1. Number of pages. 6
2. Date of repair. 22-6-3
3. Initials of Referencer.

M.R.O. 1—32,400—23-11-50.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue Woms DEPARTMENT.

Secy 21-4-57

G.O. No. 710 Press Mis.

114-15

Dated 18—4— 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 114. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 7th April 1857, No. 11626.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant F. E. GAHAGAN, District Engineer, Salem ; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp Senkery droog, 26th March 1857, No. 642.

SIR,

I have the honor, to inform you that the sum of Rupees, (340) expended up to this date (from the local funds) in repairing the road between Senkerry droog and Macdonald's Choultry (12 miles) has been absolutely *thrown away*, owing to gross carelessness and inattention to my orders on the part of Assistant Overseer R. Gowdie, who has been in charge of the work.

2. My orders to Mr. Gowdie were, to take up all the Irish Bridges (8 or 9) and substitute road dams for them, and *this done*, to repair the worst parts of the road with Munumboo, every inch of which was to be watered, and well rammed.

On riding over the road this morning, I found all the Irish Bridges in statu-quo, not one stone having been taken up, and several miles of road carelessly covered here and there with Munumboo, which for want of water and careful ramming, is being rapidly converted into sand and dust.

3. Mr. Gowdie's defence is, that he quite forgot (?) about the Irish Bridges, and that he could not get water for the road, now as my instructions were very explicit and accompanied by a sketch of the road dam required, the first excuse is quite inadmissable with regard to the second, he should have stopped work, if unable to procure water, and reported the circumstance to me without delay, as I repeatedly pointed out to him the inutility of laying down Munumboo without water.

4. Under these circumstances I have the honor to request you will sanction my recovering from Mr. Gowdies pay* the abovetmentioned amount in full, by 7 instalments (6, of 50 Rupees and 1, of 40), as the District cannot really afford to lose one Rupee of the local funds.

	Rs.	A.	P.
* Civil	70	0	0
Military	18	8	10
Travelling allowance ..	46	8	0
Total „	135	0	0

5. As Mr. Gowdie has on a previous occasion disobeyed my orders, and wasted public money (at the Mopacaputty Bridge) I have the honor to recommend that no next offence of a similar nature may be punished by his degradation to the rank of sub Overseer. Considering the excellent prospects and pay of Assistant's Overseers, and the responsible duties which (owing to the paucity of Executive Officers) must frequently be intrusted to them, I think that disobedience and wilful neglect cannot be too severely punished.

Resolved, to submit for the information and early orders of Government, copy of the foregoing letter No. 642, dated 26th March 1857 from the District Engineer of Salem, in which he recommends the recovery from Assistant Overseer Gowdie of Rupees (340) three hundred, and forty, stated to have been fruitlessly expended, on the road between Senkery Droog, and Macdonald's Choultry, but with the Chief Engineers opinion that the punishment, is too severe, and is not based on a sound principle, as might be the stoppage of Horse, or other marching allowance, whilst a refund of aggregate outlay does not admit of general application.

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

No. 115. ORDER THEREON, No. 710 ; dated 18th April 1857.

With these Proceedings, the Chief Engineer submits a copy of a letter from the District Engineer of Salem, reporting the very careless and inefficient manner in which Assistant Overseer R. Gowdie has performed certain repairs to the road between Senkery Droog and Macdonald's Choultry, by which Rupees 310 of the local funds of the District have been wholly wasted.

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

Lieutenant Gahagan recommends that he may be authorized to recover the whole amount from the Assistant Overseer's pay in seven monthly instalments, and as this is not the first instance in which he has neglected the orders he has received, that he be warned that on his next similar offence he will be degraded in the Public Works Department. The Chief Engineer objects to the recommendation of the local officer, and submits the papers for the early orders of Government without offering any opinion as to the conduct of the Assistant Overseer, or the proper way of disposing of the case. If Colonel Faber could not support Lieutenant Gahagan's recommendation, it was his duty to advise the Government on the case, and not to press for their early orders, while reserving his own opinion. The Government will pass no order on this reference until the Chief Engineer's opinion is before them.

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

3x

P W D

No 710

tract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 15th April 1857.

Read the following
Extract from the Proceed-
ings of the Chief Engineer

Here enter 7th April /57
No 11626/

With these pro-
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submits a copy of a letter
from the District Engineer
of Salem reporting the
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certain repairs to the
road between Sankerydroog
and Macdonaldó Choultry,
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the local funds of the
District have been —
wholly wasted. Lieut.t
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that he may be au-
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whole amount from
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is not the first instance
in which he has rejected
the orders he has received
that he be warned that
on his next similar of-
fence he will be de-
graded in the Public
Works Department.
The Chief Engineer
objects to the recom-
mendation of the local
Officer, and submits
the papers for the early
orders of Govt. without
offering

offering any opinion
as to the conduct of the
Assistant Overseer, or
the proper way of dis-
posing of the case.
If Colonel Faber could
not support Lieut.t
Gahagan's recommen-
dation it was his
duty to advise the
Govt on the case, and
not to press for their early
orders, while reserving
his own opinion. In
another instance of
that avoidance of the res-
ponsibility which
properly attaches to his
office, which Colonel
Faber not unfrequently
displays. The Govt will
pass no order on this
reference until the Chief
Engineer's opinion is before
them.

2 Copies to the Chief Engr
Civil 20

Public Works 1857 Despr.
Dt to Cons 21st April

No 710.

Extract Minutes of Cons.

Dated 18th April 57.

From the Chief Engr Dt. 4th May 57
& No 935 inclg 2 Plans

Concurring that it
is now the duty of the Chief
Engr to advise the Govt
on the subject of the mea-
sures of the Local Funds
of the Salem Dist. by
the inefficiency of Over-
seer R. Gowing; I have
no order will be pass-
ed, until the Chief
Engineer's opinion is be-
fore them."

No 714 & 715

Col. Despr 4 May 57