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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3977	Press Mis.
331-333	
Dated 18-12-1866.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 331. From the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Calicut, 5th November 1866, No. 168.

1. Inspection Report of Major Farewell.
2. Travelling Allowance Bill of do.
3. Travelling Allowance Bill of Colonel Walker, Rs 24, passed.
4. Controller's Memorandum, No. 165, of 23rd October.
5. Six Inspection Reports of Colonel Walker, September 1865 to February 1866.
6. Inspection Report of Lieutenant Thompson.
7. Travelling Allowance Bill of do.
8. Controller's Memorandum, No. 159, of 23rd October.

1. I have the honor to address Government again on the subject of the Travelling Allowance Bills alluded to in paragraph 6 of G. O. No. 3,344 of 19th October 1866, which have been returned to me. Of these bills, Lieutenant Coningham's has been passed by the Controller for the full amount allowed on by me on the revision called for by the Controller's own Memorandum,

No. 66 of 8th September. That Officer's claim to three days' travelling allowance, while halting at his head quarters after return from each *bona fide* march therefrom, but not after merely riding out from head quarters to inspect work returning the same day, may, therefore, be considered as satisfactorily established in accordance with paragraph 5 of G. O. No. 2,439 of 3rd August 1866.

2. Captain Law's claims are also similarly disposed of to my own, the Controller's, and his satisfaction.

2. Captain Hankin's claim for three days out of four is disallowed, with my concurrence, on the above grounds, that a mere ride to inspect work and return therefrom the same day, does not constitute a claim for travelling allowance during three days subsequent to return to head quarters.

4. On behalf of Major Farewell I am, in justice, bound to submit a supplemental bill for six days' travelling allowance, as per the accompanying Inspection List, being quite at a loss to understand the principle on which the Controller has disallowed travelling allowance for three days halted at head quarters on the 11th, 12th, and 13th, and for three days on the 18th, 19th, and 20th, after *bona fide* absence, from his fixed station; while allowing the same in the case of a neighbouring range, where there is much less work and travelling.

5. As to my own bill, I have to enter a protest not so much against the disallowance of three days' travelling allowance after return to fixed or temporary head quarters from a *bona fide* absence of three days, or of halting allowance on the second day of each of such periods of three days, although such allowances are passed to my Assistants, as against what I conceive to be the very unfair manner in which the Controller has represented the case to Government, leading them to adopt a most erroneous impression as to my claims and general procedure. I did receive the Memorandum alluded to by the Controller, and printed with G. O. No. 3,344 of 19th October, but it was omitted to be sent with my letter by an oversight, only brought to my notice the day after its despatch, and I did not then remedy the omission simply because the so-called explanation was to me perfectly unintelligible.

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18th December 1866.*

6. That it has misled the Government is evident from paragraph 4 of their order under note, wherein the Controller is stated to have "acted properly in declining to pass my bill for the period of my stay at Coonoor," the fact being that I have not attempted to draw for a single day at Coonoor, except subsequently to receipt of G. O. No. 2,439 of 3rd August, under which for myself as for my Assistants on the Western Coast, I first began to draw three days' allowance after a return from a *long* file march. Unlike those Assistants, I keep up a double set of tents, and use one, if not both, of them, even on the Neilgherries and Wynnad, where carriage is so expensive. And while availing myself of Coonoor as my head quarters, I never charged Government for a mere ride in excess of five miles out of Coonoor, though I constantly spend much of my time in minute inspection of works beyond the regulated distance. In fact, I am peculiarly careful that it should not be said of me that I abuse the consideration of Government, which permits me to spend portion of the hot weather and monsoon at Coonoor, instead of at Coimbatore. It is with considerable indignation, therefore, that I find myself misrepresented to Government by the Controller, and of false statement of my claims entered in his Memorandum returning my revised bill, and herewith forwarded.

7. I conceive my honor as a Military Officer, and character as a public servant, affected by the tenor of G. O. No. 3,344 of 19th October, and am persuaded that Government will do me the favor to remove such impression on perusal of the accompanying Inspection Lists, for six months of incessant travelling between 4th September 1865 and 3rd March 1866. I did return to head quarters, it is true, twice during that interval, but from 14th October to 2nd November, it was to meet two summonses to the Civil Court at Coimbatore on matters connected with my public duties, and the second occasion was for the Xmas holidays, when I drew no travelling allowance. The length of halts alluded to by Government, even if correctly stated, has to be spread over a whole year, and not only half of it, as misrepresented by the Controller; while even for the other half year I can only be said to have halted at head quarters permanently from 4th to 31st March, for the whole of April, from 15th to 31st July, and for August, though during even those periods I inspected much work out of doors, but without claiming travelling allowance. In paragraph 6 of G. O. No. 944 of 23rd March 1866, the Controller is directed "to disallow bills only in cases when the spirit of the Travelling Allowance Rules is *habitually* disregarded," while it is left to Superintending Engineers to make such references as may be necessary to Government. With all deference, I venture to state that it is the Superintending Engineers alone who can really deal with travelling allowance bills according to the spirit of the orders, from their local and personal knowledge of their Division Assistants and Subordinates. The Controller's check, it appears to me, should be more purely one of account. Personally, I can state the effect the abolition of the fixed travelling allowance in my own case to have resulted in the putting down of the permanent establishment of four pair of bullocks and carts, which I had for years maintained, and the further result of such cuttings as the Controller has effected on my bill for August, will be the putting down of portion of my camp equipage which can be dispensed with, but which certainly conduces somewhat to the efficiency of my establishment. I

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claim no more than I am permitted to pass to any Assistants under my orders, but I respectfully claim no less.

