

(1) Number of pages _____

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1217	Press
666-662	Mis. _____
Dated 28-6-	1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th April 1864.*

Read the following letters:—

No. 660. From Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Palamcottah, 7th April 1864, No. 2,202:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor respectfully to submit the following remarks for the consideration of Government, which may I trust induce them to withdraw the censure passed in Government Order No. 888 of the 31st ultimo.

2. I would in the first place observe that this is the first I have heard of any breach of harmony between the two Departments; I regret much that it should be even supposed to exist, but I cannot believe that the Government would wish me to permit what I conceived to be opposed to their orders, even though I risked offending the Collector.

3. When I joined the Division, I found that several irregularities prevailed. I need not enter into any details. Some were rectified immediately on my pointing them out; others were continued for a while longer.

4. But as regarded the Local Fund accounts I could obtain no satisfactory reply. In paragraph 14, Government Order No. 392, 4th March, the responsibility of proper and economical execution is clearly put on the Engineer Department. I was under the impression that I had been always entrusted with the duty of examining the work done by the Collector, a duty which we have performed for several years.

5. As however, I could procure no accounts or report of progress, I laid the matter before Government in my No. 1,430 of the 7th December, in which Mr. McDonell considers that I have mis-stated the case.

6. I beg to point out that the letters quoted by him only show that, if I had looked in the records, I should have found that the Acting District Engineer forwarded a letter from his Assistant in which they promised to provide an Estimate, and suggested its execution by the Sub-Magistrate.

7. I have never professed ignorance of the existence of the fund or of an Estimate having been made for the execution of work from it. I asserted then, and regret that I have to repeat now, that up to this time I know not how much money was available in May 1863 or how much has been spent since.

8. When I saw Mr. McDonell in his Cutcherry shortly after I received Government Order No. 43, 7th January 1864, he expressed his surprise that such a reference should have been necessary, since as Collector of Trichinopoly he had always furnished them to the District Engineer; in his letter to the Revenue Board 24th February 1864, Mr. McDonell again acknowledges that I had some grounds of complaint.

9. I am at a loss to understand why he should afterwards consider that my proceedings tended to any breach of harmony. I might point out that with a change of names the letters which produced G. O. No. 201, 19th January 1864, describe accurately a discussion which took place between the Collector of Madura and myself, but the reference made by Colonel Chambers was not supposed to have caused any ill-feeling between him and the Collector.

10. Mr. McDonell in his paragraph 5 considers my objection as to the system of work unfair. But the part he quotes is merely mentioned in a parenthesis in my letter; he ignores the main complaint, which is "that the Tank diggers' accounts were not settled for eight months;" there is, however, no difference between Captain Payne's advice and the remark in my parenthesis. Captain Payne nowhere suggests that they should take all the worst places at once.

11. My complaint is that instead of completing one or two bad places at a time the Tank diggers had scattered themselves over the whole 15 miles and finished nothing.

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12. I may observe that Captain Payne has since reported to me, that the Sub-Magistrate has actually made the same complaint to him; that he could not control the Tank diggers, and had not settled their accounts because they would not work as he bade them.

13. The Revenue Board in forwarding the letter remark that "the Collector's proceedings appear to have been perfectly in rule," as Mr. McDonell has issued orders reversing Mr. Levinge's I am left in doubt which was correct; meanwhile, I receive no accounts either of Local Funds or of the Salt works paid for from Imperial Funds.

No. 661. From Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, S. Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Palamcottah, 12th April 1864, No. 2,225.

SIR,

Referring to my No. 2,202 of 7th April 1864, I have the honor to report that I have since received the Local Fund accounts sent, as they should be, through the Range Officers.

No. 662. ORDER THEREON, 28th April 1864, No. 1,217

The explanations furnished by Captain Moberly though failing to satisfy the Government that sufficient care has been taken by him to maintain the harmony that has hitherto existed between the Departments of Public Works and Revenue, yet lead them to hope that the cordial co-operation of the two Departments was not more than temporarily weakened and has now been thoroughly restored.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

5
12th April 1864
Pro. of Govt. for No. 2225
From No. 1717
The Sup. Engineer
8th Division

To
The Secy to Government
C. A. O.

Dated 12th } April 1864
Recd 19 }

No 1217-28th April/64.

Reports that he has since
received the Local fund
accounts sent, as they should
be, through the Range Officers.

12/8/64

N. 2225

Sup^y Engineer's Office 8th Division
Palamcottah, 12th April 1864.

— Sir,

Captain F. J. Moberly R.E.

Superintending Engineer 8th Division

Go,

Colonel G. A. Orr R.E.

Secretary to Government D.O.W.

Sir,

Public.

Referring to my N. 2224 of 7th April/64,
I have the honor to report that I have since received
the Local fund accounts sent, as they should be,
through the Range Officers.

I have &c

F. J. Moberly

Captain R.E.

Superintending Engineer 8th Division

Sept 17 1862 D. J. W.

Wm. of Goodwin
J. J. W.

Sept 12 17

Wm. of the old house

Sept 18 1862

Sept 18 1862

Sept 18 1862