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M.R.O. 1—12,400—28-11-36

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police Courts DEPARTMENT.

Criminal Judicial

G.O. No.	1386	Press Mis.
Dated	10 7	18 37

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 83. Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle in charge of the Central Office of P. W.; to W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 8th June 1858, No. 932.

SIR,

With reference to Extract Minutes Consultation No. 758 dated 23rd April 1858, I have the honor to submit copies of correspondence,* relating to the circumstances under which a loss of 21 Rupees from the Cash Chest under charge of Mr. Ricketts took place.

* No. 141 dated 21st May 1858 from the District Engineer, Trichinopoly.
No. 40 dated 27th June 1857, from Mr. Ricketts.
No. 179 dated 13th Novr. 1857, from do
No. 1 dated 3rd May 1858, from do.

2. There can be little doubt that the money was actually stolen and it is certain that the amount was missed and reported in June, and not as Government appear to suppose in November only, although the wording of Mr. Ricketts letter of the 27th of that Month would certainly lead to that belief.

3. Under these circumstances and considering that no proper means of guarding publie money was at Mr. Ricketts disposal, I trust that Government will be pleased to exonerate him from the responsibility of the loss in question.

Letter from Lieutenant J. G. RYVES, District Engineer Trichinopoly; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 21st May 1858, No. 141.

SIR,

With reference to your resolution dated 27th April, I have the honor at the request of the Acting Executive Engineer, to forward for your consideraiion the enclosed original letters.

Letter from E. G. RICKETTS, Esq., Officiating Executive EngineerTrichinopoly District; to Lieutenant J. G. RYVES, District Engineer of Trichinopoly, dated 27th June 1857, No. 40.

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to your notice, for the information of the Chief Engineer and the Government, the following instance of the great risk we run of being robbed as Executive Officers in charge of Government money from the fact of not being allowed Peons (hitherto attached to Cash Chests) to protect and guard the same.

2. On the evening of 12th June 1857, between the hours of 7 and 8 P. M., an attempt was made to rob my Cash Chest by the aid of a false key, but fortunately the prisoner was apprehended before he could make away with any great amount.

3. The loss on examanation I ascertained to be Company's Rupees (21) twenty-one, and I am only sorry I did not examine him before committed, for when the Police undertook their scrutiny a few pice only were found upon him.

4. Enclosed is a copy of the indictment and sentence.

Letter from E. G. RICKETTS, Esq., Officiating Executive Engineer Trichinopoly District; to Lieutenant J. G. RYVES, District Engineer, Trichinopoly, dated Mathana Coorchee 13th November 1857, No. 179.

SIR,

On closing my accounts for the past (6) six months, I find a deficiency of Company's Rupees twenty-one (21) being the amount of a robbery committed in the month of June and reported to you for the information of the Chief Engineer; under these circumstances I request to be allowed to place such amount under the head of profit and loss.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 13th July 1858.

Letter from E. G. RICKETTS, Esq., Officiating Executive Engineer in charge 4th Circle ; to Lieutenant J. G. RYVES, District Engineer, Trichinopoly, dated 3rd May 1858, No. 1.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of copy of Extract from Minutes of Consultation No. 758, of the 23rd April 1858, and from para. 3 it would appear that Government are under the impression that the deficiency of cash in connection with the robbery under remark was not reported by me till November of the same year though the attempt was made in June 1857, and attribute the loss to accidental carelessness on my part.

2. Under these circumstances I lose no time in forwarding a copy of my letter reporting the circumstances to you for the information of the Chief Engineer and the Government, dated the 27th of the same month, with a copy of the indictment and sentence in which distinct mention is made of the loss in figures.

3. In November 1857, whilst making up my books for the Official half year ending 31st October 1857, I begged for definite instructions as to how the deficiency was to be made good, as up to that date I had received none.

No. 84. ORDER THEREON, No. 1340 ; dated 12th July 1858.

