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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2418	Press
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Dated 19-8	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

9/11

No. 676. Read the following letter from Captain J. F. FISCHER, R. E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madras, 11th August 1865, No. 959 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to paragraph 12 of Captain Moberly's letter, printed with G. O. of the 26th July last, No. 2,154, I
Enclosures 4. beg to point out it appears from it, that

by Sapper labor alone the work of raising the Goontah, Bund, and Calingulahs, the former one yard, and the latter half a yard, can be executed for Rs. 5,000, the entire work, as I proposed to execute it, is also estimated to cost Rupees 9,700; we may therefore assume that this latter, if executed by Sappers alone, will cost Rupees 7,000, allowing for "the additional height and distance;" deducting, then, from these estimates the 10 per cent. for sundries and superintendence, and Rupees 2,500 for materials, the proportion for Sapper labor, as compared with that of Wudders, will be as 3-8 : 6-23. From paragraph 10 of the same letter, it appears Lieutenant Pennefather estimated the cost of Wudder labor at four times that of Sappers, as calculated by me, and which I explained in paragraph 8 of my letter to you of the 20th April last, No. 3,035. Captain Moberly makes no attempt to controvert the statement, I therein made, as regards the task-work executed by the Sappers, he appears to abstain from all reference to it; but as it is the main point at issue, I beg to forward letters from Lieutenant Pennefather to me, in which he admits a Sapper's task per diem is three cubic yards: thus in two instances, in this and in the rates allowed for burnt-stone work by me and also used by him, substantiating the correctness of my data.

2. I beg very respectfully to solicit the Government would allow this matter some re-consideration. I forward a voucher for the month of April last, showing the cost and numbers of the Sappers employed on this work for that month: according to this document the cost per diem was, for twenty-five working days, Rupees 8-8-0; had the men been continued at the work as in this month, they would have completed it in 98½ days, and the cost for the Sappers would have been Rupees 837-4-0. The earth-work required for the old tank, according to the revised estimate, would be about 4,000 cubic yards, and the same detachment could complete this in 24 days, at a cost of Rupees 204, making the total cost for earth-work Rupees 1,041-4-0; materials are to cost Rupees 2,500, according to the same estimate, and allowing Rupees 1,000 for tamping and Rupees 458-12-0 for sundries, the grand total, by their own data for the entire work, then amounts to Rupees 5,000. It would appear there is only one Company of Sappers at Bellary at present, when I was there we had a detachment of 25 men besides; but I am not aware if these have been taken away; I calculated, however, on having their services. It will be seen from paragraph 6 of Lieutenant Pennefather's letter of the 1st June last, that up to that date they had not been able to get Wudders; and from paragraph 2 of his letter of the 7th ultimo, it appears the separate records for the Sapper's work were not kept till June last, as

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19th August 1865.*

to none having been kept prior to November last, there was no occasion for it, as the

* And were paid by me, individually, on an abstract prepared and furnished by their Commanding Officer.

Sappers were employed almost exclusively on the Goontah works,* and regularly distributed into parties for excavating, blasting, lifting stones, &c., and the num-

bers required for each entered into the Senior European Non-Commissioned Officer's Note book by me, and on this requisition Captain Rose made his arrangements for the employment of the men.

No. 677.

ORDER THEREON, 19th August 1865, No. 2,418.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 39.

Recorded, with reference to the Proceedings of Government, No. 2,357, dated 14th August 1865.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts, with four Enclosures.

Pro. 2: May 1/65 \$100.00
 26 July 1/65 65.62
 3 Aug 1/65 89.90
 6 14 1/65 35.75

9th 1868 Depe
Pro. of Govt. for August
From - 2999
The Controller of W.
Accounts.
The Secretary to
Government. D.W.

Dated 11th ~~~~~ August 1865.
Recd. 12 ~~~~~
No. 959

Submits further
observations on the work
to the Goostak and
Supply channel and
respecting the value of
sapper labor employed
thereon.

no. 2418 - 19 Aug 1965

2418

Delivered with reverence to

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the American Society of the History of the United States

14 August 1865

La Camera del Principe

with S. L. George 201
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