M.R.O. 1—77,666—8-6-31.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 8-10-38.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

CJ

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 31-12-57

G.O. No.	2-289	Press / Mis.
61-62		
Dated	24-12-	1857.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

61-62

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

No. 61. Read the following letter from Captain C. C. JOHNSTON, Consulting Engineer for Railways; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, dated 23rd November 1859, No. 278.

Having seen this day, for the first time, the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department No. 316, dated 5th February 1859, (which formed one of the enclosures to the order of Government No. 626, dated 14th November 1859), in paragraph 2 of which Government remark "that it was only lax control on the part of the Superintendent of "Roads, which enabled Mr. Addis to draw the large sums unaccounted for, which were "much in excess of his legitimate requirements for the works under his charge," I have the honor to request that I may be favored with a persual of the papers which led to that conclusion.

2. I would request permission to delay forwarding to the Agent the Extract Minutes Consultation above referred to, until I have had an opportunity of explaining matters.

3. The transactions to which the Government order of 5th February 1859, refer extended, I believe, over the years 1853-54 and 1854-55, and on the occasion of my submitting the report of the trunk road department to the close of the latter official year Government remarked paragraph 19.

• • •

"But whatever the variety of opinions on these points there can be none as to the singular "efficiency with which the operations of the department have been conducted. Its work has "been economically done; and its accounts have been simple, clear, and promptly closed. Above "all it was the road department which first showed practically, that labour can be procured in "this country without compulsion, when fair and honest treatment are secured, and so cleared "the way to the entire abolition of the system of forced labour."

4. These remarks of the Government were made, I would observe, when the whole accounts of the department were before them, and I naturally feel desirous of ascertaining the grounds on which nearly 4 years after the abolition of the department, lax control is attributed to me.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 21th December 1859, No. 2989.

On further enquiry it appears uncertain when the objectionable advances were made by Mr. Addis, and it seems probable that it was after the abolition of the trunk road department. This being the case, the Governor in Council has pleasure in cancelling the censure passed on the late Superintendent of that department in the passage quoted in the first paragraph of this letter.

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

Railway Department.

Consulting Engineer's Office

No. 278.

From Captain C.C. Johnston
Consulting Engineer for Ry.

To J. Pycroft Esqre
Chief Secretary to Govt
Fort St George

Sir,

Having seen this day, for the first time, the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation in the Public Works Department No 316, dated 5th February 1859, which formed one of the enclosures to the order of Government No 626, dated 14th Nov 1859, in para 2 of which Government remark "that it was only lax control on the part of the Superintendent of Roads, which enabled Mr Addis to draw the large sums unaccounted for, which were much in excess of his estimate requirements for the works under his charge", I have the honor to request that I may be favored with a perusal of the papers which led to that conclusion

I.

2. I would request permission to delay forwarding to the Agent to the Estate Minutes Consultation above referred to, until I have had an opportunity of explaining matters.

3. The transactions to which the Government order of 8th February 1859, refer extended, I believe, over the years 1853/54 and 1854/55, — and on the occasion of my submitting the Report of the Trunk Road Department to the close of the latter official year Government remarked - paragraph 19 -

" But whatever the variety of
" opinions on these points there
" can be none as to the singular
" efficiency with which the opera-
" tions of the Department have
" been conducted. Its work has
" been economically done, and its
" accounts have been simple, clear
" and promptly closed. Above all
" it was the Road Department
" which first showed practically
" that labour can be procured in
" this Country without compulsion,
" when fair and liberal treatment
" are secured, and so cleared the
" way to the entire abolition of the
" system

" system of forced labour."

These remarks of the Government were made, I would observe, when the whole accounts of the Department were before them and I naturally feel desirous of ascertaining the grounds on which nearly 4 years after the abolition of the Department, lax control is attributed to me.

Madras 23rd Nov 1859

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedient Servt

Martin Boyd

Asst Engineer for Rys

4/

P. P. C. 8: Febry. /59. No 36.
T. R. D. 7/14: Nov. /59. 38.
No. 626.

~~Financial~~ 1859
~~Railway~~ Dept.
Rec'd 1st Dec. from Pro: Govt. 31st Dec.
No. 3070.

The Consulting Engineer
for Railways.

To.

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 29th Nov. 59.
Rec'd 2nd Dec.
No. 278.

Requests that he may be favored with a perusal of the papers which led to the conclusion arrived at in Rec: by/C No. 816 of 5th Feby/57 C. P. W. & that he may be permitted to delay forwarding to the Agent the Sketch alluded to -

No. 61 & 62.

C 16th December 23rd

No. 2989. 24th December

With an order

No. 2989.

On further Inquiry it appeared uncertain when the objectionable advances were made by the Bridge, and it seems probable that it was after the abolition of the Inner Road Dept.

This being the case, the Governor in Council has pleasure in confirming the censure passed in the Letter to Chief Secy. to Govt. Pro: 816 of 5th Feby/57 on the passage quoted in the first paragraph of this letter.

From Fort St. George
24th Dec. 1859
Pub. Railway Dept. Dispt. 26