

(1) Number of pages 28  
 (2) Date of repair 4. 82  
 (3) Initials of the Referencer long

# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PUBLIC WORKS. DEPARTMENT

|          |            |         |
|----------|------------|---------|
| G.O. No. | 3004 - W.  | Press.  |
| B.P. No. |            | Mis.    |
| Dated    | 7. 8. 1882 | - 19/ . |

my

my

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.  
Account.

No. 50.

READ—again G.O., dated 8th April 1881, No. 948 W.

Read—also G.O., dated 25th July 1882, No. 616, Ecclesiastical:—

Read—the following letter from Rev. W. A. LISTON, Senior Chaplain, Church of Scotland, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 18th July 1882:—

Since taking over charge of St. Andrew's Church I have come to learn that during my absence on furlough an order of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 8th April 1881, No. 948 W., was passed charging the sum of Rs. 475 to the pew-rents of the church for repairing the dials of the clock on the steeple. As I believe the whole facts of the case were not fairly before Government when that order was passed, and as my *locum tenens* was not acquainted with the history of the clock so as to represent the matter at the time, I trust His Excellency the Governor in Council will not think me presumptuous or out of order, at this distance of time from the passing of the order, in stating a few facts known to me with a view to the reconsideration of the subject.

2. I am well aware of the existence of paragraph 1448 of the Public Works Code on which the order was based, which lays down that the *care* of clocks shall be charged to the pew-rents in churches where such a fund exists; but I trust the representation I have now to make will be deemed sufficient to exempt this particular clock from this ruling.

3. First of all the clock does not belong to St. Andrew's Church, but is a *Public clock*, paid for by public subscription raised in the year 1850. It was intended for the use of the public and the inhabitants in the surrounding districts of Vepery, Egmore, &c., (see Appendix I). It was put up in the steeple under the superintendence of the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, at the expense of Government (see Appendix II). In no way whatever is it peculiarly connected with the congregation of St. Andrew's beyond the fact that it happens to be placed in the steeple of the church for the public use, and I think it hard that our funds, which are primarily intended for charitable and religious purposes generally, should be hampered to such a very large extent as Rs. 475 for so alien an object as the repairing of a public clock.

4. But, secondly, by "Minutes of Consultation," dated 10th March 1854, (see Appendix III) the Government took over the clock, included it in the list of Government clocks, and agreed from that date to keep it in repair. It thus appears the clock is a Government clock and they are responsible for its upkeep. Curiously enough the Military Board in that order undertook to execute, at the expense of Government, the very same kind of repairs (see Appendix III) as those that have been lately effected. But in this last case, owing I believe to a want of knowledge of the existence of this order, the expense of the repairs has been charged to the Kirk Session, and not, as should have been done, according to agreement and according to precedent, to the Public Works Department.

5. Upon these two grounds alone, viz., first that the clock is a public clock, and, second, that the Government have assumed all responsibilities in connection with it, I humbly and respectfully submit that the sum in question can scarcely legitimately and fairly be charged to the funds of the church.

6. But when I state further the great disorganization into which this very heavy charge has thrown our financial affairs and hampered our efforts for good. I trust we shall have, as a congregation, the sympathy and support of His Excellency the Governor in Council in our attempts to extricate ourselves from these difficulties. I may state as a fact that chiefly on account of this charge for the repairing of the clock our usefulness as a congregation has been very greatly impaired, and at this moment the church is in debt Rs. 1,600. The Rs. 475 was the beginning of our insolvency and somehow or other during the last sixteen months the debt has gone on accumulating till it has reached the amount I have mentioned. I am now making an effort to have this debt wiped out, but I must say I find it hard to appeal to the charity of the public to dissolve a claim which, to my mind, should have been met by the Public Works Department.

7. I trust, therefore, you will lay these facts before His Excellency the Governor in Council for his favorable consideration, and I have humbly and respectfully to request that the Order dated 8th April 1881, No. 948 W., Public Works Department, be cancelled—that the repair of the clock be charged to the Public Works Department, and the amount (Rs. 475) refunded to the Kirk Session.

No. 50-A.

Order—dated 25th July 1882, No. 616, Ecclesiastical.

Transferred to the Public Works Department for consideration.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,  
Chief Secretary.

No. 51.

Order—dated 7th August 1882, No. 2004 W., Public Works.

It is now explained that the clock fixed in the steeple of the Kirk at Madras is public and not church property. Paragraph 1448 of the Public Works Code does not therefore apply, and the sum spent from church funds on its repair will be refunded by the Executive Engineer, Presidency, who can apply for an additional allotment if necessary.

(True Extract.)

Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,  
Irrigation Branch.

To the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle  
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.  
" Ecclesiastical Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.  
Spare Copies

GENERAL  
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of (1882) Madras.  
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated August, 7th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 7th Aug. 1882, No. 2004 W.

