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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	934	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	26 3	1843

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

No. 601. Read the following letter from the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 11th February 1873, No. 2,643 :—

In pursuance of paragraph 2 of my letter No. 2,054, dated 2nd December last, I have the honour to state that, on the 4th December last, I communicated with the various Range Officers of this Presidency, and requested them to reply to the following four questions on the subject of stock :—

I.—If you have stock in your range, do you wish to increase it? Should you so desire, state the additions which you recommend being made, quantities being also noted.

II.—Is it the practice in your range to purchase stock, and, for convenience sake, to charge its value at once to specific estimates? Should this be answered in the affirmative, state the circumstances under which you acted, and quote any correspondence with this office.

III.—If you have no stock, do you think that the maintenance of stock in your range would be beneficial to State interests, and, in the event of the question being answered in the affirmative, state the grounds on which your opinion is founded, and note the articles (with quantities) which you think should be procured and kept on a stock account.

IV.—If you consider it unnecessary to maintain stock, explain briefly why?

2. Replies from all Range Officers having now been received, I have the honour to submit the enclosed paper which contains an abstract of those replies. I have not included the Presidency, Neilgherries, and Bangalore in the abstract of the replies to Questions I., III., and IV., as the officers in charge are *District Engineers* and have power to add to stock as they see fit. I would, however,

suggest that, in each of these cases, a limit* be fixed by Government in communication with the officers concerned. As regards the Presidency, I am in a position to say that the District Engineer in charge does not recommend any increase of his stock balance. A proposal from the District Engineer of Bangalore for storing timber and manufacturing lime and bricks departmentally is now before the Chief Engineer, and will, no doubt, receive due consideration. As regards the Neilgherries, I beg to enclose an extract† from my letter

No. 54, dated 3rd February 1873, upon this subject to the District Engineer.

3. There were, on the 31st October last, sixty-four ranges.* In thirty-one of these, stock was maintained, but except in the ranges as per margin, the balances were trifling. Of the thirty-one ranges, the accounts of which showed balances outstanding on the 31st October,

† Paragraphs 1 and 2.

* Excluding the three District Engineers who are also in account with this office.

Eastern Delta, Godavery.	S. Range, Nellore.
Western " "	Cuddapah.
Ellore	Nundial.
Eastern Delta, Kistna.	Pennacondah.
Western " "	South Wynaad.

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26th March 1873.*

* See replies to Query I.

In the Madanapully Range an increase of stock is suggested, conditional on an augmentation of the strength of the establishment.

only five* are in favour of additions being made to their stock account. These ranges are noted below, and I have entered against each the additions which are recommended:—

* Present stock, 300 cubic yards.
† Do., 150 do.
‡ Do., 220 do.

Western Delta, Godavery.—Limestone, 700* cubic yards.

Firewood, 850† do.

Rough stone, 230‡ do.

Coimbatore.—Small quantities (not stated) of asphalt and tar.

Collegal.—70,000 wall bricks.

40,000 pan tiles.

10,000 flat „

500 cubic feet jungle-wood.

Cannanore.—50,000 Tellicherry tiles.

300 feet of teak-wood.

North Wynaad.—400 cubic feet of teak timber.

4. Of the thirty-three ranges which had no stock on the 31st October last, the maintenance of stock, as under, is recommended in four* cases:—

* See replies to Query III.

Moosery.—A small supply of timber, description and quantity not stated.

Caroor.—1 lakh of bricks.

80,000 pan-tiles.

40,000 flat „

Irrigation Range, } 12 logs of teak-wood.

Coimbatore. } 24 logs of jungle-wood.

Mangalore.—A quantity (not specified) of seasoned timber and laterite stone.

5. It will thus be seen that in fifty-five of the sixty-four ranges of this Presidency, no additions to stock, or changes in existing arrangements, are recommended. The requirements of the remaining nine ranges are comparatively trifling, and there seems no objection whatever to the Range Officers concerned making the proposed additions to their stock account, with the previous sanction of their District Engineers, which sanction should be communicated to this office, in accordance with the rules.

