M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 28

(2) Date of repair 11—11—43

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1383 Press / Mis.

Dated 26 11 1842.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 26th November 1862.

No. 458. Read the following letter from Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Chief Engineer, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 3rd November 1862, No. 3,991.

SIR,

1. In the orders of Government noted in the margin,* the Chief Engineer was called upon to report what attempts had been made to introduce in this Presidency an extended system of contracts as well as the success which may have attended them. District Engineers were accordingly applied to for information on the subject, and the different replies received from those of the Southern Circle have been forwarded to me by the Deputy Chief Engineer.

1 Letter No. 93, dated 16th October 1862, from Lieut.-Col. Ouchterlony.
1 Ditto No. 97, dated 24th October 1862, from ditto with letter from Sir M. Stephenson.
* No. 1,421, dated 20th June 1862.

2. These replies I propose to retain until those of the District Engineers of the Northern and Central Circles are received, in order that the whole may be embodied in one general report, but in the meanwhile I consider it advisable to submit for consideration and orders the letter which Lieutenant-Colonel Ouchterlony has written with reference to his own Circle.

No. 93, dated 16th October 1862.

3. Colonel Ouchterlony reports that the contract system in the Southern Districts has made hardly any progress owing to the want of a proper class of men to undertake the execution of works, and that he has but little hopes of seeing a reliable contract system introduced until an association similar to that advocated by him in March last has been established "either by the Natives alone or in conjunction with Europeans."

In letter dated 28th March 1862.

4. The orders passed by Government on his letter were communicated by Colonel Ouchterlony to Sir Macdonald Stephenson, the eminent Civil Engineer in England, and from the letters received from that gentleman (one of which I enclose) Colonel Ouchterlony is sanguine that if he is permitted to go to England for a short time, he will be able to succeed in prevailing on many influential men of capital to form a Company for the execution of works of every description in this Presidency.

No. 833, dated 25th April 1862.

Vide Colonel Ouchterlony's letter, dated 24th October 1862, No. 97.

5. Colonel Ouchterlony suggests that he be allowed leave of absence for six months with only the furlough pay of his rank in England (300 Rupees per month), and points out that by such an arrangement the State will not be subjected to any extra expense.

6. In their orders above quoted Government expressed their willingness to encourage the proposal to form a Joint Stock Company for the purpose of carrying out works on contract, should it ever come before them in a tangible shape, and considering the many advantages which will without doubt attend the introduction of an efficient system, I think it very desirable that Colonel Ouchterlony should be allowed the six months' leave he has applied for, and I therefore recommend its being granted to him.

7. As respects salary while absent from India, I consider that in addition to such Military pay as Colonel Ouchterlony may be entitled to under the Regulations, he should also be allowed a moiety of his Civil salary. In 1857 Captain Haig was granted his full Military and Civil salary during the time he was engaged examining some of the important lines of river navigation in Europe and America, and seeing that it is on the same general grounds as that Officer was deputed to visit those countries, viz., the interest of the State, that I recommend Colonel Ouchterlony being permitted to proceed to England, I trust that Government will not withhold from him the allowance I have asked for.

Vide Extract Minutes of Consultation No. 945, dated 16th May 1857.

8. The other moiety of Colonel Ouchterlony's Civil salary will of course be available for payment to the Officer who may be appointed to act for him as Deputy Chief Engineer during his absence.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. OUCHTERLONY, R. E., Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Chief Engineer, dated Ootacamund. 16th October 1862, No. 93.

SIR,

1 Letter from District Engineer, Malabar, No. 107, dated 22nd January 1862.
1 Do. from District Engineer, South Arcot, No. 61, dated 31st January 1862.
1 Do. from Acting District Engineer, Tinnevelly, No. 65, dated 14th August 1862.
1 Do from District Engineer, Salem, No. 76, dated 18th August 1862.
1 Do. from Acting District Engineer, Trichinopoly, No. 847, dated 22nd August 1862.
1 Do. from Acting District Engineer, Tanjore, No. 158, dated 25th August 1862.
1 Do. from Acting District Engineer of Madura, No. 549, dated 1st September 1862.
1 Do. from District Engineer of Coimbatore, No. 255, dated 25th September 1862, with two enclosures.