AUGUST.  
Nos. 50-51.

Clock fixed in the steeple of the  
Kirk.

Directing the Executive Engineer, Presi-  
dency, to refund the sum spent from church  
funds on the repair of the —.

Ecclesiastical Department.  
Church of Scotland.  
Senior Chaplain's Office.  
Madras, 18<sup>th</sup> July 1882.  
From  
The Rev W. A. Liston  
Senior Chaplain  
Church of Scotland  
Madras.

To  
The Chief Secretary  
to Government  
Cotacaiman.

Sir,

Since taking over charge  
of Saint Andrew's Church, I have come to  
learn that during my absence on furlough  
an Order of Government in the P. W. Depart-  
ment, dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 1881, No 948 W, was pas-  
sed charging the sum of Rs 475 to the Pew  
rents of the Church for repairing the dial  
of the clock on the steeple. As I believe the  
whole facts of the case were not fairly before  
Government when that order was passed,  
and as my locus tenens was not acquaint-  
ed with the history of the clock as to  
represent the matter at the time, I trust  
His Excellency the Governor in Council  
will not think me presumptuous or out of  
order, at this distance of time from the

passing of the order, to state a few facts known to me with a view to the reconsideration of the subject.

2. I am well aware of the existence of paragraph 1448 of the P. W. Code on which the order was based, which lays down that the care of clocks shall be charged to the Poor rents in churches where such a fund exists, but I trust the representation I have now to make will be deemed sufficient to exempt this particular clock from this ruling.

3. First of all the clock does not belong to St. Andrew's Church, but is a public clock, paid for by public subscription raised in the year 1850. It was intended for the use of the public and the inhabitants in the surrounding districts of Ropery, Egmore, etc. (see Appendix I). It was put up in the steeple under the superintendence of the Executive Engineer, Presidency Division, at the expense of Government (see Appendix II). In no way whatever is it peculiarly connected with the Congregation of St. Andrew's, beyond the fact that it happens to be placed in the steeple of the church for the public use, and I think it hard that our funds, which are primarily intended for charitable and religious purposes generally should be hampered to such a very large extent as Rs. 475 for so alien an object as the repairing of a public clock.

4. But secondly by Minutes of Com-

mission dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 1854 (see Appendix III) the Government took over the clock, included it in the list of Government clocks, and agreed from that date to keep it in repair. It thus appears the clock is a Government clock and they are responsible for its up keep. Curiously enough the Military Board in that order undertook to execute at the expense of Government the very same kind of repairs (see Appendix III) as those that have been lately effected. But in this last case, owing I believe to a want of knowledge of the existence of this order, the expense of the repairs has been charged to the Truck Session, and not, as should have been done, according to agreement and according to precedent, to the Public Works Department.

5. Upon these two grounds above, viz. 1<sup>st</sup> that the clock is a public clock, and 2<sup>d</sup> that the Government have assumed all responsibilities in connection with it, I humbly and respectfully submit that the sum in question can scarcely, legitimately, and fairly be charged to the funds of the Church.

6. But when I state further the great disorganization into which this very heavy charge has thrown our financial affairs and hampered our efforts for good, I trust we shall have as a congregation, the sympathy and support

of His Excellency the Governor in Council,  
in our attempts to extricate ourselves  
from these difficulties, I may state as  
a fact that chiefly on account of this charge  
for the repairing of the clock our usefulness  
as a congregation has been very  
greatly impaired, and at this moment  
the Church is in debt Rs 1500. The Rs.  
475 was the beginning of our indebtedness and  
some how or other during the last fifteen  
months the debt has gone on accumulating  
till it has reached the amount I  
have mentioned. I am now making  
an effort to have this debt wiped out,  
but I must say I find it hard to ap-  
peal to the charity of the public to dis-  
solve a claim which to my mind should  
have been met by the Public Works De-  
partment.

I trust, therefore, you will lay  
these facts before His Excellency the Gover-  
nor in Council for his favorable con-  
sideration, and I have humbly and  
respectfully to request that the order,  
dated 8<sup>th</sup> April 1881, N<sup>o</sup> 948 W. P. W. D., be  
cancelled that the repair of the clock  
be charged to the P. W. Department  
and the amount (Rs 475) refunded  
to the Kirk Session.

I have the honor to be

Yours most obed<sup>t</sup> servant  
Wm. J. L. F.

