

(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.	688	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
68-68/69		
Dated	4-3-18	18/3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th March 1873.*

No. 68. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd January 1873, Miscellaneous No. 415 :—

Read letter from the Acting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, dated 20th December 1872, No. 1,087, forwarding further report regarding the gun-powder which was damaged while at the godowns of Clive's Battery, and requesting sanction for the disbursement of Rupees 1,575-7-4 as compensation to the owners of the damaged goods.

SUBMITTED to Government with a request that the payment of the value of the damaged goods, Rupees 1,575-7-4, may be sanctioned. The goods have been sold for Rupees 403-10-10.

2. It appears to the Board that the responsibility for the neglect which led to the damage rests with the Department of Public Works, by whom the responsibility of looking after the drain was accepted, and on two occasions discharged, though seemingly in a superficial manner. Had the inspection been made by the Department of Public Works at regular intervals as it should have been, the mischief would not have occurred. At the same time the Board are of opinion that if the obstacle was obvious and within reach the Department of Public Works Officer had a right to expect a warning from the officers of the Custom House in charge of the goods. The Collector will report who was immediately in charge, and at what intervals the casemates are ordinarily visited by him.

3. With proper attention to, and definite responsibility for, the clearance of the drains, the casemates seem quite fit for the storage of powder and other combustibles.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 68A. Read also Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 19th February 1873, Miscellaneous No. 1031.

No. 69. ORDER THEREON 4th March 1873, No. 688.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 11.

His Excellency the Governor in Council having carefully considered these papers, is of opinion that the responsibility of looking after the drain was, under the circumstances which have transpired, divided between the Public Works and the Sea Customs Departments. G. O., 10th December 1870, No. 1,994, Revenue Department, should have been communicated to the Public Works Department; but as a copy of that order appears to have been furnished to the Executive Engineer by the Collector of Sea Customs on the 17th December 1870, and his attention was again requested to it in October 1871, it is clear that the Public Works Officer virtually accepted the responsibility.

2. The case is not, in the opinion of Government, one in which pecuniary responsibility can be enforced, and the payment of the value of the damaged goods is therefore sanctioned.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 22nd January 1873.

Read letter from the Acting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, dated 31st December 1872 N. 4587, forwarding further report regarding the gunpowder which was damaged while at the godowns off Ellis Battery, and requesting sanction for the disbursement of Rspees 1575-7-4 as compensation to the owners of the damaged goods.

Submitted to Government with a request that the payment of the value of the damaged goods, Rspees 1575-7-4 may be sanctioned. The goods have been sold for Rspees 413-10-10.

2. It appears to the Board that the responsibility for the neglect which led to the damage rests with the Department of Public Works, by whom the responsibility of looking after the drain was

was accepted, and on two occasions discharged, though seemingly in a superficial manner. Had the inspection been made by the Department of Public Works at regular intervals as it should have been, the mischief would not have occurred. At the same time, the Board are of opinion that if the obstacle was obvious and within reach, the Department of Public Works officers had a right to expect a warning from the officers of the custom house in charge of the goods. The collector will report who was immediately in charge, and at what intervals the Casemates are ordinarily visited by him.

3. With proper attention to, and definite responsibility for, the clearance of the drains, the casemates seem

seem quite fit for the storage of powder and other combustibles.

(True Extract)

H. E. Stokes

Sy. Sub. Secretary

To the Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with collector's Original letter and
enclosures - to be returned.

Sy. W. H. H. H.
Mailes

6th Feb. 73.

My dear Wacker

I told you
all night yesterday -
The wall has
not been removed
but prepared with
brick & stone on
the top - This
glass however
has

Received 1873 Oct 12
of the 1873 Oct 12
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 22nd January 1873.
Despatched 22 — — —

Dec 23rd
Dec 24th

Ref: 188. & dated 1/3.
Regarding purchase of 1000 lbs
of powder of 1875-76 as con-
sidered to be of a quantity
of powder damaged while in
storage of the military. Has
a quantity of 1000 lbs of powder &
report will be immediately
in charge of the price. See

Transferred to the S.W.
where it will be decided whether
any portion of the 1000 lbs is necessary
for the officers' use. See 1/3
1873

Subd. 1873
AR 2. 11. 84 1/3
AR 10 1873 AR 11.

No 68.

been hammered away and it
would be well to know the
will. What is it?

