M.R.O. 1—23,400—28-11-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Case 2/3767

G.O. No. 357 Press Mis.

Dated 20 7 18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 77. Read the following letter from C. WHITTINGHAM, Esq., Magistrate of North Arcot; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Wallajapet, 17th June 1858, No. 32.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the information of Government, copy of a letter dated the 12th June 1858, from the Assistant Supervisor in charge of the 3rd Section, to Mr. Dopping, the Acting District Engineer, copy of which I have this day received from Mr. Dopping, reporting the death of two coolies, which resulted from the falling in of earth, while they were digging for chunam.

2. The report shows, that the accident is to be attributed to careless supervision, and defective arrangements on the part of the Sub-Overseer and Conicopoly under whom the coolies were employed.

3. Eroomboorum, the place at which the accident occurred, is in the Arcot Talook of the Sub-Division, but I have not yet received any report on the subject from the Joint Magistrate.

Letter from A. RAMANJOOLOO, Pillay, Assistant Supervisor in charge of 3rd Section and Paular Annicut project; to JAMES H. DOPPING, Esq., Covenanted District Engineer, dated Camp Paular Annicut, 12th June 1858, No. 170.

SIR,

Adverting to my letter No. 167, of this day's date, I most respectfully beg leave to state, that I have visited the Eroomboorum Chunam Quarry, and the following are the particulars.

It appears from enquiry, that one man cooly, Chuppany, and two women coolies, Moonchee and Ummatha, were employed in digging and picking lime stones in a place about 60 or 70 yards away from the other coolies; the above three coolies, instead of removing the mud layer at top about 1½ foot in thickness, went on scooping out in order to lighten their labour and thus enable them to collect earlier, the quantity required of them for the day. When they have, this made a hollow about 2 yards long, 1 yard wide and 1 yard deep, the mud layer hanging over head fell, and completely overwhelmed the coolies Chuppanee, about 60 years old and Moonchee, a girl of about 14 years old, and smothered them to death. Ummatha, who was a little out of the hollow, had only a portion of her body up to her thighs covered. She cried out for help, the other coolies who were ignorant of the accident until they heard her, immediately ran and rescued her; the woman having told them, that there were two more under the mud. On the removal of the mud, the two coolies were found dead. The Conicopoly employed on the work was not present when this occurred, as he had followed the Sub-Overseer to Nottairy Tank.

I am of opinion, that this accident has occurred from want of care and supervision on the part of the Sub-Overseer and the Conicopoly, although they were acquainted of a similar accident which had occurred at the same place some three years ago, yet they did not give themselves the trouble of preventing the coolies from pursuing the dangerous method of scooping out.

Mr. Haydon, Sub-Overseer, on being told that he ought not to have allowed the coolies to work in that manner; he replied, that he cared very little for the way in which the coolies set about working, provided they produced the No. of parahs required of them daily.

In conclusion, I would beg leave to suggest, that, as I have heard of the occurrences of several accidents of a similar nature, measures should be at once adopted for putting an end to this dangerous mode of collecting chunam.

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, No. 1337; dated 12th July 1858.

The Government observe, that the accident reported in the above letter, is attributed to careless supervision and defective arrangements on the part of a Sub-Overseer and Conicopillay of the Public Works Department. They resolve, therefore, to request the Officiating Chief Engineer, to whom these papers will be communicated, will explain, whether a report of the occurrence has been made to the Central Office, and if so, what notice has been taken of it; and further, whether any and what measures are in force, for the prevention of such accidents.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

3d Section Office

No 170. Camp Paular Aniout

12th June 1858.

From A. Ramanjoolo Pillay

Assistant Supervisor in Charge of

3d Section & Paular Aniout Project

To James H. Dopping Esqre C. Engr

District Engineer

Sir,

Adverting to my letter No 167

of this day's date I most respectfully

beg leave to state that I have

visited the Eroombooroom Chunam

Quarry and the following are the particulars

It appears from enquiry

that one man cooly Chuppareer

and two Women Coolies Moonchee

and Unnatha were employed in

digging and picking Lime Stones

in a place about 60 or 70 yards

away from the other Coolies; the above

three Coolies instead of removing the

mud

mine layer at top about 1½ foot in thickness wanton scooping out in order to lighten their labour and thus enable them to collect earlier the quantity required of them for the day. When they have this mass a hollow about 2 Yards long 1 Yards wide and 1 Yard deep the mine layer hanging over head fell and completely overwhelmed the Coolies Chuppanee about 60 Years old and Nonchee a girl of about 14 Years old and smothered them to death. Unnoothawa was a little out of the hollow has only a portion of her body up to her thighs covered. She cried out for help. the other coolies who were ignorant of the accident until they heard her immediately ran and rescued her the woman having told them that there were two more under the mine. On the removal of the mine the two Coolies were found dead.

The Conicopoly employed on the work was not present when this occurred as he has followed the Sub Overseer to Kattary Tank.

