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GOVT.  
OF MADRAS.

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CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION

Madras, 26 March 1888.

OFFICE NOTE. N<sup>o</sup> 53

## Circulation Register.

| To   | From     | Despatch<br>Date. | Receipt<br>Date. |
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KEEP-WITH.

No. dated 188 .

Under para 520 of the P.W.  
Code please issue an order authorizing  
the Examiner of P.W. accounts to pass  
Presidency Allowance for C. A. Smith Esquire  
from the forenoon of 14 March 1888,  
the date on which he joined this  
office.

*[Signature]*  
26/3/88  
D. E. S.

*[Signature]*  
26-3-88

GENERAL  
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1888) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated July, 25th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 25th July 1888, No. 2267 W.

JULY.

## Presidency Allowance

Recording intimation from the Govern-  
ment of India regarding the non-modifica-  
tion of the regulations relative to the grant  
of — in Madras.

25TH JULY 1888, No. 2267 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.  
Establishment.

READ—the following paper :—

From G. H. D. WALKER, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of India,  
Public Works Department (General), to the Secretary to the Government  
of Madras, Public Works Department, dated Simla, 11th July 1888,  
No. 1729 G.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 1353 W., dated the 8th  
May 1888, and, in reply, to say that, under the explanation therein given, the regula-  
tions regarding the grant of Presidency allowances in Madras will not be modified.

ORDER—dated 25th July 1888, No. 2267 W., Public Works.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Colonel, R.E.,  
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Financial Department.

Exd. F R. Bantleman.  
Spare Copies

8TH MAY 1888, No. 1353 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.  
Establishment.

LETTER—from

COLONEL J. O. HASTED, R.E.,  
*Secretary to the Government of Madras,  
Public Works Department,*

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 598 G., dated 10th  
March 1888, forwarding copy of a note by the Finance Committee, and inquiring  
with reference thereto whether there is any objection to the abolition of the Presi-  
dency allowance drawn by certain officers of the Public Works Department in Madras.

2. It is stated in para. 2 of your letter that when Presidency allowance was first  
sanctioned, it was not considered essential by the Government of Madras, who  
adopted *in lieu* a conveyance allowance for the officers employed at the Presidency  
Town and at Bangalore, and that the latter allowance was continued up to 1881, when  
the scale of Calcutta Presidency allowance was adopted. This statement of the case  
does not, I am to say, seem quite accurate. Presidency allowance was introduced  
at Calcutta and Bombay in 1865, while carriage allowance to officers in Madras was  
drawn prior to 1863 as a part of consolidated salary and, thereafter, as a separate  
allowance, in accordance with the re-organisation scheme sanctioned in G.O.  
No. 1599, dated 18th June 1863 (copy attached for reference). The grant of Presi-  
dency allowance on the present scale came into effect at Madras in 1879, and not  
1881. *Vide* G.O. No. 1263 W., dated 1st May 1879.

3. It is observed that the Finance Committee propose to retain the Presidency  
allowance in Calcutta and Bombay, while abolishing it at Madras. They say, "We  
have satisfied ourselves that the cost of living in Madras (apart from that of house-  
rent) is not necessarily greater than that of living in the mofussil."

4. From information which has been laid before him, His Excellency the  
Governor in Council is disposed to think that the cost of living in Madras, to officers  
of the classes affected, is by no means less expensive than in Calcutta or Bombay;  
while as compared with the mofussil, there are many extra items of expenditure  
which an officer stationed in the Presidency town cannot avoid, and it is always  
necessary, on account of the very great distance between the Public offices and  
residences in Madras, for an officer to keep a carriage while in the mofussil, the horses  
which an officer keeps for travelling, and for which he pays out of travelling allowance,  
can be used. It must also be remembered that officers of the Public Works Depart-  
ment stationed at Madras draw only the pay of their rank, unlike Civilians whose

offices are specially paid. Apart therefore from the Presidency allowance, the selection of an officer of the Public Works Department for duty in Madras would entail on him pecuniary loss by depriving him of all travelling allowances, and if the Presidency allowance is to be done away, it will become necessary to attract the best men to the Secretariat and other posts in Madras by attaching special salaries to those appointments.

5. It is assumed in the Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce, No. 1705, dated 30th March 1888, that an officer's salary is supposed to include the cost of keeping up such means of conveyance as are requisite for his ordinary duties, if he is of the same standing as persons who in this country ordinarily use such means of conveyance; but I am to point out that there can be no doubt that carriage hire costs much more in Madras than in the mofussil. The Presidency allowance of an Assistant Engineer will not pay the monthly hire of an office carriage, which at Madras is from Rs. 65 to Rs. 75 per mensem. Granting that conveyance allowances, as such, are not claimable, the extra expenditure entailed on officers on this account when transferred to the Presidency town may, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, be properly considered when judging whether "the cost of living in Madras is not necessarily greater (paragraph 42 of Mr. S. Jacob's note) than that of living in the mofussil."

6. For these reasons, His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable to accept the conclusion at which the Finance Committee have arrived, and sees no reason why Public Works officers in Madras should be treated differently in the matter of Presidency allowance from those stationed in Calcutta or Bombay.

7. The Government of India will, I am to say, be separately addressed on the subject of the Presidency allowances withdrawn from officers of the Survey Department stationed in Madras.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Colonel, R.E.,  
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

OOTACAMUND,  
8th May 1888.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.  
Spare Copies

GENERAL.  
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1888) Madras.  
PUBLIC WORKS.

*Dated May, 8th.*

*Recd.*

*Encl.*

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8th May 1888, No. 1353 W.

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MAY.

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**Presidency Allowance**

Expressing inability to accept the decision  
of the Finance Committee considering that —  
should be abolished at Madras.