Copy of letter from the Examiner P.W. Accounts Madras, to the General Superintendent P.W. Stores, No 269 S.E5 dated 4th August 1887.

With reference to G.O. No. 1885 W. dated 14th July 1887, I have the honor to enquire what is the book value of the timber you propose selling to the Railway Department (presumably the Madras Railway Company), and at what price fair you propose to sell it.

2. The favor of an early reply is requested.

/True Copy/

Hamley

For Supt. Correspondence Branch.

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Copy of letter from the General Superintendent S. W. Stores, to the Examiner S. W. Accounts Madras, No. 4618 dated 5th August 1887.

With reference to your letter No. 2698/85, dated 4th August 1887, I have the honor to state that, the book value of teakwood is Rupees 2-4-0 per Cubic foot, and I have proposed to sell it to the Madras State Railways at the same rate, without the additional charge of 23 per Cent, and not to the Madras Railway Company, as presumed in the above letter, and I do not think it advisable to sell any to the Madras Railway Company.

True Copy

For Supt. Correspondence Branch.

2/9.
2/9.

Copy of letter from the Examiner S.W. Accounts Madras, to the General Superintendent S.W. Stores, No. 307 S.&S. dated 23rd August 1887.

With reference to your letter No. 461 S of the 5th Instant, I have the honor to invite your attention to G.O. No. 1738 W dated 10th July 1886, and to state that unless any modification of the rule in force is specially sanctioned by Government, the timber required by the Madras State Railways must be issued at the book rate plus 23 per cent.

/True Copy/

W Bramley
For Supt. Correspondence Branch.

89. 2/9.
2/9.

Copy of letter from the General Superintendent P. W. Stores, to the Excaminer P. W. Accounts Madras, No. 544 S. dated 25th August 1887.

With reference to your letter No. 307 S & S, dated 23rd August 1887, I have the honor to enclose copy of a Demi Official from the Superintending Engineer 5th Circle, authorizing the issue of Teak timber in the Public Works Stores to the Bellary Kistna State Railway at the book rate. This is further supported by para 2. of Excaminer of P. W. Accounts letter recorded in G.O. No. 1738 W. dated 10th July 1886, and G.O. No. 1715 W dated 27th June 1887, directing sale of surplus stock at a reduction of from 10 to 30 per Cent in the Cost price at my discretion. In this instance there has been no reduction whatever, the full value of the Timber having been charged. The stock of Timber on the 1st June 1887 was Cubic feet 19117-0-6, being Cubic feet 9117-0-6 in excess of requirement, from this Surplus I have issued to the Bellary Kistna State Railway Cubic feet 4410-3-3 at the book cost, and I shall continue to supply the Railway until the surplus stock of Teak timber is cleared.

/True Copy/

W. Brantley

E.D. 2/9. for Supt. Correspondence Branch. 2/9

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Bangalore
15th June 1887.

My Dear Joyce.

In reply to yours of 14th as the Government are very desirous to reduce the stock of timber, I think it would be a good plan to let the Madras State Rys have as much as they require, at the price it stands in your books.

I accordingly authorize this being done. Let me know soon how much they want, of course you will not allow them to take so much that you will have none for use for our own purposes.

Yours Sincerely
(Signed) Henry. St. Vibart
(True Copy)

(Signed) A. Joyce.
General Supdt P.W. Stores
(True Copy)

W Armstrong
For Supdt Correc Branch. 5/9

29. 3/9.

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87

[C. No. 8.]

GOVT. OF MADRAS. } 188 . { P. W. DEPT.

EXAMINER, P. W. ACCOUNTS.

Madras, 3rd September 188 .

OFFICE NOTE No. 508.

To

Endn 5

W.

KEEP-WITH Genl. No.

dated 188 .

I solicit orders of Government on the marginally noted correspondence (copies enclosed) with the General Superintendent P.W.Stores, regarding the price charged for the teak timber to the Madras State Railways under the authority of G.O. No.1885 W. dated 14th. July 1887.

2. With regard to the Superintendent's claim of a right to treat the timber in question as "surplus stock", I beg to point out that the proposal approved by Govt. in the above quoted G.O. was a proposal that the State Railways should "be allowed to have what we can spare from the P.W.Stores", and that "surplus stock" does not mean simply "what can be spared", but "what cannot be used up within any

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Examiner's No. 269 S.E. 5th. dated 4th. August 1887.
General Suptt's. No. 461 S. dated 5th. August 1887.
Examiner's No. 307 S.E. 5th. dated 23rd. August 1887.
General Suptt's. No. 544 S. dated 25th. August 1887.

1000—12-5-87.

reasonable time, if ever". In this case the timber sold to the State Railways will have to be almost immediately replaced by fresh timber from Burma, but with a dead loss of the additional value given to the timber by one or two years seasoning, the importance of which was fully recognized in G.Os. Nos. 721 W. dated 15th. March 1884 and 2987 W. dated 4th. December 1884, to say nothing of the labour (which means expense) involved in handling the two lots of timber, the lot sold and the lot by which it will be replaced.

