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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

P
Pulley Works DEPARTMENT.
Can 3/5/59

G.O. No. <u>1008</u>	Press Mis. <u> </u>
<u>18-19.</u>	
Dated <u>30</u> <u>11</u> 18 <u>59</u> .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled*16.5.38*

13

*Proceedings of the Madras Government Public Works Department,
from 30th April to 3rd May 1859.*

No. 18. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 23rd April 1859, No. 9826.

I have the honor to forward copies of letters as per margin, from the District Engineer of

From District Engineer of Bellary No. 346, dated 4th February 1859.

Do. do. from Mr. Assistant Overseer Price, to District Engineer of Bellary of 3rd February 1859.

Do. do. from do. to do No. 50 of 9th February 1859.

Do. do. from District Engineer of Bellary, No. 356 of 14th February 1859.

Do. from Magistrate of Bellary No. 101 of 30th March 1859.

Bellary, from Mr. Assistant Overseer Price, and from the Magistrate of that Zillah, reporting the Robbery of Rupees (333-14,) three hundred and thirty-three, and annas fourteen, of Public Money from the Assistant Overseer, and the result of the Police investigation of the circumstances attending it.

2. From these papers it would appear that on the night mentioned, a thief entered Mr. Price's Tent pitched at the village of Moka near Bellary, and breaking open a box in which only the previous evening, had been deposited Rupees (577) five hundred and seventy-seven, possessed himself of Rupees 333-14, before any alarm was raised, and succeeded in making off with that sum.

3. Mr. Price accounts for having so much Public Money in his hands, contrary to repeated orders, by shewing that on the evening of the night on which the Robbery took place, he had received Rupees 134 of salary due to certain Subordinates for disbursement to them, and that he had at the same time brought out with him (from Bellary) Rupees (350) three hundred and fifty, for the payment of materials delivered for the Bridge in course of construction out of the Ferry Funds over a Nullah near Moka.

4. Had the theft not occurred on the night of the 3rd these two sums, amounting to more than the amount stolen, would probably have been paid away on the 4th, leaving a balance of only Rupees (93) ninety-three in his possession, and I therefore do not think that, considering the precautions which his own letters as well as the Magistrate's inquiry show he took, Mr. Price can be held responsible for the loss, either on the ground of his having drawn more funds than were necessary for his current disbursements, or on that of having neglected to secure from the Village Police Authorities the best watch he could obtain.

5. Under all the circumstances, as detailed by Mr. Price and the District Engineer and confirmed by the Magistrate, and seeing from the result of the latter's enquiry that there is no chance of the recovery of any part of the money, I would recommend that the permission of Government may be given for writing off the amount lost, Rupees 333-14 to Profit and Loss, in the accounts of the Ferry Funds of the Bellary District, to which the Cash stolen belonged.

Letter from Captain J. F. FISHER District Engineer of Bellary; to the Chief Engineer, dated Ramandroog, 4th February 1859, No. 346.

In forwarding for your information the accompanying copy of a letter from Assistant Overseer Price, I regret to state his Cash Chest was robbed on the night of the 3rd Instant, and Public Money to the amount of Rupees 333-14-0 stolen. I have reported the Robbery to the Collector and will address you again on the subject, as soon as the case has been enquired into.

Letter from A. E. PRICE, Assistant Overseer, D. P. W.; to Captain J. F. FISHER, District Engineer, Bellary, dated Moka, 3rd February 1859.

It is with extreme regret I despatched my servant and this letter to acquaint you of what has occurred last night. My Tent has been entered in by Robbers by means of lifting the corners and removing some pegs, and as I am obliged for want of a Cash Chest to keep my money in a large trunk, the hinges of this have been forced by some chisel or sharp instrument, and money to the extent of Rupees 333-14-0 extracted. I was twice aroused from sleep by hearing slight noise, the first time called out servant to see what the matter was, and on his reporting that all was well I remained satisfied; the second time about 2 o'clock, I heard the jingle as of money, I rushed from my bed with the only weapon I possessed, a sword, but too late to catch the thief,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government Public Works Department,
from 30th April to 3rd May 1859.*

he eluded my grasp and ran through the opening through which he came, the man was alone and perfectly naked. The whole amount of money with me in the box was Rupees 527-2-0, of which there is now 193-4-0 left, and this escaped in consequence of the bag in which it was not being tied with a string, and in the thief's endeavour to possess it, the money jingled and fell out. I am of opinion that my servants must have been in some way connected with this Robbery, else how could a thief have proceeded to open the exact box in which money was kept in preference to others in my Tent of the same size. I had a Taliary and Vetty people sleeping round my Tent, but not on the side where the Robber entered, this is also suspicious, my Tent is pitched by the side of the stone shed near the site for Bridge and some distance from the Village, I have called upon the Tasildar to make the necessary investigation and herewith also write to the Bellary Tasildar.

