M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 944 Press ~~Mis.~~

512-515

Dated 23. 3. 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
23rd March 1866.

Read the following letters :—

No. 512. From the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Waltair, 5th March 1866, No. 2,714.

1. Adverting to the Proceedings of Government noted in the margin, I have the honor to request that orders be issued to the Controller to pass the travelling allowances of the Department in accordance with the Regulations published by the Government of India and adopted by this Government.

No. 2,158, 23rd August 1865.
" 3,630, 30th November "
" 3,789, 18th December "
" 339, 29th January 1866.

2. I believe that Government may trust to the Superintending Engineers to carry out their wishes with regard to mileage, as expressed in G. O. No. 339, dated 29th January last.

3. Under the present system, the public service suffers in several ways :—

(1.) There is the waste of valuable time taken up with the vexatious references about travelling allowances : the time thus taken up is very considerable and interferes very much with the regular business of a Superintending Engineer's office.

(2.) By the injustice done to Officers in refusing to reimburse them the fair expenses necessarily incurred by them in travelling on public duty.

(3.) By the long delay in receiving the allowances due, Officers are frequently actually ineffective for want of money to enable them to move about their Ranges.

(4.) By the Superintending Engineers having to check Inspection Reports and countersign bills when their countersignature has no weight whatever.

No. 513. From the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Camp Coonoor, 8th March 1866, No. 282.

1. I am sorry to have to trouble Government on such a subject as my travelling allowance, but am constrained to appeal against the Controller's assumption of a right to negative my claim for mileage on account of distances travelled in excess of twenty miles in a day; inasmuch as the tendency of such proceeding, if upheld, will be to limit the movements of Superintending Engineers to a degree that is very undesirable, when the extent of their charges is taken into consideration. The two West Coast Districts of my Division happen to be the most expensive in the Presidency to travel in; and as I do not avail myself of the privilege accorded to Range Officers, of dispensing with the use of tents, I never leave my head quarters with less than four cart loads in my train. For the six months, from September to February inclusive, with two breaks of a fortnight each, once to attend a Summons to Coimbatore Court, and the second time for Christmas, have I been traversing Malabar and Canara in all directions, and keeping up my office work, as best I could, while spending whole days out-of-doors. Every now and then I have to make use of the Coasting Steamers, when I draw bare passage money, without charging for boat-hire and the numerous extra charges attendant

2 Inspection lists.
2 Controller's Memoranda.
1 Bill Rupees 55-8-0.

3. Under the present system, the Public

on embarking and disembarking. And when it comes to travelling in the Wynaad, where carts are almost unknown, and cooly hire excessive, I have had to pay in one day as much as Rupees 16 on the latter score for a very short march. It would be better to abrogate the drawing of mileage entirely, than to permit it only on the terms laid down in G. O. No. 37 of 5th January ; which I make bold to say were unknown to the Department as formerly constituted, and are not acted on in the other Presidencies. G. O. No. 339 of 29th January does not adequately relax their stringency, so long as the Controller, and not the Superintending Engineer, is to be the judge of the sufficiency of that "special object" in realization of which Government have authorized mileage to be drawn. It may be that the Controller is more stringent in his check, on account of the excess in cost of travelling allowances over the Budget allotment for the same, caused by the orders of the Supreme Government. But it does not follow that such stringent audit should be submitted to without appeal by those who were perfectly satisfied with a moderate fixed allowance ; chiefly from its exempting them from disputes with an authority which can never be a real judge of the efficiency of Executive Officers and Superintending Engineers.

2. With these remarks I submit for sanction a bill for mileage disallowed by the Controller, supported by my Inspection Lists for January and February.

No. 514. From the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madras, 13th March 1866, No. 3,588.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G. O. of the 10th instant, No. 793, and with reference to paragraph 1, I beg very respectfully to point out that I conceived as travelling allowance had been disallowed to Mr. Biggers because he did nothing to earn this in that particular month though he had maintained the means of travelling such as a tent and means of carriage for it, I therefore considered that in Coopoosawmy's case I was justified in disallowing such claims under very similar circumstances, both the Superintending Engineers having been satisfied as to the work done by their subordinates, and the means of travelling about maintained by them for such purpose.

