M.R.O. 1—4,002—16 9-48.

(1) Number of pages

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. ~~B.P. No.~~ 109. 5 III	1295-96	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	8- 5-	1843.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 109. Read the following letter from Colonel C. H. DICKENS, R. A., Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account—General,) to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 5th April 1873, No. 212 A. G :—

I AM directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 285, dated the 28th January last, forwarding, with remarks, certain explanation furnished by the Controller of Public Works Accounts, Madras, on the points adverted to by the Government of India in connection with the report of inspection of his office made by the Accountant General, Public Works Department.

2. In reply I am to state, with reference to paragraphs 2 and 3 of your letter, that the Government of India will await the receipt of a report (which the Government of Madras is requested to submit) of the result of the inquiries instituted by the Controller in view to ascertaining whether the irregular procedure noticed in the Mount Range, of charging materials purchased for general purposes to a work on which they were not used, is followed elsewhere in the Madras Presidency, and of the investigations in regard to the Register of Works believed to be missing in that range.

3. Referring to your paragraph 5, I am to invite attention to Public Works Department letter, No. 35 A. I., dated the 12th February, in which the Government of India suggested that an officer should be deputed by the Government of Madras to Calcutta for the purpose of conferring with the Accountant General, Public Works Department, on the subject of the requirements in respect of the Capital and Revenue Accounts of Irrigation Works.

4. Adverting to your last paragraph, I am to state that after due consideration of the remarks made by Mr. Brock, the Controller, the Government of India does not consider that any sufficient reason has been advanced to induce a withdrawal of the opinion which it has already expressed in regard to the failure on the part of Mr. Brock to realize the importance of his position; but the Government of India is willing to allow that the difficulties of Mr. Brock's position were considerable, and excuse to a great extent his shortcomings in this respect. The Government of India cannot, however, concur in the opinion that these shortcomings are due to the divided allegiance which the Controller owes to the Local Government and to the Accountant General, Public Works Department. The Public Works Account Officers in all the Provinces more immediately under the control of the Government of India are, I am to state, placed in the same position, and experience has proved that so far from the arrangement impairing the efficiency of those officers, it has resulted in the maintenance of financial regularity. I am further to add that in the Civil Department the Accountant General at Madras is subordinate to the Comptroller General to the Government of India, and that the arrangement works well.

5. In conclusion I am to suggest, in view to the improvement of the accounts of the department in the Madras Presidency, that frequent inspections of Range Offices by the Controller or his Deputy should be required; and I am to state that in the same view the Government of India will be prepared to sanction such an

the result of the enquiries instituted

increase to the establishment of the Controller's office as may be necessary to bring it into an efficient state on receipt of tabular statements and proposals for the same from the Government of Madras.

No. 110. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1873, No. 1,295.

ACCOUNT, No. 4.

COMMUNICATED to the Controller of Public Works Accounts in continuation of G. O., No. 284, of 28th January 1873.

2. Adverting to paragraph 2 the Government of India will be furnished with copy of G. O., No. 934, of 26th March and No. 1,178 of 24th April 1873.

3. This Government have expressed their views in letter dated 28th March 1873, No. 967, regarding the deputation of the officer appointed to supervise the Irrigation Accounts to Calcutta.

4. The attention of the Controller is called to the last paragraph of the letter from the Government of India impressing the necessity of frequent inspections of Range Offices. The Government of Madras cannot admit that the Controller's Office is in an inefficient state, as implied by the Government of India, but they will be prepared to give their best attention to any suggestions that may be made by the Acting Controller, after the lapse of a sufficient time and number of inspections to enable him to judge of its real requirements.

(True Extract.)
Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 111. (DOCKET No. 1,296, dated 8th May 1873.)
COPY of the above forwarded to the Government of India.
(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Ed. S. T. Austin.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary.

No. 212 dated 9.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Accounts
Genl.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras
Public Works Department.

Fort William, 5th April 1873.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 285 dated the 28th January last, forwarding with remarks, certain explanation furnished by the Controller of P.W. accounts, Madras, on the points adverted to by the Government of India in connection with the Report of inspection of his office made by the Accountant General P.W. Department.

