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G.O. No.

2632

Press

Mis.

313-14

Dated

22-12-571860.**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

No. 313. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Chief Engineer, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated Chepauk, 7th December 1860, No. 7,715:—

SIR,

1. In accordance with the Order of Government, No. 2,155, dated 17th October 1860, I have the honor to submit a letter as per margin from the District Engineer, Vizagapatam, affording full explanations as to the cause of the accident which led to the death of the Bricklayer Palli Narraidu.  
No. 816, 7th November 1860.

2. The foundations of the Overseer's shed were formed of well tempered clay, and the basement and walls above of sun-dried brick in mud, so that it is not surprising that on the 18th or 25th August (as variously stated by Captain Blagrave and Mr. Bevan) when an inch of rain accompanied by very strong wind which beat slantingly against the south wall, fell in less than one hour, that wall gave way, fracturing the other walls. It became necessary then that a portion of the east wall should be removed, and it was while he was in the act of taking it down, that it fell, and so severely injured the Bricklayer as to cause his death a few days afterwards. This is a very different story from that contained in the District Engineer's letter No. 586, dated 19th September 1860, forwarded in my Proceedings No. 5,709 of the 9th October 1860, and shows, as Captain Blagrave now explains, that that letter was written under much misapprehension.

10th September 1860.

19th September 1860.

3. The site for the Overseer's shed was originally selected by Lieutenant Vertue, and is much higher than that on which the building is now being erected; but as a nursery garden was to be attached to the shed, Captain Blagrave directed Mr. Supervisor Bevan to apply for another piece of ground which would be commanded by a channel, which it is proposed to excavate in connection with a project for damming up the river near Narsapatam in the limits of Gubbada, which project (upon the early execution of which much stress is laid by the local Officer) unfortunately has not been received in time for entry in the Budget 1861-62. That piece of ground was not made over to the Department till the 27th July last, and this explains the delay on which I commented in the foot note appended to Captain Blagrave's first letter.  
No. 586, 19th September 1860.

4. Although the "nursery" was brought within irrigation level the site selected for the shed was the highest point on the ground given over, having an elevation of 10 feet above the lower portions, so that naturally little was left to be done to ensure thorough drainage. That little consisted in affording the means for the water which lodged around the building, to escape, by cutting a trench to lead it off, and this Mr. Bevan appears to have neglected. Thus the water soaked into the foundations, and this fact, coupled with another hinted at by Captain Blagrave, viz., that the courses of bricks were not laid very level, seems sufficient to account for the fall of a wall, already fractured by the concussion of the fall of an adjoining wall a month before.

No. 314. ORDER THEREON, 22nd December 1860, No. 2,632.

It appears from this letter that the fall of the wall of the Overseer's shed at Narsapatam which led to the death of a Bricklayer, was in part owing to the omission by Mr. Supervisor Bevan of an obvious duty, and to defective workmanship. The Chief Engineer will notice in suitable terms that Officer's neglect of duty, and he will see that proper measures are taken for ensuring the efficient construction of the building.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,  
Acting Secretary to Government.

Central Office of Public Works  
Chepauk 7<sup>th</sup> December 1860

N<sup>o</sup> 7715

From,

Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Horsley  
Chief Engineer D. P. W.

To,

J. D. Sim Esquire  
Acting Secretary to Government D. P. W.  
Fort Saint George.

"Public"

Sir,

In accordance with the Order of  
Government N<sup>o</sup> 2155 dated 17<sup>th</sup> October 1860 I  
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3. The site for the Overseer's shed was originally selected by Lieutenant Tertius and is much higher than that on which the building is now being erected, but as a Nursery garden was to be attached to the shed, Captain Blagrove directed Mr. Supervisor Bevan to apply for another piece of ground which would be commanded by a channel, in connection with a project for damming up the River near Nardpatam in the limits of Gubbada, which project upon the early execution

15<sup>th</sup> Sept 1860.

19<sup>th</sup> Sept 1860.

1556. 17<sup>th</sup> Sept 1860.

38  
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4. Although the 'Nursery' was brought within Irrigation level the site selected for the shed was the highest point on the ground given over, having an elevation of 10 feet above the lower portions, so that naturally little was left to be done to ensure thorough drainage. That little consisted in affording the means for the water which lodged around the building, to escape, by putting a trench to lead it off, and this Mr. Bevan appears to have neglected. Thus the water soaked into the foundations, and this fact, coupled with another hinted at by Captain Blagrove, viz<sup>t</sup> that the courses of bricks were not laid very level, seems sufficient

sufficient to account for the fall of a wall,  
already fractured by the concussion of the  
fall of an adjoining wall. a month before.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Central Office of C.M.

Chepauk

7 December 1860.

Your Most Obedient Servant

W. B. Booslee Lt. Col.

Chief Engineer

A. B. Leath Lt. Col.

Asst. Chief Eng. N. C.

To

J. D. Tim, Esq.

Acting Secretary to Government C. M. D.  
Fort Saint George.

Received October 30, 1860

1860 Dec 14  
1860 Dec 14

From, J. D. Smith  
Chief Engineer  
J. D. Smith  
Asst. to Capt. P. M. D.  
Capt. D. George.

Dec 14  
1860  
Dec 14  
1860

submit a letter from  
the District Eng. Department  
regarding full explanation  
as to the cause of the ac-  
cident which led to the  
death of Priv. Henry Bell  
Marshall.

1860 Dec 22

Wm. M. D. D.

1860 Dec 22

It appears from the letter

that the fall of the wall of the  
Quarry at Lawrenceville  
which led to the death of  
Marshall was in fact owing  
to the excessive weight of the  
mass of material which  
was to be placed upon the wall.

The Chief Eng. will  
in return to the District Eng.  
accept a apology, and he will  
see that proper measures  
are taken for ensuring the  
safety of the wall.

From the District Eng.  
1860 Dec 22  
Chief Eng. Marshall  
1860 Dec 22

1860 Dec 22