

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Work **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 330	(14)	Press -Mis-
Dated	29-6-	1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th June 1877, No. 330 W

General
Account

Read the following paper —

No 294 From Captain L CONWAY-GORDON, R E, Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, General Branch, dated Fort St George, 20th June 1877, No 48 W

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of Government, copies of correspondence that has taken place between the Accountant-General, (Public Works Department,) and this office relative to the 1st paragraph of G O, No 983, dated 20th March 1877

2 From this correspondence it will be observed that some inconvenience will be caused if the strict letter of the order of Government be adhered to. The Objectionable Item List is at present an extract from the registers of objectionable items, which have to be maintained in this office under the orders of the Government of India, and it makes all the difference between a simple copy and the preparation of a new statement, whether certain items are or are not left out

3 The object of placing the objectionable item before Government is as much to acquaint them with what is objectionable as to obtain their orders thereon, and should items be omitted simply because they are not in a complete state to be disposed of, Government will remain imperfectly acquainted with the full extent of the irregularity to be dealt with. I would also point out the tendency, should such items be omitted, of officers delaying their explanations in order that the item may not be entered in the statement submitted to Government

4 For these reasons, I would suggest the continuance of the present practice of including all items; Government reserving their orders on those with regard to which the information is incomplete until such time as they may reappear in some later return with all the information necessary to enable Government to finally dispose of them

From Captain L CONWAY-GORDON, R E, Examiner of Public Works Accounts, to the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, dated 11th May 1877, No 14 A

I HAVE the honor to forward you the Objectionable Item Statement under Provincial submitted by me to the Local Government, for the month of January 1877, together with G O, No 1,144, dated 3rd May 1877, passed thereon (both to be returned), as also a copy of paragraph I of G O, No 983, dated 20th March 1877, referred to therein

2 My object in referring this case to you is to learn the precise meaning to be attached to the first sentence of paragraph 31 B of Standing Order No 24 of 1874

3 This office has hitherto held that the Objectionable Item Statement was to include all the objectionable items remaining unremedied, and in this view the Objectionable Item Statement has always been a mere transcript from the register

The local Government, however, appear to consider that the Objectionable Item Statement submitted by the Examiner should contain only such unremedied items as the Examiner and Superintending Engineer cannot dispose of, or regarding which they differ in opinion

4 In the view of this office the list would contain all items regarding which the Audit Note had not been returned, while in the view of the local Government all such items would be excluded

5 I have accordingly to request you to instruct me fully on this point, for it has appeared to me that, if the view of the local Government be correct, a Superintending Engineer has only to delay indefinitely the reply to the Audit Note to avoid the irregularities in his circle ever coming to the notice of Government

From the Accountant-General, Public Works Department, to Captain L CONWAY-GORDON
R E, Examiner of Public Works Accounts, dated 26th May 1877, No 300 G.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 14 A, dated 11th May 1877.

2 You are perfectly justified in including in an Objectionable Item Statement any items of which you think the local Government should be informed, and any irregularities which you may consider are not being stopped sufficiently quickly by the Superintending Engineer

3 But when irregularities, though actual, are trifling, and not of a nature requiring to be reported to the Government of India, the local order you have received would justify you in disposing of them yourself, as it exempts you from the responsibility of bringing them to the notice of the local Government, when you do not consider them to require special treatment

No 295. ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1877, No 330 W.

UNDER the circumstances explained in this correspondence the Governor in Council will not object to the inclusion of any items of objectionable outlay except those of very trifling amount. It should, however, be understood that complete information will be obtained as early as practicable. It should rarely happen that any item appears in two successive statements without the fullest explanation

(True Extract)

Colonel, R E
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

PALPAS.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL BRANCH.

NO. 48 W.

PORT ST. GEORGE, 20TH JUNE 1877.

SIR,

I HAVE THE HONOR TO FORWARD FOR THE INFORMATION OF GOVERNMENT COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL (P.W. DEPARTMENT) AND THIS OFFICE RELATIVE TO THE 1ST. PARA OF G.O. NO. 922 DATED 20TH MARCH 1877.

2. FROM THIS CORRESPONDENCE IT WILL BE OBSERVED THAT SOME INCONVENIENCE WILL BE CAUSED IF THE STRICT LETTER OF THE ORDER OF GOVERNMENT BE ADHERED TO. THE OBJECTIONABLE ITEM LIST IS AT PRESENT AN EXTRACT FROM THE REGISTERS OF OBJECTIONABLE ITEMS WHICH HAVE TO BE MAINTAINED IN THIS OFFICE UNDER THE ORDERS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, AND IT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SIMPLE COPY AND THE PREPARATION OF A NEW STATEMENT, WHETHER CERTAIN ITEMS ARE OR ARE NOT LEFT OUT.

3. THE OBJECT OF PLACING THE OBJECTIONABLE ITEMS

BEFORE GOVERNMENT IS AS MUCH TO ACQUAINT THEM WITH WHAT IS
OBJECTIONABLE, AS TO OBTAIN THEIR ORDERS THEREON, AND SHOULD
ITEMS BE OMITTED SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT IN A COMPLETE
STATE TO BE DISPOSED OF, GOVERNMENT WILL REMAIN IMPERFECTLY
ACQUAINTED WITH THE FULL EXTENT OF THE IRREGULARITY TO BE
DEALT WITH. I WOULD ALSO POINT OUT THE TENDENCY, SHOULD SUCH
ITEMS BE OMITTED, OF OFFICERS DELAYING THEIR EXPLANATIONS IN
ORDER THAT THE ITEM MAY NOT BE ENTERED IN THE STATEMENT SUB-
MITTED TO GOVERNMENT.