1. With reference to your letter No. 2,526, dated 11th August 1862, I have the honor, in submitting the several reports from the Districts of the Southern Circle upon the working of the contract system, to draw attention to the circumstance that with the solitary exception of Salem no absolute progress appears to have been made in developing it.

2. You will observe that in all the Districts materials are delivered to the Engineer's Department on what may be called "contract," though the arrangement amounts to little more than a sale and delivery, at a fixed price, of manufacture or production. Trifling tank repairs also appear to be pretty generally undertaken on fixed data (chiefly for earth-work) by the head-men of villages, and though this is but a poor instalment of the main desideratum, it is still so far a welcome one; and its extension should be encouraged to the utmost.

3. It will be unnecessary for me to go seriatim through the various valuable papers upon this subject which accompany my present communication, for there is a singular resemblance in all: and all the representations they contain tend to the same conclusion, viz., that there does not exist in the Mofussil a class of men who, whether from the possession of capital, intelligence, enterprize and, I fear it must be added, integrity, are calculated to represent to Government and to the public the "building contractor," in the proper sense of the term, which they so much desire to be aided by in the execution of Public Works.

4. The exception to this generality is, as I have observed, Salem. Here Captain Gahagan appears to have made satisfactory progress, for since the date of his report he has sent me up tenders for three contracts for works of some magnitude,* the estimates amounting to Rupees 21,140; and I shall in confirming the agreements, request Captain Gahagan to show all compatible liberality to the contractors in carrying out the works, in order that they may be encouraged to extend the scope of their undertakings into the adjacent Districts.

* Tullumnel Bridge,	9	arches of 36 feet	..	Rupees	14,300
Undiaputty do.	2	,, of 25	,, ...	,,	3,390
Sultain Shandy	3	,, of 30	,, ...	,,	3,450
				Rupees	21,140.

5. This is the only point which in the existing state of things it seems necessary to urge upon District Engineers, viz., to give every possible and reasonable encouragement to Contractors by endeavouring to *ensure their profiting by their contracts*, and by avoiding, wherever practicable, that system of tying them down to harsh terms of agreement which either frighten good men away, or which induce only those to accept them whose object is chiefly to evade them.

6. At the same time I am free to confess that I have little hope of seeing a real and reliable "contract system" introduced into this country until "associations" for the purpose of undertaking buildings and works upon a large scale can be established either by the Natives alone or in conjunction with Europeans. It cannot be expected that while a Native capitalist can make 24 per cent. per annum by lending his money in the bazaar upon fair security, that he will be content with a precarious return of, at the best, one-half that amount from an undertaking attended with the greatest and most undefined risks and difficulties. Nor could such a person afford—nor would it pay him—to invest money at the outset in "plant" and appliances such as we so much desire to see introduced, because it is by their employment alone that we can hope to see human labor economized, and thereby be able to meet and counteract that most serious evil which seems day by day assuming larger proportions, viz., the gradual and inevitable enhancement of its cost. So long as the present "hand to mouth" system prevails, no progress can be

expected in what may be called the practical engineering of the country; and the Native coolies will go on carrying 40 lbs. of earth on their heads in a basket instead of 400 in a wheelbarrow, or 4,000 in a tramway truck; raising 10 gallons of water from a foundation by a rude picottah when they might raise 100 by a machine-driven pump; and moulding 100 bricks by hand when they might turn out 1,000 by mechanical agency. The consequence to Government is serious: it necessitates the employment, and the consequent expensive supervision of ten laborers where one should amply suffice; and it tends to keep up an undue demand for the very article which of all others is becoming by rapid degrees more scare and more dear in the Southern provinces of India.

7. I have so fully expressed my views regarding the value of associations for undertaking contracts upon a proper scale in a paper which I laid before Government on the 28th March 1862, that I need not here recapitulate the grounds on which I based them.

