M.E.O.1—2k 600—21-11-53

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| G.O. No. | 1614 | Press Mis. |
| 6-3 | | |
| Dated | | 18 |

*Not to be folded or roughly handled*

No. 72. Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer; to the Secretary to Government, dated 4th August 1858, No. 2513.

SIR,

* No. 383, dated 5th March 1858.
† No. 607 dated 26th July 1858.

Referring to the orders* of Government marginally noted, I have the honor to submit copy† of a letter from the District Engineer of Trichinopoly, reporting the fact of a very large excess in the expenditure on the Murdayaur under-tunnel.

1 Copy of a letter.
1 Abstract Statement.

2. This work estimated at Rupees 10,720 will, it appears, ultimately cost Rupees 17,500 or about 70 per cent in excess.

3. The reason given by Lieutenant Ryves for this result are as follows. First the stoppage of the work in July last, 2ndly the delay of sanction for its resumption till the fine season had passed by and the occurrence of heavy floods in the river during the progress of the works, 3rdly a deficiency discovered in the accounts which is now under enquiry. There are also minor causes mentioned by Lieutenant Ryves which have tended to swell the cost.

4. I have no doubt whatever that the unfortunate stoppage of this difficult work just after its commencement when all the expensive preparations had been made, and the delay that prevented its resumption in the proper season have had a very material effect in increasing its cost, and I see no present reason to impute blame to the District Engineer, but further consideration will be given to the matter hereafter.

5. The overcharge noticed in para 7 will be duly investigated.

---

Letter from Lieutenant J. G. RYVES, District Engineer, Trichinopoly; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 26th July 1858, No. 607.

SIR,

* Rupees 10,720.

I have the honor to report that the estimate* for the Murthayaur under-tunnel (Ponairy project) will be very much exceeded by the actual cost of the work.

2. The accompanying abstract of expenditure up to the 15th July shews, that up to that date a total of Rupees 15,054-15-9 had been expended since the commencement of the work in April 1857, of this Rupees 5,318-8-9 had been incurred prior to the stoppage of the work by the General order dated 17th July 1857, and Rupees 9,736-7-0 subsequent to the resumption of work this year, in addition to the above expenditure already incurred, Lieutenant Mead estimates that about Rupees 2,500 will be spent before the work is completed which will altogether make up a total expenditure of upwards of Rupees 17,500, or about 70 per Cent in excess of the estimated cost of the work.

3. This enormous excess can be in part accounted for by the peculiar circumstances under which this work has been executed.

4. Some loss of value paid for accrued from the stoppage of the work in July last year and the work having been as it were commenced twice the costly arrangements for starting a work of this nature in a wild and thinly peopled District had to be made twice over.

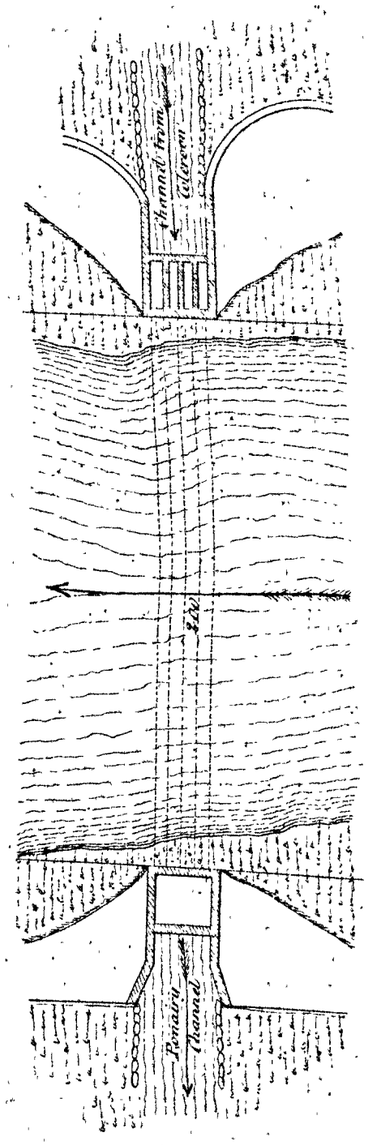
5. Another and very important cause of large expenditure is to be found in the circumstances under which the work was resumed this season after repeated applications for sanction, authority to complete the work was at last obtained from the Bengal Government in March, January, February and March were settled rainless months during which the Murthayar was perfectly dry and during which the work might have been executed with economy certainly for the estimated cost. The succeeding two months April and May were unsettled and raising with violent storms and floods in the Murthayaur and in June and July the Coleroon has been more or less in fresh. Hence the excessive outlay on embankments, baling and foundations.

