M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1462	Press / Mis.
4645-50	
Dated 19-5-	18 [illegible].

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 19th May 1864.

No. 449. Read the following letter 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 Yettyapurum, 22nd April 1864, No. 2,280 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor respectfully to request that Government will be pleased to re-consider my No. 1,430, 7th December, and the Collector of Tinnevelly's No. 68, 17th February 1864, on which Government Order No. 972, 6th April 1864 is based.

1 Letter No. 1,141, 12th November 1863, from the Superintending Engineer, to the Collector of Tinnevelly.
1 Letter No. 1,207, 18th November 1863, from do. to the Collectors of Madura and Tinnevelly.
1 Letter No. 358, 2nd December 1863, from the Collector of Tinnevelly to the Superintending Engineer.

2. I fail to see that I have any where complained that the Collector had undertaken work without the approval of this Department; in paragraph 4 of my No. 1,430, I pointed out an irregularity of Major Paxton's which I had lately discovered, but my complaint was that I could get no accounts.

3. In reply to my calculations as to the amount of Local Fund available, the Collector in his letter 29th October, pointed out that I had omitted certain sums sanctioned with Major Paxton's approval, this was the first I had heard of the matter, but if the Collector had furnished me, as I believed he should have done, with monthly accounts, this mistake would not have arisen.

4. Until I heard of his having undertaken the execution of some works, I supposed that the accounts of Local Funds which I had monthly forwarded to the Controller were complete, but on receipt of Mr. Silver's letter, 29th October, I requested him to furnish me with the accounts which were necessary to show the full expenditure.

5. Mr. Silver acknowledges that in my letter of the 7th November I detailed the nature of the accounts which I required, but from paragraph 4 it appears that he did not forward them to me till the 3rd February.

6. My letter 12th November called attention to the irregular issue of funds, which produced confusion between his Treasury accounts and those of my Range Officers. I enclose copy of the letter, as I do not think it in any way bears out the Collector's assertion that I asked for "accounts of works in progress."

7. The above will I believe support me in saying that the Collector had declined to furnish me with any accounts; but in case they should not suffice, I enclose copies of two other letters which the Collector has wholly omitted in his resumé.

8. The Government have so far decided in my favor that they have ordered that all accounts shall be forwarded to me; but in connection with this subject I have been three times censured as having misled Government and caused a breach of harmony between the Revenue and Public Works Departments.

9. It has been my impression that all parties would work together more satisfactorily if they understood precisely their duties and powers, and if there were any doubt on any subject that it was advisable to procure a decision from higher authority. With this view I submitted the question as to the preparation of accounts.

10. As I observed in my No. 2,202 of 7th April 1864, I have had occasion to point out other irregularities or to make other explanations, but it never occurred to me that in this there was any probability of ill-feeling being produced.

11. I would for example remark that more than one Government Officer has called on me to explain delay in execution of work, which he asserted had been sanctioned, to enable him to report to higher authority.

12. I hope I have succeeded at last, but I have had considerable difficulty in satisfying them that the approval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, or of the Revenue Board, or even the sanction of Government in another Department than that of the Public Works, was useless until funds were allotted.

ded & the Controller were complete
but

13. I have used my best endeavours to adhere to the orders of Government myself, and if I have failed to convince other Officers as to the correctness of my views, I have considered it only just to myself to avoid the responsibility of any shortcoming by reporting the matter. In the subject under notice the Collectors of Madura and Tinnevelly have avoided my complaint as to the non-submission of accounts, and entered at some length on matters which were only mentioned incidentally, but which, I respectfully submit, they have in no way disproved.

14. In conclusion I would observe that I have no where denied Major Paxton's power to approve the Local Fund Estimates, although I have had doubts on the point. The covering letters to the Collector are dated 3rd May, 13th June and 6th July; and I imagine that the appointment of a Superintending Engineer on 1st May put an end to Major Paxton's authority.

No. 450.

ORDER THEREON, 19th May 1864, No. 1,462.

1. In this letter the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, requests a re-consideration of the papers noted in the margin, which the Government in Proceedings No. 972, dated 6th April 1864, remarked, afforded another instance in which that Officer had "reported circumstances in such a careless manner as to mislead."