Since writing this, found about 50 yards from Tent and 20 yards further, a glove evidently thrown away by the thief when running. I suspect some Coolies who were sleeping near the opening through which the thief escaped; they are now being tried by the Tasildar.

(True Copy.)

Bellary, District Engineer's
Office Ramundroog, 4th
February 1859.

(Signed) J. F. FISHER, Captain,

District Engineer, Bellary.

Letter from Captain J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary; to the Chief Engineer, dated 14th February 1859, No. 356.

I have the honor to submit further explanations from Mr. Price, Assistant Overseer D. P. W., in this District, regarding the Robbery of his Cash Chest at Moka on the night of the 3rd Instant.

2. The Cash Chests for Executive Agents had been ready in the Store for some time, but as no padlocks or chains were procurable at the time, I had been unable to issue any of them.

3. I beg to add, a copy of para. 4 of Mr. Price's letter has been sent to the Collector for his information, with a request that he will be good enough to make particular enquiries into the conduct of the Police on the occasion.

4. I have examined Mr. Price's Books and papers, and noted in them the fact of the Robbery, all his Books are kept according to the prescribed Forms; from his own statement, I beg to say, I infer the Robbery was committed by his own people, but how they were able to perpetrate it without the connivance of the Police, I am quite at a loss to guess.

5. The work for which Mr. Price was about to pay is the new Bridge constructing at Moka out of the Ferry funds of this District, and the stolen money belongs to those funds.

Letter from Mr. A. E. PRICE, Assistant Overseer, D. P. W.; to Captain J. F. FISHER, District Engineer of Bellary, dated 9th February 1859, No. 50.

I respectfully beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Official Memo. No. 1041, dated 4th February 1859, requiring me to answer certain points with reference to the late Robbery, by which the sum of 333 Rupees 14 annas was carried off from my Tent.

2. As regards the first point, viz., why such a large amount of money was in my hands at the time of Robbery, I beg to explain, that the total amount of money in my hands on the day in question, was Rupees 577, of this sum Rupees 134 had been given to me by Mr. Supervisor W. Porter the previous Evening, for the purpose of disbursing the salaries of the Sub-Overseers and their Subordinates, Rupees 350 had been taken by me to Moka for the express purpose of making payments on account of Gyrada balances, reported to me as being due to various people for materials collected by the Goomastah in charge of work, and also on account of advances to be made for Contracts for the supply of Bricks, &c., &c.

These two sums added together it will be observed, leave but a trifling sum (93 Rupees) as a balance in hand. I would here beg to remark, that the total amount of receipts during the month of January was 2,450 Rupees and that a balance of 350 Rupees, remained unexpended

*Proceedings of the Madras Government Public Works Department,
from 30th April to 3rd May 1859.*

from the receipts of the preceding month, it will thus be seen that I did not unnecessarily keep any large amount of money in my hands, when it is shewn, that I had expended all but the above mentioned amount of 577 Rupees, the retention of which in my hands I trust, I have satisfactorially shewn to have been unavoidable.

3. Your second point is, why I did not take the precaution of securing my Cash Chest to the Tent Pole, to this I beg to reply that up to the date of the Robbery, I had not been supplied with a Cash Chest from Government, and consequently I could only keep such money as remained with me in one of my Travelling boxes, this box however was always secured by me as carefully as possible, and kept in my sight; and on the night in question it was within 3 yards of me. I had not a chain with me or I should have taken the further precaution of securing the box, by attaching it to the Tent Pole.