1 Copy of a letter.

2. In Sub-Engineer Veeranah's case the claims were disallowed in the accompanying letter to the Superintending Engineer, under verbal instructions given by yourself to Lieutenant Filgate, when he waited upon you last month by my instructions with that subordinate's Inspection Report.

3. I must, therefore, again solicit further instructions from the Government to enable me to dispose of all claims for these allowances, no orders have been given in Colonel Greenaway's case,* and as I before observed the Superintending Engineer imposed upon me the invidious duty of disallowing the claims of this Officer when he appears to have been well aware they were liable to be withheld, in another instance the same Officer is upheld in disputing my authority to check these bills at all. I endeavour to act as fairly and as impartially as I possibly can in

* G. O. 29th January 1866, No. 336.

these very delicate transactions, but before it becomes known in the Department that the ruling of this office can be so easily set aside, it would, I respectfully submit, be better to relieve it of all responsibility connected with the travelling allowances.

No. 515. ORDER THEREON, 23rd March 1866, No. 944.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 49.

1. There is nothing in the papers recorded above to show that the journeys for which the Controller of Public Works Accounts has disallowed the mileage allowances claimed by Colonel Walker were of an emergent nature; or other than usual marches from point to point, or for ordinary inspections of works, and the charges would therefore, according to the letter of the previous orders on the subject, be inadmissible.

2. The rules regarding travelling allowances are extremely liberal, and the Government consider that in claiming mileage their spirit, as well as their letter, should be borne in mind. The members of the Department should recollect that travelling allowances are granted to reimburse the actual expenses incurred in marching about the District, and that they are not intended to be made a source of extra remuneration for performing duty in an efficient manner, which would be the case were mileage passed for simple inspections of works when no extra or unusual carriage has been employed.

3. The Government recognize the distinction between the positions of Superintending Engineers and those of Range Officers, because, in the case of the former, the large areas they have to travel over, and the amount of their office work, render it indispensable, in the interests of Government, that they should travel from work to work as rapidly as possible ; whilst in the case of the Range Officers their work will, in most cases, be best performed by such short stages as will permit of close examination into the details of their works, and thorough scrutiny of the accounts. An occasional march of over twenty miles can not only easily be made with such a marching establishment as the daily allowance for the purpose will enable a Range Officer to maintain, but will frequently be made for the Officer's own convenience, and can consequently give no claim for extra allowances. Such would not be the case were long marches, as with Superintending Engineers, frequent.

4. These being the views of Government on the matter, the Governor in Council on re-consideration thinks that mileage allowance may fairly be passed to Colonel Walker for all the days for which it is claimed, with the exception of the 6th January when he marched from Coonoor to Coimbatore, which he would probably have done, under any circumstances, without a halt. Deducting this, the Controller will be authorized to pass the balance of Colonel Walker's mileage bills for January and February, viz., Rupees 19.

5. In the case of Range Officers, it is for the Superintending Engineers, under paragraph 10 of G. O. No. 2,860, dated 27th September 1865, to decide whether mileage should be granted or not, and the Government expect that this duty will be discharged with the most scrupulous fidelity.

3. Under the present system, the Public

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
23rd March 1866.

6. The Controller should, as a rule, pass all travelling allowance bills having the necessary certificates attached, provided that the charges are admissible under the Rules circulated with G. O. No. 2,485, dated 23rd August 1865. It is only in cases where he may be of opinion that the spirit of the Travelling Allowance Rule, as laid down in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order, are habitually disregarded, that he should exercise his check by disallowing the bills, leaving it to the Superintending Engineer to bring the circumstances to the notice of Government for such orders as they may see fit to pass.

7. When submitting for the orders of Government mileage allowance bills which the Controller has disallowed, Superintending Engineers will quote the paragraphs of the Rules which accompanied G. O. No. 2,458, dated 23rd August 1865, under which the claim is made, and explain, with reference to this Order, the grounds upon which they press the demand.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, with five Enclosures.
To all other Superintending Engineers.
To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd, T. O'Connor.

2458 — 23d August 65.
3630 — 30th Sept.
3789 — 18th Dec.
339 — 29th January 66.