It may not however be out of place here to state that having remitted to the eminent Engineer in England, Sir Macdonald Stephenson, the order which Government were pleased to pass on that document, under date 25th April 1862, No. 833, I received, at the outset, the most encouraging indications of ultimate success in the formation of a Contract Company. The question was brought by Sir M. Stephenson before the leading Contractors of England, Mr. Brassey, Sir Morton Peto, Mr. Betts, Mr. Wythes, Sir Joseph Paxton, &c., &c., and the project was at first favorably received by those gentlemen, who fully admitted its feasibility and the prospects of profits and success which it exhibited. Subsequently, however, they came to the conclusion (conveyed to me in a letter which I had the honor to submit to His Excellency the Governor) that their own vast undertakings engrossed too much of their time to admit of their devoting any portion of it to the developing of a scheme which they foresaw would demand, at the outset, so much anxious supervision. Sir M. Stephenson nevertheless urges me not to let the question drop; and he expresses his belief that if properly advocated and supported in this country, or by persons from this country, the undertaking might be carried through, and a Company formed in which most of the building capitalists would willingly take shares, some from expectations of profit, some with a view to the introduction of machinery, materials or articles of which they may be manufacturers, and some under the influence of a desire to promote a scheme which, while it promises benefit to a country in which so much interest is now felt in England, holds out a reasonable prospect of successful return because it may be fairly expected to receive every reasonable aid in its development at the hands of the Government.

8. I cannot resist the impression that had I been in London at the time when the subject was under the consideration of Messrs. Brassey, Peto, &c., I could by personal representations have removed the doubts which evidently arose in their minds as to the administrative difficulties likely to beset the undertaking; and I would take this opportunity to request you, if you share my views on this important subject, to lay before Government a distinct proposal that I should yet be authorized to proceed to England (of course at my own expense) for the purpose of attempting the formation of a "Contract Company" before the interest which has been excited regarding it in the minds of men perfectly able, if willing, at once to establish it, has entirely died out.

9. Government would, I beg leave to observe, be no losers, but on the contrary actual gainers, by my absence on such a mission, say for six months thus :—

Lieutenant-Colonel Ouchterlony's pay, &c., in India and salary as Deputy Chief Engineer per mensem	Rupees	1,800
for six months	Rupees	10,800
Lieutenant-Colonel Ouchterlony's pay in England...	Rupees	300
A. B. Acting as Deputy Chief Engineer for Lieut.-Colonel Ouchterlony on half salary only, according to regulation, for six months...	Rupees	400
for six months.....	Rupees	4,200
Profit to Government	Rupees	6,600

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 26th November 1862.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. OUCHTERLONY, R. E., Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Chief Engineer, dated Ootacamund, 24th October 1862, No. 97.

SIR,

1 Private letter, dated 18th August 1862.
* No. 93.

1. With reference to, and in continuation of my letter dated 16th instant,* upon the subject of contracts for Public Works I beg leave to hand you enclosed the last letter received by me from Sir Macdonald Stephenson, dated 18th August 1862, in order that, should you deem it fit to submit my view of the subject for the consideration of Government, they may be in possession of that gentleman's sentiments to a recent date.

2. Sir Macdonald Stephenson's other letters are at Madras and can be submitted if called for.

No. 459. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1862, No. 2,831.

1. Government have already in their Proceedings No. 833, under date 25th April 1862, expressed their disposition to give all due encouragement to an Association formed, as proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel Ouchterlony, for the purpose of contracting for the execution of public as well as private works; and they are ready to admit that its establishment upon sound and legitimate principles, would prove a great benefit to the country.

2. At the same time, however, Government cannot consent to take any overt part in preliminaries which might in any way be held to commit them to a particular course of action in a matter in which the interests of the State are likely to be gravely concerned. Therefore while fully recognizing the importance of the mission on which Lieutenant-Colonel Ouchterlony desires to proceed to England, Government are disinclined to regard it otherwise than a private one, or to authorize his undertaking it on the special grounds adduced in his letter to the Chief Engineer dated 16th October 1862, No. 93.

3. Under however the exceptional circumstances of the case they will not object to grant Lieutenant-Colonel Ouchterlony special leave of absence with retention of appointment for a period of six months, with the English rate of Regimental pay, subject to the pleasure of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India.

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

Southern Circle Office P.W.D.
Ootacamund, 16th Oct. 1862.