8. There is another bill, viz., from the Mangalore Range, and the Inspection List of Lieutenant Thompson, R. E., for September, which with the Controller's Memorandum thereon I must refer for the Orders of Government. I conceive that the Controller has gone beyond his province in refusing to pass five days' travelling allowance for absence from head quarters, because the rest of the month had been spent there, he being quite ignorant, and I only cognizant of the real nature of a Range Officer's duties in the Western Coast during and after the monsoon. It rests with me, I respectfully submit, to take such notice of Lieutenant Thompson's movements as they may require; it rests with the Controller simply to see that he only draws allowance while travelling, and not to cripple his movements by denying allowances on frivolous pretexts. His procedure in the matter of Lieutenant Coningham's, and my own claims for August, once and again returned totally without audit, is inexplicable and productive of personal inconvenience; it being his duty at least to pass such portions of the claims as he knew to be admissible, pending reference regarding the rest.

P. S.—G. O. No. 2,518 of 9th August 1866, quoted in paragraph 1 of the Controller's letter, and alluded to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the G. O., not having been supplied to me, I am of course unaware of its bearing on my case, and on paragraph 5 of G. O. No. 2,439, of 3rd August 1866, which is a special rule, applicable only to Public Works Officers on the Western Coast and the Neilgherries. It might almost appear from paragraph 4 of the G. O. under reply, that I was the Superintending Engineer alluded to, which was not the case.

Referred to the Controller of Public Works Accounts for report.

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

Secretary to Government.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
15th November 1866.

No. 332. From the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 21st November 1866, No. 2,756.

Enclosures 22.

1. I have the honor to return the letter of the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, No. 168, dated the 5th instant, transmitted to me for report with your Memorandum of the 15th idem, and to submit the following observations thereon.

2. Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this document require no further remarks, paragraph 4 contains the substance of an appeal on behalf of Major Farewell's claims for travelling allowance on certain days in the month of August: these disallowances were made by this Office in accordance with paragraph 4 of G. O. of the 19th October 1866, No. 3,344, and it is difficult to see, if this allowance can be passed for the dates mentioned, why it should not be passed for the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of the same month, as well as for the 26th, 27th, and 28th. But this is a matter I must leave the Government to pass their own orders upon, as it is in fact an appeal against the interpretation put by this Office on the above order.

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3. Before entering on Colonel Walker's case, I will dispose of Lieutenant Thompson's, mentioned in paragraph 8 of his letter under reference, as the explanations called for by the remarks of the Superintending Engineer must be given in great detail, whereas the objections of this Office in the other instance can be very

Amount passed to Lieutenant Thompson.
For January, 4 days, 199½ mileage.
" February, 17 days, 1 day, Steamer fare.

" March, 11 "
" April, 12 "
" May, 10 "
" June, 2 "
" July, 0 "
" August, 14 "
" Sept., 0 + 5 days claimed, but disallowed.

shortly stated. Lieutenant Thompson joined the Range in January last, and the Memorandum in the margin shows the days for each month for which travelling allowance has been passed to him up to August last, inclusive of that passed for halts at his head quarters. It will be seen from this, that during 212 days he only could claim any allowance for 76 days, and when those for September were

submitted, which include one ten-mile journey during three days, and one of fifteen miles in two days, I disallowed the claim under paragraph 6 of G. O. of 23rd March last, No. 944, much in the same manner as I have done in other instances, which have received the approval of Government, and here again I must beg to leave the matter for their disposal and orders.

4. In paragraph 5 Colonel Walker accuses me of unfairness in making certain representations regarding himself to Government, but he omits to observe that these were made in the first instance to himself, and only submitted to them, when he alleged he did not know on what grounds some disallowances had been made—See paragraph 3 of his letter No. 123, dated 26th September last, printed with G. O. of the 19th October 1866, No. 3,344. On the assumption that this Office letter embodying these had not been received by that Officer, a copy was sent to you; it now appears he had received this document, and did not transmit it to Government as it was unintelligible to himself! And notwithstanding that the course adopted here had been subsequently approved of by Government, he does not hesitate to accuse me of making misrepresentations to them, and also of false statements in recording the objections of this Office in a certain Memorandum, which was never submitted to the Government by me.

5. Colonel Walker urges in his case that for six months of the year he had travelled constantly, whilst my objections were made for only one-half of the period whilst he had halted at or near one locality: the accompanying Inspection Reports for this period and a Memorandum showing the marches and halts for the same time will explain at once how this was arrived at; and here, I would very respectfully submit, I have done nothing but adopt the course laid down by Government in G. O. of the 9th August last, No. 2,518; in this instance, Government themselves called for the Inspection Reports of the Officer concerned, and after due consideration, laid down the principle which I have only followed, and which they have again approved of; what misrepresentation, therefore, I have been guilty of I am at a loss to discover; and it is to be much regretted Colonel Walker, before making such a charge, did not satisfy himself he had some grounds to go upon: he has stated the circumstances of his case so as to require further consideration in such

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matters, that is whether six months' halts in one locality can be permitted to Officers having such important ranges as the present Superintending Engineers, provided they travel for the other six months of the year; with this I have nothing to do, Government had decided in one instance against one Officer in the matter, and whether they will re-consider it, rests with them; but I again respectfully submit, it affords no excuse for Colonel Walker's language or his manner of address as regards myself.

