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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. Press Mis.

Dated 19 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 115. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madras, 28th September 1867, No. 86:—

1. In the statement of Inefficient Balance for the Quarter ending 30th June last, there was an entry of the following advance:—

AGENT'S OFFICE.

* * * * *

June—Amount paid for travelling coach purchased, Rupees 450,

Letter to Agent, No. 158, 19th September 1867.

and as it did not appear proper that such a purchase should be made, explanation was asked for.

2. The Agent then forwarded a Store Indent* for a bullock coach, Rupees 500, and a note on the Indent intimated that the coach was for the use of the Chief Accountant on tour, and also for the use of any other officers of the Company who might require it, and who were not under obligation to provide their own means of travelling.

* With letter of 20th September 1867, No. 11.

3. The Indent was returned unpassed for the reasons given in my letter as per margin, it appearing to me that, as full provision had been made in the travelling allowances granted to the Chief Accountant, the cost of providing himself with a bullock coach, or such other conveyance as he might need, should be met from those allowances, and that it was improper, therefore, that the Company should be put to the expense twice over.

No. 161, dated 24th September 1867.

4. I have now the honor to submit, for the consideration of Government, the Agent's replies† to my letter No. 158, and also to that returning the Indent, in which letter Mr. Henslowe appears to consider that the outlay of Rupees 450 or 500 on a coach is a matter of "minute detail," with which this office has no business to interfere, and that the submission by him of the Indent was a mere matter of form. I am obliged altogether to differ from the Agent in this opinion. The expenditure referred to involves a principle, and is not a detail at all. I objected to the outlay on exactly the same ground that I should have objected to Mr. Henslowe or any other officer of the Company drawing a larger salary than that authorized by the Board and approved by Government.

† No. 278, 24th instant.
" 280, 26th "

5. The travelling allowances granted to the Chief Accountant at the time the bullock coach was purchased were those recommended for the Agent himself, in paragraph 5 of my letter printed with Proceedings of the Madras Government, No. 1,957, of the 11th July 1865, and which were extended to the Chief Accountant by the Order of Government, No. 3,686, of the 5th December 1865. They were

Actual travelling expenses (locomotion) an allowance of 5 Rupees a day to cover sundry expenses including travelling requisites.

When I recommended these allowances for the Agent, I intended that the daily

allowance of 5 Rupees should cover everything except railway charges, cost of posted bullocks, or bearers, and this will, I think, be clear on looking at the alternative arrangement in the same paragraph of the letter, in which the daily allowance was increased to cover everything but railway charges.

6. I am of opinion that the allowances then granted, and the similar ones given by the rules approved in Proceedings of the Madras Government, 24th August last, No. 2,595, which appear to have been based to a great extent upon the scales of travelling charges from time to time suggested by this Office, were and are sufficiently liberal, and that no further charges of any sort should be permitted. In the same statement in which the advance for the purchase of the bullock coach, was made is an item "Amount paid for six cuscus tatties for travelling coach, Rupees 3," and on a former occasion I had to object to a charge of Rupees 5 for the repair of a bullock coach.

I much regret to see this tendency to endeavour to get charges, which ought to be met from the allowance expressly given to meet them, passed separately and as extras.

7. In the 2nd paragraph of his letter No. 278, the Agent points out that the Chief Accountant's "duties as Travelling Inspector are of an exceptional character, and render the command of a suitable vehicle at all times when he is on tour indispensable." I entirely agree with Mr. Henslowe, but I consider that it is the Chief Accountant's duty to find his own vehicle. When the duties of Travelling Inspector were given to the Chief Accountant his salary was raised from Rupees 500 to Rupees 750 a month, and he is allowed 5 Rupees a day or 150 Rupees a month for marching expenses besides railway charges, cost of posted bullocks, &c. It appears to me, therefore, that both salary and allowances of the Chief Accountant have been fixed on a very liberal scale, and that while on the one hand the purchase of the coach was without authority, on the other hand there is no ground whatever for considering that an additional charge for a bullock coach should be admitted.

Proceedings Madras Government, 20th February 1867, No. 496.

No. 116. ORDER THEREON, 7th October 1867, No. 3,103.

ACCOUNT, No. 16.

The Government entirely dissent from the view entertained by the Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company that the transaction referred to in these papers relates to a matter of detail with which the Consulting Engineer is not called upon to interfere. The outlay of Rupees 450 on the purchase of a travelling coach for the use of the Chief Accountant and other officers of the Company was most irregular, and concurring in opinion with Captain Mullins that the scale of travelling allowances sanctioned in the Orders noted in the margin is sufficiently liberal, and was expressly meant to cover "sundry expenses, including travelling requisites," the Government consider that the unauthorized

5th December 1865, No. 3,686.
24th August 1867, No. 2,595.

expenditure was properly objected to by the Consulting Engineer, whose retrenchment is accordingly confirmed.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company.
" Manager for do. do.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Consulting Engineer's Office,
Irrigation and Canal Comp.y
Madras 19 September 1867.