From Superintending Engineer, 7th December 1863, No. 430, paragraphs 4 and 5.
Do. Collector of Tinnevelly, 17th February 1864, No. 63.

2. Captain Moberly states that he did not complain of the Collector having undertaken work without the approval of the Engineer Department. On this point it may suffice to remark that the phrase* "but I found that the Collector had taken up the execution of seven works," obviously conveys that meaning when considered with the context, and it is not strange therefore that the Collector should have felt himself called upon to enter into some explanation on the point.

* Paragraph 4 of letter recorded in Proceedings 7th January 1864, No. 43.

3. In paragraphs 3 to 7 Captain Moberly endeavours to show that he was quite warranted in asserting that the Collector had declined to furnish him with any accounts; but there seems nothing in the papers submitted to justfy such a construction. As far as can be learnt, there was, up to the period to which the correspondence between the local authorities has reference, a misconception of the rules by which both Departments were to be governed in the matter of Local Fund Accounts, and Captain Moberly himself admits in his letter to the Collector of 12th November, that the Engineer Department was not exempt from blame for the confusion caused in consequence. The Collector, maintaining the correctness of his views, stated what he believed to be the proper mode of dealing with the accounts, but expressed his willingness to furnish the Superintending Engineer with copies of the accounts rendered to him by the Tahsildars, if necessary. This evidently led to the Superintending Engineer's letters of the 7th and 16th December (copies of which have not been furnished), on receipt of which, as the Collector reports, the Tahsildars were called upon to furnish the necessary accounts for transmission to the Superintending Engineer.

4. The Government do not object to questions on which doubts may arise being submitted for their decision; but when these have reference to differences of opinion on the part of the Officers of two Departments, they expect that full explanations shall have first passed between them, and that if an appeal be necessary, the matter shall be laid before Government in a full and clear manner, and not in the loose and off-hand style adopted by Captain Moberly.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Engineer's Office 8th Division
Saperum 22nd April 1864.

N° 2 of the Enclosures
to a letter from the Superin
tending Engineer 8th Divn
dated 22nd April 1864.
7287
To The Secretary to Govt
PWD.

PW 1965/64

Copy of letter N° 120
10th November 63 from the
Superintending Engineer 8th
Division to the Collector
of Madura and Tinne
velly.

rea certain sums sanctioned
al. this was the first I had heard
to had furnished me, as I believe
nthly accounts this mistake would

is having undertaken the Execution
the accounts of Local funds
ded to the Controller were complete
but

No. 1307

From,

To.

Sir,

Supdg Engrs Office 8th Div.
Madura 18th November 1863.

The Superintending Engineer
8th Division

The Collectors of
Madura & Tinnevelly

I have the honor to observe that I am unable to forward the account called for by the Revenue Board for want of the accounts of work executed by your Department from Local funds—from the absence of which this statement is deficient.

I have &c
(signed) J. J. Moberly Capt RE
Superintending Engr 8th Div.

(True Copy) J. J. Moberly Capt RE
Superintending Engr 8th Div.

4. The Government do not object to question
for their decision; but when these have referen
Officers of two Departments, they expect that ful
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and clear manner, and not in the loose and off-hand

(True E
(Signed)

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Board of Revenue.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2280

Supg Engineer's Office 8th Division
Gettyapuram 22nd April 1864.

From,

Captain J. J. Moberly RE.
Superintending Engineer 8th Division.

To,

Colonel C. A Orr RE.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

Public

Encls. 3.

1 Letter No 1161-12. November 63 from the Supt Engr to the Collector of Tinnevelly.
1 letter No 1207-10. November 63 from Supt to the Collectors of Madura and Tinnevelly.
1 letter No. 350-2nd Jr. 163 from the Collector of Tinnevelly to the Supt Engr.

1. I have the honor respectfully to request that Government will be pleased to reconsider my No 1430. 7th December and the Collector of Tinnevelly's No 168. 17th February 1864 on which Government Order No 972. 6th April 1864 is based.

