1. Number of pages 8
2. Date of repair 21.6.
3. Initials of Referencer.

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 21-6-57

G.O. No. 691 Press Mis.

24-25

Dated 11-6- 1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 21st April 1857.

No. 74. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 24th March 1857, No. 11215.

Read the following letter from W. FISHER, Esq., Collector of Canara ; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Mangalore, 9th March 1857, No. 4.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from your Proceedings No. 8059, dated 13th November last, and to your Assistants letters of the 10th Ultimo, and 3rd Instant, I have the honor to state that I thought the report called for was no longer required in consequence of Lieutenant Walker, the Civil Engineer, having given his opinion on Palmyra wood, as applicable to lattice bridges, when reporting on that at Ooperungaddy, in his diary for March 1856.

Nos. 26 and 81.

2. The bridge in question has been paid for, out of the sanction for the Munjerabad line on which it is situated, but the opinion of the Civil Engineer on that work is perhaps sufficient, though the actual lattice on which the 500 Rupees sanctioned by Government, for the experiment on Palmyra wood was expended, is still under, under the building shed in Mangalore, not having been yet made use of. It consists of a double lattice 50 feet long, with a depth of 11 feet, and had the District funds remained in my hands, I intended to build a similar lattice, and use the two to span a stream between Karkul and Puddoobiddry, where a road was, and is to be constructed.

3. As to the success of the experiment, there can, I think, be no doubt, for Palmyra wood can, not only be cheaply worked, but is certainly more durable in exposed positions than any other wood we possess, teak perhaps excepted. Much of course depends on Palmyra being found near the site on which it is intended to use it.

4. Mr. Walker's remarks on the bridge constructed near Ooperungaddy were made a year ago, but I am informed by Mr. Boesinger, Executive Officer, in charge of the Munjerabad bridges, that he considers the experiment very satisfactory, though from faulty construction, one of the lattices sunk some inches in the centre. This he states is caused by the horizontal beams connecting the lattice work being too weak and unequal to the strain on them.

5. The Palmyra portions of the abovenamed bridge have not, Mr. Boesinger informs me, suffered from the weather so much, as those made of other wood, and where this tree is found in abundance or can be transported to the site of a bridge by water, I have little doubt of its being found not only an excellent, but a cheap substitute for other and more valued timber.

6. In conclusion, I would beg to propose that the lattice not yet disposed of, may be purchased with the District funds, and the amount sanctioned for the experiment repaid to the credit of Government.

Resolved to forward copy of the foregoing letter for the information of Government, with reference to para. 11 of Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 2079, dated 10th November 1856, and to acquaint the Collector and District Engineer Canara, that, under para. 4 of Extract Minutes of Consultation 21st January last, No. 150, and para. 6 of Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 435, of the 6th Instant, the power of appropriating the District road fund is vested entirely in themselves.

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

No. 75. ORDER THEREON, No. 691 ; dated 16th April 1857.

Ordered to be brought to the notice of the Honorable Court of Directors with reference to para. 27, of their Despatch in the Public Works Department dated 28th March 1856, No. 5.

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

No. 11215

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

Under date the 24th August 1857.

Read the following Letter

"Unanswered references"

Collector's Cutcherry
No. 4. Mangalore, 9th March 1857.

From

W. Fisher Esquire
Collector of Canara

To Colonel C. B. Faber
The Chief Engineer, Coast Division
Fort Saint George, 2d March
No. 41.

Sir,

No. 26081

With reference to Extract from your Proceedings No. 8059 dated 13th November last, and to your Assistants' letters of the 18th Ultimo and 3d Instant, I have the honor to state that I thought the report called for was no longer required, in consequence of Lieutenant Walker, the Civil Engineer having given his opinion on Palmyra wood, as applicable to Lattice Bridges, when reporting on that at Doperun-gaddy, in his diary for March 1856.

2. The Bridge in question has been paid for, out of the sanction for the

Munjerabad

Munjerabad line on which it is situated, but the opinion of the Civil Engineer on that work is perhaps sufficient, though the actual lattice on which the 500 Rupees sanctioned by Government for the experiment on Palmyra wood was expended, is still under under the building shed in Mangalore, not having been yet made use of. It consists of a double lattice 50 feet long, with a depth of 11 feet, and had the District Funds remained in my hands, I intended to build a similar lattice, and use the two to span a stream between Karkul and Puddoobiddry, where a road was, and is to be constructed.

3 As to the success of the experiment, there can, I think, be no doubt, for Palmyra wood can, not only be cheaply worked, but is certainly more durable in exposed positions than any other wood we possess, teak perhaps excepted. Much of course depends on Palmyra being found near the site on which it is intended to use it.

4. Mr. Walker's remarks on the Bridge constructed near Ooperungaddy were made a year ago, but I am informed by Mr. Boesinger, Executive Officer in charge of the Munjerabad bridges, that he considers the experiment very satisfactory, though from faulty construction, one of the lattices sunk some inches in the centre. This he states is caused by the horizontal beams connecting the lattice work being too weak, and unequal to the strain on them.

5. The Palmyra portions of the above named bridge have not, Mr. Boesinger informs me, suffered from the weather so much, as those made of other wood, and where this tree is found in abundance or can be transported to the site of a bridge by water, I have little doubt of its being found not only an excellent, but a cheap substitute for other and more valued timber.

6. In conclusion, I would beg to propose that the lattice not yet disposed of, may be purchased with the District Fund, and the amount sanctioned for the experiment repaid to the credit of Government.

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) W. Fisher.
Collector.

Resolved to forward copy of the foregoing letter for the information of Government, with reference to para 11 of Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 2079 dated 10th November 1856 and

6

to acquaint the Collector and District Engineer Canara, that, under para 4 of Extract Minutes of Consultation 21st January last No. 156, and para 6 of Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 435 of the 6th. instant, the power of appropriating the District Road Fund is vested entirely in themselves.

(True Extract)

W. L. Parker Colonel

Chief Engineer.

To

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Department.

Camp 5th May

Pr. 6 Cons 10th March 57. & 68.69.
— 27th Long — 182 & 205
— 11th Nov — 88 — 57
Pr. To England No 5 of 1852
Pr. Cons. 5th July 53 — No 344
— do 26th — do — 279 & 28

Pub: Works 1857 Sept.
Dft. to Cons: 21st April.

No 605

To
Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Inspectors &c.
The Secy. to Govt. Pwd.

Read 24th
Cond 26th March 1857

No 11215

Submits for the information of Govt. with reference to Para 11 of Public Cons. 2nd Nov. 56 a letter from the Collr. of Canara reporting on the Stock of Palmyra Wood for Fortress Purposes.

With our order No 691 — 16th April

L

No 691

Ordered to be brought to the notice of the Honble Court of Directors with reference to Para 27 of their Despatch in the Public Works Department dated 28th March 1856 No 5.

Fort St. George
16th April 1857

9 Copies to the Chief Engr — Cirl 173

Copy in a G. L. to Govt dt 18th Septr 57 No 15 Para 17

No 74+75

2nd April 58th.