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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1571 Press / Mis.

240-91.

Dated 17-8-1861.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 290. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. HORSLEY, Chief Engineer, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated Chepauk, 31st July 1861, No. 3,347:—

Dated 14th February 1861, No. 270 with two enclosures.
Do. 20th March 1861, No. 495, with one enclosure.
Do. 7th May 1861, No. 35, with one enclosure.
Do. 8th May 1861, No. 41.
Do. 4th July 1861, No. 1,943.
1 Tabular Statement, dated 6th June 1861, No. 198, with four enclosures.
Dated 9th July 1861, No. 453, with three enclosures.
1 Chief Engineer's Proceedings, No. 12,447, dated 25th April 1861.

SIR,

1. There are three subjects in connection with the Seven Wells' water supply, which have recently come before me in letters as per margin, and which I have now the honor to lay before Government for their instructions.

They are as follows:—

(1.) The permanent maintenance of a Smith's establishment.

(2.) The temporary entertainment of a further establishment of Picottah men to work wells additional to those ordinarily drawn, to meet the want of water occasioned by the dryness of the season.

(3.) The proposal to charge the Shipping for water supplied to it, at the same rates as are paid by private parties; the Shipping now paying nothing at all.

2. In the Order of Government in the Military Department, No. 1,887, dated 21st May 1860, the blacksmith and bellows' boy who were attached to the Office of the Commandant of Engineers, and who were always engaged on the Seven Wells works were, under the recommendation of that Officer, reduced.

3. On the 14th February 1861, the District Engineer Presidency reported, in reply to a representation made from this Office in consequence of the charge being still maintained in a contingent bill, that the services of the above workmen are constantly required at the wells, where they are engaged in repairing picottah levers, buckets, and picottahs, putting up bolts and clamps, making and fitting axles and axle boxes, &c., and he was accordingly directed in a letter, No. 12,447, dated 25th April last, to disburse the pay of these men from the balance that was on hand of the sum realized by the sale of water, agreeably to the Orders of Government, dated 3rd April 1838, No. 613, or in the event of his being of opinion that these men should form part of the permanent establishment, that he should forward the usual tabular Statement for submission to the Government of India.

4. It must be remembered that these artificers are not to be obtained at a moment's notice day or night, and that very serious inconvenience would arise in the event of delays taking place in the repair of damage occurring to any of the picottahs.

5. Under these circumstances, I have no hesitation in recommending that the artificers in question be brought upon the permanent establishment of the works, at a monthly cost of Rupees 21 as per margin; and with a view to obtaining the sanction of the Government of India to this increase of establishment, I beg to forward the accompanying tabular Statement in the prescribed form.

	Rs.	A.
1 Blacksmith	17	8
1 Bellows' Boy	3	8
	21	0

(2.) On the 7th May 1861, Lieutenant Tulloch being then in charge of the Office of the Presidency District Engineer, enclosed a letter from Mr. Sub-Engineer Walsh, representing that the four wells which are habitually drawn had run very low, and that in order to afford time for their springs to revive, it was absolutely necessary to have recourse to two further wells, numbers 7 and 8, not in ordinary use and for which no establishments were maintained, drawing merely from the four wells normally in use alternately, viz., two at one time, and he proceeded to explain that the ordinary establishment would not suffice; inasmuch as the wells to be now drawn from had two lifts, whereas those temporarily abandoned had but one, and under all the circumstances it would be necessary, as a temporary arrangement, to entertain twelve additional picottah men at a cost of Rupees 84 per mensem.

6. The case being one of emergency I authorized the District Engineer to employ the extra men, and indeed to take such other steps as might occur to him to ensure the due supply of water from the wells during the hot season.

7. Contingent bills were submitted by the District Engineer to the Civil Auditor, but were of course not passed by him, as the authority of Government was wanted to enable him to audit the amounts. This permission is now solicited as regards the sum of the bills marginally noted, viz., Rupees 76-9-0, and for such further bills as may be submitted for the same purpose while the hot weather lasts.

	Rs.	A.
From 22nd to 31st May 1861	13	9
For June 1861	63	0
Total....	76	9

(3.) The District Engineer forwarded on the 20th March 1861 an Account Current, which showed that the disbursements he was then making for establishments were in excess of his receipts, and his attention was called to the Order of Government No. 613, dated 3rd April 1838, which ruled that the fees fixed for the sale of water were to be subject to augmentation if found inadequate to cover the expenses of working the wells. Lieutenant Tulloch suggested in reply, that in lieu of raising the price of water supplied to private individuals it would, he thought, be preferable to assess those who now pay nothing, putting a fee for instance of 8 Annas a boat load on the water sent to the Shipping, and charging the Arrack Distillery at the same rate as private individuals pay.