The Government declined to relieve Mr. Ricketts, Officiating Executive Engineer in Trichinopoly from responsibility in the case of an alleged robbery of Public cash on the grounds that there was no proof of the robbery, the person who is stated to have committed it having been tried and convicted by the Principal Sudder Ameen for "attempt at theft" and that although the attempt was made in June 1857, no deficiency in his cash was found by Mr. Ricketts until November.

Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 23rd April 158, No. 758.

2. The Superintending Engineer in charge of the Central Office of Public Works submits with his present letter certain correspondence on the subject, among which is a letter from Mr. Ricketts to the District Engineer dated 27th June 1857, reporting the deficiency at the time the robbery occurred. Mr. Ricketts in his letter to the District Engineer, dated 3rd May 1858 states, that in a copy of the Indictment and sentence furnished by him to the District Engineer "distinct mention is made of the loss in figures." The Government do not find any such figures in the copy of the Principal Sudder Ameen's report (the only Judicial paper in the case before then) received with Colonel Faber's letter of the 8th December 1857, No. 5787. The proof of actual robbery is what the Government chiefly require to exonerate Mr. Ricketts from responsibility and in the absence of that they must adhere to the order already given.

Extract Minutes Consultation, 23rd April 1858 No. 758.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

3

No. 141.

From

Lieutenant J. G. Ryves,
District Engineer,
Trichinopoly.

To,

The Chief Engineer
in the Department P. W.

Sir,

With reference to your resolution dated 27th April, I have the honor, at the request of the Acting Executive Engineer, to forward for your consideration the enclosed original letters.

I have &c. &c.
(Signed) J. G. Ryves Lt.
District Engineer.

District Engineer's office,
Upper Anicut
21st May 1858.

From,

No 40 of 1857-58.

From,

E. G. Ricketts Esquire
Officiating Executive
Engineer
Trichinopoly Dist.

To,

The District Engineer of
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to your notice, for the information of the Chief Engineer and the Government, the following instance of the great risk ... of being robbed as Executive Officers in charge of Government money from the fact of not being allowed Peons (Letter to attached to Cash Chests) to protect and guard the same.

2. On the evening of 12th June 1857 between the hours of 7 and 8 P.M. an attempt was made to rob my cash Chest by the aid of a false Key, but fortunately the prisoner was apprehended before he could make away with any great amount.

The.

3. The loss on examination I ascertained to be Company's Rupees (21) Twentyone, and I am only sorry I did not examine him before committed for when the Police undertook their scrutiny a few fice only were found upon him.

4. Enclosed is a copy of a copy of the indictment and sentence.

I have &c &c &c

(Signed) E.G. Ricketts

Officiating Executive
Engineer Trichinopoly
Dist.

Officiating Executive
Engineer's Office —
Camp Trichinopoly.
27th June 1857.

/ True Copy /
Edward. G. Ricketts.
Officiating Executive Engineer
in Charge 4th Circle.

From,

No 179 of 1857-58.

From,

E. G. Ricketts Esquire
Officiating Executive Engineer
Trichinopoly Dt.

To,

The District Engineer
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

On closing my Accounts for the past (6) six months, I find a deficiency of Company's Rupees Twenty one (21) being the amount of a robbery committed in the month of June and re= =ported to you for the information of the Chief Engineer, under these cir= =cumstances I request to be allowed to place such amount under the head of Profit and Loss-

I have &c &c &c
(Signed) E. G. Ricketts.
Officiating Executive
Engineer Trichinopoly
District.

Offg: Ex: Engineers Office,
Camp to Mathara Coochee
13th November 1857.

/True copy/
(Signed) Edward. G. Ricketts
Officiating Ex: Engineer
Incharge 4th Circle-

From

No 1 of 1858/59.

From

E. G. Ricketts Esquire
Officiating Executive Engr.
Incharge 4th Circle.

To,

The District Engineer
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of copy of Extract from Minutes of Consultation No 758, of the 23rd April 1858, and from Para 3 it would appear that Government are under the impression that the deficie= =ency of Cash in connection with the Robbery under Remark was not re= =ported by me till November of the same year, tho' the attempt was made in June 1857 and attribute the loss to accidental carelessness on my part.

