

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>284</i>	Press <i>Mis.</i>
<i>43-44</i>	
Dated <i>5.6.1862</i>	<i>19</i>

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
5th June 1862.

No. 43. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department,
dated 27th May 1862, No. 1,175.

*Directing the transfer to the Barrack Master
of the work of the supply of and repairs to
Punkahs and relieving the District Engineer
of all duties in connection with the designing,
constructing, &c., of Punkahs at the Presi-
dency.*

(Vide Proceedings Public Works Department,
dated 27th May 1862, Nos. 565 and 566.)

No. 44. ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1862, No. 884.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
Public.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. K. WORSTER, Barrack Master Presidency, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort Saint George, 6th May 1862, No. 39 :—

SIR,

With reference to the Order of Government of the 3rd May 1862, No. 941, on a communication from the District Engineer, I have the honor to state that there appears to be no objection to this Department undertaking the supply of and repairs to Punkahs, and it would be advantageous to the interests of Government, in my opinion, if a Carpenter is attached permanently to this Department to attend to all minor repairs immediately they are required, as well as to locks, fixtures, &c., as at present applications are very frequent to the Executive Department which most necessarily interrupt the routine of the Engineer's Workshops.

ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1862, No. 1,175.

* 12th March, No. 446.

1. In 1858* the Government, on the recommendation of the then Chief Engineer, agreed that the putting up and repairing of punkahs and other fixtures in public buildings should be performed without the intervention of the Public Works Department, the object being to prevent the cost of such works forming a debit against that Department.

2. In consequence of the Barrack Master not having adequate establishment to undertake the work, the Government assented in their Order No. 1,599, dated 12th August 1858, to the Acting Chief Engineer's proposition, that at the Presidency the above duty should be transferred to the Civil Architect and Garrison Engineer so far as respects the buildings under their respective charges.

3. In March 1859 it was represented by the then Chief Engineer that, owing to the duty of designing, hanging and supplying punkahs in the several Districts having been entrusted to non-professional men, the practice established by the order of March 1858 had not been attended with benefit to the State. These orders having already been reversed in the case of the Presidency, the Government in Proceedings marginally noted authorized its modification to the extent proposed as respects the Provinces also.

4. On the 25th April 1862 the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, represented that at up-country stations it would no doubt be desirable that professional aid should be given in designing, constructing, and hanging punkahs, but that in the Presidency, where there is a Barrack Master to superintend, and numerous Carpenters and Cabinet makers competent to do the work, the time of the Engineer Officer in responsible situations should not be occupied with such trifles. Colonel Hitchins, to show how trifling the requisitions made on his Department in respect to Punkahs were, brought as an example a case which recently occurred, where the Brigade Major sent him a Punkah Puller's Billet to be painted and numbered.

5. The Acting Deputy Chief Engineer's letter was forwarded to the Barrack Master for report. Colonel Worster in his reply above recorded states that there will be no objection to his undertaking the work, but suggests that it would be advantageous to Government to have a Carpenter permanently attached to his Department.

6. The Government have considered the matter, and are of opinion that the transfer should be made; but they do not see the necessity for allowing a Carpenter permanently to the Barrack Master's Department, especially at Madras where plenty of artificers are available for daily hire. The Deputy Chief Engineer will issue instructions accordingly, and so relieve the District Engineer from all duties in connection with the designing, constructing, repairing, and hanging of Punkahs at the Presidency.

(True Extract.)

W. H. Horsley, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer.

- " Deputy Chief Engineer, Northern Circle.
- " Do. do. Southern Circle.
- " Do. do. Central Circle.
- " Officer in charge of the Audit and Account Departments of the Central Office.
- " Public Department.
- " Judicial Department.
- " Revenue Department.
- " Military Department.
- " Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Charles D. Smith
June 1862 Detroit

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J. H. C. C. C.

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