6. Besides this heavy outlay in baling, laying foundations and maintaining embankments, distinct loss was sustained on two occasions this year and once last year by the Murthayaur tor-

rent having washed away the embankments and flooded the works, these losses are shewn to amount to Rupees 2,948-0-10.

7. Another item which has swelled the total of expenditure is for materials charged for in the accounts, but which are not forthcoming, this has already formed the subject of a separate report, in which the circumstances under which this doubtful charge has been entered in the accounts, have been fully detailed as far as they are at present known to me.

8. The distinct losses specified in the last two paragraphs amount to Rupees 4,396-8-1 the cost of the work as it now stands being Rupees 10,658-7-8 so that the probable total ultimate cost of the whole work excluding the Rupees 4,396-8-1 above noted will be about Rupees 13,200 or Rupees 2,500 more than originally estimated by me, and this excess can in a very great measure be ascribed to the causes alluded to in paras 4 and 5 of this report, a small proportion of this excess is, I think, due to Lieutenant Mead's employing too many workmen, that is to say more than could be economically and advantageously employed and to the fact that very nearly all the work people had to come across the Coleroon from Tanjore District in the morning and to return in the evening, the few inhabitants of the scattered villages on one side of the river not caring to earn fair wages by steady daily work.




9. Having now reported on the cost of this work, I wish I were in a position to report clearly the state of advancement of the work itself, but Lieutenant Mead has, I regret to say, omitted to notice this very important point, from demi official communication however I understand that the tunnel work in the bed of the river is now completed, that the front and rear wings towards Coleroon and channel are well advanced and the basins finished. I have authorized Lieutenant Mead to leave the Murthayaur wings undone this season, unless he finds himself able to carry them on at once with the other work, this arrangement I made when I inspected the work on the 23rd and 24th June last, because it appeared to me that he would not be able to complete them before the heavy floods of August, which coming down both the Coleroon and Murthayaur will be certain to carry away his embankments, without the Murthayaur wings the work will be left till next January as shewn in the marginal sketch, and will be not only fully efficient as an under-tunnel passing the channel across the Murthayaur, but will, I am of opinion, be safe with proper precautions during the next monsoon.



*Abstract Statement of Expenditure on Murthyaur under-tunnel up to 14th July 1858, shewing cost of work expenditure for which no value can now be shewn and the total of expenditure up to the above date.*

| | | Rs. | A. | P. | Rs. | A. | P. | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cost of work as it stands on the 14th July. | Temporary embankments, excavating foundations and baling | 4,214 | 7 | 10½ | | | | | | |
| | Building the tunnel and sundry labor. | 2,522 | 5 | 7½ | | | | | | |
| | Total labor. | | | | 6,736 | 13 | 6 | | | |
| | Materials | | | | 3,921 | 10 | 2 | | | |
| | Total cost of work not lost | | | | | | | 10,658 | 7 | 8 |
| Expenditure without value. | Value of materials &c. entered in accounts but not forthcoming Vide letter No. 561 dated 21st July 1858. | 1,448 | 7 | 3 | 1,448 | 7 | 3 | | | |
| | Excavation and embankments value lost by floods up to July 1857 | 1,730 | 15 | 6 | | | | | | |
| | Do. do. do. do. June 1858. | 1,217 | 1 | 4 | 2,948 | | 10 | | | |
| | Total expenditure for which no value now exists | | | | | | | 4,396 | 8 | 1 |
| | Total expenditure up to 14th July 1858 | | | | | | | 15,054 | 15 | 9 |

District Engineer's office, Trichinopoly 26th July 1858.

(Signed) J. G. RYVES, Lieut.
*District Engineer, Trichinopoly.*

No. 73. ORDER THEREON, No. 1814; dated 6th September 1858.

