M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair 5-2-43

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2343 Press Mis.

Dated 30-9- 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 30th September 1862.

No. 540. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Military Department, dated 19th September 1862, No. 3,246 :—

Sanctioning the use of granite slabs for flooring the Barracks recently erected for the use of the Horse Battery Royal Artillery at Bellary. } (Vide Military Proceedings, 19th September 1862, Nos: 339 @ 341.)

No. 541. ORDER THEREON, 30th September 1862, No. 2,343.

1. Communicated to the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, for information and guidance.

2. The District Engineer Bellary should be called upon to submit a report of the description of flooring laid down and of the size of the stones used, and whether they were squared or not before being set in chunam. He should also be requested to state why a large description of stone was not used.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Memorandum from the Quarter Master General of the Army, Head Quarters, Otacamund, 6th September 1862, *No.* $\frac{298}{6915}$.

Forwarded to Government for information, with particular reference to paragraph 1.

From the Officer Commanding Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 30th August 1862, *No.* 94; *to the Quarter Master General of the Army, Ootacamund.*

In acknowledging your Memorandum No. 6137, forwarding Proceedings of the Madras Government, in the Military Department, under date the 4th instant, I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, that, on inspecting, shortly after my arrival here, the recently erected temporary* Barracks, for the use of the Horse Battery Royal Artillery, I found the flooring, although the Barracks had only been occupied about three months, in a most disgraceful state of disrepair, rendering the Barracks dusty and uncomfortable for the men. The flooring was composed of uneven stones of every imaginable size and shape, loosely placed, the interstices having been originally filled in, with what evidently must have been inferior chunam, a description of flooring utterly unfitted to the wear and tear of a Barrack Room—and as a consequence, the chunam immediately pulverized and the work became a mere waste of public money.

*So called, built to last eighteen years.

2. Had large square stones neatly fitted, been used, similar to those on the floors of the Infantry Barracks, of which an immediate and abundant supply is obtainable, nothing would have been better or more durable, at the same time combining comfort and perfect cleanliness, and in my opinion superior to any other material to be got at Bellary. I immediately called the attention of the District Engineer to the circumstances above noticed, with a view to his taking immediate steps to remedy the evils complained of, and I respectfully express my hope that the completion of the work may be sanctioned at the earliest possible moment, it being essentially requisite for the comfort of the men of the Battery. I was informed that the necessary improvement could be effected within the amount originally estimated as the cost of these Buildings.

3. There has already been great delay in the Engineer's Department in this matter.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.

Read the following Endorsement of the Acting Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, dated Chepauk, 2nd September 1862, No. 102.

Read the following letter from the Acting District Engineer of Bellary, 28th August 1862, *No.* 188; *to the Deputy Chief Engineer Central Circle.*

In reply to your Extract Proceedings No. 90, dated 23rd instant, regarding the flooring of the Artillery Barracks, I have the honor to report that flooring tiles are not procurable in this District, the cost of carriage of Asphalte would nearly double the original cost, and a flooring of rubble would be necessary on which to spread it. I have no data to show the cost per square of laying Asphalte an inch thick, but am inclined to think that the granite slabs would be cheaper and last longer.

Submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings No. 1993, dated 21st August 1862.

1 *Letter from the Ag. District Engr., Bellary, No.* 188, *dated 28th August* 1862.

(Signed) E. HEMERY, Captain, R. E.,
Ag. Dy. Chief Engr., Central Circle.

ORDER THEREON, 10th September 1862, No. 2158.

Communicated to the Military Department, with reference to the Orders in that Department No. 2792, dated 14th August 1862.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.
Secretary to Government.

ORDER, No. 3246, 19*th September* 1862.

The Governor in Council observes that, under the report of the District Engineer, recorded in the foregoing Proceedings in the Department Public Works, the flooring of the Barracks in question, should be of granite slabs.

2. Referring however to the letter from the Major General Commanding the Ceded Districts, submitted with the Quarter Master General's Memorandum above recorded, Government desire to be informed, how it happened, that "a description of flooring utterly unfitted to the "wear and tear of a Barrack room," was, in the first instance, sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Department Public Works,
" Quarter Master General.

Exd. A. A. DeMonte.

From 1862 Department.
Rec'd of Capt. Forbes Sept.
№ 2896.

Rec'd Madras Government
in the Military Department

Dated 19th Sept. 1862
Rec'd 25-9-62

№ 3246

Sanctioning the use of Granite slabs for flooring the Barracks recently erected for the use of the Horse Battery Royal Artillery at Bellary.

William Ryder

№ 2343 - 30th September

№ 540-541

№ 2343

№ 2343.

Communicated to the Acting Chief Engineer Circle for information and guidance.

2 — The District Engineer Bellary, should be called upon to submit a report of the description of flooring laid down and of the size of the stones used and whether they were squared or not before being set in chunam - He should also be requested to state why a large description of stone was not used.

Chepauk
30th Sept 1862
№ 13 Copies.

The Actg Chief Engr Circle Secy Pro 2d October with 8 Copies of the Military Govt Secy Pro 2d October.

Accountant General - with 1 Copy.

№ 2813.