

(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.	1052	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24 - 4	6874 -195-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

15

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th April 1874.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 295. From A. C. LAWFORD, Esq., Officiating District Engineer, South Canara, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Mangalore, 7th January 1874, No. 114.

With reference to G. O., No. 2,983 of 10th December 1873, having called for his explanation, I have the honour to subjoin the Mangalore Range Officer's report,* and, under the circumstances therein represented, to request that

• No. 237 of 19th December 1873. Government will be pleased to sanction an exception for this district regarding the submission of the monthly accounts by the Range Officers to the Controller:—

"Referring to your endorsement, No. 646, dated 16th December 1873, on G. O., No. 2,983, of 10th instant, I have the honour to forward a list showing the dates of signature and despatch of the Range Accounts for the current year.

"2. From this it will be seen that the time taken in compilation has been much reduced. The late date of signing the October accounts was entirely due to a postal delay, the packet containing them bearing on it the date Mangalore 18th and Udipy 21st, although these places are only a night's post apart. Another day was lost in forwarding by cooly to my camp which had moved on in the meantime, and it was only late at night on the 22nd that I have received the accounts posted in Mangalore on the 18th.

"3. I would beg to point out that to reach Madras on the 20th the accounts must be despatched by letter-post on the 17th from Mangalore, whilst the Calicut accounts can be sent by the 19th, and be in time. If I happen to be absent from Mangalore further time is lost in the submission for signature and return of the accounts, and this in some cases amounts to six or seven days. If this time be deducted from the seventeen days, it leaves only ten or eleven for the compilation of accounts.

"4. South Canara labours under another disadvantage. All work is done departmentally, thus throwing on the Office a mass of vouchers, such as muster rolls, petty bills, etc., each of which has to be scrutinized, so that districts where ten times the monthly expenditure is incurred principally under contract have probably less Office work.

"5. I would further beg to remark that prior to the amalgamation of the Mangalore and Kundápoor Ranges, the Office of the former consisted of

- 1 Head Accountant,
- 1 Assistant do.,
- 1 Draughtsman,

and there were less than 150 miles of road in the range.

"6. The accounts at this time could be signed within the 20th of each month.

"7. Now that the two ranges are one, and the roads repaired by the Revenue Department have been handed over, I have

- 1 Head Accountant,
- 2 Assistant Accountants,
- 1 Draughtsman,

and over 500 miles of road are under construction or repair. The accounts have now to be submitted so as to arrive at Madras within the 20th.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th April 1874.*

"8. The system seems to me scarcely a fair one that will subject an officer to be reported monthly as in arrears, when his accounts might actually be ready days before those of another officer, the contiguity of whose range to Malras permitted his signing at the last moment."

Accounts for	Date of Signature.	Date of Despatch.	Remarks.
April	20th May ...	21st May ...	Signed at Nagody, three days' post and cooly from Mangalore.
May	20th June ...	20th June ...	
June	19th July ...	21st July ...	
July	14th August ...	15th August ...	
August	16th September...	16th September...	
September	17th October ...	21st October ...	
October	22nd November...	24th November...	
November	16th December...	16th December...	

No. 296. 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 Dowlaishweram, 23rd February 1874, No. 3,470.

With reference to the Orders of Government noted in the margin I have the honour to bring to their notice the very great trouble and inconvenience experienced by the Range Officers of this district, in the preparation and despatch of their accounts so as to reach the Controller's Office by the 20th of the month following that for which they are due as required by the Controller, and therefore beg to submit the following points for the consideration of Government:—

I.—The accounts of the cash disbursing agents, owing to the very heavy works in hand, and with only one writer to assist them in getting through the same, do not as a rule reach the Range Office until the 6th or 7th of the month following that in which the expenditure takes place. Before these accounts are incorporated into the Range Accounts they have to be sent to the Sub-divisional Officers for insertion of remarks of inspection, etc., and this causes a delay of a day or two. On the receipt then of the complete accounts of disbursing agents the compilation of the Range Accounts is taken in hand, together with the several Miscellaneous Returns for this and the Collectors' Offices, and it is, I must say, after much uninterrupted time and labour that all these are got through by the 15th of the month. It very often happens that the Range Officer is away from head-quarters about this time, when the accounts have to be sent to him for signature, and received back into the Range Office and then despatched to Madras. The time occupied in the transmission by post of the Range Accounts is fully five days in clear weather and ten during the monsoons, so that this materially affects their punctual receipt in the Controller's Office.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th April 1874.*

