20-1-38

M.R.O. 1—32,000—29-11-37

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 52 Press Mis.

Dated 5 — 2 18 [illegible]

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 14. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer; to the Secretary to Government, dated 12th October 1858, No. 4449.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit for the sanction of Government, an estimate amounting to Rupees (2,750) two thousand seven hundred and fifty, providing for laying down 9 inch Cast Iron-Pipes, on the plan of an inverted syphon, for conveying water across, the Elk-Hill cutting, or sunken Road, between Ootacamund and Conoor, on the Neilgherry Hills.

1 Copy of letter.
1 Abstract Estimate.

2. The Estimate sanctioned on the 6th of October 1853, for opening out this cut included an item for Iron Piping for conveying the water across it, for the supply, of two Houses called "Elk-Hill-House" and "Shoreham," formerly the property of Mr. Norton, Advocate General, to whom the sole right in this stream, was granted by Government, and restoring to the present owners* of these Houses, their right in the supply, which had been cut off, on the formation of the Sunken Road or Elk-Hill cutting, as it is now called; the money, however, was all expended on the cutting and no permanent piping was laid down; it was afterwards considered advisable to set up a temporary Lattice Bridge an item for which was included in the amount viz., Rupees 10,200 sanctioned by Government in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 14th September 1855 No. 538 for widening the cut to convey the water in an open pipe or trough across, till it was determined what quantity would be required for the supply generally of the Houses to the South of Ootacamund for the investigation of which Project the Collector of Coimbatore had received sanction to the amount of Rupees 400; the Lattice Bridge was built, but I am sorry to say, failed on account of the subsequent widening of the cut, destroying its relative proportions of length and depth, and the supply was consequently cut off.

* Major General Dowker, Colonel Hadfield.

3. Notwithstanding the previous failure, Government again in Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1337 under date the 11th July 1857, sanctioned an Estimate amounting to Rupees 300 (simply as an act of justice) for restoring the supply of water cut off by a Government work; This estimate proved insufficient to accomplish the object in view, on account of the rise in prices of labor and materials; a Carpenter at Ootacamund demanding at that time (when the construction of the Jackatalla Barracks had been ordered) 1 Rupee per diem, at Jackatalla receiving 8 annas per diem with Batta.

4. As therefore the owners of these two Houses have had their supply of water from this stream entirely cut off, (by the execution of a Government work) the sole right to which, having been originally granted by Government, to Mr. Norton, the former Proprietor of the House, I would beg most strongly to recommend the accompanying estimate for sanction involving, it may be said, rather a large outlay, but which I believe will at once render justice to the owners of these two Houses and accomplish the Government intention of providing for a supply of water generally to the Houses on the South of Ootacamund; this I believe will result in a permanent settlement of all disputes on the subject, and all further trouble to Government. It would be only fair though, that such an advantage to the Inhabitants on the South side of Ootacamund, should be accompanied, by some small return to Government, under the head of a fixed-water rate, the amount of which might be settled by the Collector and District Engineer.

Letter from WILLIAM FRASER, Esq., Acting District Engineer of Coimbatore; to the Chief Engineer, dated Coimbatore 29th September 1858, No. 138.

SIR,

General Dowker and Colonel Hadfield of Ootacamund lately addressed the Collector on the subject of the cutting off the supply of water from their Houses by the Elk-Hill cutting.

2. They applied to the Collector previously to laying their case before Government, and the Collector brought the matter before me, and thus I have the honor of again addressing you on the subject.

3. It is quite clear from the statements they make that Elk-Hill-House and Shorcham-House are entitled to water from the stream severed by the Elk-Hill cutting.

4. The lands were granted by Government to the late Advocate General Mr. George Norton and there is little doubt but that the right to the water course was granted also, at all events the right was admitted by the fact that General Dowker was paid 18 Rupees per month from the time of the cutting of the stream up to the end of April 1857 to indemnify him for the loss of the water. He was paid nothing since that date.

5. On the 11th July 1857 a sum of Rupees 300 was granted to put up a temporary continuance for carrying the water across, and when I had Executive charge of the Neilgherry Range I proposed a timber syphon at an estimate of 1,200 Rupees the materials for which were partly prepared.

6. About Rupees 277 were spent on the proposed temporary measure, but the balance of the 300 Rupees would not complete it.

7. You disapproved of the timber syphon and recommended a metal one instead.

8. A metal syphon is no doubt the best way to carry the water across, but there would probably be great delay in getting the pipes cast and it would cost much more than a timber syphon which if properly made of proper timber would last a long time.

9. What are we to do, shall we.

1. Resume payment of water-men for General Dowker and Colonel Hadfield at about 30 Rupees per month or
2. Complete the temporary plan of carrying the water over which would cost about 250 Rupees or
3. Construct a timber syphon at 1,200 Rupees or
4. Order pipes for a metal syphon, nine inch Pipes would do and about 200 feet would be required.