2. I fail to see that I have any where complained that the Collector had undertaken work without the approval of this Department; in para 4 of my No 1430 I pointed out an irregularity of Major Paxton's which I had lately discovered. but my Complaint was that I could get no accounts.

3. In reply to my calculations as to the amount of Local fund available, the Collector in his letter 29th October. pointed out that I had omitted certain sums sanctioned with Major Paxton's approval. this was the first I had heard of the matter. but if the Collector had furnished me, as I believed he should have done, with monthly accounts this mistake would not have arisen.

4. Until I heard of his having undertaken the Execution of some works, I supposed that the accounts of Local funds which I had monthly forwarded to the Controller were complete but

but on receipt of Mr. Silver's letter 29th October. I requested him to furnish me with the accounts which were necessary to shew the full expenditure.

5. Mr. Silver acknowledges that in my letter of the 7th November I detailed the nature of the accounts which I required, but from para 4 it appears that he did not forward them to me till the 3rd February.

6 My letter 12th November called attention to the irregular issue of funds, which produces confusion between the Treasury accounts and those of my range Officers. I enclose copy of the letter, as I do not think it in any way bears out the Collector's assertion that I asked for accounts & works in progress.

7. The above will I believe support me in saying that the Collector had declined to furnish me with any accounts; but in case they should not suffice, I enclose copies of other letters which the Collector has wholly omitted in his statement.

8 The Government have so far decided in my favor that they have ordered that all accounts shall be forwarded to me; but in connection with this subject I have been 3 times censured as having misled Government and caused a breach of harmony between the Revenue & P.W. Departments.

9. It has been my impression that all parties would work together more satisfactorily, if they understood precisely their duties and powers - and if there were any doubt on any subject that it was advisable to procure a decision from higher authority. With this view I submitted the question as to the preparation of accounts.

10. As I observed in my No. 220 of 7 April 1864 I have had occasion to point out other irregularities or to make other explanations - but it never occurred to me that in this there was any probability of ill-feeling being produced.

11. I would for example remark that more than one Government Officer has called on me to explain delay in execution of work which he asserted had been sanctioned, to enable him to report to higher authority.

12. I hope I have succeeded at last, but I have had considerable difficulty in satisfying them that the approval of H.E. the Commander in Chief, or of the Revenue Board, or even the sanction of Government in another Dept. than that of the Public Works, was useless until funds were allotted.

13. I have used my best endeavours to adhere to the orders of Government myself, and if I have failed to convince other Officers as to the correctness of my views, I have considered it only just to myself to avoid the responsibility of any shortcoming by reporting the matter - in the subject under notice the Collectors of Madura & Tinnevelly have avoided any complaint as to the non-submission of accounts and entered at some length on matters which were only mentioned incidentally, but which, I respectfully submit, they have in no way disproved.

14. In conclusion I would observe that I have nowhere denied Major Paxton's power to approve the Local fund Estimates although I have had doubts on the point.

The covering letters to the Collector are dated 3rd May, 13th June & 6th July. & I imagine that the appointment of

of a Superintending Engineer on 1st May put an end to Major Pastons authority.

I have &c.

Supt Engrs Office
& Dr Chittoor
22 April 1861

F. J. Moberly Captain RE
Superintending Engineer 8th Division

To,

Colonel C. A. Orr RE
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

No 358.

Trinevelly 2d December 1863.

From,

J Silver Esquire
Collector.

To

Captain F. J. Moberly RE.
Superintending Engineer 8th Division
Madura

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 18th Ultimo No 1207, I have the honor to observe that all that is required from you is a quarterly Statement of works done by the Executive Officers of the several Ranges in the Public Works Department, out of the District Conservancy Fund, and to furnish me with this it is not at all necessary that you should have an account of the works done by the Tahsildars.

The latter will be furnished to me direct by the Tahsildars, and added in this Office to the Statement furnished by you, and forwarded to the Board. I therefore request that you will be good enough to expedite your Statement for the quarter ending 31st October last, as my General Statement to the Board is over due for the want of it, as you will observe from my letter to you of the 16th September last No 260.

