Number of pages. 24
Date of rep... 13-8-37
... Initials of Referencer

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 20-10-57

G.O. No. 1456 Press Mis.

66-64

Dated 17-10-1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 60. Read the following letter from F. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Civil Auditor; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 24th September 1857, No. 227.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 11th Ultimo, communicating the orders of Government on my letter of the 13th July last, soliciting their instructions on certain points connected with the retention by the District Engineers of the old Mahramut establishment formerly employed under the orders of the Revenue authorities, but since transferred to the new Department of Public Works.

Adverting to the 2nd para. of the above Extract in which it is remarked, that the doubts expressed in my letter were very unintelligible to Government. I beg to observe that had it been declared distinctly in the first instance that the Notification of the 27th January last was to supersede all other sanctions, no doubt would have existed in my mind as to the intended immediate discontinuance, as a separate establishment, of the old Mahramut servants and I should at once have carried out the orders of Government in respect thereto. But as no specific instructions to that effect were given, the intention of Government was only to be gathered from a review of many orders issued at intervals, and in proof that there was at least some room left for doubt on this point, I would respectfully draw the attention of Government to the fact, that the Chief Engineer, the District Engineer as well as the Revenue authorities have all placed an erroneous construction on those orders.

That it was the intention of Government that the Mahramut establishment should be finally incorporated in the new Department did not appear to me on the first perusal of the orders in question to admit of a doubt; but as at the same time, it seemed absolutely necessary that some latitude both as regarded time and method should be allowed to the District Engineer's to enable them to carry out the new arrangements with due regard to the interests of Government, and being also unwilling to throw what appeared to me useless impediments in the way of the execution of the public works. I passed the Abstracts of the Mahramut establishment for March and April without objection, simply confining my observation to the fact that the amount sanctioned on account of the entire Department was in no way exceeded. From the annexed Statement it will be seen that the amount passed by me on account of the Mahramut establishment and Lower Subordinate from January to July 1857, is greatly below the amount sanctioned on account of the Lower Subordinates. The net deficit of charge being Rupees 38,600-2-10. This amount would be considerably raised if a separation be made of the charges passed on account of establishment sanctioned for the protection and management of Public Works, and of establishments sanctioned for executive purposes only.

From the commencement of the present official year, as I then considered sufficient time had elapsed for the completion of the new arrangement, I declined to pass any further abstract on account of the Mahramut establishment without the express sanction of Government for their retention on the old rates of pay entered in the Bills, and it is only since I have been placed in receipt of the orders of Government, now under acknowledgment, authorizing me to pass all Bills on that account up to the end of last month, that the monthly Abstracts in arrears from May have been passed. In one District only viz., Salem has the full amount allowed on account of the Lower Subordinates, been drawn and as the Engineer of that District has retained a portion of the Collector's Mahramut establishment in addition to his own, the salaries of the former form an excess of charge in that District, and under these circumstances, I have not felt myself justified in passing the Bills* of the Mahramut establishment without the express sanction of Government.

* For May, June July, and August.

In respect to the delay which has elicited the remarks of Government in para. 5, of the foregoing Extract, I have the honor to observe that it was not, until I found that a different view from that which I had originally entertained, had been taken by the several authorities as to the continuance of the Mahramut establishment, that any doubts were raised in my own mind as to the intention of Government respecting their absorption into the new Department and immediately therefore the question was raised I referred the point for the opinion of the Chief Engineer and the reply of that Officer not satisfying me as to the correctness of his

views, I finally submitted the question for the decision of Government. I would also beg to point out that the Government appear to have lost sight of the fact, that no steps at all could be taken by me in the matter until I was placed in receipt of the Table of "Distribution of Officers, Upper and Lower Subordinates." One statement, dated 8th April was received by me on the 20th Idem, but the second Table finally arranging the subordinate classes was not issued from the Chief Engineer's Office until the middle of May, so that as soon as I was made aware that a suitable allotment of Subordinate Officers had been made for each District the question of continuing the Mahramut establishment any longer was immediately† raised by me and bills presented to me for audit were kept in abeyance pending a decision of the question.

† My letter to the Chief Engineer, dated 2nd June.

Under this explanation I trust that the Government will see cause to absolve me from the blame which is imputed to me in their Proceedings under acknowledgment.

