M.R.O. 1—82 400—29-11-40

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press Mis.
Dated	18 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 5. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer; to W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 8th October 1858, No. 4337.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Extract Minutes Consultation dated the 17th Instant, No. 1918, in which the Government require to be furnished with the report called for in para. 2 of Extract Minutes Consultation dated the 25th April 1857, No. 787, before submitting the Bills* forwarded with my letter of the 23rd August last, No. 3046, to the Government of India for sanction.

* For the improvement of the Hassanoor Ghaut and Bridge over the Bowany at Suttimungalum in Coimbatore.

2. I beg to observe that more complete information than that furnished by Captain Francis in his letter of the 10th April last, No. 39, respecting the works cannot be obtained, and which I submitted with my letter of the 23rd August last. The order of Government alluded to above was, as stated in that letter, duly communicated to the District Engineer, but no report thereon was received, and when his attention was directed to it in July last, Mr. Fraser merely forwarded a copy of Captain Francis' letter of the 10th April last already referred to.

7th July 1858, No. 1758.

3. The state of the accounts regarding these works does not permit of a detailed statement being prepared, shewing exactly how much each of the assigned causes has influenced the excess of expenditure over the estimate, than has been mentioned in Captain Francis' letter alluded to above, and as that Officer, now in the Central Office, agrees with me in my present remarks, I beg to re-submit the Bills in question for submission to the Government of India for sanction.

Letter from Captain P. M. FRANCIS, District Engineer of Coimbatore; to the Chief Engineer, dated Jackatalla, 10th April 1858, No. 39.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward Bills as per margin for the Hassanoor Ghaut and Suttimangalum bridge those two works having been originally sanctioned together, the amount of

Bill No. 1 of 1855-56 and 2 of 1856-57 amounting to Rupees 37,061-12-11. Memo. shewing the amount of extra work performed to the bridge amounting to Rupees 4,205-12-9. Bill No. 70 of 1857-58, Rupees 176-10-3.

	Rs.	A.	P.
the first sanctioned estimate for the Bridge itself.....	16,029	4	0
Supplemental estimate. ...	3,200	0	0
Hassanoor Ghaut..... ...	9,549	11	0

the Ghaut work was done for the amount of the estimate the bridge therefore has cost Rupees 27,688, annas 12 and pice 2 or Rupees 8,459 annas 8 and pice 2, in excess of the two sanctions, but in Extract of Minutes of Consultation No. 876, dated 5th June 1856, I was ordered to continue the bridge with the other funds at my disposal and I now proceed to give some reasons for the excess.

2. In the first place extra work was done to the amount of Rupees 4,206 as per Memorandum attached, partly due to the omission in the original estimate of the rough-stone flooring and partly due to the additional height given to the bridge as recommended by Captain Ludlow the Architect, before he left the district, in order to bring its road-way to the level of the country, the expediency of which has been proved by the subsequent height of rise of the river at the spot, the remaining portion of the excess viz. 4,076 Rupees is due to a rise of prices and delay in the work, rates higher than those estimated were forced to be given to induce Bricklayers to come from Coimbatore, Palghaut and Tanjore to such a reputed unhealthy spot as Suttimangalum, and to enable us to compete with the Railway passing through the adjoining Talooks, Carpenters and Smiths had to be brought from Mysore and Palghaut, there are scarcely any local workmen to be obtained in Coimbatore, the length of time, nearly three years, over which the work was spread tended also to raise its cost by necessitating the removal of the dams, and during all this time the Staff of Maistries &c. had to be kept up, the delay again was caused by the constant sickness and change of Superintendents.

3. Again in the original estimate the approaches were not considered, but the site fixed on, involved a mile of new road which was made and metalled towards Coimbatore and half a mile which was also metalled towards Bowany; planks, palmyrahs wedges, moulds &c. were left and were to have been carried to the Bermary road bridges at a valuation which would have reduced the bill somewhat, but the stop put to those works has involved the destruction of almost all the plant at Suttimangalum. I trust this explanation will be considered satisfactory and that the Government will pass the bill for this handsome and most useful bridge which is 386 feet long and 31 feet above the bed of the river.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, No. 3; dated 3rd January 1859.

The Officiating Chief Engineer submitted for sanction with his letter dated 23rd August 1858, No. 3046, three bills amounting to Rupees 37,238-7-2 for the improvement of the Hussanoor Ghaut, and construction of a Bridge over the Bowanny at Sattiamungulum in Coimbatore and the Government in Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 17th September 1858, No. 1918, required Colonel Lawford preparatory to forwarding the documents to the Government of India a complete report on the accounts connected with the Bridge as well as a clear Statement showing exactly how much each of the assigned causes has influenced the excess, with any explanation that can be adduced in regard to them severally.