4. In respect to your 3rd query, as to why I did not lodge the money with the village Police or call upon them to guard my Tent, I beg to state that I have never neglected taking such precautions, when I had any amount of Government money in my hand. It has always been a practice with me to require the Village Police to guard my Tent, for the safe custody of money remaining with me, and on the night in question, I had watching my Tent no less than 5 men who had been sent to me by the Zilladar on my demand for a guard, and only an hour previous to the Robbery the Curnum of the village with a party came by my Tent on their rounds, and challenged my guard. I would here beg to state that it is my firm conviction that if the men composing my guard were taken up and strictly examined, some clue may be obtained of the Robbery, for under the above circumstances, I cannot but suspect that there may have been some complicity between the Guard and the Robbers.

5. It is a matter of extreme concern to me that this Robbery should have occurred, as it has always been an object with me to endeavour to merit the approbation of my superior Officers by a careful performance of my duties. In this case, however, I hope that you will see that I am not to blame in the least, for what has occurred, every precaution that I could possibly have taken was, as I have explained, observed; and I respectfully request that you will be so good as to forward this explanation to Government, as I understand that you have already submitted my first report of the Robbery which being written an hour after the Robbery, I was unable to enter into such details and explanations as I have now done.

Letter from C. PELLY, Esq., Magistrate of Bellary; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Ramandroog, 30th March 1859, No. 101.

As requested by the District Engineer, I have the honor to forward you the following Memo. of a Police Report on the Robbery of Mr. Price, Assistant Overseer, Department of Public Works, at Moka, on the 3rd February last.

Memo.

1. On a comparison of the statement made by Mr. Price himself on 3 different occasions, together with the evidence given by the Lascars and Talaries, who were sleeping near the Tent on the night of the Robbery the facts of the case appear to be as follows:—

On the night of the 2nd February Mr. Price, had in his possession money belonging to Government, to the amount of Rupees 527-2-0. This sum for want of a Cash Chest he had placed in one of his own boxes in 3 different bags, one of which appears not to have been fastened. Before retiring to rest, Mr. Price satisfied himself that the box was properly secured. (Note.—From his Statement made before the Tahsildar of Bellary on the 5th March, it appears that the key of the box had been lost, and the lock being thus useless, was replaced by a hasp and staple and fastened by a Padlock. It was this that was wrenched off and not the hinges of the box as stated in his first letter reporting the Robbery.) The box was placed about 3 yards from where he was sleeping,

2. On that night the authorities of Moka had furnished a Guard of 5 persons who slept outside the Tent on the West and South sides; on the North side were sleeping inside the Tent two Lascars in the service of Mr. Price, and a 3rd Lascar in another Tent about 20 yards off. At about 12 o'clock (Mr. Price being still awake) the Reddy and Curnum of the Village came to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 30th April to 3rd May 1859.*

see that all was right, and woke the Talaries who were asleep. About 2 o'clock Mr. Price was awoke by a slight noise as if some one were fingering a lock; he called out to his Lascar, Hoonoor Saib, who was sleeping in the canat, to see if any one was there, but did not get up himself. On being told that all was right, he again went to sleep after desiring the Lascar to do the same. An hour afterwards he was again awoke by the sound of money jingling; on calling out, he received no answer, he then got up, upon which a man rushed towards a corner of the Tent on the North side, and escaped through an opening made by cutting the cord and taking out some pegs. He seized a Sword which was lying on the table, and running out aimed a blow at the thief which missed him however, and cut a rope in two. Lascar Hoonoor Saib came up at this moment, but though he saw the blow and its effect, he saw no thief.

3. A light having been procured, the box was found to have been forced open, and dragged towards the opening before mentioned, Mr. Price then sent for the Zilladar, and had the money remaining in the box counted by him, two of the bags were gone, the money remaining in the 3rd amounted to Rupees 193-4-0-Rupees 333-14-0 having been taken.

4. A shirt and glove are mentioned by Mr. Price as having been found at distances of 50 and 70 yards from the Tent, and in his deposition of the 5th March a Crowbar belonging to the Store Shed is said to have been found near the Tent; these were not mentioned by any of the other persons examined.