W. J. L. F.  
No. 1111  
I have come up to see  
before — There  
appears to be no question  
about the Kirk being  
entitled to a refund  
of Rs 475 — The  
Clock is clearly a public  
one — does not belong  
to the Kirk — but the  
Kirk permitted it to be  
placed in its steeple as  
a tower for the public  
convenience

4. 8. 82

D: W

Was this matter come  
before you? - If the  
matter stands as put  
by Liston, the Bank  
seems to have been hardly  
cheated with

Blt

30/7/82

Madras

21st July 1882

My dear Colonel Denby

I sent off yesterday  
an application to Govt. through  
the Chief Secretary to have the  
order of Govt. P.M.D. dated 8th  
April 1881 No 948 - charging  
the cost of repairing the clock on  
St Andrew's Church to the parents  
of the Church - cancelled. The  
matter will likely be transferred  
to your department and I hope  
you will do what you can to  
get us have the money back again.

Yours

You will see the papers when  
they come before you, but the thing  
stands upon which I ask for  
a reconsideration of the order in  
1st The clock does not belong to  
St. Andrews Church, but is a public  
clock & paid for by public subscription.  
You might as reasonably come  
down upon the few cents of the  
kirk for the repairs of any other  
clock in Madras as well as this.  
The kirk has nothing whatever  
to do with it beyond the mere  
maintenance that it happens

to be put up in the steeple.  
2nd The clock belongs to Govt  
& in an order dated 10th March  
1854 they agreed to look after  
the clock & keep it in repair.

I am sure you will agree  
with me in thinking that if these  
facts had been pointed out at the  
time the charge would never have  
been made. Unfortunately my  
locum tenens was not aware of  
the facts & could not point them  
out at the time. It is only since  
my return from furlough the  
other day that I became aware  
of the heavy claim made against  
my congregation. Upon this

ground I trust you will not  
look the delay in bringing the  
subject to notice, being the case  
as favorable a light as pos-  
sible & do what you can to  
have this very unjust claim  
relieved.

Yours truly  
J. A. W.

J. A. W.

GOVERNMENT OF

Public Works Department

Ootacamund,

188

C. A. W.

Please learn this  
matter looked up and  
send me papers -

I have no recollection  
of the subject.

31.7.82

To J. W.

Letter submitted  
under the circumstances  
now explained. How  
is it the most objectionable  
to

J. A. W.

Secretary, Government of India

His Excellency the Governor in Council,  
attempts to extricate ourselves

(Appendix I)

Good  
-look  
-sally  
in a  
Silb  
have  
with

Ref  
1/18

175  
lock fixed in the  
theple of the Kirk  
the day before proceeding  
investing the funds  
sum spent from  
much funds are  
sup air of the

21

Let the Board be

## No. 7. Prospectus.

"The want of public clocks in Madras has long been felt a cause of great complaint among the European and East Indian inhabitants — at present there are only two, and these are so situated as to be of little use to the community at large — that of St. Mary's being of no advantage to any but those within the walls of the Fort, and that of St. George's being in a very thinly peopled locality.

Tepey, the most densely peopled European District of Madras, embracing within its limits a large proportion of the European and East Indian population containing two churches, several chapels, schools, public hospitals, the University, the Gun Carriage Manufactory, the Vapery Lines, and other public establishments, is wholly unprovided with any such convenience. It is proposed to remedy this want by erecting a Public clock in the steeple of St. Andrew's Church which from its position is in every way admirably adapted for this purpose.

It has been ascertained by enquiry of the first makers in London that the cost of a clock of the best description, striking the hours, will not exceed Rs. 1560. and with chimes, striking the quarters, about Rs. 2300.

It is proposed to raise this sum by Subscriptions, and when this is done, to lay the Subscription List before the Governor in Council for his sanction, which there is every reason to believe will be readily

"granted. It is therefore respectfully and con-  
fidently anticipated that the Public  
will accord their liberal support to an  
object of such obvious and general utility."  
Madras 9<sup>th</sup> May 1850.

