M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(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. 2200 237. 288.	Press Mis.
Dated 18. 9.	1842.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 237. Read the following Endorsement of the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Fort St. George, 22nd August 1872, No. 1,115 :—

From the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, to the Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Madras, 19th August 1872, No. 2,182.

One Bill.

In reply to your Memorandum, No. 115, dated 9th August 1872, I have the honour to observe that G. O., No. 482, dated 17th February 1871, holds Superintending Engineers responsible for long marches "leading to claims for mileage, enhancing the outlay on travelling charges."

2. I see nothing in it that authorizes your calling on me to explain my admitting those charges, though you are empowered to report me to Government if I fail to carry out the principle.

3. In the present case, Government have in Order, No. 1,586, dated 1st July 1872, distinctly ruled that Mr. Smither shall work the formerly existing two ranges as one "by rail." If he had marched through the intervening Zemindary, he would have saved his own pocket with probably considerable waste of time.

4. It is difficult, under these circumstances, to explain the urgent necessity beyond the natural anxiety of an officer in a responsible position to do his duty over an extended tract of country. You have seen from his No. 138, of 5th August 1872, that Mr. Smither has lost by acting in what he (and I) believe to be in accordance with the orders of Government.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. In auditing claims to mileage it has been the practice of this office, since the issue of the orders* noted in the margin, to ask for information as to the exceptional circumstances or urgent necessity under which forced marches were made whenever such particulars were not supplied either in the Inspection Report or in the Mileage Certificate on the reverse of the bill. This practice has saved frequent references to Government and has been found to work well. Inattention to the Controller's printed Memorandum, No. 2,580, dated 21st February 1871, (herewith enclosed,) is the usual cause of suspension of audit by this office to claims on account of mileage.

* Nos. 482 and 1,109, of the 17th February and 20th April 1871.

1 Bill (to be returned).
1 Copy of letter from Colonel F. J. Moberly, No. 2,042, dated 10th August 1872.
1 Do. do. to. do., No. 344, dated 13th August 1872.
1 Copy of Controller's Memorandum, No. 2,580, dated 21st February 1871.
1 Controller's Memorandum, No. 115, dated 9th August 1872.

3. In the case of Mr. Smither's, to which Colonel Moberly refers, it will be observed from the accompanying bill that no information is given of the exceptional circumstances under which the marches, for which mileage is claimed, were made; and, as Colonel Moberly questions the right of this office to call for the required information, I am compelled to submit the matter for orders. The orders of Government of the 1st July last, No. 1,586, quoted by the Superintend-

ing Engineer do not appear to me to give any authority to this office to pass Mr. Smither's claim to mileage for journeys by rail without information of the grounds on which such journeys may be undertaken.

4. The letter from Mr. Smither's, alluded to in paragraph 4 of Colonel Moberly's letter, has reference to the insufficiency of the authorized rates of mileage and tentage to meet Mr. Smither's travelling expenses. A copy thereof and of the reply of this thereto is herewith forwarded for perusal.

(Signed) D. H. TRAIL, Captain, R. E.,
Offg. Controller of Public Works Accounts.

No. 238. ORDER THEREON, 18th September 1872, No. 2,200.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 17.

G. O., 20th April 1871, No. 1,109, fully justifies the course adopted by the Controller. It distinctly rules that the exceptional circumstances under which forced marches are made should be satisfactorily explained, and the question of the Controller's right to require such explanation has, therefore, been unnecessarily raised by Colonel Moberly.

2. The Controller is instructed to report whether, in his opinion, the Travelling Allowance Rules admit of allowances being drawn by Mr. Sub-Engineer Smither under both Rules III. and V. under the circumstances detailed in his letter, No. 138, of 5th August, the charge being duly supported by the Superintending Engineer.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

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

Ed. J. Wright.

No. 2182. Supt. Engr's Office 4th Div.
Madras 19th Augt 1872

From,
Colonel F. J. Moberly R. E.
Superintending Engineer 4th Div.