6. With regard to the important question as to whether it is the practice to purchase stock, and, for convenience sake, to charge its value at once to specific estimates for works, the Government will observe from the enclosed abstract* that the irregular arrangement was

* Replies to Query No. II., which includes the Presidency, Bangalore, and the Neilgherries. formerly adopted in two ranges, namely, Saint Thomas' Mount and Bellary.

The whole of the circumstances connected with these two cases having already come under consideration (G. Os., No. 934 of the 9th April 1872, and No. 2,119 of the 6th September 1872,) it is not necessary for me here to enter into particulars. I may remark, however, that the Mount Range Officer had no authority whatever from this office for the practice, and that the memorandum on which the Bellary Range Officer acted in closing his stock accounts and arbitrarily charging off to works the value of the articles previously appearing therein was issued some time before I joined this office.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

7. The exceptions entered against the ranges as per margin, in the abstract containing the replies to Query II., are such as will occur under the best possible arrangements, and if transfers of articles specially purchased in good faith for, and charged to, particular works, are restricted to cases of emergency, and care is taken to see that the needful recoveries are promptly made, the arrangement will undoubtedly often prevent delays, and best secure the interests of the public service. The exception appearing against the Eastern Delta Range of the Godavery District has no connection with the question raised by this office.

8. It is necessary for me here to note that the Supervisor at present in charge of the Cumbum Range advocates the establishment of a workshop, "with all the necessities of a smithy and carpentry." He further recommends the maintenance of "at least ten pairs of bullocks and twelve carts" for the "repair of tanks," and for the collection and burning of lime departmentally. As Mr. Crowe joined the Cumbum Range towards the end of July last, and at the date of my Circular (4th December 1872) had less than five months' experience of range duties (never having previously held a range charge), and of the requirements of the Cumbum Range in particular, I considered it advisable to obtain the opinion of a more experienced officer. Captain Taylor having held charge of the Cumbum Range from the 7th June 1868 to the 7th June 1870, and being still in the Kurnool District, though attached to another range, I addressed him on the subject, and his reply is recorded against Question I. in the accompanying abstract. Captain Taylor states that stock in the Cumbum Range is not necessary, because—

1st.—The works usually undertaken are of the simplest character, consisting generally of earthwork or petty masonry.

2nd.—The range is never likely to become one of importance.

3rd.—Wood and iron-work can be procured more cheaply, and of better quality and finish, from Madras, than in Cumbum.

4th.—Bricks and tiles can be got at short notice.

5th.—Stores kept for any length of time, especially mortar and lime, frequently deteriorate.

9. Bullocks, which come under "live stock," a sub-head of "Tools and Plant," were maintained in the Cumbum Range prior to 1868 for road purposes. The arrangement proved a failure, for the roads are said to have been in a neglected condition, and the bullocks "starved." Colonel Moberly accordingly ordered the sale of the bullocks and carts, and Captain Taylor states that both the Collector and Superintending Engineer complimented him, in the year after the sale, "on the improved condition of the roads," the maintenance allowance for which, "though barely sufficient for the feed of the bullocks, was amply so for thirty-six miles of road."

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

Question I.—If you have stock in your range, do you wish to increase it? Should you so desire, state the additions which you recommend being made, quantities being also noted.

