

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2010	Press
385-386	Mis.
Dated 23 - 8	1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

4-1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd August 1872.*

No. 385. Read the following letter from the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 9th August 1872, No 1,020:—

THE completion reports submitted to this office for works executed by Range Officers are, in certain instances, so unsatisfactory in respect of the certificate required to be endorsed on them by the Executive Officer that I consider it advisable to submit to Government the expediency of applying the principle contained in paragraph 2 of G. O. No. 48, dated 9th January 1872, to other works also than those executed from maintenance grants; and of enforcing such other provisions as would ensure the submission of proper certificates.

2. The completion reports of the exceptional nature referred to are for works which have been in course of construction during the incumbency of more than one Range Officer. On the officer who completes the work (a very small portion of it, it may be) devolves the duty of preparing the completion report; and he can, from the circumstances of the case, only partially certify to the quality of work, and of the materials expended thereon.

3. I beg to annex in the margin memorandum of the particulars of a completion report recently received. The officer at present in charge of the range certifies to the execution of the work in a substantial manner, and of the best materials, only "as far as can now be ascertained."

Section 4 of Grain road from Tripatty Railway Station via Calastray to Nardoopeett
 Estimate Rs 69,220
 Cost " 69,220
 Commenced on the 8th November 1863. Completed on the 12th March 1872.

4 It has also happened that an officer is so circumstanced as to be required to grant a certificate for a work completed before his assumption of the charge of the range, in consequence of the relieved officer being unable to do so from want of time, or from payments being deferred owing to want of funds or the absence of contractors. As an instance in point I have before me several completion reports signed by Captain A. Edgecome, lately in charge of the Presidency Range, who has qualified the prescribed form of certificate by the remark, "as far as one

** Adaptation of the late Mint buildings for the Clothing Board*
 Estimate Rs 15,320
 Cost " 15,113
 Commenced 28th April 1871 Completed, 7th March 1872

can judge after completion," and in reference to one* of the certificates writes thus, "I regret that I cannot furnish a fresh document. This work was never seen by me while in progress. My only inspection of it was after

completion, and therefore I can but grant a qualified certificate"

5. Captain Pennycuik, who assumed charge of the Dindigul Range in the month of April last, was able to furnish only one completion report* of several called for by this office for works, some of which were completed, and others partially so prior to his joining the range. The

certificate on the report referred to is in entire substitution of the prescribed form, and is as follows.—I have inspected this work since its completion, and as far as I can judge "it has been properly executed."

** Repairing Vierapady Anicut*
 Estimate Rs 265
 Cost " 265
 Commenced, November 1870 Completed, March 1872

principle

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd August 1872.*

6. I beg to suggest, therefore, with a view to keeping up the chain of responsibility that in future the officer who gives over charge should furnish the relieving officer with a statement or certificate in terms of the prescribed form for each work in course of execution to the extent of expenditure incurred up to the time of transfer. The relieving officer might be required to attach a remark or certificate below to the effect that he is satisfied that the information given above, together with that relating to the accounts of the range, will enable him to satisfy all the requirements of this office regarding completion reports. These certificates might be drawn in triplicate, one being retained in the Range Office, another being forwarded to this office, and the third to the Superintending Engineer for his information, together with the usual transfer papers.

7. This arrangement, and a strict adherence to the rules* laid down in the Public Works Code, will ensure accuracy and regularity in the preparation of completion reports which have such an important bearing on the accounts of expenditure audited by this office.

* Chapter XIV, Section 3—"Transfer of an Executive Range"

No. 386.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd August 1872, No. 2,010.