2. Colonel Lawford in his letter above recorded states that no further explanation than that submitted with his former communication can be afforded, and that the accounts are in such a state as not to admit of the preparation of the detailed Statement called for.

3. The Government must express their dissatisfaction at the incomplete manner in which the accounts connected with the works in question have been kept; they resolve however to submit the bills for the sanction of the Government of India.

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

No. 7. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

From W. H. BAYLEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to Major R. STRACHEY, Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, dated 3rd January 1859, No. 4.

SIR,

I have the honor under the orders of the Governor in Council to submit for the sanction of the Government of India, agreeably to No. II of the Rules communicated with Colonel Baker's letter dated 1st August 1856, No. 3605, three Bills for the improvement of the Hussanoor-Ghaut and construction of a Bridge over the Bowany at Suttiamungalum in Coimbatore, amounting to Rupees (37,238-7-2)* thirty-seven thousand, two hundred and thirty-eight, annas seven, and pice two, with copies of the papers noted in the margin†.

	R.	A	P.
In 1855-56	28,109	11	11
1856-57	8,952	1	0
1857-58	176	10	3
Total.....	37,238	7	2

† From Officiating Chief Engineer dated 8th October 1858, No. 4337. From District Engineer of Coimbatore to the Chief Engineer, dated 10th April 1858, No. 39.

2. The original estimate for these works amounting to Rupees 25,578-15-0 was sanctioned by the Government of India under date the 8th June 1853 and the Supplemental estimate for the Bridge authorized by this Government under date the 6th January 1856 amounted to Rupees 3,200, thus making a total of Rupees 28,778-15-0 for both the works. The actual cost now reported according to the Bill is Rupees 37,238-7-2 or Rupees 8,459-8-2 or 44 per cent. in excess of the estimates. The District Engineer states that the Ghaut work has been completed for the estimated amount, viz. Rupees 9,549-11-0 and that the excess expenditure arose in the construction of the Bridge.

3. The Officiating Chief* Engineer in submitting the Bills alluded only to the general explanation afforded by the District Engineer for the increase viz., that it was "partly due to the omission in the original estimate of the rough stone flooring and partly" "to the additional height given to the bridge" "to bring its roadway to the level of the country and the remaining portion" "to a rise of prices and delay in the work," and the Government in Extract Minutes Consultation dated 17th September 1858 No. 1918, called upon Colonel Lawford to submit a complete report with a clear statement shewing exactly, how much each of the assigned causes has influenced the excess with any explanation that can be adduced in regard to them severally.

* From Chief Engineer dated 23rd August No. 3046.

4. Colonel Lawford states that he is not in a position to afford more explanation than what has already been given and that the state of the accounts does not admit of the preparation of the statement called for. The Government have recorded their displeasure at the loose manner in which the accounts appear to have been kept and as no good can be derived from further correspondence I am desired to solicit sanction for the Bills in question and to refer you to the correspondence noted in the margin,† copies of which are already before the Government of India.

From Chief Engineer 8th October 1858, No. 4337.

† Public Works Consultation 13th June 1856 Nos. 38-39
" 28th April 1857, " 84-85
" 23rd August 1858 " 29-30

No. 39

From

Captain P. Mc. Francis

District Engineer of Coimbatore

To

The Chief Engineer

Department Public Works

Fort Saint George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward Bills Bill No. 1 of 1855/56 as per margin for the Hassanoor Ghaut and and 2 of 1856/57 amounting to Rupees 37,061-12, Suttimangalum Bridge those two works having ing to Rupees 37,061-12, Suttimangalum Bridge those two works having
11. Memo: shewing the amount of extra work been originally sanctioned together the performed to the bridge amounting to Rs. 4205, amount of the first sanctioned estimate for the 12-9- Bill No. 70 of 1857, 1858, Rs. 176-10-3.

	Rs.	As.	Ps.
Bridge itself Rupees	16,029	4	"
Supplemental estimate	3,200	"	"
Hassanoor Ghaut	9549	11	"

the Ghaut work was done for the amount of the estimate the bridge therefore has cost 27,688,12, 2 or Rupees 8459-8-2 in excess of the two sanctions but in Extract of Minutes of Consultation No. 876 dated 5th June 1856 I was ordered to continue the Bridge with the other funds at my disposal and I now proceed to give some reasons for the

Excess.

excefs.