Ranges.	Replies.
<i>Ganjam.</i> —I. Berhampore	
II. Chicacole	
<i>Vizagapatam.</i> —I. Golconda	
II. Vizianagram	
<i>Godavery.</i> —I. Eastern Delta	Balance Rupees 679-12-3. No desire to increase stock, which in this range, canalways be procured as required.
II. Central do.	Balance Rupees 22,572-13-0. No wish to increase stock at present.
III. Western do.	
IV. Ellore	Balance Rupees 3,767-1-9. Stock of lime-stone and firewood should be increased to 1,000 cubic yards each and rough stone (collected at Chagulla) to 500 cubic yards.
V. Rajahmundry	Balance Rupees 2,539-5-6. No desire to increase stock. Stone, lime, and sand can always be got as wanted, and the workshop supplies, iron and wood-work, etc.
<i>Kistna.</i> —I. Eastern Delta	Balance Rupees 200-10-6. Does not wish to increase stock, as almost all articles, required in the range can be had with no loss of time.
II. Western do.	Balance Rupees 20,783-4-10. No increase of present quantities of stock is proposed.
III. Palnad	Balance Rupees 1,153-3-1. No increase of stock recommended, as the wants of the range can be supplied from the Eastern Delta stock.
IV. Nandigam	
<i>Nellore.</i> —I. Southern	Balance Rupees 1,550-1-3. Does not desire any augmentation of stock. The works in the range are not such as to require the maintenance of stock for general purposes.
II. Central	
III. Northern	Balance Rupees 50-0-7. Is not in favour of increasing stock, as all articles can be obtained as required, and the non-maintenance of stock obviates the danger of loss from deterioration.
<i>Cuddapah.</i> —I. Cuddapah	Balance Rupees 2,447-10-6. There are no works in this range to warrant the maintenance of stock.
II. Budwail	
III. Mudanapully	Balance Rupees 7-10-0. Would not recommend an increase of stock, except a special establishment is sanctioned, in which case timber, paint, nails, bolts, hinges, etc., might be kept in store.
<i>Kurnool.</i> —I. Kurnool	
II. Nundial	Balance Rupees 6,022-5-2. Does not wish to increase stock; on the other hand is desirous of reducing the present balance. All necessary stores can be purchased in the district as required, or obtained elsewhere expeditiously, as the line of railway is adjacent.
III. Cumbum	Balance Rupees 460-14-5. Does not recommend any addition to stock which, in many cases, deteriorates. Labour is abundant and good masons and wudders work cheaply. Bricklayers are not of the best class, but their wages are low. Bricks and tiles are easily procurable; wood-work can be got cheaper at Madras than it can be worked up for at Cumbum.

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Question I.—(Continued.)

Ranges.	Replies.
<i>Bellary.</i> —I. Bellary	Balance Rupees 18-11-0. No desire to increase stock, as with a railway running into Bellary, materials of every description, and in any quantities can be readily obtained.
II. Hospett	
III. Ghooty	
IV. Pennacondah	Balance Rupees 3,930-4-4. Has no wish to add to present stock, the works undertaken in the range not being such as to require the maintenance of stock.
<i>Chingleput.</i> —I. Serooloor	
II. Mount	Balance Rupees 126-3-5. Is not anxious to increase stock, (1) because there is a good market at hand, and (2) because there are great difficulties in the up-keep of stock and chance of loss from deterioration, robbery, short demand, etc., etc.
III. Chingleput	
IV. East Coast Canal	Balance Rupees 675-3-0. Increase to stock is unnecessary, as stores can be readily obtained as required.
<i>North Arcot.</i> —I. Wallajah	
II. Vellore	
III. Chittoor	Balance Rupees 41-9-8. Is not in favour of an increase of stock, as most of the works in the range are of a petty character, and the few large works are carried out by contractors who supply all the required materials.
IV. Polur	
<i>South Arcot.</i> —I. Cuddalore	
II. Virdachellum	Balance Rupees 35-8-0. Is opposed to any additions to his stock account, as there are no works of magnitude requiring stock articles.
III. Tindevanum	
<i>Salem.</i> —I. Salem	
II. Oosoor	Balance Rupees 21-1-6. Does not recommend any additions. The stock on hand will be used up in a month or two.
III. Tripatore	
<i>Tanjore.</i> —I. Tanjore	Balance Rupees 926-9-7. There is no necessity for adding to stock, as materials are easily procurable. Works are so scattered that it would not be "profitable to manufacture stock."
II. Combaconum	
III. Mayaveram	Balance Rupees 10-12-6. Does not think that an increase of stock would be beneficial to the interests of the State.
IV. Negapatam	Balance Rupees 25-15-7. Does not think that any additions to stock should be made.
V. Munnargoody	
<i>Trichinopoly.</i> —I. Trichinopoly	Balance Rupees 168-6-6. Does not desire an increase of stock, as "every article can be had from the market at any time."
II. Moosery	
<i>Coimbatore.</i> —I. Coimbatore	Balance Rupees 243-12-10. Beyond a small stock of asphalte and tar, does not recommend any additions to stock, as stores can be obtained when required.

