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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

P
Public Works DEPARTMENT.
en-15/6/58

G.O. No. <u>1316</u>	Press Mis.
<i>76.77</i> Dated <u>6-6-18</u> <i>58</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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27/5/38

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
from 1st to 10th June 1859.*

No. 96. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer;
to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 30th May 1859,
No. 1050.

Adverting to para. 2 of Extract Minutes Consultation No. 2811, dated 24th December last, I have the honor to forward for the information of Government, the accompanying correspondence from the District Engineer, Nellore, having reference to the neglect of Sub-Overseer Shannon to raise the wing-walls of the calingulahs of the Alloor tank supplying channel.

2. In his letter No. 592, dated 23rd March last, Captain Mullins expresses his opinion, that both the Executive Engineer (Captain Ritherdon) as well as the Sub-Overseer are to blame in this matter; the former for not insisting on the completion of the work when there was so much delay, without any admissible excuse, and the latter for great negligence and carelessness.

3. Captain Ritherdon explains in his letters herewith forwarded, that the non-completion of the Alloor channel calingulahs was in no way owing to his neglect, inasmuch as he took the precaution of repeatedly calling the attention of Mr. Shannon to the state of the work, and to the fact that time was passing away.

4. The Sub-Overseer's defence rests on 2 points; 1st, the paucity of bricklayers for the completion of the work; and 2ndly, the want of chunam. With regard to the former, it will be observed, that although Mr. Shannon was instructed by Captain Ritherdon to furnish as many bricklayers as possible for the Pennair Annicut works, yet he was distinctly informed that he was not to deprive the Alloor tank of the necessary complement of workmen; and if he had attended to these instructions there could have been no difficulty in obtaining bricklayers for the calingulahs of the supply channel. With regard to the second point advanced by the Sub-Overseer, I beg to observe, that from the enclosed correspondence, it appears that an individual had contracted to supply Mr. Shannon, with the quantity of chunam required for the work; but as no tangible security was taken for the money advanced, he had no hold on the Contractor and was obliged to put up with the delays that afterwards occurred.

5. In conclusion, I beg to state that, although there does not appear to have been any wilful neglect in this matter either on the part of the Executive Engineer or on that of the Sub-Overseer, still I concur in the opinion of Captain Mullins that there appears to have been a want of care for the interests of Government, and a want of forethought also in carrying out the work. Captain Ritherdon should have seen his orders attended to, and the Sub-Overseer should have procured chunam for building the calingulahs elsewhere, when he found that the Contractor had failed in his engagements, and steps might afterwards have been adopted for recovering from the latter the sum expended.

No. 97. ORDER THEREON, 6th June 1859, No. 1376.

The Chief Engineer will deal with Sub-Overseer Shannon under para. 9 of the order of March 15th 1859, No. 596.

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

Revenue
Irrigation

N. 1050

Central Office of P.
Fort Saint George
31st May 1857

From, The Chief Engineer
To, The Secretary to Government &c.

Sir,

Referring to Para. 2 of Ex. Inis. Lons. No. 8.

dated 24th December last I have the honor to forward
for the information of Government the accompanying
correspondence from the District Engineer Bellone,
having reference to the neglect of Sub Overseer
Shannon to raise the wing walls of the Calingulabs
of the Alloor Tank supplying Channel.

2 In his letter No 592 dated 23rd March last,
Captain Mullins expresses his opinion, that both the
Executive Engineer (Captain Pitkerdon) as well as
the Sub Overseer are to blame in this matter, the
former for not insisting on the completion of the work
when there was so much delay, without any admissible
excuse, and the latter for great negligence and carelessness.

3 Captain Pitkerdon explains, in his letter
herewith forwarded, that the non completion of the Alloor
Channel

Channel. Calingulabs was in no way owing to his neglect
inasmuch as he took the precaution of repeatedly
calling the attention of Mr. Shannon to the state of
the work, and to the fact that time was passing away.

1. The Sub-Overseer's delay in procuring
2^d the paucity of Bricklayers for the completion of the work
& 3^d the want of Churnam. With regards to the former,
it will be observed, that although Mr. Shannon
was instructed by Captain Pittard to furnish
as many bricklayers as possible for the Annicut
works, yet he was distinctly informed that
he was not to deprive the Alloor Tank of the necessary
complement of workmen; and if he had attended
to these instructions there could have been no difficulty
in obtaining Bricklayers for the Calingulabs of the
Supply Channel. With regard to the 2^d point advanced
by the Sub-Overseer, I beg to observe, that from the
enclosed correspondence, it appears that an individual
had contracted to supply Mr. Shannon with the quantity
of Churnam required for the work, but as no tangible
security was taken for the money advanced, he had

5
no hold on the Contractor and was obliged to put up
with the delays that afterwards occurred.

5 In conclusion, I beg to state that, although
there does not appear to have been any wilful neglect
in this matter either on the part of the Executive
Engineer or on that of the Sub-Overseer, still I concur
in the opinion of Captain Mullins that there appears
to have been a want of care for the interests of
Government, and a want of forethought also in
carrying out the work. Captain Pittard should
have seen his orders attended to, and the Sub-
Overseer should have procured Churnam for building
the Calingulabs elsewhere, when he found that the
Contractor had failed in his engagements, and
steps might afterwards have been adopted for
recovering from the latter the sum expended.

Central Office of P. W. D. }
Fort Saint George, 30 May 1859.

S. J. P. S.
Sd/- Engineer

The Secretary to Government P. W. D.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient
M. L. L. Lieut. Col.
Chief Engineer.

Cons 2141 Dec 1858 No: 2244.
285

1007 May 1859 Department
Cons 1010 Aug 1406.

From the Chief Engineer.

To the Secretary to Government
P.M.D.

20th 36. 1/2
Dec 31 (May 1859.

191050

Enclosed (Return)

14th 1376. to 14th Dec 1859

Admits with observations

for the information of Government

to accept any correspondence

from the Chief Engineer having

reference to the subject of this

Enclosure examined to find

the very shells of the Company

of the River and supplying

Shamshir in order

1275
1376.

The Chief Engineer

now will work with

and answer Shannon

under Part 9 of the order

of March 15: 1859 to 1856.

1376

1007 May 1859

6th Dec 1859 -

10 Copy to the Chief Engineer

1376