No. 158.

From,

Captain John, Mullins R.E.
Consulting Engineer for S.A.C.

To,

The Agent and Manager
Irrigation and Canal Company

Sir,

In the Sufficient balance Statement for the quarter ended 30th June last, the following entry occurs.

Agent's Office.

Amount paid for travelling Coach purchased ——— } Rupees 450-0-0

and as none of the rules with which this Office is acquainted would authorize such a purchase I have the honor to request information as to the circumstances under which the advance was permitted.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) John. Mullins Capt.n R.E.
Consulting Engineer S.A.C.C.

(True Copy)

John Mullins Captain R.E.
Consulting Engineer for S.A.C.C.

Consulting Engineer's Office,
Irrigation and Canal Co.ys
Madras 24th September 1867.

No 161.

From,

Captain John Mullins R.E.
Consulting Engineer for I & C Co.s

To,

The Agent and Manager
Irrigation and Canal Company.

Sir,

I have the honor to return unpaid the Indent, No 11, received with your letter of the 20th instant, and to inform you that it appears to me that the provision of bullock Coaches by the Company for their officers has not been contemplated, and is not, I think, necessary, and I am of opinion also that a sufficiently liberal provision has been made under the Travelling Allowance Rules to enable the Chief Accountant and others to furnish themselves with whatever conveyance they may find necessary for the performance of their duties.

P.M. C.E. 24 August No 3595

2. In the order originally sanctioning allowances to the Chief Accountant, when travelling Rupees 5 a day were given for sundry expenses including travelling requisites, and a bullock Coach or other means of conveyance is

Encl in Letr No 880 of 28 Sept 1867 from the Consulting Engr to Govt Public Works Dept

P.P.S. Mullins Capt

is one such requisite.

3. Were such a charge admitted (I do not see why all the Engineers of the Company when travelling beyond their Divisions should not claim to be provided with bullock Coaches, horses, and indeed with every thing the expence of which their special allowances are intended to meet.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant
(Signed) John Mullins Capt. R.E.
Consulting Engineer P.W.D.

(True Copy)
Capt. R.E.
Consulting Engineer P.W.D.

Consulting Engineer's Office
Irrigation & Canal Company
Madras, 28th Sept. 1867

No.

From,
Captain J. Mullins R.E.
Cons. Engr for I.C. Co.

To,
The Secretary to Government
Department of Pub. Works.

Sir,

In the Statement of Unefficient Balances for the Quarter ending 30th June last, there was an entry of the following advance

Genl. Office.

× × × × ×

June. Amount paid for Travelling Coach purchased ——— } Rs: 450

and as it did not appear proper that such a purchase should be made explanation was asked for.—

Genl No. 158 19 Sept 1867

2. The Agent then forwarded a Store Indent No. 11 for a Bullock Coach Rupees 500, and a note on the Indent intimated that the coach was for the use of the Chief Accountant on tour, and also for the use of any other officers of the Company who might require it and who were not under obligation to provide their own means

Encl. in a letter No. 8 of 20 Sept 67
I.C. Co. Agent to Consulting Engr
Encl. in Consulting Engr's letter No. 158 of 19 Sept 67

means of Travelling.—

3. The Indent was returned unpassed for the reasons given in my letter as per margin, it appearing to me that as full provision had been made in the Travelling allowances granted to the Chief Accountant, the cost of providing himself with a bullock coach, or such other conveyance as he might need, should be met from those allowances, and that it was improper therefore that the Company should be put to the expence twice over.— No. 1161 dated 21st July 1867.

4. I have now the honor to submit for the consideration of Government the Agent's replies to my — No. 278—24th inst. No. 280—26th inst. letter No. 158, and also to that returning the Indent, in which latter Mr. Arnelowe appears to consider that the outlay of Rupees 450 or 500 on a coach is a matter of "minute detail" with which this office has no business to interfere, and that the submission by him of the Indent was a mere matter of form.— I am obliged altogether to differ from the Agent in this opinion.— The expenditure referred to involves a principle and is not a detail at all. I objected to the outlay on exactly the same ground that I should have objected to Mr. Arnelowe or any other officer of the Company drawing a larger salary than that authorized by

the Board and approved by Government.—

5. The Travelling allowances granted to the Chief Accountant at the time the bullock coach was purchased were those recommended for the Agent himself in para: 5 of my letter printed with Proceedings of the Madras Government, No. 1957 of the 11th July 1865, and which were extended to the Chief Accountant by the order of Government No. 3686 of the 5th December 1865.— They were