5. The Talaries on being arrested and examined, stated that they were asleep that night and saw no thief.

6. From the fact of the particular box in which the money was put being broken open, in preference to several others of the same description, which were in the Tent, Mr. Price was led to suspect that his servants must have been concerned in the Robbery; he suspected in particular one of his Lascars who was sleeping in the Tent and another who had been dismissed on account of suspicion against him in the case of the Robbery of the Engineer's Cash Chest in charge of Mr. Porter at Bellary in May 1858, and who was sleeping in the Store Shed close to his Tent on that night. No evidence however appeared against any one. In fact, nearly the whole of the above particulars were furnished by Mr. Price himself and no one else even saw the thief.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, 30th April 1859, No. 1008.

The Governor in Council authorizes the Chief Engineer to direct the District Engineer of Bellary to write off to Profit and Loss the sum of Rupees 333-14-0, stolen from Assistant Overseer Price's Tent on the night of the 3rd February 1859. No blame appears to attach to the Assistant Overseer in the matter.

2. The Estimate for Cash Chests for the Bellary District was sanctioned by Government on the 24th April 1858 No. 770, the District Engineer will be called on to explain the cause of the long delay in making them and bringing them into use. He will also report whether they have now been brought into use throughout the District.

3. The Police Proceedings appear to Government far from satisfactory. It does not appear that the persons composing the guard, and expressly furnished for that purpose by the Village authorities, were in any way required to account for their neglect (at the least) in sleeping at the opposite side of the Tent from where the Cash Chest was, which they were specially placed there to guard, and for all five sleeping quietly throughout the night, even as it seems after there had been one alarm of persons tampering with the Chest. The Governor in Council now directs the Magistrate to report without delay who these people were, whether they were the proper persons to be sent as a guard by the Village Reddy, and what offices and emoluments they hold under Government. He will also state whether he has in any way made them feel the consequences of their neglect; and whether if they were not proper people to send as a guard he has called the Reddy to account for sending them.

4. The District Engineer will report whether the two Lascars in the Tent have been dismissed. If not this will immediately be done, and they will not be employed again without special permission from Government.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

16
N^o 346 District Engineers Office
Camp Ramandur
4th February 1859.
Letter From Captain J. F. Fisher
District Eng^r of Bellary
To The Chief Engineer, D. C. M.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the accompanying Copy of a letter from Assistant Overseer Price, I regret to state his cash chest was robbed on the night of the 3rd Instant, and public money to the amount of Rupees 333-14-0 stolen. I have reported the robbery to the Collector and will address you again on the subject, as soon as the case has been enquired into.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
(Signed) J. F. Fisher Captⁿ
District Eng^r of Bellary

Letter from J. F. Fisher Esq^r
To Captain J. F. Fisher
District Eng^r Bellary
Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the accompanying Copy of a letter from Assistant Overseer Price, I regret to state his cash chest was robbed on the night of the 3rd Instant, and public money to the amount of Rupees 333-14-0 stolen. I have reported the robbery to the Collector and will address you again on the subject, as soon as the case has been enquired into.

last night. My Tent has been entered in
by robbers by means of lifting the corners
and removing some pegs and as I am
obliged for want of a cash Chest to keep
my money in a large trunk, the hinges
of this have been forced by some chisel
or sharp instrument and money to
the extent of Rupees 333-14-0 extracted.
I was twice aroused from sleep by
hearing slight noise, the first time
called out servant to see what the
matter was, and on his reporting that
all was well I remained satisfied
the second time about 2 O'clock I heard
the jingle as of money I rushed from
my bed with the only weapon I possessed,
a sword. But too late to catch the
thief he eluded my grasp and ran
thru the opening thro which he came.
The man was alone and perfectly
naked. The whole amount of money
with me in the box was Rs 527-2-0
of which there is now 193-4-0 left and
this escaped in consequence of the
bag in which it was not being tied
with a string, and in the thief's endeav-
our to possess it, the money jingled
and

July 1859

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how could a thief have proceeded to open
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and vitty people sleeping round my
tent. But not on the side where the
robber entered. This is also suspicious.
My tent is pitched by the side of the
store shed near the site for Bridge
and some distance from village.
I have called upon the Tasildar
to make the necessary investigation
and here with also write to the
Bellary Tasildar.

3 O'clock

3rd February 1859.