6. Now for the charge of false statement, as contained in this Office Memorandum No. 165, dated 23rd October last, and here I must remind you this had not been addressed to Government, as alleged by Colonel Walker in paragraph 6 of his letter under reply, but only to himself. In referring to the bill for travelling allowance passed to him for this month, it will be seen that only the full sum allowed by Government has been passed to him, the entries in the Memorandum are evidently clerical errors. It would appear from this Office Memorandum of the 6th September last, herewith sent, that the first claim for fourteen days was disallowed under G. O. 23rd March 1866, No. 944, paragraph 6, and on receipt of G. O. 19th October 1866, No. 3,344, four days' travelling allowance has been passed under paragraph 4 of that Order; the Memorandum of the 23rd October is a mere clerical error as will be seen from it, the number of corrections in this bill appearing to have misled the Clerk in drawing it up, and in fact this Memorandum need never have been sent at all.

7. With these explanations, I trust the Government will be in a position to decide whether any false statements of any kind have been made by me. I have no hesitation in leaving the matter in their hands; nor would I, in such a case, crave the indulgence of being allowed to resign my office, if I felt any guilt of any kind could attach to me; if the Government are satisfied that I have been guilty of any such wilful misconduct, there is but one course open to them, and I must abide by the penalty; but if, however, on the contrary, they consider the charge has not been substantiated, I must most respectfully solicit their protection against such wanton insults as Colonel Walker does not hesitate to offer, and which, I trust, they will now call upon him to withdraw.

8. In paragraph 7 Colonel Walker states I have misrepresented his halts at or about Coonoor, but his Inspection Reports are herewith sent together with an abstract of them; from this latter document it appears I have credited him with fewer days at Coonoor than what the former actually show to have been spent there; as regards the general question, as to the manner in which these are to be calculated, I have already explained that I pursued the course indicated by the Government in G. O. of the 9th August, No. 2,518.

9. I have disposed now of the whole case as far as relates to the action of this Office; in conclusion, it remains only to refer to the point of general control to be exercised in the audit of these allowances, and (1) as regards the two systems of fixed travelling allowance and that now in force, the results of the working of the department are undoubtedly in favor of the latter; the cash balances at the close of the past official year were much less than in any previous year since its re-organization, and in this year out of a first allotment of 46 lacs, the expenditure up to the end of October was nearly 22 lacs, as far as can be gathered from the accounts

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received in this office, leaving only 24 lacs to meet the demands of the next five months; whereas, formerly, we used to have some 20 lacs to get through in the last two months of the year; an additional allotment of about 12 lacs has been received since the commencement of the year, but even with this there can be very little doubt but that we shall use up the whole grant; I am of opinion we are more likely to be short of funds than that there will be any large balance on hand at its close. (2.) As regards the manner in which these claims are to be judged of, when Colonel Walker says I have no means of arriving at any proper conclusions in the subject, he appears to have forgotten I have had a good deal of experience in the active duties of the department, both in the Godavery under Sir A. Cotton, and in Bellary; in the former, Range Officers usually saw Sir Arthur once a month, if not often, and as District Engineer of the latter, I made it a rule to see every range once in two or three months, and to personally inspect the works in progress; of course under the existing organization of the department, Superintending Engineers cannot be expected to do this, and in fact it was never their duty at all any more than it is the duty of a Major General Commanding a Division to be the Commandant of every Regiment in it, but from what Government have already noticed, these inspections are not made even at very long intervals, and also since this Office called upon Range Officers to enter in their Monthly Progress Reports the dates of last inspection of all works in progress, it has become quite apparent that many of these had not been seen for months even by them; the having to perform this duty of general control is, I know, most invidious, but as long as the Government are pleased to devolve it upon this Office, I must beg of them to protect me from insult, even though I should err in the discharge of the duty.

No. 333.

ORDER THEREON, 18th December 1866, No. 3,977.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 26.

11th to 13th.
14th to 20th.

at head quarters on his return from a tour of inspection. The Controller of Public Works Accounts objects to this claim under paragraph 4 of G. O. No. 3,344 dated 19th October 1866. It is observed, however, that the Order referred to dealt only with a special case, and as that of Major Farewell comes properly under G. O. No. 2,439, dated 3rd August 1866, Captain Fischer is authorized to pass that Officer's supplemental abstract for August.

13th to 18th August	...	Rs. 36
27th to 31st do.	...	30
15th to 17th July omitted in July's Bill	...	18
		Rupees 84
claimed by Superintending Engineer.		
13th, 15th, 27th, and 29th, Rupees 24 admitted by Controller.		

2. Colonel Walker also submits for re-consideration his own claim* to travelling allowance for August last which came under the notice of Government in their Order of the 19th October above quoted. He explains, with reference to the Controller's representation upon which the comments of Government in that Order were based, that he never claimed

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18th December 1866.*

travelling allowance for any single day of his stay at Coonoor except subsequently to the receipt of G. O. No. 2,439, dated 3rd August 1866, under which he draws a three days' halting allowance after a return from a *bona fide* march. He reports being obliged to maintain a double set of tents, and to often being compelled to use both on the Neilgherries and in Wynaad where carriage is expensive. He submits his Inspection lists to show that between the 4th September 1865 and 3rd March 1866 he was engaged in constant travelling, and remarks that the more equitable mode of judging of the length of his halts would be to take it for the whole year instead of for only six months as the Controller has done.

