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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1006 B.B.	Press	Original
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

No. 203DD. Read the following letter from Captain J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Neilgherries, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 13th April 1874, No. 111 :—

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the following circumstances in connection with the Lawrence Asylum Stock.

2. I have hitherto from time to time supplied the Asylum Authorities with bricks, etc., *on payment*, crediting the amounts received to Government in the usual way, thus reducing the total value of the stock on my books.

3. But the demands for the stock have lately become very frequent, taking up too much of the time of my Storekeeper, the only competent person available, who had, in addition to his other very onerous duties, to go over constantly to the Asylums. I therefore asked the present Principal, the Rev. O. Dene, to take the stock in the lump as he might require it, say for two or three months.

4. Instead of acceding to my reasonable request, and without replying to my letter in any way, he has taken upon himself to burn the lime, use the scaffolding planks, remove the bricks, etc. I have learnt the fact from one of the Sapper Serjeants residing at Lovedale. Of course no one on the part of my Department was present to hand over the things.

5. In ignorance of the above, I have just replied to a letter received this morning from the Principal, in which he says; "The Committee will be glad if Captain Morant can detail a responsible person to hand over, from time to time, such material as may be required," and I sent over my Storekeeper to do what was needful. But I now learn that the Principal has taken the bull by the horns, and has not even awaited my reply to his last letter.

6. It seems to me that the Principal has exceeded his authority by seizing, without my knowledge, any stock he may desire to have. So long as this stock is in my charge, and so long as I am held personally accountable to Government for its safe custody, he might, I think, have referred the matter to Government and awaited their reply.

7. I have not thrown any obstacle in the way of the Asylum Authorities obtaining any stock they desired to possess on payment. But they state that they ought to have it without payment, and that it belongs to them.

8. Trusting you will advise me how to act in this matter, and, if necessary, obtain the orders of Government on the subject.

P.S.—I enclose copies of correspondence. I may add that I have ceased to be a member of the Asylum Committee.

From Captain J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Neilgherries, to the Rev. O. DENE, Principal, Lawrence Asylums, Lovedale, dated Ootacamund, 2nd April 1874.

IN acknowledging your letter of the 1st instant, I have the honour to explain that it puts my office to inconvenience to be continually handing over to you by dribblets the stock (such as bricks, etc.,) now under my charge belonging to the Asylums.

2. For example, last month my Storekeeper had to go over to the Asylums three times for this purpose. I trust you will allow me to state that his proper duties are of themselves sufficiently onerous and fully occupy the whole of his time.

3. I beg to be allowed to add that with every desire to assist you to the utmost of my power, I cannot in justice to my subordinates be continually asking them to go over to the Asylums to hand over stock. I regret I have no responsible person in the vicinity to depute for this purpose.

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4. I shall be happy, say once in two or three months, to hand over to you stock in pretty large quantities, or if you prefer it application might be made to Government for the transference to you of all the stock at the Asylums now under the charge of this Department. To this latter course I have no objection.
5. I have the honour to inform you that I incurred an expenditure of Rupees 2-13-0 in handing over to you the last 10,000 bricks. I beg you will remit me the amount at your convenience.
6. I have the honour, in conclusion, to observe that the bill, amounting to Rs. 496-9-10, which was sent on the 31st January last, and to which reference was made in my No. 70 of the 30th ultimo, has not as yet been liquidated.

From the Rev. O. DENE, Principal and Secretary, Lawrence Asylums, to Captain J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Ootacamund, dated Lovedale, 13th April 1874.
No. 46.

The Committee desire me to express their regret you were not present at their meeting on Thursday. In your absence the following Resolution was passed, in the tenor of which the Committee believe you will concur:—

"Captain Morant has stated to the Committee of the Lawrence Asylum, that they can have any quantity of the material on the Asylum premises at the valuation shown in his books. The Committee believe that the whole of this material was paid for from the Asylum assignments, and that, in fact, it is the property of the Asylum.

"The Secretary is requested to intimate the views of the Committee on this subject to Government, and to request that the Committee may be empowered to take over such of the material as they require free of cost, and that Captain Morant may be informed accordingly.

"Meanwhile it is expedient, as the works now in progress are urgent, that the Secretary should use such of the material as he requires, keeping an accurate account thereof, and if the orders of Government are adverse to the Committee, Captain Morant can be paid for it.

"The Committee will be glad if Captain Morant can detail a responsible person to hand over, from time to time, such material as may be required, and the Committee will be prepared to defray any necessary charges."

2. The Committee also request me to say that they decline to take over the scullery until the roof has been made water-tight.

3. I have the pleasure of sending by bearer Rupees 2-13-0, being the amount incurred for cooly hire in counting out 10,000 bricks.

4. The bill alluded to in paragraph 6 of your letter of April 2nd, 1874, had better stand over for the present until it is decided by Government whether the bricks, etc., on these premises are the property of the Institution or of the Department Public Works.

From Captain J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Neilgherries, to the Rev. O. DENE, Principal and Secretary, Lawrence Asylums, Lovedale, dated Ootacamund, 13th April 1874, No. 108.