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26th March 1873.*

Question II.—(Concluded.)

Range.	Replies.
Malabar.—I. Cannanore	No.
II. Calicut	No.
III. Palghaut	No.
IV. North Wynaad	No.
V. South Wynaad	No.
VI. West Coast Canal and Cochin	No, but "owing to exigencies of locality and climate," it is sometimes necessary to keep purchases made for specific works "for a short time in the stock account."
South Canara.—I. Mangalore	No.
II. Poothoor	No.
Madura.—I. Madura	No.
II. Dindigul	No.
Tinnevely.—I. Northern Range	No.
II. Southern	No.
III. Shermadevy	No.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
February 1873.

(Signed) S. BROCK,
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Question III.—If you have no stock, do you think that the maintenance of stock in your range would be beneficial to State interests, and, in the event of the question being answered in the affirmative, state the grounds on which your opinion is founded, and note the articles (with quantities) which you think should be procured and kept on a stock account.

Ranges.	Replies.
Ganjam.—I. Berhampore	No, except perhaps timber, but even this is unnecessary, looking to the communication by sea which is available.
II. Chicacole	No.
Vizagapatam.—I. Golcondah	No.
II. Vizianagram	No.
Godavery.—I. Eastern Delta	No.
II. Central do.	No.
III. Western do.	No.
IV. Ellore	No.
V. Rajahmundry	No.
Kistna.—I. Eastern Delta	No.
II. Western do.	No.
III. Palnad	No.
IV. Nundigam	No.
Nellore.—I. Southern	No, but proposes to take up quarries for the Hyderabad road.
II. Central	No.
III. Northern	No.
Cuddapah.—I. Cuddapah	No.
II. Budwail	No.
III. Mudanapully	No.
Kurnool.—I. Kurnool	No.
II. Nundial	No.
III. Cumbum	No.
Bellary.—I. Bellary	No.
II. Hespett	No.
III. Ghooty	No.
IV. Pennacondah	No.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

Question III.—(Concluded.)

Ranges.	Replies.
Chingleput.—I. Serooloor	No.
II. Mount	No.
III. Chingleput	No.
IV. East Coast Canal	No.
North Arcot.—I. Wallajah	No.
II. Vellore	No.
III. Chittoor	No.
IV. Polur	No.
South Arcot.—I. Cuddalore	No.
II. Virdachellum	No.
III. Tindevanum	No.
Salem.—I. Salem	No.
II. Oosoor	No.
III. Tripatore	No.
Tanjore.—I. Tanjore	No, but timber might be kept in store at the head quarters of the district.
II. Combaconum	No.
III. Mayaveram	No.
IV. Negapatam	No.
V. Munnargoody	No.
Trichinopoly.—I. Trichinopoly	The storage of a small quantity of timber to meet the requirements of water regulation works, etc., would be beneficial, as difficulty is felt in obtaining seasoned timber.
II. Moosery	Thinks that 100,000 bricks, 80,000 pan-tiles, and 40,000 flat-tiles should be kept in store, as such materials cannot be got during the rainy season.
Coimbatore.—I. Coimbatore	Recommends that 12 logs of teak-wood and 24 logs of jungle-wood be kept on the stock account. Such articles cannot be readily procured.
II. Collegal	No.
III. Caroor	No.
IV. Irrigation	No.
Malabar.—I. Cannanore	No.
II. Calicut	No.
III. Palghaut	No.
IV. North Wynaad	No.
V. South do.	No.
VI. West Coast Canal & Cochin	Is strongly in favour of a quantity of seasoned timber and laterite stones being kept in store. Building work would then progress more expeditiously, and bridge work would be more substantially carried out. Quantities cannot at present be given.
South Canara.—I. Mangalore	No. Even timber will be hereafter procurable from the local depots about to be established by the Forest Department.
II. Pootoor	No.
Madura.—I. Madura	No.
II. Dindigul	No.
Tinnevely.—I. Northern Range	No.
II. Southern do.	No.
III. Shermadevy Range	No.