3. Captain Fischer explains that, in dealing with Colonel Walker's claims, he was guided by the decision of Government in G. O. No. 2,518, dated 9th August 1866, on those of a Superintending Engineer who claimed full travelling allowance month after month although spending his time either at head quarters or in an adjoining sanitarium, with few unimportant deviations from the route connecting them. The two cases are not, however, analogous, and there is much in what Colonel Walker now urges to warrant a different view being taken of his claim from what the Government were led to form without the fuller explanations which that Officer has now submitted. His Inspection Lists afford sufficient evidence of his having frequently visited the works throughout his Division, and he appears to have made no demand for travelling allowance during his sojourn at Coonoor and during inspections throughout the Neilgherry Range, except that to which he was entitled under G. O. No. 2,139, dated 3rd August 1866, although his time was much occupied in out-of-door duties. His Lordship in Council is therefore of opinion that the amount of Colonel Walker's claim retrenched by the Controller may now be passed.

4. Colonel Walker also submits Lieutenant Thompson's bill for five days in September which the Controller has disallowed under G. O. No. 944, dated 23rd March 1866, in which he was permitted to exercise a check over claims to travelling allowance when he believed the spirit of the rules to be habitually disregarded. The Government fail to see that Lieutenant Thompson's claim can be said to come within the intention of that order. It has received the support of the Superintending Engineer upon the ground of the peculiar difficulties under which a Range Officer on the Western Coast labors in making his inspection of works. In matters of this nature, and, in fact, on all questions connected with demands for travelling allowance, the Superintending Engineer is the Officer whom the Government hold responsible for the admission of only such claims as have been fully established, and it is only when the rules are clearly shown to be infringed, or undue advantage is taken of their liberal provisions, that the Controller is expected to exercise the check contemplated by the Order of the 23rd March last.

5. The Government cannot refrain from observing with regret that discussions upon questions connected with claims to travelling allowance should so frequently assume, as in the present case, a personal and recriminatory character. The Government do not understand Colonel Walker to accuse the Controller of having made a false statement. Colonel Walker appears to complain that the Controller, in his Memorandum of the 23rd October 1866, No. 165, imputed to him (Colonel Walker) a false statement of his claims to travelling allowance for certain days, and the Controller admits that a mistake was made in that document. Any

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18th December 1866.

one may err, or construe orders too strictly, but he may fairly claim to be considered as having acted in perfectly good faith. The Controller has a difficult and arduous task to perform in checking travelling and other allowances, and rightly looks to obtaining the support of Government. His Lordship in Council trusts that this notice of the matter will in future prevent departure from the respect, forbearance, and courtesy which should invariably be shown to each other by all Officers in the public service.

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, with five Enclosures.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts, with fifteen Enclosures.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

No 168.

Superintendent Office
Calcutta, 5th Nov. 1866.

From

Lieutenant Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Superintending Engineer

To

Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government D.O. No.

Sir,

Enclos: 13,

1. Inspection Report of Major General Walker No 24 paper Comingsham's has been passed by the Controller for the full amount allowed on by me on the provision called for by the Controller's order No 66 of 8th September 1865 to July 1866.
2. J. A. Bill of do.
3. J. A. Bill of do.
4. Controller's Memo No 165 of 23rd Oct.
5. Insp. Report of do.
6. Insp. Report of do.
7. J. A. Bill of do.
8. Cont. Memo No 159 of 23rd Oct.

I have the honor to address Government again on the subject of the Travelling Allowance bill which have been returned to me. Of these bills, Lieut. Walker's bill for 3 days Travelling Allowance is disallowed, with my concurrence, in the above grounds that a mere ride to inspect work and return therefrom the same day, may therefore be considered as satisfactorily established in accordance with para 5 of G.O. No 4139 of 3rd August 1866.

2. Captain Lami's claims are also similarly disallowed of to my own, the Controller, and his satisfaction.
3. Captain Hawkins' claim for 3 days, out of 6, is disallowed, with my concurrence, in the above grounds that a mere ride to inspect work and return therefrom the same day, does not constitute a claim for Travelling Allowance during 3 days subsequent to return to Head Quarters.
4. An behalf of Major Farwell, I am, in justice, bound to submit a supplemental bill for 6 days.

Travelling Allowance, as for the accompanying &c.
specimen list being quite at a loss to understand
the principle on which the Controller has disallowed
Travelling Allowance for 3 days halted at Brad Quarters
on the 11th 13th and 15th and for 3 days on the 18th
19th and 20th after having allowed from his fixed
Station, while allowing the same in the case of a
neighbouring range, where there is much less work and
travelling.

5. As to my own bill, I have to make a protest
not so much against the disallowance of 3 days travelling
Allowance after return to fixed or temporary Brad Quarters
from a bonafide absence of 3 days, or of halting allow-
ance on the 2nd day of each of such periods of 3 days,
although such allowances are granted to my Assistant,
as against what I conceive to be the very unfair
manner in which the Controller has represented the
case to Government leading them to adopt a most
erroneous impression as to my claims and general
conduct. I did receive the Memo attached to the
Controller and printed with G.O. No 2439 of 19th October,
but it was omitted to be sent with my letter by an
oversight only brought to my notice after the
dispatch, and I did not then present the Memo
simply because the so-called explanation was to me
perfectly unintelligible.

