M.R.O. 1—77,066—8-6-81.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press Mis.
Dated	18 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 12. Read the following letter from Captain H. L. PRENDERGAST R. E., Officiating Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 19th February 1864, No. 2,564:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
8 Bills.				
1 Original letter with its enclosures.				
A. D. No 417, clearing deposits and sundry repairs to the masonry works of the Arkencottah Channel		2,049	15	6
Do. 418, do. do. Thadapilly do. ..		2,999	14	4
Do. 419, Improving and extending Arkencottah Channel		3,202	14	1
Do. 420, do. do. do.		1,551	2	11
Do. 421, do. do. do.		380	11	0
Do. 459, do. Thadapilly do. ..		7,837	15	9
Do. 460, do. do. do.		12,665	9	3
Do. 461, do. do. do.		3,915	3	2

Sir,

1. I have the honor to submit for the consideration and orders of Government, the enclosed Bills noted in the margin, for works executed in the Coimbatore District, together with a letter from the Superintending Engineer 7th Division, and its enclosures.

2. Paragraph 3 of Colonel Walker's letter alludes to certain modifications to be made in Estimates, and in the Budget entries for 1864-65, regarding which also the orders of Government are necessary.

From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to Lieutenant-Colonel C. V. WILKIESON, R. E., Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts, dated Coonoor, 21st January 1864, No. 9.

Sir,

1. I have the honor to submit for the sanction of Government the undermentioned Bills of Coimbatore District, viz:—

		Rs.	A.	P.	
1.	Clearances and sundry repairs to Arkencottah Channel	2,049	15	6	With letter from Mr. Overseer Hamnett, No. 84 of 12th December 1863.
2.	Do. Thadapilly do.	2,999	14	4	
3.	Improving and extending Arkencottah Channels, 1862-63	3,202	14	1	With letter from Mr. Overseer Hamnett, No. 86 of 12th December 1863.
4.	Do. do. 1st quarter, 1863-64 ...	1,551	2	11	
5.	Do. do. 2nd do.	380	11	0	
6.	Improving and extending the Thadapilly Channel, 1862-63	7,837	15	9	With letter from Mr. Overseer Hamnett, No. 85 of 12th December 1863.
7.	Do. do. 1st quarter, 1863-64, ...	12,665	9	3	
8.	Do. do. 2nd do.	3,915	3	2	

2. The letters which accompany them will explain the grounds of my original objections to these Bills; and all I have to add is that although Mr. Hamnett has cleared himself in my mind from improper practice beyond continuance of former lax usage as regards appropriation of money sanctioned for masonry repairs, to mere clearances, which latter I do not doubt his having judiciously made, yet I have grave doubts as to the propriety of continuing work on obsolete Estimates, by which the Executive agent does not pretend to be guided, and the previous outlay on which it is out of any one's power now to check.

3. I propose therefore that the Estimates to which Bills Nos. 3 to 8 relate, be considered as cancelled from the end of the current official year, and that I be allowed to submit revised Estimates for the work remaining to be done. There will remain unspent at least Rupees 6,000 out of the aggregate sanction of Rupees 29,500, of this year; and in lieu of the entries made by me in the Budget of 1864-65 I would now substitute for:—

	Rs.
Improving Arkencottah Channel	5,000
Do. Thadapilly do.	20,000

P. S.—I think it as well to forward for your inspection the original of item No. 7 of this letter, which was first sent up for my signature. It shows how very difficult it must be to make up Bills in the Superintending Engineer's Office from the Range vouchers.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer 7th Division.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st March 1864.

No. 13. ORDER THEREON, 1st March 1864, No. 613.

1. With this letter the Officiating Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts submits for sanction Bills for certain repairs and improvements that have been carried out to the Arkencottah and Thadapilly Channels in the Coimbatore District.

2. Captain Prendergast should have briefly specified the reasons which preclude him from passing these Bills. The Government would then be in a better position than it now is to comment on the explanations submitted by the local Officers.

3. From Mr. Overseer Hamnett's reports on the improvement and extension of the Channels in question, it appears that it is now found impracticable to enter accurately in the Bills, which are in the new form, the expenditure incurred on each item of work in previous years when station books in the form necessary for the preparation of Bills in the new form were not in use. The Government is willing to admit the difficulties represented, seeing that the works were commenced in 1855, but it is not clear why the new form of Bill has been insisted on in the case of these works. The Chief Engineer's Standing Circular No. XXXVII, dated 16th August 1861 distinctly provides that "Bills in the new form should be submitted only for works *commenced from and after* 1st *May* 1861, and that for works commenced prior to that date, but "not completed by the 30th April 1861, Bills in the old form may be prepared." Under these instructions it would have been sufficient to accept Bills in the old form for the Thadapilly and Arkencottah works; but as they have been prepared in the new, the Controller is authorized to pass them.

4. In regard to the Bills for the clearance of deposits and sundry repairs to the masonry works in the Channels, the Controller will be requested to report the nature of the objection taken to them. The irregularity to which Colonel Walker refers in paragraph 2 of his letter dated 21st January 1864, No. 9, requires some explanation. It is observed that the Estimates were duly sanctioned by the Deputy Chief Engineer of the Circle, and, as the Government supposes, from a particular source.