Abstract Statement shewing the total amount sanctioned for the Lower Subordinates and the actual disbursements on account of that and the Marahmut Establishment, commencing from January to July 1857.

No.	Districts.	Amount sanctioned			Amount drawn.			Increase.			Decrease.		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1	Tanjore..	9,520	...	...	4,020	10	8	.....	...	...	5,499	5	4
2	Godavery (Rajahmundry)	12,880	...	...	8,763	10	7	.....	...	...	4,116	5	5
3	Kistnah (Masulipatam & Guntoor).	12,320	...	...	9,964	5	...	.....	...	...	2,355	11	...
4	Bellary..	9,420	...	...	,7187	1	...	.....	...	...	2,232	15	...
5	Cuddapah	9,890	...	...	3,184	11	5	.....	...	...	6,705	4	7
6	North Arcot	6,965	...	...	6,531	3	10	.....	...	...	433	12	2
7	South Arcot..	6,055	...	...	4,640	15	2	.....	...	...	1,414	...	10
8	Nellore	6,055	...	...	5,183	2	3	.....	...	...	871	13	9
9	Coimbatore...	6,160	...	...	4,430	3	...	.....	...	...	1,729	13	...
10	Tinnevelly..	5,915	...	...	4,407	2	8	.....	...	...	1,507	13	4
11	Madura...	5,810	...	...	3,711	4	11	.....	...	...	2,098	11	1
12	Ganjam	4,480	...	...	3,622	2	8	.....	..	...	857	13	4
13	Vizagapatam..	3,605	...	...	1,185	...	...	.....	...	...	2,420	...	...
14	Chingleput	4,655	...	...	3,610	5	8	.....	...	...	1,044	10	4
15	Kurnool	4,025	...	...	1,681	11	...	.....	...	...	2,343	5	...
16	Trichinopoly	4,480	...	...	4,275	7	9	.....	...	...	*204	8	3
17	Salem	4,375	...	...	4,744	9	...	369	9	...	.....	...	...
18	Canara	4,725	...	...	3,031	10	8	.....	...	...	1,693	5	4
19	Malabar..	4,200	...	...	2,759	7	11	.....	...	...	1,440	8	1
		1,25,535	...	...	86,934	13	2	369	9	...	38,969	11	10
		.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	369	9	...
		.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	38,600	2	10

* As per Extract Minutes of Consultation 8th January 1857, No. 47 D. P. W.

Civil Auditor's Office,
Fort Saint George,
21th September 1857.

(Signed) F. LUSHINGTON,
Civil Auditor.

No. 61. ORDER THEREON, No. 1956; dated 17th October 1857.

In this letter, the Civil Auditor submits explanation with reference to Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the 11th August last No. 1559, in which Government remarked on his having, in some instances, passed the salary bills of both the old Marahmut establishment, formerly employed under Collectors, and the new Public Works establishment sanctioned on the 27th January last, and on his having delayed to obtain, at an earlier date, the instructions of Government on the doubts that he entertained with respect to the discontinuance of the old Marahmut establishment.

2. The Civil Auditor's explanation is based chiefly on the circumstance, that no distinct declaration was made in the Notification of the 27th January last, that the permanent establishment which it authorized, was in supersession of all former sanctions. The Government observe that, although no express intimation to that effect was made in the Notification referred to, it was so thoroughly understood that the executive was to be removed from the Collectors, and that their Marahmut establishment was consequently to be abolished, that it is difficult to conceive how any doubts could have been entertained on the subject. Under the circumstances however now represented, the Government accept the Civil Auditor's explanation, and acquit him from blame in the matter.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Department of Public Works

5

No. 227.

From,

H. Lushington Esqre.
Civil Auditor

To,

The Acting Secretary
to Government
Public Works Departt.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract from the Minutes of Consultation dated 11th Ultimo, Communicating the Orders of Government on my letter of the 13th July last, soliciting their instructions on certain points connected with the retention by the Destruct Engineers of the old Mahramut Establishment formerly employed under the orders of the Revenue authorities, but since transferred to the new Department of Public Works.