Mokah

I have &c

(signed) A. C. Price

Asst. Overseer. D.P.W.

some

Since writing this found about 50
yards from tent, and 20 yards further
a glove evidently thrown away by
the thief when running. I suspect
~~some~~ Coolies who are sleeping near
the opening thro which thief escaped
they

they are now being tried by Sasildar

(True Copy)

Bellary District
Engineers Office
Remundoo

14th February 1859

(Signed) J. F. Fisher Capt.
Distt Engr. Bellary

District Engineers Office

N^o 356

Bellary 14th February 1859

From Captain J. F. Fisher
District Engineer of Bellary.

To The Chief Engineer D. P. M.
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit further explanations from Mr. Price Assistant Overseer D. P. M. in this District regarding the robbery of his Cash Chest at Mookah on the night of the 3^d instant.

1. The Cash Chest for executive agents had been ready in the store for some time but as no pad lock or chains were procurable at the time I had been unable to issue any of them.

2. I beg to add a copy of para 4 of Mr. Price's letter has been sent to the Collector for his information, with a request he will be good enough to make particular enquiry into the conduct of the Police on

on the occasion.

4. I have examined Mr. Price's books and papers and noted in them the fact of the robbery all his books are kept in according to the prescribed forms, from his own statement I beg to say I infer the robbery was committed by his own people, but how they were able to perpetrate it without the connivance of the Police, I am quite at a loss to guess.

5. The work for which Mr. Price was about to pay is the new bridge constructing at Mookah out of the Ferry funds of this District and the stolen money belongs to those funds.

I have &c.
(Signed) J. F. Fisher Capt.
Distt Engr. of Bellary

N^o 50.
From Mr. A. C. Price
Asst Overseer D. P. M.
To Captain J. F. Fisher
District Engr. of Bellary

Sir,
I respectfully beg to acknowledge the receipt of your Official memo N^o 356 dated

dated 14th February 1859 requiring me to answer certain points with reference to the late robbery by which the sum of 333 Rupees 14 annas was carried off from my tent.

2. As regards the first point vizt why such a large amount of money was in my hands at the time of robbery: I beg to explain, that the total amount of money in my hands on the day in question, was Rupees 577, of this sum Rupees 134 had been given to me by Mr. Supervisor W. Porter the previous evening for the purpose of disbursing the salaries of the Sub-Overseers and their subordinates. Rupees 350 had been taken by me to make for the express purpose of making payments on account of Gyada balances reported to me as being due to various people for materials collected by the Goomastah in charge of work and also on account of advances to be made for contracts for the supply of Bricks &c &c.

These two sums added together it will be observed, leave but a trifling

trifling sum 193 Rs. as an balance in hand. I would here beg to remark, that the total amount of receipts during the month of January was 2450 Rupees and that a balance of 350 Rupees remained unexpended from the receipts of the preceding month, it will thus be seen that I did not unnecessarily keep any large amount of money in my hands, when it is shown, that I had expended all but the above mentioned amount of 577 Rupees the retention of which in my hands I trust I have satisfactorily shown to have been unavoidable.

3. Your second point is - Why I did not take the precautions of securing my Cash Chest to the Tent Pole. To this I beg to reply that up to the date of the robbery, I had not been supplied with a Cash Chest from Government, and consequently I could only keep such money as remained with me in one of my Travelling boxes. This box however was always secured by me as carefully as possible, and kept in my sight; and in the night in question it was within 3 Yards of me. I had not a chain with me or I should have taken the further precaution of securing the box, by attaching it to the Tent Pole.

4. In respect to your 3^d query as to why I did not lodge the money with the village Police or call upon them to guard my tent - I beg to state that I have never neglected taking such precautions, when I had any amount of Government money in my

my hand - It has always been a practice with me to require the Village Police to guard my tent, for the safe custody of money remaining with me, and on the night in question I had watching my tent no less than 5 men who had been sent to me by the Zilladar on my demand for a guard and only an hour previous to the robbery the Quinam of the village with a party came by my tent on their rounds, and challenged my guard - I would here beg to state that it is my firm conviction that if the men composing my guard were taken up and strictly examined some clue may be obtained of the robbery, for under the above circumstances I cannot but suspect that there may have been some complicity between the guards and the robbers. -

5. It is a matter of extreme concern to me that this robbery should have occurred, as it has always been an object with me to endeavour to merit the approbation of my Superior Officers by a careful performance of my duties - In this case however I hope that you will see that I am not to blame in the least - for what has occurred, every precaution that I could possibly have taken was, as I have explained observed; and I respectfully request that you will be so good as to forward this explanation to Government, as I understand that you have already submitted my first report of the robbery which being written an hour after the

the robbery. I was unable to enter into such details and explanations as I have now done. -

Camp Bellary }
9th February 1859.

