1. Number of pages 16
2. Date of repair 16-7-17
3. Initials of Reference

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political Dept. DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 16 6 57

G.O. No. 116 Press Mis.

5 16

Dated 10 6 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 16th June 1857.

No. 15. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 15th May 1857, No. 370.

Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp Calicut, 9th May 1857, No. 131.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation 25th April 1857, No. 782, I have the honor to submit the following explanation of the points on which further information is required by Government regretting that my limited means of carrying on public correspondence induced me to think such details would be dispensed with in the first instance.

2. When Government call for Plans and estimates requiring much care in preparation, either the Officers in the P. W. D. must be taken away protanto from their ordinary duties, or other persons found to do what is necessary. I considered that Government wished to be put in possession of the Plans referred to for the Budget of 1858-59, and found they could not be prepared in time, unless the pressing works of the season were delayed or extra Lascars, Maistries &c. were employed, and moreover I could only provisionally employ as Sub Overseer a person named Hayes whom I deemed competent for the duty whose appointment if disallowed must cause additional expense.

Vide page para. 18 and 19, G. O. G. 3rd Feb. 1857.

3. My arrangements were made in February and the work ordered immediately on my own responsibility in the belief that Government would not hesitate, under the emergency, to grant the requisite sum; but finding this was not the case, and that so late as the 14th March details were required before the amount could be sanctioned, I had only the alternative of stopping the work, or offering to pay for what I had ordered to be done delay would have put off the entire examination to another year.

4. If Government had only conditionally sanctioned the demand on my responsibility, I could not have complained; but considering the severity shewn when defective plans are sent up, and that thousands of Rupees are annually granted for discretionary disbursement, I did not feel that my request was unreasonable, or that from the hesitation in granting it, I could infer much anxiety for the results of the survey I stated to be necessary.

5. My inference from the orders of the 27th January 1857, was that a scheme for perfect navigation from Trichinopoly to Negapatam was required, and this involves the upward, as well as downward service, by vessels more efficient than basket boats for which alone the Cauvery is now for a few months available, but all this would have been explained in time had I been permitted to bring forward my project.

6. The orders to report on the rivers in Tanjore were addressed to *me* personally, and not the District Engineer for whom I was then partly officiating, but it appears now as if Major Birdwood is to make the report. I had hoped to submit a project for the line between Tanjore and Trichinopoly in time for the next Budget leaving the other portion to a period when I should not only have greater leisure but also be in possession of Licutenant Tyrrells Railway survey for which I applied to you.

Resolved that the letter No. 131 of the 9th May 1857, from the Superintending Engineer South Circle be forwarded for the information of Government with an expression of the Chief Engineer's hope that Major Lawford's present explanation may be considered satisfactory.

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

No. 16. ORDER THEREON, No. 1116; dated 10th June 1857.

Para. 1. Major Lawford having in his letter to the Chief Engineer, dated 24th March last, omitted a second time to explain why he requested authority for the disbursement of 200

Rupees, for a survey, to determine a line of water communication between Tanjore and Trichinopoly, when he had declared his intention of employing exclusively the Officers of the Department on the work, the Government, in Extract Minutes Consultation 25th April last, reminded him of the omission; and in respect to the necessity of a canal from the Vennaur head to Trichinopoly, they informed him that it was not to the navigation east of the Cutchamungalum dam that their question referred, but to the proposal to take a canal from that dam to the Vennaur head, and thence to Trichinopoly; and that it was as to the necessity for a canal, side by side with the river, that explanation was required. In a letter submitted to Government at the same time, the District Engineer reported that Major Lawford had granted authority for the disbursement of 100 Rupees for this survey; and in respect to this statement, the Government, in the same order, again observed, that it was their desire that the object of the expenditure should be communicated to them.

