M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-57.

(1) Number of pages 20

(2) Date of repair 11-5-58

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con 574/57

G.O. No. 789 Press Mis.

9-10

Dated 2—4— 1858

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 9. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq, Secretary to Government, dated 21st March 1859, No. 8810.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, the accompanying correspondence with the District Engineer of Madura, relative to a case of malversation, fraud, and embezzlement, on the part of Runga Row, Sub-Overseer, 1st Class, 1st Grade, in that District.

Nos. 876, 908, 931, 1028, 1118, and 1153 dated 11th, 17th, and 25th January, 12th February, 4th, and 12th March 1859, from District Engineer of Madura.
Nos. 7380, and 8161, dated 26th January and 26th February 1859, from Chief Engineer

2. On the death of Major Marshall, the District Engineer thought proper to carefully examine the Accounts of the Range in charge of that Officer, prior to placing it in charge of a Superior, and the result led to a discovery in Sub-Overseer Runga Row's accounts, of a defalcation amounting to Rupees 4,867-8-1.

3. It appears that from the 1st May last, Rupees 17,233 passed through the Sub-Overseer's hands and that his Cash Book showed an expenditure of Rupees 17,222, and a balance of Cash in hand of Rupees 10-14-4, while from the Station Book produced, only Rupees 12,755-8-4 are brought to account, and even of this amount Rupees 12,355-0-3 was only entered as expended on the works. It further appears that in support of the latter amount vouchers to the amount of Rupees 9,410 only were forthcoming, and that these were not of a reliable character.

4. The foregoing statement of the case is derived from the District Engineer's letter of the 11th January last, No. 876 herewith forwarded, but from the statement which accompanied the District Engineer's subsequent letter, dated the 12th February, it appears that the Sub-Overseer's Cash Book exhibits an expenditure of Rupees 19,126-5-11, and that the accounts forthcoming amount to Rupees 14,355-7-5, giving a defalcation of Rupees 4,770-14-6, as shown in the margin.

Rs.	A.	P.
19,126	5	11
14,355	7	5
4,770	14	6

5. The District Engineer has not explained the discrepancy between his first letter and that of the 12th February, but his attention has been called to the subject.

6. I have to request the particular attention of Government to the District Engineer's letter, dated the 14th February last, paras. 5 @ 7, which would induce the belief that the Sub-Overseer has been in the habit of carrying on a system of fraud and embezzlement by false entries in the accounts.

7. I am of opinion that the case of the Sub-Overseer is one which requires serious notice. The interest of the Public Service requires not so much the punishment of the guilty, but a warning to others in the Department from similar malpractices. I have therefore directed the District Engineer to hand him over to the Magistrate, to be by him dealt with as the case may be found by that functionary to deserve, a proceeding which I trust will meet with the approval of Government.

8. I have also pointed out to Captain Ryves that he should at once have suspended Runga Row from the exercise of all functions, and I have directed that this measure be now adopted with retrospective effect from the date of discovering the alleged fraud, until it be decided whether the charge can or cannot be sustained and condign punishment ensue.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, No. 789; dated 2nd April 1859.

The Governor in Council approves of the orders sent by the Chief Engineer to the District Engineer of Madura as reported in paras. 7 and 8 of this letter, except that part of para. 8 which gives retrospective effect to the suspension of Sub-Overseer Runga Row the suspension will take effect only from the date of the District Engineer's order. Proceedings will be immediately instituted against the Sub-Overseer in conformity with the order of Government of 28th February 1859 No. 458 in the case of certain Sub-Overseers in Bellary. Care will be

taken that the accused shall not escape through any mistake of the Prosecutor, who will avail himself in the matter of the services of the Government Pleader of the Civil Court, or of any other respectable Vakeel of the Court.

2. The Governor in Council notices with approval the zeal and intelligence displayed in this matter by Captain Ryves; and he regrets that the case was not more promptly dealt with by the Central Office. The Governor in Council desires to be informed of the progress of the case.

3. It is to be feared that there has hitherto been but little vigilance exercised over the Subordinates in the Madura District, and Captain Ryves should be directed to continue his examination of the Books of all the Executive Ranges.

4. The Chief Engineer will report what he proposes to do in the case of Sub-Overseers Lerke and Davajee Row whose accounts were reported in para. 17 of the District Engineer's letter of January 11th to have been very incorrectly kept; and he will state whether on further examination any frauds were detected in their Books.

5. He will explain how it occurred that Overseer Lerke had in his hands the large cash balance stated in para. 4 of Captain Ryves' letter. Government have repeatedly drawn the attention of the Chief Engineer to this subject, but still Subordinate servants are allowed to draw and hold these large sums. This is only by the culpable neglect of the District Engineers, who have at their command effective means of checking the evil, if they would only use them; the Chief Engineer will now again pointedly call the attention of those Officers to their duty in this respect.