To,
The Controller
of Public Works Accounts
Fort Saint George

Sir,

In reply to your Memo No. 115 dated 9th August 1872 I have the honor to observe that G. O. No. 482 dated 17th February 1871 holds Superintending Engineers responsible for long marches "leading to claims for mileage enhancing the outlay on travelling charges."

Enclosure 1 Bill.

2 I see nothing in it that authorizes your calling on me to explain my admitting those charges, though you are empowered to report me to Government if I fail to carry out the principle.

3 In the present case, Government have in order No. 1586 dated 1st July 1872 distinctly ruled that Mr. Smither shall

should work the formerly existing 2 ranges as one "by rail". If he had marched through the intervening Zemindary he would have saved his own pocket with probably considerable waste of time.

4 It is difficult under these circumstances to explain the urgent necessity beyond the natural anxiety of an officer in a responsible position to do his duty over an extended tract of country. You have seen from his No. 138 of 6th August 1872, that Mr. Smither has lost by acting in what he (and I) believe to be in accordance with the orders of Government.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servt
J. Gilbertson Col. R.E.
Supg. Engr. S.W.D.

GP

From
The Auditor under Deputation
to
The Controller
of Public Accounts

Dated 19th Sept 1872

Recd 19[illegible] Sept 1872

No 2482

Application requesting the
sanction required under the
Travelling allowance
Bill of the Engineer
in charge
Welland Canal Dc.
Welland Sheet Dc.

No 1115

4

Submitted for the orders of Govern-
ment.-

2. In auditing claims to mileage
it has been the practice of this office since the
issue of the orders noted in the margin to
ask for information as to the
exceptional circumstances or
urgent necessity under which
forced marches were made
whenever such particulars were
not supplied either in the
Inspection Report or in the
Mileage Certificate on the reverse
of the bill. This practice has
saved frequent references to Government and
has been found to work well. In attention to
the Controllers printed Memorandum No 2580
dated 21st February 1871 (herewith enclosed) is the
usual cause of suspension of Audit by this
Office of claims on account of mileage.-

No 482 and 1109 of the 17th February and 20th April 1871.-

4

3

Public Works Department
No 2200

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From the Offg Controller
of Stores & Accounts. No 1118 dated 22d August 1872

G.O. 20 April
1871, Para 1109, fully pro-
vides the course adopted
for the Controller
of stationery under that
exceptional cir-
cumstances mentioned
which forced marches
are made should the
statistics explained
and the quantities of
the Controller's right

Rec'd 17th February 1872 — 337-338
" 20 April " — 278-279
" 1st July " — 13040

P. W. 1872 Despatch
Rec'd from Govt Dept September
Read No. 4092.

The Offg Controller of Stores
Accounts

To
The Secretary to Government
P. W. Department
Fort Saint George

Dated 22d
Rec'd 23d "
Read 24th " } August 1872

No 1115
Encls 3

Submitting for Orders
of Government the Claim
made by Colonel F. I. Moberly
Superintending Engineer
of the 4th Division on behalf
of Mr. Sub Engineer T.
Smithers in Charge of the
Wallajah Range for
Mileage
No 2200 dated 18th Sept 1872

No 239

Noted to Cr Dy 27 Sept 1872

to require such explanation has therefore been unnecessarily raised by Colonel Moberly.

The Controller is instructed to report whether, in his opinion, the Travelling Allowance Rules admit of allowances being drawn by Mr. Sub. Engineer Smither under both Rules III and V under the circumstances detailed in his letter No. 138 of 5th August the charge being duly supported by the Superintending Engineer. Genl

30/12

9 Supt Engrs 4 do ✓
5 Controller with five Encls ✓

Desp. 23/9/72.

No 4092

Govt. of [1872] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Superintending Engineer

4th Division

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 18th Sept 72, No. 2200.

Nos. 237 & 238

Wr. Exhg Supt Smithers.

Passing orders on the claim of Wr Exhg Supt Smithers & mileage.