That Demon arrives in
that he is responsible for
all the evils the whole
way from the Throne to

Pygmalion to capt

the "Cornucopia" and

my Int & am at

"Valley" sculpture bottle -

The Collection kept

should have called the

attention of the Ministry

-puliz to the
 state of the drain
 & the mis-
 ce and have
 secured -
 The drain is all
 open now
 A. C. S. S. S. S. S.
 S. S. S. S. S. S.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

Dated 19 February 1873.

Read the following

N^o 124.

From

The Honorable D. Arbuthnot
 Ag. Collector of Sea Customs

To

J. G. Rose Esquire
 Secretary, Board of Revenue.

SIR,

In reply to the latter part of
 para 2 of the Board's Proceedings Miscellaneous
 N^o 475 of 22nd January 1873, I have the honor
 to report that the goods in the casemates of
 Oliver's Battery were in charge of the ^{of this office} Support
 Manager, N. Raviawamy Mudelly. The
 casemates were visited by him on each occasion
 combustible packages were taken into them or
 removed therefrom. I beg to enclose a memo
 shewing the number of times the casemates were
 visited for this purpose in the months of October
 and November 1872. In respect of this, Ravi-
 awamy Mudelly has always made it his duty
 to

13

Ramaswamy Mudelly visited the Casualties and found nothing to excite suspicion, and as the drains were at that time covered with Brick work, it was impossible to see whether they were sitting up or not.

Sea Customs House
Madras 6th February
1843

I have H^{rs}
Signed D. Schuchert
Ag. Collector
Sea Customs

Subj^{ts}

Elmhurst
Copied by S. Madivela.

1. True copy and extract,

Vol. 10
Pg. 100

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with one enclosure.

Memorandum of Gunpowder removed from the Artillery Battery.

Month & Date	Charte and Numbers	No of packages	Description of packages	Name of Recd	When cleared
1872. Oct 4 th	G	35 Cases	Gunpowder	"St Lawrence"	Recd 9 th October 1872.
"	PNCYC ²	10 - 0 ²	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 9 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	QRQYC ²	14 - 0 ²	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 9 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	[F F] 3	3 - 0 ²	Cartidges	0 ²	0 ² 10 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	[C H]	10 - 0 ²	Gunpowder	0 ²	0 ² 23 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	R TC	20 - 0 ²	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 23 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	[O]	20 Meys	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 23 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	7 ¹ / ₈	6 Cases	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 29 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²
"	PX ¹ / ₈	10 - 0 ²	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 13 ¹ November - 0 ²
"	R TC	56 Meys	0 ²	0 ²	0 ² 15 ¹ - 0 ² 0 ²

Chas Johnston
 6th February
 1873

W. H. M. West
 W. H. M. West

P. D. Johnston 1873. Oct 1st
 W. H. M. West
 No 1164.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 19th February 1873.
 Despatched 19 - " - "
 Recd 20 - " - "
 Recd 21 - " - "

SUBJECT.

Submitting letter from
 Coll^y of Ordnance regarding
 Gunpowder in connection
 with damage done to
 Gunpowder stores in
 Colins Battery.

Robert

Ph. 4th March / 1938

Proceedings of the Madras Local
Board of Revenue
Read the following:-

Read the following:-
 To: Office Board of Rev: }
 Thro' the Rev: Depart^{mt} } (H. E. Sec^y 4157 22^d June/73)

I agree in Mr. Ellis' remarks on this subject. Her responsibility seems to be divided between the Department of S. Customs and P. W. D.

vide remarks. I desire the goods stated in
above this Order. The Oliver's Battery, was
first studied now dating as accepted by the Public
the unfortunate responsibility Works Department -
the Sea Wall in 1872. G.O. No 1994 of
1872.