8. Such an arrangement he showed would not only cover the expenditure but afford also a small margin to meet unforeseen contingencies.

9. The monthly receipts may, according to the same Officer, be estimated at Rupees 640, and the expenditure Rupees 607 (including the blacksmith and bellows' boy as before proposed) so that the balance monthly would be 33 Rupees. This of course would vary according to the monthly demand, as the Shipping chiefly would probably require far more water at some seasons than at others.

10. The subject of charging the Shipping was referred to the Superintendent of Marine for his opinion, and Government will observe by the accompanying letter from that gentleman, that he sees no objection to such an arrangement. As 8 Annas per mensem is charged to a private individual for an ordinary pot of water throughout the month, that sum was fixed upon as a boat-load to consist of 30 pots.

No. 1,943, dated 4th July 1861.

11. I did not think it necessary to communicate with the Officer in charge of the Arrack Distillery, as I conceived the simple ruling of Government in that case would suffice, whereas in the case of the Shipping I felt that there were interests involved more difficult to deal with, and it was important that the opinion of the Head of the Marine Department should be before Government.

12. Authority therefore is required—

(1.) For the blacksmith and bellows' boy being brought upon the permanent establishment at the Seven Wells, at a monthly charge of 21 Rupees.

(2.) For the Civil Auditor to pass the contingent Bills for extra picottah men for May and June, amounting to Rupees 76-9, and for such further periods as they may be found to be actually required.

(3.) For permission to levy a fee of 8 Annas a boat-load of water consisting of 30 ordinary pots, taken to the Shipping.

(4.) For imposing upon the Arrack Distillery the same charge for water as is paid by private individuals.

No. 291. ORDER THEREON, 17th August 1861, No. 1,571.

1. The Chief Engineer lays before Government four subjects in connection with the Seven Wells' water supply.

I. The permanent maintenance of a Blacksmith's establishment at a cost of Rupees 21 per month.

II. The temporary entertainment of extra Picottah men to work additional wells to meet the present want of water.

III. The proposal to charge the Shipping for water at the rate of 8 Annas for every boat-load of water supplied.

IV. The propriety of charging the Arrack Distillery at the same rate.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th August 1861.

2. The Blacksmith's establishment was originally attached to the Office of the Commandant of Engineers, but was reduced under the orders of Government in the Military Department, No. 1,887, May 21st 1860, at the recommendation of that Officer. But although thus abolished it appears to have been continued in connection with the Seven Wells, and has been paid out of the sum realized by the sale of water. The Chief Engineer, therefore, recommends its permanent entertainment. Colonel Horsley is requested to state whether the work required of this establishment cannot be done by a contract, or by the Mint establishment at a less charge. The apparent contravention for more than a year of the orders of Government abolishing the establishment also needs explanation.

3. It is stated that twelve extra picottah men are required at a charge of Rupees 84 per month, during the present season. Some men have been employed and charged for in contingent bills ; and Colonel Horsley recommends that the bills for the charges incurred on their account, amounting to Rupees 76-9-0, be sanctioned, and also solicits sanction for such further bills as may be submitted for the same purpose. The Government sanction the bills submitted. The continuance of the establishment appears to be unavoidable, for the present. But the Chief Engineer will explain how it is to be met and whether any provision has been made for it in the Budget. The charge will be discontinued at the earliest practicable period.

4. The proposal to charge for water supplied to the Shipping is fair, but the exact rate should be regulated by the cost which Government incur in supplying the water. On this point the papers before Government afford no information.

5. The Chief Engineer also proposes to charge the Arrack Distillery for water supplied to it, at the same rate as is paid by private individuals ; but the Distillery is a Government Department, and no reason is apparent why it alone of all the Public Departments supplied with water from the Seven Wells should be charged in the manner proposed. Colonel Horsley is requested to state roughly what quantity of water is obtained from the wells and supplied to each Department, and the approximate cost thereof. His report should be accompanied by a statement showing in full detail the receipts and charges of the Seven Wells.

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

Central Office P.W.D.

No. 3347 Chepauk. 31st July 1861

From

Lieutenant Colonel W.F. Morfey

Chief Engineer

Public. To

J. D. Sim Esqre

Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Fort St. George.

Sir.

There are three subjects in connection with the Seven Wells Water Supply which have recently come before me in letters, as per margin, and which I have now the honor to lay before Government for their instructions. They are as follows:

1st The permanent maintenance of a Smith's Establishment

The

Enclosures

Dated 11th February 1861 No 270 with 2 Encls:
20th March 1861 No 496 with 1 Do
7th May 1861 No 733 with 1 Do
8th May 1861 No 741
1st July 1861 No 1943
Tabular Statement
Dated 5th June 1861 No 1972 with 4 Encls.
" 9th July 1861 No 1965 with 2 Encls.
Chief Engineer's Do: No 126 dated 25th April

2nd. The temporary entertainment of a further Establishment of Picottah men to work wells additional to those ordinarily drawn to meet the want of water occasioned by the dryness of the season.

