M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Work **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1610	Press / ~~Mis.~~
368—369		
Dated	23- 8-	18 61.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 23rd August 1861.

No. 368. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Department, dated 21st August 1861, No. 1,204:—

Directing the Civil Auditor to pass Messrs. Simpson & Co.'s Bill for putting up Cooking Ranges in the Government House Kitchen. } (Vide Public Proceedings, 21st August 1861, Nos. 155 @ 157.)

No. 369. ORDER THEREON, 23rd August 1861, No. 1,610.

Ordered to be recorded.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers :—

From Messrs. SIMPSON and Co., Madras ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Madras, dated 24th July 1861.

On the 23rd January 1861, we received an order from the Honorable W. A. Morehead, Esq., Acting Governor, through Dr. C. M. Duff to put up three Cooking Ranges in Government House for a sum of Rupees eight hundred (800), which were completed on the 14th of March 1861, agreeably to Dr. Duff's plans ; we presented the bill for the same to His Excellency the Honorable Sir W. Denison who refused to pay on the plea that they were for Government and not for the Governor ; we sent the bill at Colonel Denison's order to Captain Hitchins, Presidency District Engineer, but after waiting till the 11th instant we received a "Memo. No. 485 of "1861-62. The Presidency District Engineer has to inform Messrs. Simpson and Co., that the "thicknesses of the plate of the Duff's Cooking Ranges in the Fort Barracks and other places are "as follows :—

"Iron top plates $\frac{5}{8}$ inch thick.
"Do. Boiler $\frac{1}{4}$ "
"Do. Oven $\frac{1}{8}$ "

"The Iron plates of those put up at the Government House are $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch thick and the "boiler plates $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Colonel Hitchins will therefore feel obliged by being informed why there "is so great a difference in the thicknesses, and how Messrs. Simpson and Co. were guided in "the scantling."

PRESIDENCY DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE, MADRAS,
11th July 1861.

(Signed) H. W. HITCHINS, Lieut. Col.,
District Engineer Presidency.

We replied as follows :—

"MEMORANDUM.

"Messrs. Simpson and Co. have to inform the Presidency District Engineer, that they do "not recognize him at all in the matter of the Duff's Cooking Ranges which were put up in "Government House by order of Colonel Denison, but at the same time Messrs. Simpson and "Co. are very much astonished, the Presidency District Engineer should not have made a more "careful examination before writing the Memo. he did yesterday, and he would have found that "Messrs. Simpson and Co.'s Ranges are made of *wrought-iron*, whereas the ones in the Fort are "made of *cast-iron* and the Boilers of Messrs. Simpson and Co. are made of *copper* and the ones "in the Fort of *iron*, hence the great difference in thickness."

"12th *July* 1861."

"(Signed) SIMPSON and Co."

We received no reply to the above letter, and on the 17th instant we wrote to the Presidency District Engineer as follows :—

The Presidency District Engineer.

"We beg to hand you herewith our bill against Sir W. Denison for putting up three Cook-"ing Ranges in Government House. If this bill is not paid at once, we must charge you interest "on the amount, as all these Cooking Ranges are cash transactions with us, and it is now four "months since we put them up in Government House."

(Signed) SIMPSON and Co.

We received the following answer returning our Bill.

To Messrs. SIMPSON and Co.

GENTLEMEN,

"After your last letter declining to recognize Colonel Hjtchins at all in the matter of the "Duff's Cooking Ranges at Government House, the whole of the correspondence was forwarded "to the Chief Engineer of the Department Public Works, he therefore declines to have any "communication with you on the subject.

PRESIDENCY DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE, MADRAS,
17*th July* 1861.

(Signed) J. C. FITZGERALD,
Manager Presidency District Engineer's Office.

From the above date to this we have heard nothing further regarding the above matter and unless a speedy arrangement with regard to payment we must hold Dr. Duff responsible, as it was through him that we undertook the work.

From Lieutenant Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Chief Engineer; to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Fort Saint George, dated Chepauk, 25th July 1861, No. 3,087.

Public.

I have the honor to forward herewith the letters, as per margin, from the District Engineer Presidency, relative to a claim preferred by Messrs. Simpson and Co., for putting up Cooking Ranges at the Government House Kitchens.

15th July 1861, *No.* 516.
18th do. ,, 536.

2. It will be observed that Messrs. Simpson and Co. were engaged by Colonel Talbot to put up the Cooking Ranges under Dr. Duff's supervision, agreeably to the orders of His Excellency the late Governor. The bill for the work having been forwarded to the District Engineer for payment, that Officer, adverting to a Certificate of Colonel Denison, the Military Secretary, to the effect that the stoves have been in use since March last, but have not worked at all satisfactorily, addressed Dr. Duff and Messrs. Simpson and Co., pointing out the defects found to exist. The former gentleman ascribed the faults to the ignorance of the men employed to work the Ranges, whilst the latter Firm decline to recognize the District Engineer in the matter, but demand immediate payment of their bill, failing which they declare their intention to charge interest on the amount thereof.

3. As the orders for putting up the Cooking Ranges were given without reference to this Department, I do not feel myself at liberty to authorize payment for the work done, and beg therefore to request the authority of Government for discharging the amount of Messrs. Simpson and Co.'s bill on a Certificate from Dr. Duff that the works have been done to his entire satisfaction.

ORDER THEREON, 21st August 1861, No. 1,204.

The Civil Auditor will pass Messrs. Simpson and Co.'s Bill, on presentation, for Rupees (800) eight hundred, for putting up Cooking Ranges at the Government House Kitchen. The charge will be met out of the Reserve Fund.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Civil Auditor.
,, Accountant General.
,, Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.
To Messrs. Simpson and Co.
To the Chief Engineer, with four Enclosures.
,, Public Works Department.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Pd. W. 1861 Depart.
Sec. of Govt. for Genl. Dept.
No. 1914.

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt. in the
Public Depart.

Dated 21st }
Received 22d. } augt. 1861.
No. 1204

Directing the Civil
Auditor to pass Messrs.
Simpson & Co's Bill
for putting up Cooking
Ranges in the Govt. House
Kitchen.

No. 1610. 23d. Augt.
Recorded

1610

No. 1610.

Recorded

Fort St. George
23d. augt. 61

1:36 & 369.