Number of pages 16
Date of repair 11-6-57
Remarks if any

7

M.R.O. 1—82 400—29-11-50

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 17-3-57

G.O. No.	466	Press Mis.
	11-12	
Dated	12-3-	1957

Not to be folded or roughly handled

7

No. 11. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 20th January 1857, No. 9583.

SIR,

1. It being very desirable that the Machinery and stores now available in the Arsenal of Fort Saint George, for use in the Public Works Department should be at once distributed to the several Districts in which there is a demand for them; and as the same are now by the Military Board's decision only obtainable on payment, which cannot be met from the funds at the disposal of the Civil and District Engineers, I have the honor to request that I may be authorized to open under appropriate headings as "Machinery" "Stores" and "Scientific instruments" an account with the Military Board or Accountant General for such articles as may be issued on Indent, and which are too costly to be covered by any estimates now on hand.

2. This arrangement would obviate the necessity of actual cash payments, as on articles being issued from the Arsenal, it would only be necessary to enter them in the Ordnance, or General Stock books to the debit of the Public Works Department, corresponding entries being made in the books of the Central office, showing the several Districts to which the articles have been supplied.

3. On this subject I trust I may be favored with the *early* orders of Government, that no further time may be lost in turning to a useful, and it may be expected, eventually profitable account, the improved Mechanical appliances lately received from England, for nothing can well be either more unsatisfactory or even inconsistent than to keep unproductive and useless, apparatus supplied by the Honorable Court for the improvement of our methods of working, such being practicably neutralized by rules imposed by the Military Board, in virtue of being simply ad interim Custodiers of Civil Stores for Public Works.

No. 12. ORDER THEREON; No. 460; dated 12th March 1857.

In this letter, the Chief Engineer requests permission to open an account either with the Military Board or Accountant General to obviate the necessity of actual cash payments for Machinery and stores required from the Arsenal for distribution to the several Districts in which there is a demand for them. This request cannot be acceded to, as it has been more than once decided that all stores lodged in the Arsenal can only be obtained on payment of their stock value. If the articles required are too costly to be covered by any estimate now on hand, and it becomes necessary to meet the purchase from other sources, the Chief Engineer will be guided by the instructions issued in the Extract Minutes Consultation dated 21st January 1857, No. 145, in accordance with which he must obtain the previous sanction of Government, for the required sum. It is by no means requisite however that the Chief Engineer, or the local Officers, should in such cases deal with actual cash. The object of the order enforcing the payment of money can be fully attained by having recourse to the expedient of drawing bills which are equivalent to cash.

2. The Government will illustrate this by an example. The District Engineer of North Arcot wanting a Machine valued at 10,000 Rupees, would send an application in the first instance to the Chief Engineer who would obtain and communicate the sanction of Government, to the indenting Officer. On the issue of the order of Government, the required sum would be placed at the disposal of the District Engineer, who, instead of actually drawing the money, would simply send his receipt for it to the Collector, and apply for a bill on the Accountant General in favor of the Military Board. The Collector would first debit the amount in his accounts to the District Engineer, and then, crediting it with reference to the receipt to the head "bills payable Revenue," would grant the bill applied for. The District Engineer would shew the amount in his Account Current on the credit side, as received from the Collector, and on the debit side as remitted to the Collector for a bill, and would then send the bill to the Chief Engineer, who in his turn would hand it over to the Military Board with a request for the despatch of the Machine to the indenting Officer. The Military Board would credit the amount in their books as received from the District Engineer, and debit it as remitted to the Sub Trea-

surer, transmitting to him the bill at the same time. The Sub Treasurer on his part would discharge the bill by debiting it to "bills payable Revenue," and crediting it as the amount received from the Military Board and this would complete the transaction.

3. By the foregoing example the Chief Engineer will see that, in cases involving large sums there is no need at all to deal with actual cash. The object intended is merely to simplify transactions, and by prescribing a course which will have all the weight of cash dealings, avoid confusion in the accounts. The Chief Engineer will be good enough to circulate this order for the information and guidance of District Engineers with such further instructions of his own as he may find necessary on the subject.

