

No. 1,450.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th October 1880.

Read the following papers :—

From A. C. TUPP, Esq., Officiating Accountant-General to the Government of Madras, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 12th June 1880, No. 423-N :—

WITH reference to the Board's Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 6,014, dated the 5th June 1880, I have the honor to state that I intended when issuing my Circular to which the Board refer that the same procedure as is followed in the case of ordinary Office Contingent Bills and Abstracts should be followed with regard to the Petty Construction and Repair bills. The same officer who countersigns the Office Contingent Bills will countersign the bills for Petty Construction and Repairs, and when there is no countersigning officer the detailed bill will be signed by the disbursing officer, all vouchers for sums above Rs. 10 being attached to the bill instead of only vouchers above Rs. 100 as is the case when there is a countersigning officer. The completion certificate should, I consider, be signed by the officer under whose supervision the work has been carried on and the form of certificate was framed accordingly. Officers are now familiar with the method of drawing money on abstracts and submitting detailed bills subsequently, and I thought it advisable to retain the same method for Petty Construction and Repair charges so as to prevent mistakes as far as possible.

From J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., C.S.I., Collector of Vizagapatam, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 20th July 1880, No. 809.

I HAVE the honor to report that as the Sub-Jails at Narsapatnam and Srungavarupukota are in urgent need of repair, I have, in anticipation of the Government sanction, placed Rs. 500 at the disposal of the Principal Assistant and Rs. 500 at the disposal of the Assistant Collector, Mr. Mounsey, out of the Rs. 1,000 provided for in the Provincial Budget for repairs to Civil Buildings, with instructions to have the buildings put in thorough order; and request that the necessary sanction of the Government may be obtained.

2. I presume that as, under the new system, petty repairs to Civil Buildings are to be executed by the Heads of the Departments in charge of the buildings, no detailed estimates need be submitted.

From C. J. CROSTHWAITE, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th August 1880, No. 332.

In forwarding herewith a copy of letter, No. 376, dated 7th instant, from the Deputy Collector of Cumbum Division, I have the honor to request instructions as to whether Collectors can sanction the execution of repairs and improvements up to Rs. 1,000 without reference to the higher authorities.

2. Paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 728-W, dated 20th March 1880, directs that Heads of Departments must make their own arrangements for the execution of repairs to buildings in their charge. And according to Section 1,175 of the Public Works Code, the Collector has power to sanction expenditure within a limit of Rs. 500, and I beg to be informed whether the Government Order quoted supersedes the provision of the Public Works Code to the extent above specified, or whether I am to submit estimates for works costing more than Rs. 500 for the sanction of the Board or Government according to circumstances.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From MAHOMED AZUM GHUTTALA SAHIB, Deputy Collector of Cumbum, to C. J. CROSTIWAITE, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Cumbum, 7th August 1880, No. 376.

In submitting herewith copy of Cumbum Sub-divisional Officer's letter, No. 167, dated 5th instant, I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to favor me with instructions as to the executing of repairs and petty improvements to public buildings costing less than Rs. 1,000, as Department of Public Works now decline to execute such repairs.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. D'A. O. WOLFE-MURRAY,
for Acting Collector.

From A. CRUICKSHANK, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 3rd September 1880, No. 319.

With reference to paragraph 7 of G.O., dated 30th July 1880, No. 1,819-W, communicated by the Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd ultimo, Miscellaneous No. 9,235, I have the honor to inquire whether the sum of Rs. 4,560 allotted in the Provincial Budget for repairs to buildings in charge of, or occupied by, the Revenue Department in this district and which the Board in their Proceedings, dated 24th June last, Miscellaneous No. 6,830, informed me I could utilize for the purpose of such repairs, can be now utilized by me for such repairs (not costing Rs. 1,000 in each case) without special sanction of the Board or Government. I have already appropriated Rs. 85-11-5 of it required for emergent repairs to my own Cutcherry.

In connection with the orders of Government transferring to the departments concerned the execution of ordinary repairs to Civil Buildings and the construction of petty or temporary buildings of all classes within a limit of Rs. 1,000 in each case, hitherto provided for in the Public Works Department Budget, instructions appear to be called for on the points noted below, as regards works transferred to the Revenue Department:—

- (1) The powers of Collectors and the Board to sanction estimates for such works;
- (2) The countersignature of estimates;
- (3) The countersignature of detailed contingent bills for expenditure incurred on the above works;
- (4) The grant of completion certificates.