Sam. J. J.
(Signed) A. D. Price Off. Over-
in charge of Bellary & Humly
Talooks.

(Attn Copy)
(Signed) S. F. Fisher Captain
Dist. Eng. of Bellary

Bellary Magistrate's Office.
On Circuit Ramendroog
30th March 1859.

N^o 201.
Letter From
C. Pelly Esqre
Magistrate of Bellary
Colonel C. E. Faber

Chief Engineer D. Works
Madras.

As requested by the District Engineer.
I have the honor to forward you the following Memo:
of a Police Report on the robbery of Mr. Price Off-
Overseer Department of Public Works at Moka on
the 3rd February last.

Memo:

1. On a comparison of the statement made by
Mr. Price himself on 3 different occasions, together
with the evidences given by the Lascars and talarier
who were sleeping near the tent on the night of the
robbery.

robbery the facts of the case appear to be as follows.

On the night of the 2^d February Mr. Price had in his possession money belonging to Government, to the amount of Rupees 527-2-0. This sum for want of a Lock Chest he had placed in one of his own boxes in 3 different bags, one of which appears not to have been fastened. Before retiring to rest, Mr. Price satisfied himself that the box was properly secured. (Note - From his statement made before the Tahsildar of Bellary on the 5th March, it appears that the Key of the box had been lost, and the lock being thus useless, was replaced by a hasp and staple and fastened by a padlock. It was this that was wrenched off and not the hinges of the box as stated in his first letter reporting the robbery). The box was placed about 3 Yards from where he was sleeping.

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Hoonoor.

Hoonoor Soil, who was sleeping in the Canat, to see if any one was there, but did not get up himself. On being told that all was right he again went to sleep after desiring the Lascar to do the same. - An hour afterwards he was again awoken by the sound of money jingling; on calling out, he received no answer, he then got up, upon which a man rushed towards a corner of the tent on the North side, and escaped through an opening made by cutting the cord, and taking out some frogs. He seized a sword which was lying on the table, and running out aimed a blow at the thief which missed him - however and cut a rope in two. Lascar Hoonoor Soil came up at this moment, but though he saw the blow and its effect, he saw no thief. -

3. A light having been procured, the box was found to have been forced open, and dragged towards the opening before mentioned. Mr. Price then sent for the Tahsildar, and had the money remaining in the box counted by him. Two of the bags were gone, the money remaining in the 3^d amounted to Rupees 193-4-0 - Rupees 333-14-0 having been taken. -

4. A shirt and glove are mentioned by Mr. Price as having been found at distances of 50 and 70 Yards from the tent, and in his deposition of the 5th March a crowbar belonging to the store shed is said to have been found near the tent.

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I have &c

Signed C. Pelly
Magistrate

[True Copies]

Charles H. Pelly Captain
Supt. Eng. & M. Works

PS

Central Office of Public Works,
 Fort St. George 23rd April 1859.
 No 9826

From The Chief Engineer
 To

The Secretary to Government
 Public Works Department

Public

Sir

Enclosure 1.

I have the honor to forward copies of letters as per Margin from the District Engineer of Bellary from Mr. Assistant Overseer Price, and from the Magistrate of that District, reporting the robbery of Rupees 333-14-3. Three hundred and thirty three, and a mas four-teen, of public money from the Assistant Overseer, and the result of the police investigation of the circumstances attending it.

2. From these papers it would appear that on the night mentioned, a thief entered Mr. Price's tent pitched at the village of Mokea near Bellary, and breaking open a box in which, only the previous Evening, had been deposited Rupees (577) Two hundred and Seventy Seven, possessed himself of Rupees 333-14-3 before any alarm was raised, and succeeded in making off with that sum.