I am of opinion that this accident has occured from want of care and supervision on the part of the Sub Overseer and the Conicopoly although they were cognizants of a similar accident which has occurred at the same place some three Years ago yet they did not give themselves the trouble of preventing the Coolies from pursuing the dangerous method of scooping out.

Mr. Haydon Sub Overseer on being told that he ought not to have allowed the coolies to work in that manner, he replied that he cared very little for the way in which the Coolies set about working

working provided they possess the No.s of parahs required of them daily.-

In conclusion I would beg leave to suggest that, as I have heard of the occurrances of several accidents of a similar nature, measures should be at once adopted for putting an end to this dangerous mode of collecting Chunam.-

I beg to remain Yours.

(Signed) W. Ramanjooloo.
Assistt Superintendent
in Charge of 3d Section.

/ True Copy /
/ Signed / L. H. Dopping C.E.
Actg District Engineer of N.A.

To
The information of
C. Whittingham Esqre
Collector of South Arcot

/ True Copy /

C. Whittingham
Collector

No 32.

North Arcot

Engineer Office

Vellore 17th June 1858

From Captain Whitehead Engr

Acting Executive Engr

No 1 Engineer Circle

To the Chief Secretary to the

Government

Fort St George

Sir,

I have the honor to

submit for the information

of Government copy of a letter

dated the 12th June 1858 from the

Assistant Superintendent in charge

of the 3d Section to the Superintending

the Cutting Division Bangalore,

copy of which I have this day

sent to the Superintending Engineer

Madras Presidency, Cuddapah

and the District Engineer which

I beg to request may be

forwarded to Government

for

In a letter from the
Collector of North Arcot
to the Chief Secretary
to Government Fort
Saint George dated
17th June 1858 No. 32.

No. M 1364/58

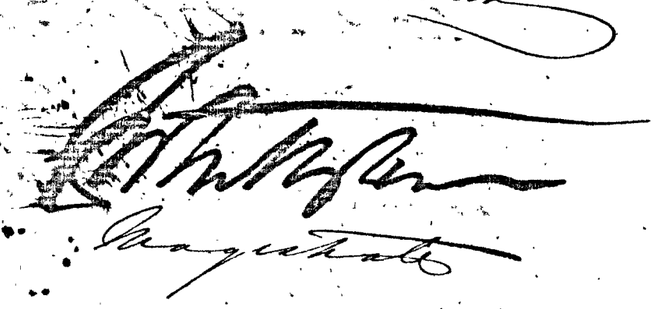
Copy of a letter
the Assistant Superviser
in Charge of 3d Section
and Pamlar Aniout
Project to the District
Engineer dated 11th June
1858 No. 170.—

for Chunam.

2. The report shows that the accident is to be attributed to careless superintendance, and defective arrangements on the part of the Sub Overseer and Caniapilly under whom the coolies were employed.

3. Eroombaram, the place at which the accident occurred, is in the Arcot Collectorate of the Sub Division, but I have not yet received any report on the subject from the Joint Magistrate.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obt. Servant



Magistrate

No. 1337.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 12th July 1838.

Read the following
letter from the Magistrate
of Lurdh Aroad.

(Here enter 17th June 1838 No. 32)

The Government
observe that the accident
reported in the above letter
is attributed to careless
supervision & defective
arrangements on the part
of a Sub Overseer and
Canoe pillay of the Pub.
Works Department. They
resolve therefore to request
the

Dy Mistr of Pub Works
Dy Secy to Govt

From
The Magistrate
of the Seventh Division
Lurdh Aroad

Dated 17th June 1838.
Rec'd 21st do
Answd 25th do

No. 32

Sir,
I have the honor to report for the information of Government that on the 15th instant the Elephant Keeper of the Government Stables in this town was killed by a female elephant belonging to the Pagoda of Tirupatty in this District. The circumstances attending the accident are as follows.

1377.

25 June 1838 No 30

the Officer in charge of the
Central Office to whom
these papers will be com-
municated will explain
whether a report of the
occurrence has been made
to the Central Office
and if so what notice
has been taken of it, and
further whether any and
what measures are in force
for the prevention of
such accidents.

WHS

10 Dopsin to the Offrs Chief Engr Dublin 13th
" —— — Magistr of North Strand

Public Works 1858 & Dept.

Dy. to Cons. 13th July

No. 1337

Copy Contract Mins: of Coad:

D/ 12th July / 58.

From the Asst. Chief Engr.

D/ 27th July / 58 Ct. No. 1665 in 6:

10 Aug

From the Magistrate North Arcot

Augt / 68 / 1818 Engr. 24

From the Asst. Chief Engr. D/ 19th

Augt / 58 Ct. 1893 in 6. 7 Sept.

Communicating to the Asst. Chief Engr. a letter from the Magistrate of North Arcot, reporting the accidental death of two Coolies while employed in digging Channum & requesting him to state whether a report of the occurrence has been made to the Central office, & if so what notice has been taken of it.

No. 77 & 78.