The Officiating Chief Engineer submits a letter from the District Engineer of Trichinopoly reporting a large excess in the expenditure in the Murdayaur under Tunnel. This work was proposed by the District Engineer in the past year and it would appear did not form a part of the original project of the Ponairy channel for which an estimate of Rupees 52,952 was sanctioned by the Government of India on the 26th January 1855,* while the subsequent grant of Rupees 7,048 sanctioned on the 15th February† last was partly on account of the excess in the cost of the channel, and partly on account of the Tunnel. The Government will await the receipt of the further report which it appears the Officiating Chief Engineer intends to make. This must show what will be the actual expenditure in excess of the last sanction for Rupees 7,048, in what proportions, as far as it can be assigned, the enhanced cost of the tunnel is to be apportioned among the several causes alleged by the District Engineer, what is the Chief Engineer's own opinion of those various causes and the influence that each is represented to have had in raising the expense of the work and especially what has been the result of the enquiry in regard to the deficiency in the accounts.

* Extract Minutes Consultation 10th February 1855, No. 64.
† Extract Minutes Consultation 5th March 1858, No. 383.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
*Chief Secretary.*

№607
58/59

From

Lieutenant J. G. Reeves
District Engineer Trichinopoly

To

The Chief Engineer
in the Department P. Works.

Sir

I have the honor to report that the Estimate× for the Nurthoyanur Under tunnel (Ponairy Project) will be very much exceeded by the actual cost of the work.

× Rs. 10720.

2. The accompanying abstract of expenditure upto the 15th July shews that upto that date a total of Rupees 15,054-15-9 had been expended since the commencement of the work in April 1857, of this Rupees 5318-8-9 had been incurred prior to the stoppage of the work by the General order dated 17th July 1857, and Rupees 9736-7-0 subsequent to the resumption of work this year. In addition to the above expenditure already incurred, Lieutenant Mead estimates that about Rupees 2500 will be spent before the

the work is completed which will altogether make up a total Expenditure of upwards of Rupees 17,500—0—0 or about 70 per cent in excess of the Estimated cost of the work.

3. This enormous excess can be in part accounted for by the peculiar circumstances under which this work has been executed.

4 Some loss of value paid for accrued from the stoppage of the work in July last year and the work having been as it were commenced twice / the costly arrangements for starting a work of this nature in a wild and thinly peopled District had to be made twice over.

5. Another and very important cause of large Expenditure is to be found in the circumstances under which the work was resumed this season after repeated applications for sanction; authority to complete the work was at last obtained from the Bengal Government in March — January February and March were settled rainless months during which the Murthayar was perfectly



perfectly dry and flowing which the work might have been executed with economy certainly for the Estimated cost. The succeeding two months April and May were unsettled and raining with violent storms and floods in the Murthayar and in June and July the Coleroon has been more or less in freshes. Hence the excessive outlay on Embankments bailing and foundations.

6. Besides this heavy outlay in bailing laying foundations and maintaining Embankments distinct loss was sustained on two occasions this year and once last year by the Murthayar torrent having washed away the Embankments and flooded the works, These losses are shewn to amount to Rupees 2948—0—10.

7 Another item which has swelled the total of Expenditure is for materials charged for in the accounts, but which are not forthcoming this has already formed the subject of a separate report in which

which the circumstances under which this doubtful charge has been entered in the accounts have been fully detailed as far as they are at present known to me.