2. Under these circumstances I lose no time in forwarding a copy of my letter reporting the circumstances to you for the information of the Chief Engineer and

the

the Government dated the 27th of the same month, with a copy of the indictment and sentence in which distinct mention is made of the loss in figures.

3. In November 1857, whilst making up my Books for the Official half year ending 31st October 1857, I begged for definite instructions as to how the deficiency was to be made good, as up to that date I had received none.

I have &c &c &c.

(Signed) Edward J. Reitchotts
Officiating Ex. Engineer
In charge 4th Circle.

Officiating Executive Engineer's Office
Camp Trichinopoly
3rd May 1858.

/ True Copies /

Superintending Engineer
Southern Circle
In charge Central Office
P.W.

Copy

Enclosure in a letter,
From
The Supg: Engineer
Southern Circle,
In charge of Central
Office P. W.

To, The Secretary to Govt
P. W. D.

Dated 8
Received } June 1858

No 932.
P W No 242/58

Copies of Correspondence
regarding the robbery
of Public Money
from Mr. Richards.

considering that no proper means of guarding public money was at Mr Pickett's disposal, I trust that Government will be pleased to exonerate him from the responsibility of the loss in question.—

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obdt. Servt.

Fort Saml. George
8 June 1858

Supt. Engineer & in Charge in Ch.
of the Central Office of P.W.

To
The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.

P.W.D

No. 1340

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 12th July 1858

Read the following letter
from the Superintending Engr
Southern Circle in charge of the
Central Office of Public Works.

(Here enter 8th June 1858 at Sq 32.)

The Government
declined to relieve Mr Ricketts,
officiating Executive Engineer
in Trichinopoly from responsi-
bility in the case of an alleged
robbery of Public cash on the
grounds that there was no
proof of the robbery, the person
who is stated to have committed
it having been tried and
convicted by the Principal
Sudder Ameen for "attempt
at

Ex: Minutes Consn: of 23rd April 1858 No 758.

P.W.D
Despatch
Received 8th January 1858
Answered 12th "
No 3014.

From
The Superintending Engr
Southern Circle
To
The Secretary to Govt
P.W.D

Dated Trichinopoly 8th January 1858.

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that Mr Ricketts Executive Engineer in charge of the Trichinopoly Division has been tried and convicted by the Principal Sudder Ameen of Trichinopoly of "attempt to commit robbery of Public money entrusted to him" and sentenced to imprisonment for one year.

2. Mr Ricketts has been suspended from his office and I have appointed Mr Cockell Executive Engineer to act for him.

I have &c
(Sd) [illegible]
Supdg Engr

Copy forwarded to Mr Cockell Executive Engineer Trichinopoly for information.

By order &c
(Sd) [illegible]
Secy to Govt
P.W.D

Compd

at theft" and that although the attempt was made in June 1857 no deficiency in his cash was found by Mr Ricketts until November.

2 The Superintending Engineer in charge of the Central Office of Public Works submits with his present letter certain correspondence on the subject among which is a letter from Mr Ricketts to the District Engineer dated 27th June 1857, reporting the deficiency at the time the robbery occurred. Mr Ricketts in his letter to the District Engineer dated 2nd May 1858 states that in a copy of the indictment and Sentence furnished by him to the District Engineer" distinct mention is made of the loss in

in figures." The Government do not find any such figures in the copy of the Principal Sudder Ameen's report (the only Indictment or paper in the case before an trans) received with Colonel Forbes's letter of the 8th December 1857 No 5787. The proof of actual robbery is what the Government chiefly require to exonerate Mr. Ricketts from responsibility and in the absence of that they must adhere to the order already given.

W H B

2d: Mint Cons: 23d April 1858 No 758.

10 Copies to the Offg Chief Engr (A) 13th do

Public Works 1858 Dpts
D.Y. to Cons. 13th. July

No 1349

Extract Cons. of Cons
D/ 15th. July /58.

Declining to sanction
Mr Ricketts of the Executive
Engineer in Trichinopoly fro
responsibility in the case
of an alleged robbery of
Public Cash until proof
of actual robbery is furnishe

No. 83 & 84.