

(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.	1634	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
339-340-341		
Dated	28. 6.	1875.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 339. From T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 23rd May 1873, No. 631.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that the Accounts of the Mount Range for the month of March last, which should have reached this office by the 20th April, have not yet been received, nor has the Range Officer replied to the several calls and reminders on the subject issued from this office.

2. According to the rules observed in other parts of India, a Controller of Public Works Accounts would in such a case take steps to have the Accounts prepared either by deputing a qualified man from his own office for a time, or by permanently transferring the Range Accountant, if slow or inefficient, to a smaller office; but I find that the Controller of Public Works Accounts in Madras has no power to interfere in such cases, and that Accountants are appointed to, and removed from, the department without reference to this office.

3. I honestly believe that the existing arrangement is prejudicial to the interests both of the State and Executive Officers, and having recently found myself in the false position of being obliged to tell a Range Officer of my inability to comply with his application for the services of a trained Accountant, I take advantage of the opportunity to beg that this subject may receive the attention of Government.

4. I have seen the correspondence (originating with G. O., No. 1,908, dated 12th August 1872,) which contains the opinion of Mr. Brock, that the present system should continue, and that Accountants attached to Ranges should *not* be subordinate to the Controller, and I must confess that after perusal of that correspondence my feeling was one of regret that that gentleman's experience had been confined to Madras. It is no exaggeration to say that in other parts of India, Executive Officers feel officially weak or strong as they happen to have indifferent or well-trained Accountants, and, from my own experience as a Controller, I can add that in numerous instances I have been able, with the entire concurrence of Executive Engineers, to arrange for the employment of men in charges suited to their qualifications, etc., by transferring the able and well-trained Accountant to an important charge, and sending the man of less experience, etc., to a smaller division or range.

No. 340. From W. S. HARRINGTON, Esq., Executive Engineer, No. 2 or Mount Range, Chingleput District, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated 110, Mount Road, 2nd June 1873, No. 300.

In acknowledging the receipt of your Memorandum, No. 208, dated 28th ultimo, I have the honour to state that, very much to my regret, the Accounts of the Mount Range, for the month of March, have not even yet been sent to the Controller, but they shall be forwarded to-morrow without fail. I have already

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd June 1873.*

stated on several occasions to the District Engineer that the Head Accountant is one of the worst I have ever seen, and that the Mount Range Office was in much confusion when I took charge of it in consequence.

No. 341.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd June 1873, No. 1,637.

ACCOUNT, No. 23.

THE state of affairs in the Mount Range, reported in the Controller's letter of the 23rd May, and confirmed by the Range Officer's letter of the 2nd June, is most unsatisfactory, and the latter officer will account to Government at once for the manner in which he is said to have treated the Controller's calls and reminders. The District Engineer will likewise report what steps he may have taken to obtain an efficient Head Accountant for the Mount Range, of which he will himself take personal charge while the Range Officer is absent on leave.

2. It has lately been decided by Government, on the reports of officers of the greatest local experience, that it is inexpedient that Range Accountants should be in direct subordination to the Controller; and they decline to re-consider that decision. His Excellency the Governor in Council is not aware of any impediment to the adoption of the course which the Controller states that he would have resorted to in other parts of India, viz., the deputation of a qualified Accountant from his own office to supersede or instruct an inefficient Range Accountant, or take up his duties till he could be replaced. On the contrary, he is surprized that some such expedient has not been resorted to, and is convinced that it would be entirely in conformity with the wishes of any Range Officer or District Engineer concerned. The Controller or his Deputy is at present authorized and expected to inspect Range Offices from time to time; and in the case of a Range like that in question, within a short drive of the Controller's Office, His Excellency in Council is at a loss to understand what prevented either of these officers inspecting the Mount Office, and arranging with the officer in charge for the efficient performance of his Accountant's duties. Mr. Moss may depend upon it that his inspection would not be considered an intrusion, and his offer of an efficient Accountant would be thankfully accepted. His statement that he recently found himself in the false position of being obliged to tell a Range Officer of his inability to comply with his application for the services of a trained Accountant is, without further explanation, unintelligible.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Chingleput.
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exl. S. T. Austin.

Office of the Controller of
Public Works Accounts
Fort St. George. 23rd May 1873.

From
The Off Controller of
Public Works Accounts
To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George.

Sir
I have the honor to
report for the information
of Government that the
Accounts of the Mount
Range for the month of
March last, which should
have reached this Office
by the 20th April, have not
yet been received nor has
the Range Officer replied

to the several calls and reminders on the subject issued from this Office.

2. According to the rules observed in other parts of India, a Controller of Public Works Accounts would in such a case take steps to have the accounts prepared either by deputing a qualified man from his own Office for a time, or by permanently transferring the Range Accountant, if slow or inefficient, to a smaller office, but I find that the Controller of Public Works Accounts in Madras has no power to interfere in such cases and that Account-

ants

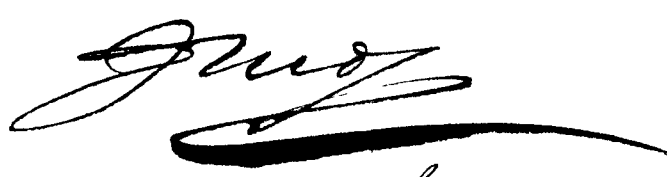
ants are appointed to and removed from the Department without reference to this Office.

3. I honestly believe that the existing arrangement is prejudicial to the interests both of the State and Executive Officers, and having recently found myself in the false position of being obliged to tell a Range Officer of my inability to comply with his application for the services of a trained Accountant, I take advantage of the opportunity to beg that this subject may receive the attention of Government.