ESTABLISHMENT, No 29.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that the course proposed by the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, since it would entail an inspection of every work in the Range by the Officer about to be relieved immediately before relief, is impracticable, but that the principle involved in G. O. No 48, dated 9th January 1872, may with advantage be extended to all works which the officer about to be relieved may have inspected during their progress. He accordingly directs that an officer, on being relieved of his charge, shall furnish to his successor a certificate of every work inspected to the extent of the expenditure since he took charge of the work up to the time of such inspection. It will be the duty of the Superintending Engineer to scrutinize the transfer certificates and insist on all works in progress being inspected in respect of which the circumstances of the transfer and the exigencies of the service will permit of such inspection.

2 His Excellency is of opinion that no practical advantage would result from the submission of a certificate by the relieving officer of the description proposed by the Officiating Controller.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts
To Superintending Engineers.
,, Major R. B. Kennedy.

Exd S T Austin.

Office of the Controller of
Public Works Accounts
Fort Saint George, 23rd August 1872
No. 2010
From,
The Offg. Controller of P.W. Accounts,
To, The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.
Sir,

The Completion Reports submitted to this office for works executed by Range Officers are in certain instances so inaccurate in respect of the certificates required to be endorsed on them by the Executive Officer, that I consider it advisable to submit to Government the expediency of applying the principle

principle contained in para 2 of
G.O. No 148 dated 9th January
1872, to other works also than
those executed from Mainte-
-nance Grants, and of
enforcing such other provi-
-sions as would ensure the
submission of proper certificates.

2. The Completion Reports
of the exceptional nature re-
ferred to are for works which
have been in course of con-
struction during the incumben-
-cy of a single officer. On the
Range Officer. On the
officer who completes the
work (a very small portion
of it, it may be) devolves
the duty of preparing the
completion report, and he
can

Section 4 of Grain road from Tripurthy Railway
Station via Calashy and Aundolpet
Estimate Rs 69,220
Cost
Commenced on the 8th November 1869.
Completed on the 12th March 1872.

can, from the circumstances of
the case, only partially certi-
-fy to the quality of work,
and of the materials expend-
-ed thereon.

3. The 1st annex in the
margin, Memo. of the par-
-ticulars of a completion report
recently received. The officer
at present in charge of the
Range certifies to the execu-
-tion of the work in a
substantial manner, and
of the best materials, only
"as far as can now be
ascertained".

4. It has also happened
that an officer, in so circum-
-stances as to be required to
grant a certificate for a
work

work completed before his
assumption of the charge of
the Range, in consequence
of the relieved officer being
unable to do so from want
of time, or from payments
being deferred owing to want
of funds or the absence of
Contractors. As an instance
in point, I have before me
several Completion Reports
signed by Captain J. Edgcome,
late in charge of the Presi-
dency Range, who has qual-
ified the prescribed form
of Certificate by the remark
"as far as one can judge
after completion," and in
reference to one of the Cer-
tificates writes thus "I regret
that

*A adaptation of the
late Mint Buildings
for the Clothing Board
estimated Rs 15320
Cost — 15113
Commenced 28th April 1871
Completed 7th March 1872

"that I cannot furnish a fresh
"document. This work was
"never seen by me, while in
"progress. My only inspection
"of it was after completion,
"and therefore I can but grant
"a qualified Certificate."
5. Captain Pennycook
who assumed charge of the
Dindigul Range in the
month of April last was
able to furnish only one
completion Report of several
called for by this office for
works, some of which were
completed, and others partially
so prior to his joining the
Range. The Certificate on the
Report referred to is in entire
substitution of the prescribed
form, and is as follows
I have

ming Therapathy
rent.
to Rs. 265
— 22 —
used Nov^r 1870
to March 1872

"I have inspected this work since its completion, and as far as I can judge, it has been properly executed."

6. I beg to suggest therefore with a view to keeping up the chain of responsibility that in future the Officer who gives over charge, should furnish the relieving Officer with a Statement or Certificate, in terms of the prescribed form for each work in course of execution to the extent of expenditure incurred up to the time of transfer. The relieving Officer might be required to attach a remark or Certificate below to the effect that he is satisfied that the information given

given above, together with that relating to the Accounts of the Range, will enable him to satisfy all the requirements of this Office regarding Completion Reports. These Certificates might be drawn in Triplicate, one being retained in the Range Office, another being forwarded to this office, and the third to the Superintending Engineer for his information together with the usual transfer papers.