3rd. The proposal to charge the shipping for water supplied to it, at the same rates as are paid by private parties, the shipping now paying nothing at all.

2 In the Order of Government in the Military Department No. 1887 dated 21st May 1860, the Blacksmith and Bellows Boy who were attached to the Office of the Commandant of Engineers and who were always engaged on the Sewer Wells works were under the recommendation of that

Officer, reduced

3 On the 11th February 1861 the District Engineer Presidency reported in reply to a representation made from this Office in consequence of the charge being still maintained in a Contingent Bill, that the services of the above Workmen are constantly required at the Wells where they are engaged in repairing Picottah Levers, Buckets and Picottahs, putting up bolts and clamps, making and fitting Axles and Axle Boxes, Vcc., and he was accordingly directed in a letter No. 1247 dated 25th April last to disburse the pay of these men from the balances that was on hand of the sum realized by the sale of water agreeably to the orders of Government dated 3rd April 1858, or in the event of his being of opinion that these men

should form part of the permanent Establishment that he should forward the usual Tabular Statement for submission to the Government of India.

4 It must be remembered that these Artificers are not to be obtained at a moments notice day or night and that very serious inconvenience would arise in the event of delays taking place in the repair of damage occurring to any of the Picottahs -

5 Under these circumstances I have no hesitation in recommending that the Artificers in question be brought upon the permanent Establishment of the works at a Monthly cost of Rupees 21 as per margin, and with a view to obtaining the sanction of the Government of India to the increase of Establishment I beg to

* 1 Blacksmith 17-8-
1 Bellows Boy 3-8-
21-0-

to forward the accompanying Tabular Statement in the prescribed Form.

2nd V On the 7th May 1861, Lieutenant Tulloch, being then in charge of the Office of the Presidency District Engineer, enclosed a letter from Mr. Sub Engineer Walsh representing that the 4 Wells which are habitually drawn had run very low, and that in order to afford time for their springs to revive, it was absolutely necessary to have recourse to 2 further wells. Nos. 7 and 8 not in ordinary use and for which no Establishments were maintained, drawing merely from the 4 wells nominally in use alternately, viz. two at one time, and he proceeded to explain that the ordinary Establishment would not suffice, inasmuch as the wells to be

(New

now drawn from had 2 lifts, whereas those temporarily abandoned had but one, and under all the circumstances it would be necessary, as a temporary arrangement to entertain 12 additional Pioltah men at a cost of Rupees 84 per mensem -

6 The case being one of emergency Sanctioned the District Engineer to employ the extra men, and indeed to take such other steps as might occur to him to ensure the due supply of water from the Wells during the hot season -

7 Contingent Bills were submitted by the District Engineer to the Civil Auditor but were of course not passed by him as the authority of Government was wanted to enable him to audit the amounts - This

permission is now solicited as regards the sum of the Bills marginally noted, viz.t

Rupees 76-9 -, and for such further bills as may be submitted for the same purpose while the hot weather lasts -

3rd D. 6 The District Engineer forwarded on the 20th March 1861 an Account Current which showed that the disbursements he was then making for Establishments were in excess of his receipts and his attention was called to the order of Government No. 1613, dated 3rd April 1838, which ruled that the fees fixed for the sale of water were to be subject to augmentation if found inadequate to cover the expenses of working the wells - Lieutenant Tulloch suggested in reply, that in lieu of raising the price of water supplied to private individuals

from 22nd to 31st May 1861 Rs. 13-9-
For June 1861 " 63-- --
Rs. 76-9-

individuals it would, he thought, be
preferable to assess those who now
pay nothing, putting a fee for instance
of 8 Annas a boat load on the water
sent to the shipping, and charging
the Arrack Distillery at the same
rate as private individuals pay.

8 Such an arrangement he
showed would not only cover the expen-
diture but afford also a small margin
to meet unforeseen contingencies

9. The Monthly receipts may
according to the same Officer be estimated,
at Rupees 640 (including the Black-
smith and Bellows boy as before pro-
posed) and the expenditure Rs 607
so that the balance monthly
would be 33 Rupees. This of course
would vary according to the monthly
demand, as the shipping chiefly

No. 1943 dated
4th July 1861

would probably require far more water
at some seasons than at others.

10 The subject of charging the
shipping was referred to the Superintendent
of Marine for his opinion, and Govern-
ment will observe by the accompanying
letter from that Gentleman that he
sees no objection to such an arrangement.

