M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 547 Press ~~Alis~~.

39-40

Dated 3.4.1862 ~~19~~ .

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department, 3rd April 1862.

No. 39. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Work Department, dated 21st March 1862, No. 516.

Requesting that the Commissioner of Police be instructed to take charge of the Water Cistern in the North Esplanade, and directing that the cost of the Police Guard to be substituted by him for the Military, for the protection of the Cistern be included in the Tubular Statement to be submitted to the Government of India on account of establishments for the Seven Wells' water works.

(Vide Proceedings Public Works Department, dated 21st March 1862, Nos. 370—372.)

No. 40. ORDER THEREON, 3rd April 1862, No. 547.

Communicated to the Commissioner of Police in reference to paragraph 7. The Police Guard for the Water Cistern on the North Esplanade should be furnished, as directed, and the extra men added to the Police.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. F. Cartledge.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letters:—

From the Chief Engineer.

Reports upon several propositions relating to the establishment of the Seven Wells Water Works, and the collections made and expected to be made by the supply of water. } (Here enter 2nd November 1861, No. 6,804.)

Read again Proceedings in the Military Department, dated 15th February 1862, No. 596, and recorded in Proceedings Public Works Department, dated 19th February 1862, No. 263.

Declining to rescind order withdrawing the Military Guard from the Cistern on the North Esplanade, and sanctioning an establishment of Lascars at 50 Rupees a month instead.

Read also the following letter from the Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle:—

Submits letter from Commissioner of Police reporting the practicability of supplying a Police Guard for the above water cistern at a monthly cost of 37 Rupees. } (Here enter 28th February 1862, No. 11,012.)

ORDER THEREON, 21st March 1862, No. 516.

1. From the foregoing report of the Chief Engineer, the Government learn that the establishments kept up at the Seven Wells, for working those reservoirs and supplying water to the Military and other Departments and the public in general, consist of the following items aggregating Rupees 660-12-9 per mensem, or Rupees 7,929-9-0 per annum, *i. e.* supposing the temporary Picottah Men to be maintained throughout the year. Including however, difference between the bazar rates and the compensation rates for rice supplied to the Picottah men, and contingencies, it is observed that the total cost may be set down at Rupees 8,829-9-0 per annum.

	Nature of charge.	Per mensem.	Per mensem.	Total per annum.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
I.	Permanent establishment	414 12 9		
II.	Regimental do.	96 0 0		
III.	Extra Picottah Men for supplying cistern in Monument Esplanade	45 0 0		
			555 12 9	
IV.	Blacksmith... ... ... 17 8 0			
	Bellows Boy 3 8 0			
		21 0 0	*	
V.	Temporary Picottah Men for hot season ...	84 0 0		
			105 0 0	
			660 12 9	7,929 9 0
VI.	Difference between bazar and compensation rates for rice for Picottah Men as provided for in Supplemental Budget...			396 0 0
VII.	Contingencies at 42 Rupees per mensem			504 0 0
			Total...	8,829 9 0

* Resolution Government of India, Financial Department, 10th October 1860, No. 10,605.
Vide Proceedings of this Government (Military Department), 9th November 1860, No. 4,008.
† Rupees 21.
‡ Do. 84.

2. From paragraph 6 of the Chief Engineer's letter, it is observed that the first three items, aggregating Rupees 555-12-9, have been sanctioned by the Government of India;* so that provision has to be made for the remaining two items of the Seven Wells establishment, viz., the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy,† and the temporary Picottah Men‡ for the hot season.

3. It is explained that the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy originally formed part of the establishment of the Commandant of Engineers, under whom indeed the Seven Wells were formerly worked. On the creation of the office of Garrison Engineer in subordination to the

head of the Public Works Department, the Seven Wells were placed under the charge of the Garrison Engineer, and so passed from under the control of the Military Department to that of the Civil under the Chief Engineer. When application was sometime before that made for an increased establishment for the Seven Wells, the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy were not included in it, because these servants then belonged to the establishment of the Commandant of Engineers; and when this latter Officer subsequently reported on a reduction of his own establishment, he lost sight of the fact that the services of the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy, who were doing duty at the Seven Wells, would still be needed there, and accordingly included them in his measure of reduction: thus they came to be unprovided for in either establishment. The consequence of this was, that the salaries of these men were after that date charged for in contingent Bills. When the Chief Engineer became aware of this fact, he applied to have the Blacksmith and the Bellows Boy brought on the permanent establishment; but the Government, observing that their services had been ordered to be dispensed with, wished it to be explained how these servants came to be retained in contravention of their orders.* It is in answer to this call, that the present explanation (as noted above) has been afforded. In respect to the necessity of maintaining the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy, it is urged that there is constantly something to be done to the picottahs, viz., (as stated in the Chief Engineer's former† letter), repairing levers, buckets, &c., putting up bolts and clamps, making and fitting axles and axle boxes, &c.; that this is a description of work that cannot well be given out on contract, as it requires the continual presence of the Artificers on the spot, *i. e.*, within the compound of the Seven Wells, while were this course adopted it would cost just as much, if not more; that for the same reason it could not be done at the Mint, and if done on the spot by the Artificers furnished by that establishment, it would be open to the objection of the Mint Master incurring a periodical charge on account of the Seven Wells, and having it adjusted through the Public Works Department.