II.—Prior to the introduction of the new form of Irrigation Progress Reports, the accounts of Range Officers were invariably despatched between the 15th and 20th of each month, but since its introduction the submission of accounts, particularly of the Eastern and Western Deltas, have been unavoidably delayed in consequence of the laborious information in detail required to be embodied in the new form of Progress Reports. I should say what has been shown in couple of lines in the old form has now to be copied on 20 sheets. When the Manual was published the forms were simple and few, whereas they are now numerous and required to be rendered in endless detail.

2. From Section II., paragraph 57 of the Manual, it will be seen that the Range Accounts of each month are to be rendered to the Controller by the end of the succeeding month, this Mr. Brock, the Controller, approved of on several occasions; I am at a loss, therefore, to understand by what rule this has been superseded.

3. Under the circumstances now pointed out, I trust the Government will instruct the Controller to allow the Range Officers of this district, as a special case, to despatch their accounts punctually by the 25th of every month.

No. 184.

REFERRED to the Controller of Public Works Accounts for any remarks he may wish to offer.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 297. 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, 21st March 1874, No. 8,387.

In returning herewith the enclosures of G. O., No. 184, of the 20th instant, I have the honour to state that I do not believe that in any single Presidency or Province, all the accounts of any one month reach the office of the Controller of Public Works Accounts by the 20th of the succeeding month, but this failure is not, in my opinion, a sufficient reason to alter the present fixed date of 20th to 25th. We must have a recognized date, and it is only reasonable that that date should be one suited to the majority of ranges. I would not, therefore, alter the present date which is suited to the majority of ranges, and is applicable to all parts of India.

2. The rule in the Manual of Accounts, paragraph 57, Section II., was taken from the Public Works Code of the Government of India, and as that Government decided that the date (20th) mentioned in the rule in question should be regarded as the latest date on which accounts should reach the Controller's Office, I made known that decision (as intimated to me by the Accountant-General, Public Works Department,) to Range Officers in my Circular No. V. of the 3rd June 1873, a copy of which was sent to Government at the time. A spare copy of the Circular is enclosed for ready reference.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th April 1874.

3. I think it will be sufficient to inform Range Officers that their difficulties (extent of charges, postal arrangements, etc.,) will always be taken into consideration, but that they should never relax their efforts to complete their accounts so as to reach this Office by the 20th of each month. It might also be pointed out that the amalgamated accounts of the Madras Presidency have to be submitted from the Office of the Controller of Public Works Accounts in time to be included in the General Public Works Accounts of all India, compiled in the Office of the Accountant-General, Public Works Department.

4. Some officers complain that they are at a disadvantage in having no allowance made for distance; that a range near the Presidency which may not submit its accounts till, say, the 18th, gets credit for being punctual, while the distant range actually submitting its accounts two days earlier, say, the 16th, would be regarded as in arrears because of the accounts not reaching the Presidency till the 21st. Of course this comparison is not fair, but then no range suffers by such comparison, for the actual facts come out whenever it is desired to consider the different circumstances of the ranges concerned.

No. 298.

ORDER THEREON, 24th April 1874, No. 1,052.

ACCOUNT, No. 20.

THE Range Officers of the Godavary and South Canara Districts may rest assured that due credit is given

for the difficulties under which they have to contend in submitting their accounts to the Controller by the 20th instant, according to paragraph 57 of Section II. of the Public Works Manual as revised by G. O., No. 864, of 17th March 1869, paragraph 11. But the rule, as a general one, cannot be relaxed, and every endeavour must be made to work up to it.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, South Canara.

