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4. On the matter being brought to my notice, I wrote to Mr. Nugent, now at Bangalore, asking his reasons for making the alterations, and beg to enclose his answer.

5. The plate, as altered, will be much more serviceable than the old, besides being of a chaster design. Under these circumstances I would request Government to pardon the irregularity, but to pass such orders as will prevent Government property being altered without sanction.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Rev. C. P. C. NUGENT, Chaplain, to the Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras, dated Bangalore, 31st January 1887.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 182, of the 28th instant.

2. In reply I beg to state that before giving the order for the alteration of the Communion plate of the North Black Town Church I had not seen the Government Order quoted in your letter.

3. I would desire to express my deep regret for having unintentionally acted in contrariety to its ruling, and trust that my inexperience in official routine may be offered as some excuse. I would also beg to assure you, sir, that in acting as I did, I did not for a moment intend the apparent disrespect to your office which I fear my action may have seemed to be.

4. My reasons for acting as I did were as follows :—

(*a*) The old plate was exceedingly cumbersome, and in communicating aged and infirm people the risk of spilling the holy element was very great. The stained condition of the fair linen cloth at the time of my taking charge would prove what I say.

(*b*) The amount of plate seemed to me to be greatly in excess of that needed even for the maximum number of communicants.

(*c*) In the event of private communions (should the Chaplain not possess—as in my case —a private set of vessels) the great size of the chalice was a very serious difficulty in communicating sick people.

5. In conclusion, I would beg once more to express my sorrow for having acted without previously consulting you and obtaining sanction for the step I took.

Order—dated 28th March 1887, No. 47, Ecclesiastical.

The Government will on this occasion accept the Rev. Mr. Nugent's explanation of his conduct; but they will view with serious displeasure the recurrence of any such irregularity.

2. The cost of recasting and the loss incurred have not been stated. This should be reported.

3. The Venerable the Archdeacon will also ascertain and report whether the Lay Trustees were aware of Mr. Nugent's intention, and, if so, why they did not inform him of the Government Order of 1877 prohibiting the alteration.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Venerable the Archdeacon.
„ Right Reverend the Bishop.

READ—also the following paper :—

From the Venerable J. F. BROWNE, B.D., Archdeacon of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 18th April 1887, No. 225.

With reference to No. 47, dated 28th March 1887, concerning the alteration of the Sacramental plate of the North Black Town Church, I have the honor to state—

(1) The weight of the old Communion plate in silver was 183 oz. 4 dwts., value Rs. 448-8-0; weight of silver used in the new plate, including 5 per cent. wastage, is Rs. 210.

The cost of making the new plate and supplying two crystal cruets was Rs. 230, leaving a balance in favor of the church of Rs. 8-8-0.

(2) The Lay Trustee was not aware of Mr. Nugent's intention to have the plate altered.

2. I have the honor also to request that such an order may be passed as will prevent in future the alteration of Government property without previous sanction.

ORDER—dated 5th May 1887, No. 69, Ecclesiastical.

The Rev. Mr. Nugent in this case has been guilty of the grave impropriety of getting a Communion plate belonging to the North Black Town Church, the alteration of which had been forbidden in G.O., 22nd October 1877, No. 240, recast on his own responsibility and without the knowledge of his Lay Trustee, thereby causing to Government a loss of some 230 rupees.

2. Mr. Nugent pleads that he was not aware of the Government Order in question, but he must at any rate have known that in a matter of this sort he was bound to consult the Lay Trustee. Had he done so the Government Order would probably have been brought to his notice. The fact of the Lay Trustee having been thus ignored was not known to Government at the time they passed their previous order dealing with the case (G.O., 28th March 1887, No. 47). If they had been aware of this circumstance, they would probably have called on Mr. Nugent to make good from his own pocket the expense of altering the plate. But as his explanation was then accepted, this question will not now be re-opened.