* Proceedings Military Department, 21st May 1861, No. 1,487.

† 31st July 1861, No. 3,347, paragraph 3.

4. As there has been already a good deal of confusion in adjusting the charges of the Seven Wells establishment, the Government agree that it will be preferable to have the work of the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy performed independently of any other establishment; and adverting to the strong reasons given for requiring the constant presence of these workmen on the spot, they resolve to forward the usual Tabular Statement to the Government of India, with their recommendation that the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy may be brought on the permanent strength of the Seven Wells establishment. Pending the sanction of the Government of India, the charges hitherto incurred on account of these servants will be passed and charged, as proposed by the Chief Engineer in paragraph 21, against the provision made by the Controller Military Finance in his Budget for the Seven Wells establishment.

5. As to the extra Picottah men for the hot season, the Government understand from paragraph 12 of the Chief Engineer's letter, that arrangements have been made with the Controller of Military Finance to provide for these men also, in addition to the provision already made in his Budget for the Seven Wells establishment up to the sanctioned extent of 6,669 Rupees a year. To obviate any future inconvenience and difficulty, funds should also be entered for the extra Picottah men for the whole year on the distinct understanding, however, that the provision is to be availed of only during those months when the services of the men may be absolutely needed to supplement the regular establishment. Whatever portion of the provision may be undrawn will thus be a saving to the Government.

6. From paragraph 14 it is understood that, although the charges incurred on account of the extra Picottah men were sanctioned by Government in paragraph 3 of their Proceedings of the 17th August, the Civil Paymaster had not passed the salaries of the men, because, as concluded by the Chief Engineer, he did not feel himself justified in passing a charge applicable to the Military Department; but from the remaining portion of the same paragraph, the Government observe that no further orders are required, as adverting to the circumstance of the Controller Military Finance making provision for the extra Picottah men in his Budget, arrangements have been made with that authority to pass the Bills charging for these men.

7. The Water Cistern in the North Esplanade has been hitherto protected by a Military guard of one Naigue and three Privates, but as the Military Department recently* decided that this is not a legitimate duty of the Local Military Force, the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer of the Central Circle,† finding it impracticable to provide otherwise for the protection of the Cistern, out of an establishment consisting of but Conicopolies and Cock-turners, and Picottah men, proposed a guard of eight Lascars at a monthly expense of 50 Rupees;‡ but at the same time begged that the order withdrawing the small Military guard might be rescinded, as he believed it would be difficult with a guard of the nature proposed, to prevent collusion for the private sale of the water to unauthorized parties. From the second of the papers recorded above, however, it was observed that the Government in the Military Department were unable to rescind their order withdrawing the Military guard, and that they therefore authorized the entertainment of the proposed establishment of Lascars at 50 Rupees a month, if arrangements could not be made to have a Police guard. The Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, having hereupon been required to communicate with the Commissioner of Police, and ascertain whether a guard could not be furnished from the local Police force in substitution of the Military party heretofore supplied, Colonel Carpendale reports in the third paper recorded above, that the Commissioner of Police will be able to supply a guard of one Naigue and four Police Peons, relieved twice in the week, by a corresponding addition to the Police force at an extra monthly cost of 37½ Rupees, or 444 Rupees per annum, besides an outlay at first of Rupees 100-2-0 for dress and equipment. As the expense of a Police guard is thus much less than that of the Lascar establishment proposed by Colonel Carpendale, while by the constant relief of the party the object of preventing collusive sale of water to unauthorized parties will be better attained, the Governor in Council resolves to include the cost of the proposed Police guard (37 Rupees a month) in the Tabular Statement about to be submitted to the Government of India, and authorizes the disbursement of the sum of Rupees 100-2-0 (required for the equipment of the Peons) from such funds as may be available in the Military Budget for such purposes. The substitution of a Police guard will, it is observed, raise the cost of the permanent establishment of the Seven Wells from Rupees 555-12-9 to Rupees 613-12-9 or Rupees 58 in excess per mensem. Under the authority conveyed in the Military Proceedings of the 15th February 1862, No. 566, for the entertainment of a substitute guard, and pending the sanction of the Government of India to the Tabular Statement, the Commissioner of Police will be requested to take charge of the Cistern at once, employing the additional force proposed by him for the purpose.

* Military Proceedings, 20th December 1861, No. 4,712.

† Letter dated 24th January 1862, No. 9,788.