Godavery.

Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

AD
No 114
District Engineer's Office
South Canara
Mangalore 7th January 1874
To the District Engineer
South Canara
To the Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Madras.
Sir, With reference to G. O. No. 298 of
10th December 1873, having called for
his explanation, I have the honor
to enjoin the Mangalore Range
Officers to report and, under the cir-
cumstances therein represented, to
request that Government will be
pleased to sanction an exception
for this District, regarding the sub-
mission of the monthly accounts
by the Range officers to the
Controller.
"Referring to your endorse-
ment No. 644 dated 16th December 1873 on
G. O. No. 298 of 10th instant, I have
the honor to forward a list showing
the dates of signatures & despatch
of the Range Accounts for the cur-
rent year."

No. 257 of 19th
December 1873

2. From this it will be seen that
the time taken in compilation has
been much reduced. The late date
of signing the October Accounts
were entirely due to a postal de-
lay, the packet containing them
leaving on the late Mangalore
18th and reaching 21st although these
places are only a night's post apart.
Another day was lost in forwarding
by cable to my camp which
had moved on in the meantime
and it was only late at night
on the 22nd that I have received the
Accounts posted in Mangalore
on the 18th.

3. I would beg to point out
that to reach Madras on the 20th the
Accounts must be despatched by
letter post on the 17th from Mangalore,
while the Calicut Accounts can
be sent by the 19th and be in time. If
I happen to be absent from Man-
gore for this time is lost in the sub-
mission for signature & return of
the Accounts, and this in some cases
amounts to many days. If this time be

deducted from the 17 days it leaves
only ten or eleven for the compilation
of Accounts.

In South Canara labours under
another disadvantage. All work is done
departmentally thus throwing on the
office a mass of vouchers such as
Druster rolls, petty bills &c. each of
which has to be scrutinised, so that
District where ten times the monthly
expenditure is incurred principally
under contract have probably less
office work.

4. I would further beg to remark
that prior to the amalgamation of the
Mangalore and Kundspoor Ranges, the
office of the former consisted of
1 Head Accountant
1 Assistant Accountant
1 Draftsman

and there were less than 100 miles of road
in the Range.

5. The Accounts & vouchers could
be signed within the 20th of each month.

6. Now that the two Ranges are
one and the roads repaired by the Re-
venue Department have been handed over.

I have 1 Head Accountant
2 Assistant Accountants
1 Draftsman

and over 500 miles of road are under

Construction on repair. The accounts
 " have now to be submitted as to ar.
 " - rive at Madras within the 20th "

" 8. The system seems to me scarcely
 a fair one that will subject an of-
 ficer to be reported monthly as in
 arrears, when his accounts might
 actually be ready days before those
 of another officer the contiguity
 of whose change to Madras per-
 mitted his signing at the last
 " moment "

Accounts Date of	Date when	Account to
for signature	batch.	
April 20	May - 21	May -
May - 20	June - 20	June -
June - 19	July - 21	July -
July - 14	August - 15	August -
August - 15	September 15	September
Sept - 17	October - 21	October -
October - 22	November 21	November
Nov - 16	December 16	December.

signed at Madras by day post
 & Cooly from Mangalore

I have the honor to be,
 Sir,
 Yours most obedient servant

W. B. Smith
 Executive Engineer for
 Off. District Engineer
 & Commr.

and with only one man getting

Ch 295

The accounts of the Cash disbursing agents owing to the very heavy works in hand and with only one Writer to assist them in getting

getting thro' the same, do not as a rule reach the Range Office until the 5th or 7th of the month following that in which the expenditure takes place. Before these accounts are incorporated into the Range Accounts, they have to be sent to the Sub Divisional Officers for insertion of remarks of inspection &c and this causes a delay of a day or two. On the receipt then of the complete accounts of disbursing Agents the completion of the Range Accounts is taken in hand together with the several Miscellaneous Returns for this and the Collector's Office, and it is, I must say, after much interrupted time and labor that all these are got thro by the 15th of the month. It very often happens that the Range Officer is away from Head Quarters about this time, when the accounts have to be sent to him for signature, and received back into the Range Office and then despatched to the S.D. The time occupied in the transmission by post of the Range Accounts is fully five days in clear weather and ten during the Monsoons so that this materially affects their punctual receipt in the Controller's Office.