2. In the first place extra work was done to the amount of Rupees 4,206 as per Memorandum attached, partly due to the omission in the original estimate of the rough stone flooring and partly due to the additional height given to the bridge as recommend= =ed by Captain Ludlow the Architect, before he left the district, in order to bring its roadway to the level of the Country, the expediency of which has been proved by the subsequent height of rise of the river at the spot, the remaining portion of the excefs viz 4076 Rupees is due to a rise of pri= =ces and delay in the work, rates higher than those esti= =mated, were forced to be given to induce Bricklayers to come from Coimbatore, Palghaut, and Tanjore to such a reputed unhealthy spot as Cattimangalum, and to ena= =ble us to compete with the railway passing thro the adjoining talooks, Carpenters and Smiths had to be brought from Mysore and Palghaut, there are scarce= =ly any local workmen to be obtained in Coimbatore, the length of time, nearly three years, over which the work was spread tended also to raise its cost by necessitating the of removal of the dams, and dur= =ing all this time the Staff of Maistries &c had to be kept up, the delay again was caused by the cons= =tant sickness and change of Superintendents.

3 Again in the original estimate the approaches were not considered, but the site fixed on, involved a mile of new road which was made and metalled towards Coimbatore and half a mile which was also metalled towards Bowany, planks palmyrahs wedges, moulds &c were left and were to have been carried to the Nec= =mary road bridges at a valuation which would have reduced the bill some what, but the stop put to those works has involved the destruction of almost all the plant at Cattimangalum, I trust this explanation will be considered satisfactory and that the Government will pass the bill for this hand= =some and most useful bridge which is 386 feet long and 31 feet above the bed of the river.

I have &c &c

Jackatalla
10th April 1858.

/Signed/ P. Mc. Francis
District Engineer

/A true Copy/

/Signed/ W. Fraser
Acting Dist. Engineer

Coimbatore
D.P.W.
Endorsement No 280 dated 21st July 1858.

From
The District Engineer
Coimbatore
To
The Chief Engineer
S.P.W.
Fort St. George

Copy of Captain Francis's letter forwarding and explaining the case of the excess over the estimate for the construction of an Bridge at Sulamungalum.

Central Office of Public Works
Fort St. George 8th October 1858

No. 4337.

From
The Officiating Chief Engineer,
To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Public

Sir,

Extract
Bill

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Extract Minutes Consultation, dated the 17th Instant No. 1918, in which the Government require to be furnished with the report called for in para 2 of Extract Minutes Consultation, dated the 25th April 1855 No. 187 before submitting the

× For the improvement of the Lacnoor Chaut & Bridge over the Bovany at Sulamungalum in Coimbatore.

× Bills, forwarded with my letter of the 23d August last, No. 3046, to the Government of India for sanction.

2. I beg to observe that more complete information than that furnished by Captain Francis in his letter of the 10th April last No. 39 respecting the works cannot be obtained, and which I submitted with my letter of the 23d August last.— The order of Government alluded to above was, as stated in that letter, duly communicated to the District Engineer, but no report thereon was received

received, and when his attention was directed to it in July last, Mr. Fraser merely forwarded a copy of Captain Francis' letter of the 10th April last already referred to.

3 The state of the accounts regarding these works does not permit of a detailed statement being prepared, shewing exactly how much each of the assigned causes has influenced the excess of expenditure over the Estimate, than has been mentioned in Captain Francis' letter alluded to above, and as that officer, now in the Central Office, agrees with me in my present remarks, I beg to resubmit the Bills in question for submission to the Government of India for sanction.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servt.
Newport Lieut Col
Officiating Chief Engineer.

Central Office C. P.
Fort St. George
8th October 1858

Ag Chief

Pub. Works Dept.

No 3

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 3d January 1859

Read the following letter from the Offg Chief Engineer.

Rec'd entered 8th October 1858 No 4387

H

The Officiating Chief Engineer submits for sanction with his letter dated 23d August 1858, No 3046 three bills amounting to Rupees 37,238.7-2 for the improvement of the Hugsanoor Road and construction

Pub. Cons. 21 Oct 1858 No 29-30

Rec'd Oct 8th 1858 & the Contract Dept 4 Oct 1858 No 2360

From The Officiating Chief Secretary to Government

To The Secretary to Government

Dated 8th October 1858

Received 11th Ditto

No 4337

Forwards Returned 252-24 Rupees in Bills for the improvement of the Madras Road and Bridge over the Bunney ah

Submits observations thereon

Requests sanction to the expenditure

Sanctioned

No.

13 Quer. 21

No 3. a January 1859.

construction of a Bridge
over the Bowanny at
Sattiamungalum in
Combatore and the
Government in Gt Mil
Dept dated 17th September
1858 No 1918 required
Colonel Lawford pre-
-paratory to forwarding
the documents to the
Govt of India a com-
-plete report on the
accounts connected with
the Bridge as well as
a clear statement shew-
-ing exactly how much
each of the assigned
causes has influenced
the excess, with any
explanation that can
be addduced in regard
to them severally.

2. Colonel Lawford
in his letter above
recorded states that no
further explanation
than that submitted
with his former
communication can could
be afforded, and
that the accounts
are in such a state
as not to admit of
the preparation of
the detailed statement
called for.