2. Colonel Faber now submits a letter from Major Lawford, from the perusal of which the Government are left in doubt whether their orders, which appear sufficiently explicit, have been understood by Major Lawford, who still omits to give the required explanation. The simple fact was that the Superintending Engineer asked for the sum of 200 Rupees for the expense of a short survey to determine a line of water communication between Tanjore and Trichinopoly by means of the Cauvery or its branches; and that he at the same time expressly said that he was about to employ Government servants *only* in the investigation. The Government therefore enquired, if their own servants were to be employed, on what object the money asked for, was to be expended. This question, Major Lawford has not yet answered, and although he was informed in the former order, that he must endeavour to understand that the Government may demand such explanations of their Officers without being charged with indifference to the schemes for public improvement which may be laid before them, he seems still to be under such an impression; and justifies his assumption, by stating that, from the hesitation to grant his request he could not infer much anxiety for the results of the survey, he had stated to be necessary. He adds that his whole scheme would have been developed had he been only allowed time to bring forward his project; but it required no time to state, on what he intended to expend the money he demanded. In Extract Minutes Consultation 25th April last No. 782, the Government sanctioned the sum of 100 Rupees required for the proposed survey by the District Engineer, but they must now again desire that the purpose for which it is required may be stated.

3. In the last para. of his letter, Major Lawford remarks that the orders to report on the rivers of Tanjore were addressed to him personally and not to the District Engineer; but that it now appears that Major Birdwood is to make the required report. The Government are not aware from what Major Lawford draws this inference, as no part of their later orders admits of such an interpretation. They have only to observe that they look to him for the performance of the duty, as having had longer experience in the District, and as being better acquainted with its rivers than the present District Engineer.

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

No. 15 Read the Proceedings

No. 376

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer under date the 15th May 1857 No. 3

Read the following letter

No. 131 From

To Colonel C. C. Faber
Chief Engineer &c &c

Sir Date

With reference to C. M. 25 April 57 No. 782 I have the honor to submit the following explanation of the points on which further information is required by Govt. regretting that my limited means of carrying on public correspondence induced me to think such details would be dispensed with in the first instance

2. When Govt call for plans and estimates requiring much care in preparation, either the Officers in the P.W.D. must be taken away pro tanto from their ordinary duties, or other persons found to do what is necessary. I considered that Govt

Government wished to be put in
possession of the plans referred to
for the Budget of 1858/59 and found
they could not be prepared in time,
unless the pressing works of the season
were delayed or extra Lascars, Masdas
pe were employed, and moreover I
could only provisionally employ as
Sub Overseer a person named Hayes
whom I deemed competent for the
duty whose appointment if disallowed
must cause additional expense.

My arrangements were made
in February and the work ordered
immediately on my own responsibility
in the belief that Government would
not hesitate, under the emergency, to
grant the requisite sum; but finding
this was not the case, and that as
late as the 14 March details were re-
quired before the amount could be
sanctioned, I had only the alternative
of stopping the work, or offering to
pay for what I had ordered to be done.

Delay

Encl pp 15 & 16
G.O.G 2nd Feby 57
Chief Sec

Delay would have put off the entire
examination to another year.

If Government had only
conditionally sanctioned the demand
on my responsibility, I could not have
complained; but considering the severity
shewn when defective plans are sent
up, and that thousands of rupees
are annually granted for discretionary
disbursement, I did not feel that my
request was unreasonable, or that
from the hesitation in granting it
I could infer much anxiety for the
results of the Survey I stated to be
necessary

5 My inference from the orders
of the 27 Jany 1857 was that a scheme
for perfect navigation from Trichinopoly
to Negapatam was required, and this
involves the upward, as well as down-
ward Surveys, by vessels more effient
than basket boats for which alone
the Lawery is now for a few months
available, but all this would have

been

been explained in time had I been permitted to bring forward my project for the ... The orders to report on the rivers in Tanjore were addressed to me personally, & not the District Engr for whom I was then partly officiating, but it appears now as if Major Birdwood is to make the report. I had hoped to submit a project for the line between Tanjore & Trichinopoly in time for the next budget leaving the other portion to a period when I should not only have greater leisure but also be in possession of St. Lyrells Railway Survey for which I applied to you.

