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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	<u>362</u>	Press Mis.
Dated	<u>6-2</u>	18 <u>42</u> .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th March 1862.*

No. 59. Read the following Endorsement of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Chepauk, 20th February 1862, No. 10,750.

Read the following letter from Captain G. V. WINSOM, District Engineer Tinnevely, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Shadikhan Chuttram, 17th January 1862, No. 250 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for the information of the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, a letter received by me from Messrs. Cocq & Co., Contractors for 2½ miles of the Cotton road near Tuticorin, requesting three months extension of the period for completing the work on which they are engaged.

2. Messrs. Cocq & Co.'s contract expires on the 31st March 1862.

3. Should the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, approve of the proposed extension, I believe that according to law a totally new contract must be drawn up, to commence from 1st April 1862.

4. I beg to recommend that the extension be granted, because the contract papers were not approved by the then Chief Engineer until 22nd October 1861, when nearly six months of the official year had passed.

Vide Proceedings No. 6,270. Although Messrs. Cocq & Co. commenced the work in July last on my request, they were naturally unwilling to incur any great expenditure, till the Chief Engineer approved of the contract.

5. Furthermore, the difficulties they have had in procuring labor have been much greater than was anticipated. The Cotton trade at Tuticorin has this year given employment to an unprecedented number of hands; and as the laborers much prefer working in the screw houses under cover, to being all day in the sun on the roads, and as the Merchants were comparatively regardless of the remuneration given to men working under them so long as their Cotton was speedily ready for the Liverpool market, it may easily be credited both, that labor for the road was scarce, and that more has been paid by Messrs. Cocq & Co. than the rates allowed.

6. This is the first large contract taken by Contractors of any kind; and if loss be sustained by Messrs. Cocq & Co. now, I fear it will be very difficult to get men to come forward for the future. They will be very timid in so doing.

7. Moreover, I believe, the contract was taken by Messrs. Cocq & Co. more as a public spirited act, than from any real expectation of making money by the business, and I therefore think that this is another reason why the terms of the contract should not be strictly enforced.

8. Requesting to be favored at an early date with the instructions of the Secretary to Government on the subject.

1. Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Proceedings No. 2,114, dated 14th November 1861.

Letter, No. 15, dated 1st February 1862.

1 Letter from District Engineer, No. 250, dated 17th January 1862, with one enclosure.

1 Letter from Government Pleader, No. 15, dated 1st February 1862.

2. As the Government Pleader is of opinion that an extension of time may be granted to a Contractor, for the completion of his contract, either by letters or Memorandums, without entering into a fresh contract, the District Engineer has been directed to accede to Messrs. Cocq & Co.'s request for an extension of time (viz., from the 31st March 1862, to 30th June 1862) to complete the 2½ miles of the Trunk Cotton road leading

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(th March 1862.*

into Tuticorin, under the circumstances represented by Captain Winscom; and the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, trusts that his proceedings will meet with the approval of Government.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel,
Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle.

No. 60.

ORDER THEREON, 6th March 1862, No. 362.

The Proceedings of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, as reported in this letter are approved.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

N^o 250

Sincerely, Robert Engineer's office
Shadisham Chatham 17th January/62

Sir

Captain G. V. Winscom
District Engineer
Sincerely

Sir

The Deputy Chief Engineer
D.P.W.
Southern Circle
Madras

Sir

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Secretary to Government D.P.W. a letter received by me from Messrs. Coeg & Co, contractors for 2½ miles of the Colton Road near Tuticorin, requesting 3 months extension of the period for completing the work on which they are engaged -

2. Messrs. Coeg & Co's Contract expires on the 31st. March 1862 -

3. Should the Secretary to Government D.P.W. approve of the proposed extension, I believe that according to law, a totally new contract

Contract must be drawn up, to commence from 1st April 1862.

4^o. I beg to recommend that the extension be granted, because the contract papers were not approved by the then Chief Engineer until 22nd October 1861, when nearly six months of the official year had passed. Although Messrs. Coeg & Co commenced the work in July last on my request, they were naturally unwilling to incur any great expenditure, till the Chief Engineer approved the Contract. Vide Proceedings No. 6270.

5^o. Furthermore the difficulties they have had in procuring labor have been much greater than was anticipated. The Cotton trade at Antioch has this year given employment to an unprecedented number of hands; and as the laborers much prefer working in the Leno houses under cover, to being all day in the sun on the Roads, and as the Merchants were comparatively regardless of the remuneration given to men working under them so long as their cotton was speedily ready for the Liverpool Market, it may easily be explained that labor for the Road was scarce, and that more has been paid

by Messrs. Coeg & Co than the rates allowed by 6. This is the first large Contract taken by Contractors of any kind, and if left to continue by Messrs. Coeg & Co now, I fear it will be very difficult to get men to come forward for the future. They will be very timid in so doing.

7. Moreover I believe the Contract was taken by Messrs. Coeg & Co more as a public spirited Act, than from any real expectation of making money by the business, and I therefore think that this is another reason why the terms of the Contract should not be strictly enforced.

8. Requesting to be favored at an early date with the instructions of the Secretary to Government on the subject.

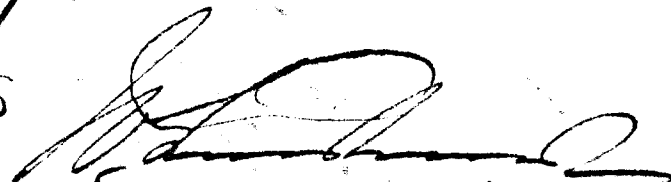
I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedient Servant.
Cestmouin Captain
District Engineer
Singapore.

the approval of Government.

Dy. Ch. Sup. Office
Dy. (Kefauli)

20th Feb 1862 S

 Colonel
Dy. Ch. Sup. Office

To

Lt. Col. H. A. Horsley
Ch. Sup. & Secy. to Govt. P.W.D.
Fort St. George

10002

14th Nov 1861 to 193-194.

Public Report 1862, Dept. of
Interior for March.

Vol. 1, p. 352.
Col. H. J. Chandler
By. G. H. App. 1862
a report. H. J. Chandler
Chapman, 1862

Case 920
Dec 21st Oct. 1862.

1862-5 March 1862.
Encl: 3. A. Chandler & Co.

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The proceedings of the

Deputy Chief & Mr. J. C. Smith as reported
in the letter are approved.

1862-5 March 1862

W. W.

13 June 1862

The Chief & Mr. J. C. Smith as reported
in the letter are approved.