4. FOR THESE REASONS, I WOULD SUGGEST THE CONTINUANCE
OF THE PRESENT PRACTICE OF INCLUDING ALL ITEMS; GOVERNMENT RE-
SERVING THEIR ORDERS ON THOSE WITH REGARD TO WHICH THE IN-
FORMATION IS INCOMPLETE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY MAY REAPPEAR IN
SOME LATER RETURN WITH ALL THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO EN-
ABLE GOVERNMENT TO FINALLY DISPOSE OF THEM.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO BE,

SIR,

YOUR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

Lowry-Soder

EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

EXD.J.P.
10-6-77.

CD. S.P.
20-6-77.

ENCLO. NO. I

COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.
TO THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL P.W. DEPARTMENT. NO. 14 A. DATED
11TH. MAY 1877.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO FORWARD YOU THE OBJECTIONABLE
ITEM STATEMENT UNDER PROVINCIAL SUBMITTED BY ME TO THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1877, TOGETHER
WITH G.O. NO. 1144 DATED 3RD. MAY 1877 PASSED THEREON (POTH
TO BE RETURNED) AS ALSO A COPY OF PARA I OF G.O. NO. 923
DATED 20TH. MARCH 1877 REFERRED TO THEREIN.

2. MY OBJECT IN REFERRING THIS CASE TO YOU IS TO
LEARN THE PRECISE MEANING TO BE ATTACHED TO THE FIRST
SENTENCE OF PARA 21 B. OF STANDING ORDER NO. 24 OF 1874.

3. THIS OFFICE HAS HITHERTO HELD THAT THE OBJECTION-
ABLE ITEM STATEMENT WAS TO INCLUDE ALL THE OBJECTIONABLE
ITEMS REMAINING UNREMEDIED, AND IN THIS VIEW THE OBJEC-
TIONABLE ITEM STATEMENT HAS ALWAYS BEEN A MEFE TRANSCRIPT
FROM THE REGISTER.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOWEVER APPEAR TO CONSIDER
THAT THE OBJECTIONABLE ITEM STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY THE
EXAMINER SHOULD CONTAIN ONLY SUCH UNREMEDIED ITEMS AS
THE EXAMINER AND SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER CANNOT DISPOSE
OF, OR REGARDING WHICH THEY DIFFER IN OPINION.

4. IN THE VIEW OF THIS OFFICE THE LIST WOULD CONTAIN ALL ITEMS REGARDING WHICH THE AUDIT NOTE HAD NOT BEEN RETURNED, WHILE IN THE VIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ALL SUCH ITEMS WOULD BE EXCLUDED.

5. I HAVE ACCORDINGLY TO REQUEST YOU TO INSTRUCT ME FULLY THAT ON THIS POINT, FOR IT HAS APPEARED TO ME, IF THE VIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BE CORRECT & SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER HAS ONLY TO DELAY INDEFINITELY THE REPLY TO THE AUDIT NOTE TO AVOID THE IRREGULARITIES IN HIS CIRCLE EVER COMING TO THE NOTICE OF GOVERNMENT.

ENCLO. NO. 2.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE ACCOUNTANT GENERAL, P.W. DEPARTMENT TO THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS. NO. 200.G. DATED 26TH. MAY 1877.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF YOUR LETTER NO. 14 A. DATED 11TH. MAY 1877.

2. YOU ARE PERFECTLY JUSTIFIED IN INCLUDING IN AN OBJECTIONABLE ITEM STATEMENT ANY ITEMS OF WHICH YOU THINK THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE INFORMED, AND ANY IRREGULARITIES WHICH YOU MAY CONSIDER ARE NOT BEING STOPPED SUFFICIENTLY QUICKLY BY THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER.

3. BUT WHEN IRREGULARITIES, THOUGH ACTUAL, ARE TRIFLING, AND NOT OF A NATURE REQUIRING TO BE REPORTED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, THE LOCAL ORDER YOU HAVE RECEIVED WOULD JUSTIFY YOU IN DISPOSING OF THEM YOURSELF AS IT EXEMPTS YOU FROM THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BRINGING THEM TO THE NOTICE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHEN YOU DO NOT CONSIDER THEM TO REQUIRE SPECIAL TREATMENT

TRUE

< TRUE COPIES >

CHIEF ASST. TO EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

EXD. J.P.
19-6-77.

CD. S.E.
10 6-77.

Memo 1144 of 3 May 1877
G.O. No 983 of 20 Mar. "
Standing Order for 1877

P.W.D.
No 6697

FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

MADRAS.

TO THE SECY. TO GOVERNMENT.

P.W. DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL BRANCH.

NO. 48 W.

DATED 20TH. JUNE 1877.

RECD.

ENCLO.

FORWARDING FOR THE INFORMATION OF GOVERNMENT COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE IST. PAFIA OF G.O. NO. 983 DATED 20TH. MARCH 1877.

4 @ 29th June/77 Bk 294

No 330 W
Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 29 June 77

Read the following:-

the Examiner of P.W. Accounts (H. S. N. 48 W. dated 20th June 1877)

Under the circumstan-

ces explained in this correspon-

dence the Governor in Council

will not object to the inclusion

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the Examiner of P.W. Accounts the fullest explanation.

Disp^d 10. 7. 77

Est 23/6

Arbog
Govt. of 1877, Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl

27-77
G O, 29th June 1877, No ³³⁰~~240~~W

Nos. 294-295

Objectionable Items.

"Paying orders in letter form
the by marks regarding
Certain —

Entered in Register