4. I have seen the correspondence

correspondence (originating with
G.O. N. 1908, dated 12th August
1872) which contains the opinion
of Mr. Brock that the
present system should
continue and that Account-
ants attached to Ranges
should not be subordinate
to the Controller, and I
must confess that after
perusal of that correspond-
ence my feeling was one
of regret that that Gentle-
man's experience had been
confined to Madras. It is
no exaggeration to say that
in other parts of India
Executive Officers feel
officially weak or strong
as they happen to have
indifferent

indifferent or well trained
Accountants, and from my own
experience as a Controller I
can add that in numerous
instances I have been able,
with the entire concurrence of
Executive Engineers, to arrange
for the employment of men
in charge suited to their
qualifications, &c., by
transferring the able and
well trained Accountant
to an important charge and
sending the man of less ex-
perience &c. to a smaller Division
or Range.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Off Controller of P. W. Accounts.

On 12 Aug / 2 20 191 - 42

Pub. Works Dept. all part
of the Govt. for June
from 23/5
The Offg Controller of
Public Works Dept.
Madras

To The Secretary to
Government
Public Works Dept.
Fort St. George

Dated 23
Re 11 3 May 1873

No 631

Complaining of the
delay in the submission
of the Accounts of the
Mount Range for
March 1873 and pro-
posing that that Ac-
countants attached to
Ranges should be
made subordinate
to the Controller.

No 1637-23 Dec 1873

No. 300

FROM

The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
No. 2 or ^{Mount} ~~E. C.~~ CANAL RANGE

Chingleput District.

To

THE Chief Engineer
Public Works Department

SIR,

I am acknowledging the receipt of
your memorandum No. 208 dated 28th ultimo.
I have the honor to state that, very much
to my regret, the accounts of the Mount
Range for the month of March have not
even yet been sent to the Controller. but
they shall be forwarded to-morrow without
fail. I have already stated on several
occasions to the District Engineer that the
Head Accountant is one of the worst I
have ever seen and that the Mount Range
Officer was in much confusion when I
took charge of it. in consequence. —

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obed^t. Servant
W. Harrington.

Executive Engineer, Mount Range

NO. 2 RANGE OFFICE,
110. Mount Road
2nd June 1873

No 339

On 22 Aug / 3

1637. P.W. D.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.

Read the following:

From the Offg Controller of P.W. Works } P.W. No. 631 of 23 May/73

Sec. Engr., No 2 Range (Chengaput Dt) 30.7 2 June/73

The state of affairs in the Mount Range reported in the Controller's letter of the 23rd May, and confirmed by the Range Officer's letter of the 2nd June, is ^{most unsatisfactory} ~~indeed deplorable~~. And the latter officer will account to Government at once for the manner in which he is said to have treated

M. C.

P.W. 1873 104th
From 4th June 1873
No. 3499.
THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

No. 2 Range

Chingleput District.

To THE Chief Engineer
P.W. Works

Dated 22nd May 1873
Despatched 23rd May 1873
Recd.

No. 300

ENCLOSURE

States that the state of affairs in the Mount Range for which I sent you a letter up to a week last of the 15th inst. has not been improved. It is still in a most unsatisfactory state. I am, therefore, directed to request you to account to Government at once for the manner in which he is said to have treated

1637. P.W. D.

treated the Controller's
calls and ~~reminders~~
The District Engineer
will list ~~his~~ ^{his} report
what steps he may
have ~~to take~~ ^{to obtain}
an efficient Head
Accountant for the
Mount Range; of
which he will him-
self take personal
charge while the Range
officer is absent on
leave.

It has lately been
decided by Government
on the Reports of Officers
of the greatest local
experience that it
is inexpedient that
Range Accountants
should

I would not care
for the decision
it would say - "the
decision is final
or something to
the like & that
L.O.

should be in direct
subordination to the
Controller; and
Mr. Moss does not
offer any detailed
arguments against the
reasons on which
that decision was based.
His Excellency the
Governor in Council
is not aware of any
impediment to the
adoption of the
course which the
Controller states
that he would have
resorted to in other
parts of India, viz
the deputation of a
qualified Accountant
from

from his own office
to supersede or instruct
an inefficient Range
Accountant, or take
up his duties till he
could be replaced.

On the contrary he
is surprised that
some such expedient
has not been resorted
to, and is convinced
that it would be
entirely in confor-
-mity with the wishes
of any Range Officer
or District Engineer
concerned. The Com-
-ptroller or his Deputy
is at present autho-
-rized and expected

-to

to inspect Range
offices from time to
time; and in the
case of a Range
like that in question,
within a short drive
of the Controller's
office, His Excellency
in Council is at a
loss to understand
what prevented either
of them ^{from} inspecting the
Mount Office, and
arranging with the
officer in charge for
the efficient per-
-formance of his
Accountant's duties.
Mr. Mayo may depend
upon it that his
inspection

as he sees fit from
personal inspection
or inspection of accounts;
relying on such recom-
mendations having
all the effect of orders
when it is seen that
he has the power
as well as the will
to supply Executive
officers with what
he truly describes
to be one of their
chief desiderata viz
efficient accountants.
hmn

Dr. Chas. L. ...
Controller

Dec 21/73

h 334

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RECEIVED

The District Comptroller
Chinghaput

23rd June 1637.

334 @ 24/1

Accounts. Paying orders
an letter from the
order of P. H. Acers
to notice the delay in
the transmission of the Accounts
of the Mount Range for
March 3 & suggests that
a commission attached to
the Range should be made
inordinate. The order.