3. I do not for a moment question the propriety of allowing another department of the state — or rather another branch of the same department — to have, in case of need, whatever can be spared, even if it were at considerable inconvenience; nor do I think that, as between one department of the state and another, there should be any desire to make a profit on such transactions; but I submit that, as between fund and fund — and in this case the sale is from Provincial to Imperial — there should at any rate be no loss to the seller.

4. The timber in question is not "surplus" stock, in the sense in which the word is used in G.O. No. 1715 W. dated 27th. June 1887 and therefore in accordance with G.O. No. 1738 W. dated 10th. July 1886, the timber should not, without the special sanction of Govt., have been sold to the Madras State Railways except at an advance of 23 per cent on the book value; and as the General Superintendent apparently considers that the authority given to him, in G.O. No. 1715 W. of 27th. June 1887, may be exercised by him, at his discretion, in respect of any stores that he thinks he can manage to spare, it is, I submit, desirable that the meaning of the expression "surplus" stores should be more fully explained to him.

5. I regret having to draw attention to the attitude assumed by the General Superintendent. In reply to my letter bringing his notice to the order of Govt. on the subject, and pointing out that 23 per cent above book value should be charged

or the sanction of Govt. obtained, he replies, in effect, in his No. 544 S. dated 25th. August 1887, that he intends to continue the sales at book rates only. He submits, it is true, a demi-official letter from the Supg. Engineer, which however shows no signs of any knowledge of the rules bearing upon the question, or of the existence of any doubt in the matter, and is no author- - ity for disregarding an order of Govt. It is my special duty to see to the observance of such rules and orders as are concerned in this matter, and it would be impossible to secure regularity in respect of them, if every officer of the department were to claim the right to ignore the Examiner's opinion as to the necessity of sanction, and to defer any reference to Govt., until it is too late (as now in the present case) for such a reference to be of any use. It is a question, not of the authority of the Examiner, but of the authority of Govt., for the enforcement of which the Examiner is the appointed instrument. I venture to hope, therefore, that the General Superintendent may be told that he is bound to accept the Examiner's opinion as to necessity for sanctions; and to take immediate steps to obtain such sanctions, when the necessity is pointed out.

C.

3/9.

3/9.

3/9.

G.O. 1715 W. 27.6.87
B. No 1885 W. 14.7.87
" 2345 W. 16.9.86
G.O. 1732 W. 9.7.86
" 1585 W. 8.7.83
" 860 W. 9.6.83
" 3998 W. 16.12.84
" 2752 W. 5.11.84
" 2987 W. 4.12.84
" 721 W. 15.3.84
B. No 1738 W. 10.7.86
No 2430 C. 2.7.86
B. No 1724 W. 23.7.83
" 625 W. 14.3.83
No 1578 B. 10.7.83
B. No 1569 W. 6.7.83
" 850 W. 8.4.83
" 1666 W. 3.7.84
" 7884 W. 24.3.84
" 3265
3266 W. 16.11.83
" 2692 W. 25.9.83

P.W.C. No. 6958

G.S. 9.87

E.S.

No 2470 dt 18th Sept 1887

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

READ the following

Office note from the Examiner St. Enc 508 dt 3rd Sept. 1887.
Papers etc.

The General Supdt.

P. W. Stores appears to have misunderstood (also gotten) the extent of the powers conferred on him in G.O. No. 1715 W of 27th June 1887, and to have failed to realise the fact that stock or stores should not be treated as "surplus", so long as there is a probability of their being used up by sale at authorised rates, or otherwise, within a reasonable time.

2. In the case in point the timber sold to the Madras State Railways, should have been issued with an additional charge of 23% on the book rates, as ordered in G.O.

G.O. No. 1738 W of 16th July 1886; and when this was pointed out by the Examiner P.W. Accounts, the General Superintendent should at once have taken steps to obtain the sanction of Government to any alteration in the price of the timbers. In future the General Superintendent must understand that he is bound to accept the opinion of the Examiner P.W. Accounts as to the necessity for sanctions, and to take immediate steps to obtain such sanctions when the necessity is pointed out.

Initials
7.9.87

To The Supdg Engr
Nilgiris
Exr. No. 11.

O. 7-9-87.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

READ the following

Office Note from the Examiner P.W. Accounts, No. 508 of 3rd Sept 1887.

The General Supdt P.W. Stores appears to have altogether misunderstood the extent of the power conferred on him in G.O. No. 1715 W of 27th June 1887.

2. In G.O. No. 1885 W of 14th July 1887, the Supdg Engineer was authorised to reduce the stock of timber in the P.W. Stores to 10.000 cft, by the sale to the Railway Dept of about 10.000 cft. The ordinary rate at which the timber should have

Initials
2 Sept.

been charged to another Dept,
as ordered in G. O. No. 173 SW
of 10th July 1886, is 23 per cent
in excess of the book rate.
When this was pointed
out by the Examiner P. W.
Accounts, the General Supdt
should at once have taken
steps to obtain the Sanction
of Govt to sell at a reduced
rate. In future the General
Supdt must understand
that he is bound to accept
the opinion of the Examiner
P. W. Accounts as to the
necessity for sanctions, and
to take immediate steps to
obtain such sanctions when the
necessity is pointed out.

Jor
9/2/87.

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15/9

To
The Supdg Engineer
V Circle
" " Exr. P.W. Accounts.

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