Adverting to the 2d para of the above Extract, in which it is remarked, that the doubts expressed in my letter were very unintelligible to Government, I beg to observe that had it been declared distinctly in the first instance that the Notification of the 27 January last was to supersede all other sanctions, no doubt would have existed in my mind as to the intended

intended immediate discontinuance, as a separate Establishment, of the old Mahramut Servants and I should at once have carried out the orders of Government in respect thereto. But as no specific instructions to that effect were given, the intention of Government was only to be gathered from a perusal of many orders issued at intervals, and in proof that there was at least some room left for doubt on this point, I would respectfully draw the attention of Government to the fact, that the Chief Engineer — the District Engineers as well as the Revenue authorities have all placed an erroneous construction on those orders.

That it was the intention of Government that the Mahramut Establish=ment should be finally incorporated in the new Department did not appear to me, on the first perusal of the orders in question to admit of a doubt; but as at the same time, it seemed absolutely necessary that some latitude both as regarded time and method should be allowed to the District Engineers to enable them to carry out the new arrangements with due regard to the interests of Government and being also unwilling to throw what appeared to me useless impediments in the way of the execution of the public works

I

I passed the Abstracts of the Mahramut Establishment for March and April without objection, simply confining my observation to the fact that the amount sanctioned on account of the entire Department was in no way exceeded. From the annexed Statement it will be seen that the amount passed by me on account of the Mahramut Establishment and Lower Subordinates from January to July 1857 is greatly below the amount sanctioned on account of the Lower Subordinates. The net deficit of charge being Rupees 38,600-2-10. This amount would be considerably raised if a separation be made of the charges passed on account of Establishment sanctioned for the protection and management of public Works, and of Establishments sanctioned for executive purposes only.

From the commencement of the present official year, as I then considered sufficient time had elapsed for the completion of the new arrangement, I declined to pass any further Abstract on account of the Mahramut Establishment without the express sanction of Government for their retention on the old rates of pay entered in the Bills, and it is only since I have been placed in receipt of the orders of Govern^t

Now

now under acknowledgment, authorizing me to pass all Bills on that account up to the end of last Month, that the Monthly Abstracts in arrears from May have been passed. In one District only Vizt Salem has the full amount allowed on account of the lower Subordinates, been drawn and as the Engineer of that District has retained a portion of the Collectors Mahramut Establishment in addition to his own, the salaries of the former form an excess of charge in that District, and under these circumstances I have not felt myself justified in passing the Bills of the Mahramut Establishment without the express sanction of Government.

× for May, June July & August.

In respect to the delay which has elicited the remarks of Government in para: 5 of the foregoing Extract, I have the honor to observe that it was not, until I found that a different view from that which I had originally entertained, had been taken by the several authorities as to the continuance of the Mahramut Establishment, that any doubts were raised in my own mind as to the intention of Government respecting their absorption into the new Department and immediately therefore the question was raised I referred the point for the opinion

of

2

of the Chief Engineer and the reply of that officer not satisfying me as to the correctness of his views, I finally submitted the question for the decision of Government. I would also beg to point out that the Government appears to have lost sight of the fact, that no steps at all could be taken by me in the matter until I was placed in receipt of the Table of "Distribution of officers - Upper and Lower Subordinates" One Statement dated 8th April was received by me on the 20th idem, but the second Table finally arranging the subordinate classes was not issued from the Chief Engineer's Office until the Middle of May - so that as soon as I was made aware that an equitable allotment of Subordinate Officers had been made for each District the question of continuing the Mahramut Establishment any longer was immediately raised by me and bills presented to me for audit were kept in abeyance pending a decision of the question.

× My letter to the Chief Engineer dated 2d June.

Under this explanation I trust that the Government will see cause to absolve me from the blame which is imputed to me in their Proceedings under acknowledgment.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

Fort Saint George
Civil Audr's Office
21st September, 1857

Civil Auditor

P.W. 1857 D.o Jan.y 4th
Pd to Cons: 20th October

From; No 1903

The Civil Auditor

To;

The Actg Secretary
to Government
D. P. W.

Dated 21st
Rec.d 25th } 26 Sept.r 57.

Encl.s/ No 227.

Submits explanation
on certain points connected
with the retention of the
old Mahrattah Establt
called for in the Extract
Minutes of Consultation dated
11th Instant.

S.E. No 1966. 17th Oct.r

P.B. Cons.n 11th August 1857 No 89 90.

No 60-

26 Sept.r No 29 C 14 Oct.r No 16

Abstract Statement Shewing the total Amount Sanctioned for the Esta
Subordinates, and the Actual disbursements on account of that and the
Marakmat establishment Commencing from January to July 1837.