‡

	Rs.
2 Lascars at 7 Rupees	14
6 Do. at 6 „	36
Total	50

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	Rs
1 Naigue	9
4 Peons at 7 Rupees	28
Per mensem	37
	12
Per annum	444

8. It only remains now to consider the question as to the principle upon which the water supplied from the Seven Wells should be charged for. It has been the practice hitherto to charge the public 8 Annas a month for an ordinary pot of water throughout the month; and from the Statement of Receipts and Charges now submitted, the average collections would appear to be about 36½ Rupees a month,‖ from this source, while the cost of supply is far greater. The Shipping however, have hitherto been supplied free of charge, and as in a former Order¶ of Government it had been ruled that the fees should be augmented if found inadequate to cover the expense of supplying the water, Lieutenant Tulloch (when in charge of the office of Presidency District Engineer) proposed, in lieu of raising the price of water supplied to private individuals, to assess those who were paying nothing for their supplies of water; and he accordingly suggested the propriety of charging the Shipping 8 Annas for a boat load of water, and the Arrack Distillery the same rates paid by private individuals. Eight Annas was fixed upon for a boat load, as each boat load consisted of 30 pots, equivalent to 1 ton of water, for which the

‖ Receipts from January to December 1860, 438÷12=36 7-4.

¶ 3rd April 1858, No. 58.—Vide Chief Engineer's letter 31st July 1861, No. 3,247, paragraph 3.

public was charged 8 Annas a month at thirty pots a month. In support of the proposition to charge the Shipping, it was reported that the Superintendent of Marine concurred in the arrangement. In paragraph 4 of their Proceedings of the 17th August, Government thought the proposal to be fair, but remarked that the exact rate should be regulated by the cost incurred in supplying the water.

9. In paragraphs 2 and 3 and 18 to 20 of his present letter, the Chief Engineer discusses this question. The Seven Wells establishment is a Military necessity; and the water supplied from the reservoirs is principally consumed by the Garrison of Fort Saint George. The consumption by the Military is estimated at about 9,964½ tons per mensem, and 5,229½ tons per mensem by certain Civil establishments and the Shipping, as shown in paragraph 2 of the Chief Engineer's letter. Taking the cost of the sanctioned establishment, Blacksmith and Bellows Boy, and extra Picottah men (Rupees 660-12-0 per mensem), and applying it to the quantity of water issued, with the addition of 5 per cent. on the value of the Seven Wells property (1¼ lac), the Chief Engineer arrives at about 1½ Anna per ton as the cost to Government of the water supplied. He therefore thinks it unfair to charge the public 8 Annas for what it costs the Government only 1½ Anna per ton to supply; but as to reduce the charge to the public without increasing the sources of collection, would only make the present deficiency still greater, the Chief Engineer proposes to charge the Shipping, Arrack Distillery, and other public Departments, for the water consumed by them at the actual cost, with a small addition to cover interest and depreciation, or 2 Annas a ton, or boat load.

10. The Government approve the proposed charge of 2 Annas instead of 8 for every ton of water supplied to private individuals and to the Shipping, and direct that the approved rate be brought into operation from the 1st May next. As to charging the Arrack Distillery and other Public Departments, the Government think it is nothing but fair that when the cost of the Seven Wells establishment is charged to the Military Department, that that Department should obtain credits for the water supplied by it to all others as a set off against the cost of the establishments kept up. Under this arrangement, it will not be necessary for the Arrack Distillery and other Departments to pay actual money for the water supplied to them, but they will be debited for the quantity of water received by each at the approved rate of 2 Annas a ton, and the Military Department will receive a corresponding credit in the public accounts. The money collected from private individuals and the Shipping will be paid into the Madras Bank on behalf of Government, and entered in the public accounts to the credit of the Military Department.

11. Under this arrangement, the funds for the Seven Wells will be supplied wholly by the Military Department; and if the present arrangement for supervising the working of the establishment is to be continued as the most convenient, the necessary funds will be made over from the Military Budget, and placed at the disposal of the Presidency District Engineer.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer.
" Military Department.
" Controller Military Finance.
" Accountant General.
" Civil Paymaster.
* Revenue Dept.
* Judicial Depts.

/True Copy/
W. H. Horsley Lieut.-Colonel
Secretary to Govt.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec'd 11 April.

2nd L 1862 Deptt
Proof April

Pros: of Govt and the
P. Wks Dt 516.

D/ 21st March
R/ 2nd April 1862

1 Place a/n

No 662

Requesting that the Commissioner of Police be instructed to take charge of the Water Cistern in the North Esplanade & directing that the cost of the Police Guard be substituted by him for the military for the protection of the Cistern be included in the Tabular Statement to be submitted to the Govt of India on account of 1st L for the seven works Water Works.

Noted an Order

39-40

Dist

No 547 - Dt April 1862

Communicated to the Commissioner of Police in reference to para 7. The Police guard for the Water Cistern on the North Esplanade should be furnished, as directed, & the extra men added to the Police.

The Commr. of Police
" Pub. Wks. Deptt.

Desp 2 & 3