M.R.O. 1—82,400—22-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 29 to 57

G.O. No. 2022 Press Mis.

Dated 28 — 10 — 18 [illegible]

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 29th October 1857.

No. 104. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 22nd October 1857, No. 4654.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Chingleput; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp at Guindy, 21st October 1857, No. 1205.

Sir,

In reply to Extract from your Proceedings No. 4559, under date the 19th Instant, forwarding copy a letter from the Brigadier Commanding the Mount to the Quarter Master General I have the honor to inform you that, immediately on receiving the letter of the 12th September, regarding the repairs of the North Artillery Barrack, I forwarded a copy to Lieutenant Colonel, Brown, then in charge of the works at Saint Thomas' Mount, requesting him to prepare and forward as early as possible for transmission to you an estimate for the necessary repairs, this he failed to send in and it was not until some days after I had taken over charge from Lieutenant Colonel Brown that I discovered that this particular estimate had not been sent in. I then desired Lieutenant Hankin under whose charge I had placed the works at the Mount to prepare the necessary estimate and he proceeded with Overseer Valoo Myloo Moodelliar to the Barrack and pointed out to him what was necessary, the Overseer however misunderstood Lieutenant Hankin and thought he said that an estimate had been sent up and as soon as sanction was received he was to carry it out, after waiting a few days and not receiving any estimate, I sent for the Overseer and then discovered the mistake that had taken place. I directed him to prepare the estimate and it was forwarded to you on the 19th Instant, in the meantime I received Extract from your Proceedings No. 4501 dated the 15th Instant, ordering me to carry out forthwith the wishes of the Quarter Master General and orders were immediately given to proceed with the work.

2. As regards that portion of Brigadier Shirreff's letter in which he states "I again addressed him on the 26th of the same month requesting him to have the Well cleared out and on the 3rd Instant, seven days after the despatch of my letter he writes to know the nature of the Well apparatus required, which information I afforded without delay" I beg respectfully to state that I cannot conceive that the Brigadier intentionally mentioned wrong dates in order to cast a slur on me and thus lead His Excellency the Commander in Chief to consider that I had thrown obstacles in the way to prevent a rapid execution of the work and I therefore give you a correct statement of the dates &c.

3. On the 26th Ultimo the Brigadier addressed me regarding clearing out the Well in the North Artillery Barrack square, the 27th was Sunday and as the letter had been sent by tappal it was not opened by me until the 28th when I immediately had an estimate prepared, forwarded it to you on the 29th, received your letter No. 4172 of the 2nd Instant on the afternoon of the 3rd, gave immediate orders to carry it out and it was completed on the 6th; on the 29th the Brigadier addressed a letter to me regarding some apparatus for drawing the water this I received on the afternoon of the 30th and as I happened to go out at day light the next morning to Poonamallee in consequence of an urgent letter from Lieutenant Colonel Impett regarding the Hospital at the station, and was absent until the morning of the 3rd, I did not until my return write to know what kind of apparatus he wished to put up, his reply was received on the 6th, an estimate was sent to you on the 7th, received your sanction on the 12th which reached me on the 13th, was ordered immediately to be carried out and but for the heavy rains on the 14th and 15th and the feast on the 16th and 17th during which I could not get the Carpenters to work, would have been completed last week; it is now in progress and will I expect be completed to day.

4. As regards the repairs to the Guard room of the European Infantry Depôt I beg to state that an estimate was sent to you on the 29th, the day after the receipt of the letter from the Brigadier was sanctioned by you on the 2nd Instant, received by me on the afternoon of the 3rd, and was completed as you will observe from the accompanying memo. from Lieutenant Hankin with the exception of the color washing on the 14th the day previous to that on which the Brigadier wrote his letter to the Quarter Master General.

5. From what I have above stated I hope you will see that the Brigadier's statement that since the Public Works have been removed from the charge of the Station Staff Officer it is with great difficulty he can get any thing done is, though of course unintentional on his part quite incorrect he may perhaps mean that no work has been done to the Gun sheds since they were handed over to me but this was in consequence of the work being badly done and my wishing Major Lawford the Superintending Engineer in charge of this Circle to see the work.

MEMO.

All the work was finished by the 14th in the Guard room of the European Infantry Depôt with the exception of blue washing to the outer walls which could not be done on account of rain.

Camp St. Thomas' Mount,
20th October 1857.

(Signed) F. G. HANKIN, Lieut.,
Assist. Executive Engineer, Chingleput District.

Resolved with reference to the order of Government above entered to forward for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the foregoing letter (in original) from the District Engineer of Chingleput in explanation of the alleged remissness on his part in carrying out the repairs of Public buildings at the Mount, and to express the Chief Engineer's great regret that the Brigadier Commanding that station should have made such hasty and inaccurate reports to His Excellency the Commander in Chief in condemnation of Lieutenant Moberly's proceedings which latter Colonel Faber cannot but consider to be fully justified by his letter now submitted.

Dated 21st October 1857, No. 1205.

2. It is however desirable to make the Government aware that orders have now been given to the District Engineer to proceed with the execution of any emergent repairs called for by the Brigadier Commanding St. Thomas' Mount without awaiting sanction.

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

No. 105. ORDER THEREON, No. 2022; dated 28th October 1857.

Ordered that the foregoing Proceedings together with the enclosure be communicated to the Military Department with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation in that Department dated 21st October 1857.

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

No. 4654

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works

Under date the 22nd October 1857.

Read the following paper

Extract Minutes Consultation

(Here enter Octr 21/57 No 1982)

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From the District Engineer Chingleput

Reporting on the complaint brought against him by the Brigadier Commanding the Mount relative to the repairs of the North Foot Artillery Barracks and other works at that Station

(H.C. Octr 21/. No 1205

Resolved with reference to the order of Government above entered to forward for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the foregoing letter (in original) from the District Engineer of Chingleput in explanation of the alleged remissness on his part in carrying out the repairs of public buildings at the Mount, and to express the

(Original letter × to be returned dated Octr 21/57 No 1205

the Chief Engineers great regret that the Brigadier Commanding that Station should have made such hasty and inaccurate reports of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in condemnation of Lieutenant Moberly's proceedings which Colonel Faber cannot but consider to be fully justified by his letter now submitted.

2. It is however desirable to make the Government aware that orders have now been given to the District Engineer to proceed with the execution of any emergent repairs called for by the Brigadier Commanding St. Thomas without awaiting sanction.

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

To
The Secretary to Government
P.W. Dept

Ed. Wallace

P.W.C. 29th October 57. No. 4175

D.W. 1857 Dept
Dto Cons 29th Octr
No. 2102

Proceedings
from
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secy to Govt. B&A

Dated 22nd
Recd 23rd } Octr 1857.

Encls: Rect. 31/10/57 No. 4654

Submitting, with reference to E. In. C. No 1982 of 21 instant an original letter from the Dy Engr Ringlestone in explanation of the alleged remissness on his part in carrying out the repairs of Pooree Buildings at the Amount vide full Proceedings on this proceeding No 2022. 28 Octr 1857 with an order

No. 2022

Ordered that the foregoing Proceedings together with the enclosure be communicated to the Military Department with reference to the Minutes of Cons in that Department dated 21st October 1857.

Fort St. George
28th Octr 1857

E. In. C. 21st Octr 57
in Cons 23rd - No. 2336 -

No 104 & 105

3 Copies to the Military Dept. Dist 29