

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**G.O. No. 259

Press

~~Mis.~~Dated 26 — 1 — 18 77.Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th January 1877. No. 259.*

No. 504. Read the following letter from Major H. M. VIBART, R.E., Officiating District Engineer, Presidency, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 13th January 1877, No. 5,259 :—

I HAVE the honor to inform you that yesterday the Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General called upon me officially to put up mat screens for temporary latrines in camp formed for 38th Regiment, Native Infantry, expected this morning from Trichinopoly. I at first objected to doing this work, considering that it appertained to the functions of the Quartermaster-General's Department, but, after some correspondence, I agreed to issue the necessary orders, as I thought it might possibly be emergent; and I obtained from the Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General a letter written "by order."

2. I wish to know whether work of the nature mentioned should not be carried out by Quartermaster-General's Department who are alone concerned in the details of movement of troops. The work in question is a simple one, and requires no skill that is not forthcoming in the Department of the Quartermaster-General, and I think that the Department of Public Works ought not to be called on to carry out such trifling works by any Department except in case of very great emergency, such as an outbreak of cholera, &c.

3. The Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General in one of his notes says he has "no executive," but, considering that there are the following officers available who have subordinates under them, I do not think the remark quite correct :—

Brigade-Major,
Staff Officer, and
Barrack Master.

These Officers have Serjeants, &c., under them who should be quite capable of carrying out a simple work like this. I beg to request that, if you agree with me, you will obtain an authoritative ruling, so that in future the Quartermaster-General's Department may not make unnecessary calls upon the time of the subordinates of the Public Works Department who are sufficiently occupied with their legitimate work.

No. 505. ORDER THEREON, 26th January 1877, No. 259.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 10.

WORK of the temporary character of that under notice, not requiring the professional supervision of Engineer

Officers, should, in the opinion of His Grace the Governor in Council, be ordinarily carried out under departmental arrangements; the Executive Officer being placed in funds by the Public Works Department. The accounts in these cases should be rendered to the Examiner of Public Works Accounts under instructions from that officer.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To District Engineers.
To the Examiner of Public Works Accounts.
" Military Department.
Exd. A. Grubert.
Spare Copies

No. 5259

From

The Offg District Engineer
Resident

To

The Chief Engineer

3 Mr.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that yesterday the Dy. Asst. Quarter Master General called upon me officially to put up mat screens for temporary Latrines in camp formed for 38th U.S. expected this morning from Tuckinopoly. I at first objected to doing this work considering that it appertained to the functions of the Quarter Master General's Department, but after some correspondence I agreed to issue the necessary orders as I thought it might possibly be emergent, and I obtained from the Dy. Asst. Quarter Master General a letter written "by order".

2. I wish to know whether works
of

of the nature mentioned should not be carried out by Quarter Master General's Deptt who are alone concerned in the details of movement of troops. The work in question is a simple one, and requires no skill that is not forthcoming in the Deptt of the Quarter Master General, and I think that the Deptt of Public Works ought not to be called on to carry out such trifling works by any Department except in case of very great emergency such as an outbreak of cholera &c.

3. The Dy. Asst. Quarter Master General in one of his notes says he has no executive - but considering that there are the following officers available - who have subordinates under them, I do not think the remarks quite correct.

Brigade major
Staff Officer, and
Barrack Master
These officers have Sergeants under them

them who should be quite capable of carrying out a simple work like this. I beg to request that if you agree with me, you will obtain an authoritative ruling, so that in future the Quarter Master General's Deptt may not make unnecessary calls upon the time of the subordinates of the D.M. who are sufficiently occupied with their legitimate work.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Herbert Robert Neill.

Offg. Asst. Engineer
Residency

18th Dec 1872
Aug 77 3/4
21

Car 18-1-77.

With remark that the Chief Engineer concurs in the District Engineer's views as to the nature of the work being such that the Barrack Master might well have been called on to attend to it. No special funding as to temporary Military structures of the kind can be raised, but the general bearing of Govt. of India proceedings No. 425a of 16th October 1865.

is unfavorable to the
employment of Public
Works Agency on such
work as the putting up
of Mat latrines, requiring no
skill, and of a temporary
nature.

Member - Dr. J. P. D.
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Memorandum.

There is no objection to the
Barack Master undertaking
the petty works like the matri-
scum & latrines in the camp
of the 38th B. The only difficulty
is the matter of funds.
In the Civil branches of Adminis-
tration an advance is authorized
and the account is kept completed
is sent in, & the charge cleared
off the books on receipt of the sanction
of an authorized officer.

In the Military Department no
such power for obtaining funds
to commence work upon is available.
Either the Barack Master
must be placed in funds by
T.P.C. Cir (18-1-77)

FOR ORDERS. 333

the Public Works Officer - to be
a credit with the Public Works
Office. His behavior that in Bengal
the Barack Master is in this sub-
D.P.W., have all
such petty Military works are
met out of funds provided by that
Department. This seems to me
to be the simplest arrangement -
a Bill upon honor, supported by
witnesses, would enable the
P.C. Executive Engineer to open
the Bill & bring it in to his
accounts - His knowledge of
work & prices would check fraud,
and he would be in a position
to supervise the work done.
On the Indian Branches the Officers
of the Bengal Branches have largely
aided the Engineers in carrying
on petty public works but ^{proving} ~~without~~
scientific professional knowledge -
but they were a special body
under the complete control of
the Officer in Charge. In this
Presidency the circumstances
are not the same and I can
see reasons why the Officer is
only there but he is called on
to do things not ^{strictly} pertaining to
their calling.

22nd January 1877.

No 259

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 26th January

Read the following:

From

The District Engineer
Presidency

(N.E. No. 5259 of 13th Jan 1877)

Work of the temporary
character of that under
notice, not requiring
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tervention of Engineer
Officers, should, in
the opinion of His
Grace the Governor
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to the Examiner of
Public Works Accounts
in accordance with instructions
from that Office.

Ann

Ch 333



Govt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

District Engineer.

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 26th June 1877, No. 259

Nos. 504 - 575

Heat Screens for temporary
Catlines for 38th Regt. A.I.
Residency. - Passing
orders in letter from the
D^{ty} Engr^y regarding the
provision of — &
requesting that a ruling
be enforced for execution
of such works by un-
skilled Agency.

[Signature]