

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1557	Press	<i>Original</i>
B.P. No.		Mis.	
Dated	12-6-	1874	
		195	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

6-1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th June 1874.*

No. 236. Read the following letter 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, dated Coonoor, 5th May 1874, No. 48:—

Theft of a Cheque for Rupees 100.

I HAVE the honour to report that I drew a cheque No. 1,371 of 5th March

• For the month of February 1874 :—
 Demas, Storekeeper, Rupees 65, less Rs.
 security Rs. 5 60
 G. Munisawmy Reddy 8
 Vencatasawmy „ 7
 Rent of premises 25

Total... 100

last on the Company's Loan Account at the Agra Bank for Rupees 100, for the usual monthly payments* for the temporary security of the Company's unsold stores in Madras. The cheque was payable to Demas or his order, and was sent to him, as usual, by post on the evening of the 10th March.

2. This cheque was brought to the Agra Bank on the 13th March by a person not yet discovered having a forged

† Manager, Agra Bank, to Mr. Crawford, No. 1,543, of 27th March 1874.

signature endorsed on it bearing a “very correct resemblance”† to Demas, and was cashed by the Bank.

3. It transpired that an old offender, one DeSilva, obtained the letter containing the cheque by sending to the General Post Office, Madras, a cooly with a memorandum (copy of which I enclose), to which Demas' name was not very cleverly forged. Though Demas apparently had never received any letter from that office, and his signature must have been unknown there, the letter addressed to him at Pursewakam was given by the Post Office authority to the cooly.

4. The actual forger of the cheque has not been discovered, but DeSilva was convicted before Mr. T. G. Clarke‡ for unlawfully retaining a letter, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment, and also a fine of Rupees 200 or six months more imprisonment.

‡ On the 22nd April 1874.

5. I suppose that there is no chance of this fine being paid, and very little of detecting the actual forger or the parties actually cognizant of the forgery. I believe too that the Post Office Clerk has, if not rule, established custom in support of his conduct in diverting private or official letters from their address and delivering them elsewhere, on receiving a chit purporting to be signed by the person addressed, such person and his signature being both unknown to the clerk. I therefore propose to charge this Rupees 100 to Loan Account exactly as it would have been charged had it been paid correctly as intended.

6. Such cheques are now made payable to Demas only. So far as I can learn this is the first case of forgery of an endorsement to one of the Company's cheques.

7. I have the honour to ask for the sanction of Government to my proposal.

From Mr. J. DEMAS, Storekeeper, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Postmaster, Madras, dated Madras, 7th March 1874.

As per my memorandum of 6th instant, I beg you will detain all letters received to my address from Kurnool and other places at the General Post Office till called for, as I am proceeding on leave, and hand over the letters you have received to the bearer.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th June 1874.

No. 237.

ORDER THEREON, 12th June 1874, No. 1,557.

IRRIGATION, No. 24.

Account.

UNDER the circumstances reported by the Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, the Government approve of the debit of the amount, Rupees 100 of the cheque

on the Agra Bank, which was stolen and cashed on a forged endorsement to the head of account concerned.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,

Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. Examiner of Irrigation and Canal Company's Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

1557 P.M.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From
The Chief Engineer } (H.E. No. 40711 May/74)
M. J. E.

Under the circum-
stances reported by the
Chief Engineer and
Manager Madras
Irrigation Canal
Company, the Govern-
ment approve of the
debit of the amount,
Rupees 100, of the cheque
on the Agra Bank, which
was stolen and cashed
on a forged endorsement,
to the head of account
concerned.

To
5th Chief Engg & Manager
M. J. E.
4 Chief Engg. for Irrigation
7 Examiner of Accounts.
1st Copies despatched 18/5/74.

Wm. 16/5/74
G. W.

2864 A
Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

The Supt. Engineer
of the M. I. & C. Co.

Dated

Recd.

Encl. /

G. O., 12th June 1874, No. 1557

Nos. 236-237.

Madras Irrigation & Canal
Company's Account

Approving the debit
the amount, Rs. 100, Note
Cheque on the Agra Bank
which was stolen and
cashed on a forged in-
dorsement to the head of
Account concerned—

236-237

19/5/74 RB 2/5/74