6. That it has misled the Government is evident
from para 1 of their order under note, wherein the Controller
is stated to have acted properly in declining to pass
my bill for the period of my stay at Coonoor, the
fact being that I have not attempted to draw for
a single day at Coonoor, except subsequently to receipt
of G.O. No 2439 of 3rd August, under which for myself
I first began to draw 3 days Allowance after a return
from a bonafide march. Unlike those Assistants
I kept up a double set of bills and use one, if

not both, of them, even on the Nilgiris and Wynna
where carriage is so expensive. And while awaiting my bill
of Coonoor as my head Quarters, I never charged Gov-
ernment for a horse ride in excess of 5 miles out of
Coonoor, though I constantly spend much of my time in
minute inspection of works beyond the regulated distance.
In fact, I am peculiarly careful that it should not be
said of me that I abuse the consideration of Govern-
ment, which permits me to spend portion of the hot
weather and monsoon at Coonoor, instead of at Coim-
batore. It is with considerable indignation, therefore, that
I find myself misrepresented to Government by the
Controller and of false statement of my claims entered
in his Memo returning my revised bill and herewith for-
warded.

7. I conceive my honor as a Military Officer, and
character as a Public Servant, affected by the terms of
G.O. No 2439 of 19th October, and am persuaded that
Government will do me the favor to remove such in-
-ference on payment of the accompanying inspection
bill for 6 months of incessant travelling between 6th
September 1885 and 3rd March 1886. I did return to Brad
Quarters, it is true, twice during that interval, but from
16th October to 2nd November, it was to meet 2 summonses
to the Civil Court at Coimbatore on matters connected
with my Public duties, and the 2nd occasion was for
the Viceroy's holidays, when I drew no Travelling Al-
-lowance. The length of halts allowed to by Government,
even if correctly stated, has to be spread over a whole
year and not only half of it, as misrepresented by the
Controller, which even for the other half year I can only
be said to have halted at Brad Quarters permanently
from 4th to 31st March, for the whole of April, from
15th to 31st July, and for August though during even
those periods, I inspected much work out of doors but
without claiming Travelling Allowance. In para 6 of
G.O. No 944 of 20th March 1886, the Controller is directed

Office of the Controller of P.W. Accounts.
 Madras 21st Nov 1866

N^o 2456.

From
 The Controller of Public Works Accounts
 To The Secretary to Government P.W.D.
 Fort Saint George
 Sir

Enclos 22

I have the honor to return the letter of the Superintending Engineer, Division N^o 168 dated the 5th instant, transmitted to me for report with your Memo of the 15th idem and to submit the following observations thereon.

2. Paras 1, 2, 3 of this document require no further remarks, para. 4 contains the substance of an appeal on behalf of Major Farewell's claims for Travelling allowance on certain days in the month of August: these disallowances were made by this Office in accordance with para. 4 of G.O. of the 19th October 1866. N^o 3344 and it is difficult to see, if this allowance can be passed for the dates mentioned, why it should not be passed for the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of the same month as well as for the 26th, 27th and 28th. But this is a matter, I must leave the Government to pass their own orders upon, as it is in fact, an appeal against the interpretation put

19 Oct 1866 / 16 Nov 3344
 2456

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"to disallow bills only in cases where the spirit of the Travelling Allowance Rule is habitually disregarded," while it is left to Superintending Engineers to make such reference as may be necessary to Government. With all deference, I venture to state that it is the Superintending Engineer alone who will deal with Travelling Allowance bills of its being bearing on my case, on para 5 of G.O. N^o 2439 of 3rd August 1866 which is a special rule applicable only to S. W. Officer on the Western Coast & the N. B. Division. It might almost appear from para 4 of the G.O. under reply that I was the Superintending Engineer, which was not the case.

W. W. Walker Esq. Esq.
 Secy. to Govt.

I conceive that the Controller has gone beyond his province in refusing to pass 5 days Travelling Allowance for absence from the District. I am sure the rest of the month had been spent there, he being quite ignorant, and I only cognizant of the real nature of a Range Officer's duties in the Western Coast during and after the Monsoon. I rest with me, I respectfully submit, to take such notice of Smith's movements as they may require; it rests with the Controller simply to see that he only draws Allowance while Travelling, and not to cripple his movements by denying allowances

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 2456

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by this Office in the above order.

3. Before entering on Colonel Walker's case, I will dispose of Lieut. Thompson's, mentioned in para: 8 of his letter under reference, as the explanations called for by the remarks of the Superintending Engineer must be given in great detail, whereas the objections of this Office in the other instance can be very shortly stated. Lieut. Thompson joined the Range in January last.

and the Memo. in the margin shews the days for each month for which Travelling Allowance has been passed to him up to August last, inclusive of that passed for halts at his Head Quarters. It

Amount passed to Lieut. Thompson
For Jan^y - 4 days 194½ mileage
1 - - - - - steamer fare

- February	14 - -
- March	11 - -
- April	12 - -
- May	10 - -
- June	2 - -
- July	0 - -
- August	14 - -
- Sept ^r	0 + 5 claimed but dis-

allowed.

will be seen from this, that during 212 days, he only could claim any allowance for 46 days and when those for September were submitted, which include one 10 mile journey during 3 days and one of 15 miles in 2 days, I disallowed the claim under para: 6 of L.O. of 23rd March last. N. 944, in much in the same manner as I have done in other instances, which have received the approval of Government and here again, I must beg to leave

leave the matter for their disposal and orders.

