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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

" Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 11-5-57

G.O. No. 1569 Press Mis.

6920

Dated 8—8— 18 87

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 11th August 1857.

No. 69. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 31st July 1857, No. 2569.

SIR,

I have the honor, with reference to the accompanying correspondence to state for the information of Government, that the District Engineer of Cuddapah in a letter No. 221, dated 2nd June 1857, reported that a Wudder had been killed by the fall of a stone, while working in the Calingulah Channel of the Villalarayanee tank in that District.

2. The District Engineer states that Lieutenant Palmer reported the circumstance to a Karkoon, that an inquest might be held on the body, but that 54 hours having elapsed, without any Official making his appearance, the relatives of the deceased requested the Overseer to allow them to bury the corpse which was then in a state of decomposition.

3. On the morning of the 28th the Talook Sheristadar went to the tank, had the body exhumed and the Wudders beaten by peons with a stick and slippers.

4. In conclusion he states, that he had reported the matter to the Collector for further enquiry.

5. Upon the 16th June the Collector in reply to a requisition made by me upon the 6th Idem states that "Lieutenant Hemery, according to his usual system has kept back from your "information, facts which would have at once cleared off the cause of the delay, this I consider "done for purposes of his own"; he goes on to state that the death of the Wudder took place on the 25th the Tahsildar and his Sheristadar were at Pooleaindla a distance of 25 miles at the annual Settlement. Lieutenant Palmer's report reached him on the evening of the 26th; and that the Sheristadar was ordered to go immediately he left that evening or early on the morning of the 27th, and the inquest was held on the 28th; he states with reference to the accusation of the maltreatment of Wudders by the Sheristadar, that it was strange, that neither Lieutenant Hemery or Lieutenant Palmer mentioned the fact to him; and then he adds, that this writing complaints direct to me, are similar to other proceedings of Lieutenant Hemery's and which had been condemned by me, in a letter of the 27th May, and he attributes it to personal hostility, and a desire to make mischief.

6. Upon the 6th July, I applied to the District Engineer to state whether he had or had not reported the ill treatment to the Collector of Cuddapah, and in reply he has forwarded copy of a letter No. 219, dated 2nd June 1857 addressed by him to the Collector, in which in para. 5, he distinctly states that the Sheristadar ordered his Peons to beat the Wudders, which they did with a stick, and with slippers, and adds that the Wudders went in a body to report this to Mr. Owens, who distinctly saw on their backs and legs, the marks of blows.

7. It is a very painful duty to be obliged to bring this to the notice of the Government, but I feel that I have no alternative, having due regard to the relative positions of the Collector of the province and the District Engineer. I had cautioned the latter not to report to me direct, complaints he had to make, without an intimation first to the Collector, a Courtesy which I consider his due; but in this case the District Engineer had done so. Whether this letter ever reached the Collector, or having reached had been forgotten, I cannot tell; but I think that the Collector should not without having previously satisfied himself of the fact of the District Engineer's omission to do so, animadverted upon him; and even had he not reported it, I consider it highly objectionable, to attribute motives of hostility, and desire to make mischief to Lieutenant Hemery, and I trust that the Government will issue such orders upon this subject, as may prevent a recurrence of such unfounded accusations.

No. 70. ORDER THEREON, No. 1549; dated 8th August 1857.

Before passing orders on this reference, the Collector of Cuddapah will be called upon to explain the statement in the 4th para. of his letter to the Chief Engineer of the 16th of June, that Lieutenant Hemery had not reported to him the ill-treatment of the Wudders by the Talook Sheristadar, when by that Officer's letter of the 9th of July it appears that on the 2nd of the previous month he had laid the matter fully before the Collector.

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

Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George,
31st July 1857.

№ 2569.

From,
The Chief Engineer.

To,
The Secretary to Government G.P.D.

Sir,

Public

Original Enclosures 5.

1 Letter from Dt Engr Cuddapah № 221 dd 12th June 1857
1 Letter from the Collector of Cuddapah № 163 dd 16th June/57 with 1 Enclosure
1 Letter from the Dt Engr Cuddapah № 457 dd 7th July 1857 with 1 Enclosure

I have the honor, with reference to the accompanying correspondence to state for the information of Government, that the District Engineer of Cuddapah in a letter № 221 dd 12th June 1857, reported that a Wudder had been killed by the fall of a stone, while working on the Calingulah Channel of the Villalarayanee Tank in that District.—

2 The District Engineer states that Lieutenant Palmer reported the circumstance to a Karkoon, that an inquest might be held on the body; but that 24 hours having elapsed, without any Official making his appearance, the relatives of the deceased requested the Overseer to allow them to bury the Corpse which was then in a State of decomposition.