5. Referring to the Estimates upon which the improvements to the Channels are being carried out, Colonel Walker remarks that he questions the propriety of the continuance of operations on "obsolete" Estimates, and he proposes to cancel them after the expiration of the current official year, revised Estimates being prepared and submitted for work remaining to be done. It is observed however that only as recently as the 20th* October 1862, revised Estimates were prepared and submitted by the late Colonel Ouchterlony for the entire project, and as the portion of the work that had been finished up to that period must then have been ascertained, it can hardly be said that operations are now in progress on "obsolete" Estimates. The Government will not object, however, to the course suggested by the Superintending Engineer, as he considers it the most satisfactory arrangement.

* Procs. of Govt. 7th November 1862, No. 2,681.

6. The Budget for 1864-65 having been closed and printed, the alterations in the allotments for that year in the case of the works now under notice cannot be made, but the Superintending Engineer will after the close of the current official year report what re-distribution he would propose of those allotments.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts,
with original Enclosures.
» Accountant General,
» Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

Exd. T. Dunn.

Office of the Controller and
Audr of P.W. Accounts
Madras 19th February 1864

No. 2564

From
Captain T.L. Prendergast R.E.
Offg Controller and Audr of P.W. Accounts

To
Colonel C.A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the consideration and Orders of Government, the Enclosed Bills noted in the margin, for works Executed in the Coimbatore District, together with a letter from the Superintending Engineer 7th Division and its enclosures.

5 Bills
Original letter
& Enclosures

A.D.H.°

417	Clearing Deposits and Sundry Repairs to the masonry work of the Arrekencottah channel				2049-15-6
418	Do	Do	Thadapilly	Do	2999-14-4
419	Improving & Expending Arrekencottah Channel				3202-14-1
420	Do	Do	Do		1551-2-11
421	Do	Do	Do		380-4-0
459	Do	Thadapilly	Do		7887-15-9
460	Do	Do	Do		12665-9-3
461	Do	Do	Do		3915-3-2

2. Para 3 of Colonel Walker's letter alludes to certain modifications to be made in Estimates and in the Budget

Budget entries for 1864/65, regarding which
alls the Orders of Government are neces-
sary.

Office of the Contr.
and Audr of P.W. Accts
Madras 19th Febry 1864

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Sts

H. W. Brendergast Captn R.E.

Offg Controller and Auditor
of P.W. Accounts

To
Colonel C.A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Pro.: 7th Novr 1862 Pp 151-152
" 15th Decr " 280-281.
" 11 " 1863 301-302

No 1864 Duplt
Pro.: of Gibt for March
from No 740
The Offg Comr and
Audr Genl of Accts
To
The Secy to Govt of Inda
Dated 19th
Rec? 20th Febry 1864
814 No 2564

Submitting for
the orders of Govt the Bills
for works executed in
the Coimbatore Dis-
trict.-

No 12

No 613-1st March 1864.

Estimates for the work [illegible] —

Here will [illegible] and [illegible] of the aggregate [illegible] of the [illegible] would now substitute

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Nannetti's reports ~~subsidiary~~ on ~~the Bridges~~ for the improvement & extension of the Channels in question, it appears that it is now found impracticable to enter accurately in the Bills, which are in the new form, the expenditure incurred on each item of work in previous years when ~~the forms~~ of Station Bills ~~required to be~~ in the form necessary for ~~kept up to admit of~~ the ~~new~~ preparation of Bills in ~~that~~ form were not in use. The Government is willing to admit the difficulties represented, seeing that the works were Commenced in 1885, but it is not clear why the new form of Bill has been insisted on in the case of these works. The Chief Engineer's Standing Circular No XXXVII d/ 26 Augt. 01 distinctly provides that "Bills on "the new form should be "submitted only for works "Commenced from & after 1st "May 01, & that for works "Commenced prior to that date, "but not Completed by the "30th April 01, Bills in the old "form may be prepared." Under these instructions it would have been sufficient to accept Bills in the old form for the Thadeseley & Kirkencobank works - but as they have been prepared in the new, the Controller is authorized to pass them.

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Referring to the Estimates upon which the improvements to the Channels are being carried out, Col. Walker remarks that he questions the propriety of the Contemnance of operations on obsolete Estimates, & he proposes therefore to cancel them after the expiration of the

Current official year, revised Estimates being prepared & submitted for work remaining to be done. It is observed however that only as recently as the 20th Oct 62, revised Estimates & Progress Reports for 1862-1863 were prepared & submitted by the Lake Coch Auchterlony for the entire project, & as the portion of the works that had been finished up to that period much then have been ascertained, it can hardly be said that operations are now in progress or obsolete Estimates. The Govt will not object, however, to the course suggested by the Supg Engr as proposed & he considers it the most satisfactory arrangement.

The Budget for 1864/5 having been closed & printed, the alterations in the allotments for that year in the case of the works now under notice cannot be made, but the Supg Engr will after the close of the current official year report what re-distribution

he would propose of those allotments.

1/
The Secy & Under Secy PW Office with 13 Original Enclosures
" Acctt Genl
Supg Engr
Dated 2nd March

P. F. 1864 Dept
P. W. of Govt. for March
No. 613
P. W. of the Collector
Dated 1st March 1864

Further Ct No. 2894 of
1864

Submitting for
Sanction Bills for
certain repairs and
improvements that have
been carried out to the
Arkamottah and
Thadapilly Channels
in the Coimbatore Dist.

No. 12. 13