4. In para: 5 Colonel Walker accuses me of unfairness in making certain representations regarding himself to Government, but he omits to observe, that these were made in the first instance to himself and only submitted to them, when he alleged, he did not know on what grounds some disallowances had been made, see para: 3 of his letter. N. 128 dated 26th September last, printed with L.O. of the 19th October 1866. N. 3344, on the assumption that this Office letter embodying these had not been received by that Office, a copy was sent to you; it now appears, he had received this document and did not transmit it to Government as it was unintelligible to himself! and notwithstanding that the course adopted here had been subsequently approved of by Government, he does not hesitate to accuse me of making misrepresentations to them, and also of false statements in recording the objections of this Office in a certain Memo. which was never submitted to the Government, by me.

5. Colonel Walker rises in his case

Case, that for 6 months of the year he had
travelled constantly, whilst no objections
were made for only one half of the period
whilst he had halted at or near one loca-
lity: the accompanying inspection reports
for this period, and a Memo. shewing the
marches and halts for the same time
will explain at once how this was arrived
at, and here, I would very respectfully
submit, I have done nothing but adopt
the course laid down by Government in G.O.
of the 9th August last. N^o 2578: in this
instance, Government themselves called for
the inspection reports of the Officer con-
cerned, and after due consideration, laid
down the principle which I have only
followed and which they have again ap-
proved of, what misrepresentation, therefore,
I have been guilty of, I am at a loss to dis-
cover and it is to be much regretted, Colonel
Walker, before making such a charge, did
not satisfy himself, he had some grounds
to go upon: he has stated the circumstances
of his case so as to require further considera-
tion in such matters, that is, whether
six months halts in one locality can be
permitted to officers having such im-
portant

important ranges as the present Superin-
tending Engineers, provided they travel
for the other six months of the year, with
this I have nothing to do, Government
had decided in one instance against one
officer in the matter and whether they
will re-consider it, rests with them, but I
again respectfully submit, it affords no
excuse for Colonel Walker's language or his
manner of address as regards myself.

6. Now for the charge of false
statement as contained in this Office Memo.
N^o 165 dated 23rd October last and here I
must remind you, this had not been ad-
dressed to Government as alleged by Colonel
Walker in para. 6 of his letter under reply,
but only to himself. In referring to the
bill for Travelling Allowance passed to him
for this month it will be seen, that, only
the full sum allowed by Government has been
passed, the entries in the Memo. are evi-
dently clerical errors. It would appear
from this Office Memo. of the 6th Septem-
ber last, herewith sent, that the first claim
for 14 days was disallowed under G.O. 23rd
March 1866 N^o 944 para. 6 and on receipt
of G.O. 19th October/66. N^o 3344, four days
Travelling allowance has been passed under
para

para 4. of that order the Memo. of the 23rd Co.
later is a mere clerical error as will be seen
from it, the number of corrections in this
Bill. appearing to have misled the
Clerk in drawing it up and in fact the
Memo. need never have been sent at all.

With these explanations I
trust the Government will be in a position
to decide whether any false statements of
any kind have been made by me, I have
no hesitation in leaving the matter in their
hands nor would I in such a case crave the
indulgence of being allowed to resign my
Office, if I felt any guilt of any kind could
attach to me. if the Government are satis-
fied that I have been guilty of any such wil-
ful mis-conduct, there is but one course
open to them and I must abide by the
penalty, but if however on the contrary, they
consider the charge has not been substan-
tiated, I must most respectfully solicit their
protection against such wanton insults
as Colonel Walker does not hesitate to offer,
and which I trust they will now call upon
him to withdraw.

8. In para 7. Colonel Walker
states, I have misrepresented his halts
at or about Comor but his inspection
reports are herewith sent together with
an

an abstract of them, I am this latter do-
cument, it appears, I have credited him with
the lower days at Comor, than what not
the former actually show to have been spent
there, as regards the general question as to age
the manner in which these are to be
calculated, I have already explained, that, all
I intended the course indicated by the
Government in G.O. of the 9th August N^o 2578. been

9. I have disposed now of the
whole case as far as relates to the action of
this Office; in conclusion, it remains only to
refer to the point of general control to be ex-
ercised in the audit of these allowances and
(1) as regards the two systems of fixed Travel
allowance and that now in force, the
results of the working of the Department are
undoubtedly in favor of the latter, the Cash
balances at the close of the past official year
were much less than in any previous year since
its reorganization and in this year out of a
first allotment of 40 lacs, the expenditure up
to the end of October was nearly 22 lacs - as far
as can be gathered from the accounts received
in this Office - leaving only 24 lacs to meet the
demands of the next 5 months whereas formerly
we used to have some 20 lacs to get through
in

in the last 2 months of the year: an additional
allotment of about $1\frac{3}{4}$ lacs has been received.
Since the commencement of the year, but even
with this, there can be very little doubt, but
that we shall use up the whole grant. I am
of opinion we are more likely to be short of
funds than that there will be any large
balance on hand at its close. (2) As
regards the manner in which these claims are
to be judged of when Colonel Walker says, I have
no means of arriving at any proper conclusions
in this subject, he appears to have forgotten,
I have had a good deal of experience in the
active duties of the Department, both in the
Godavary under Sir N. Cotton and in Bellary;
in the former, Range Officers usually saw Sir
Archer once a month, if not oftener and as
District Engineer of the latter, I made it a
rule to see every Range once in 2 or 3 months
and to personally inspect the works in
progress, of course under the existing organi-
zation of the Department, Superintending
Engineers cannot be expected to do this
and in fact, it was never their duty at
all any more than it is the duty of a
Major General Commanding a Division
to be the Commandant of every Regiment
in