3. The Government
must express their dissatisfaction
~~at such refusal~~
~~from performing~~
at the incomplete
~~that the loss~~ manner
-ner in which the
accounts connected
with the works in
question have been
kept

~~both of which~~ ~~are~~ ~~unsatisfactory~~

~~they~~ are to ~~be~~ ~~however~~

to submit the Bill

for the sanction of

the Government of

India. ~~with the~~

~~correspondence noted~~

~~in the margin as to~~

~~not passed on the~~

~~subject.~~

WAT

~~Feb. 11 June 1856 No. 38 & 39~~

~~" 28 August 1857 — 84 & 85~~

~~" 23 Aug. 1858 — 29 & 30~~

J. Cheriton Esq. Chief Engr.
Cuttack

P.W.D.

No 4

Major R. Strachey
Offg. Secy to the Govt of India
P.W.D.

Sir,

I have the honor under the orders of the Governor in Council to submit for the sanction of the Government of India agreeably to No III of the Rules communicated with Colls Baker's letter of 1st August 1856 No 3605 three Bills for the improvement of the Harbour & mouth and construction of a Bridge over the Bowany at Suttiamma gorlum in Coimbatore amounting to Rs (37,238-7-2) thirty seven thousand two hundred and thirty eight Rupees seven and pice two with copies of the papers noted in the Margin.

The Original Estimate for these works amounting to

Rs as p
In 1855/56 28109-11-11
1856/57 — 8,952-1-4
1857/58 — 176-10-3
Total 37,238-7-2

From Offg Ch. Engr dd 8 Oct/58 No 4037
From Dist Engr of Coimbatore
to the Ch. Engr dd 10 April/58
No 39.

Public Works Dept
P.W.D. Cons 4 Oct 59

No 4.

Estimate shewing
Proposal to effect
Improvements
Harbour & Bridge
Bowany

From the Offg Secy to the Govt of India
No 4037 dd 8th Oct 1859 in Cons. 21 Oct 59 Nos 42-43

Public Works Dept
P.W.D. Cons 4 Oct 59

No 4.

Estimate shewing the details of the improvements which the accounts connected with the Harbour & mouth of the Bowany and the Bridge over the Bowany at Suttiamma gorlum in Coimbatore have been kept and rendering it necessary to submit the Bills for the Services of the Government of India.

No 5 to 6.

Mrs Ellis & Co
Contrs Brass
@ 3½ Dom/59 Rs 4

C13 Dec Rs

to Rupees 25,578-15-0 ~~was~~ was sanctioned by the Govt. of India under date the 8th June 1858 and the supplemental estimate for the Bridge authorized by this Government under date the 6th January 1856 amounted to Rupees 3,200. thus making a total of Rs. 28,778-15-0 for both the works. The actual cost now reported according to the Bill is Rupees 37,238-7-2 or Rs. 8459-8-2 or 44 per cent in excess of the Estimates. The District Engineer states that the Shaut work has been completed for the estimated amount Viz. Rupees 9,549-11-0 and the excess expenditure arose in the construction of the Bridge.

3rd The Officiating Chief Engineer in submitting the bills attended only to the general explanation afforded by the District Engineer

† From Ch. Engr. d/23 Augt No 3146.

Engineer for the increase viz that it was "partly due to the omission in the original estimate of the rough stone flooring and partly to the additional height given to the Bridge to bring its roadway to the level of the country and the remaining portion to a rise of prices and delay in the work," and the Govt. in Ex. Mins Cons d/9th September 1858 No. 1918 called upon Coll. Lawford to submit a complete report with a clear statement shewing exactly how much each of the assigned causes has influenced the excess with any explanation that can be adduced in regard to them severally.

4th Colonel Lawford states that he is not in a position to afford more explanation than what has already been given and that the state of the accounts does

From Ch. Engr. 8th Octr/58 No. 4337.

does not admit of the prepa-
-ration of the statement
called for. The Government
have recorded their dis-
-pleasure at the loose
manner in which the
accounts appear to have
been kept and as no good
can be derived from
further correspondence
I am desired to solicit a
sanction for the bills in
question and to refer
you to the correspondence
noted in the margin* copies
of which are already before
the Govt of India.

WAS

Fort St. George
3d. January 1859

* P&C Cons 13th June 56 N° 38039.
—"— 28 april 57 — 84 & 85
—"— 28th augt 58 — 29 & 30

Public Works 1859 Dept.
Dº to Govt. 4th January.

No. 4.

To the Offg. Secretary to the
Govt. of India. D. P. W.
Dt. 3d January 59.

Submitting for the
sanction of the Government of
India certain Bills of Rupees
37,238-7-2 for the improvement
of the Nuganoor Ghaut and the
Bridge over the Bowany at
Suttiamungalum viâ Coimbatore.

No. 7.

C/13 Dec. R21