

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair 20-10-12

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3390	Press
528-529	~~Mis.~~
Dated 25-11-	1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
25th November 1864.*

No. 528. Read the following letter from Captain J. MULLINS, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department of Public Works, dated Madras, 8th November 1864, No. 142:—

SIR,

To Agent No. 256, 28th September.
From do No. 1,734, 5th November, with Chief Engineer's No. 976, 29th October.

1. In continuation of my letter No. 135 of the 27th ultimo, I have the honor to submit the further correspondence as per margin, regarding Bowanassy station buildings.

No. 781 of the 19th September.
Proceedings Madras Government, No. 2,887, 6th October.

2. The Chief Engineer, in the letter as per margin, stated (paragraph 7) that every addition to the Bowanassy buildings had been made on plans previously sanctioned by Government, and he adds "this is depicted as persistent practice in incurring unauthorized expenditure." When looking over the accounts at the time of drafting the letter, which transmitted to Government the letter from Colonel Cotton just referred to, I was surprised to find that no expenditure on buildings at Bowanassy was shewn in the Progress Reports between August 1863 and March 1864, and as, when I was at Bowanassy in June, there were rather extensive permanent Workshops under construction, I wrote for information. In reply the Chief Engineer informs the Agent that the "saw mill" is charged to the work done by it."

3. I have no accounts from which to ascertain what the expenditure upon these Workshops has been, but I have asked the Agent for a copy of the plan and estimate, which when received will be forwarded for the information of Government, but in the tabulated Statement printed in the Order No. 2,887, above quoted, there will be seen an item amounting altogether to Rupees 716-10-4, and called "repairing ground and shed for six P. P. engine and saw mill," which perhaps was the beginning of the expenditure, either on the permanent buildings or on temporary ones used, pending the completion of the former. I should say the buildings which I saw would be likely to cost at least between 3,000 and 4,000 Rupees.

4. It is proceedings such as those now brought to notice which occasion so much trouble, and render it necessary to ask for information regarding every item of expenditure which is not fully explained in the accounts. The other day Letter No. 137, dated 4th November 1864.

Construction to Stores and Plant, the information I submitted shewed that out of Rupees 1,01,293 the total expenditure up to the end of August 1864, under the latter head, Rupees 50,763* had been expended without the previous sanction.

* This includes however Store charges not requiring previous sanction.

of indents. It is very possible that some of the expenditure under the head of Manufacture of Stores, which includes the manufacture of various articles required for sanctioned works, cannot well be previously sanctioned on indent, and were any attention paid to the rules, where conformity thereto is neither difficult nor inconvenient, and were prospective wants distinguished, as they are required to be, from immediate requirements, no blame would attach to the Company's Officers with respect to a wilful neglect of the regulations. In the present instance, which is a notable case in point, a great deal of additional trouble is involved in the course followed, or rather such would be the case, were the Chief Engineer's expressed intentions carried out, for the debit to work performed, for years to come, of its share of the cost of the buildings, would occasion an amount of accounting for which there is not the least necessity, and to carry out which would be a waste of time and money. I have but little doubt, judging from the many instances which the accounts exhibit of unadjusted expenditure, that the cost of these buildings would remain undebited to work for an indefinite time, and be the occasion of a large amount of useless correspondence.

No. 529.

ORDER THEREON, 25th November 1864, No. 3,390.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

N^o 946

Madras No. 1000 & Co.
Chief Engineer's Office
November 29th October 1864

From
Colonel H C Cotton
Chief Engineer

To J H Henderson Esq.
Agent, and Manager
Madras

I have the honor to reply to Captain
Muller's letter of the 28th September 1864, in which
he states that the four
small boats of the Government, as well
the expenses of the passengers, charged to
the Government but it

I have the honor to
Signed H C Cotton
Chief Engineer

N^o 1734
Forwarded in reply to the Consulting Engineer
N^o 256, of 28th September 1864.

Madras
5th November 1864 Chief Acct^y pro Agent & Manager absent
on duty

To The Consulting Engineer
M I & Co.

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Consulting Engineers Office,
Irrigation & Canal Co.
Madras 28 Sept. 1864

No. 256.

From, Captain J. Mullins A.C.
Cons. Eng. for I. & C. Co.
To, The Agent and Manager
Madras Irr. & C. Co.

