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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1486Press
~~Mis.~~220-221Dated 10 - 6 - 1863.Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th June 1863.*

No. 220. Read the following letter from Captain O. W. S. CHAMBERS, R. E., Superintending Engineer 1st Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Waltair, 16th May 1863, No. 24:—

Sir,

No. 2,670 of 6th November 1862. 1. In pursuance with the orders of Government as per margin, I beg to report on the system in existence in No. 1 Circle of carrying on operations in this Department by means of advances.

2. At the Godavery considerable progress has been made towards discontinuing the system.

3. In five Ranges out of eight, advances to a small extent are still paid, but only when the work is remote from the homes of the workmen, and these small advances are generally liquidated in a week's time. As a rule Government are almost invariably in debt to their work-people.

4. In two Ranges the cessation of making advances has been successful; in the third, where their issue has also ceased, difficulty in obtaining labor has obtained, but this is expected gradually to right itself.

5. Major Stoddard anticipates that the advance system will gradually die out in the Godavery; at present what keeps it alive is the fact that large advances are made in the District for the works carried on by Captain Haig up the river.

6. As to the so-called advances made for the purchase or manufacture of stock, Major Stoddard thinks that their discontinuance would be very inexpedient, and, in this opinion, I fully agree with him.

7. Without large stocks of lime, stone, &c., on hand at a central dépôt the progress of works in the Delta would be slow in the extreme, and it should not be forgotten that nine-tenths of these materials being imperishable no risk whatever is run by keeping them on hand.

8. Major Stoddard reports that of the 28,922 Rupees outstanding as noticed by Government in their Order of the 22nd September No. 2,266, five-sevenths were for operations in the stone and lime quarries and one-seventh was an advance made by order of Government for constructing the Paumben Tug, whilst of the remainder not one Rupee was on account of advances made to workmen.

9. In the Vizagapatam District no advances whatever are given as a rule to workmen, though in one special case, the attempt to make the Galikondah Ghât, this rule was departed from.

10. Workmen were hired in the plains on monthly pay and were started off to the hills each with two blankets and a trifling sum of money; Government has been a trifling loser by this arrangement as many of the men, stricken by fever, deserted before working out the value of the cumblies.

11. With respect to the preparation of materials in the Vizagapatam District, small advances on this account are universal, but their amount is always covered by adequate security.

12. They are discouraged as much as possible, but the contractors being on a very petty scale, without capital, cannot supply materials without assistance in the shape of an advance of money.

13. In the Ganjam District Captain Philipps reports "that the custom of giving advances has long ago been discontinued in that District."

No. 221. ORDER THEREON, 10th June 1863, No. 1,486.

Ordered to lie over with reference to Proceedings dated 29th May 1863, No. 1,374.

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

that of the 28.9.22. & outstanding as
noticed by Government in their Order
of the 22nd September No 2266, 5/4 were for
operations in the stone and lime quar-
ries and 1/4 was an advance made by
Order of Government for constructing
the Paumotu lagoon, whilst of the remainder,
not one Rupee was on account of
advances made to workmen.

9. In the Vija gap at the District
no advances whatever are given as
a rule to workmen, though in one
special case, the attempt to make
the Galikondabhat, this rule was
departed from.

10. Workmen were hired
in the plains on monthly pay and
were started off to the Hills each with
2 Blankets and a trifling sum of money.
Government has been a trifling loser
by this arrangement as many of the
men, stricken by fever, deserted before
working out the value of the blankets.

11. With respect to the
preparation of materials in the Vija gap
District, small advances on this account

are increased, but their amount is always covered by adequate security. They are discouraged as much as possible, but the contractors being on a very petty scale, without capital, cannot supply materials without assistance in the shape of an advance of money.

13. In the Ganjam district Captain Phillips reports "that the custom of giving advances has long ago been discontinued in that District."

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Yours most obedt

W. Chamberlain Capt. N. 8
Superintg. Engr. I. Div.

Advances.
N. 8
Superintg. Engr. Office
Madras
16 May 1863.
Capt. W. C. Chamberlain R.E.
Superintg. Engr. I. Div.
Colonel W. B. Birchwood R.E.
Secretary to Government
Public Works

1. In pursuance with the orders of Government as per margin, I beg to report on the system in existence in the works of carrying on operations in this Department by means of advances.
2. At the present time considerable progress has been made towards discontinuing the system.
3. In 3 Ranges out of 8, advances to a small extent are still paid, but only when the work is remote from the homes of the workmen, and these small advances are generally liquidated in a week's time. As a rule Government are almost invariably in debt to their work people.
4. In 2 Ranges the cessation of making advances has been successful

successful; in the third, where this issue has also ceased, difficulty in obtaining labor has obtained, but this is expected gradually to right itself.

5. Major Stoddard anticipates that the advance system will gradually die out in the future; at present what keeps it alive is the fact that large advances are made in the District for the works carried on by Captain Haig up the River.

6. As to the so-called advances made for the purchase of manufactures of stock, Major Stoddard thinks that their discontinuance would be very inexpedient and, in this opinion, I fully agree with him.

7. Without large stocks of lime, stone, etc on hand at a Central Depot the progress of works in the Delta would be slow in the extreme, and it should not be forgotten that 9/10 of these materials being imperishable no risk whatever is run by keeping them on hand.

8. Major Stoddard reports

Per 1st January 1861. 1011 12.
a 12th Sept. 1862 1386-387
a 6th Jan. 129-131

1568. 1569.
Per 1st Sept for 1860.

From 7.0/559.

The Superintending
Engineer 1st Div.

The Secretary to
Government D.P.W.

Dated 16th
May 1863
Received 1863

W. B. C. Nelson

Reports on the system
in existence in No 1
Circle of carrying on
operations in this district
by means of Advances.

1863-1486-10th June

With an order
Ld

X:87

Encl. 10th June 1863

1863-1486-10th June 1863

Order to be sent with reference to the following

1863-1486-10th June