M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1470 Press / ~~Mis.~~

Dated 6 8 86 18 .

85-86

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 6th August 1861.

No. 85. Read the following Endorsement of the Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of Central Office of Public Works, dated Chepauk, 2nd July 1861, No. 2,254:—

Read the following letter from Captain J. BEAN, District Engineer Malabar, to Lieutenant-Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Calicut, 11th June 1861, No. 58.

SIR,

1. In conformity with instruction conveyed in the 9th paragraph of the Government Order No. 1,954, of the 19th September last, received with Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, No. 5,090, of the 24th idem, I have the honor to submit a report on the operations carried out in Wainád, from the sum of Rupees 30,000, sanctioned for opening out communications in that District.

2. The work was commenced in December 1860, but very little of importance was carried out until March, so that we have had only at our disposal two or three months of the fair working season. Lieutenant Smalley, 2nd Assistant District Engineer, who was appointed to Wainád, did not take over charge from Mr. Smith until the 26th January, and was then attacked by fever which kept him on the sick list nearly the whole of February.

3. The work people commenced operations on the road from Manantoddy to Bavally, in the Mysore Frontier, and several steep hills impracticable for bandies have been turned for a distance of 1,900 yards, and one or two other similar improvements are in course of execution. As soon as these hills have been turned, the road will be very good throughout, and there is only one river to bridge, which I understand is scarcely ever impassable in the monsoon. Besides the new line, 110 yards have been repaired thoroughly, and 900 yards retraced.

4. The new trace viâ Terriót, from Lakadi to Manantoddy, has been commenced upon, and one and a half mile of road near the latter town has been opened out. About 10 miles of trace remain to be opened out to the full width, and several bridges have to be built.

5. A large portion of work has been carried out on the line from Nelialum to Goodaloor, a portion of the Neilgherry road, on contract, and on the line from Goodaloor to Teppakádu. On the former the bamboo mats have been removed from all the bridges, and the work re-built substantially with wood. Three hills have been turned, and new line made 980 yards in length by 6 in breadth, a new road through paddy fields, for a distance of 610 yards 1½ yard high, has been constructed, and the old road through other rice fields raised and re-made for a further distance of 1,120 yards. The road has been repaired also, and trenches cut for a distance of 4½ miles. At the approaches to several bridges, the line has been altered for 210 yards in length. On the latter road the bamboos for the whole distance of 12 miles have been cut way and rooted up, making the line wide enough for bandies; one bridge has been built.

6. The bridges on the old road from *Manantoddy to Kalpatti and Lakadi* have been partly repaired on contract, and a few still remain to be completed.

7. The expenditure in the year up to the 30th April has amounted to Rupees 1,1995-13-5.

8. With regard to the formation of a labor corps, very little success has been met with as yet in obtaining men to bind themselves down for monthly service. The whole system hitherto in force in Waínád is against the working out of such a scheme, as the coolies who have hitherto been engaged there are residents of Mysore, who hold small plots of land and who invariably return every year to their homes. They are very averse to binding themselves down for permanent work, and the Coffee Planters do not expect a change of things in this respect. The Artificers, such as carpenters and smiths, are much more difficult to obtain than common coolies, and those employed in Waínád seldom remain away from the low country of Malabar for more than one or two months at a time. I have no power placed in my hand with regard to enlisting men, and I have no means of enforcing the terms of any agreement made by a cooly to serve for a particular time.

9. Lieutenant Smalley has been endeavouring to procure men, however, to work on monthly pay, and some have come forward offering to remain for a year, if their pay is increased from 7 to 7½ Rupees per mensem. We shall take a written agreement from the coolies in all cases.

10. Though comparatively a small quantity of work has been carried out as yet on this annual allowance, I hope this next season, with the little experience which Mr. Smalley has gained of the Wainád District, and by means of a more perfect system of organization, to carry out a satisfactory amount of road-work, both as to the repair of old and the formation of new lines. In the heavy rains of the monsoon I do not propose to engage a large body of men, but only a moderately sized gang, which can be carefully superintended and engaged in ask work; whilst in the fair weather we can extend operations. A great deal of work may be done economically and well by the aid of the planters, and I propose to employ the services of those who offer on contract.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 6th August 1861.

