M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 505 — Press ~~Mis.~~

69-70

Dated 5 - 3 — 1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 5th March 1861.

No. 69. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 15th February 1861, No. 627 :—

From the Commissary General, Madras, 6th February 1861, No. 38, to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

With reference to Proceedings of Government, in which Lieutenant Walker, Deputy Assistant Commissary General at Trichinopoly, is censured for culpable neglect in deferring to so late a time to inform the Magistrate of his difficulty in getting Carriage for the 1st Regiment Light Cavalry, I have the honor to request you will submit to Government a communication which I have received from that Officer, and I trust that the explanation he has offered will induce Government to relieve Lieutenant Walker from the censure passed on him.

23rd January 1861, No. 164.

30th January 1861, No. 24.

2. It would appear that according to G. O. C. C. No. 121, dated 26th November 1860, it was the duty of the Officer Commanding to endeavour to obtain Carriage for his Regiment, in which Lieutenant Walker seems to have assisted him to the best of his power, and that the Officer Commanding having failed even with that assistance, reported, as it was his duty to do according to the G. O. C. C. already quoted, to the Civil Authority, and therefore if any unnecessary delay occurred on the occasion, Lieutenant Walker, who is an excellent Officer of his Department, was not answerable for it.

From the Deputy Assistant Commissary General, Trichinopoly, 30th January 1861, No. 24, to the Commissary General, Madras.

Having been informed that the Government, in an Order dated the 23rd instant, have censured me for not applying to the Collector soon enough for the Carts required for the 1st Regiment Light Cavalry, I request you will do me the favor, if necessary, to lay before them the following statement. I believe that the Order was issued on wrong information conveyed in a Telegram from the Collector, to the effect that the Cavalry was to march on the 28th, whereas, they were only ordered to march "on being provided with Carriage;" and that the Collector has since written to remove the wrong impression made; but I think it as well that you should be in possession of the facts of the case.

On Monday the 14th January, the Quarter Master 1st Regiment Light Cavalry requested me to give notice that he would receive Tenders for the supply of 305 Carts. I recommended him to fix a day, either Wednesday or Thursday; and to enable me to give my assistance said that, if he wished, I would direct the Tenders to be sent to my Office. To this he agreed, and fixed on Wednesday (the 16th).

On Wednesday, after some delay, all the Maistries assembled at the Office, and stated that some of them had just seen the notice; that they had not had sufficient time for consideration, and requested permission to give in their Tenders on the next day, Thursday.

On Thursday three Tenders were presented for 2 Annas,* 2½ Annas and 2½ Annas respectively; the Maistries stipulated 1st, that they should be allowed two weeks to collect the Carts; 2nd, that they should receive an advance of Rupees 700, and 3rd, that the Collector should write to the Village authorities to render them assistance, and to compel the attendance of the Cartmen to whom they might give advances. I stated that our wish was to procure Carts without the Collector's interference, that the price asked was very high, double that usually given, and requested them to consider the matter again and give me an amended Tender.

**Per mile.*

In the evening they gave an amended Tender for Rupees 24† the trip, which I gave to the Quarter Master for the acceptance of the Commanding Officer.

†1½ *Rupees less than 2 Annas per mile.*

The Commanding Officer considered the price asked rather high, and delayed his acceptance. On Saturday I called on the Commanding Officer and found that he was willing to accept the

Tender, and had sent for the Bandy Maistries. When the Maistries came to my Office I drew up an agreement for their signature, they objected that the clause regarding the Collector's assistance had been omitted. I said the Collector would give them what assistance he could, but that he could not impress Carts for them, that they demanded a high price and must make the necessary arrangements themselves. They refused however to sign any agreement without this clause, and I therefore sent them to the Collector in order that he might explain to them what he could, and what he could not do for them—they returned and stated that the Collector could only assist them by punishing the Cartmen for breach of contract, but that would be of no practical use to them; that when they undertook to supply Carts for the 34th Regiment C. L. I., several Bandymen had failed to come according to their agreements, and that they were in consequence fifty or sixty Carts short of the required number which were procured by impressment.

On the same day, Saturday (the 19th), in the evening, finding that I could not come to terms with the Maistries, to prevent further delay, I wrote to the Commanding Officer reporting the failure of my endeavours to procure Carts and requesting him to apply to the Collector.

The Governor in Council accepts the explanation offered by Lieut. Walker as satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, 5th March 1861, No. 505.

It appears from Lieutenant Walker's statement that the Cart Maistries agreed before any application was made to the Collector, to the same rate of hire to which they finally agreed, with the latter Officer; but that no engagement could be made because the Maistries insisted on special aid being given to them in procuring Carts and enforcing the attendance of Cartmen. Such special aid is not only illegal, but is quite opposed to the intentions of the Government; the Honorable the Governor in Council resolves therefore to call on Mr. McDonell to explain precisely what help he promised to the Contractors or gave them reason to expect, and to what extent such aid was actually given.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Rev Depart

No 505

Proceedings of the Madras Government dated the 5th March 1861.

Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department

accept as satisfactory the explanation offered by Lieut Walker, Dy Asst Com Genl, relating to the order censuring him for not applying to the Collector sooner enough for the Carts required for the 1st Regt Light Cavalry.

Received on the 15th July 1861. 627

It appears from Lieut Walker's statement that the Cart Maistries agreed before any application was made to the Collector, to the same rate of hire to which they finally agreed with the latter Officer; but that no engagement could be

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dance of Cartmen.
Such special aid is
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is quite opposed to the
intentions of the Gov.
the Honorable the
Governor in Council
resolves therefore to
call on the Standard
to explain precisely
what help he pro-
mised to the Contrac-
tors & gave them reason
to expect, and to what
extent such aid
was actually given.

Copy to Mr Collectors of Trichinopoly Dept-
13 Cs Insts. Board of Revenue
7 " Military Dept

R – 23 January 1861 No 325
326
R Cr 20 Feb 1861

R – 16 November 60 No 280-281

R – 20 Dec 59 – 70-71

Received 1861 Report
& Copy of Govt proceedings &c.

No. 530.

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt in the
Military Department.

Dated 15 February 1861
Rec'd 26 February 1861

Recommends salesprahtaly
the Exemption offered
to Lieut Walker, Aide de Camp
to Commissary Gen, Tichborne
Brigade with reference to
the order concerning him
not applying to the
Collector soon enough for the
Carts required for the
Military Eighth Cavalry &c.

No 69.

No 505. 5 Inclosures

Copies of Joint Letters

Revenue 1861 Dept to
Pro: of Govt: for March

No 565.

Pro: of the Madras Govt:
Dpt: March 61.

Calling upon the Coll:
of Trichinopoly to explain
what help he promised
to the contractors of Carriage
for the 1st Regt: Light Cavalry
or gave them reason to
expect and to what extent
such aid was given
actually.

Mis Pro: 24 April 1861 No 18.

Lieut: Col: Mac Queen &c &c &c
to Commandant with the
Supply of Carts for the
Cavalry at Trichinopoly

No 69 & 70.