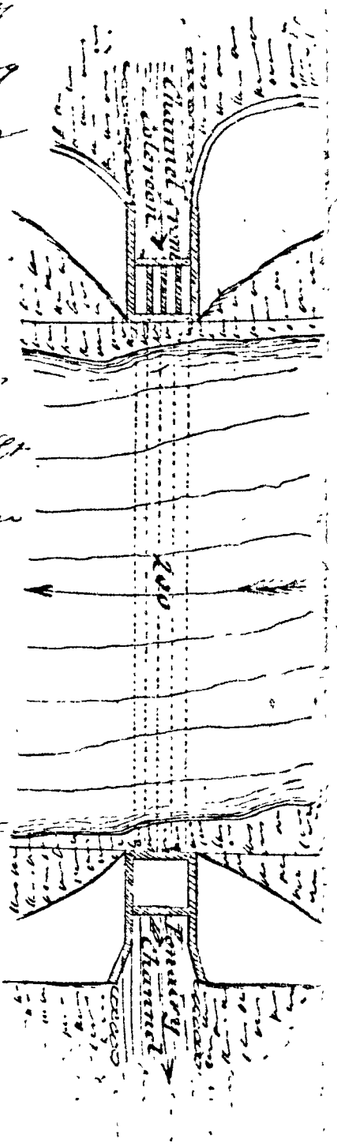
8 The distinct losses specified in the last two paragraphs amount to Rupees 4396-8-1 The cost of the work as it now stands being Rupees 10,658-7-8 So that the probable total ultimate cost of the whole work excluding the Rupees 4396-8-1 above noted will be about Rupees 13,200—— or Rupees 2500—— more than originally estimated by me - and this excess can in a very great measure be ascribed to the causes alluded to in paras 4 and 5 of this report - a small proportion of this Excess is, I think, due to Lieutenant Mead's employing too many workmen, that is to say more than could be economically and advantageously employed and to the fact that very nearly all the work people had to come across the Calaroon from Tanjore District in the morning and to return in the evening - the few inhabitants of the scattered villages on one side of the river not caring to earn fair wages by steady daily work.

9. Having now reported on the cost of this work - I wish I were in a position to report clearly the state of advancement of the work itself, but Lieutenant Mead has, I regret to say, omitted to notice this very important point, from demi official communication however I understand that the tunnel work in the bed of the river is now completed, that the front and rear wings towards Calaroon and Channel are well advanced and the Lining finished. I have authorized Lieutenant Mead to leave the Murthagan wings undone this season unless he finds himself able to carry them on at once with the other work - this arrangement I made when I inspected the work on the 23d and 24th June last, because it appeared to me that he would not be able to complete them before the heavy floods of August which coming down both the Calaroon and Murthagan will be certain to carry away his embankments

Imbankments without the Murkhayaar wings the work will be left like next January as shewn in the marginal Sketch and will be not only fully Efficient as an undertunnel passing the Channel across the Murkhayaar but will, I am of opinion, be safe with proper precautions during the next monsoon.

Trichinopoly
Dist. Engrs. Office
26th July 1858.

I have &c.,
Signed/ J. G. Paynes Lt.
District Engineer




/True Copy/

Officiating Chief Engr.

Capt. [illegible]

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George
4 August 1858.

No. 2573

From

The Offg Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

Revenue
Irrigation

Referring to the orders of Government marginally noted, I have the honor to submit a copy of a letter from the District Engineer of Trichinopoly, reporting the Sack of a very large excess in the expenditure on the Murdaipaur Anicut Trunnel.

2. This work estimated at Rupees 10,720 will it appears, ultimately cost Rs. 17,500. or about 70 per Cent in excess.

3 The reason given by the Engineer for this result are as follows. First the stoppage of the work in July last 2ndly The delay of sanction for the resumption till the fine season had passed by and the occurrence of heavy floods in

Enclosure in a letter from the Officiating Chief Engineer No. dated 4th August 1858 to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D.

Dated 4th August 1858

Received 9th August 1858

No. 2573

Copy of a letter from the District Engineer Trichinopoly to the Officiating Chief Engineer Fort St. George dated 26th July 1858 with its enclosure returned by the author.

in the River during the progress of the works

3rd A deficiency discovered in the accounts which is now under enquiry. There are also minor causes mentioned by Lieut. Reyner which have tended to swell the Est.

4. I have no doubt whatever that the unfortunate stoppage of this difficult work just after its commencement when all the expensive preparations had been made, and the delay that prevented its resumption in the proper season have had a very material effect in increasing its cost, and I see no present reason to impute blame to the District Engineer, but further consideration will be given to the matter hereafter.

5. The overcharge noticed in Para 4 will be duly investigated.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obdt Servt
L. Crawford Major
Offg. Chief Engr.