No. 93

From

Lieut.t Colonel J. Ouchterlony R.E.
Deputy Chief Engineer S. Circle

To

Colonel W. I. Birdwood R.E.
~~Secretary to Government~~ P.W.D.
Chief Engineer

Enclosures - 10

1 Letter from Lieut. Col. Engr. & Mal. Sahib No. 101 dated 22nd Augt. 62
1 D.o from Lieut. Engr. South Arcot No. 61 dated 31st Augt. 62
1 D.o from Lieut. Engr. Trichinopoly No. 65 of 14th August 1862
1 D.o from Lieut. Engr. Salem No. 76 of 18th August 1862
1 D.o from Asst. Engr. Trichinopoly No. 347 dated 22nd Augt. 62
1 D.o from Asst. Engr. Tanjore No. 158 dated 2nd Septr. 62
1 D.o from Asst. Engr. of Madura No. 549 dated 1st Septr. 62
1 D.o from Asst. Engr. of Coimbatore No. 255 dated 25th Septr. 62 with
2 Sundry Sources -

Sir

With reference to your letter No. 2526 dated 11th Augt. 1862, I have the honor in submitting the several reports from the Officers of the Southern Circle upon the working of the Contract System to draw attention to the circumstance that with the solitary exception of Salem no absolute progress appears to have been made in developing it.

2. You will observe that in all the Districts materials are delivered to the Engineer Officers without contract, tho' the arrangements may be called "contract", the transaction amounts to little more than a sale & delivery, at a fixed price, of manufacture or production.

Tripling tank repairs also appear to be pretty generally undertaken on fixed data (chiefly for earth work) by the Head-men of Villages, & tho' this is but a part instalment of the main desideratum it is still a far welcome one; & they cannot be encouraged to the utmost.

3. It will be unnecessary for me to go seriatim thro' the various valuable papers upon this subject which accompany my present communication, for there is a singular resemblance in all: & the representations they contain tend to the same conclusion, viz.: that there does not exist in the Pro-

-fessional

a class of men who whether from the possession of capital, intelligence, enterprize &c – I fear it must be added, integrity are calculated to represent to Govt. & to the Public the 'Building Contractor' in the proper sense of the term, which they I conceive to be called by in the execution of Public works.

4. The exception to this generality is as I have observed Salem. Here Capt. Gahagan appears to have made satisfactory progress, for since the date of his report he has sent me up tenders for 3 contracts for works of some magnitude*, the Estimates amounting to —— Rs 21,140. and I shall in confirming the agreements request Capt. Gahagan to shew all compatible liberality to the Contractors in carrying out the works, in order that they may be encouraged to extend the scope of their undertakings into the adjacent districts.

5. This is the only point which in the existing state of things it seems necessary to urge upon the Director Engineer; viz. to give every possible & reasonable encouragement to Contractors, by endeavouring to ensure their profiting by their contracts, by avoiding, wherever practicable, that system of tying them down to harsh terms of agreement which either frighten gentlemen away, or which induce only those to accept them whose object is chiefly to evade them.

6. At the same time I am free to confess that I have little hope of seeing a "real reliable" Contract System" introduced into this country until "Associations" for the purpose of undertaking building & works upon a large scale, can be established either

* Tellicherry Bridge – Q. and Masonry @ 36/ —— Rs 14,300.
Workshops &c. – " 25/ —— " 3390.
Lettuvum Masonry – 3 —— 30 —— " 3450.
Rs 21,140

by the natives alone or in conjunction with Europeans. It cannot be expected that while a native capitalist can make 24 per cent per annum by lending his money in the bazar upon fair security, that he will be content with a precarious return of, at the best, one half that amount from an undertaking attended with the greatest amount of undefined risks & difficulties. No one could such a person afford – nor would it pay him – to invest money at the outset in "plant" & appliances such as we so much desire to see introduced, because it is by their employment alone that we can hope to see human labor economized, & thereby be able to meet accumulative cost which seems day by day assuming larger proportions, viz. the gradual & inevitable enhancement of its cost. So long as the present "hand to mouth" system prevails no progress can be expected in what may be called the practical engineering of the country; the native coolie will go on carrying 40 lbs of earth on their heads in a basket (or 4000 in a tramway truck), instead of 400 in a wheelbarrow, & raising 10 gallons of water from a foundation by a mule Dacottah when they might raise 100 by a machine driven pump; & moulding 100 bricks by hand when they might turn out 1000 by mechanical agency. The consequence to Govt. is ruinous: it necessitates the employment, & consequent expensive supervision of 10 laborers where 1 should amply suffice; it tends to keep up an undue demand for the very article which of all others is becoming by rapid degrees more scarce & more dear in the Southern provinces of India.

