M.R.O. 1—7,006.—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 20

(2) Date of repair 25.2.38

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 562 Press Mis.

95-96

Dated 1-12-1852.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 95. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer ; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 25th March 1859, No. 9005.

SIR,

With reference to para. 3 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 21st January last, communicated in Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 17th Instant, No. 619, I have the honor to state that no periodical statements of measurements of work done are submitted by District Engineers to the Central Office, this not being provided for by the Rules of the Department. An approximate statement of the progress made on each work under execution is however given by some Officers in the monthly Progress Reports, but these reports are not in sufficient detail to be treated as accounts or regular measurements of the works performed.

2. With respect to the observations of the Government of India contained in the 2nd para. of Major Strachey's letter, as regards the inability of the Central Office to furnish in two years the report required by this Government, as to the reason of the large excess over the Estimate for the construction of the Bridge over the Bowanny at Suttiamungalum in Coimbatore, I beg to state that in the Officiating Chief Engineer's letter of the 23rd August last, No 3046, it was explained that the District Engineer of Coimbatore had not replied to the requisition of Government,* and that the Officer then in charge of the District could not possibly furnish any satisfactory information at that late period of time.

* Extract Minutes Consultation, 25th April 1857 No. 787.

3. In reply to a further call by Government† for a more complete report, Lieutenant Colonel Lawford explained in his letter of the 8th October last, that the only information to be had explanatory of the cause of excess was contained in Captain Francis' letter of the 10th April 1858, then before Government, and that this Officer, then in the Central Office, reported that the state of the accounts of the work did not permit any detailed explanation being given.

† Extract Minutes Consultation 17th September 1858, No. 1918,

No. 4337.

No. 39.

4. Under these circumstances it will be seen, I trust, that the Central Office has not failed in doing what was necessary on its own part to enforce a proper compliance with the orders of Government by the Local Executive Officers. But it must be at once admitted, that it is not properly speaking "a Central Office of Accounts;" this it never was, nor meant to be, in the Bengal, (or Colonel Strachey's) sense of that appellation.

No. 96. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

From J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George ; to Lieutenant-Colonel H. YULE, Secretary to the Government of India, dated 12th April 1859, No. 862.

SIR,

I have the honor under the orders of the Honorable the Governor in Council to forward copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer, furnishing explanation in respect to the remarks made by the Government of India in para. 2 of Major Strachey's letter dated 21st January last No. 789, and submitting also the information required in para. 3 of the same letter.

Central offices of Pub Works
Fort Saint George
25th March 1859

No 905

From

The Chief Engineer
Dépôt of Pub Works

To

The Secretary to Government
Pub Works Dépôt

Public

Sir

With reference to para 3 of the letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 21st January last communicated in Extract Minutes of Consultation of the 17th Instant No 619. I have the honor to state that no periodical Statements of measurements of work done are submitted by District Engineers to the Central office, this not being provided for by the Rules of the Department. An approximate Statement of the progress made on each work under execution is however given by some officers in the monthly Progress Reports, but these Reports are not in sufficient detail to be treated as accounts or regular measurements of the works performed.

2. With respect to the observations of the Government of India

contained in the 2d para of Major Strachey's letter, as regards the inability of the Central Office to furnish in two years the Report required by this Government, as to the reason of the large Excess over the Estimate for the construction of the Bridge over the Bowany at Sattiamunga-lum in substitution, I beg to state that in the officiating Chief Engineers letter of the 23d August last No 3026 it was Explained that the District Engineer of Coimbatore has not replied to the requisition of Government, and that the officer then in-charge of the District could not possibly furnish any satisfactory information at that late period of time.

3. On reply to further call by Government for a more complete report Lieut.t Colonel Lawford explained in his letter of the 8th October last, that the only information to be had explanatory of the cause of Excess was contained in Captain Francis' letter of the 10th April 1858 then before Government, and that this officer, then in the Central office, reported that the state of the accounts of the work did not permit any detail. Or Explanation being given.

4. Under these circumstances it will be seen, I trust, that the Central Office has not failed in doing what was necessary on its own part to Enforce a proper compliance with the orders of Government by the local Executive officers. But it must be at once admitted, that it is not properly speaking "a Central office of Accounts;" this it never was, nor meant to be, in the Bengal (or Colonel Strachey's sense of that appellation.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed.t Servant

W.M. Taylor Colonel
Chief Engineer
D.D.P.

Fort Saint George 2
25th March 1859

E.M. 250 Cipher 1857 No 787

Con Cy Dft 1858 No 1918.

No 433.

No 39.

Ex. No 2

Public Works Dept

No. 862

To

Lieutenant Colonel H. Yule,
Secretary to the Government
of India.

Sir,

I have the honour
under the orders of the Honorable
the Governor in Council to
forward copy of a letter from the
Chief Engineer furnishing ex-
planation in respect to the
remarks made by the Govern-
ment of India in para 2 of
Major Strachey's letter dated
21st January last No 789, and
submitting also the information required in
para 3 of the said letter.

I have &c
(Signed) H. Conolly
Secretary to Govt.

12th April 1859

Dated 30th March 1859

No.

From the Chief Engineer
Public Works Dept
To the Secretary to Government
of India

Dated 30th March 1859

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 789 dated 21st January last, and to submit the following explanation in respect to the remarks made by the Government of India in para 2 of Major Strachey's letter dated 21st January last No 789, and also the information required in para 3 of the said letter.

Para 2 of Major Strachey's letter dated 21st January last No 789.

Para 2 of Chief Engineer's letter dated 30th March 1859.

Para 3 of Major Strachey's letter dated 21st January last No 789.

Para 3 of Chief Engineer's letter dated 30th March 1859.

Public Works 1859 Dept.
Cons 12 April

No. 862.

To
The Secretary to the
Govt. of India.
Dt 12 April 1859.

Furnishing explanation in respect to the remarks made by the Govt. of India regarding the submission of certain report called for and also submitting the information required regarding the periodical establishment of measurement of works done by the Dist. Engineer

Nos 95 & 96.

C 30 Cons 19 April