II Prior to the introduction of the new form,

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Irrigation Progress Reports, the accounts of Range Officers were invariably despatched between the 15th and 20th of each month, but since its introduction the submission of accounts particularly of the Eastern and Western Deltas have been unavoidably delayed in consequence of the laborious information in detail required to be embodied in the new form of Progress Reports. I should say what has been shown in couple of lines in the old form has now to be copied on 20 sheets. When the manual was published the forms were simple and few, whereas they are now numerous and required to be rendered in endless detail. From Section II para 57 of the manual it will be seen that the Range Accounts of each month are to be rendered to the Controller by the end of the succeeding month, ^{the} Mr. Brock the Controller approved of on several occasions I am at a loss therefore to understand by what rule this has been superseded.

Under the circumstances now pointed out, I trust the Government will instruct the Controller to allow the Range Officers of this District as a special case to despatch their accounts punctually by

by the 25th of every month.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant.

Wm: Tucker Rice (Capt. R. G.)

District Engineer Cape Henry

17h

16h

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OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER OF
PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNTS,
Fort St. George, 3rd June 1873.

CIRCULAR No. V.

From
THE OFF^r. CONTROLLER OF P. W. ACCOUNTS,
To
THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF
RANGE.

SIR,
To enable me to compile a Return required by the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me of the average time occupied in transit, to your Office, of Accounts from each Sub-divisional Officer in your Range. Be good enough, at the same time, to report whether in cases of delay on the part of Sub-divisional Officers, you act on the rule in Section II., para. 59, of the Madras Manual of Public Works Accounts.

2. I take this opportunity to inform you that the Government of India has decided that the date mentioned in para. 57, Section II., of the Manual, should be considered the latest date on which your Accounts should be received in this Office.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

T. MOSS,
Offg. Controller of P. W. Accounts.

*1874 Department
No 1212
The District Engineer
Madras*

*The District Engineer
Madras*

*Order 235, 1874
No 2, Madras
105470*

*Bring to the notice of General
that the great trouble and
inconvenience experienced by
the Officers of this District
in forwarding their accounts to
the Controller's Office
by the 20th of the month following
that for which they are due and
the consequent delay in the
receipt of the accounts by the
Controller's Office.*

*276
24-3-74
G.O. No. 1052. 24-6-74
110 Mar 74*

Office of the Controller of
P. W. Accounts

Ch 8387 Madras 21st March 1874

From

The Off^r Controller of P. W. Accounts

To

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Department

Sir,

In returning herewith the Enclosures
of G. O. No 104 of the 20th instant, I have
the honor to state that I do not be-
lieve that in any single Presidency or
Province, all the accounts of any one
month reach the Office of the Controller
of P. W. Accounts by the 20th of the
succeeding month, but this failure
is not, in my opinion, a sufficient
reason to alter the present fixed date
of 20th to 25th. We must have a recog-
nized date, and it is only reasonable
that that date should be one suited
to

P. W. 1694/74

4.7 24th April/74

No 1811-297

Requesting to be informed of the
average time occupied in transit to his
Office of Accounts from each Sub-
divisional Officer in his Range.

to the majority of Ranges. I would not therefore alter the present date which is suited to the majority of Ranges and is applicable to all parts of India.

2. The rule in the Manual of Accounts, para 57 Section II, was taken from the Public Works Code of the Government of India, and as that Government decided that the date (20) mentioned in the rule in question should be regarded as the latest date on which Accounts should reach the Controller's Office, I made known that decision (as intimated to me by the Accountant General, P.W. Department) to Range Officers in my Circular No. V of the 3rd June 1875, a copy of which was sent to Government at the time. A spare copy of the Circular is enclosed for ready reference.