Fort St George
11 Augt 1858

To
The Secretary to
Government Pub. Dept

Recd

Abstract Statement of Expenditure on Muthyapur Under Tunnel upto 14th July 1858
shewing cost of work Expenditure for which no value can now be shewn and the
Total of Expenditure upto the above date.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cost of work as it stands on the 14th July | Temporary Embankments Excavating foundations & baling | | 4,214 | 7 | 10½ | | | | |
| | Building the Tunnel and Sundry Labor | | 2,522 | 5 | 7½ | | | | |
| | Total Labor | | | | | 6736 | 13 | 6 | |
| | Materials | | | | | 3921 | 10 | 2 | |
| | Total cost of work not lost | | | | | | | | 10,658 | 7 | 8 |
| Expenditure without value | Value of Materials &c entered in Accounts but not forthcoming vide Letter No. 561 dated 21st July 1858 | | 1448 | 7 | 3 | 1448 | 7 | 3 | |
| | Excavation and Embankments value lost by floods upto | July 1857 | 1730 | 15 | 6 | | | | |
| | Do Do Do Do | June 1858 | 1217 | 1 | 4 | 2948 | 11 | 10 | |
| | Total Expenditure for which no value now exists | | | | | | | | 4396 | 8 | 1 |
| | Total Expenditure upto 14th July 1858 | | | | | | | | 15054 | 15 | 9 |

District Engrs Office
Tschinopoly
26th July 1858.

/ True Copy /

Officiating Chief Engineer

/ Signed / J. G. Pigues Lt
District Engineer
Tschinopoly

Copy

P.W. Cons. 12 March 58 No 30-31

From the Ch. Engr
Dy. 31st Oct. 1861
C.R. 21,81.

No 72.

C 27th Aug. & 4th Sep.

Ch. Work 1858 Depart.
Dy to Col. 1766 September
from The Offg Chief Engr
To The Secy. to Govt P.W.D.

Dupe & 4 } Augt 1858
Recd 6 8

Encls 2. No 2573
C.R. 1814. 6th September 1858

Submits, with his opinion, a copy of a letter from the District Engineer of Tschinopoly reporting the fact of a very large excess in the expenditure on the Muthyapur Under Tunnel.

Public Works Dept

No 1814 18 1 5

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 6th ~~August~~ Sept 1858.

Read the following

letter from the Officiating

Chief Engineer.

Here enter 4th August 1858
No 2513

The Officiating

Chief Engineer submits

a letter from the District

Engineer of Trichinopoly

reporting a large excess

in the expenditure

in the Murdayaur

under Tunnel. This

work was proposed by

the District Engineer

in

Enclosure a letter from the
Officiating Chief Engineer
&c
To the Secretary to Govt
Pub. Dept.

Dated 4th
Recd 7 August 1858

No 2513
Pub Dept

Copy of an
Extract entitled
of Consultation
Thursday the 14th
January 1858.

in the first year and it would appear did not form a part of the original project of the Bonairy Channel for which an estimate of Rupees 52,952 was sanctioned by the Government of Indenk on the 26th January 1855, × while the subsequent grant of Rupees 7,048 sanctioned on the 15th February last was partly on account of the excess in the cost of the channel, and partly on account of the Tunnel. The Government will await the receipt of the further report which it appears the Offg. Chief Engineer intends to make

× Ex Mint Con 10 Feby 1855 C 64

× Ex mint Con 5 March 1858 D 383

make. This must show what will be the actual expenditure in excess of the last sanction for Rupees 7,048. in what proportions, so far as it can be assigned, the enhanced cost of the tunnel is to be apportioned among the several causes alleged by the District Engineer, the Chief Engineer's what is his own opinion of those various causes and the influence that each is represented to have had in raising the expense of the work and especially what has been the result of the enquiry in regard to the deficiency in

in the Accounts

L

Copies to the Offg Chief Engr & Dist Engrs &c

27 Aug 24 Sept

D to Cons 12th March 1858 300
31.

Public Works 1858 Dept.
D.J. to Cons. 7th Sept.

No. 1814.

Extract Minis. of Cons.
D. of 6th September 58

From the Off. Chief Engr 27th Oct.
1858 R. 2558 to Cons. 7 Dec

Respectfully submitted with a full report, in reference to the large excess of Expenditure, on the Improvements under Immediate Superintendence.

No. 72 & 73.