

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	114-(9)	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
226-227		
Dated	14-1-1874	105.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th January 1874.*

No. 226. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Bezwada, 3rd December 1873, No. 54:—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation and Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Kurnool, 11th November 1873, No. 166.

I HAVE the honour to hand you copy of a letter which I have received from the General Superintendent of Public Works Stores, claiming a reduction of Rupees 98 from the Company's Bill for instruments sold to the Government on the ground of the non-delivery of nine stands for levels and of the alleged deficiency of two small glasses, and to inform you that I am bound, as a matter of principle, to resist this reduction.

2. The instruments were sold to the Government at the valuation of their own Foreman Optician, who appraised them after a very minute and searching examination. They were delivered in precisely *the same condition* as when he inspected them—the condition in which they had been for years, and at the valuation, which there is not the shadow of a ground for ignoring, they should be taken with all faults and deficiencies.

3. I have heard unofficially that the Foreman who examined the instruments, and who did not inspect any of the stands, alleges that he "*was told*" there were stands for all the instruments. Admitting for the sake of argument that this allegation is true, I submit that the Government are still bound by the valuation. It is the duty of every man who is deputed to examine and value property to satisfy himself by, and to base his valuation and report upon, actual scrutiny; that he has no *right* to accept *hearsay* evidence as to the condition of the articles; and that if he does accept such evidence the responsibility must rest between him and his employers.

4. But I *cannot* admit the correctness of the assertion. When the instruments were examined there was no one at the Madras Stores who could give authoritative information. The individual who was in sole charge of the stores at the time, and who produced the instruments for inspection, distinctly states that he was asked for no information and gave none, and that if any question *had* been put to him as to the condition of the instruments, he could have done no more than confess his entire ignorance of everything connected with the instruments.

5. As regards the microscopes (eye-glasses) alleged to be missing, I have no doubt that the instruments were delivered in precisely the state in which they arrived at Madras from the canal years ago, and that the supposed loss of the glasses after inspection is—to put it in the mildest way—a delusion.

6. The conclusion which I have arrived at is that the individual who inspected the instruments jumped at the conclusion that there was a stand for each instrument, or possibly forgot the stands altogether, and as the instruments are honestly worth *at least* the value put upon them, and they were delivered in the faith that that valuation would not be departed from, I must press for the payment of the bill as rendered.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
17th January 1874.*

From J. N. GRAINGER, Esq., General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops,
to J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and
Canal Company, Kurnool, dated Chepauk, 6th November 1873, No. 1,130.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, under instructions from the District Engineer, Presi-
dency, a deduction of Rupees 98 will be made
from the bill* for instruments purchased by
Government for the Public Works Department, in consequence of the non-delivery of nine stands
for instruments valued at Rupees 10 each, and two microscopes valued at Rupees 4 each.

SUBMITTED to Government for orders in continuation of this Office No. 42
of the 16th October last.

It is to be remarked that the list of instruments given in Proceedings of
the Madras Government, No. 2,258, of the 12th September 1873, shows distinctly
the condition of the instruments and what deficiencies in their fittings then existed,
and the valuation was made accordingly by Mr. Doderet. As the latter did not
see the missing level stands, it is very probable that there has been some misunder-
standing with regard to them; but on the subject of the microscopes the evidence
appears to be in favour of Mr. Doderet's belief that they became missing since his
examination.

2. Although objection might fairly be taken to some of the statements and
arguments contained in the letter from the Chief Engineer and Manager of the
Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, it does not appear to be worthwhile to
continue the correspondence, and it is therefore recommended that authority may
be granted for paying the bill for instruments as presented, if in other respects
correct.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 227. ORDER THEREON, 17th January 1874, No. 114.

IRRIGATION, No. 20.

His Excellency the Governor in
Council sanctions the payment, with-
out deduction for missing stands and
microscopes, of the bill for instruments purchased from the Madras Irrigation and
Canal Company, and in doing so His Excellency regrets to have to remark that
the positive assertion of the Chief Engineer and Manager that the instruments
were delivered in precisely the same condition as when inspected by Mr. Doderet
is in no way supported, and that while Mr. Latham admits that a minute and
searching examination was made by Mr. Doderet, the results of which were given
in abstract in the list printed in Proceedings, Madras Government of the 12th
September 1873, No. 2,258, he declines to receive the evidence thus afforded, and
apparently falls back on the statements of a person who was in charge of the
stores at the time the examination was made, and who is admitted to have been
entirely ignorant of everything connected with the instruments. There is no doubt
that Mr. Doderet was mistaken in supposing, on whatever grounds, that the nine
stands for the levels would in due course be forthcoming; and, but for the Chief
Engineer and Manager's letter, the Government would not have imagined that so
much caution was necessary in purchasing from the Company's representatives.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th January 1874.*

2. The Government observe that any representations requiring to be made
regarding these purchases should have been addressed to the Chief Engineer and
Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company by the District Engineer,
Presidency, and not by the General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and
Workshops.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.
,, District Engineer, Presidency.
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies.