I have the honour to acknowledge your No. 46 of to-day's date.

2. I also regret my unavoidable absence from the Committee's Meeting of Thursday last, but trust it has put neither you nor them to much inconvenience.

3. I am not aware that the whole of the materials at site are the property of the Asylum. They are entered in my books against the estimate for the Female Branch, and I am held personally accountable to Government for their safe custody. They were paid for from Imperial Funds.

4. But I can have of course no objection to the whole of these materials being handed over to you free of cost if Government so desire it.

5. In order to meet your wishes to the utmost, I lose no time in sending with this letter my Storekeeper who is authorized to hand over to you anything you may require. I trust you will be able so to arrange that his presence at the Asylums will not be again needed for at least a month, as his duties here are onerous.

6. With regard to the scullery which the Committee now decline to take over, I beg to observe that it was handed over to your predecessor on the 29th of July last with my letter No. 124

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of that date. I have *directly* heard nothing in reply from either the Secretary or the Committee since that date until now. But this is obviously not my fault. I have a recollection, however, of seeing, as a member of the Committee, a resolution passed after that date, stating that the Committee having inspected the building were prepared to take it over. On this point I should esteem it a favor if you will be so good as to examine the Minute book of the Committee's proceedings, or, to save you trouble, if you will allow my Storekeeper to do so, and also if you will kindly favor me with a copy of the resolution that was then arrived at, whatever it be. If I am correct on the above point, I do not think the Committee can call upon me now, eight months after the date of handing over the building, to execute repairs to the roof.

7. I have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the amount of my bill, viz., Rupees 2-13-0. The receipted bill is returned.

8. With regard to your paragraph 4, I have the honour to invite your attention to the bill amounting to Rupees 496-9-10, copy of which I enclose, from which you will see that only two of the items are for bricks, etc., from the Lawrence Asylum stock. The other items have nothing to do with the Lawrence Asylum materials at site. I trust you will see your way to liquidate Rupees 311-14-8 of the bill at an early date.

9. I beg, in conclusion, to request you will be so good as to furnish my Storekeeper with a receipt for the articles you have already received from me, including those I gave to your predecessor.

No. 203DDD. ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1874, No. 1,006BB.

ACCOUNT, No. 16B.

THE stock materials at the site of the Lawrence Asylum works, which the Committee of the Institution desire to be handed over to them free of cost, stand in the books of the District Engineer at the credit either of the general stock account or of the female branch of the schools, the construction of which has not yet been commenced. Under these circumstances, they are not available for transfer to the Committee without payment. It is further observed that, even had they been originally manufactured for the male branch, the Committee can have no claim to the materials, since the buildings have been completed and handed over for occupation. There is no objection however to the District Engineer supplying the Committee with such materials as they may require at the book valuation, for which purpose arrangements should be made for deputing the Storekeeper or other responsible person on the District Engineer's establishment to attend to the work of delivery, which may, it is believed, be done without much inconvenience on a particular day in each week if considered necessary.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Neilgherries.
Secretary to the Lawrence Asylum Committee.
" Educational Department.
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

Gobt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, NEILGHERRIES
&c., &c., &c.

Dated April 17th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 17th April 1874, No. 1,000BB.

APRIL.

Nos. 203DD-203DDD

Lawrence Asylum Committee.—Issuing instructions relative to the transfer of stock materials required by the Lawrence Asylum Committee.

G. O. No. 1006 BB
of 17th April 1874

P.W.D.

Proceeding of the Madras Government
Read the following.
From the District Engineer
Neelgherries — (H.E. No. 1117 13th April 1874)

~~This is to certify that~~
~~from these papers that~~ The
stock materials at the site
of the Lawrence Asylum
works, which the Committee
of the Institution desire
to be handed over to them
free of cost, stand in
the books of the District Engineer
at the credit either of the
general stock account, or
of the Female Branch of
the schools the construction
of which has not yet been
commenced.

MP
17/4

Commenced. Under these
circumstances they are
not available for transfer
to the Committee without
permission. It is further
observed that even had
they been originally ma-
nufactured for the
Hall Branch the Com-
mittee can have no
claim to the materials
since the buildings have
been completed and
handed over for occupa-
tion. There is no objection
however to the R. Engineer
supplying the Committee
with such materials as
they may require at the
book.

valuation

for which purchase
arrangements should
be made for delivering
the Store Keeper or other
responsible person on
the R. Engineer's establish-
ment to attend to the work
of delivery, which may,
it is believed, be done
without much inconvenience
on a particular day in
each week, if considered
necessary.

Chas.

3/2
✓
The R. Eng. Mr. Hughes & S.C. sub 13/5/74
- Secy. to the L.A. Committee ✓
- Ed. R. R. ✓
Cont. ✓ Copies despatched 19/5/74. 4
Despatched in L.S. to the L.A. Committee 17/5/74.

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Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The Dist Engr. Nilgheries

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 3

G. O. 17th April 1874, No. 1006BB

Nos. 203DD-203DD.

Lawrence Asylum Committee

Issuing instructions
relative to the transfer
of stock materials
~~to the~~ required by the
Lawrence Asylum
Committee -