cost of the telegram ordered to be despatched to the Secretary of State in the G.O. quoted. I would first mention briefly the circumstances under which the mistake was made by the Manager. Bacon's pictures are in sets of 18, each of which is separately named in the printed form of indent. On this occasion one officer required one complete set, eight officers indented for pictures 1 to 6, four for 12 pictures and one officer for four pictures, which he specified. When preparing the consolidated statement of these demands the Manager took the requirements of the eight officers above referred to as one set each; of the four officers as 12 sets each and of the remaining officer as four sets, thus making a total of 61 sets or 1098 pictures instead of 106.

2. I will now remark on the Manager's appeal paragraphs.

Para 2. The date of preparation of the indent w

*Encls 4. 1. to file
C. H. 2581998*

29th June. It was based on the consolidated statement prepared by the Manager with the assistance of the Correspondence Clerk in which the total demands are entered in red ink in the Manager's writing.

Para 3. The Head Accountant referred to proceeded on six months' leave on the 16th May last. The indent in question is in the handwriting of the Acting Head Accountant. If, as he states, the Manager prepared the statement in question because owing to illness the Head Accountant was unable to do it expeditiously he can hardly expect to be relieved of the responsibility for the statement. Had the demand in the four cases above referred to been simply "12" without further explanation there might be some excuse for mistaking the demand for "sets" but immediately following the "12" the total cost is shown to be "18"^s and the cost per picture is printed in the form as 1 - 6^{s d}. It is therefore very clear that 12 pictures and not 12 sets were intended. I cannot see reason for treating the mistake as not due to carelessness or for believing the Manager's statement that he had no direct concern in it. In explanation of his late attendance at Office one day, the Manager produced the indents and his consolidated statement and explained that his being late was due to his having been engaged in carefully checking the statement at home.

Para 4. The Rules sanctioned by G.O. 2582 Mis., dated 7th October 1884, for the transaction of business in the Stationery Office, are quite out of date. No. 8 of Part 2 of them says that the Head Accountant shall "make all the arrangements necessary for preparation in time of the Annual reports, accounts, estimates and indents". In this case the Manager had taken the arrangements out of the Head Accountant's hands and the latter accepted the statement prepared by his superior officer.

3. In the circumstances above detailed, I can see no reason for relieving the Manager of the responsibility in the matter nor do I consider that his past services are such as to justify my recommending that any concession might be made in his case.

In conclusion, I would observe that it would be quite possible for either the Superintendent or the Assistant

Superintendent

Superintendent to check all the details of the various indents, estimates etc which are prepared in the Stationery Office nor should this be necessary as the Manager who is in receipt of Rs 150 per mensem, examines and initials all such documents before passing them on.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. N. Atkinson

Superintendent of Stationery.

Ok 17.5.98

When given for copying 20/10
 When copied 20-10
 When examined 21-10 } 1898
 When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No
 189 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. 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