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

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 17th March 1857

Read the following
letter from the Chief
Engineer

Fort St. George 20th January 57

No 9583

In this letter
the Chief Engineer requests
permission to open an ac-
count with the Military
Board in accountant &c.
to obviate the necessity of
general payments
actual cash for Machinery and
Stores required from the
Arsenal for distribution
to the several Districts
in which there is a demand
for them. This requisition
cannot

cannot be acceded to, as it has been more than once decided that all stores lodged in the Arsenal can only be obtained on payment of their stock value. If the articles required are too costly to be covered by any Estimate now on hand, and it becomes necessary to meet the purchase from other sources, the Chief Engineer will be guided by the instructions mined in the Extract Minute dated 21st January 1857 No 145, in accordance with which he must obtain the previous sanction of Govt. for the required sum. It is by no means however requisite that the Chief Engineer, or the local Officers,

Officers should in such cases deal with actual cash. The object of the order inforcing the payment of money can be fully attained by having regard to the expediency of drawing bills which are equivalent to Cash.

2. The Govt will illustrate this by an example. The Electrician Engineer of North Arcot wanting a machine valued at Rs 100 00 addressed an application to the first instance to the Chief Engineer who obtains and communicates the sanction of Govt to the indenting Officer. On the issue of the order Govt the required

would be
~~in~~ placed at the disposal
of the District Engineer,
who, instead of actually
drawing the money, would
simply send his receipt
for it to the Collector
and apply for a Bill
on the Accountant General
in favor of the Military
Board. The Collector would
first debit the amount
in his Accounts to the
District Engineer, and
then crediting it with
reference to the receipt
to the head "Bills pay-
able Revenue," would
the Bill applied for.
The District Engineer would
~~[illegible]~~ show
the amount in his
Account Current on the
credit side, as received
from the Collector,

and

and on the debit side
as remitted to the
Collector for a Bill,
and would they
~~[illegible]~~ send
the Bill to the Chief
Engineer, who in his
turn would hand it over to
the Military Board
with a request for the
despatch of the Mach
to the indenting Offic
The Military Board
would credit the amount
their Books as receiv
from the District E
-gineer, and debit
as remitted to the
Treasurer, transmit
to him the Bill at t
same time. The Tr
Treasurer on his pa
would discharge the Bi
by debiting it to "Bi
payable Revenue," a
credi

credit it as the amount
received from the
Military Board and thereby
complete the ~~entire~~
transaction.

3rd By the foregoing
example the Chief
Engineer will see that,
in cases involving
large sums there is no
need at all to deal
with actual cash.
The object attended
is merely to simplify
the transactions, and by
prescribing a course
to be pursued to avoid
all the weight of Cash
dealings, and obtain
uniformity in the accounts.
The Chief Engineer
will see good reasons
to direct the other orders
(now issued) to be for

for the information
and guidance of District
Engineers with such
further instructions
of his own as he may
find necessary on the
subject.

JDG

by Copies to the Chief Engr.
Disp? 13?
1 — Asst Genl's
5 — Mily Board's
1 — Sub Treasurer's

Public Works 1857 Dep.t
Do Corr.e 17.th March
No. 160.

Extract Minute of Counc.l

Dated 12.th March 1857.

From Military Board 24.th ult.o & 4.th inst.
Ltr No. 625 in Counc.l 28 Ult.o
From Chief Engr 1.st July 57
Ltr No. 1332 in 6 1/4
From Do 4.th Aug.t 56 Ltr No. 1687
Counc.l 25 Aug.t

Referring to Gen.l Van Straubenzee's representation of the want of Engineer to superintend arrangements with the Military Board under the constant general to provide the necessity of advances & payments for barracks, ordnance & stores required from the Admiral for distribution to the several Districts & observing that the object of the Order in Council for the payment of Money can be fully attained by having recourse to the expedient of drawing Bills for which the previous sanction of Govt should be obtained.

Ltr from the Chief Engr 12.th May 58
Ltr No. 1036 in Counc.l 8.th June.

Ltr Proc.d of the Chief Engineer
of 17.th October 57 Ltr No. 1997
in Counc.l 30.

Extract from Min.s 18.th Jan.y 58 No. 109
in Counc.l 2.d Feb.y 58

From the Do 28.th May 58 No. 1172
in Counc.l

From Do Do 9.th July 58
Ltr No. 1461 inclo:

From Do Do 26.th Aug.t 58
Ltr No. 1955 inclo:

From the Asst.t Engr &c &c with
incl:s & the Central Office of 24.th
15.th Dec.r 56 No. 1318 in Counc.l 2.d Feb.y
No. 11412. 64. 65

From the D.y Chief Engr 10.th
July 58 No. 1588 in Counc.l 3 Aug.t
E. 30 & 57.

C.2. March 12. 57.