Number of pages 18

M.R.O. 1—11,400—22-11-80

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Ms 9-6-87

G.O. No. 1080 Press
Mis.

Dated 6-6- 18 87

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 9th June 1857.

No. 50. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 23rd May 1857, No. 588.

Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp Calicut, 12th May 1857, No. 137.

SIR,

Among other works lately inspected, I am anxious to notice a wooden bridge now nearly completed across the backwater at Yellatoor, on the Coast road about 7 miles north of Calicut.

2. This structure is paid for out of the Ferry Funds; and will cost, I believe, about 10,000 Rupees. It consists of trussed frames, supported by piles, and is 550 feet long, with 13 feet roadway. The expense is thus under 20 Rupees per running foot, which, for such a substantial work, across a tidal river, is, in my opinion very moderate.

3. The work is altogether well built, and of good materials; a slight settlement of one bay only having occurred from the Overseer having had no means of probing the river bed before the piles were driven.

4. It is evident that such bridges as this, are the most suitable for crossing the backwaters of this Coast; and they may be built at very moderate cost out of Ferry Funds which Mr. Robinson is anxious to devote in great part to the purpose. But it is clear that if this done the tolls now levied on the ferries must be maintained on the bridges or else the source of their construction will be dried up, and the burden will fall on Government. It therefore seems very desirable that the Collector of Malabar should be empowered to continue the ferry farm as usual on this road without regard to the construction of the Yellatoor bridge.

5. The bridge has been constructed under the Superintendence of Sub Overseer Harrold, a Private of H. M.'s 84th Regiment, who though not an educated man, is a good practical Carpenter, and well qualified for a duty which must be often required in Malabar, but who has tendered his resignation, because he is dissatisfied with his position and prospects. There are few Overseers, I think, who could be depended on for the management of a work of this kind, and I should extremely regret the loss of one whose services are so valuable, and whose conduct, so far as I can learn, is marked by steadiness and propriety. I therefore beg to recommend the promotion of Sub Overseer Harrold to a higher grade in order that there may be permanently stationed in this District, one Subordinate capable of erecting substantial wooden bridges of which many are wanted. If some arrangement of this kind is not made, the more expensive and less practical services of an Officer will be required at each bridge and the progress of construction will be very slow.

Resolved that the foregoing letter, No. 137 dated 12th May 1857, from the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, reporting on executive Sub Overseer Harrold's timber bridge at Yellatoor, be forwarded for the information of Government.

2. The Chief Engineer would have been glad to retain Private Harrold's services, but had not the means of doing so, and His Excellency the Commander in Chief is believed to be unwilling that Her Majesty's Soldiers should be employed in the D. P. W.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 51. ORDER THEREON, No. 1080; dated 6th June 1857.

Under the circumstance represented by Major Lawford, His Excellency the Commander in Chief will be requested to place at the disposal of Government the services of Private Harrold for re-employment in the Department Public Works in the manner recommended by Major Lawford.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Finding fault, which, for such a
substantial

Read the following

No 588

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer,
in the Department of Public Works, Fort St. George
Under date the 23 May 1857

No 586

Read the following letter

2/1/57

Surg. Engrs Office Fort St. George
12th May 1857

From Major E. Sanford
Surg. Engr. N. Circle

To

Colonel C. S. Faber
Chief Engr & S.E.
Fort St. George

Sir,

Among other works lately inspected, I am anxious to notice a wooden bridge now nearly completed across the backwater at Pelicat Lake on the Coast, about 7 Miles north of Calicut.

The structure is paid for out of the Ferry Funds, and will cost, I believe, about 10,000 Rupees. It consists of trussed frames, supported by piles, and is 550 feet long, with 13 feet roadway. The expense is there under 20 Rupees per running foot, which, for such a substantial

substantial work, across a tidal river, is, in my opinion, very moderate.

3. The work is altogether well built, and of good materials; a slight settlement of one bay only having occurred from the Overseer having had no means of probing the river bed before the piles were driven.

4. It is evident that such bridges as this, are the most suitable for crossing the backwaters of this Coast, and they may be built at very moderate cost out of Teak Timber which Mr. Robinson is anxious to devote in great part to the purpose. But it is clear that if this done the tolls now levied on the ferries must be maintained on the bridges or else the source of their Construction will be dried up, and the burden will fall on Government. It therefore seems very desirable that the Collector of Malabar should be empowered to continue the ferry farms as usual on this road without regard to the construction of the Gillalon Bridge.

5. The Bridge has been constructed under the superintendance of Sub

Sub Overseer Starrock, a private of H.M. 84th Regt, who, though not an educated man, is a good practical Carpenter, and well qualified for a duty which must be often required in Malabar, but who has tendered his resignation, because he is dissatisfied with his position and prospects. There are few Overseers, I think, who could be depended on for the management of a work of this kind, and I should extremely regret the loss of one whose services are so valuable, and whose Conduct, so far as I can learn, is marked by steadiness and propriety. I therefore beg to recommend the promotion of Sub Overseer Starrock to a higher grade in order that there may be permanently stationed in this District one subordinate capable of erecting substantial wooden bridges of which many are wanted. If some arrangement of this kind is not made the more expensive and less practical services of an Officer will be required at each bridge and the progress of Construction will be very e-

X See Telegraph Message sent to Capt. Francis on the 26th May.

Mem:

Slow.

Camp Cabiena
12th May 1857

Have pr.
Sby
Lawford
S.E.E. Rep. St. Circle

Resolved that the foregoing letter, No 137 dated 12th May 1857 from the Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, reporting on ex Sub-Overseer Harrolde's timber bridge at Yellatom, be forwarded for the information of Government.-

2. The Chief Engineer would have been glad to retain Private Harrold's services, but had not the means of doing so, and His Excellency the Commander in Chief is believed to be unwilling that Her Majesty's Soldiers should be employed in the D.P.W.-

True Extract

(Sd) A.H. Sitwell Colonel
Chief Engr.

To The Secy to Govt
Pr. Dy
Immediate

&c &c.

Public Works 1857 Depot
Dy Genl 9th June No 1045
Ft: from the Secy of the
Chief Engineer Dept
To Mackay to Gen Dept

Date 23
Rec'd 25 May 1857

A 388

Forwards for the
information of Govt
a letter from the Secy
Supt. 2nd Circle, reporting
on the Sub Overseer
Carrolds timber bridge
at Gellatoon.

With an order
No 1080. 6th June. C

No 50 & 57.

No 1080

Under the circumstances repre-
sented by Major Lawford His Excellency
the Commander in Chief will be urged
to place at the disposal of Government
the services of Private Harrold for employ-
ment in the Department Public
Works in the manner recommended
by Major Lawford.

Fort St. George
6th June 1857

9 Copies to the Chief Engr Chief 2d
3 — Supt Depot