7. I have so fully expressed my views regarding the value of Associations for undertaking Contracts upon a proper scale in a paper which I laid before Govt. in the 28th March, 1862, that I need not here recapitulate the grounds on which I based them.

It may not however be out of place here to state that having remitted to the eminent Engineer in England, Sir Macdonald Stephenson, the order which Govt. were pleased to pass on that document under date 25th April 1862, No. 833, I received, at the outset, the most encouraging indications of ultimate success in the formation of a Contract Company.

The question was brought by Sir M. S. before the leading Contractors of England, Mr. Brassey, Sir Morton Peto, Mr. Betts, Mr. Wythes, Sir Joseph Paxton &c &c, the project was at first favorably received by those gentlemen, who fully admitted its feasibility the prospects of profit &c which it exhibited. Subsequently however they came to the conclusion (conveyed to me in a letter which I had the honor to submit to H. E. the Governor) that their own vast undertakings engrossed too much of their time to admit of their devoting any portion of it to the developing of a scheme which they foresaw would demand, at the outset, a most anxious supervision. Sir M. Stephenson nevertheless urges me not to let the question drop, & he expresses his belief that if properly advocated & supported in this country, or by persons from this country, the undertaking might be carried thro', & a Company formed in which most of the building Capitalists would willingly take Shares, some from expectation of profit, some from with a view to the introduction of machinery, materials or articles

of which they may be manufacturers, some under the influence of a desire to promote a scheme which while it promises benefit to a country in which so much interest is now felt in England, holds out a reasonable prospect of successful return because it may be fairly considered to receive reasonable aid in its development at the hands of the Govt.

8. I cannot resist the impression that had I been in London at the time when the subject was under the consideration of Messrs. Brassey, Peto &c, I could by personal representations have removed the doubts which evidently arose in their minds as to the administrative difficulties likely to beset the undertaking; & I would take this opportunity to request you, if you share my views on this important subject, to lay before Govt. a distinct proposal that I should get be authorized to proceed to England (of course at my own expence) for the purpose of attempting the formation of a "Contract Company" before the interest which has been excited regarding it in the minds of men perfectly able, & willing, at once to establish it, has entirely died out.

9. Govt. would I beg leave to observe be no losers, but on the contrary actual gainers, by my absence on such a mission, say for 6 months: thus

Lt. Colonel C.'s pay &c in India & Salary as Dy. Chief Engineer - per mo. Rs. 1800. for 6 months —	Rs. 10,800
Lt. Colonel C.'s pay in England -	Rs. 300
A. B. acting as Dy. Chief Engr. for Lt. Colonel C. on half salary only, according to regulation for 6 mos. " 400. for 6 months —	" 4,200
Profit to Government	Rs 6,600.

Sir I have the honour to be
Your most obedient Servant
J. Hawkshaw
Deputy Chief Engr. S. Levels

Gen. Order 3d Nov. 1862
No 391.

Copy in a letter to England
dated 10th January 3d
of 1863.

Office
82 Montgomery Place
Brooklyn Aug 18 1862

Major Duane
Chief Engineer

Dear Sir

I send herewith for the information of the Department a statement of the operations of the Battery Gregg, at Pea Patch Island, Delaware Bay, during the bombardment of Fort Sumter, and the condition of the Fort at the present time.

Shortly after the bombardment of Fort Sumter commenced, I was directed by the Secretary of War to proceed to Pea Patch Island and to examine the condition of the defences there, and to report what was necessary to be done to put the Island in a state of defence.

Pursuant to these instructions I visited the Island, and found that the only defence was a small Battery of Sand Bags, mounting four guns, which was entirely inadequate to the defence of the Island.

I therefore recommended the construction of a Battery of Earth, and the purchase of the necessary guns and ammunition for the same.

Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Wm. H. Benthuysen
Major Engrs

Endorsements

Lt Col. J. Duane Chief Engr
Dft Chief Engr

Lt Col. W. H. Benthuysen
Chief Engineer

Dft

Dated 16
Recd 23 } October 1862

No 93

Encl 10.