3. I think it will be sufficient to inform Range Officers that their difficulties (Want of Charge, postal Arrangements &c.) will always be taken

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taken into consideration, but that they should never relax their efforts to complete their Accounts so as to reach this Office by the 20th of each month. It might also be pointed out that the amalgamated Accounts of the Madras Presidency have to be submitted from the Office of the Controller of P.W. Accounts in time to be included in the General Public Works Accounts of all India compiled in the Office of the Accountant General P.W. Department.

4. Some Officers complain that they are at a disadvantage in having no allowance made for distance, - that a Range near the Presidency which may not submit its Accounts till, say the 18th gets credit for being punctual, while the distant Range actually submitting its Accounts two days earlier, say the 16th, would be regarded as in arrears because of the Accounts not reaching the Presidency till the 21st. Of course this comparison is not fair, but then no Range suffers by

by such comparison, for the actual facts
come out whenever it is desired to con-
sider the different circumstances of the
Ranges concerned.

I have the honor to be.

Sir

Your most Obedt Servt

Juz

Off Controller of P.W. Accounts

Pub. Works 1874 Dept
of Govt of Madras
From No: 1694.

The Off Controller of
P. W. Accts

To

The Secretary to Govt
P.W.D.

No 8387

Dated 21st March 74
Rec 23

S. O. No: 1052. 24-4-74.

In one

Offering observations
on the date of submission
of the monthly Accounts
to the Controller's Office

Oto 29/4

For 26 March 74 No 26.

252
Public Works Department
No 184

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From the District Engineer
South Canara. } F. E. No 1144 of 7th Jan 74

From " " " " } " " " 3470 of 23rd Feb 74
Godavery.

Referred to the
Controller of Public Works
Accounts for any remarks
he may wish to offer.

Signed G. M. Walker Secy to Govt
P.W.D.

To The Controller of P.W.D.
Ch 147 + 1212 of 1874 -
Des. 20/3/74.

1874

P. W. D. 278

1052

Proceedings of the Madras Government,
Under date the March 1874.

Read the following:—

From District Engr. South Canara H. E. No 114 of 7th June 74
From the District Engineer } (H. E. No 3470 of 23rd Feb 74)
From the Offr Contr of Godavery } (H. E. No 8387 of 21st March 74)

Circular: *M 2513*
Shew that A C of
Godavery makes an
irresistible case
for conceding his
small ~~improvements~~
proposed ~~improvements~~

He might mention
the rule in Canara
but I think a ~~reference~~
with reasonable
12/3 1267.

The Range officers
of the Godavery and South
Canara Districts may
reassured that due
credit is given for the
difficulties under which
they have to contend in
submitting their accounts
to the Controller by the
20th Instant, according
to para 5 of section II of
the

The P. W. Manual approved
by G. C. No 861 of 17th March
1869, para 11. But the Rule,
as a general one, cannot
be relaxed, and every
endeavour must be made
to work up to it.

Ques

Write these orders
make it not
not clear, that
I would as the
the Controller
whether he has
any objection to
it. It contains
several anomalies.
It is distant from
Madras, should be
quite clear at the end

295-298

1123-374

1123-374

By Mr. J. C. ...
11/11/13

11/11/13

To D. C. C. ...
" " ...
" Controller ...
" ...
" ...
" ...

Letter from the ... Controller of ...
dated 21 March 1887.

Circulated for orders.

The draft by ...
already submitted & now
re-circulated would appear
to meet sufficiently the
Controller's suggestion in
Para 3 as regards the
particular (Districts from
which representations have
been received).

Ques

Passed accounts
24/3

19/
147
1282
1694

Geo.

117
1212
1694 V



Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Dist. Engr.
S. Canara.

19.1.46

Date

Recd.

Encl. /.

G. O. 24th / 11 / 1874. No. 1052

Nos. 295-298.

Accounts -

The District Engr. of the
Malabar & South Canara
is informed that the
Rule prescribing the
mode of the submission of
the monthly Accounts to
the Office of the Controller
of Public Accounts cannot
be relaxed and every attempt
made to work up