1. Number of pages 14
2. Date of repair 5-3-38
3. Initials of [illegible]

M.R.O. 1—52 400—37-11-20

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.
Secs 5/III/58

G.O. No. 2301 Press —Mis.—

5-5.

Dated 30—12—1858.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

5/3/38

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 5th November 1858.

No. 5. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer; to the Secretary to Government, dated 9th October 1858, No. 4387.

SIR,

In accordance with para. 3 of Extract Minutes Consultation, No. 1951, dated 22nd September 1858, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter* from the District Engineer Chingleput, together with its enclosure* from Mr. Biggers, Civil Engineer Chingleput District, submitting an explanation of the circumstances under which a convicted thief was entertained by that Officer as a Head Lascar.

* No 693, dated 4th October 1858.
* No. 46, dated 2nd October 1858.

2. It is represented that on taking charge of the Division, Mr. Biggers required Lascars, and that his late Writer sent for Boorankhan (the thief in question) who had hitherto been employed for many years on Trunk Road No. 8, and from the fact of having been employed at the time as Head Cooly on 7 Rupees per month, he was under the natural impression, that, that was sufficient guarantee of his respectability and consequently engaged him as a Head Lascar.

Letter from Captain A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Chingleput; to Lieutenant-Colonel E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer, dated 4th October 1858, No. 693.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from your Proceedings No. 1951 of the 22nd September last, communicated with your Memorandum No. 3982 of the 24th of the same Month, I have the honor to forward the accompanying copy of a letter received from Mr. J. Biggers on the subject therein adverted to, and to inform you that the Head Cooly Boorankhan was employed for many years on Trunk Road No. 8, and was discharged in last year on account of the stoppage of works, and Mr. Bigger's late Writer was also employed under Lieutenant Falconet and Captain Dansey for a period of 3 years and I did not receive from them any complaints against him of the nature referred to, by Mr. Biggers.

Letter from J. BIGGERS, Esq., Civil Engineer, Chingleput District; to Lieutenant A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer, Chingleput, dated Caroongooly, 2nd October 1858, No. 46.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit an explanation of the circumstances under which a convicted thief was entertained as a Head Lascar by me, when I took charge of this Division (October 29-57) I required Lascars: having had occasion to make enquiries about the Southern Trunk Road, my late Writer (also a thief) sent for Boorankhan (the thief in question) who had been employed as a Head Cooly on Rupees 7 per Month to give the information I required. Road-work being stopped he was without employment; from the fact of his having been employed as a Head Cooly on Rupees 7 per month, I took him as a Lascar, thinking that a *sufficient* guarantee of his respectability; however shortly after I began to look upon him with suspicion as he began to screen himself behind piers and pillars on my approach to the Bungalow. It was during his investigation at the Carungooly Cutcherry that the Tahsildar discovered he was a convicted thief having stolen property to the value of Rupees 206-1-10 in money and jewelry.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, No. 2301; dated 30th October 1858.

In reply to para. 3 of Extract Minutes Consultation, 22nd September 1858, No. 1951, the Officiating Chief Engineer submits letters from the District Engineer of Chingleput and Mr. Biggers of the same District, explaining the circumstances under which a convicted thief was entertained as a head Lascar by the latter Officer. The explanation simply amounts to this that the Lascar had been previously employed as a head cooly on 7 Rupees a month on the Southern Trunk road, that this was taken by Mr. Biggers as a sufficient guarantee of the man's good character, and that the lascar was introduced to Mr. Bigger's notice by his late head writer, who he now says was himself a thief.

2. It thus now appears that *both* the writer and the cooly employed by Mr. Biggers were convicted felons. These facts should impress the Officiating Chief Engineer with the necessity of seeing that proper precautions are used in entertaining servants in the Department. He does not seem to think that there was anything remarkable in such carelessness. To the Government it explains the whole matter of the robbery, and fully establishes the propriety of holding Mr. Biggers responsible for the loss of the public money, as ordered in Extract Minutes Consultation of the 22nd September.

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

C. P. 693

37

From

Captain A. S. Moberly
District Engineer
of Chingleput

To

Lieutenant Colonel E. Lawford
Officiating Chief Engineer
Fort St. George

Sir

With reference to Extract from your Proceedings No. 1951 of the 22d September last communicated with your Memorandum No. 3982 of the 24 of the same Month, I have the honor to forward the accompanying Copy of a letter, received from Mr. J. Biggers on the subject therein adverted to, and to inform you that the Head Cooly Boorandhan was employed for many years on Trunk Road No. 8 and was discharged in last year on account of the stoppage of works, and Mr. Biggers late Writer was also employed under Lieutenant Falconnet and Captain Dawsey for a period of 3 years and I did not receive from them any complaints against him of the nature referred to by Mr. Biggers.