NOTE.—In the ranges left blank, there are stock balances. For these ranges—vide replies to Question I.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
February 1873.

(Signed) S. BROCK,
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

Question IV.—If you consider it unnecessary to maintain stock, explain briefly why?

Ranges.	Replies.
Ganjam.—I. Berhampore	The maintenance of stock requires expensive supervision and shelter, and stock is almost certain to deteriorate. Moreover, the existence of rapid means of communication by sea with other ports renders the maintenance of stock unnecessary.
II. Chicacole	Every article can be purchased in the local market as required.
Vizagapatam.—I. Golcondah	The range requirements are limited, and all necessary articles are readily procurable as required.
II. Vizianagram	
Godavery.—I. Eastern Delta	
II. Central do.	It is preferable to obtain stores and work them up immediately as is now done, "than to keep stock awaiting an indefinite application" and meanwhile deteriorating.
III. Western Delta	
IV. Ellore	
V. Rajahmundry	
Kistna.—I. Eastern Delta	
II. Western Delta	
III. Palnad	
IV. Nundigam	There are no works for which the maintenance of stock of any description is necessary.
Nellore.—I. Southern	There are no large works requiring the maintenance of stock for general purposes.
II. Central	
III. Northern	Materials can be purchased as required for specific works.
Cuddapah.—I. Cuddapah	
II. Budwail	
III. Madanapully	All stores can be obtained as required in the market.
Kurnool.—I. Kurnool	
II. Nundial	Timber and other work is supplied by the Public Works Workshop at lower rates than prevail in the market; hence, the maintenance of stock here is not necessary.
III. Cumbum	
Bellary.—I. Bellary	
II. Hospett	
III. Ghooty	The range requirements do not render the maintenance of stock necessary.
IV. Pennacondah	Materials, etc., can readily be obtained from the Public Works Workshop and contractors, while the expense of keeping stock is great, and materials are liable to deteriorate. Moreover, very few works of importance are sanctioned in this range.
Chingleput.—I. Scrooloor	
II. Mount	Every article required for works can be purchased in the local market.
III. Chingleput	
IV. East Coast Canal	The works are generally too small and too much scattered to make a central depot; where stock might be stored, advisable. It will always be more convenient and economical to get timber and iron work from the Government Workshop, and bricks must be made at or near the site of the works requiring them.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

Question IV.—(Concluded.)

