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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works.

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1046	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
283-284.		
Dated	23-4-1874	-195.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd April 1874.*

No. 283. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishwaram, 27th February 1874, No. 3,532:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of G. O., No. 104, dated 18th December last, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that Captain Brockman has made arrangements for relieving Mr. Walford, the Dredge Superintendent at Cocanada, of the duty of cash disburser.

2. With regard to the measures taken in connection with stock, I have to state that half-yearly returns of Tools and Plant (Form G) are invariably sent to this office on the 1st April and 1st of October of each year, and in lieu of the half-yearly Register of Stock Articles (Form A A) a Stock Account Current and an Estimate of the amount of stock required, besides a statement showing balances (quantities and value) outstanding against stock at the close of each month, are submitted monthly to this office. These monthly statements afford me better and quicker information as regards the quantity, etc., of stock on hand than the half yearly Register. Besides these statements the Assistant Engineer in charge of the quarries also prepares detailed statements of stock, and these are at any time available for inspection. I beg to observe here that from paragraph 43 of the Manual of Public Works Accounts the half-yearly returns of Tools and Plant are to be kept in Form G. These were at one time sent to the Controller, but under G. O., No. 3,306, of the 24th October 1867, are now received by this office.

3. Adverting to paragraph 36 of the Deputy Controller's Note, I beg to state that on the departure of Lieutenant J. F. Dorward on leave in April 1873, Mr. Overseer Vigor was for about three months in charge of the Ellore Range. During this period the Station Books and Work Registers were allowed to remain in an incomplete state. In July of that year Mr. Supervisor Baker was placed in charge of that range, who after attending to the executive portion of his work, soon afterwards, *i. e.*, in August, took every precaution to remedy the defects; but before this was effected the Deputy Controller visited the range, to whom Mr. Baker did not fail to point out the incomplete state of the accounts, and who appeared to be satisfied with the explanation offered. A change had been made by the promotion of the Head Accountant of this range, and I consider the man who was transferred in his place has been very remiss in getting up the work, all arrears are entirely due to his not having written up the books regularly after the close of the official year. Mr. Baker is not to blame in the least.

4. Adverting to paragraph 3, I have to state that while Mr. Overseer Vigor was in charge of the Ellore Range, comprising two upland unhealthy taluqs, he had to maintain additional equipage for travelling, in consideration of which, and in accordance with the principles laid down and sanctioned in G. O., No. 2,250, dated 4th September 1871, which was made generally applicable, I sanctioned the extra allowance for Mr. Vigor, who was then doing the duties of a Range Officer. Similarly, Local Fund Overseer D. Kristniah, in consequence of Mr. Vigor's acting as Range Officer, was placed

* *Vide* G. O., No. 1,911, dated 12th August 1872.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd April 1874.*

in charge of the whole of the Yernagudem Taluq, and had to maintain a boat (besides his other travelling equipages) for the inspection of river protective works from Vizasweram to Polaram, and for this extra work boat allowance was sanctioned for him.

5. Under these circumstances I beg that Government will be pleased to reconsider the matter as now laid before them, and cancel the order for the retrenchment from my salary as the allowances were not made irregularly.

6. In conclusion, I would respectfully beg to observe if I am not allowed to work the item for "Sundries and Superintendence," provided in all estimates to pay for the additional establishments required for the preparation and submission in due time of all the accounts required for our large expenditure, the works must come to a stand still; on the one hand we have very large allotments made every year for work, and on the other no provision whatever has been made for any increase to our ordinary subordinate establishment, but the question has always been sent for settlement, but nothing done. I have provided to carry on work, without entailing any additional cost to Government, as well as I could for the last three years, and I trust, therefore, the Government will be pleased to let me carry on as I have hitherto done; the principle is the same as that sanctioned on the re-organization of the department and the appointing of Superintending Engineers when the Sub-Overseers were abolished, but our expenditure now is 40 per cent. more than it was when these existed, so that it is absolutely necessary to provide more assistance to the much fewer hands now employed, especially as the accounts required to be sent in now-a-days are not at all in proportion to what was ever before required. And this principle is the same as that prevailing in the Provinces directly under the Government of India, so that there is no increase of charges to permanent establishments or to the pension list.

