

(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.	1513	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	9 - 6	1874
		195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
9th June 1874.*

No. 147. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 5th May 1874, No. 1,048:—

WITH reference to G. O., No. 1,041, of the 23rd April 1874, requiring that a statement should be prepared in this Office of the outlay upon New Works and Repairs (Irrigation) in each district, from 1857-58 to 1869-70, and that in submitting the statement to Government I should notice any marked discrepancies between the figures furnished by the District Engineers (on which the statement printed with the Government Order is based) and those shown in the books of this Office, I have the honour to state that the books of this Office do not go so far back as 1857-58, and that, as up to the present time we have not been able to fix on the actual expenditure of more recent years, I see no immediate prospect of being able to comply with the call of Government; indeed, I doubt the possibility of this Office being able, even a year hence, to furnish a statement which could be submitted with the assurance of its being correct.

2. Perhaps the difficulty above referred to will be understood by considering the remarks in column 10 of the Statement attached to the Government Order under acknowledgment, with the fact that this Office has no records of its own prior to April 1862. It is remarked, in one case, in the above-mentioned statement, that the amount of expenditure previous to Fasli 1268 (1858-59) is not known, and in another case it is said that the expenditure is given from Fasli 1267 (1857-58), while other figures (amounts) are referred to as not reliable. Now, as this Office has been endeavouring to compile statements of expenditure from old Progress Reports obtained from District and Range Officers, it is, I submit, not too much to say that as those Officers, while possessing all the old records, have confessed to the incompleteness and unreliableness of their figured statements, this Office, in having to get its information from the same source, is not likely to produce any thing more complete or satisfactory.

3. I know that this report will be disappointing to the Government, and I regret much that I should have to make it; but judging from the result of past efforts to collect and tabulate expenditure incurred during years of which this Office has no detailed records of its own, I consider that I should be misleading Government were I to write or make a different report.

No. 148. ORDER THEREON, 9th June 1874, No. 1,513.

IRRIGATION, No. 16.
Account.

THE Government observe that the information called for from the Controller of Public Works Accounts in G. O. of the 23rd April 1874, No. 1,041, is part of that which has to be deter-

mined in connection with the Capital and Revenue Accounts, and for the preparation of these an Officer has been specially appointed as Deputy Controller; whatever may therefore be the difficulties attending the determination and classification of expenditure in the first few years from 1856-57, those difficulties must be faced, and overcome if practicable; where not practicable, the best information

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
9th June 1874.

available will have to be accepted. From 1856-57 regular Progress Reports and Accounts were prepared, and it is believed that it can be ascertained what the total outlay in each year on Irrigation works in each district amounted to, so that the principal difficulty will probably be the distribution of expenditure between new works and repairs, and this only as regards the allocation of outlay on the comparatively few works of which the description may not indicate clearly the head of charge. It is important that valuable time should not be wasted in endeavouring to settle accurately that for which no sufficient data may be available; and His Excellency the Governor in Council considers that it is very desirable that, without further loss of time, the expenditure on Irrigation works in the several districts in each year should be ascertained, next that this should be distributed under the main heads, New Works and Repairs, which correspond with the heads Capital and Revenue outlay, and the further step will be to apportion the sums thus determined to individual works.

2. In this manner the great bulk of the outlay will be distributed without, it is anticipated, much difficulty, and ultimately there will be a certain balance not clearly traceable to works which can be identified in the Controller's Office, but most of which will probably be capable of distribution with the aid of the local knowledge of the Revenue and Public Works Officers.

3. His Excellency now desires to know what work has been done towards the ascertainment and classification of outlay, as well as its distribution among individual works, since Lieutenant Christie's appointment, and the expenditure of what years has thus been allotted, or, if not fully so, what the sums disposed of and remaining to be distributed are. It is evident that a further lapse of time will in no way render it easier to obtain and arrange the information required. If the Controller has been unable to obtain information regarding the details of outlay appertaining to particular months in certain districts, it will be well to show what documents which are needed are missing, and for what portion of the expenditure of the year such details are not forthcoming, possibly then some means of throwing light on the subject may be capable of being suggested. In such cases, where the primary condensed accounts, such as Progress Reports, may be missing, other records must be referred to, as for instance, the annual Reports of the operations of the Department. Absolute accuracy may be unattainable, but the Government wish to obtain, with as little delay as possible, the best approximation to accuracy which may be attainable, and to know within what limits arbitrary settlement of the accounts will be confined.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. Revenue Department.

.. Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

Office of the Controller
of P.W. Accounts

No 1048 Madras 5 May 1874

From

The Off Controller of P.W. Accounts

To

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Department

Fort Saint George

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No 1041

of the 23 April 1874 requiring that

a Statement should be prepared in

this Office of the Outlay upon

New Works and Repairs (Irrigation)

in each district from 1857-58 to 1869-70

and

and that in submitting the Statement to Government I should notice any marked discrepancies between the figures furnished by the District Engineers (on which the Statement printed with G. O. is based) and those shown in the books of this Office. I have the honor to state that the books of this Office do not go so far back as 1857-58, and that as up to the present time we have not been able to fix on the actual expenditure of more recent years, I see no immediate prospect of being able to comply with the call of Government. and I doubt the possibility of this Office being able, even a year hence, to furnish a Statement which could be

be submitted with the assurance of its being correct.