1 Submitted to Government with reference to the Order conveyed in paragraph 9 of Proceedings, dated 19th September 1860, No. 1,954.

2. The Government will observe from the report that much less has been accomplished than was anticipated. Lieutenant Smalley's late arrival and subsequent illness prevented the commencement of certain operations until March last.

3. The total expenditure from the grant of Rupees 30,000 having been Rupees 11,996.

4. The formation of the labor corps had not been as yet successful, but the District Engineer hopes for a larger out-turn of work during the next season, both by a better system of organization and by availing himself of the aid of such of the planters as may offer to execute work on contract.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Lieut.-Colonel,
Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of Central Office of Public Works.

No. 86. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1861, No. 1,470.

1. The Government are not surprised at the comparatively little work done, seeing that only five months were before the District Engineer from the date of his commencing operations; but they regret to find that he has not been successful in raising the cooly corps, and (from paragraph 8) that he even appears to doubt the practicability of the scheme which he himself suggested. The Government hope, however, to have a better account for the current official year.

2. It is stated that 11,996 Rupees has been expended out of the grant of 30,000 Rupees; but the value of the work actually performed is not given as required in paragraph 9 of the Order of the 19th September last, No. 1,954.

3. At the end of paragraph 8 the District Engineer adverts to his want of power in respect to enlisting coolies and enforcing terms of agreement; Captain Bean's attention will be drawn to Act XIII. of 1859. The Government cannot confer on him any powers beyond those which this Act permits, but they look with greater hopefulness to the effects which fair rates of pay and considerate treatment in ultimately procuring a sufficiency of labor. The experiment has not yet had a fair trial, and its failure cannot yet be predicated. Recourse should be had at the same time to contracts with the planting community interested in the different roads.

4. Future report should be accompanied by a rough sketch showing the operations of the year.

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

Read the Proceedings of Government
Dy Chief Engineer
Office of Public Works
22nd Aug 1861

3.

Calicut 11th June 1861

No 58

From

Captain J. Bean
District Engineer Malabar

To

Lieut.t Colonel I. Birdwood
Deputy Chief Engineer S. Circle
D. O. W.

Sir,

In compliance with instruction conveyed in the 9th paragraph of the Government Order, No. 1954 of the 19th September last, received with Proceedings of the Chief Engineer No. 5090 of the 24th Idem, I have the honor to submit a report on the operations carried out in Wynad from the sum of Rupees 30,000 sanctioned for opening out communications in that District.

2. The work was commenced in December 1860, but very little of importance was carried out until

March

fields raised and remade for a further distance of 1120 yards. The road has been repaired, ales, and trenches cut for a distance of 4½ miles. At the approaches to several Bridges, the line has been altered for 210 yards in length. On the latter road, the Bamboos, for the whole distance of 12 miles, have been cut away and rooted up, making the line wide enough for Bandies. one Bridge has been built.-

6. The Bridges on the old road from Manantoddy to Tirulpuddy & Sultan Bathery have been partly repaired on Contract, and a few still remain to be Completed.-

Manantoddy to Kulpetta & Sultan Bathery

7. The expenditure in the year, up to the 30th April, has amounted to Rupees 11995 - 13 - 5.-

11,995 Rs expended from Dec/50 to April/51 inclusive.

8. With regard to the formation of a labour Corps, very little success has been met with as yet, in obtaining men to bind themselves down for monthly service. The whole system hitherto in force in Wynaad is against the working out of such a scheme, as the Coolies who have hitherto been engaged there are residents of Mysore, who hold small plots of land and who invariably return every year to their homes. They are very averse to binding themselves down for permanent work, and the Coffee Planters do not expect a change of things in this respect. The artificers, such as Carpenters and Smiths, are much more difficult to obtain than common Coolies, and those employed in Wynaad seldom remain away from the low country of Malabar for more than one or two months at a time. I have no power placed in my hand with regard to enlisting men, and I have no means of enforcing the terms of any agreement made by a Coolly to serve for a particular time.-

9.

9.