2. Under the orders marginally noted, Collectors are empowered to sanction estimates for all works under Petty Construction and Repairs, if the estimated cost is Rs. 2,000 or less and if provision is made for the expenditure in the budget, and the Board are empowered to sanction works up to Rs. 5,000. These powers will be held to apply also to repairs to Civil Buildings and to the construction of petty or temporary buildings within a limit of Rs. 1,000 in each case, transferred from the Public Works Department to the Revenue Department. It will therefore not be necessary for Collectors to submit estimates or obtain the previous sanction of the Board or Government in regard to works the estimated cost of which is Rs. 2,000 or less, and for which provision is made in the budget. The powers of Collectors to sanction works up to Rs. 2,000 have been hitherto apparently held to apply only to Salt Works, owing to the allusion in paragraph 1 of Board's Standing Order No. II of 1875 to Standing Order No. VII of 1872 (207-6), which refers to Salt Works, but G.O., dated 5th December 1874, No. 1,501, on which Standing Order No. II of 1875 is based was not restricted to such works but is of general application.

3. Under the Government Order marginally noted, Collectors are required to obtain the countersignature of officers of the Department of Public Works to estimates and bills for works the cost of which may exceed Rs. 500. The sanction of Government will be requested to a modification of this rule so as to dispense with the countersignature of officers of the Department of Public Works to estimates and bills up to Rs. 1,000 under the head of Petty Construction and Repairs.

4. The system of account and audit prescribed by the Accountant-General in his Circular, dated 21st May 1880, No. 15, and explained in his letter above quoted, will be adhered to. The officer to countersign the detailed contingent bills for Petty Construction and Repair works will be the Board's Circular Official Memorandum, dated 27th May 1874, No. 664. Collector of the district with reference to the paper marginally noted.

5. In regard to the completion certificates to be forwarded with the detailed bills, the Accountant-General's form provides for their being signed by the officer under whose supervision the work has been carried out. The Board do not think it necessary that any money limits should be prescribed as regards the commitment of works for execution to the various grades of officers in the Mofussil—Revenue Inspectors, Deputy Tahsildars, Tahsildars, Divisional Officers, &c. They prefer to leave it entirely to Collectors to make their own arrangements for the execution of works. From their knowledge of the qualifications of their subordinates, they are in the best position to decide what works may be entrusted for execution to individual officers. The form of completion certificate proposed by the Accountant-General, which fixes the responsibility for the proper construction and execution of the work on the person selected to superintend the work, is approved.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, 5th June 1880, Mis. No. 6,014,
and of Circular Official Memorandum, 27th May 1880, No. 664.
" Accountant-General, with copy of
Circular Official Memorandum, 27th May 1880, No. 664. 74
To all Collectors, with copy of Board's Proceedings,
dated 5th June 1880, Miscellaneous No. 6,014.

Copy to the Acting First Member, Board of Revenue,
in charge of Settlement Department, with do.
" " Superintendent of Revenue Survey, with do.
" " Superintendent of Government Farms.
" " " of Stamps.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

14th December 1880, No. 1,711.

READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER:—

No. 244. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th October 1880, No. 1,450.

ABSTRACT.—Requesting instructions of Government on certain points in connection with the orders transferring to departments concerned the execution of repairs to civil buildings and construction of petty or temporary buildings of all classes within a limit of Rs. 1,000 in each case.

No. 245. ORDER THEREON, 14th December 1880, No. 1,711.

Miscellaneous.

THE modification of the rule as to countersignature by officers of the Public Works Department, suggested in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, has been sanctioned, so far as Salt works are concerned, by G.O., dated 20th October 1880, No. 1,359. The sanction is hereby extended to works appertaining to other heads of Revenue within the limit of Rs. 1,000.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department. ✓
„ the Settlement Department.
„ the Superintendent of Revenue Survey.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Conservator of Forests.

Exd. W. H. French.

200 Copies.

Board of Revenue,

1880.

MADRAS.

To THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 6th.

Printed 18th

Received 20/10/80

PROCEEDINGS, 6TH OCTOBER 1880, No. 1,450.

OCTOBER.
No. 1,450.

Repairs to Civil Buildings and construction of Petty or Temporary Buildings of all classes within a limit of Rs. 1,000 in each case.—Requesting instructions of Government on certain points in connection with the orders transferring to departments concerned the execution of —.

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to the officers of the
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