Ranges.	Replies.
North Arcot.—I. Wallajah	Materials are always available near at hand. No difficulty is felt in carrying on works without the maintenance of stock for general purposes.
II. Vellore	
III. Chittoor	Materials for any work likely to be required can be had in the market.
IV. Polur	Materials of almost every description are readily obtainable in the local market as they are required for works.
South Arcot.—I. Cuddalore	
II. Virdachellum	<i>Vide</i> remark against "Cuddalore."
III. Tindevanum	Materials not procurable in the local market can always be obtained by rail from Madras.
Salem.—I. Salem	
II. Oossoor	There are no works of importance in the range, and materials can always be obtained as required.
III. Tripatore	
Tanjore.—I. Tanjore	There is no constant yearly demand for stock.
II. Combaconum	
III. Mayaveram	
IV. Negapatam	Materials deteriorate and are liable to be stolen unless watched. In that case, the cost of stock is increased; and, looking to the little demand there is for stock articles, their value would be greatly in excess of that at which they could be obtained in the market.
V. Munnargoody	
Trichinopoly.—I. Trichinopoly	
II. Moosery	
Coimbatore.—I. Coimbatore	
II. Collegal	
III. Caroor	
IV. Irrigation	
Malabar.—I. Cannanore	Materials of almost every description can be purchased in the local market.
II. Calicut	Do. do. do.
III. Palghaut	
IV. North Wynaad	
V. South do.	There is no difficulty in getting stores as they are required, and in any quantities. The department could not manufacture as cheaply as it could purchase.
VI. West Coast Canal and Cochin	
South Canara.—I. Mangalore	Materials of all descriptions required for ordinary works are procurable from Mangalore.
II. Pootoor	
Madura.—I. Madura	
II. Dindigul	
Tinnevely.—I. Northern Range	} There is no difficulty in purchasing materials, as required, for the various works, and the District Engineer considers that the maintenance of stock in Tinnevely is unnecessary.
II. Southern do.	
III. Shermadevy	

NOTE.—In the ranges left blank there are stock balances, or the maintenance of stock is recommended. For these ranges—vide replies to Questions I and III.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
11th February 1873.

(Signed) S. BROCK,
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th March 1873.*

Extract from a letter from the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the District Engineer, Neilgherries, dated 3rd February 1873, No. 54.

With reference to your replies to the questions accompanying my Circular No. 2,083, dated 4th December 1872, I have the honour to state that, as a District Engineer, you have full power to add to your stock to such an extent as may be really necessary.

2. "Seeing, however, that the additions which you propose are heavy, you may, perhaps, agree with me that it would be well for you to address Government and obtain their approval. This office, however, will not require Government sanction for the passing of any expenditure which you may incur in connection with stock, and my only object in suggesting a reference to Government is that it is possible they may desire to fix a limit upon the reserve stock to be maintained in your charge."

(True Extract.)

(Signed) S. BROCK,
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

No. 602. ORDER THEREON, 26th March 1873, No. 934.

ACCOUNT, No. 51.

His Excellency the Governor in Council is of opinion that no further orders are at present required for the guidance of Range Officers in the matter of stock accounts. District Engineers are aware that they have full power to lay in such a stock of materials as the work sanctioned in their districts may justify, reporting the fact to the Controller, and it will be for this latter Officer to ascertain that the system followed in accounting for such stock is in accordance with the rules laid down on the subject.

2. District Engineers are however desired to obtain the sanction of the Chief Engineer for all outlay for "general stock" exceeding a limit of 5,000 Rupees in any one year.

(True Extract.)

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

To District Engineers.
,, Major R. B. Kennedy.
To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Ed. E. C. Shunker.

Office of the Controller of
Public Works Accounts
Fort Saint George, 11th February 1873.

No. 2054

From
The Controller of P. W. Accounts
To
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

In pursuance of
para 2 of my letter No. 2054,
dated 2nd December last,
I have the honor to state
that, on the 4th December
last, I communicated
with the various Range
Officers of this Presidency,
and

and requested them to reply
to the following four questions
on the subject of Stock. -

1. If you have Stock in
your Range, do you
wish to increase it?
Should you so desire,
state the additions
which you recommend
being made, quantities
being also noted. -

2. Is it the practice
in your Range to
purchase Stock,
and, for convenience
sake, to charge its
value at once to
specific Estimates? -
Should this be answered
in

15/
in the affirmative, state
the circumstances under
which you acted, and
quote any correspondence
with this office.