Submits with opinion, letters from the Dist. Engineers of the Southern Circle reporting upon the working of the Contract System.

You should send home
some specific enquiries
Reports, or papers bearing
on the subject, and such
would therefore be much
required, and calculations
of present cost of establishment
of work in the Presidency, that
a comparison could be made
with those made here. - Your
estimates shewing the
actual cost of Materials
Labour, and the prices
likely to be for the executive
for Govt. or for other works.
in case a detail or specific

guidly established, either
as a public C- or as a
private to, among a limited
number of people - and in
either case should be adopted
table for joint demand. It
is desirable for some months
at least to make the Com-
mencement, and initiate
whatever contracts with
mysterious of Indian trading
practices, which have
hitherto so many pounds
of influence from the Court Home

No 97

Southern Circle Office
Ootacamund 24th Oct. 1862.

From

Lieut.t Colonel J. Richterlony R.E.
Deputy Chief Engineer Southern Circle

To

Lieut.t Colonel W. J. Birdwood R.E.
~~Secretary to Government~~ P.W.D.
Chief Engineer,

Sir,

With reference to, his continuation of my letter dated 16th inst. upon the subject of Contracts for Public works I beg leave to hand you enclosed the last letter received by me from Sir Macdonald Stephenson dated 18th Aug.t 62, in which that, I should [illegible] it fit to submit my view of the subject for the consideration of Govt., they may be in possession of their sentiments to a recent date.

I have &c.

J. Richterlony
Lt. Col. Dep. Chief Engr. S. C.

Sir M. S.'s other letter are at hundred I can be submitted if called for.

+ P. 93.

To Govt Secretary No 3991.

Send over these details as soon as you can, and let me know the result of anything can be done in anticipation - but if you have already taken the initiation, or made any progress in this line, I shall probably have to put before such as to you, I shall Regards from Yours Macdonald Stephenson

For Copy in a letter to England dated 18th January P.W.D. 3301/62

Central Office of P. W.

No. 3991 Chepauk 3rd November 1862

From.

Colonel W. J. Birdwood R.E.

Chief Engineer D. P. W.

Public

To,

The Secretary to Government,

Public Works Department

Sir,

In the orders of Government noted in the margin, the Chief Engineer was called upon to report what attempts had been made to introduce in this Presidency an extended system of Contracts as well as the success which may have attended them. District Engineers were accordingly applied to for information on the subject, and the different replies received from those of the Southern Circle have been forwarded to me by the Deputy Chief Engineer.

No. 1421 dated 20th June 1862.

2 These replies I propose to retain until those of the District Engineers of the Northern and Central Circles are received,

W

Copy of G.O. 3rd Nov/62 No. 3991 Chief Engineer's letter dated 10th January 1863.

Read

Letter from Deputy Chief Engineer Southern Circle dated 28th October 1862.

Read

Letter from Superintending Engineer Trichinopoly dated 30th October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Tanjore dated 24th October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Shiyali dated 29th October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Coimbatore dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Dindigul dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Trichinopoly dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Vellore dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Cuddapah dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Bellary dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Salem dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Trichinopoly dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Coimbatore dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Dindigul dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Vellore dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Cuddapah dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Bellary dated 31st October 1862.

Read

Letter from Executive Engineer Salem dated 31st October 1862.

Read

in order that the whole may be embodied in one general report, but in the meanwhile I consider it advisable to submit for consideration and orders the letter which Lieutenant Colonel Ouchterlony has written with reference to his own Circle. No 93 dated 16th October 1862.

3 Colonel Ouchterlony reports that the Contract System in the Southern Districts has made hardly any progress owing to the want of a proper class of men to undertake the execution of works, and that he has but little hopes of seeing a reliable Contract System introduced until an association similar to that advocated by him in March last, has been established "either by the Natives alone or in conjunction with Europeans." In letter dated 28th March 1862

4 The orders passed by Government on his letter were communicated by Colonel Ouchterlony to Sir Macdonald Stephenson the eminent Civil Engineer in England, and from the letters received from that Gentleman (one of which I enclose) Colonel Ouchterlony No 833 dated 25th April 1862. Vide Colonel Ouchterlony's letter dated 21st October 1862 No 97.

is sanguine that if he is permitted to go to England for a short time, he will be able to succeed in prevailing on many influential men of Capital to form a Company for the execution of works of every description in this Presidency.