Chingleput Dist. Engr's Office Grimsby 4th October 1858.

I have the honor to be &c.
Sgd A. S. Moberly Captain
District Engr of Chingleput

No 16

To

Lieutenant A S. Moberly
District Engineer
Chingleput

Sir

I have the honor to submit an explanation of the circumstances under which a Convicted Thief was entertained as a Head Lascar by me, when I took charge of this Division / October 29-57 / I required Lascars, having had occasion to make enquiries about the Southern Trunk Road my late Cutcherpales a Thieff sent for Bore and I on his being questioning as he had been employed as a Head Coolly on Rupees 7 per Month to give the information I required. Road Work being stopped he was without employment; from the fact of his having been employed as a Head Coolly on 7 Rupees per Month I took him as a Lascar, thinking, that a sufficient guarantee of his respectability, however shortly after I began to look upon him with suspicion as he began to screen himself behind piers and pillars on my approach to the Bungalow. It was during his investigation at the Carangooly Cutchery that the Tahsildar

Tahsildar discovered he was a Convicted Thief having stolen property to the Value of Rupees 206—1—10 in Money and Jewelry.

Civil Engrs Office
Carangooly
22 October 1858

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient Servant
(Signed) J Biggers
Civil Engr Chingleput Distt

True Copy
(Sgd) A S. Moberly Captain
District Engineer of Chingleput

True Copies

Lieutenant Captain
Ag Supg Engineer S. Circle

Compared

Central Office of S.P.
Fort St. George
9th October 1858.

No. 4387.

From,

The Officiating Chief Engineer

To,

The Secretary to Government

"Public" P. W. D.

Sir,

Enclosure 1 In accordance with para 3 of Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1951, dated 22d September 1858, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the District Engineer Chingleput, together with its enclosure from Mr. Biggers Civil Engineer Chingleput District, submitting an explanation of the circumstances under which a convicted thief was entertained by that Officer as a Head Puscar.

*No. 693 d/4. Octr/58
*No. 40 d/2d Octr/58

2. It is represented that on taking charge of the division Mr. Biggers required Lascars, and that this late writer sent for Boorankhan (the thief in question) who had hitherto been employed for...

Enclosure in a letter
From,
The Offg. Chief Engineer
To,
The Secretary to Govern
P.W.D.

Dated 9th October 1858.
Rec.d

No. 4387
P.W. 2363/58.

Copies of Correspondence explaining the circumstances under which he has entertained a convicted thief as his Head Lascar..

for many years on Trunk Road No. 8, and from the fact of having been employed at the time as Head Cooly on 7 Rupees per Month, he was... under the natural impression, that, that was —, sufficient guarantee of his respectability and consequently engaged him as a Head Lascar..

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George
9th October 1858

Lieut. Col. &c.
Officiating Chief Engineer.

Lt

Cond. 28th Sept. 58 No. 12413.

P.W. 1858 Department
Dy to Govt: Nov.
No. 2363.

From,

The Offg. Chief Engineer

To,

The Secretary to Govt.

P.W.D.

Dated 9th October 1858.
Recd. 11th October 1858.
No. 4387.

Enclosure
No 1. 2301. 30th October 1858.

Forwarding in accordance with para 3 of Exc. Mins. Cons. No. 1451. dated 22nd Sept. 1858, copy of a letter from the Dis. Engr. Chingleput with its enclosure from Mr. Biggers, submitting an explanation of the circumstances under which a convicted thief was entertained by that Officer.

No 6.

Cd 14 Oct. 22. 23. 29.

the writer and the coolies employed by Mr. Biggs were convicted felons. These facts should inspire the Off.g Chief Engr with the necessity of seeing that proper precautions are used in entertaining servants in the Dept. He does not seem to think that there was any thing very extraordinary in such carelessness. In the foregoing explains the whole matter of the robbery, and fully establishes the propriety of holding Mr. Biggs responsible for the loss of the public money, as ordered in Ex. Minis. Circ. of the 22d September.

J. S.

1 Encl to the Off.g Chief Engr Dated 9 Sept

Cons 28th September 58 No 12 V 13

Pub Lic Works 1858 Dep.to
Dy. to Cons: 5th Nov.r

No 2361
Copies & Extracts of Cons.
Dep.ts 5th Oct.r 58.

No 546.

Remark that to the the
Writer and the Cooly employ
ed by Mr Biggers have been
proved to be connected
Pelouse Signor Hill Rawsond
to see that proper precau-
tion are taken in entertain
ing Servants. No reason
to depart from the order
already passed in Cons
Mins Cons 25 September
but Mr Biggers should
make good the money
stated to have been robbed
from him.

c.23 Cust. 829