|                             |                                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| J. Rutherford Macfarlane 50 | A. F. Bruce — 35                      |
| J. G. Fullerton — 25        | C. Stewart — 10                       |
| D <sup>r</sup> Wylie — 100  | J. Sanderson — 10                     |
| R. B. Campbell — 50         | J. F. Thomas — 25                     |
| J. B. Hey — 25              | W. Grant — 10                         |
| D. MacKenzie — 25           | Alex. Stewart — 10                    |
| Miller & Sons — 20          | T. G. Clarke — 5                      |
| A. Denville — 15            | H. Brunette — 7                       |
| F. F. Whittigates — 15      | J. A. Feuz — 5                        |
| T. S. Pratt — 20            | P. John Christian<br>(Church Party) 5 |
| T. G. Luard — 15            | R. B. Bell — 25                       |
| R. Gordon — 10              | M. Luya — 5                           |
| J. Ricknick — 25            | A. Luya — 5                           |
| J. Maitland — 15            | Chas. Dunhill — 5                     |
| P. Carstairs — 15           | W. Taylor — 5                         |
| A. Patridge — 10            | Jas. Richardson — 5                   |
| B. L. Hider — 15            | C. P. Brown — 100                     |
| A. E. Parsons — 10          | P. Orr — 25                           |
| A. Gerrard — 10             | A. M. Simpson — 21                    |
| T. Browne — 5               | G. Williams — 10                      |
| F. Lushington — 15          | J. Higginbotham — 5                   |
| C. Currie — 10              | J. Kellie — 15                        |
| D. Boyd — 30                | E. Salmon — 10                        |
| H. Co. Anderson — 5         | W. Taylor — 10                        |
| Thos Madras — 15            | Barrie & Co — 25                      |
| P. Montgomerie — 25         | J. M. Wilson — 5                      |
| J. S. Spence — 10           | W. G. Maddox — 5                      |
| E. B. P. — 5                | E. Maister — 10                       |
| W. B. Thompson — 20         | H. & B. Kelly — 5                     |
|                             | H. Boileau — 5                        |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| H. Kaurst — 10         |
| D. Lorimer — 10        |
| R. Lushington Reilly 5 |
| J. Anderson — 5        |
| Sir C. Rawlinson — 20  |
| D. Elliott — 20        |
| R. Bonjoin — 5         |
| Geo Wylie — 10         |
| W. Liddell — 10        |
| Colin C. Dunhill 6     |
| W. Johnston — 7        |
| A. Robertson — 20      |
| P. Austruther — 5      |
| Thos Sydney Smyth — 10 |

### (Appendix II)

"No 166 Ecclesiastical Department.  
"Extract from the Minutes of Consultation  
"Dated 13<sup>th</sup> August 1850.

"Read the following letter from the  
"Officiating Senior Presbyterian Chaplain  
"Here entered 7<sup>th</sup> August 1850

"The Right Honourable the Gov-  
"ernor in Council will be prepared to sanc-  
"tion the remission of Import duty on the  
"Works of a Turrah block to be purchased  
"by subscription and placed in the Steeple  
"of St Andrew's Church on the arrival of the  
"same from England and will direct the  
"Superintending Engineer of the Presidency  
"Division to have it erected.

(Same Extract)

(H. C. Montgomery  
Chief Secretary

To The Officiating Senior  
Presbyterian Chaplain.

(Appendix III.)

No 64 Ecclesiastical Department.  
Extract from the Minutes of Consultation  
Dated 10th March 1854

Read the following letter from the Senior  
Presbyterian Chaplain.

Here enter 9th February 1854.

The Military Board will include  
in the List of Government blocks the block  
recently erected in the Tower of St Andrews  
Church, and the Commissary General will  
direct the issue of such quantity of oil as may  
suffice to light it for four hours after sunset.  
2. It is understood that the figures of the  
Clock are not plainly perceptible beyond the  
road immediately outside the Church  
Compound and that there is some de-  
fect in the lighting which prevents the il-  
luminated Dial being as generally useful  
as was expected. If this be the case the  
Military Board will adopt measures  
for remedying this defect.

(True extract)

To The Senior  
Presbyterian Chaplain.

(H. C. Montgomery  
Chief Secretary

Extracted from Records kept at Saint  
Andrews Church, Glasgow.  
(True extracts)

J. R. Liston

Senior Chaplain  
Church of St. Andrew  
Glasgow.

Witness  
10th July  
1854

12/2024

No 62 - 15th July 1882  
Cotacamund  
25th July 1882

Off 616 175

From The Rev W. A. Liston  
Senior Chaplain  
Church of Scotland  
Madras

The Chief Secy to Govt  
Cotacamund

Recd 22 July 1882

Dated 18th  
Recd } July 1882

CORRESPONDENCE 189

Submits that as St Andrew's  
Church Madras is a public  
clock purchased by subscription,  
and Govt assumed all responsi-  
bilities in connection with its  
repairs, the Rs 475 diverted from  
the Rev Secy by G.O. No 948 W 8<sup>th</sup>  
April 1881 for repairing the  
clock, the clock is to be  
repaid to St Andrew's Church funds.

No 948 W 8<sup>th</sup> April 1881

No 2004 W

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

Under date the 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 1882  
Read the following:-

G.O. No 948 W 8<sup>th</sup> April 1881.

Read also:-

Endorsement - Ecclesiastical  
Dept. - on letter from the  
Rev W. A. Liston, Senior  
Chaplain, Church of Scotland,  
Madras d/ 18<sup>th</sup> July 1882

(N.C. No 616 d/ 15<sup>th</sup> July 1882)

It is now explained  
that the clock fixed in  
the steeple of the Kirk  
at Madras is public and  
not Church property. Para-  
graph 1448 of the M.L.A.  
does not therefore apply  
and the sum spent from  
Church funds on its repair  
will be refunded by the  
Government.

By order

9-9-07

Remains from 3-6-04

10/2  
8/8  
11/45

10/8