23.
in it, but from what Government have
already noticed, these inspections are not
made even at very long intervals and
also since this Office called upon Range
Officers to enter in their monthly progress
reports the dates of last inspection of all
works in progress, it has become quite ap-
parent, that many of these had not been
seen for months even by them: the having
to perform this duty of general control, is,
I know most irksome, but, as long as
the Government are pleased to devolve it
upon this Office, I must beg of them to
protect me from insult even though I
should err in the discharge of the duty.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedt St.
Captain R.E.

Controller of M. Works

To
The Secretary to Government. M.D.
Fort. St. George

Public Works Department
No. 3977

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 18th Decr 1866

25

Referred to the
Controller of Public Works Accounts
for report -

Charles F. M. Colonel R. L.
Secretary to Government

To The Controller of Public Accounts -
with 13 enclosures, the enclosed -

Fort St. George
15 Nov 1866

42264

of G.O. No. 3344, dated
17th October 1866. It is
observed, however, that

the above
Engg. of the
in behalf
all, as the
elling allon
6 days
during which
er, halted
is in his
time of in
Don't tell
objects to
see para 4
the

1866
No. 4761

The Controller of Public Accounts

Dec 24 1866

Following the
Customs of the Office
in the Madras
the well and the
the, generally all
the

No. 3977 - 18th Decr 1866

No. 3322

60 3977. on "Birds".

Under date the 18th Decr 1866

From the S. Secy. Am.

Read the following

(Only of F. N. Results)

(Here enter No. 2756 - 2121 50 - 186)

our 2nd 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th 13th 14th 15th 16th 17th 18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd 23rd 24th 25th 26th 27th 28th 29th 30th 31st 32nd 33rd 34th 35th 36th 37th 38th 39th 40th 41st 42nd 43rd 44th 45th 46th 47th 48th 49th 50th 51st 52nd 53rd 54th 55th 56th 57th 58th 59th 60th 61st 62nd 63rd 64th 65th 66th 67th 68th 69th 70th 71st 72nd 73rd 74th 75th 76th 77th 78th 79th 80th 81st 82nd 83rd 84th 85th 86th 87th 88th 89th 90th 91st 92nd 93rd 94th 95th 96th 97th 98th 99th 100th 101st 102nd 103rd 104th 105th 106th 107th 108th 109th 110th 111st 112nd 113rd 114th 115th 116th 117th 118th 119th 120th 121st 122nd 123rd 124th 125th 126th 127th 128th 129th 130th 131st 132nd 133rd 134th 135th 136th 137th 138th 139th 140th 141st 142nd 143rd 144th 145th 146th 147th 148th 149th 150th 151st 152nd 153rd 154th 155th 156th 157th 158th 159th 160th 161st 162nd 163rd 164th 165th 166th 167th 168th 169th 170th 171st 172nd 173rd 174th 175th 176th 177th 178th 179th 180th 181st 182nd 183rd 184th 185th 186th 187th 188th 189th 190th 191st 192nd 193rd 194th 195th 196th 197th 198th 199th 200th 201st 202nd 203rd 204th 205th 206th 207th 208th 209th 210th 211st 212nd 213rd 214th 215th 216th 217th 218th 219th 220th 221st 222nd 223rd 224th 225th 226th 227th 228th 229th 230th 231st 232nd 233rd 234th 235th 236th 237th 238th 239th 240th 241st 242nd 243rd 244th 245th 246th 247th 248th 249th 250th 251st 252nd 253rd 254th 255th 256th 257th 258th 259th 260th 261st 262nd 263rd 264th 265th 266th 267th 268th 269th 270th 271st 272nd 273rd 274th 275th 276th 277th 278th 279th 280th 281st 282nd 283rd 284th 285th 286th 287th 288th 289th 290th 291st 292nd 293rd 294th 295th 296th 297th 298th 299th 300th 301st 302nd 303rd 304th 305th 306th 307th 308th 309th 310th 311st 312nd 313rd 314th 315th 316th 317th 318th 319th 320th 321st 322nd 323rd 324th 325th 326th 327th 328th 329th 330th 331st 332nd 333rd 334th 335th 336th 337th 338th 339th 340th 341st 342nd 343rd 344th 345th 346th 347th 348th 349th 350th 351st 352nd 353rd 354th 355th 356th 357th 358th 359th 360th 361st 362nd 363rd 364th 365th 366th 367th 368th 369th 370th 371st 372nd 373rd 374th 375th 376th 377th 378th 379th 380th 381st

recd the Sup^r Engr of the
7th 17th submits in behalf

of College, Russell, (a, 1881)
 Supplemental Travelling Allowance Bill for 6 days

in August 1866 during which
period that Officer halted
at West Quarters in his

The Controller

of the accounts, objects to the claim, under para 4

of Q. C. No. 3344, dated
17. October 1866. It is

observed, however that

Athe.