In reply, I am to state with reference to paras. 2 and 3 of your letter that the Government of India will await the receipt of a report (which the Government of Madras is requested to submit) of the result of the enquiries instituted

the Controller in view to ascertaining whether the irregular procedure noticed in the Mount Range, of charging materials purchased for general purposes to a work on which they were not used, is followed elsewhere in the Madras Presidency, and of the investigations in regard to the Register of works believed to be missing in that Range.

Referring to your para 5, I am to invite attention to P.W. Department letter No. 35 A.I. dated the 12th Febry in which the Government of India suggested that an officer should be deputed by the Government of Madras to Calcutta for the purpose of conferring with the Accountant General P.W. Deptt on the subject of the requirements in respect of the Capital and Revenue accounts of Irrigation works.

Adverting to your last para I am to state that after due consideration of the remarks made by Mr Brock, the Controller, the Government of India does not consider that any sufficient reason has been advanced to induce a withdrawal of the opinion which it has already expressed in regard to the failure on the part of Mr Brock to realize the importance of his position but the Government of India is willing to allow that the difficulties of Mr Brock's position were considerable and excuse to a great extent his shortcomings in this respect. The Government of India cannot, however, concur in the opinion that these shortcomings are due to the divided allegiance which the Controller owes to the Local Government and to the Accountant General P.W. Department. The Public Works account officers in all the Provinces more immediately under the control of the Government of India are, I am to state, placed in the same position and experience has proved that so far from the arrangement impairing the efficiency of those officers, it has resulted in the maintenance

tenance of financial regularity.

I am further to add that in the Civil Department the Accountant General at Madras is subordinate to the Comptroller General to the Government of India and that the arrangement works well.

In conclusion I am to suggest in view to the improvement of the accounts of the Departs in the Madras Presidency that frequent inspections of Range Offices by the Controller or his deputy should be required. And I am to state that in the same view the Government of India will be prepared to sanction such an increase to the Establishment of the Controller's office as may be necessary to bring it into an efficient state on receipt of tabular statements and proposals for the same from the Government of Madras.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servt.
J. Dickens Coll. R.A.
Secretary to Govt. of India.

1857

Enance of
I am fur
Department

Re 28 Jany /73 No 581 - C 584
" 28 March — 677 - 679

P. W. 1873 Departt
Proof Govt. for May
No. 2881.

From

The Govt. of India

Dt 5th
Recd 14th } April 1873.

No. 212 A.C.

Commenting on the explanation furnished by the Controller in connection with the report of inspection of his office by the Accountant General P. W. D.

No. 1295-1296 - 8 May /73

No. 109

Re 3 May

No. 1295

Communicated to the Controller of P. W. Accounts in Continuation of G. O. No 284 of 28 January 1873.

Adverting to Para 2 the Government of India will be furnished with Copy of G. O. No 954 of 26th March 1873 & No 1178 — of 24th April /73

This Government have expressed their views in letter dated 28 March /73, No 967, regarding the deputation of

the Officer appointed to supervise the Irrigation Accounts to Calcutta.

The attention of the Controller is called to the last Para of the letter from the Govt. of India impressing the necessity of frequent inspections of Range Offices. The Government of Madras ~~are far from admitting~~ cannot admit that the Controller's Office is in an inefficient state, as implied by the Government of India; but they will be prepared to ~~Consider~~ give their best attention to any suggestions that may be made by the Ag. Controller, after the lapse of a sufficient time and number of Inspections to enable him to judge of its real requirements.

Docket No. 1296 dt

Copy of the above forwarded to the Govt. of India

GWW

To

The Controller Dept. 16-5-73.

8-11-06

No. 2381

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Controller of Public Works Accounts

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 8th May 1295-1296

Nos. 109 & 110. 111.

Establishment. Passing orders on letter from the Govt. of India commenting on the explanation furnished by the Controller of Mr. Auts in connection with the report of inspection of his office by the Accountant General. Mr. Dept.

Forward copy of [illegible] on letter from the Govt. of India commenting on the explanation furnished by the Controller of Mr. Auts in connection with the report of inspection of his office by the Accountant General.