Madras Irrigation and Canal Co.
Chief Engineer and Manager's Office

Kurnool 11 November 1873.

No. 166.

From

The Chief Engineer and Manager
M. S. and C. Co.

To

The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
And Joint Secretary to Govt.
Fort Saint George
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to hand you copy of
a letter which I have received from the Gen-
eral Superintendent Public Works Stores
claiming a reduction of Rs 98 from the Com-
pany's Bill for Instruments sold to the Gov-
ernment on the ground of the undelivery of
9 stands for Levels and of the alleged defi-
ciency of two small glasses and to inform you
that I am bound as a matter of principle
to resist this reduction.

The Instruments were sold to the Gov-
ernment at the valuation of their own For-
mation who appraised them after a very
minute and searching examination. They
were delivered in precisely the same condition
as when he inspected them the condition in
which they had been for years and at the
valuation which there is not the shadow of a
ground for ignoring they should be taken

Public Works Line department
Chepauk. 6th November 1873.

N^o 1130

From.

The General Superintendent
P. W. Lines & Workshps.

To.

The Chief Engineer and Manager
M. J. & Co. Co.
Kinnock.

I have the honor to inform you that,
under instructions from the District Engineer,
Presidency, a reduction of Rs 98-
in the bill will be made from the bill
presented and forwarded by Govern-
ment for the P. W. department in con-
sequence of the non delivery of nine stands
for instruments valued at Rs 10 each
and two Microscopes valued at Rs 44 four
each.

I have recd.
Dof J. N. Granger
General Suptt.
P. W. Lines & Co.

continue

incl 2

2 Although objection might fairly be taken to some of the statements and arguments contained in the letter from the Chief Engineer and Manager Madras Irrigation Canal Com-
pany, it does not appear to be worthwhile to

continue

W. H. B. 394
From
The Chief Engineer
W. & A. C. Co.

The Chief Subject is

Recd 11th Nov 1897

1 Enclosure

114-17-1-74

I am, Sir,
 From the General and
 your obedient servant,

Drawing a redaction
of No 98 from the Co's file

for enrichment of the
cost of the program remains

thereon. - 1851

8.11.6732/3

continue the correspondence, and it is therefore recommended that authority may be granted for paying the bill for Instruments as presented, if in other respects correct.

Office of the Chief Eng^r }
for Irrigation }
Beywada 3 (December) 1873 } Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To The Secretary D Govt M.N.D.

Do 226

16th Dec 1873

Submitted with
your letter with from
the Chief Eng^r &
Manager to J.H.C.
regarding a claim
of reduction by
the J.H.C. 1st time
from the Govt's side
for instruments
sent to Govt
Oct 11-17 1873

Dated 3rd
Recd 12th Dec 73
Order 2

Rs 54

To The Secretary
D Govt M.N.D.

P.M. 1873 Department
of Govt Engr
To J.H.C. 6732
The Chief Eng^r for
Irrigation

N^o 114 P.M.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.
15 Read the following:

Now

The Chief Eng^r for Irrigation (H.E. & Co 54 & 3rd Dec 73)

His Excellency the Governor in Council
sanctions the payment, without deduction
for missing stands and microscopes,
of the bill for Instruments purchased
from the Madras Irrigation and
Canal Company, and in doing so
His Excellency regrets to have to
remark that the positive assertion
of the Chief Engineer and Manager
that the instruments were delivered
in precisely the same condition
when inspected by Mr. (Dorset) is
in no way supported, and that
while

while Mr. Latham admits that a minute and searching examination was made by Mr. Doderet, the results of which were given in abstract in the list printed in Proceedings Madras Government of the 12th September 1873 K^o 2258, he declines to receive the evidence thus afforded, and apparently falls back on the statements of a person who was in charge of the stores at the time the examination was made, and who is admitted to have been entirely ignorant of every thing connected with the instruments.

There is no doubt that Mr. Doderet was mistaken in supposing on whatever grounds, that the g stands for the levels would in due course be forthcoming, and, but for the Chief Engineer and Manager's letter, the Government would not have imagined that so much caution was necessary in purchasing from the Company's representatives.

2 The Government observe that any representations requiring to be made regarding these purchases, should have been addressed to the Chief Engineer and Manager Madras Irrigation and Canal Company by the District Engineer, Presidency, and not by the General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and workshops.

May 4/12/73
C. M. W.

To The Chief Engineer & Manager M. S. S. Co.
" District Engineer Presidency
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Despatch with S. C. 20/1/74

Op 32
Govt. of (1873) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Chief Eng. and
Managers of the
M. & L. Company

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 2
17/1

G. O. 17th Sept 1874 No. 114

For 2261227

In. 1870. Paper orders
On the subject of the deduction
of Rs. 98 from the bill for
Rs. 4547 for ^{instruments} ~~articles~~ pur-
chase from the Co. on ac-
count of the non delivery
of certain instruments.