10. I would recommend the construction of the permanent syphon at once and I think it is probable that if General Dowker and Colonel Hadfield were aware that an order to this effect were given, they would not seek payment for water-men during the time of its construction.

No. 15. ORDER THEREON, No. 2660; dated 8th December 1858.

Under the circumstances represented in the above letter, the Government sanction for entry in the Budget Statement No. 2 of 1859-60, the estimate amounting to Rupees 2,750, for laying down 9 inch cast Iron pipes for conveying water across the Elk Hill cutting at Ootacamund to the two houses called Elk Hill House and Shoreham at present the property of General Dowker as well as to the houses generally on the South of Ootacamund.

(Signed) W. H. BAYLEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

3x

No. 758.

From

William Frazer Esqr
Ag. Dr. Supt. of Coimbatore

To

The Chief Engineer Fort St. George

Sir,

General Dowker and Colonel Hadfield of Ootacamund lately applied to the Collector on the subject of the cutting off the supply of water from their Houses by the Elk Hill Cutting.

2 They applied to the Collector previously to bringing their case before Government and the Collector brought the matter before me, and there I had the honor of again addressing you on the subject.

3 It is quite clear from the statements they make that Elk Hill House and Shoreham House are entitled to water from the stream severed by the Elk Hill Cutting.

4 The lands were granted by Govt to the late Advocate General Mr. Geo. Norton

Norton and there is little doubt but that the right to the water Course was granted also at all events the right was admitted by the fact that General Dunbar was paid 15 Rs per month from the time of the cutting of the stream up to the end of April 1857 to indemnify him for the loss of the water. He was paid nothing since that date.—

5 On the 11th July 1857 a sum of Rs 300 was granted to put up a temporary contrivance for carrying the water across and when I had a meeting charge of the Kuldhera Range I proposed a timber syphon at an estimate of 1200 Rs the materials for which were partly purchased.—

6 About Rs 277 were spent on the proposed temporary measure, but the balance of the 300 Rs granted not completed

7 Upon disapproval of the timber syphon and recommended a metal one instead.—

8 A metal syphon was no doubt the best way to carry the water across but there would probably be great delay in getting the pipes & it would cost much more than a timber syphon which if properly made of proper timber would last a long time.

9 What are we to do—shall we

1 Resume payment of water rent for General Dunbar and Colonel Barfield at about 30 Rs per month—or

2. Complete the temporary plan of carrying the water over which would cost about 250 Rupees—or

3. Construct a timber syphon at 1200 Rs.—or

4 Order pipes for a metal syphon Mine with pipes would do and about 200 feet would be required—

10 I would recommend the Construction of the permanent syphon at once, and I think it is probable

that

that if General Barbor and Colonel Hadfield were aware that an order to that effect were given they would make such payment for water used during the time of its construction.

Major pro
Engr Office
Lt Col R. Fraser
Coimbatore
Asst Engr
29th Sept 1858

Pme Capt
W. Hunter
Offg Supt Engr

Rebable Estimate for Constructing Cast Iron Syphon
passing at the Summit of the Cutting across the
Elk Hill Cutting in the District of Coimbatore.

		Price			Rupees	Annas	Pies
		Rupees	Annas	Pies			
259	Running feet of Cast Iron pipe of 9 inches Diameter in clear of 3/4 inch Thick	7	.	6 Per ft	1799	.	.
	clearing and laying the Cast Iron pipes with Gray cloth & Map &c.	"	8	. do	128	8	.
	2 Scrapers for cleaning the pipes	2	"	. 8	4	.	"
	260 Iron Screws and nuts for Joining the Cast Iron pipe	"	12	. 6	195	.	.
2	Running feet of Cast Iron pipes	"	.	. "	20	.	.
	Brick work in Filtering Cisterns & at the ends of the Syphon &c and Iron grating over the Cisterns	"	"	. .	100		
	Masonry beds for Supporting Cast Iron pipe at the bottom of the Cut	"	.	. .	60	.	.
	Copper pipe & Cape at the Lowest point of the Syphon	"	"	. "	20	.	.
	Excavation for fixing pipes	"	"	. .	30	"	.
	Conveying Iron pipes &c.	"	"	. .	313	.	.
	Sundry Charges &c. & Extra Establishment	"	"	. "	93	8	.
					Total Rupees 2750	.	.

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George
10th. October 1858.

Lawford Lieut. Col.
Offg. Chief Engineer &c.

Examined in the Comptrollers Office
[illegible]

Dr. Russell
Asst. Comptr.

Calculated by
Reed

Approved

Copy of a Letter from the Superintending Engineer of Coimbatore reporting certain Instructions with the Plan & Estimate of the Work proposed to be executed at the Elk Hill Cutting—

Enclosure

In a letter

From

The Offg Chief Engineer

D.P.W.

To

The Secretary to Government

D.P.W.

