M.R.O. 1—77,008—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. 148, 149	2397	Press / Mis.
Dated	11-10	1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th October 1872.

No. 192. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 10th August 1872, No. 1,775 :—

'ADVERTING to G. O. No. 1,789, dated 26th July last, I have the honour to state that I have nothing to add to the general principle laid down in paragraphs 2 and 3 of my letter therein embodied than that the Officer in charge of the Workshop at Dowlaishweram should not charge high rates, so as to show a large profit in such an institution, and which is by no means an indication of close attention to business; and I consider it is essentially necessary for the economical working of the shop that we should be allowed to get our supplies direct from England or from the cheapest markets, and not be compelled to get them from Madras in order to give a fictitious value to the institution there.

No. 193. ORDER THEREON, 11th October 1872, No. 2,397.

ACCOUNT, No. 18.

THE Governor in Council quite concurs in the general principle enunciated by Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer, and in order that he may be in a position to judge how far Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer's strictures on the prices charged at the Government Workshop are sound, requests that Colonel Fischer will submit a list of articles which can be procured more cheaply of the same quality from other quarters.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

3C

In submitting for
orders the accompany-
-ing letter from the
Supt Engineer, 2nd Div.,
the Secretary to Govern-
-ment in the Public
Works Department
has the honor to ex-
-press his opinion
that Lieutenant
Colonel Fischer's
animadversions on
the management

of the Dowlaishweram Workshop in his letter printed with G. O. No. 1789 of 26th July, were uncalled for, ungracious towards the officer in charge, and from this letter apparently incapable of proof - he has neither exercised his authority as Superintending Engineer to check such rates as he considered excessive; nor will he respond to the offer of Government to support him, if necessary, in controlling

I should call upon him to state in detail his objections to the system pursued in the Workshops at Dowlaishweram

yr. If he considers the charges too high he ought to go into his subject with care and state what he considers would be a fair remuneration for his services.

the workshop management.

The orders of the Home Govt are imperative against supplies being obtained by District Officers direct from England. What cheaper market Lieutt Colonel Fischer may allude to, is not known; and if called on to explain what he means by his remark as to the Madras Workshop, his answer would probably be as evasive

I would ask him for an explanation on this point immediately

as that now under notice - Col. Walker would deprecate any extension of discretionary power to Lieutt Col. Fischer in obtaining Workshop supplies.

Guns

I would like to bring a matter to some practical conclusion - There is, I know, an idea current that an Walk should be charge more than they should do - whether the having any real foundation in fact I cannot say - but I know, that certain small matters done for me have been charged nine big by them the time I asked for charge - but these small things an added percentage for labour is always felt big. the work was known well.

In his order No 1648 of 12th June this Excellency the Governor in Council expressed his satisfaction with the working of the Dawlaishweram Workshop as reported on by the Controller of Public Works Accounts for the year 1871-72 - and called for report from the

Superintending Engineer
1st Division on the
subject of certain
outstanding accounts.

In furnishing the information called for, the Supt Engineer begged to be allowed to point out that the large profit made last year could hardly be considered as contracting favorably with the working of former years; as it could only arise from unnecessarily high prices being charged to the benefit of the

done. I would by
"the first quite cor-
rect in the amend
principle communicated
by Col Fischer. and in
that he may
be in a position to
judge himself Col
F's strictures on
the prices charged
at the Pt Works he
are bound, by
that Col F. will
submit a list of
articles which
can be procured of
same quality from
other quarters."

Workshop, but at the
expense of the estimates
for Government work
and with the loss
of all private work
that could be exe-
cuted elsewhere.

The Governor in
Council therefore
expressed his readiness
to sanction any re-
commendation which
Lieutt Col Fischer
might make for
lowering the Workshop
rates, that might
not be incompatible
with the object of
maintaining the Workshop

self-supporting. And he was not prepared to receive such an evasive reply as that contained in letter No. 1775 of 10th August.

The Supt Engineer's first letter in fact charged officers and Subordinates under his orders with mismanagement of the Workshop; and the Govt might pertinently have asked why, instead of reporting such a state of affairs, he had refrained from exercising his

controlling authority by regulating and reducing such rates as he disapproved. Having rather preferred to elicit further information, with the view of aiding the Supt Engineer to set matters on a proper footing, they now find themselves thrown out by a reference to general principles, their acquaintance with which might have been assumed; and by a request to be

allowed to get supplies from England which has no immediate bearing on the particular point in question.

Lieutt. Col. Fischer will take note that His Excellency the Governor in Council disapproves of his disparaging the work of the Executives under his orders, without being prepared either to correct their faults himself, or to avail himself of the assistance

of the Govt. to do so if necessary. And that his general treatment of most questions relating to the works under his charge has not impressed the Govt. with a favorable opinion of his qualifications for the charge of so important a District as the Godavery; which will accordingly be transferred to other hands when

(Non Consequential)

the Reorganization
of the Department
is carried out.

C.H.M.

Public Works Depart.
No. 2397

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From The Ag Sup.g Engineer
1st Division
} M.E. No. 1775 of 10th Aug.t 1791

The Governor in
Council quite concurs
in the general principle
enunciated by Lt. Col.
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he may be in a position
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the Government Workshops
are sound, requests that
Col. Fischer will sub-
=mit a List of
articles which can be
procured more cheaply

Lo. Lopez Secy to Govt

Ch. 21 Septr

of the same quality
from other quarters.

Encl

24
2

E. S. Engr 1st Div

Decpd 16/10/72

Public Works Department

12

Letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division dated 10th August 1872, No. 1775.

I should have no objection on this subject

Circulated for orders.

Colaba
August 1872

Lt. Col. R.E.
Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

Geology

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr.
1st. Division

Dated

Read. Encl.

G. O. 11 Oct. 1872. N. 2397.

Nos. 1928 1963

Dorkaschweram Workshop.

The Supt. Engr. 1st Div. is requested to submit a list of articles which can be procured more cheaply ~~from~~ from Messrs Spartes for the Dorkaschweram Workshop.