1. Number of pages 8
2. Date of repair 23-7-87
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 11-8-57

G.O. No. 1568 Press Mis.

109-110

Dated 11 — 8 — 18 57

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 109. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 1st August 1857, No. 2603.

SIR,

In the 29th para. of Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 461, dated 12th March last, Government with reference to the expenditure of Rupees (54,043) fifty-four thousand, and forty-three, to the close of November 1856, on the Samulcottah and Cocanada Canal, observed, that the sanction for the work having only been communicated to this office on the 12th of that month; they did not understand how so large an expenditure could have been incurred in so short a time, unless by supposing, that the work had been commenced upon, and proceeded with long prior to the receipt of sanction, and requested me to call upon the District Engineer for explanation of the circumstances under which a Proceeding apparently so irregular was adopted.

2. The explanation called for having already been furnished to Government by the late Board of Revenue D. P. W. I considered that it was merely necessary to refer to the circumstances, which I did in para. 13 of my letter No. 397, dated 16th May last; I also quoted the order of Government on the Board's communication.

3. In para. 7 of Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1258, of the 27th Ultimo, Government observe, that they are even now left in doubt about the progress of the work, for though the District Engineer in his letter, dated 10th January 1855, anticipated its completion in three months, yet, at the end of November 1856, or 19 months afterwards, there remained a balance of Rupees 63,296 sixty-three thousand, two hundred and ninety-six, or about 55 ℔ cent on the total estimate.

4. On this point I have the honor to observe, that the District Engineer in the letter referred to stated, that if not stopped, the work would be completed in three months, and that he had then spent only about Rupees 16,000 sixteen thousand; there can be no doubt that Lieutenant Haig had at that time made preparations for prosecuting the work with such vigour as led him to anticipate its completion in the time specified, but its progress, with that of several other works, was stopped by the Government of India.

5. Mr. Beadon's letter on the subject No. 98, dated 26th January 1855, was communicated to the Board of Revenue D. P. W., with Extract Minutes Consultation No. 64, dated 10th February 1855. It is not clear from the papers in the Central office when this order was communicated to the District Engineer, but in his general progress report for 1855-56, it was noted, that the work in question was stopped by order of Government. The circumstance was also noted in the general progress report for 1855-56, furnished by the Central office to Government, and was so printed in the selections from the records of the Madras Government, No. 38, papers relating to the Budget of Public Works for 1856-57.

6. Operations to the Samulcottah and Cocanada Canal were not resumed until January 1857, and an expenditure of Rupees 85,983 eighty-five thousand, nine hundred and eighty-three, has been incurred up to 30th April 1857.

7. Under all the circumstances now explained, I am led to conclude, that the Government will not require any further report from the District Engineer of Rajahmundry.

No. 110. ORDER THEREON, No. 1568; dated 11th August 1857.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be recorded.

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

Central Office of Pr. Works.
Fort St. George 1st. Augt. 1857.

No 2603

Public

Sanjavelis Canals

From

The Chief Engineer.

To

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Department.

Sir,

In the 29th para of Contract Minutes of Consultation No 401 dated 12th March last, Government with reference to the expenditure of Rupees 54,043/ Fifty four thousand, and forty three, to the close of November 1856, on the Sannikottah and Cocanada Canals, observed that the sanction for the work having only been communicated to this office on the 12th of that month, they did not understand how so large an expenditure could have been incurred in so short a time, unless by supposing, that the work had been commenced upon, and proceeded with long prior to the receipt of sanction, and requested me to call upon the District Engineer for explanation of the circumstances under

which

which a proceeding apparently so irregular was adopted..

2 The explanation called for having already been furnished to Government by the late Board of Revenue D.P.W. I considered that it was merely necessary to refer to the circumstance, which I did in para 13 of my letter No 397, dated 16th May last; also quoted the order of Government on the Board's Communication..

3 In para 7 of Extract Minutes Consultation 1350, of the 27th Ultimo, Government observe, that they are even more left in doubt about the progress of the work, for though the District Engineer in his letter dated 8th January 55, anticipates its completion in three months, viz. at the end of November 1856, or 19 months afterwards, there remained a balance of Rupees 63,296 sixty three thousand, two hundred and ninety six, or about 55 per cent on the total Estimate..

On this point I have the honor to observe, that the District Engineer in the letter referred to stated, that if not stopped, the work would be completed in three months, and that he had then spent only about Rupees 15,000 Fifteen thousand; there can be no doubt that Lieutenant Fagi had at that time made preparations for prosecuting the work with such vigour as led him to anticipate its completion in the time specified, but its progress, with that of several other works, was stopped by the Government of India..

5 Mr. Bradon's letter on the subject No 98, dated 28th January 1855, was communicated to the Board of Revenue D.P.W, with Extract Minutes Consultation No 61, dated 11 February 1855.. It is not clear from the papers in the Central Office when this order was communicated to the District Engineer, but in his General Progress Report for 1855/56, it was noted, that the work in question was stopped by order of Government. The circumstance was also noted in the general Progress Report for 1855/56, furnished by the Central Office to Government, and was so printed in the Selections from the records of the Madras Government No 30, Papers relating to the Budget of Public works for 1856/57..

operations

6 Operations to the Sammalcottah and Cocanada Canal were not resumed until January 1857, and an expenditure of Rupees 05,983 Eighty five thousand, nine hundred and Eighty three, has been incurred upto 30 April 1857..

7 Under all the circumstances above explained, I am led to conclude, that the Government will not require any further report from the District Engineer of Rajahmundry..

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant

A. Cotton Colonel
Chief Engineer..

A. Engr. Engr. H.C.

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department..

Cont 30th June/57 No 53665
—u—17th Augt —u—u—13615
—u—13th Febl/58—u—1842
—u—30th May —u—u—61452

Publick Works Department
Comm[r] Cudd[s]
No
1561

From
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secretary to Govt
P.W.D.

Dated 1st [illegible]
Received 1st Oct[r] } 1857.

No 2603

Forwards further explanations called for from the Rivers Cons No 1358 dated 5th June 1857 regarding the Expenditure on the Samulcottah and Cocanada Canal in the Rajahmundry District.

No 109 & 110.

To be recorded
No 1568.
Fort St George 11th Augt 57

C4 Augt 26th