W 2445/58

Dated 12th Octr/58

Recd

№ 4449

Abstract Estimate of the probable expense for Constructing Cast Iron Syphon passing at the Summit of the Cutting across the Elk Hill Cart Line Coimbatore District.

Amounting to Co's Rs 2,750

13

Central Office of PWD

Fort St George

12th October 1858

№ 4449

From

The Offg Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government PWD

12th October 1858

Sir,

Public

I have the honor to submit for the sanction of Government an Estimate amounting to Rs 2750/ Two thousand Seven hundred and fifty/ rupees for Laying down such Cast Iron Pipes, on the plan of an inverted Syphon, for conveying water across the Elk Hill Cutting or Sunken Road between Coimbatoor and Coonoor on the Rutcherry Hills.

2. The Estimate sanctioned on the 6th of October 1853, for opening out this Cut includes an item for Iron Pipes for conveying the water across it for the supply of this Bungalow called "Elk Hill House" and Shoreham, formerly the property

property of Mr. Norton, Advocate General to whom the sole right in this Stream was granted by Government, and restoring to the present owners of these Mauzas their right in the supply which has been cut off on the formation of the Numbers Road & the Mill Cuttings, as it is now called; the money, however, was all expended on the Cuttings and no permanent piping was laid down; it was afterwards considered advisable to set up a temporary Lattice Bridge an item for which was included in the amount viz Rupees 10,200 sanctioned by Government in Mr. Collins' Letter dated 14th September 1858 No. 538 for widening the Cut to convey the water in an open pipe or trough across, till it was determined what quantity would be required for the supply generally of the Mauzas to the South of Cotacammund for the investigation of which Project the Collector of Coimbatore had received sanction

Major Gen. Cowtan
Col. Ringfield

sanction to the amount of Rs. 400, the Lattice Bridge was built but Sam Sorry, Jailer on account of the subsequent widening of the Cut, destroying the relative proportions of length and depth, and the supply was consequently cut off.—

3. Notwithstanding the previous failure, Government again in Pt. Con: No. 337 under date the 11th July 1857 sanctioned an Estimate amounting to Rs 300/ simply as an act of justice for restoring the supply of water at once by a Government work; This Estimate proved insufficient to accomplish the object in view on account of the rise in prices of labour & materials, a Carpenter at Cotacammund demanding at that time when the construction of the Jackatalla Barracks had been ordered 1 Rupee per diem, at Jackatalla receiving 8 Annas per diem with Batta

4. Therefore the owners of these Mauzas have had their supply of water from this

this Steam vessel entirely free of the
execution of the Government Work of the Lake
Portage which, having been originally granted
by Government to Mr. Burton, the former Proprietor
of the Stone Tenements, he must therefore
recommend the accompanying Estimate
for sanction trusting, it may be said
rather a large outlay, but which
will be but once under present circumstances
the owners of these two Steamers
could account for the Government
in tendering of providing for a supply of
water constantly to the Vessels in the
South of Cataraqui, than Nature with
Reluctance in a Peninsular Settlement
of all disputes on the subject, and
all further trouble to Government.
I should hereby fair Hope, that
such an advantage to the Inhabitants
on the South Side of Cataraqui
should be accompanied by some
small Return to Government, under
the head of a Water Rate,

the

the amount of which might be settled
by the Collector and District Engineer

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

Lawford Lieut. Colonel
Offg: Chief Engineer

Kingston
12th October 1848

W.B
Insp: Staff Sec. C.

To
The Secretary to
Government &c &c

Kingston

Cons: 14th Oct: 53 No-384.
—a- 18th Sept: 55 —a- 18628
—a- 14th July 57 —a- 60401.

- 14 - 6 - 85

116 - 56

From the Chief Engineer
31 Aug: 58 Rec: 1st Oct: 1982 in

Dft

Ft

C4 Dec: 826

P.W. 1858 Oct: 3 att
Ft. 6 Cons: 14th Nov: 2415
From
The Offg: Chief Engr
Ft
Re Survey & Cost of

Cost 12 Oct: 1858
Rec 13 Oct

No 4449
No 2660-8 Dec: 1858.

Encl: 2

Submits for sanction an estimate amounting to Rs 2750 for laying down 9 inch Cast Iron pipes in the place of an unworkable syphon for conveying water across the Elk H. C. Cutting at Colaba in accordance with an Order

No 2660

Under the circumstances represented in the above letter, the Govt Sanction for entry in the Budget Statement of 1859/60 the Estimate amounting to Rupees 2750 for laying down 9 inch cast Iron pipes for conveying water across the Elk Hill Cutting at Colaba recommended to the two Houses called Elk Hill House and Shoreham at present the property of General Lowther, as well as to the Houses generally on the South of Colaba

From Lt. Geo[illegible]
8th Decem 58

10 Copies to the Offg Chief Engr Dated 9th

G. H. B