6. Colonel Faber will inform Government what employments, if any, these three Overseers held before they were made Sub-Overseers; and by whom they were severally recommended for this latter post and for what qualifications.

7. He will also report without delay what arrangements if any he made in pursuance of the District Engineer's urgent representation in para. 19 of his letter of January 11, and what is the state of the Department in the Madura District as compared with the regulated allotment of 23rd July 1857.

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

Forwarded by Order of

A.
5

Central Office of P.W.D.
Fort St. George
21st March 1859.

No. 8840

From The Chief Engineer

To The Secretary to Government

Public

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for submission to Government, the accompanying correspondence with the District Engineer of Madura, relative to a case of malversation, fraud & embezzlement, on the part of Ponga Row, Sub Overseer 1st Class 1st Grade in that District.

2. On the death of Major Marshall the District Engineer thought proper to carefully examine the accounts of the Range in charge of that Officer, prior to placing it in charge of a Superior and the result led to a discovery in Sub Overseer Ponga Row's accounts of a defalcation amounting to Rupees 4867-8-1.

3. It appears that from the 1st May last Rupees 17,233 passed thro'

Nos. 876. 908. 981. 1028. 1118 & 1153 dated 11th 17th & 25th Jany. 12th Feb. 4th & 12th March 1859 from District Engr. of Madura

Nos. 7380 & 8161 of 26th July & 26th Feb. 1859 from Chief Engineer

Enc. 15.

Engineers

thro' the Sub Overseer's hands and that
his Cash Book showed an expenditure
of Rupees 17.222 and a balance of Cash
in hand of Rupees 10- 14- 4 while given
the Station Book produced only Rupees
12.755- 8- 4 are brought to account and
even of this amount Rupees 12.555- 0- 3
was only entered as expended on the
works. It further appears that in support
of the latter amount vouchers to the amount
of Rupees 9410 only were forthcoming and
that these were not of a reliable
character.

6. The foregoing Statement of the
case is drawn from the District Engineer's
letter of the 11th January last No 376 here-
with forwarded, but from the Statement
which accompanies the District Engineer's
subsequent letter dated the 12th February
it appears that the Sub Overseer's
Cash Book exhibits an expenditure of
Rupees 19.126- 5- 11 and that the accounts
forthcoming amount to Rupees 14.355: 7- 5
giving a defalcation of Rupees 4770- 14- 6
as shown in the margin.

19126-5-11
14,355-7-5
4770-14-6

7. The District Engineer has not
explained the discrepancy between his
first letter and that of the 12th February
but his attention has been called to the
subject

Subject

6. I have to request that particular
attention of Government to the District
Engineer's letter dated the 14th February
last paras 5 & 7 which would indicate
the belief that the Sub Overseer has been
in the habit of carrying on a system
of fraud and embezzlement by false
entries in the accounts.

7. I am of opinion that the case
of the Sub Overseer is one which
requires serious notice. The interest
of the Public Service requires not so
much the punishment of the guilty but
a warning to others in the Department
from similar evil practices. I have there-
fore directed the District Engineer to
hand him over to the Magistrate to be
by him dealt with as the case may
be found by that Functionary to deserve -
a proceeding which I trust will meet
with the approval of Government.

8. I have also pointed out to Capt.
Ryves that he should at once have
suspended Runga Ram from the exercise
of all Functions, and I have directed
that this measure be now adopted
with Retrospective effect from the date

Engineers

of discovering the alleged fraud until it be decided whether the Charge can or cannot be sustained and Condign Punishment inflicted.

Fort St. George
21st March 1857

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt Servt
[illegible] Colonel
Chief Engineer

To
The Secretary to Government
[illegible]

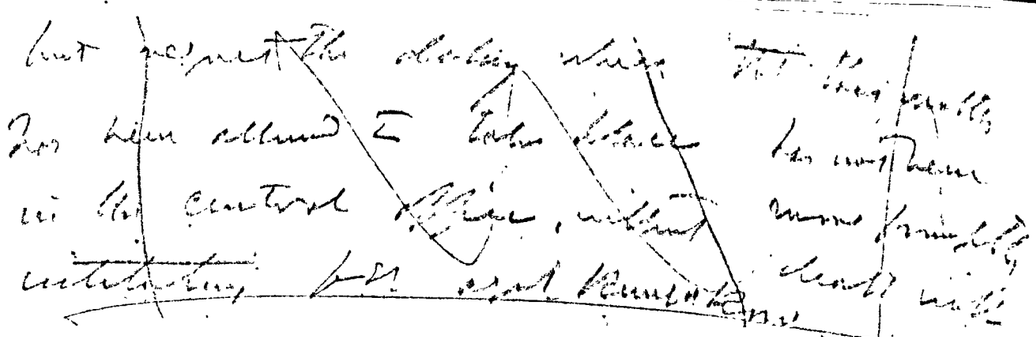
Encl 1

R 9.

