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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <i>2834</i>	Press ~~Mis.~~
<i>22-33</i>	
Dated <i>3-12</i>	<i>1866</i> .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd December 1866.*

No. 32. Read the following letter from the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 20th November 1866, No. 2,732 :—

1. With reference to G. O. 15th November 1866, No. 3,627, I have the honor to state, that there has been no change made in the *form* of the Appropriation Returns of the 4th Division, as is supposed by the Superintending Engineer. The accompanying three letters addressed on the 20th, 21st, and 28th August 1866, Nos. 1,385, 1,393, and 1,473, will show the description of information which was

* Three Statements herewith forwarded.

For Presidency, received 18th July.
,, Madras, „ 18th „
,, North Arcot, „ 18th August.

called for, and which the Returns* did not give. These letters relate to the Appropriation Returns for May 1866, and will satisfy Government that the revisions which they needed were not

such as could have been made in this Office, or this course would have been adopted as is frequently done with respect to the Returns, &c., of the 4th Division, by one of the Accountants of that Office being sent for, and any trifling corrections made by intercommunication between him and the Auditor of the Division.

2. The additional information called for is, that the column in which is shown the sanctioning authority for all estimates should be filled up with complete information, to avoid the necessity for frequent references, which this Office has to make while examining the Returns from Superintending Engineers.

3. The form in which the Local Returns are rendered is the same as that given in G. O. 1st August 1864, No. 2,187. In the column to show the sanctioning authority is noted in this form the number and date in the "*Chief Engineer's Office*," and it will be seen from the note to form No. 42 of those which accompanied Chapters XIX. and XX. of the Code of the Government of India, that the Local Returns rendered in the Bengal Presidency and other Governments are furnished by the Superintending Engineer to the Chief Engineer there, and by the latter examined and then made over to the Controller for compilation only, with the addition of the numbers and dates of the Chief Engineer's Registry of the sanctioned estimates; but in this Presidency the Local Returns have to be examined *in this Office* as to the sanctioning authority, and the proper powers under which Appropriation and sanctions are made and given, and then they are to be compiled; hence clear information is necessary under these heads.

4. The additional information sought for, as respects the *total* of the Appropriations made for *each* Range, is because from 1st May 1865 this Office has to see that the appropriations for each Range correspond with the Progress Reports of the Range Officers, and that the total of the appropriations for all the Ranges of the district correspond with the total Budget grant for that district. This was not necessary previous to 1st May 1865, when one account was sent for *each district*.

† Copy herewith sent.

A requisition for these details was made in a Circular† from this Office, No. VI., dated 15th May 1865, but was never

correctly attended to in the 4th Division Office; hence a proper form, in which the

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**Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd December 1866.**

required information could be given in an Abstract or foot note to the Return, was furnished to the Superintending Engineer.

5. I may further observe, with reference to the remark made in the 4th paragraph of the Superintending Engineer's letter to Government, No. 2,900, dated 3rd November 1866, to the effect that the Returns of sanction furnished to him by Range Officers are delayed, that it was explained to Superintending Engineers in my Circular No. XXXIV.,* dated 8th April 1865, that the compilation in their

* Copy herewith sent.

Offices of the Returns for this Office was not dependent on the receipt of like Returns from the Range Officers, for the Superintending Engineer's Return is simply a list of his own sanctions accorded in the month previous, with the sanctions made by any inferior authority to him, of which he received intimation in the same month, so that what was required was simply an extract from the Superintending Engineer's Register of estimates sanctioned, with an appropriation of funds made against such estimates which the Superintending Engineer only is competent to do, and it is not clear, therefore, why this cannot be done in the Superintending Engineer's Office within the first or second week after the month to which the sanctions relate, without waiting for the local Returns, the delay occasioned by which is so great that, very frequently the Progress Reports for two or three months previous have been received in this Office, and these cannot be scrutinized and passed until the Appropriation Returns have come to hand, which have been of late two or three months overdue.

6. I beg to forward herewith the Appropriation Returns of the 4th Division for July 1866, for comparison with those of May 1866. In the former month is shown, for the first time, an abstract of the appropriations in a correct form, with additional information respecting sanctioning authority (but not yet full or complete enough). This will, I trust, satisfy the Government that the additional details given are not such as to have occasioned any delay in their compilation.

No. 33. ORDER THEREON, 3rd December 1866, No. 3,837.