Superintending Engineer's
Office, 7th Div. Waltair,
5th March 1866.
Desp. 7th — do —

No. 2714

From

Captain J. G. Ryves R. E.
Superintending Engineer, 1st Div.

To

Colonel C. A. Orr R. E.
Secretary to Govt. P. W. D.
Madras.

Sir,

Adverting to the Proceedings of Govern=ment noted in the margin, I have the honor to request that orders be issued to the Controller to pass the Travelling allowances of the Department in ac=cordance with the Regulations publish=ed by the Government of India and adopted by this Government.

2. I believe that Government may trust to the Superintending Engineers to carry out their wishes with regard to mileage as expressed in G. O. No. 339 dated 29th January last.

3. Under the present system, the Public

Public service suffers in several ways.

(1).— There is the waste of valuable time taken up with the vexatious references about Travelling allowances: the time thus taken up is very considerable & interferes very much with the regular business of a Superintending Engineer's Office.

(2).— By the injustice done to Officers in refusing to reimburse them the fair expenses necessarily incurred by them in travelling on Public duty.

(3).— By the long delay in receiving the allowances due, Officers are frequently actually ineffective for want of money to enable them to move about their Ranges.

(4).— By the Superintending Engineers having to check Inspection Reports & countersign bills when their countersignature has no weight whatever.

I have the honor to be
Your most Obedient Servt
H.R. Capt RE
Superintending Engineer, 1st Div.

Office of the Controller of
Mil. Accounts.
Madras 20th February 1866.

No. 3224.

From, Lieutenant Colonel of Public Works Accounts.

To, The Superintending Engineer. 1st Division.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 2550 of the 10th instant, have the honor to observe that I do not think the Sub Engineer Sennah Periasamy can charge in the month of December while employed under him to receive higher remuneration than Rs. 15 per mensem. Moreover conveyance allowance cannot be drawn while on leave.

Passed Rs Thousand Rupees Bill for Rent Allowance. Pore Sub Engineer did not overdraw the amount allowed during the twelve months, nor on journey. 7 or 8 miles out always on each day counted be deemed "travelling" so the time is accepted in connection with the duties of the Department.

The many house Rent Bills in respective amounts drawn by this duties do not appear to come within the rules actually and necessarily effected by Public Works Department continuously on the Public Service only - and being suspended by the Controller Western of Accounts to G.O. No. 2880 dated 24th September 1855 No claim all claims not satisfied by the Authorities in the Inspection Reports. Please circulated to Rs. Traveling Allowances claim forwarded with your letter and leave passed not to be

Pro. 25th August 1865 Ps 355-356
" 30th Novr " 332-333
" 18 Decr " 318-319
" 29 Jany 1866 " 312-313

Ord. Gen. Dept
Ordered by Govt for Dispatch
The Supdg. Engineer
1st Division
To
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.
Dated 5th
Desp'd 7th March 1866.
Rec'd 11th
No. 2714

Requests that orders be issued to the Controller to pass the Travelling allowances of the Department in accordance with the Orders quoted in the letter

No 944 - 23rd March 1866

consider the subordinate is entitled to.

2. The same remarks apply to Sub Engineer Veeranalis Travelling Allowance Bill for January.-

I have the honor to be &c.a

(Signed) J. F. Fischer. Captain R.E.
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

(True Copy.)

W. F. Fischer Captain R.E.
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Office of the Controller of
Public Works Accounts.
Madras 13th March 1866

No. 3588.

From, Captain J. F. Fischer. R.E.
Controller of P.W. Accounts.

To, Colonel C. A. Orr. R.E.
Secretary to Government. P.W.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of yr. D.O. of the 10th instant. No. 993 and with reference to yr. 1. I beg very respectfully to point out that I conceived as Travelling Allowance had been disallowed to Mr. Biggers because he did nothing to earn this in that particular month though he had maintained the means of travelling such as a tent and means of carriage for it, I therefore considered that in Coopossamy's case I was justified in disallowing such claims under very similar circumstances, both the Superintending Engineers having been satisfied as to the work done by their subordinates and the means of travelling about maintained by them for such purpose.

2. In Sub Engineer Veeranalis case the claims were disallowed in the accompanying letter to the Superintending Engineer under verbal instructions given by yourself to Lieuth. Filgate when he visited upon your last months by my instruction with that Subordinates Inspection Report.