11^h to 15^h
18^h to 20^h

12. 10. 1941
13. 10. 1941
14. 10. 1941
15. 10. 1941

The Order referred to dealt
only with a special case,
and no that of Major
Farewell comes properly
under G.O. No 2439 of

32 August 1866. Captain

Fischer is authorized

to pass that Officers

Supplemental Abstract

for August

2. Col Walker also

submits for consideration

his own claim to travelling

allowance for August last

which came under the

notice of Govt in their

Order of the 19th October

above quoted. He explains

with reference to the

13th to 18th Aug - Rs 36

27th to 31st " " - 30

15th to 17 July

mutted in July's } - 18

Rs 84 claimed

by Supg Surgⁿ

13th 15th 27th & 29th Rs 24 ad-

mitted by Cont^r

with the no presentation

upon which the comments

of Govt in that order

are based, that he never

claimed travelling allow-

ance for any single day

of his stay at Coonor,

except subsequently to the

receipt of G.O. No 2439,

of 3rd August/66 under

which "he" draws a three

days' halting allowance

after return from a bo-

na fide march. He ac-

cepts being obliged to

maintain a double set

of tents, and to often being

compelled to

move both on the Nilgherries

the 4 Sept and 3 March/66
he was engaged in con-
stant travelling, and
perhaps that the more
equitable mode of judging
of the length of his halts
would be to take it
for the whole year instead
of for only six months
as the Controller has done.

3. Captain Fischer
explains that in dealing
with Coll Walker's claims
he was guided by the
decision of Govt in G.O.
No 2518, of 9 Aug/66, on
those of a Surgeon who
claimed full travelling
allowance month after
month.

month all his spending
his time either at head-
quarters or in an asy-
lum, sanitarium, with
few unimportant deviations,
from the route connecting
them. The two cases
are not however analogous
and there is much in
what Coll Walker now
urges to warrant a different
view being taken of his
claim from what they
Govt were led to form-
ulation. The fuller expla-
nation which that Officer
has now submitted
His Inspection has
afforded sufficient evidence
of his having frequently
visited the works through-
out his duty, and he

appears to have made
no demand for Travelling
allowance during his so-
journ at Conon. and
during inspections throughout
the Neilyheny range, ex-
cept that to which he
was entitled under G.O.
No. 2139, of 3^d Aug /66,
altho his time was occu-
pied in much out of door
duties. His Lordship
in Council is therefore
of opinion that the amount
of Col Walker's claim
retained by the Controller
may now be passed.

4. Col Walker also
submits Lt Thompson's
Bill for 5 days in Sept
which

which the Controller has
disallowed under G.O.
of 23^d March 1866 in
which he was permitted
to exercise a check on
claims to travelling
allowance when he be-
lieved the spirit of the
Rules to be habitually
disregarded. The hon
gentl to see that Lieut
Thompson's claim can
be paid to order within
the intention of that order.
It has received the ap-
proval of the Superin-
tending the general of the
peculiar difficulties
which a Range Officer
on the Western Coast
labors in making
his inspection of unbio

and in matters of this
nature, and in fact
in all questions con-
nected with demands
for Travelling Allowance,
the Superior is the
Officer whom the Govt.
hold responsible for
the admission of only
such claims as have
been fully established,
and it is only when
the Rules are clearly
shown to be infringed,
or undue advantage is
taken of their liberal
provisions, that the
Controller is expected
to

to exercise the check
contemplated by the
order of the 23rd March
last. The Govt cannot
refrain from observing
with regret that discussion
upon questions connected
with claims to Travelling
Allowance should so
frequently assume, as
in the present case, a
personal and pecuniary
character. They
thought that this
notice of the matter
will in future prevent
departure from the respect-
able conduct and com-
position should invariably be
shown to each other
by
strictly - but he may fairly claim

by all Officers in the public service -
 The Controller has a difficult and
 arduous duty to perform in checking
 travelling & other allowances and
 is entitled to the support of just opinion
 and expression as
 Hon of Col Walker.

On looking over Colonel Walker's letter
 and the very strong language in which he
 has indulged relative to the action of
 the Controller, I must say I think we have
 good grounds for extending to the latter
 the protection which he has not himself
 claimed at the hands of God.

But so long as the present travelling
 rules remain in force no order by God
 will effectually check these very vexatious
 references & continually recurring correspondence
 about bills, stoppages,
 marches & bills.

Wd

The S. Engr & Co
 Controller
 Paris & to all other places

The Government do
 not intend to allow
 Walker to accuse the
 Controller of having
 made a false statement.
 It rather appears to
 consider that the Con-
 troller, in his Memo of
 the 23rd October 1866, News,
 imputed to him (Col
 Walker), a false state-
 ment of his claims
 for travelling allowance
 for certain days, and
 the Controller admits
 that a mistake was
 made in that document.
 Any one may err or con-
 stitute orders too strictly,
 but he may fairly
 claim to be considered
 as having acted in
 good faith.

110
7 W W B Dyer

Pro: of Capt for Deer

3947

Pro: of the Marax Camp

of 18 Dec 66

Taping orders on
ertain Correspondence re
latives to travelling Al-
lowances of Col Walker,
Major Farnwell and
Lieutenant Thompson.

331 @ 333