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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 27 24

Press
~~Mis.~~

411-412

Dated 19- 9-

1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th September 1864.*

No. 411. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 7th September 1864, No. 1,031:—

SIR,

1. Referring to G. O. No. 2,489, 29th ultimo, I have the honor to observe that I am using my best endeavours to extend the system of contracts.

2. I would point out that all earthwork, preparation of material and conveyance to the work spot are done by contract in this Division.

3. Some years ago a good beginning was made in inducing people to undertake the entire construction of small buildings, tunnels, &c., but when expenditure was reduced, the works were suddenly stopped by the local Officers, although in many cases advances had actually been made; there has been very great trouble and loss in endeavouring to collect these outstanding sums, as my previous reports will have shown.

4. But, in my opinion, far more injury was done by the summary stoppage of work, amounting, as I believe, to a breach of contract by the Government Officers; it has shaken the confidence of all who were inclined to undertake any work.

5. I beg further respectfully to point out that G. O. No. 2,282 of 9th August 1864, tends very much to increase this feeling of insecurity. On receiving the Budget, Major Paxton advertised for tenders, and has made contracts for the execution of work to nearly the amount of his allotment, having reserved only a small sum for contingencies.

6. I have not acted upon the G. O. so far as to cancel any portion of his contracts. I am very doubtful as to the legality of such a procedure. I have applied to the Collector for his concurrence in the transfer of the whole amount, 3,000 Rupees, sanctioned for the salt road from Coolasyarapatam to Odend-goody, and of Rupees 1,034 from the 3,000 Rupees sanctioned for widening the road to the Vypar Salt platform, and I propose to address Government as soon as I receive Mr. Silver's reply.

7. The Satur bridge was exceedingly important, and I proceeded with its construction under authority of G. O. No. 381 of 6th February 1864, and reported the further requirement of funds in my statement of 20th May.

No. 412.

ORDER THEREON, 19th September 1864, No. 2,721.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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19th Sept/64 }

1864 Report
Pro. of Govt. for Sept.
1864
From 7. 4000.
The Supg Engineer
8th Division

The Secy to Government
O. W. D.

Dated 7th September 1864
Recd 12

2724-19th Sept 64

Proposes for the reasons
assigned to transfer the 4030
for the completion of the
Batter Bridge in the Town:
nely District from the ab:
Calthen made for certain
salt roads instead of from
the sum sanctioned for the
road from Palameddah
to Sathir.

7. 411. 412

12. 5 Sept 1864 O. W. D.

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