3. I must therefore again solicit further instructions from the Government to enable me to

to dispose of all claims for these allowances, no orders have been given in Colonel Greenaway's case and as I before observed they Superintending Engineer imposed upon me the invidious duty of disallowing the claims of this Officer when he appears to have been well aware they were liable to be withheld, in another instance the same Officer is upheld in disputing my authority to check these bills at all - I endeavour to act as fairly and as impartially as possibly can in these very delicate transactions but before it becomes known in the Department that the ruling of this Office can be so easily set aside it would I respectfully submit be better to relieve it of all responsibility connected with the Travelling Allowances.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servant.
Hen: Hichman Captain R.E.
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

G.O. 29th January 1866 No. 336.

No 1

Enclosure in a letter
from the Controller of P.M.
Accounts to the Secretary
to Government P.O.M.
Natal 13th March 1866
No. 3588.

OOO 1092/65

a Bill for Mileage disallowed by the Controller supported by my Inspection Rests for January and February.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obed. Servant
[illegible] Lieut. Col. R.E.
Supg Engineer 1st Division

Ordered & Endorsed
Office of Civil Engineer
Fort Carroll Harbor
Sir,
I have the honor to forward herewith, Requisitions
for Postage Stamps.
Qr. Ended 31st
Dated Fort Carroll March 1867
Rec'd: 15th
Qr. 35xx
Copy: Qm

Letter transmitting requisitions for Postage Stamps, Fort Carroll, Md. Engineers Office, Baltimore, Md. Allowance of Mileage Stationery &c. Forwarded for Inspection Examination for December 1865.—

A514.

ENE 944-23rd Quarter/66

97 282.

Lucknow 5th March 1866

Sir

I have the honor to forward herewith Requisition No 1023 on the Supdg Engineer Dinapore for Stores, Ordnance & Miscellaneous, required for the Service of the Department under my charge during the month of April next.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Lieut Colonel
Commg Royal Engrs
Secretary to Govt of India
Military Department
Calcutta

Encls: 3
2 Requisition duplicates
1 Bill No 5518.0

97 282.

Encl: 2

Requisition for Stores, Ordnance & Miscellaneous required for the Service of the Department under charge of Lieut Colonel Pasley Commg Royal Engrs during the month of April 1866.

Dinapore 1st March 1866

Lieut Colonel
Commg Royal Engrs

To

The Secretary to Govt of India
Military Department
Calcutta

Sir

I have the honor to forward herewith Requisition for Stores, Ordnance & Miscellaneous required for the Service of the Department under my charge during the month of April next.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Lieut Colonel
Commg Royal Engrs

Encls: 3
2 Requisition duplicates
1 Bill No 5518.0

Dinapore 5th January /66 Nos 77-78
" 29th " " " 712-713

97 282.

Encl: 3

Requisition for Stores, Ordnance & Miscellaneous required for the Service of the Department under charge of Lieut Colonel Pasley Commg Royal Engrs during the month of April 1866.

Dinapore 1st March 1866

Lieut Colonel
Commg Royal Engrs

To

The Supdg Engineer Dinapore

To

The Secy to Govt of India
Military Department
Madras

Dated 5th March /66

97 282.

Encls: 5

About Mileage disallowed by the Controller in January & February Bill.

No 513.

No 944-23 March /66

Dinapore 16th March 1866.

to make use of the Coasting Steamers, when Drawbars Passage money, without charging for Boat hire and the numerous Extra Charges attendant on embarking and disembarking. And yet when it comes to travelling in the Wynaad, where Carts are almost unknown, and Cooly hire Excessive, I have had to pay in one day as much as Rs 16 on the latter score for a very short march. It would be better to abrogate the drawing of Mileage Entirely than to permit it only on the terms laid down in G.O. No 37 of 5th January; which I make bold to say were unknown to the Department as formerly Constituted, and are not acted on in the other Presidencies. G.O. No 339 of 29 January does not adequately relax their stringency, so long as the Controller and not the Superintending Engineer is to be the judge of the sufficiency of that "Special Object" in realization of which Government have authorized Mileage to be drawn.—
It may be that the Controller is more stringent in his check on account of the excess in Cost of Travelling Allowances over the Budget Allotment for the same, caused by the orders of the Supreme Government.—
But it does not follow that such stringent audit should be submitted to without appeal by those who were perfectly satisfied with a moderate fixed Allowance, chiefly from its exempting them from disputes with an Authority which Can never be a real judge of the Efficiency of Executive Officers & Superintending Engineers.—