3. Mr. Price accounts for having so much public money in his hands, contrary to repeated

order

Enclosure in a letter from
 The Chief Engineer to
 The Secretary to Government
 Dated 23rd April 1859.
 No 9826
 0000004159
 Office of Correspondence
 Regarding the robbery of
 Mr. Price's Cash Chest.

orders, by showing that on the Evening of the night in which the robbery took place he had received Rupees 134 of Salary due to Certain Subordinates for disbursement to them, and that he had at the same time brought out with him (from Bellary) Rupees 350 Three hundred and fifty for the payment of materials delivered for the Bridge in course of construction out of the ferry funds over a Kullah near Moka. -

4. Had the theft not occurred on the night of the 3^d these two sums, amounting to more than the amount stolen, would probably have been paid away on the 4th leaving a balance of only Rupees 93. Ninety three in his possession, and I therefore do not think that, considering the precautions which his own letters as well as the Magistrate's inquiry show he took, Mr. Price can be held responsible for the loss, either on the ground of his having drawn more funds than were necessary for his current disbursements or on that of having neglected to secure from the Village Police authorities the best watch he could obtain. -

5. Under all the circumstances, as detailed by Mr. Price and the District Engineer and confirmed by the Magistrate, and seeing from the result of the latter's inquiry that

that there is no chance of the recovery of any part of the money, I would recommend that the permission of Government may be given for writing off the amount lost, Rupees 333-14-- to profit and loss in the accounts of the Ferry Funds of the Bellary District, to which the Cash stolen belonged. -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant.

J. H. Bell Esq. Colonel
Chief Engineer

Central Office of P.M.
Fort St. George - }
13 April 1859 - }

A.B.

A.B.

P.W. Depart.

No 1005

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 30th April 1859

Read the following
letter from the Chief
Engineer

Received 23rd April 1859
No 9826

The Governor in
Council authorizes the
Chief Engineer to direct
the District Engineer of
Bellary to write off to
Profit and Loss the sum
of Rupees 333.14 stolen
from Assistant Oversee
Price's tent on the
night of the 5th February
1859 - No blame appears
to attach to the Assistant
Oversee in the matter.
The

W
G

W

29th March 1859. Definite
Cons 3rd May 1859.

From the Chief Engineer
to the Secretary to Council
J.M.D.

Dated 23rd April 1859
Recd 23rd April 1859

CC 31st April 1859 No 9826

Forwards Police of Bellary in
reporting the robbery of Rs 333.14 - of Police money from
the 3rd (Oversee's) tent at Proctor's
near Bellary on the night of
the 5th February 1859. Remarks:
'mends for the reasons given
that the Assistant Oversee may be
visited off the Profit and Loss the
account of the very funds to which
the said belongs.

No 18

2 The Estimate for cash chests for Bellary District was sanctioned by Government on the 26 April 1858 at 770, the District Engineer will be called on to explain the cause of the long delay in making them and bringing them into use. He will also report whether they have now been brought into use throughout the District.

3 The Police Proceedings appear to Government far from satisfactory. It does not appear that the persons composing the guard, if expressly furnished for that purpose by the village authorities, were in any way required to account for their neglect (at the least) in sleeping at the opposite side of the tent from where the cash chest was, which they were specially

specially placed there to guard ^{and} for all five sleeping quietly throughout the night, even as it seems after there had been one alarm of persons tampering with the chest. The Governor in Council now directs the Magistrate to report without delay into whose people were, whether they were the proper persons to be sent as a guard by the village Reddy, and what offices and emoluments they hold in Government. He will also state whether he has in any way made them feel the consequences of their neglect, and whether if they were not proper people to send as a guard he has called the Reddy to account for sending them.

4 The District Engineer will report whether the two lascars in the tent have been dismissed. If not

not this will immediately
be done, and they will not
be employed again without
special permission from the
Government.

W.A.

10 Copies to Mr. Chief Eng.
1 - a Copy of Bulletin
1 - a Copy of Report
1 - a Copy of Report
1 - a Copy of Report
1 - a Copy of Report

Quilley Works 1859 Dept.
Cons. May.

No. 1008.

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
D. 30th of April 1859.

Letter from the Agents
of May 9th to 11th May 1859 A. 1859

The District Engineer
of Bellary to write off to me:
at and also Rs. 222.14-0-0
allowed from 1st of Decr
1858 to 1st of Novr on the
1st of Feb. 1859. Being
for explanation as to the delay in
preparing and bringing into use
each sheet for the District as well
as certain information regarding
the persons who composed the
I can't on the night in question.

No. 18419.

16.5.