3. The Venerable the Archdeacon will call the attention of all Chaplains and Church Committees to the provisions of Rule XVIII, clause 2, of the Ecclesiastical Rules published in G.O., 17th July 1885, No. 141, under which the articles therein mentioned can be supplied or renewed only on the certificate of the Executive Engineer. Executive Engineers will be instructed in the Public Works Department not to grant such certificates except on the requisition of both Chaplain and Lay Trustees.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Venerable the Archdeacon.
„ Right Reverend the Bishop.
„ Public Works Department.

Exd. L. Passaigne.

Govt. of {1887} Madras.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

Adutheuno ho 1447 W
Dated 27 May 1887.

Communicated to Supty Engrs. for the information & guidance of all Executive Engrs. with reference to the concluding clause of Para 3.
Cdy T.O.H.
W

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 5th May 1887, No. 69.

B. No 1447 Wdy 27 May 1887

MAY.

Communion Plate.

Passing orders on the action of the Rev. Mr Nugent in altering the Communion plate of the North Black Town Church.

S.E's
Exec. W.a

With orders

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers :—

G.O., dated 22nd October 1877, No. 240, Ecclesiastical.

Read—letter from the Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras, dated 17th October 1877.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding letter from the Rev. Babington, Chaplain of North Black Town, enclosing an estimate and drawing of a Flagon, Chalice, and Paten to be made out of the Communion plate now in use in North Black Town Church.

Order—dated 22nd October 1877, No. 240, Ecclesiastical.

His Grace the Governor in Council has seen the Communion plate in use in the North Black Town Church, and does not consider that any possible reason exists for making the proposed renewal at a loss of nearly half the value of the property.

2. It is noted that one Paten requires repair ; the Church Committee should see to this at once.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

To the Venerable the Archdeacon, with two enclosures and drawing.

G.O., dated 28th March 1887, No. 47, Ecclesiastical.

Read—the following letter from the Venerable J. F. BROWNE, B.D., Archdeacon of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 7th March 1887, No. 199 :—

I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, an irregularity that has taken place in the alteration of the Sacramental plate belonging to the North Black Town chaplaincy without previous sanction.

2. The old plate was unquestionably large and cumbersome, and application was made in 1877 to Government for its being recast ; this was refused by G.O., No. 240, dated 22nd October 1877.

3. In December 1886 the Rev. C. P. C. Nugent, then Acting Chaplain of North Black Town and new upon the establishment, not being aware of this order, sent the plate to be recast, which has accordingly been done.

4. On the matter being brought to my notice, I wrote to Mr. Nugent, now at Bangalore, asking his reasons for making the alterations, and beg to enclose his answer.

5. The plate, as altered, will be much more serviceable than the old, besides being of a chaster design. Under these circumstances I would request Government to pardon the irregularity, but to pass such orders as will prevent Government property being altered without sanction.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Rev. C. P. C. NUGENT, Chaplain, to the Venerable the Archdeacon of Madras, dated Bangalore, 31st January 1887.

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 182, of the 28th instant.

2. In reply I beg to state that before giving the order for the alteration of the Communion plate of the North Black Town Church I had not seen the Government Order quoted in your letter.

3. I would desire to express my deep regret for having unintentionally acted in contrariety to its ruling, and trust that my inexperience in official routine may be offered as some excuse. I would also beg to assure you, sir, that in acting as I did, I did not for a moment intend the apparent disrespect to your office which I fear my action may have seemed to be.

4. My reasons for acting as I did were as follows:—

(*a*) The old plate was exceedingly cumbersome, and in communicating aged and infirm people the risk of spilling the holy element was very great. The stained condition of the fair linen cloth at the time of my taking charge would prove what I say.

(*b*) The amount of plate seemed to me to be greatly in excess of that needed even for the maximum number of communicants.

(*c*) In the event of private communions (should the Chaplain not possess—as in my case—a private set of vessels) the great size of the chalice was a very serious difficulty in communicating sick people.