Lieutenant Smalley has been endeavouring to procure men, however, to work on monthly pay, and some have come forward offering to remain for a year, if their pay is increased from 7 to 7½ Rupees per mensem. We shall take a written agreement from the Coolies in all cases.-

10 Though comparatively a small quantity of work has been carried on, as yet, on this annual allowance, I hope this next season, with the little experience which Mr. Smalley has gained of the Wynad District, and by means of a more perfect system of organization, to carry out a satisfactory amount of road work, both as to the repair of old and the formation of new lines. In the heavy rains of the monsoon, I do not propose to engage a large body of men, but only a moderately sized gang which can be carefully superintended and engaged in task work, whilst in the fair weather, we can extend operations. A great deal of work may be done economically and well by the aid of the Planters, and I propose to employ the services of those who offer on contract.-

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
(Sgd) J. Bean Capt.
Dy. Engineer Malabar

No 2254

Submitted to Government with reference to the order conveyed in Para 9 of Proceedings dated 19th September 1860 No. 1954.-

2 The Government will observe from the Report that much less has been accomplished, than was anticipated. Lieutenant Smalley's late arrival and subsequent illness prevented the commencement of certain operations until March last.-

3d

9. 3.

The total expenditure from the grant of 30,000 having been Rupees 11996.-

4.

The formation of the Labor corps had not been as yet successful, but the District Engineer hopes for a larger outturn of work during the next season, both by a better system of organization, and by availing himself of the aid of such of the Planters, as may offer to execute work on Contract.-

Central Office of Pr.
Chepauk
2 July 1861

J. Lind Lt Col
Dy Chief Engineer in ch. of the Central Office of Pr.

To
J. D. Sim Esqre
Secretary to Government F.W.D.
Fort St George

E. M. Sim

Public Works Dept.

No 1479 70

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 6th July 1861.

Read the following letter from the Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of the Central Office of P.W.

Submits for information, with reference to order No 1954 dated 19th Septr 1860 a letter from the District Engineer of Malabar reporting on the operations carried out in Wynaad for opening out communications and forming a Labour corps in that District.

/Store enter 2d July 1861 No 22354/

The Government are not ~~disappointed with~~ surprised at the comparatively little ~~the extent of~~ work done, seeing that only five months were before the District

Rd 19th Septr 1860

Rd 27th July 1861

From Lt Col Cullen
Chief Engr in charge
Central Office

Dated 2nd July 1861
No 22354

Submits for information, with reference to order No 1954 dated 19th Septr 1860 a letter from the District Engineer of Malabar reporting on the operations carried out in Wynaad for opening out communications and forming a Labour corps in that District.

From the Chief Engr
Malabar Dist
Dated 22nd June 1861
No 1479

Forwarded to Lt Col Cullen Chief Engr in charge Central Office for information with reference to order No 1954 dated 19th Septr 1860.

1885.

27 July 1861

No 1479 dated 6th Augt

District Engineer from the date of his commencing operations; but they regret to find that he has not been successful in raising the Cooly Corps, and (from para 8) that he even appears to ~~contradict~~ doubt the practicability of the scheme which he himself suggested. The Government hope, however, to have a better account for the current official year.

2 It is stated that 11996 Rupees has been expended out of the grant of 30,000 Rupees; but the value of the work actually performed is not given as required in para 9 of the order of the 19 September last

last, No 1954.

3 At the end of para 8, the District Engineer adverts to his want of power in respect to enlisting coolies and enforcing terms of agreement. ~~The Collector will be requested to report on this point thro' the Board of Revenue.~~ Capt Beaufort's attention will be drawn to Act XIII of 1859. The Govt cannot confer on him any powers beyond those which the Act permits. But they look with confidence to the effective & fair exercise of powers & discretion

The Chief Engineer.
Board of Revenue

treatment in ultimately procuring a sufficiency of labor. The Experiment has not yet had a fair trial - & its failure cannot yet be predicated. Recruits should be had at the same time & Contracts with the planting community interested in the different roads.

In time report should be accompanied by a rough sketch showing the operations of the year.

J. A. S

1/6/64

(8)

Operations in Wyraad
Failure to raise cooly corps.

Ans. Forthwith

Circ 8/5

Dec 8th

Public Works 1861 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for Augt.

No. 1470.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dated 6th August 1861.

From the Secy to the Chief Engr P.W.
Dated 12th June 1861 No 1916
in Pro.

Chief Engineers
endorsement reporting
on the operations in open-
ing Communications in
Wynaad; with orders thereon.

No. 85 to 86.