W.S.O.1—8140—11-11-61

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. [illegible] Press Mis.

Dated [illegible] 18 [illegible].

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 9. Read the following Circular from Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, the 25th September 1857, No. 4956.

SIR,

During the cold weather of 1855, fires were lighted for the first time in the new Barracks at Peshawur, and the result was that, during the season, three of the Barracks caught fire, though in only one was much injury done. The roofs consisted of mud laid on mats over fir lathes supported on timber trusses. In two cases, the mats and lathes were built into the flues and caught fire directly. In the third case, the flame passed through the vertical joints of the brick-work which had not been filled with mortar, and there being no exterior plaster, ignited a timber some inches clear of the flue.

2. Again, in April 1856, on a necessity arising for the occupation of one of the new Barracks at Kussowlie, fires were previously lighted to air the rooms, and the result was, that a piece of wood connected with the upper part of the Chimney was ignited.

3. This repetition of a case of very faulty Chimney construction in buildings recently erected under the control of Officers of the Department of Public Works in the Punjab, which could scarcely be attributed to ignorance on the part of the Engineers themselves, but rather to the want of proper supervision over the workmen by the Subordinates immediately entrusted with the construction of the buildings, and, probably, to laxity of Superiors, renders it desirable that the above occurrences should be published to the Department with the view of reminding Officers generally, and Executive Engineers in particular, that the activity and attention to duty of their Assistants and Subordinates will generally be found proportioned to their own systematic vigilance.

4. At the same time, the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council desires that, in future, for all works to which the Executive Engineer himself is unable to give his undivided attention, Assistants and Subordinates shall be specially detailed, that their particular duties shall be clearly laid down and explained to them, and that they shall be, at the same time, informed that they will be held responsible for the general style of workmanship and for due attention to, and execution of, all the petty details of construction.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, No. 2095; dated 12th November 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer.

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

CIRCULAR.

No 4956

FROM

COLONEL W. E. BAKER,
Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

H. Forbes Esquire,
Acting Secretary to the Govt of
Fort Saint George

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
MILITARY.

Dated the 25th September 1857.

SIR,

DURING the cold weather of 1855, fires were lighted for the first time in the new Barracks at Peshawur, and the result was that, during the season, three of the Barracks caught fire, though in only one was much injury done. The roofs consisted of mud laid on mats over fir lathes supported on timber trusses. In two cases, the mats and lathes were built into the flues and caught fire directly. In the third case, the flame passed through the vertical joints of the brick-work which had not been filled with mortar, and there being no exterior plaster, ignited a timber some inches clear of the flue.

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4. At the same time, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council desires that, in future, for all works to which the Executive Engineer himself is unable to give his undivided attention, Assistants and Subordinates shall be specially detailed, that their particular duties shall be clearly laid down and explained to them, and that they shall be, at the same time, informed that they will be held responsible for the general style of workmanship and for due attention to, and execution of, all the petty details of construction.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Secretary to the Government of India.

FORT WILLIAM,
The 25th September 1857.

P. Nov. 1857 Observ. to Govt. to Cons: 17th November

No. 2126

Circular

From the Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Dated 25th Sept. 1857.
Received 29th Oct. 1857.

No. 4956.

Directing that for all works in which the Executive Engr. himself is unable to give his undivided attention, Asstts & Subordinates shall be specially detailed, & that they will be held responsible for the general style of workmanship & for due attention to & execution of all the petty details of construction.

No. 2095 12th Nov.
With an Order

No. 2095.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engr

Fort St. George
12th Nov. 1857

To Chief Engr Disp. 13th

No. 9-410.

C 31 Oct. to 6 Nov.