

(1) Number of pages 12(2) Date of repair 18-11-42

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	1226	Press Mis.
Dated	6-5	18 65.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
6th May 1865.*

No. 144. Read the following letter from Captain J. F. FISCHER, R. E., late Executive Engineer, Bellary, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 11th April 1865, No. 2,991 :—

SIR,

Enclosure 1.

1. With reference to the statement in paragraph 2 of G. O. of the 28th February last, No. 560, I beg to observe that of the items therein entered only one building, No. 1, has been constructed according to the design, for which an estimate, amounting to Rupees 5,460, was *originally* sanctioned, and the rates for which I revised, also making a slight deviation in the slope of the roof to admit light and to ventilate the building thoroughly; but as regards the other two items, the *original* estimates for these should not have been entered in this statement, inasmuch as these were framed for designs which were altogether set aside as affording very insufficient accommodation; by the orders of Government, I then prepared fresh designs both for the Married Men's and Non-Commissioned Officers' quarters with estimates amounting respectively to Rupees 17,810 and Rupees 15,190, and it is for these that Captain Moberly has submitted revised estimates amounting to Rupees 26,024 and Rupees 22,149, or an increase of 46 per cent. in either case above those I framed, and which, considering the great rise of prices at that station, I respectfully submit is not very great.

2. I cannot enter into a detail account of the cause of this increase, as I have not sufficient data before me to go upon, but one cause of the great increase was the providing Teak for Nugger wood; a further increase was caused by the Estimate-maker making a mistake in the dimensions of the reepers, these in the original paper in the Office were calculated to be 5' 6" x 2" x 2" but he made them 5' 6" x 2" x 1". The buildings had to be constructed on sloping ground of such inclination that the raising and filling in the basement cost much more than the estimate provided for, and in August last the walls of these buildings having no roofs on them were exposed to a very heavy fall of rain which did considerable damage; taking all these circumstances into consideration with the rise in prices, as also the fact that the items of my estimates have not been disputed, except in the instance mentioned by me above, I trust the Government will no longer consider I was wilfully careless in attending to my duties at Bellary.

3. I beg to take this opportunity to forward a copy of my letter to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, furnishing the information called for by Government in G. O. of the 10th January last, No. 66, paragraph 3, I have therein suggested that whilst providing the Artillery Barracks with Nugger or Teak wood roofs the existing Palamyra roofing might be removed and used for the Married Men's and Non-Commissioned Officers' quarters, as the spars for these latter buildings are so much less than that of the Barracks. Before concluding I must, however, point out that it is absolutely necessary to make arrangements for purchasing the timber in Mysore at once and for floating it down the Toongabuddra, otherwise the freshes of the river will be lost for another season.

No. 145. ORDER THEREON, 6th May 1865, No. 1,236.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 13.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

N^o

Office of the Controller of
Public Works Accounts.
Madras 14th January 1865.

From Captain J. F. Friches R.E.
late Executive Engineer, Bellary.
To Captain A. S. Maberly R.E.
Supg. Engineer, 3rd Division.

Sir,

With reference to para. 3 of G.O. of the 10th January 1865 N^o 66, I beg to report that when these Barracks were ordered for construction I reported to the late Central Office that it was impossible in an inland District like Bellary to get palmyra rafters of sufficient length for a space of 20 feet, a few might have been obtained with difficulty but to roof in 3 large ranges of Barracks the trees could not furnish the required number and I then suggested a roofing similar to that recently adopted for the Reading room and Library attached to the European Regiment should be put up.

2. I was told in reply that no other timber but palmyra would be sanctioned and I must proceed with the erection of these Barracks without troubling the Central Office again: there was then no alternative but to roof the Buildings as well as we could

could and the best palm-leaf was selected for the Barracks. I regret to say I do not agree with you that the chief cause of leakage is that the joistings of these rafters rest in the middle of the wall and I do not find after carefully looking at several Buildings about Saint Thome's that the usual practice even down here where palm-leaf trees are in such abundance and of such superior quality is to carry the feet of the rafters much beyond the walls, on the contrary the plan adopted at Bellary is usually practised here as far as I have been able to observe.

3. The leakage down the walls of these Barracks was caused I submit from the manner in which the chunam border was laid along the eaves by the native bricklayers: when executing this work in passing over one of the valleys a small piece of broken tile was laid across it and the chunam laid over this, in its moist state this of course choked the outlet of the valley and the border then acted much like a catch-draw. I had the whole of these removed in all the Buildings in Bellary before I left, a flat tile was laid extending from ridge to ridge and the chunam border laid in top

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of this so as to leave the outlet of the valley perfectly free and even before I came away the leakage down the walls was no longer complained of. I do not consider any other leakage can be stopped except by putting the common country date leaf mats over the course of flat tiles as carried out by me in repairing the roof of the E. Battery guard house apparently with perfect success as mentioned in your letter to Government of the 15th ultimo No. 157 parav. 9. On the rough exterior of a roof much of such uneven materials as palm-leaf wood this one course of flat tiles is insufficient to keep out the rain altogether it is very inexpedient to put on any more courses of these tiles as that adds so much to the weight of the materials on the roofs, as indeed the mats as before mentioned; they are in themselves almost water-proof and their weight is quite insignificant.