I have however no objection to give you in future, a copy of the Statement furnished to me by.

by the Tahsildars, if required for your own information.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obt Servt
(signed) J. Silver
Collector.

True Copy.

F. Hoberly Captain RE
Superintending Engineer 8th Division.

No. 1141.

Supt Engineer's Office 8th Division
12th November 1863

From,
Captain F. J. Hoberly RE.
Superintending Engineer 8th Div.

To,
J Silver Esquire
Collector of Tinnevelly

Sir,

I have the honor to request your early attention to a correspondence which I enclose, and which has brought to my knowledge a neglect of Government orders which must produce considerable confusion between the Audits of the Accountant General and the Auditor D.P.W.

2. It appears that the system prevailing in Tinnevelly as regards Local funds is as follows. When the Estimate is sanctioned the whole amount is placed at the disposal of the Executive Officer concerned and debited to the D.P.W. in the Deputy Collector's accounts. Unfortunately the Executive Officer does not credit the whole amount in his accounts.

3 He follows the local system so far as accepting the sum total, and draws for what he wants by takeeds not by cheques - but in his Account Current he follows the Government order, and only enters the minor amounts that he has thus drawn, and the smaller cash balance.

4.

× No. 1668 dated 7th November 63 from Deputy Collector with 2 Enclos b b/s returned.

for a by the Tahsildars, if required for your own
to a information.

Supt
8th Div
22d

Sham the honr the
&c
Tom Inwd 16th Jt
Signed J Silver
Collr

Time Copy
J.F.
J.F. Hoberly Captain &c
Superintending Engineer 8th Division

No. 1141.

Supt Engineer's Office 8th Division
12th November 1863

From,

Captain J. J. Hoberly &c.
Superintending Engineer 8th Div.

To,

J Silver Esquire
Collector of Tinnevelly

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3. He follows the local system so far as accepting the sum total and draws for what he wants by takeeds not by cheques - but in his Account Current he follows the Government order and only enters the minor amounts that he has thus drawn, and the smaller cash balance.

1.

Substitute Rain 15 gr

for a by the Tahsildars, if required for your own information.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Svt
Signed J Silver
Collr

True Copy.

T J Moberly Captain &E
Superintending Engineer 8th Division

Supt
8th Dn
12th N

No 1141. Supt Engineer's Office 8th Division
12th November 1863

From,
Captain T. J. Moberly RE.
Superintending Engineer 8th Dn

To,
J Silver Esquire
Collector of Tinnevelly

Sir,

1. I have the honor to request your early attention to a x correspondence which I enclose, and which has brought to my knowledge a neglect of Government orders which must produce considerable confusion between the Audits of the Accountant General and the Auditor D.P.W.

x No 1668 dated 7th November 63 from Deputy Collector with 2 Enclos to be returned

2. It appears that the system prevailing in Tinnevelly as regards Local funds is as follows. When the Estimate is sanctioned the whole amount is placed at the disposal of the Executive Officer Concerned and debited to the D.P.W. in the Deputy Collector's accounts. Unfortunately the Executive Officer does not credit the whole amount in his accounts.

3. He follows the local system so far as accepting the sum total, and draws for what he wants by takeeds not by cheques - but in his Account Current he follows the Government order, and only enters the minor amounts that he has thus drawn, and the smaller cash balance.

4

4. Both Departments are to blame. I regret that I cannot see my way to any adjustment as regards previous transactions unless you will recall your accounts from the Accountant General.

5. Similarly with the Estimates for repairs in progress by your subordinates. I know not how they receive their money - it ought to be by cheques drawn by the range Officers - it is not so drawn at present, and no accounts are sent.

6. I beg you will take early steps to rectify the irregularities; past transactions as may seem best to you - those for works in progress by your subordinates by forwarding to me the accounts of all work done and paid for up to date for which I will issue Cheques

For future payments can only be made by Cheques or Coin received from the range Officers D.O.S.

I have &c

Signed J. J. Moberly Capt. R.E.
Superintending Engineer 8th Div.

True Copy

J. J. Moberly Captain R.E.
Superintending Engineer 8th Division.

No 1 of the Enclosures in a letter from the Superintending Engineer S. Division dated 22nd April 1871

No 7280

To The Secretary to Govt D.P.W.