2. With these remarks I submit for sanction

P. W. D.

Ex. Enclosure

No 944

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 23rd March/66
Read the following

From the Supg Engr. 1st Dn. (Jl G. 1st March 1866. No 274)

Do. Do. 7th Do. (Jl G. 8th March — No 282)

From the Controller of
P.W. Accts. (Jl G. 13th — " — " No 388)

There is nothing
in the papers recorded
above to show that the
journeys for which the
Controller of Public Works
Accounts has disallowed
the mileage allowances
claimed by Colonel
Walker were of an emer-
gent nature, or other
than usual marches
from point to point,
or

or for ordinary in-
spections of works,
and the charges would
therefore, according to
the letter of the previous
orders on the subject,
be inadmissable.

2. The rules regarding
Travelling allowances
are extremely liberal
and the Government
consider that in claim-
ing mileage their spirit
as well as their letter
should be borne in
mind. The members
of the Department
should recollect that
Travelling allowances
are granted to reimburse
the

the actual expenses
incurred in marching
about the District,
and that they are not
intended to be made
a source of pecuni-
ary remuneration for perform-
ing duty in an efficient
manner, which would
be the case were mileage
passed for simple
inspections of works
when no extra or un-
usual carriage has
been employed.

3. The Government
recognize the distinction
between the functions
of Supg Engineers and
those of Range Officers,
because

because, in the case of the former, the large areas they have to travel over and the amount of their office work render it indispensable, in the interests of Government, that they should travel from work to work as rapidly as possible, whilst in the case of the Range Officers their work will, in most cases, be best performed by such short stages as will permit of close examination into the details of their works and

thorough scrutiny of the accounts. An occasional march of even 20 miles can only easily be made with such a matching establishment as the daily allowance for the purpose will enable a Range Officer to move daily, but will frequently be made for the Officers own convenience, and can consequently give no claim for extra allowances. Such would not be the case were long marches, as with Superintending Engineers frequent.

These

4 These being the views of Government on the matter the Governor in Council thinks that mileage allowance may fairly be passed to Coll. Walker for all the days for which it is claimed, with the exception of the 6th January when he marched from Coonoor to Coimbatore, which he would probably have done, under any circumstances, without a halt. Deducting this, the Controller will be authorized to pass the Balance of Coll. Walker's mileage Bills for

for January and February, viz Rs. 49.

5 In the case of Range Officers it is usual for the Superintending Engineers, under para 70 of G. O. No. 2860 dated 21st September 1865, to decide whether mileage should be granted or not, and the Govt. expect that this duty will be discharged with the most scrupulous fidelity.

6 The Controller should, as a rule, pass all Travelling allowance Bills, having the necessary Certificates attached, provided that the

the changes are admissable under the Rules circulated with G.O. No. 2488 dated 23rd August 1865. Ordinarily in cases where he may be of opinion that the grant of the Travelling Allowance Rules as laid down in paras 3 and 4 of the Order are habitually disregarded, that he should exercise his check by disallowing the bills leaving it to the Superintending Engr to bring the circumstances to the notice of Govt for such orders as they may see fit to pass.

7. When submitting for the orders of Govt mileage allowance Bills which the Controller has disallowed, the superintending Engineer will quote the Paras of the Rules which accompanied G.O. No. 2458 dated 23rd August 1865 and explain, with reference to this Order, the grounds upon which they press the claim.

Remark

To
The Sup.g Engr. D.w with five Enclos
" all other S. Engrs
" Controller of P. W. A.

Secy. 24th March

137
10

J. J. W. 1866 Dept.

Rec'd of Genl Ingalls March

A. G. D. 4.

Rec'd of the Adjutant General

Dec 23 March 1866

Further Rec'd 4822 Sept 2-71

Ind. Sept 22-4-7

The Controller
authorized to pass Colonel
Walker's mileage Bills
for January and February
last.

(x)

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