3. If you have no Stock,
do you think that the
maintenance of Stock
in your Range would
be beneficial to State
interests, and, in the
event of the question
being answered in
the affirmative, state
the grounds on which
your opinion is founded,
and note the articles
(with quantities) which
you

you think should be procured, and kept on a Stock Account?

4. If you consider it unnecessary to maintain Stock, explain briefly why?—

2. Replies from all Range Officers having now been received, I have the honor to submit the enclosed paper, which contains an abstract of those replies. I have not included the Presidency, Neilgherries, and Bangalore in the abstract of the Replies to Questions I, III and IV, as the

*On the reserve Stock.

123
the Officers in charge are District Engineers, and have power to add to stock, as they see fit. I would, however, suggest that, in each of these cases, a limit be fixed by Government in communication with the Officers concerned. As regards the Presidency, I am in a position to say that the District Engineer in charge does not recommend any increase of his Stock Balance. A proposal from the District Engineer of Bangalore for storing timber and manufacturing lime

in four cases. —

^xSee replies to
Query III.

Moosery — A small supply of
timber, description
and quantity not
stated.

Caroor — 1 Lac of Bricks
80,000 Pan-tiles
40,000 Flat tiles

Irrigation Ranges
Coimbatore } 12 Logs of Teakwood.
24 - do - of jungle wood.

Mangalore — A quantity (not spe-
cified) of seasoned
timber and laterite
stone. —

5. It will thus be seen
that in fiftyfive of the
sixtyfour Ranges of this
Presidency, no additions to
Stock, or changes in ex-
isting arrangements, are
recommended. The require-
ments of the remaining
nine)

nine Ranges are comparatively
trifling, and there seems no
objection whatever to the Range
Officers concerned making the
proposed additions to their
Stock Account, with the
previous sanction of their
District Engineers, which
Sanction should be com-
municated to this Office,
in accordance with the rules.

6. With regard to the
important question as to
whether it is the practice
to purchase Stock, and,
for convenience sake, to
charge its value at once
to specific Estimates for
Works, the Government
will

will observe from the enclosed Abstract that the irregular arrangement was formerly adopted in two Ranges vizt, Saint Thomas' Mount and Bellary. - The whole of the circumstances connected with these two cases having already come under consideration (G.O. N^o 934, of the 9th April 1872, and N^o 2119, of the 6th September 1872,) it is not necessary for me here to enter into particulars. - I may remark, however, that the Mount Range Officer had no authority whatever from this office for the practice, and that the Memo: on which the

* Replies to Query N^o II, which includes the Presidency, Bangalore, and the Neilgherries.

Western Delta
Godavery
Cumbum.
Coimbatore.

the Bellary Range Officer acted, in closing his Stock accounts, and arbitrarily charging off to Works the value of the articles previously appearing therein, was issued some time before I joined this office. -

7. The exceptions entered against the Ranges as per margin, in the Abstract containing the replies to Query II, are such as will occur under the best possible arrangements, and if transfers of articles specially purchased in good faith for, and charged to, particular works, are restricted to cases of emergency, and care is taken

taken to see that the needful recoveries are promptly made, the arrangement will undoubtedly often prevent delays, and best secure the interests of the public service. The exception appearing against the Eastern Delta Range of the Godavery District has no connection with the question raised by this office.

8. It is necessary for me here to note that the Supervisor at present in charge of the Cumbum Range advocates the Establishment of a Workshop, "with all the necessaries of a Smithy and Carpentry."