5 Colonel Ouchterlony suggests that he be allowed leave of absence for 6 months with only the Furlough pay of his rank in England (300 Rupees per month), and points out that by such an arrangement the state will not be subjected to any extra expense.

6 In their orders above quoted Government expressed their willingness to encourage the proposal to form a Joint Stock Company for the purpose of carrying out works on Contract, should it ever come before them in a tangible shape and considering the many advantages which will without doubt attend the introduction of an efficient system, I think it very desirable that Colonel Ouchterlony should be allowed the six months leave he has applied for, and

I

I therefore recommend its being granted to him.

As respects Salary while absent from India, I consider that in addition to such Military Pay as Colonel Ouchterlony may be entitled to under the Regulations, he should also be allowed a moiety of his Civil Salary. In 1857 Captain Haig was granted his full Military and Civil Salary during the time he was engaged reexamining some of the important lines of river Navigation in Europe and America, and seeing that it is on the same general grounds as that Officer was deputed to visit those Countries, Viz.t. the interest of the State that I recommend Colonel Ouchterlony being permitted to proceed to England I trust that Government will not withhold from him the allowance I have asked for.

Vide Extract Minute of Consultation No. 945 dated 16th May 1857.

The other moiety of Colonel Ouchterlony's Civil Salary will of course be available for payment to the Officer who may be appointed to act for him as Deputy Chief Engineer during his absence.

Central Office of P.W.D.
Chepauk 3rd November 1862

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servt.

Colonel R. E.
Chief Engineer D.P.W.

To,
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department.

Compd. by Peones

Examined

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

No. 2831.

Dated 26th Novr/62.

Read the following letter from the Chief Engineer.

2831

Recommending for reasons assigned that Capt. Colt Duchler. = long Dy Chf Engr Sn No 6 may be permitted to proceed to England for 6 months with a view to adopting measures for the forming of a Company to undertake work in this Country on Contract

} Ft. 3rd Novr/62 No. 3991

Read the Proceedings of Govt No 833 under date 25 April 1862 & Agreeably to their instructions As all due encouragement should be given to speculation formed as proposed by Capt Colt Duchler for the purpose of contracting for the execution of public as well as private works, and they are ready to adopt such steps as shall seem best upon sound & legitimate

Dy Chf Engr Sn No 6 Ft. 3rd Novr/62 No. 3991

Colonel A. J. Boldero Chief Engineer &c &c

Chief Engineer Dept. Public Works

Dated 3rd Novr/62 Rec'd 4th Novr/62 No. 3991

Recommending for reasons assigned that Capt Colt Duchler Dy Chief Engineer 6th Circle may be permitted to proceed to England for 6 months with a view to adopting measures for the forming of a Company to undertake works on Mrs Country on Contract

No. 2831 - 26th November.

Proc. 16th May 1857 No. 50-51
" 25th April 1862 - 401-402
" 20th June " - 422-423

Copy in a letter to England dated 10th January No. 2 for 1863

Copy in a letter to England dated 10th January No. 2 for 1863

No. 4538.

Ch. 18th Nov. Rd. 20th

Princess would prove a great benefit to the Country.

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obt Servt

Jos E Johnston

Brig Genl

Hon Geo W Randolph
Secy of War
Richmond Va

16th October 1862 No 93.

Under the peculiar circumstances of the case they will not object to Colonel Richardson's application for leave of absence with permission to apply for a period of six months with the privilege of applying for an extension of the same, subject to the approval of the Hon the Secretary of War.

J E J

7 Copies.
2 To the Adjt Genl &c Disp: 27th
3 To Genl Pemberton
7 To Genl Bragg

28

Copy sent to Sellers, Esq.
Dated 10th January No. 2 of 1863.

P.W. 1862 Depts
Rec: of Govt. for Nov.
No. 2831.
Rec: of the Govt.
Dated 26th Nov. 1862

Rec'd 1st Chief Engr. 29 Dec. 62
Dec. 62 C.P. 3658 in Rep.
Rec'd Engr. & S.C. Dft. 6th April 63
C.P. 999 in Rep.

No. 458-459

Rec'd 18th Nov. 1862 No. 20