3 On the morning of the 28th, the Talook Sheristadar went to the tank, had the body exhumed and

and the Wudders beating them severely with a stick & slippers.

5 In conclusion he states, that he had reported the matter to the Collector for further enquiry.—

6 Upon the 6th June the Collector in reply to a question made by me upon the 6th idem states that Lieutenant Ramsay according to his usual system had not applied for your information, and which would have at once placed off the cause of the delay; that Collector does not pretend to explain the cause of the delay; he goes on to state that the beating of the Wudders took place on the 25th the Tahsildar and his Shirastadar were at Tirucaindia assisting at the Annual Settlement—Lieutenant Ramsay's report reached him on the evening of the 26th and that the Shirastadar was ordered off immediately—he left that evening or early on the morning of the 27th and returned and paid on the 28th he states with reference to the accusation of the maltreatment of the Wudders by the Tahsildar, that it was strange, that neither Lieutenant Ramsay or Lieutenant Palmer mentioned the fact to him; and then he adds, that this writing complaints direct to me, are similar to other proceedings of Lieutenant

Ramsay's

Ramsay's and which had been condemned by me, in a letter of the 27th May, and he attributes it to personal hostility, and a desire to make mischief.—

6 Upon the 6th July, I applied to the District Engineer to state whether he had or had not reported the ill treatment to the Collector of Cuddapah, and in reply he had forwarded copy of a letter № 219 dated 2nd June 1857 addressed by him to the Collector, in which in para 5, he distinctly states that the Shiristadar ordered his Peons to beat the Wudders, which they did with a stick, and with slippers, and adds that the Wudders went in a body to report this to Mr. Owens, who distinctly saw on their backs and legs, the marks of blows.—

7 It is a very painful duty to be obliged to bring this to the notice of the Government, but I feel that I have no alternative, having due regard to the relative positions of the Collector of the province and the District Engineer. I had cautioned the latter not to report to me direct, complaints he had to make, without an intimation first to the Collector, a courtesy which

which I consider his duty to do as the Chief Engineer has done in this case. I am of opinion that Contractors, or having reached had their remedy, & Commissioner's Court has no jurisdiction should not without having previously called upon the Chief Engineer for his certificate upon the subject, & Contractor strictly & rigidly adhered to all the rules & regulations, and desire to make monthly & Estimate Yearly and Final Bill to Government, upon which the Contractor always proceeds & Commences upon his work unguarded accordingly.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
& Humble Servant
Chief Engineer

31st July 1857.

To
The Secretary to Government
B. M.

E.S. Ford

P.W. Dept.

No 1549.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 8th August 1857

Read the following

Letter from the Chief

Engineer.

Here enter 31st July 1857 No 2569

Before passing

orders on this reference

the Collector of Cuddalapah

will be called upon

to explain the statement

in the 4th para of his

letter to the Chief En-

gineer of the 16th of

June, that Lieutenant

Harvey had not reported

to him the ill treatment

of

To the Worshipful the Mayor
Jurats, Town Clerk, & Com-
-monalty of the City of Rochester
in the County of Kent
in the Exchequer of the City before
the Collectors

To Cash for the Chief Rent
and Quit Rent [illegible]
[illegible]

Cons: 23d June/57 Nos 106 & 107

Publication 1857 Dec 15th
Do Cons 11th August

ob: 1549.

Certificate Illegible
Dated 8th August 15[illegible]

From the Magistrates of
Dundalk dat 15th Augt 57 No 1[illegible]
in 5 Sheets

Requesting the Collector
Cust[illegible] to cause the
Allotment made in the
Para. of his Letter to
the Chief Secry of the 16th
Instt, that Mr Kennedy had
not passed to claim the Allo
lowance of the Undercro
by the Tarcash Steam Vessel
as Lent by that Officer to Colle
of the Port of Dundalk as
the Duties of the Service would
be better performed by the Officer

Cons: 23d June/57 Nos 106 & 107