He further recommends the maintenance of "at least ten pairs of bullocks and 12 Carts" for the "repair of tanks," and for the collection and burning of lime departmentally. As Mr. Crowe joined the Cumbum Range towards the end of July last, and at the date of my Circular (4th December 1872) had less than five months experience of Range duties (never having previously held a Range charge), and of the requirements of the Cumbum Range in particular, I considered it advisable to obtain the opinion of a more experienced officer. Captain Taylor having

having held charge of the Cumbum Range from the 7th June 1868 to the 7th June 1870, and being still in the Purnool District, though attached to another Range, I addressed him on the subject, and his reply is recorded in against Question I in the accompanying Abstract - Captain Taylor states that Stock in the Cumbum Range is not necessary, because

1st The works usually undertaken are of the simplest character, consisting generally of earth work or petty masonry. -

The

2nd The Range is never likely to become one of importance. -

3rd Wood and iron work can be procured more cheaply, and of better quality and finish, from Madras, than in Cumbum. -

4th Bricks and tiles can be got at short notice. -

5th Stores kept for any length of time, especially mortar and lime, frequently deteriorate. -

9. Bullocks, which come under "Live Stock", a sub-head of "Tools and Plant", were maintained in the Cumbum Range prior to 1868 for

for road purposes. The arrangement proved a failure, for the roads are said to have been in a neglected condition, and the bullocks "starved" -

Colonel. Moberly accordingly ordered the sale of the bullocks and Carts, and Captain

Taylor states that both the Collector and Superintending Engineer complimented him, in the year after the sale, "on the improved condition of the roads," the maintenance allowance for which, "though barely sufficient for the feed of the bullocks, was amply so for 36 miles

miles of road."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

S. Hoell

Controller of T. & W. Accounts.

Ans.

Pro 9 April 172 N^o 133-134
" 6 Sept 177-178
" 28 January 173 - 581-583

1873 Department
Pro 10 of 10 for March
N^o 947.

From,
The Controller of U.W. Accounts,
To,
The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Fort Saint George.

Dated 11th
Recd 12th } February 1873.

N^o 2643

Reporting on the
advisability of maintain-
ing Stock in the
several Ranges of
this Presidency.—

N^o 934-26th March 177

Ar 601

104 March 172A-7

Extract from a letter from the Controller
of Public Works Accounts to the
District Engineer Nilgherries
dated 3rd February 1873 N^o 54.

1. With reference to your
replies to the questions accom-
panying my Circular N^o 2083,
dated 1st December 1872,

I have the honor to state
that, as a District Engineer,
you have full power to
add to your Stock to such
an extent as may be
really necessary.—

2. Seeing, however,
that the additions which
you propose are heavy,
you

37.56 26
51
cut
3.
ing
11.
1023

You may, perhaps, agree with me that it would be well for you to address Government, and obtain their approval. This Office, however, will not require Government sanction for the passing of any expenditure which you may incur in connection with Stock, and my only object in suggesting a reference to Government is, that it is possible they may desire to fix a limit upon the Reserve Stock to be maintained in your charge.

True Extract.

Shwell

189

Controller of P.M. Accounts.

11th Sept 35

No 934

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the March 1873.
Read the following

From the Controller of
P.W. Accounts. (See order No 2643 of 11th
February 1873)

His Excellency
the Governor in Council
is of opinion that no
further orders are at
present required for the
guidance of Range Officers
in the matter of Stock
accounts. District En-
gineers are aware
that they have full
power to lay in such



Enclosure in a letter
from the Controller of
P.W. Accounts to the
Secretary to Government
S.W. Department, dated
11th February 1873 No 2643
P.W. 947/73.
Pg. 26 Mar 73 B.
601.

a stock of materials as
the work sanctioned in
their districts may justify,
reporting the fact to the
Controller, and it will
be for this latter Officer
to ascertain that the
system followed in ac-
counting for such stock
is in accordance with
the rules laid down on
the subject.

District Engineers
are however desired to
obtain the sanction of the
Chief Engineer for all
outlay for "general stock"
exceeding a limit of 5000
Rupees in any one year.

C.L.

7/11/1903
Sd/-
Sd/-
Sd/-

Dist. Engrs.

02947

Subt. of 1873

PUBLIC WORKS.

District Engineer

26" scale 934

Nov. 10/1602

C. Passing order on
from the [unclear]
Certs. reporting on
advisability of
[unclear] [unclear]
Es.