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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1645	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	354-355 24 - 6 -	1865

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th June 1865.*

No. 354. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Revenue Department:—

Passing orders on Proceedings of the
Board submitting letter from the
Controller of Public Works Accounts
requesting to be furnished with infor-
mation for the preparation of the
Returns required by the Government
of India, showing the collections of
water rents from canals, &c., and all
other Public Works receipts realized
in this or in other Departments. } ((Here enter 7th June 1865, No. 1,223.)

No. 355. ORDER THEREON, 14th June 1865, No. 1,645.

ACCOUNT, No 65.

Communicated to the Controller of Public
Works Accounts.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Superintending Engineers, with reference to paragraph 6 of Revenue Proceedings.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

3

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th June 1865.*

No. 117. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th May 1865.

Read the following letter from Captain J. F. FISCHER, R. E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to the Revenue Board, dated Madras, 16th May 1865, No. 156 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to Government Order of the 10th instant, No. 1,277, I have the honor to request you will be good enough to furnish me with the views of your Board as to the manner in which
- ENCLOSURE.—One Book.

it is proposed to transfer to this Office records from which the returns called for by the Government of India can be compiled.

2. It appears to me there will be great difficulty in carrying out the measures contemplated by the Supreme Government in this Presidency in their full integrity; paragraph 1 of Section 5, Chapter XX. of the Revised system of Account for the Public Works Department declares, "The assessment and the annual estimate of such revenue" (water-rent from canals and other irrigation works) "being made in the Public Works Department, the functions of the Civil Department in respect of it are confined to the collection; and the realization will be brought to credit in the Public Works books by the Controller."

3. This procedure does not prevail at all in this Presidency, the assessment, collection, and realization of revenue from irrigation works rests entirely with the Revenue Department, and I do not suppose the Government intend to make any alteration as regards these; no Executive Officer or Agent in charge of a Range could attend to his own professional duties and perform those of a Revenue Officer in Districts where this revenue is obtained from numberless tanks and channels; he might be able to look after revenue matters in the Delta Districts where large canals exist, but I do not think the mixing up the functions of two separate Departments at all advisable, and it seems to me that as the Government of India want only certain records to be kept in this Office, and returns furnished to them, it would be far better to arrange so as to provide these than to attempt any change either in the assessment or collection of Nunjah revenue.

4. Executive Officers or Agents in charge of ranges are required to keep
- Paragraph 4. "Registers of Revenue in English, shewing in detail the demands or assessments and the amounts realized against them by Civil

"Officers." District Registers already exist, and extracts from these containing the information pertaining to the several Talooks could be furnished by the Collectors to the Officers in charge; as regards the amounts realized the monthly returns supplied in Bengal cannot be obtained now from the Civil Officers, these will have to be annual ones, compiled after Jummabundy, and at the same time the cause of any deficiency or falling off of the revenue can be brought to notice.

5. It is the duty of this Office to notice any marked short-coming of the revenue, and to do this efficiently it is necessary to have the records of former years' realization. In Bellary your President supplied me with returns for each Talook, shewing the Ayacut cultivation and revenue under every work, five years average cultivation and revenue, and the highest returns realized; from these records I obtained all the information I required regarding the condition of the works, and I venture to suggest the same proceeding be now adopted in all Districts, and the returns supplied by all Talukdars as early as possible with any information regarding the state of the works which it may be considered worth while to afford.

6. As this Office is held responsible* that proper records of rents due from
- * Paragraph 9, Section 5, Chapter, XX. "are properly kept by"

"Public Buildings and other sources of Public Works revenue, are properly kept by Divisional Officers, and that all State demands for rents or other revenue are duly

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th June 1865.*

"made against the parties liable, and proper measures taken for the regular realization thereof," I request you will be good enough to furnish me with returns of all such revenue to enable me to bring them on my books. I do not suppose the Land Revenue of the country is to be included among these or that obtained from Salt, but these are both affected by Public Works, and it may therefore be necessary to obtain the orders of Government regarding them.

7. I beg to forward for the Board's information a copy of the Chapter referring to the accounts now to be kept in this Department.

The Board deem it advisable to request the orders of Government, in the Revenue Department, on subjects referred to by the Controller. The Board are of opinion that as the Orders quoted relate to revenue, the assessment of which rests with the Department Public Works, and as the assessment of all revenues in this Presidency rests with the Revenue Department alone, these orders must be considered inapplicable to Madras. If the orders in question were to be carried out, precisely the same work would be done twice over, i. e., the collection of several branches of revenue would be checked and accounted for both in the Revenue and in the Public Works Departments.

No. 118.

ORDER THEREON, 7th June 1865, No. 1,223.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Controller Public Works Accounts has misapprehended the intention of the Section to which he refers.
2. Paragraph 1, Section 5, Chapter XX. of the Rules for the system of Account in the Public Works Department begins by remarking that "Public Works revenue realized by Public Works Officers is brought to credit by them, &c., in the manner prescribed in Section 2," and it then proceeds to direct how "water-rents," of which "the assessment and annual estimate" (in other words the Revenue Budget) is made in the Public Works Department, while the actual collection is made in the Civil Department, shall be brought to account in the Public Works books by the Controller by direct transfer entries from the Civil books.
3. There are no such rents in this Presidency, and therefore the whole of the instructions relating to them are inapplicable here.
4. The same is the case in regard to the "rents from Public Buildings and other sources of Public Works revenue," referred to in paragraph 9 of the same Section. It is clear from paragraph 8 that these instructions refer to "revenue realized by Public Works Officers" and included in their Budget Estimate of receipts.
5. There are no such revenue or receipts in this Presidency, and therefore these instructions also are inapplicable here.
6. There is nothing else in the Controller's letter that calls for orders from Government. The Board may, however, with advantage consider the subject of paragraph 5 of his letter. It seems desirable that all Superintending Engineers should be furnished with returns such as he describes for every tank of any importance in their ranges, as affording a very valuable means of testing the efficiency or otherwise of the irrigation work as a purely professional matter.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department. ✓
- the O. S. T. Augustin.
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Account

12/1645

Communicated to the

Controller of P. W. Accounts.

*Spent at George
12th June 1865*

[Signature]

To the Controller of P. W. Accounts

Superintending Engineers

*with reference to
para 6 of Revenue Proceedings. See p. 15 of same*

12/1645

157 1865 & 1866
Pro. of Govt. for June

1865

Pro. of Govt. in the
Revenue Department

2/7 } June
Rec. 9 }

No. 1228

Within Order.

Passing orders
on basis of the Board's
letter from the Govt.
of P.W.A., requesting
to be furnished with
information for the pre-
paration of the ^{returns} ~~statements~~
required by the Govt. of India
showing the collections
of water rents from
canals, etc. and all other
Public Works receipts
realized in this or in
other Dep'ts.

1645. 11th June 1865

No. 354. 355