2. Perhaps the difficulty above referred to will be understood by considering the remarks in Column 10 of the Statement attached to the G. O. under acknowledgment with the fact that this Office has no records of its own prior to April 1862. It is remarked in one place in the above mentioned Statement, that the amount of Expenditure previous to Fiscal 1268 (1858-59) is not known and in another place it is said that the Expenditure is given from Fiscal 1267 (1857-58) while other figures (amounts) are referred to as not reliable. Now as this Office has been endeavouring to compile Statements of Expenditure from old proper reports obtained from District and Range Officers, it is, I submit not too

too much to say that as these Officers
while possessing all the old records
have confessed to the incompleteness
and unreliability of their former
statements this Office, in having to
get its information from the same
sources, is not likely to produce
anything more complete or satis-
factory.

I know that this report
will be disappointing to the Go-
vernment and I regret much
that I should have to make
it, but judging from the result
of past efforts to collect and
tabulate Expenditure incurred
during years of which this Office
has no detailed records of its own,
I consider that I should be
misleading Government were I
to

to write or make a different report.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most Obedt Servt

[Signature]

Off Controller P. H. Sect.

[Faint handwritten notes and signatures in the left margin of the second page]

[Signature]

12/5/50

Pub: Works 1874 Dept.
No: 2696.
From

The Off^r Controller of
P.W. Accts

To
The Secretary to Govt.
P.W. Dept.
Fort St George.

No 1048

Dated 5th May 1874
Recd 6th May 1874

U.L. No: 1513. 9-6-74

Offering observations
relative to the compila-
tion of the Statement
of Land Revenue for
Tusli 1279 compared
with that for Tusli
1268.

1513

P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

Under date the 187

Read the following:-

From
The Off^r Controller
of P.W. Accts
Here Enter No 1048 dated
5 May 74

The Government
observe that the infor-
mation called for from
the Controller of Public
Works Accounts, in L.O.
of the 23rd April 1874,
No 1041 is part of that
which has been deter-
mined in connection
with the Capital and
Revenue Accounts and
for the preparation of
these an officer has been
specially appointed as
deputy Controller, who
may

MP
24/5

Obt 1/27

Re 26 May 74
Recd to Ad 6 May 74

may therefore be the dif-
-ficulties attending the
determination and clas-
-sification of expenditure
in the first few years
from 1856-57, those dif-
-ficulties must be faced
and overcome if prac-
-ticable, where not prac-
-ticable the best infor-
-mation available will
have to be accepted. From
1856-57 regular progress
reports and accounts were
prepared and it is believed
that it can be ascertained
what the total outlay
in each year on irrigation
works in each District
amounted to so that the
principal difficulty will
probably be the distri-
-bution of expenditure
between

between new works and
repairs, and this only
as regards the allocation
of outlay on the com-
-paratively few works
of which the description
may not indicate
clearly the head of
charge. It is important
that valuable time
should not be wasted
in endeavouring to
settle accurately that
for which no sufficient
data may be available
and His Excellency the
Governor in Council
considers that it is
very desirable that
without further loss
of time the expendi-
-ture on irrigation
works in the several
Districts in each
year

gear should be ascer-

tained next that the
should be distributed
under the main heads,
new works and repairs
which correspond with
the heads Capital and
Revenue outlay, and
the further step will be
to apportion the sum
thus determined to in-
dividual works.

In this manner
the great bulk of the
outlay will be distri-
buted without it is
anticipated much dif-
ficulty, and ultimately
there will be a certain
balance not clearly
traceable to works which
can be identified in
the Controller's office,
but most of which
will

will probably be capa-
ble of distribution with
the aid of the local
knowledge of the Re-
venue and Public Works
Officers.

3. His Excellency now
desires to know what
work has been done
towards the ascertain-
ment and classification
of outlay, as well as its
distribution among
individual works,
since Lieutenant Christie's
appointment, and the
expenditure of what
gear has thus been
allotted, or, if not fully
so, what the sum dis-
posed of and remaining
be distributed are.

S.

It is evident that a further
lapse of time will in
no way render it easier
to obtain and arrange
the information required.
If the Controller has been
unable to obtain infor-
-mation regarding the
-details of outlay apper-
-taining to particular months
in certain Districts,
it will be well to show
what documents which
are needed are missing,
and for what portions
of the expenditure of
the year such details
are not forthcoming.
possibly there some
means of throwing
light on the subject
may be capable of
being

being suggested. In
such cases, where the
primary condensed accounts,
such as Progreso Reports,
may be missing, other
records must be re-
-ferred to, as for instance,
the annual reports of
the operations of the
Department. Absolute
accuracy may be un-
-attainable, but the
Government wish
to obtain with as little
delay as possible the
best approximation
to accuracy which may
be attainable, and to
know within what
limits arbitrary settle-
-ment of the accounts
will be confined.

To the Chief Comptroller for India ✓
Revenue Dept ✓
Controller ✓
S. Copies despatched 18/6/74.

W. 15/5/74

26961

Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Mr. L. M. S. for
Mytham

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. June 1874, No. 1513

Nos. 147-148.

Irrigation Accounts

Issuing instructions
relative to the preparation
of Capital & Revenue
Accounts of Irrigation
works and requesting in-
formation as to what
has been done and what
remains to be done in
the matter —

147-148.

At 26th May 1874.

Civ 17/5/74 Rds 22/5/74