1. Number of Bundle
2. Date of receipt
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—5246—21-11-60.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.		Press Mis.
Dated	47	18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 57. Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer; to the Secretary to Government, dated 19th August 1858, No. 3000.

SIR,

With reference to the Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1231, dated the 30th June last, I have the honor to re-submit the Bill noted in the margin, therewith returned, and which exceeded the Estimate by more than 55 per Cent. The Explanation called for from the Officer who prepared the Estimate I beg to submit,* It appears to me to be satisfactory, especially as it is stated to have been a rough one, and the work, Viz. Alterations to the Jail at Ootacamund, having been required to be executed on emergency, a European prisoner having twice escaped from the Jail, he could not delay its execution. Major Dobbie states that when he discovered he had under-rated the cost, he endeavoured to get back the Estimate from the District Engineer, but as he had already forwarded it on for sanction, it could not be returned for alteration. Under these circumstances, I beg to recommend the Bill in question for sanction.

Alterations made to the Jail at Ootacamund, dated 8th July 1857 for Rupees 382 5 3.
* to be returned

Letter from Major G. S. DOBBIE, Executive Engineer; to W. FRASER, Esq., Acting District Engineer, Coimbatore, dated Ootacamund 21st July 1858, No. 63.

SIR,

I do myself the honor with reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 1231, dated 30th June 1858, calling for an explanation of an excess of expenditure over the Estimate for repairing the Jail at Ootacamund, to offer the following reasons for the increased expenditure.

In May 1858* I was directed by the District Engineer to accompany the Sudder Ameen to the Jail, and forward an estimate for certain improvement to that building at Ootacamund, the work was of an emergent description and I despatched without loss of time an estimate for the work to be done, immediately (*i e* a few days) after it had been sent to the District Engineer, I sent to his office to have it returned as I found I had considerably under-estimated the work, but found it had already been despatched for sanction, I was unable therefore to make the correction needed; the work being of the most emergent description, a European prisoner having escaped twice from the Jail, I could not delay the work until the mistake was pointed out, so I carried on the work as expeditiously as possible, thinking when I submitted the bill with an explanation it would be sufficient, I was anxious to do the work as economically as I possibly could and on finding the mistake I did my utmost to keep the expenditure down, but as the work was of such an emergent description, I was obliged to hire blacksmiths at any price they demanded from the bazaur to push on the work. I found also the cost of iron which had to be purchased for the occasion was much more expensive than what I had anticipated. I acknowledge that blame may be justly laid on me for having under-estimated the work as however desirous I may have been to do the work at a small a cost as possible, yet the mistake should not have occurred, but I trust with the explanation I have given of having immediately on discovering my error been desirous of rectifying it, and that my estimate was only a rough one as stated in my letter No. 77, dated 22nd May 1857, to the District Engineer, and the emergency of the work may be considered a sufficient explanation of the excess.

* 1857.

To the Chief Engineer, Department Public Works for information with reference to E. M. C. No. 1231, dated 30th June 1858, and resolution No. 1636, dated 3rd July 1858.

2nd August 1858.

(Signed) WILLIAM FRASER,
Acting District Engineer.

No. 58. ORDER THEREON, No. 1864; dated 10th September 1858.

Under the explanation now afforded the Governor in Council sanctions the Bill for alterations made to the Ootacamund Jail, amounting to Rupees (382-5-3-) three hundred and eighty-two, annas five and pice three and which exceeds the estimate by more than five per cent.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Central Office of Public Works

No. 3000 Fort St George, 19 August 1858

From

The Officiating Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Deptt

Sir,

With reference to the Extract Minutes
of Consultation No 1231, dated the 30th June
last, I have the honor to resubmit the Bill,
noted in the margin, therewith returned, and
which exceeded the Estimate by more than 5%
per Cent. The explanation called for from the
Officer who prepared the Estimate, I beg to submit
It appears to me to be satisfactory, especially
as it is stated to have been a rough one, and the
work, Viz. alterations to the Jail at Palaveram-
mand, having been required to be executed, on
emergency, a European prisoner having twice escaped
from the Jail, he could not delay its execution.
Major Dobbie states that when he discovered
he had under rated the cost, he endeavoured
to get back the Estimate from the District
Engineer

+ 02
+ Bill

Alterations made in the Bill at Palaveramm dated 8th July 1857 for Rs. 382-5-3.

* To be returned

Engineer, but as he had already forwarded it for sanction, it could not be returned for alteration. Under these circumstances, I beg to recommend the Bill in question for sanction.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obed. Servt.
Lawrence
Officiating Chief Engineer

Central Office E.D.F.
Fort St. George.
19th August 1858.

27 to Com 2 Lety/58 1897/90

P. Works 1858 Departt.
Do Constn Septr Circular
No 1900

From
The Offg Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary
to Government N.W.P.

Dated Agra
the 21st August 1858

Encls 2 Returned 2-10-58
No 3000

Resubmits the bill for Rupees 382-5-3 for alterations made to the Jail at Calacamund for sanction & submits the explanation called for from the Officer who prepared the Estimate, & considers the same to be satisfactory.

No 1864 Letter order 10 Sept.

No 1864

Under the explanation now afforded the Governor in Council sanctions the Bill for alterations made to the Calacamund Jail amounting to Rupees (382-5-3) three hundred and eighty two, annas five and pice three and which exceeds the Estimate by more than five per cent.

Secy to Govt
10 to Letr 1/9/58

10 Copies to Offg Chief Engr Circl
Nilgiris Engr Exec