will be immediately instituted against the Sub-assistant in question, with the view of bringing him to trial by Court Martial, as soon as the case of certain Enlistments in Madras - Cases will be taken that the accused shall not evade the ordinary course of the Prosecution, who will avail himself of the means of defence allowed by the Law of the Land &c. as any other respectable Native of the Country

Fort St. George [illegible]

Engineers



Regiments

if any, Kees Knee owners label
inform they were made Pat: owners;
& by whom they were ~~made~~ severally
~~employed~~ to Latin Port & for
what purchase/s.

He will also request without
delay what arrangements if any
he made in pursuance of the D. of
request representation in H. 19
his letter of Jany 11, & what he
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to communicate with the regulate
allotment of Jan 21/57 - 2 Shares -
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Bryans

P.W. Dept.

No 789

Extract from the Minutes of Government
Under date the 2nd March 1859.

Read the following
letter from the Chief
Engineer.

Mare under the 21st March 1859
(No 88 & 89)

The Governor in
Council approves of the
orders sent by the Chief
Engineer to the District
Engineer of Madura
as reported in paras
7 and 8 of this letter,
except that part of Para
8 which gives retro-
active effect to the
Suspension of the
Overseer Arunga. Rom:
the suspension will
to be effect only from
the date of the District
Engineers

Public Works Office
Colombo 25th March 1859
From
The Chief Secretary
To
The Secretary to Govt
Public Works Dept

Parcel 21
No 282

No 8840
Inc: to Return
dated 31st March 1859

Advising the transmission
enclosing with Copies
of Letters noted in the
Margin relative to
Arunga Overseer
Madura and
Suspension of Pay
Public Works Dept
Colombo 2nd April 1859

No 9.

25 Annuls (31st

Engineers order. Proceedings will be immediately instituted against the said Overseer in conformity with the order of Court of 28th July 1859 et 1458 in the case of certain Overseers in Bellary. Care will be taken that the accused shall not escape thro' any connivance of his Overseer, who will be answerable himself in the matter of the services of the Civil Peader of the Court of Canara, or any other respectable Takeel. of the Court.

2. The Govern.t in Council notices with approval the zeal and intelligence displayed in this matter by Lieut. Agnew, and he regrets that the case was not more promptly dealt with by the Central Office.

3. The Govern.t in Council desires to be informed of the progress of the case.

4. It is to be feared that there has hitherto been but little vigilance exercised over the subordinates in the Mudanoor District, and Capt. Agnew should be directed to continue his examination of the books of all the Egroan Inam ranges.

5. The Chief Engineer must report what he proposes to do in the case of the Overseers Sarka and Dasaja Row whose accounts were suspended in para 17 of the District Engineers letter of Janry 11th last.

6. The Govern.t in Council has been very much pleased with the manner in which the Collector of Canara has conducted the inquiry into the frauds of the Overseers

cated in their books.

16. Colonel Fuller must inform Govt what amount of overpayments if any, these three Overseers had to refund before they were made Sub Overseers; and by what they were severally recommended for this latter post and for what qualifications.

17. He must also report distinctly any delay which occurs in the remittances of cash to be made in pursuance of the District Engineers urgent representation in para 19 of his letter of January 11, and what is the state of the Department in the Kadura District as compared with the regulated allowance of 23rd July 1857.

10 Copies to the Chief Engr. Dist.
c25 Mem R 31

5 He will explain how it occurred that overseer Lerke had in his hands the large cash balance stated in para 4 of Captain Pyne's letter. Government have repeatedly drawn the attention of the Chief Engineer to this subject, but still subordinate servants are allowed to draw & hold these large sums. This is only by the culpable neglect of the District Engineers who have at their command effective means of checking the evil, if they would only use them; the Chief Engineer will now again pointedly call the attention of those officers to their duty in this respect.

Public Works 1859 Septr
Do to Cons 5th April.

No 789.

Extract Minute of Cons:
of 2d April 1859.

From the Chief Engr. of 3d Septr 1859 ex. 2346 in Cons. 4 Oct/59-82-83

Ordering that proceedings will be instituted against the sub Overseer Ramga Row in conformity with the order of Government of 28th February last in the case of certain sub Overseers in Bellary, & directing the Chief Engineer to report what he proposes to do in the case of sub Overseers Lerke and Davajee Row, and also to call the attention of the District Engineers on the subject of their allowing Subordinate servants to draw and hold large sums &c.

No 9 to 10.

27-25