

(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. 1071	Press ~~Mis.~~
361-362	
Dated 22-4-	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd April 1865.*

No. 361. Read the following Endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 10th April 1865, No. 240 :—

Read the following letter from F. H. HENSLOWE, Esq., Agent and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Captain J. MULLINS, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 7th April 1865, No. 178.

SIR,

1. I deem it right to offer some observations upon the Order of Government No. 910 of 4th April 1865, in order to remove some misapprehension which appears to me to have been in some degree the origin of that order.

2. I subscribe unreservedly to the principle laid down in that order, that it is my duty to exercise, as far as I can, a control over expenditure proposed to be incurred on account of the Company : in the discharge of that duty every Indent that passes through my Office is scrutinized, and whenever considered questionable sent back for explanation. The Store Returns are also consulted, but these cannot always be taken as an infallible guide, because as they must necessarily be behind date they cannot afford full information on any day of the supplies available on that day in the Divisions ; and again, the circumstances of each particular Division are liable to be affected by influx of labour and increase of work, of which I have no intimation. To be guided entirely, therefore, by insufficient information at hand and to refuse to pass an Indent, might be attended with serious evils in delaying necessary works ; I am therefore bound to rely in all ordinary cases upon the discretion of the Chief Engineer, and should always hesitate to incur the risk of stopping the work by refusing supplies considered necessary by him. In all cases where demands are large or unusual they are inquired into before submission to Government. Very soon after my arrival here I suggested to Colonel Cotton that Indents should be made half-yearly, as calculated to afford better opportunities for dealing with them satisfactorily. But he objected to that plan, as likely to lead to large demands.

3. So far from considering the suggestions made from your Office unnecessary, I fully appreciate the value of discussion, and the information to be derived from it, but when I find it difficult to follow these suggestions I am bound to show my reasons,

4. I do not profess to have any experience in prices, but although the prices are set down in the Indents upon the best information at hand, it by no means follows that the prices noted are those to be paid for articles purchased, and I can rely upon the prudence, caution, and experience of Mr. Badham to avoid making extravagant purchases, while I gladly accept any suggestions from you on the subject.

5. I must also notice a misapprehension which appears in paragraph 5, where, in reference to the large quantities of iron in my Stores, you observe that " purchases made at a moment's notice lead to loss." I fear that upon this point my previous explanation was not understood, the large quantities of iron were purchased *in England*, but did not contain any of the particular description required.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd April 1865.

6. I appreciate the object with which the order in question was made, and shall with pleasure avail myself of any authority that it may impart to attain the object I have so much at heart of controlling and diminishing the Company's expenditure, in the matter of stores as well as in all other branches.

Transmitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Order No. 910 of the 4th April 1865.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Captain, R. E.,
Cong. Engr. for I. and C. Company.

No. 362.

ACCOUNT, No. 54.

ORDER THEREON, 22nd April 1865, No. 1,071.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 178

To,

The Agent and Manager,

Madras Brit. India Co.

To,

The Consulting Engineer,

Madras Brit. India Co.

Sir,

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2. I subscribe unreservedly to the principle laid down in that Order, that it is my duty to exercise as far as I can a control over expenditure proposed to be incurred on account of the Company. In the discharge of that duty every audit that passes through my Office is scrutinized, and whenever considered questionable sent back for explanation. The Store Returns are also consulted, but these cannot always be taken as an infallible guide, because as they must necessarily be behind date they cannot afford full

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in the matter of stores as well as in all other branches.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

W. Martineau

Agent & Manager

N^o 240.

Transmitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Order N^o 910 of the 4 April 1865.

Inspected & signed
by: J. C. S. S.
Madras 10 April 1865

Charles Martin Captain R.C.
Ordering for R.C.

500 81 George
22nd Oct 1865

Received

1071

1865. 1071

13th April 1865

1865

1071

1865

from the Merchants &c.
The Merchants &c.

Order of the
Government

Transmitted to
Government

N^o 910 of the 4 April 1865

regarding the agents

contracted with the

the Company

To 1865 Depa
No. 240
From No. 240
The Cons General
to the Secretary to Govt
D.P.M.

Dated 10th
Recd 11 } April 1865

no 1071-22nd April/65

Transmits agents
letter No. 178 of 7th Inst.
remarking on Govt order
No. 910 of the 4th April/65,
for the information of
Government.

Accom
Recorded
W.H.