Actual Travelling expenses (locomotion) an allowance of 5 Rupees a day to cover sundry expenses including Travelling requisites.—

When I recommended these allowances for the Agent, I intended that the daily allowance of 5 Rupees should cover everything except Railway charges, cost of posted bullocks, or bearers, and this will, I think, be clear on looking at the alternative arrangement in the same paragraph of the letter, in which the daily allowance was increased to cover everything but Railway charges.—

6. I am of opinion that the allowances thus granted, and the similar ones given by the Rules approved in Proceedings of the Madras Government 24th August last No. 2595, which appear

appear to have been based to a great extent upon the scales of Travelling charges from time to time suggested by this office, were and are sufficiently liberal, and that no further charges of any sort should be permitted. In the same Statement in which the advance for the purchase of the bullock coach was made is an item "Amount paid for 6 Queens Patties for Travelling Coach Rupees 3" and on a former occasion I had to object to a charge of Rupees 5 for the repair of a bullock coach.—

I much regret to see this tendency to endeavour to get charges, which ought to be met from the allowance expressly given to meet them, passed separately and as extras.—

7. In the 2nd paras of his letter No. 278 the Agent points out that the Chief Accountant's "duties as travelling inspector are of an exceptional character and render the command of a suitable vehicle at all times when he is on tour indispensable". I entirely agree with Mr. Stonehouse, but I consider that it is the Chief Accountant's duty to find his own vehicles.— When the duties of travelling inspector were given to the Chief Accountant— his salary was raised from Rupees 500 to Rupees 750 a month, and he is allowed 5 Rupees a day or 150 Rupees a month for marching expenses— besides Railway charges, cost of pooled bullocks &c.

P. Th. G. 20 Feby/67 No. 496.

It appears to me therefore that both salary and allowances of the Chief Accountant have been fixed on a very liberal scale, and that while on the one hand the purchase of the coach was without authority, on the other hand there is no ground whatever for considering that an additional charge for a bullock coach should be admitted.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servt,
[illegible] Captain, R.E.
Engineer for L.W.C. Company.

[illegible]

A. Public Works Department

No. 3103

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 17th October 1867

Read the following

From The Comrs. Engrs for M & C Co. No. 86 Dated 28 Septr 1867

The Government entirely concur in the view entertained by the Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company that the transaction referred to in these papers relates to a matter of detail with which the Consulting Engineer is not called upon to interfere. The outlay of Rs. 450 on the purchase of a travelling Carriage for the use of the Chief Accountant and other

Read 23rd Oct. 1867
Rec. 30 Oct.

To The Secy to Govt. Genl. Dept.

Sir

I. Enclosed I have the honor to forward a Memorandum of the Chief Accountant of this Company requesting that a travelling Carriage may be purchased for the use of the Chief Accountant and other Officials of the Company who are frequently employed on Tours of Inspection.

2. The Chief Accountant has been in the habit of using a Buggy belonging to the Company for this purpose, but as the Buggy is now worn out, he has been obliged to hire a Carriage for the Tours which he has recently made.

3. The Chief Accountant has been authorized to draw Rupees Four hundred and fifty for the purchase of the Carriage, and I am directed to request that the Government will be pleased to sanction the payment of this amount.

I have &c.

(Signed) W. Lewis

Dec 1/15

No. 3103. Y.R. Oct. 1867

Enclosure for the consideration of Government

Memorandum

The Chief Accountant has been in the habit of using a Buggy belonging to the Company for the purpose of visiting the Works in progress, but as the Buggy is now worn out, he has been obliged to hire a Carriage for the Tours which he has recently made.

The Chief Accountant has been authorized to draw Rupees Four hundred and fifty for the purchase of the Carriage, and I am directed to request that the Government will be pleased to sanction the payment of this amount.

(Signed) W. Lewis

Dec 1/15

Officers of the Company
was most inquisitive
and concurring in
opinion with Captain
Mullins that the scale
of travelling allowances
sanctioned in the Orders
noted in the margin
is sufficiently liberal,
and was expressly
meant to cover "sundry
expenses, including tra
-velling requisites" the
Government consider
that the unauthorized
expenditure was
properly objected to
by the Consulting Engr.
and does not recommend it
accordingly confirmed.

M.

5th Dec/65. No. 3686
24th Aug. /67 - No 2595

16
2

To The Comptroller Genl of Accts
— Marine Dept
Dept 8/11/67

Entered original Orders

Pub: Works 1867 Department

Pro: of Govt for October

No 3103

Pro: of the Madras Govt.

Dy No October 1867

Confirming the Pro: of the Consulting Engineer objecting to the outlay of £1450 for the purchase of Travelling Coach for the use of the Chief Accountant and other Officers of the Company

No 115-116