P.W. 1965/64

Copy of letter No 1141 12th November 1866 from the Superintending Engineer S. Division to the Collector of Tinnevelly.

P.W.D.

No 11162

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Public Works the 19th May 1864.

Read the following letter

From the Superintending Engineer
2nd Division

Requests that the Collector of Tinnevelly may be directed to reconsider his letter No 1430 of 7th December 1863 on which G.O. No 952 of 6th April 1864 is based, regarding Local Fund Accounts for reasons therein mentioned.

From the Collector of Tinnevelly
No 1430 of 7th December 1863

To the Superintending Engineer
2nd Division

Sir

I have the honor to request a reconsideration of the orders contained in G.O. No 952 of 6th April 1864 regarding the Local Fund Accounts for the reasons mentioned in my letter of reference.

I have &c
(Signed) J. Pycroft
Collector

Rec'd 17th April 1864
No 68

I wish Collector to reconsider his letter and to state whether any reasons exist for altering the decision conveyed in G.O. No 952 of 6th April 1864

(Signed) J. Pycroft
Collector

Rec'd 18th April 1864

Ro. 7th January 1864 No 91-92.
" 6 April " 164-165
" 28 " 660 & 662

P.W.D.
No 2280
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Dated 19th May 1864

Read the following letter

From
The Superintending Engineer
2nd Division

To
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

Dated 22nd April 1864
Rec'd 2 3rd May

C.D.
No 11162 - 19th May 1864

Requests reconsideration of his letter No 1430 of 7th December and the Collector of Tinnevelly No 63 of 17th Feb/64 on which G.O. No 952 of 6th April 1864 is based, regarding Local Fund Accounts for reasons within mentioned.

No 3 of the Enclosure in a letter from the Superintending Engineer 2nd Division dated 22nd April 1864 No 2280

To
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

P.W.D. 19 Oct 64

Copy of letter No 350 A. 2nd December 1863 from the Collector of Tinnevelly to the Superintending Engineer 2nd Division.

Ro. 11th May 1864 No 164

"manner as to mislead".

come to that before long - JPP

Captain Mobsby

P. 2.

states that he did not complain of the Collector having undertaken work without the approval of the Engineer Department. On this point it may suffice to remark that the phrase "but I found that the Collector had taken up the execution of even works" obviously conveys that meaning when considered with the context, and it is not strong therefore that the Collector should have felt himself called

Para 4 of letter received in Pol. 7th January 18 No.

called upon to enter into some explanation on the point.

In paras 5 to 7 Captain Mobsby endeavours to show that he was quite warranted in asserting that the Collector had declined to furnish him with any accounts, but there seems nothing in the papers published objectionable construction. So far as can be learnt, there was, up to the period to

to which the correspondence
between the Local Authorities has reference, a
misconception of the
Rules by which both
Departments were to be
governed in the matter
of Local Fund accounts,
and Captain Mobery
himself admits in his
letter to the Collector
of 12th November, that
the Engineer Dept had
not received from
Blame for the
confusion existed in

consequence - The
Collector, maintaining
the correctness of his
views, stated what he
believed to be the pro-
per mode of dealing
with the Accounts, but
expressed his willing-
ness to furnish the
Superintending Engineer
with copies of the
Accounts rendered to
him by the Tahsil-
dars, if necessary -
This evidently led to the
Superintending Engineer
letter

letters of the 7th and 16th
December (copies of
which have not been
furnished) on receipt
of which, as the Colle-
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nish the necessary
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The Govt do not object to questions on which doubts
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by Captain Moberly-

Superintending Engineer
&c &c &c
Bo of Revenue

Secretary to Govt

P.T. 156 ex Dept

Gen. of Gen. Ord.

Ex. P. 1462

Gen. of Inst. & Gen.

Dy 19 May/65

Letter from the Asst. Q.
Engr. 8th D. requesting a recons
sion of the G.O. No. 972 of 1864
regarding the Local Fun
accounts of the Tinnevel
District.

No. 449. 460

Dy 19 May 1865 D. 1