

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>915-1-37</u>	Press Mis.
Dated <u>27-4-37</u>	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th April 1865.*

No. 132. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department (Establishment), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, in the Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 11th February 1865, No. 290 E-749 :—

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 2,323, of the 15th August last, explaining the grounds on which full travelling batta was authorized to be passed to all Range Servants, whether at or absent from their head quarters, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to forward copy of correspondence* conveying the views

* Paragraphs 16 and 17 of a Despatch from Secretary of State No. 19, dated 8th February 1860. of both the Secretary of State and the Government of India as to the principles on which

travelling allowance should be admitted, and to request that the rules in force in the Madras Presidency may be modified to accord with those by which the Government of India is guided, should no objection to the adoption of this course present itself to the Governor in Council.

(Signed) E. C. S. WILLIAMS, Captain, R. E.,

For Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 133.

ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1865, No. 955.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 13.

Ordered that the following letter be sent :—

(Here enter No. 956, dated 7th April 1865.)

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
7th April 1865.

No. 134.
From

No. 956.

COLONEL C. A. ORR, R. E.,
Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, P. W. D.,

To
The Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department.
SIR,

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 14.

1. With reference to your letter of the 11th February 1865, No. 290 E-749, I am desired to explain that the system of allowing each officer employed in the Department of Public Works, whose duties involve constant locomotion, a fixed monthly sum to cover the cost of maintaining his marching establishment, instead of a daily or mileage allowance to be drawn only when he is actually on the move, was adopted on the strong recommendation of the Committee which was nominated in 1863 to remodel the Public Works Establishments of this Presidency. The grounds on which that Committee based their recommendation were fully and clearly explained in paragraph 10 of their Report, dated 15th May 1863, recorded in the Proceedings of Government dated 18th June 1863, No. 1,599. The views of the Committee correspond with those which have been held by all the various Officers who have considered the question, and this Government do not doubt that in a Department like that of the Public Works, which requires its members to be almost continuously in the field, although not necessarily travelling from place to place, it is better to grant a monthly sum to meet the cost of a field establishment than an allowance which, being made dependent on changes of ground being effected almost daily, holds out inducements to needless locomotion with its accompanying loss of time and harassing discomforts. Moreover, it renders unnecessary the mistrustful scrutiny with which Travelling Allowance Bills are examined for audit when a daily rate of compensation is allowed, and avoids giving occasion to the ill-feeling and irritation which the strict discharge of the duty of pre-audit of a variable charge of the kind is too apt to give rise to.

2. For these reasons the Government are satisfied that the system of a fixed travelling allowance is preferable to a variable rate corresponding with the number of days actually taken up by travelling.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

... on the river with the