Number	Districts	amount Sanctioned	amount drawn	Increase	Decrease
1	Tanjore	9520 " "	4020 10 8	" " "	5499 6 4
2	Godavery (Rajahmundry)	12,880 " "	8763 10 7	" " "	4,116 65
3	Kistnah (Masulipatam & Guntore)	12,320 " "	9964 5 "	" " "	2355 11 "
4	Bellary	9,120 " "	7187 1 "	" " "	2,232 15 "
5	Cuddapah	9,890 " "	3,184 11 5	" " "	6,705 4 7
6	North Arcot	6,965 " "	6,531 3 10	" " "	433 12 2
7	South Arcot	6,055 " "	4,640 15 2	" " "	1,414 " 10
8	Nellore	6,055 " "	5,183 2 3	" " "	871 13 9
9	[illegible]	6,160 " "	4,430 3 "	" " "	1,729 13 "
10	Tinnevelly	5,915 " "	4,407 2 8	" " "	1,507 13 4
11	Madura	5,810 " "	3711 4 11	" " "	2,098 11 1
12	Ganjam	4480 " "	3,622 2 8	" " "	857 13 4
13	Vizigapatam	3605 " "	1185 " "	" " "	2,420 " "
14	Chenglepat	4,655 " "	3610 5 8	" " "	1044 10 4
15	Kurnool	4025 " "	1681 11 "	" " "	2343 5 "
16	Trichinopoly	4,480 " "	4275 7 9	" " "	204 8 3
17	Salem	4375 " "	4744 9 "	369 9 "	" " "
18	Canara	4725 " "	3031 10 8	" " "	1693 5 4
19	Malabar	4200 " "	2759 7 11	" " "	1440 8 1
		125535 " "	84,934 13 2	369 9 "	38,969 11 10
					369 9 "
					38,600 2 10

× as per Order of Government Consultation
of 6th January 1837 No 47 D. P. R.

Civil Auditors Office
Fort St. George
24th September 1837.

Civil Auditor.

P.W.D.

956.

P.W.D. Jan 1903 17

I object to the Civil Auditor letter, as he requests but to order if [illegible] rejected no tenders should be called, in both the old, and (in part at least) the new Schedules, and may be modified.

I am not able to see but Mr Leathley's tenders to be in a

P.R.O.

No 1056.

19

required the extraordinary
ingenuity of the present Engr. to have conceived
the countenance of the
Dept. Establishment.
Should under the ci
cumstances the bill
stand how it is
and he makes out a fair
case for himself.

P.W.D.

No 1956.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
under date the 17th October, 1857.

Read the following
Letter from the Civil Auditor.

/Here enter 24th September 1857 p 227/

In this Letter the
Civil Auditor submits explan-
=ation with reference to
Extract from the Minutes of
Consultation of the 11th August
last No 1559, in which Govern-
=ment remarked on his having,
in some instances, passed the
salary bills of both the old
Mahommed establishment,
formerly employed under a
Collector, and the new Public
Works establishment sanctioned
on the 27th January last, and
on his having delayed to obtain,
at an earlier date, the instruction

of-

of Government on the doubts that he entertained with respect to the discontinuance of the old Mahammut Establishment.

The Civil Auditor's explanation is based chiefly on the circumstance, that no distinct declaration was made in the Notification of the 27th January last, that the permanent establishment which it authorized, was in supersession of all former Sanctions. The Government observe that, although no express intimation to that effect was made in the Notification referred to, it was so thoroughly understood that the executive was to be removed from the Collectors, and that their Mahammut Establishment was consequently to be abolished that it is difficult to conceive how any doubts could have been entertained on the subject. Under the circumstances however

however now represented, the Government accept the Civil Auditor's explanation, and acquit him from blame in the matter.

Copy to the Civil Auditor
Dispd 29

Come 11th August 1857 1889-90

Public Works 1857 Dept 11
Dft to Cons: 20th October

No 1956.

Extract Mins: of Cons:
Dated 17th October 57.

Accepting the tenl
Andrs explanation on
certain points connected
with the old Maroochy
Estabt formerly employed
under the Colony, & the new
P.W. Estabt Sanctioned on
the 27th Jany last. Exempting
him from blame in the
matter.

No 60-861.

Oct 1857