As 8 Annas per mensem is charged
to a private individual for an ordinary
pot of water throughout the month that
sum was fixed upon as a Boatload to
consist of 30 pots.

11 I did not think it
necessary to communicate with the
Officer in charge of the Arrack
Distillery, as I conceived the simple
ruling of Government in that case
would suffice, whereas in the case
of

of the Shipping I felt that there were
interests involved more difficult to
deal with, and it was important that
the opinion of the Head of the Marine
Department should be before Government.

12. Authority therefore is required:

1st For the Blacksmith and
Bellows for being brought upon the per-
manent Establishment at the Seven
Wells at a Monthly charge of 21 (A)s. ✓

2nd For the Civil Auditor to
pass the Contingent Bills for extra P.
Cottah men for May and June, ~
amounting to Rupees 76.9 "; and
for such further periods as they
may be found to be actually required.

3rd For permission to levy a
fee of 8 Annas a boatload of water
consisting of 30 ordinary pots, taken to the
Shipping.

For

4th For imposing upon the Arrack
Distillery the same charge for water
as is paid by private individuals.

Central Office P.W.
Chepauk.
4th July 1861

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt
Servt

A.B. Smell
Dy Chf Engr (Civil)

Engrossed Sign'd Smell
Chief Engineer

To.
J. D. Sim Esqr.
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.
Fort St. George.

E. H. Stanton

P.W. Dept

No 1571 (1)

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 17th August 1861

Read the following letter from the Chief Engineer

Forwards 3 subjects for the orders of Govt regarding the Seven wells' water supply. — Recd enter 31st July /61 No 3347

The Chief Engr says before Govt four subjects in connection with the Seven wells' water supply

I The permanent maintenance of a Blacksmiths establishment at a cost of Rs 21 per month.

II The temporary entertainment of extra Picottah men to work additional wells to meet the present want of water

III The proposal to charge the shipping for water

P.P. Dept 1861 Aug 17 No 1796 from Chief Engr to Govt

Recd 31 July

Forwards 3 subjects for the orders of Govt regarding the Seven wells' water supply

Dated 30 July 1861

Recd 31st July

Forwards 3 subjects for the orders of Government regarding the Seven Wells Water supply

No 290

"10 Clerks" "Bill"

water at the rate of 8 Annas for every boat-load of water supplied.

IV. The property of charging the Arrack Distillery at the same rate.

2 The Blacksmith's establishment was originally attached to the Office of the Commandant of Engineers but was reduced under the orders of Government in the Military Department No. 1887 May 21st 1860 at the recommendation of that officer - But although thus abolished it appears to have been continued in connection with the Screw wells and has been paid out of the sum realized by the sale of the water. The Chief Engr therefore recommends

(2)

that permanent entertainment - Cob Horsley is requested to state whether the work required of this establishment cannot be done by contract or by the Joint Establishment at a less charge. The apparent contravention for more than a year, of the order of Govt abolishing the establishment also needs explanation.

3 It is stated that 12 extra Picottah men are required at a charge of Rs 84 per month during the present season. Some men have been employed and charged for in contingent Bills; and Col Horsley recommends that the Bills for the charge incurred on their account amounting to

Rupees

Purpose 76-9 be sanctioned, and also solicits sanction for such further Bills as may be submitted for the same purpose. The Govt sanction the 2 Bills submitted. The continuance of the establishment appears to be unavoidable, for the present. But the Chief Engr will explain how it is to be met and whether any provision has been made for it in the Budget. The charge will be discontinued at the earliest practicable period.

5 The proposal to charge for water supplied to the shipping is fair, but the exact rate should be regulated by the cost which

Govt

Govt made no supplying the water. On this point the papers before Govt afford no information.

5 The Chief Engineer also proposes to charge the Arrack Distillery for water supplied to it, at the same rate as is paid by private individuals; but the Distillery is an Govt Dept and no reason is apparent why it alone of all the public Departments supplied with water from the seven wells should be charged in the manner proposed. Colonel Hawley is requested to state exactly what quantity of water is obtained from the wells supplied to each Department and the approximate cost thereof. His report should be accompanied by a

Statement

Statement showing in full detail the receipts and charges of the Sewers and Walls. Meanwhile the question will be referred for the opinion of the Board of Revenue

I. D. N. 1.

To Mr. Esq
Chief Engineer with the Chief Clerk's Office
3 " Accountant's Journals
3 " Cash & Paymaster's

The Seven Wells.

Public Works 1861 Despatch
Pro: of Govt for August

No 1571

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dated 17th August 1861.

From the Chief Engineer
2 Nov 61 C No 2807 in Pro.
No 516 dated 21st March

Chief Engineer's letter
Regarding the 7 wells water
supply, with orders thereon.

Despatch

No 290 & 291