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Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 284. 1957.

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84

Dated 25 4 1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

24-6-57

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Public.

No. 787.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 25th April 1857.

Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer.

Submits for information a letter from Major Lawford, reporting his inspection of works on the Cauvery and Bhowany Rivers, and solicits orders respecting Assistant Supervisor Gilbanks and Overseer Church, who should be remanded to the Sappers and Miners for misconduct. } (Here enter 25th March 1857, No. 11309.)

With these Proceedings, the Chief Engineer submits a letter from the Superintending Engineer Southern Division, reporting his inspection of the works on the Cauvery and Bohwany rivers in Coimbatore. In this report Major Lawford brings to notice a very large excess of expenditure over the estimate in the erection of the Bridge at Suttyamungalum, and observes that the matter requires investigation and report by the District Engineer.

2. The Government are also of opinion that a full investigation into the cause of the excess is very necessary. The Chief Engineer will therefore direct the District Engineer at once to examine the accounts connected with the work, obtain such further evidence as may be forthcoming, and submit a complete report on the subject as soon as possible.

3. Major Lawford reports that Assistant Supervisor Gilbanks is a drunkard and recommends his removal from his present position. He considers Overseer Church also to be so far addicted to intemperate habits as to be quite unfit for further employment on the Public Works. The Chief Engineer recommends that they be remanded to the Corps of Sappers and Miners with permission for their re-employment when reported by their Commanding Officer to have served one year without appearing in the Defaulter's Books. The Government resolve that they be removed from the Public Works Department, and placed at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief for regimental duty, as the Sapper Corps should not be filled by men of bad character. The Chief Engineer's recommendation for their re-employment cannot be entertained.

4. In the concluding para. of his letter, Major Lawford recommends that every Executive Engineer in the Coimbatore District, except the Officer in charge of the Jackatallah Barracks, shall take his tour of duty in the low country. The Chief Engineer will call upon Captain Francis, to furnish a return of the period passed by each Officer of the Public Works Department in the District and on the Hills during 1856, shewing clearly the necessity of their stay on the Hills on each occassion and the duties on which they have been engaged.

5. The Government trust that the Chief Engineer will not lose sight of the several observations which Major Lawford has made in connection with particular Public Works, which he has visited during his tour. If these hints are not taken up, and the several propositions fully considered and disposed of, much of the time of the Superintending Engineer will have been spent in vain. Colonel Faber will specially report to Government, the measures he may have adopted to enquire into the unsatisfactory state of the work connected with the improvement of the Taudapully and Arkuncotta channels and the remedies that may be necessary.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) H. FORBES,

Acting Secretary to Government.

No 11,309.

Extracts from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works.

Under date the 25th March 1857

Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer Southern circle:

Reporting his inspection of works on the Cauvery and Bhowany Rivers and bringing to notice the misconduct of Assistant Supervisor Gilbanks and Overseer Chuck, and the weakness of the subordinate branch of the Department of Public Works in Coimbatore. S.E. dated 18th March /57 & 9

Encloses orig.
(to be returned)

Resolved that in sending Majr. Lawford's original Report of the 18th March 1857, for the information of Government orders be solicited respecting Assistant Supervisor Gilbanks and overseer Chuck who should in the respectful opinion of the Chief Engineer be remanded to the Sappers and Miners with permission to be reemployed in the lowest class of the upper Subordinate grade

grades when reported by the Officer Commanding the Sappers and Miners to have served one year without appearing in the Defaulters Books. Both these drunkards were sober steady well Conducted men only a few years ago, and the reports of the Superintendent of Roads in favor of Overseer Church when employed on Trunk road N° 4 are on the public records of Government. ——

2. It is observed that a Copy of the foregoing report has already been forwarded to the District Engineer, and on the original being returned by Government the several instructions called for by the Superintending Engineer's observations will be duly transmitted. ——

/ True Extract /

(Signed) C. E. Faber Colonel
Chief Engineer.

Public Works 1867 Dept.
Dft to Coms 28th April
Copy No 621

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engr
To The Secretary to Govt
P.W.D.

Dated 26th
Rec. 26th } March 1867.

Submits for the information of Government Letter of Major Lawford reporting his inspection of works on the Cauvery and Bhowany Rivers, and solicits Orders respecting Assistant Superviser Gebanks and Overseer Blunck who should be remanded to the Sappers and Miners for misconduct.

No 84

By Order
of 25th April 67 [illegible]