No. 284.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1874, No. 1,046.

ACCOUNT, No. 19.

COMMUNICATED to the Controller of
Public Works Accounts.

2. With reference to the explanations furnished in paragraph 2, His Excellency the Governor in Council observes that under paragraph 27, Section II., of the Manual of Accounts, the half-yearly Stock Register is intended to exhibit, after careful check and *actual counting* by the Range Officer, the balance at the end of that period. It does not appear from the District Engineer's letter what means are now adopted, under the arrangement which Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer has introduced in supersession of the rule in the Manual, to ascertain whether these requirements are attended to.

3. The explanation furnished in paragraph 3 exculpates Mr. Baker from any blame in the matter of the Work Registers.

4. The practice which the District Engineer would propose to continue of charging to the estimates for works the salaries and allowances of subordinates should not, under any circumstances, have been permitted. If the District Engi-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd April 1874.*

neer considered himself at liberty, under the orders which he cites, to have authorized the extra allowances, those charges should have been drawn as for regular Overseers, the sanctioning orders being quoted on proper abstracts which the District Engineer will now submit to the Controller for audit.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Godavery.
,, Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

No 3532

District Engineer Office
Dowlaenamm 27 Feb 1871

From

Lieutenant Col J. P. Fischer R.E.

District Engineer Geddang

Colonel G. D. Dalke R.E.

Secretary to Government S. D.

Madras

Sir,

With reference to para 2 of No. 101, dated 18th December last, I have the honor to report for the information of Government that Captain Broekman has made arrangements for relieving Mr. Walford the District Superintendent at Coanada of the duty of Cash disburse.

2. With regard to the measures taken in connection with Stock, I have to state that half yearly Returns of Tools and Plant (Form C) are invariably sent to this Office on the 1st April and 1st of October of each year, and in lieu of the half yearly Register of Stock Articles (Form A A) a Stock Account

Account Current, and an Estimate of the amount of Stock required, besides a Statement showing balances/quantities and values outstanding against Stock at the close of each month, are submitted monthly to this Office. These monthly Statements afford me better and quicker information as regards the quantity & cost of Stock on hand than the half yearly Register. Besides these Statements the Assistant Engineer in charge of the Quarries also prepares detailed Statements of Stock and these are at any time available for inspection. I beg to observe here that from para 123 of the Manual of P. & H. Accounts the half yearly Returns of Tools and Plant are to be kept in Form G. These were at one time sent to the Controller but under G. O. No 3306 of the 21st October 1867, are now received by this Office.

3. Adverting to para 36 of the Deputy Controller's Note I beg to state that on the departure of Lieutenant J. F. Dorn and on leave in April 1873 Mr Querser Vigor was for about

about 3 Months in charge of the Elloro Range. During this period the Station books and work Registers were allowed to remain in an incomplete state. In July of that year Mr. Supervisor Baker was placed in charge of that Range, who after attending to the executive portion of his work, soon afterwards i.e. in August took every precaution to remedy the defects, but before this was effected the Deputy Controller visited the Range, to whom Mr Baker did not fail to point out the incomplete state of the Accounts and who appeared to be satisfied with the explanations offered. A change had been made by the promotion of the Head Accountant of this Range and I consider the man who was transferred in his place has been very penurious in getting up the work, all arrears are entirely due to his not having written up the books regularly after the close of the official year. Mr Baker is not to be blamed in the least.

4. Adverting to para 3 I have to state that while Mr. Querser Vigor was in charge of the Elloro Range comprising of 2 upland in healthy

unhealthy Taluq, he had to maintain
additional equipment for travelling, in consideration
of which, and in accordance with the principles
laid down and sanctioned in G.O. No. 2250
dated 1st September 1871 which was made
generally applicable, I sanctioned the extra
allowance for Mr. Vigor, who was then doing
the duties of a Range Officer. Similarly
Local Fund Officer D. Kristiah in con-
-sequence of Mr. Vigor Acting as Range Officer,
was placed in charge of the whole of the
Yernagudem Taluq and had to maintain
a Boat besides his other travelling expenses
for the inspection of River protective work
from Vijayaram to Polavaram and for this
extra work, boat allowance was sanctioned
for him.

