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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.***Cons. 10. 11. 59*

G.O. No.	2611	Press Mis.
<i>86-87</i> Dated	7-11	1859.

Not to be folded or roughly handled*P2*

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of November 1859.*

No. 86. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer ;
to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 31st October 1859,
No. 6698.

With reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 164, dated 18th January 1859, I have the honor to forward for the consideration of Government, the papers noted in the margin, received from the District Engineer, Chingleput, relative to the excess of Rupees 1,294-7-2 of the bill over the estimate, for the Head Assistant Collector's Kacheri at Chingleput.

2. The true amount of the estimate prepared by the Civil Engineer, 4th division, for this work, was Rupees 1,767, from which Rupees 125 for old materials, and Rupees 100 for convict labor, aggregating Rupees 225, were deducted, and the balance Rupees 1,542, received the sanction of Government. The District Engineer now reports, however, that the unserviceable materials only realized Rupees 44-5-5, which has been credited to Government in the account current for March 1858, while an amount of convict labor, which it was expected would have been received gratuitously, had to be paid for, in accordance with recent orders.

3. The causes which led to the estimate being so greatly exceeded, are as follows, as per comparative statement herewith forwarded.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Pulling down and re-building portion of the Fort wall on which the old buildings rented, in consequence of its being found in a dangerous state...	167	6	8
Extra work done by Sub-Overseer Loftus.....	72	1	7
In consequence of the use of new materials where old were intended to be used, but afterwards found to be rotten...	659	6	4
In consequence of low rates...	70	9	6
In consequence of sufficient length of bressummers not having been allowed...	40	4	0
Purlius to the verandahs not included in the estimate...	85	4	0
On account of convict labor and sale of old materials. .	225	0	0
Increase...	1,322	0	1
Deduct decrease...	27	8	11
Net increase.....	1,294	7	2

4. With reference to paragraph 2 of the order of Government, I observe that about half of the excess is owing to the use of new materials in lieu of old ones, which were found to be rotten, and that it is clear from the low estimate for the roofing and joists, that only a part of the old materials were thought to be unserviceable when the estimate was prepared.

5. The District Engineer also brings to notice, that the rates allowed for roofing and terracing in the estimate were quite insufficient, the prevailing rates being much higher.

6. With respect to the excess in consequence of the Overseer in charge of the work putting 2 feet of basement unnecessarily, the District Engineer explains that no basement was shewn in either plan or estimate, such being considered unnecessary, in consequence of the building having been constructed on the top of the ramparts. Mr. Loftus, (to whom the superintendence of the work was entrusted) was unable to explain his mistake, which was committed on the period (14 days) intervening between the two inspections of the work by the late Captain Heathorn, the Executive Engineer of the range.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
for the month of November 1859.

7. With the explanation now submitted, I trust the sanction of Government will be accorded to the bills for Rupees 2,401-14-2 enumerated below, which were included in the list submitted on the 21st December last, No. 6186.

	Rs.	A.	P.
2nd part Bills...	2,360	1	10
3rd do.	41	12	4
Total.....	2,401	14	2

8. In conclusion, I have the honor to report, that the delay in replying to the order of Government above quoted, is ascribed* by the District Engineer to the death of his late head Accountant, as well as the circumstance that there was no officer in the district to take charge of No. 2 range, until the end of June last, which necessitated his attending to its requirements himself. In paragraph 3 of his letter just quoted, the District Engineer brings to notice, that his office establishment is inadequate to the duties devolving on it; but on this subject, I propose addressing Government in a separate communication.

No. 87. ORDER THEREON, 7th November 1859, No. 2611.

Under the explanation now furnished, the Honorable the Governor in Council sanctions the second and third part bills amounting together to Rupees (2,401-14-2) two thousand four hundred and one, annas fourteen and pice two submitted by Colonel Lawford on the 21st December 1858 for constructing the Head Assistant Collector's Kacheri at Chingleput.

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

Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George
31st October 1859.
N 6698
From J. D. Bourdillon
The Chief Engineer
To J. D. Bourdillon
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Sir,
Revenue
With reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 164, dated 18th January 1859, I have the honor to forward for the consideration of Government, the papers noted in the margin, received from the District Engineer Chingleput, relative to the excess of Rupees 1,294-7-2 of the Bill over the Estimate for the Head Assistant Collector's Kacheri at Chingleput.
2. The true amount of the Estimate prepared by the Civil Engineer 4th Division for this work, was Rupees 1,167, from which Rupees 125 for old materials, and Rupees 100 for convict labor, aggregating Rupees 225, were deducted, and the balance Rupees 1,542 received the sanction of Government. The District Engineer now reports however, that

C. L. C. No. 577/24th
September 1858

that the unserviceable materials only realized Rupees 44-5-5, which has been credited to Government in the Account Current for March 1858, while an amount of Conmit labor which it was expected would have been received gratuitously, had to be paid for, in accordance with the recent orders.

3 The causes which led to the Estimate being so greatly exceeded are as follows as per Comparative Statement herewith forwarded.

Pulling down and rebuilding portion of the Fort wall on which the old Building rested, in consequence of its being found in a dangerous state — Rupees 169-6-8.
Extra work done by Sub Overseer Leftus — 72-1-7.
In consequence of the use of new materials where old were intended to be used, but afterwards found to be rotten — 659-6-4.
In consequence of low rates — 70-9-6.
In consequence of sufficient length of Presummaris not having been allowed — 40-4-0.
Purlins to the Verandahs not included in the Estimate — 85-4-0.
On account of Conmit labor and sale of old materials — 225-0-0.
Increase — 1,322-0-1.
Deduct Decrease — 27-8-11.
Net Increase — 1,294-7-2.

With

4 With reference to para 2 of the order of Government observe that about half of the excess is owing to the use of new materials in lieu of old ones which were found to be rotten, and that it is clear from the low Estimate for the roofing and joints that only a part of the old materials were thought to be unserviceable when the Estimate was prepared.

5 The District Engineer also brings to notice that the rates allowed for Roofing and Peacings in the Estimate were quite insufficient, the prevailing rates being much higher.

6 With respect to the excess in consequence of the Overseer in charge of the work putting 2 feet of Basement unnecessarily, the District Engineer explains that no basement was shown in either Plan or Estimate, such being considered unnecessary, in consequence of the Building having been constructed on the top of the Ramparts. Mr. Leftus (to whom the Superintendence of the work was entrusted) was unable to explain his mistake, which was committed in the period (14 days) intervening between the two Inspections of the work by the late Captain Peathorne, the Executive Engineer of the Range.

7 With the explanation now submitted, I trust the sanction of Government will be accorded to the Bills for Rupees 2,401-14-2 enumerated below, which were included in the List submitted on the 21st December last.

last 6456

part Bull - Pikes 236-1-10

part Bull - 41-12-4

Part Pikes - 2401-11-2

8 In conclusion I have the honor to repeat that the delay in replying to the order of Government above quoted is ascribed by the District Engineer to the death of his late Head Accountant as well as the circumstance that there was no Officer in the District to take charge of No 2 Range until the end of June last, which necessitated his attending to its requirements himself. In para 3 of his letter just quoted the District Engineer brings to notice that his Office Establishment is inadequate to the duties devolving on it, but on this subject I propose addressing Government in a separate communication.

Letter No 1108 of 22nd Oct. 1859.

Port Saint George }
31st October 1859 }
I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedt^t Servant,

W. Bull

Chief Engineer

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Department

By Order of the Secy

By Order of the Secy