Camp Calient
9 May 1857

/Sgd/ R. Crawford
Supt Engr S.C.

Resolved that the letter No 131 of the 9 May/57 from the Supt Engr S. Circle be forwarded for the information of Govt with an expression of the Chief Engineer's hope that Major Crawford's present explanation may be considered satisfactory

/Sgd/ A.D. Taylor Colonel
Chief Engineer

To The Secretary to Government
&c &c.

Dº to Comr 28th April /57 — 78 & 85
— do — 17th March /57 — 39 & 40.
— do — 3rd — do — 81 & 82
— do — 27th Jany /57 — 116 & 117.

Pub. Wks 1857 Dept.
Dº to Comrs 16th June.

No. 999.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer & Secretary to Govt. dated

Dated 15 May /57
Recd 16 " "
E. No. 1116. 10th June No. 370

Forwarding enclosure to Govt of 25 April No. 782 a letter from the Superintendent of Police offering explanation respecting his application for 200 Rs for the survey of a canal between Tanjore & Kumbhakonam with the Chief Engr's hope that the same may be considered satisfactory

No 15 / 16

C 4 June 58.

Department in the world,
the Government in Extract
Minutes Consultations 25th April
last, reminded him of the
omission, and in respect
to the necessity of a canal
from the Pencardia Reach to
Erichmopoly, they informed
him that it was not to the
navigation East of the entrance
Mungalum down that
the question referred to but
to the proposal to take a
canal from that down to
the Pennanna heads, and
thence to Erichmopoly, and
that it was as to the ne-
cessity for a canal side
by side with the river, that
explanations were required.
by a letter submitted to
Government at the Lower
time the District Engineer
reported

6

reported that although Government had granted the authority for the disbursement to Major Rapsie for this survey, with respect to their determination the Government, now that it was in order, expressed, that it was their desire that the object of the expenditure should be communicated to them. In the Minute Government, Major Lord

explained before the sum of 200 Rs
from the expenditure of which to
defray the determined line
of water communications
between Bombay and Trichino-
poly by means of the convoy
into Travancore, and that
he to the latter time appre-
hended that he was about
to display Government
Servants only in the investi-
gation. The Government
therefore enquired, if there
were Servants more to be
employed, on what object
the money called for was
to be expended. This question
Major Lowford has not
yet answered, and
altho he was informed
in the former order, that
he must endeavour to under-
stand that the Government
may demand such
explanations

explanations of their officers,
without being charged with
indifference to the Schemes for
public improvements which
may be laid before them he
seems still to labour under such an
impression; and justifies
his assumption by stating
that, from the hesitation to
grant his request, he could
not entertain entire confi-
dence for the results of the Survey,
he had stated to be necessary.
He adds that his whole Scheme
would have been developed
had he been only allowed
time to bring forward his
project, but it required no
time to state on what he
intended to expend the money
he demanded. By Extract
Minutes Bom: 25th April last 1782
the Government sanctioned the
sum of 100 Rupees required
for

observe that they look to him
for the performance of the
duty as having had longer
experience in the District,
and as being better acquainted
with its rivers than the
present District Engineer.

BP

9 Copies to the Chief Engr. Office

observe

Cons. 28th April 57 No. 74 & 75
— " 17th March — " 39 & 40.
— " 3d — " — " 81 & 82
— " 27th Jany — " 116 & 117.

Public Works 1857 Dept.
Do Cons: 16th June.

No 1116.

Extract Mins: of Cons:
Of 10th June 1857.

Read: from Chief Engr &c
D/ 29th June 57 Con No 1309 inc
21st July
Trans: to Dept 22nd Augt 57 Col
1918 in Ro.

Passing orders on a letter from the Superintending Engr Southern Circle dated 15th May 1857 relative to offering an explanation respecting his application for 200 Rs for the survey of a canal between Tanjore and Trichinopoly

No 1516.