Sir,

I have the honor to regret that you will be good enough to ascertain from the Chief Engineer on what occasion the new workshops at Pawanassery are under construction, as I observe from the progress reports that no expenditure is shown against such works between August 1863 and March 1864, and yet, if I mistake not, very considerable expenditure has been incurred during that time. The buildings to which I refer were about being roofed in June last, and the steam engine & circular saw table &c. were located in one position.

I have &c. &c.
Signed J. Mullins R.E.
Cons. Eng. for I. & C. Co.
Wh. Mullins Captain R.E.
Cons. Engineer for Irrigation & C. Co.

none after April
except on stones.

Received 11/12/85
20/11/85

1864

From Agent & Manager
No. 1, 2, 3, 4

To Consulting Engineers
No. 1, 2, 3, 4

Dated 15th November 1864

Received 11/12/85

Chief Engineer 11/12/85

24/11/85

that the claim is valid

the receipt of the work

made to the charges

to the work done by it

Consulting Engineer's Office,
Suez Canal Company
Madras, 8 November 1864

N^o 142

Sir,
Captain, J. Mullins, R.E.
Consulting Engineer, S.C.C.
The Secretary to Government,
Department of Pub. Works.

In continuation of my letter N^o 135 of
the 27th ultimo, I have the honor to submit the sum-
mary of the correspondence as per margin regarding Bow-
anassy Station Buildings.

2. The Chief Engineer in the letter as per margin
states /para. 7/ that every addition to the Bowanassy
buildings had been made on plans previously sanc-
tioned by Government and he adds "This is despite
as persistent practice in incurring unauthorized
expenditure". - When looking over the accounts at
the time of drafting the letter which transmitted
to Government the letter from Colonel Cotton just
referred to, I was surprised to find, that no expendi-
ture on buildings at Bowanassy was shown in the
Progress Reports between August 1863 and March
1864, and as, when I was at Bowanassy in June, -
there were rather extensive permanent workshops
under construction, I wrote for information - In
reply the Chief Engineer informs the Agent that
the "saw-mill" is charged to the work done by it.
3. I have no accounts from which to ascertain
what the expenditure upon these workshops has been,
but

Dec 2/64

Subsided in a letter N^o 14
of the 8th Nov 64
from the Agent

29/11/64

but I have asked the Agent for a copy of the Plan and Estimate, which when received will be forwarded for the information of Government, but in the tabulated Statement printed in the order No. 2887 above quoted, there will be seen an item amounting altogether to Rupees 716-10-2 and called Repairing ground and shed for six P.P. Engine and Saw Mill, which perhaps was the beginning of the expenditure either on the permanent buildings or on temporary ones used, pending the completion of the former. I should say the buildings which I saw would be likely to cost at least between 3,000 and 4,000 Rupees.

4. This proceedings such as those now brought to notice which occasion so much trouble, and render it necessary to ask for information regarding every item of expenditure which is not fully explained in the accounts. The other day in acting Letter No. 137 of 4th Nov. Government to transfer one lac from Construction to Store and Plant, the information I submitted shewed that out of Rupees 101,293 the total expenditure up to the end of August 1864 under the latter head, Rupees 50,763 had been expended without the previous sanction of Government. This is very possible that some of the expenditure under the head of Manufacture of Stores, which includes the manufacture of various articles requires for sanctioned works cannot well be previously sanctioned on Government and were any attention paid to the Rules, where conformity thereto is neither difficult nor inconvenient, and were prospective wants distinguished, as they are required to be, from immediate requirements, no blame

blame would attach to the Company's Officers with respect to a wilful neglect of the regulations. In the present instance, which is a notable case in point, a great deal of additional trouble is involved in the course followed, or rather such would be the case, were the Chief Engineer's expressions intentions carried out, for the debit to work performed, for years to come, of its share of the cost of the buildings, would occasion an amount of accounting for which there is not the least necessity, and to carry out which would be a waste of time and money. I have but little doubt, judging from the many instances which the accounts exhibit of inadequate expenditure, that the cost of these buildings would remain undelivered to work for an indefinite time, and be the occasion of a large amount of useless correspondence.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Whitcomb & Co. Captain,
Cons. Eng. for S.H. Comp.

Ed. Proctor.

Oct 1864 2889

Call 200/85m

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