5. In conclusion, I would beg once more to express my sorrow for having acted without previously consulting you and obtaining sanction for the step I took.

Order—dated 28th March 1887, No. 47, Ecclesiastical.

The Government will on this occasion accept the Rev. Mr. Nugent's explanation of his conduct; but they will view with serious displeasure the recurrence of any such irregularity.

2. The cost of recasting and the loss incurred have not been stated. This should be reported.

3. The Venerable the Archdeacon will also ascertain and report whether the Lay Trustees were aware of Mr. Nugent's intention, and, if so, why they did not inform him of the Government Order of 1877 prohibiting the alteration.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Venerable the Archdeacon.
„ Right Reverend the Bishop.

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From the Venerable J. F. BROWNE, B.D., Archdeacon of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 18th April 1887, No. 225.

With reference to No. 47, dated 28th March 1887, concerning the alteration of the Sacramental plate of the North Black Town Church, I have the honor to state—

(1) The weight of the old Communion plate in silver was 183 oz. 4 dwts., value Rs. 448-8-0; weight of silver used in the new plate, including 5 per cent. wastage, is Rs. 210.
The cost of making the new plate and supplying two crystal cruets was Rs. 230, leaving a balance in favor of the church of Rs. 8-8-0.

(2) The Lay Trustee was not aware of Mr. Nugent's intention to have the plate altered.

2. I have the honor also to request that such an order may be passed as will prevent in future the alteration of Government property without previous sanction.

ORDER—dated 5th May 1887, No. 69, Ecclesiastical.

The Rev. Mr. Nugent in this case has been guilty of the grave impropriety of getting a Communion plate belonging to the North Black Town Church, the alteration of which had been forbidden in G.O., 22nd October 1877, No. 240, recast on his own responsibility and without the knowledge of his Lay Trustee, thereby causing to Government a loss of some 230 rupees.

2. Mr. Nugent pleads that he was not aware of the Government Order in question, but he must at any rate have known that in a matter of this sort he was bound to consult the Lay Trustee. Had he done so the Government Order would probably have been brought to his notice. The fact of the Lay Trustee having been thus ignored was not known to Government at the time they passed their previous order dealing with the case (G.O., 28th March 1887, No. 47). If they had been aware of this circumstance, they would probably have called on Mr. Nugent to make good from his own pocket the expense of altering the plate. But as his explanation was then accepted, this question will not now be re-opened.

3. The Venerable the Archdeacon will call the attention of all Chaplains and Church Committees to the provisions of Rule XVIII, clause 2, of the Ecclesiastical Rules published in G.O., 17th July 1885, No. 141, under which the articles therein mentioned can be supplied or renewed only on the certificate of the Executive Engineer. Executive Engineers will be instructed in the Public Works Department not to grant such certificates except on the requisition of both Chaplain and Lay Trustees.

(True Extract.)

Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Venerable the Archdeacon.
„ Right Reverend the Bishop.
„ Public Works Department.

Exd. L. Passaigne.

PWC No. 3843

B. No. 1447 Wdy 27 May 1887.

Communicates to Comm.a to Supg supply rupees for the rupees for the informatin. and information and guidance of all guidance of Executive Engineers all Collectors with reference to Engineers, with the concluding clause the concluding clause of para 3. clause of para 3.

20-5-87

Jru 23/5/87

SE's ✓ Collectors ✓ Executive Engrs Escr. ✓

27/5/87

O.S. 142. ✓ M. 23-5-87

Q. 20-5-87. 2. 26-5-87

Govt. of {1887} Madras.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

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Issued

Recd. 20-5-87 Encl.

G.O., 5th May 1887, No. 69.

B No. 1447 Wdy 27 May 1887

MAY.

Communion Plate.

Passing orders on the action of the Rev. Mr Nugent in altering the Communion plate of the North Black Town Church.

With orders