5. Under these circumstances I beg
that Government will be pleased to reconsider
the matter as now laid before them, and
cancel the order for the retrenchment from
my salary as the allowances were not made
irregularly.

Vide G.O. No. 2250
dated 1st Sept 1871

Mr. Vigor
acting as
Range Officer
in charge of
the whole of
the Yernagudem
Taluq
and had to
maintain a
boat besides
his other
travelling
expenses
for the
inspection
of River
protective
work
from
Vijayaram
to Polavaram
and for this
extra work
boat allowance
was sanctioned
for him.

unhealthy Salugs, he had to maintain

P. 1874 Report of
The District Engineer
G. S. S. S.

The District Engineer
G. S. S. S.
The Secretary to Govt.
P. B. D.
Madras.

Dated 27th January 1874
Desp. 5th March 74.

No. 3532

Offer certain explanations
with reference to the orders
of Government passed
in connection with the
examination of Revenue
accounts conducted by
the Deputy Controller
of P. B. Accounts in
September last.

S. G. No. 1046 23-4-74.

No. 283

6. In conclusion I would respectfully
beg to observe if I am not allowed to work
the item for "Lundries and Superintendence"
provided in all Estimates to pay for the
additional Establishments required for the
preparation and submission in due time of
all the accounts required for our large
expenditure the works must come to a stand
still; on the one hand we have very large
allotments made every year for work and
on the other no provision whatever has
been made for any increase to our ordinary
Subordinate Establishments but the question
has always been sent for settlement but
nothing done. I have provided to carry on
work without entailing any additional
cost to Government as well as I could
for the last 3 years and I trust therefore
the Government will be pleased to let
me carry on as I have hitherto done, the
principle is the same as that sanctioned
on the re-organization of the Department
and the appointing of Superintending Engineer
when

when the Sub. Onis guns were abolished,
but our expenditure now is 40 per cent.
more than it was when these existed
so that it is absolutely necessary to provide
more assistance to the much fewer hands
now employed especially as the accounts
required to be sent in now a days are
not at all ⁱⁿ proportion to what was ever
before required. And this principle
is the same as that prevailing in the
Province, directly under the Govt of
India, so that there is no increase of
charges to government establishments
on the public list.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servt.

M. T. Tischer Esq. M. A. R. C.

District Engineer Godavery

1046 P. W. K. P. S.
Proceedings of the Madras Government
under date the March 1874.

Read the following:-

From the District Engineer
Godavery } (Memo No 3532 of
27 February 1874)

Communicated to
the Controller of Public
Works Accounts.

With reference to the
Explanations furnished
in Para 2, His Excellency
the Governor in Council
observes that under Para
2, Section II of the
Manual

207
25/3

Manual of Accounts the
half yearly Block
Register is intended to
exhibit after careful
check and actual counting
by the Range Officers,
the balance at the end
of that period. It does
not appear from the
District Engineer's letter
what means are now
adopted, under the
arrangement which
St. Louis Fisher has
introduced in super-
cession of the rule in
the Manual to ascertain

whether

whether the require-
ments are attended to.

The explanation fur-
nished in Para. 3 exculpates
Mr. Butler from any blame
in the matter of the Work
Register.

The practice which the
District Engineer would
propose to continue of
charging to the Estimates
for work the salaries and
allowances of subordinates
is highly objectionable, and
should not under any
circumstances have been
permitted. If the District
Engineer considered

himself

himself at liberty, under
the orders which he cites,
to have authorized the
extra allowances. These
charges should have been
drawn, as for regular Over-
seers - the sanctioning
orders being quoted - on
proper abstracts which
the District Engineer will
now submit to the Controller
for audit.

GHW

283-284

32
3
D. King, Secretary
Controller
3 Copies deposited to the 30/4/74

himself at liberty under

1298th

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dist. Supt.
Godavery.

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 23rd April 1874, No.

10146

Hos. 283-284

Accounts.

Passing orders on ~~the~~
~~complaints~~ letter from the
Mr. Engr. Godavery submitting
explanations relative to
the examination of the
Accounts of certain Ranges
of the Godavery Dist. by the
By Controller of P.W.
Accounts in September
1873 —