1. Number of pages. 1-14
2. Date of receipt. 23.6.37
3. Initials of Referencer.

4

M.R.O. 1—82,600—23-11-36

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 28. 4. 57

G.O. No. 787 Press / Mis.

54-85

Dated 25-4- 1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

23/6/37

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 28th April 1857.

No. 84. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 25th March 1857, No. 11309.

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 Church, and the weakness of the Subordinate branch of the D. P. W., in Coimbatore. } (Here enter dated 18th March 1857, No. 94.)

Resolved that in sending Major Lawford's original Report of the 18th March 1857, for the information of Government orders be solicited respecting Assistant Supervisor Gilbanks and Overseer Church who should in the respectful opinion of the Chief Engineer be remanded to the Sappers and Miners with permission to be re-employed in the lowest class of the Upper Subordinate grade when reported by the Officer Commanding the Sappers and Miners to have served one year without appearing in the Defaulter's 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 No. 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.

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

No. 85. ORDER THEREON, No. 787; dated 25th April 1857.

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 occasion 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

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 28th April 1857.

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.

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

For Orders. 311

Public Works Department No 621-

on the Proc: of the Chief Engineer 25th March 1857-

It appears desirable that
some check upon the Ele-
phants - There should be some
investigation of the Causes
which the Estimates for the
Salteamungalum Bridge.

It

The investigation seems

my reasons - The Court
Pass of Major L'
other persons attendance
it would seem to me -
his reflection on the Conduct
of the Executive Officers
& shows
& the advisability of some
rule preventing too much
attendance on the Civil.
Court - Persons should
not be asked for some of
the Ministerial of the
Officers Limited or

by the Chief Secretary
30/3/57

If these men are Mauritians
they should not be sent back to
the Seychelles but remanded to
either the European Battalion or
Hospl - The Sapper Corporal to
Mess for Court Martial -

The case requires to be fully investigated
and a return should be obtained of the
proportion of his time
of the dept to be passed by each officer
in the Office on the hills &
in the low country. Had the work at
the bridge been properly overlooked, the
overseers would probably not have fallen into

individuals or at any rate to effect
their negligence wd have been checked
in time to prevent such loss as has
occurred MK

P.W.D.
71

No. 787

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

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

(Here enter 25th March/57 No. 11309)

With these Pro-
-ceedings the Chief Engineer
submits a letter from the
Superintending Engineer
Southern Division report-
-ing his inspection of the
works on the Cauvery and
Bowanny 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 Sultyamungalum, 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 Distt. 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 Silbanks 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 Pub. Works. The Chief Engr. recommends that they be remanded to the corps of Sappers & 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 Govt. resolve that they may be removed,

from the Pub: Works Departt, and placed at the disposal of the Commander in Chief for regimental duty; — — —

Captain Francis to furnish a return of the period passed by each officer of the P. W. Dept in the District on the Hills during 1856 & Leaving clearly the necessity of their stay on the Hills on each occasion and the duties on which they have been engaged

5. The Govt Directs that the Chief Engineer will not lose sight of the general observations which Major Crawford has made in connection with particular Pub. Works which he has visited during his tour. If these hints are not taken up and these general propositions fully considered and disposed of much of the time of the Dept Engineer will have been spent in vain. Colonel Fraser will specially report to Govt the measures he may have adopted to enquire into & the unsatisfactory state of the works connected with the improvement of the Indus fully and to devise channels and the remedies that may be necessary.

[illegible]

Copies to the Chief Engr. Dispatch
with an Dispatch Encls
Secy Bombay Dept

Public Works 1857 Dep.t.
D.o Cons.: 28.th April

No 787.

To
Secretary to Govt.
Dep.t 25.th April 57.

From Chief Engr. 1.st May 57
No 888 - Recommending by Endorsement of 29.th Inst. Channels and Sluices for the Cumbatore District - Cost Rs 19/-

Requesting the Chief Engineer to direct the District Engineer to examine the accounts connected with the erection of the bridge at Sattyamungalum, in the Coimbatore District, and submit a complete report on the subject; and removing Assistant Superviser Gillanks and Overseer Church from the Department of Public Works for their intemperate habits.

From Chief Engr. 1.st May 1857
Cd.e 887 - Recommending Sanction to Eaton & Corporals Palmer in lieu of Mr Gilbanks, and Extension of Mr Church remanded to the Copy of the Cons.

From the Chief Engr. 25.th July/57 C.P.L. 1368 Cons: 4 Aug
From Secy to Govt 11.th May/57 C.P.L. 956 Cons: 2 June.

From the Offg Chief Engr 23.d Augt/58 N.o 1929 in Cons.

No 84 + 85

110 - 4 - 24

93-6

Cons. 15.th April 57