ACCOUNT, No. 5.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts, with fifteen Enclosures.
" Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

N^o 2732

From

Captain J. Fischer R. C.
Controller of P. W. Accounts

To

Colonel J. A. Orr R. C.
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
Fort St. George

Sir,

With reference to G. O. 15 November 1866, I have the honor to state, that there has been no change made in the form of the Appropriation Returns of the 4th Division as is supposed by the Superintending Engineer. The accompanying 3 letters addressed on the 20th, 21st and 28th August 1866 N^{os} 1388, 1393 and 1473 will show the description of information which was called for and which the Returns did not give. These letters relate to the Appropriation Returns for May 1866 and will satisfy Government that the revisions which they needed were not such as could have been made in this Office so this course would have been adopted as is frequently done with respect to the Returns of the 4th Division by one of the Accountants of that Office being sent for, and any trifling corrections made by intercommunication between him and the Auditor of the Division.

2. The additional information called for is that the column in which is shown the sanctioning authority for all Estimates should be filled up with complete information to avoid the necessity for frequent references which this Office has to make while examining the Returns from Superintending Engineers.

The

* Three statements herewith forwarded.

For Presg recd 18 July
" Madras " 18 "
" North Arcot " 18 Augt.

3 The form in which the Local Returns are rendered is the same as that given in G. O. 1st August 1864 No. 2187. Now the Column to show the sanctioning authority is added in this form the number and date in the "Chief Engineer's Office", and it will be seen from the note to form No. 42 of those which accompanied Chapters XIX and XX of the Code of the Government of India, that the Local Returns rendered in the Bengal Presidency and other Governments are furnished by the Superintending Engineer to the Chief Engineer there and by the latter examined and then made over to the Controller for compilation only with the addition of the numbers and dates of the Chief Engineer's Registry of the sanctioned Estimates. But in this Presidency the Local Returns have to be examined in this Office as to the sanctioning authority and the proper powers under which Appropriation and Sanctions are made and given and then they are to be compiled, hence clear information is necessary under these heads.

4 The additional information sought for as respects the totals of the Appropriations made for each Range, is because from 1st May 1865, this Office has to see, that the Appropriations for each Range correspond with the Progress Reports of the Range Officers and that the total of the Appropriations for all the Ranges of a District correspond with the total Budget grant for that District. This was not necessary previous to 1st May 1865 when one account was sent for each District. A requisition for these details was made in a Circular from this Office No. VI dated 18th May 1865, but was never correctly attended to in the Division Office - hence a proper form in which the required information could be given in an Abstract or statement to the Return was furnished to the Superintending Engineer.

5 I may further observe, with reference to the remark made in the 4th para of the Superintending Engineer's

* Copy herewith sent.

Engineer's letter to Government No. 2900 dated 3rd November 1866 to the effect that the Returns of sanction furnished to him by Range Officers are delayed, that it was explained to Superintending Engineer, in my Circular No. XXXIV dated 8th April 1865, that the compilation in their Office of the Returns for this Office was not dependent on the receipt of like Returns from the Range Officers, for the Superintending Engineer's Return is simply a list of his own sanctions accorded in the month previous, with the sanctions made by any inferior authority to him of which he received intimation in the same month, so that what was required was simply an Extract from the Superintending Engineer's Register of Estimates sanctioned with an appropriation of funds made against such Estimates which the Superintending Engineer only is competent to do, and it is not clear therefore, why this cannot be done in the Superintending Engineer's Office within the first or second week after the month to which the sanctions relate, without waiting for the Local Returns, the delay occasioned by which is so great that very frequently the Progress Reports for two or three months previous have been received in this Office and these cannot be scrutinized and passed until the Appropriation Returns have come to hand which have been of late 2 or 3 months overdue.

I beg to forward herewith the Appropriation Returns of the 1st Division for July 1866 for comparison with those of May 1866. In the former month is shown for the first time, an Abstract of the Appropriations in a correct form with additional information respecting sanctioning authority (but not yet full or complete enough) - This will

* Copy herewith sent.

will I trust satisfy the Government that the additional details given are not such as to have occasioned any delay in their completion.

I have the honor to be

Sir
your most obed^t servant

Wm. F. Keister (Captain R. G.
Controller of P. M. Arch.

Just changed
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Controller

with 1st class

Deputy Engineer of the

1st Division

Recorded

210,3837.

W. F.

Specimen

Wm. F. Keister

Comp. R. G.

P. H. 1866
Pro. of Gov. of the
of the

The Controller of P. H.
Accounts
The Secy to Gov. P. H.
Fort St. George

Notes 26
Rev. 2nd Nov 1866

Ca: 15 N: 2732

Reporting on the farm
and what instructions have
been given to the Secy to Gov. to
have their Appropriation Returns
rendered as complete as possible

A32-33.

3837-30 Decr 1866