10 December 1870 am.

inadvertently or neglect
and want of proper
care as having caused
the damage two years
ago, was not even com-
municated to the
Public Works De-
partment; clearly
showing the opinion
then held by Govern-
ment as to the liability
for charge of the build-
ing resting with those
who occupied or had
the use of it. And
such is the universal
rule. In accordance
with it, the duty of
the Public Works
Officer is to carry
out

Letter of 10 Dec 70
to the Public Works
Department
10 Dec 70
11

10 Dec 70
11

out such repair as
may be necessary on
the requisition of the
Officer in charge of
a building; a general
request such as appears
to have been made
with reference to the
drain in question
cannot be held to
shift the responsibility
of the charge, more
especially as the
blocking up of the
end of the drain
by sand must have
been manifest to those
who used the building,
and is said to have
been capable of removal
with the labour at
their

The general responsibility
of the charge of the building
rests with the Officer in charge
of the building, and it is not
the duty of the Public Works
Department to carry out
repairs which are the
responsibility of the
Officer in charge of the
building. The Public Works
Department is only
to be called upon to
carry out repairs which
are the responsibility of
the Public Works Department.
The Public Works Department
is not responsible for
repairs which are the
responsibility of the
Officer in charge of the
building.

command. If any
Public Works Officer
be liable it is he that
carried out the work
alluded to in his
letter recorded with
L. A. No. 1994 of
10 December 1890, as
he left the building
equally susceptible
to damage as before,
supposing its occupants
to be equally careless
of the accumulation
of sand; whereas the
present District En-
gineer did not content
himself with simply
removing the sand
that choked the drains,
but

I agree in the
view of Mr. Ellis that
after the Col-
lection of Dec 70
& Oct 71. the Engr.
must be held to
have accepted
charge of the drain.
I fancy there are
no officials in
regular daily attend-
ance at the place
if there were they ought
to have been alerted or
arrested the danger.
I do not think the Engr.
is a case in which
pecuniary responsibility
can be enforced. I
would declare it the

Duty of the Presidency
Engineer to look
after the drain
in thorough & to
arrange for its
being periodically
examined. I
think the duty of the
Col-
lection Officer is
to report when
danger of choking is

I do.

but has spent Rs 40 in
converting it from a
covered into an open
drain, so as to render
its again choking as
unlikely as possible -
It appears that in October
1891, the Collector of Sea
Customs called the Executive
Engineer's attention to the
subject which was im-
mediately given to it,
and no damage result-
ed that year. Had
the same precaution
been taken by the party
responsible for the
building in 1892, pre-
sumably that now
under remark would
not have occurred -
The Board of
Revenue

Revenue will be requested
in the Revenue Depart-
ment, after further
inquiry, to assess the
amount of responsibility
for the costs incurred
between the several
persons in charge of
the building and goods,
and to determine to
what extent each shall
contribute pecuniarily
towards its adjustment.

G.W.

D.C. 11 Feb/73
to 10 Feb/73 D.C. 112

N^o 688 - Public Works Dept
Proceedings of the Municipal Government
Under date the 10th Dec

Read the following
Progs of the Bd of Revenue { (Rev entered 15 of 22 Jan/73)

M.C.

His Excellency the
Governor in Council
having carefully consid-
ered these papers is
of opinion that the
responsibility of looking
after the drain was under
the circumstances which
have transpired divid-
ed between the Public
Works and the Local
Customs Departments.
G.O. 10 December 1890
No 1794 Revenue Depart-
ment should have

been communicated to
the Public Works Department
but as copy of that order
appears to have been
furnished to the Execu-
tive Engineer by the
Collector of Sea Customs
on the 1st December
1870, and his attention
was again requested to
it in October 1871, it is
clear that the Public Officer
initially accepted the responsibility
which he should have
refrained at the time.
The case is not in the
opinion of Govt. one in
which pecuniary respon-
sibility can be enforced
and the payment of the
value of the damaged

goods is therefore sanctioned.

In future it will
be the duty of the District
Engineers to put and keep
the drain in thorough
repair and to arrange
for its being periodically
examined, and it will
be the duty of the Collec-
tor's Officers in charge
to promptly report all
danger of choking ²⁵

from accumulation of
sand or dust or any
other defect requiring
remedy.

40

D.E. Prud'homme
- Rev. Secy -

13th of Dec. 1871

Dec 12 6/3/72

pd. 80:7

Handwritten notes in a column on the left margin, mostly illegible due to fading and bleed-through.

No. 68-69.

2. 19 July 173

C/p 5004 1164.



Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The District Engineer
Quidney

Encl.

Encl.

Encl. 1

G. O. 4 despatch No. 688.

Compensation. Nos. 687 & 69.

~~Under~~ Puking orders
in Par. of the Ho. of
Agencies sanction to the
payment of Rs 1575.7-4
as compensation to owners
of a quantity of gun powder
damaged while at Godowns
of Chines Battery.