4. Should it be determined to take off the roof of these Barracks, they to suggest the timbers in them might be used in the married men's Quarters now constructing for the Artillery as in these rooms the space is not more I think than 16 feet; but at present there is no timber at

at all in Bellary to make up a permanent roof with and it is absolutely necessary to take steps to purchase the wood now in the Mysore or other adjacent territories so as to have it ready to float down the Tungabhadra during this year's freshes.

5. I beg to point out the section of the roof exhibiting a Ventilator and referred to in parav. 3 of your letter is incorrect - the upright supporting the roof of the Ventilator should be perpendicular to the tie-piece from the inner side and not the other side of it. The roof of the building is then carried well up with the Ventilator and the roof this latter extended beyond and I never heard any complaints of the rain coming in. If the panes of glass are taken out of the back ventilators a great deal of light will be excluded from the Barrack rooms and the Ventilation which is now so complete very much impeded as the men will keep the proposed wooden shutters entirely closed especially

at night time.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servt.

Respectfully,
Lieut. J. F. Richmond Captain R.E.

Controller of P.W. Accounts.
Late Executive Engineer Bellary

(True Copy)

Mr. F. K. K. K. K.

R.E.

Office of the Controller of
J. W. Accounts
Madras 11 April 1865

N^o 2991.

From
Captain J. F. Fischer P.R.
Late Executive Engineer
Bellary

To
Colonel G. A. Orr P.R.
Secretary to Government M.D.
Fort Saint George

Sir With reference to the statement
in para 2 of G.O. of the 28 February last N^o 560
I beg to observe that of the items therein
entered only one Building N^o 1 has been con-
sidered according to the design for which an
Estimate amounting to Rupees 5460 was
originally sanctioned and the rates for
which I revised also making a slight
deviation in the slope of the roof to ad-
mit light and to ventilate the Building
thoroughly; but as regards the other two
items the original Estimates for these
should not have been entered in this state-
ment, inasmuch as these were framed
for designs which were altogether set
aside as affording very insufficient ac-
commodation, by the Orders of Government.
I then prepared fresh designs both for the
married men and Non-commisined Of-
ficers Quarters with Estimates amount-
ing respectively to Rupees 17,810 and
Rupees

Enclosure One.

Enclo: in a letter from the
Controller of M.D. to the
Capt. J. F. Fischer P.R.
to G.O. of the 28 Feb 1865
N^o 2991.

22/2/65

Explain why the
rates could not be held
for the Artillery Bn.
- recall at Bellary with
others on the same of
the leakage of these Bn's
- memo.

22. 6. May 1865. J. W. Accounts.

Rs 15,790 and it is for these that Cap.
tain Moberly has submitted revised Es-
timates amounting to Rs 26,024 and
Rs 22,149, or an increase of 46 per
cent in either case above those I framed,
and which considering the great rise of
prices at that station I respectfully sub-
mit is not very great.

2. I cannot enter into a de-
tail account of the cause of this increase
as I have not sufficient data before me to go
upon but one cause of the great increase
was the providing Teak for Nigger wood.
a further increase was caused by the
Estimate maker making a mistake in
the dimensions of the Reapers, these in the
original paper in the Office were cal-
culated to be 5'6" x 2" x 2" but he made
them 5'6" x 2" x 1". The Buildings had
to be constructed on sloping ground of such
inclination that the raising and filling in
the basement cost much more than the
Estimate provided for and in August last
the walls of these Buildings having no
roofs on them were exposed to a very
heavy fall of rain which did considerable
damage, taking all these circum-
stances into consideration with the rise
in prices as also the fact that the items
of ^{my} Estimates have not been disputed
except in the instances mentioned by

me above I trust the Government will
no longer consider I was wilfully careless
in attending to my duties at Bellary.
3. I beg to take this oppor-
tunity to forward a copy of my letter
to the Superintending Engineer 3rd Division
furnishing the information called for
by Government in G.O. of the 10th January
last N^o 66 para 3 I have therein suggested
that whilst providing the Artillery Barracks
with Nigger or Teak wood roofs
the existing palamara roofing might be
removed and used for the Married Men's and
Noncommissioned Officers Quarters as the
spoil for these latter Buildings are so
much less than that of the Barracks.
Before concluding I must however point out
that it is absolutely necessary to make
arrangements for purchasing the timber
in Mysore at once and for floating it
down the Tungabhadra otherwise the
fishes of the river will be lost for
another season.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your Most Obedt. Servt.

W. H. Nichol Captain R.E.

Controller of M^{rs} Accounts
Late Sd. Engineer Bellary

To The Secretary to Government
Bombay

28th July 1815 02.566
10th Aug - " - 66.

28th July 1865 02.566
10th Aug - " - 66.

From
The Controller of Works
to the Secy to Govt. Mr. W. J. W.
1865
Dec 1/23

28th July 1865
10th Aug - " - 66.

From as to the reason of the
variation between the 18th
and the 18th of the 18th
with copy of a letter to the
Subj. - Aug 3 - 66 in the
Subj. - Aug 3 - 66 in the
Subj. - Aug 3 - 66 in the

Start 81 82 83 84
6th Aug 1865

28th July 1865

Received

28th July 1865

28th July 1865 02.566

28th July 1865 02.566