7. This arrangement, and a strict adherence to the Rules laid down in the Public Works Code, will ensure accuracy and regularity in the preparation of Completion Reports which have

* Chapter XIV Section 3
"Transfer of an
Executive Range." -

Offg Controller of U.S. Accounts

Rule 44

In G.O. No. 48 of 9 Jan^y 1880
the Government recognizing
the necessity for certificates
being furnished on account
of "well maintenance" by
the officers in charge before
their transfer, be alone
being able to judge
as to the quality and
quantity of the clerical
affairs of that nature.
The Off. Controller and
to make certain and
certificates be
of other work, the
maintenance which
necessitates the
transfer of the officer
known when they are
actually leaving and
signing that in future
the officer who gives
charge should furnish
the relieving officer with
a statement in certificate
in terms of the prescribed
form in Sect. 10, in case
of execution, to the extent
of expenditure incurred up
to the time of transfer.

This course would clearly
entail upon an officer
about to be relieved
a careful inspection
of every work in his
charge, which would be
impracticable. It is
clear however that
the principle upon which
you have proposed is
always legitimate and
another advantage
applicable to all such work
as an officer about
to be relieved may in
the ordinary course of his
duties be imperfectly
acquainted with his
position to certify to
the Government
so far further and
direct that an officer
shall be about to be
relieved with the authority
to inspect the works
presented during his
tenure of the office
that he may hand over
to his successor a full

unimpaired work as
possible, and then
I should furnish
certificates for all work
so inspected, to the
date of his inspection
the name of office: 2)
The certificate proposed
for the relieving officer is
I think also impracticable
with a conscientious man
it would entail inspection
and would most likely
become a mere matter
of form. In some cases
out of ten the inspection
would be insufficient
to enable an officer to
sign such a certificate.
It is I think most desirable
that the stereotyped forms of
certificate should be held
open to modification by
individual officers: they should
become "hand letters" and as
be constantly so, as signed
by "your officer" because they
are personal, or they are
omitted altogether as
inapplicable to the case
in point -
C.S.

3867

Public Works Department
No 2010
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

1 From The Offr Controller of
P.W. Accounts } H.E. No 10207/9th Aug 1/12

His Excellency
the Governor, in Council
is of opinion that
the course proposed
by the Officiating Con-
troller of Public Works
Accounts, since it
would entail an in-
spection of every work
in the Range by
the Officer about to
be relieved immediately
before relief, is im-
practicable, but that

A. V.
M

the principle involved

in O. G. V. 48 dated

9th January 1872 may

with advantage be ex-

tended to all works

which the Officer

about to be relieved may

have inspected during

their progress

and accordingly

direct that an Officer,

on being relieved, of

his charge, shall furnish

to his successor a

Certificate of every work

inspected to the extent

of the expenditure since

he took charge of the

work up to the time of

such

such inspection; It

will be the duty of

the Superintending

Engineer to scrutinise

the Transfer Certificates

and insist on all

works in progress

being inspected ^{in detail} which

the circumstances of

the transfer and the

urgencies of the service

will permit of such inspection.

His Excellency

is of opinion that no

practical advantage

would result from

the submission of a

Certificate by the

relieving Officer; of

[illegible]

St. of {1872} Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

The Off^{ce} Controlling
Public Works Accounts

cd.

Encl

G 023" Aug 6¹⁸⁷¹ No. 2099

Nos. 3854-386

Water Reports - Passengers.

in letter from the Controller of
Accounts bringing to the
satisfactory form of Com-
mission reports adopted in certain
cases by Range Officers
visiting the application of
principle contained in
No 48 of 1872 to other works
executed
Hence the

Recd 28/8/72