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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2871	Press
673-674	Mis-
Dated 28-9-	18 65

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department;
28th September 1865.*

No. 673. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Military Department :—

Approving of a Moat Apparatus being substituted
for the Pump used for lifting water for the
Horses of the D Battery, D Brigade Royal } (Here enter 22nd September 1865, No. 3,547.)
Artillery at Bellary,

No. 674. ORDER THEREON, 28th September 1865, No. 2,871.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 45.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division, who will take measures for providing the Moat Apparatus in anticipation of the necessary funds being allotted later in the year.

2. A regular estimate of the cost of the work should be submitted without delay.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division:
.. Controller of Public Works Accounts.
.. Military Department.
.. Accountant General.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

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MILITARY DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following papers:—

Memorandum from the Quarter Master General, Head Quarters, Ootacamund, 13th September 1865, No. $\frac{533}{9024}$; to the Secretary to Government, Military Department, Fort Saint George.

Forwarded to Government. The Commander-in-Chief recommends that the Pump referred to be substituted by an ordinary Moat Apparatus. The former was put up under local sanction, to avoid the annoyance of the means previously adopted, but it has disappointed expectation.

From the Officer Commanding Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 15th August 1865, No. 92; to the Quarter Master General, Ootacamund.

2. I have the honor to enclose copies of three letters as per margin, relative to the Pump put up at the Well lately constructed for the use of the Artillery.

- A. Letter from Captain Henegan, Commanding D. Battery, Royal Horse Artillery.
- B. Letter from Colonel Falls, Commanding Royal Artillery, Ceded Districts.
- C. Letter from the Executive Engineer.

2. The difficulties experienced in having water thrown up by the means of the Pump, are detailed in the letters marked A and B.

3. I have personally witnessed the operation of filling the trough, and can vouch for the work being most trying and laborious.

4. The Executive Engineer, (enclosure C) remarks that (only) eight Sappers were able less than an hour, to fill the trough, whereas it requires no less than thirteen Horse-keepers to do the same in two hours and a half. The Sappers are strong, able-bodied men, whereas the Horse-keepers are generally old and feeble men to whom the task is extremely hard.

5. Screws and Nuts have been removed as mentioned by the Executive Engineer, and pieces of wood, &c., substituted, but by whom and when, cannot be discovered now, though there is a Horse-keeper always on duty at the Well. The upper part of the Pump has in consequence become less firm than it should be; yet this alone does not, in my opinion, account for the fatigue and labour experienced by the men in using it.

6. The Native aversion to the introduction of any thing new in supersession of the more simple and rude methods in use amongst them is well known, and this feeling might be found doubly strong in such ignorant men as Horse-keepers; yet I believe that their objection to the Pump really arises from the toil it requires, in men of their weak frame, to work it. The Pump was not I believe provided expressly for this Well, but being here, the Executive Engineer put it up.

7. I would, therefore, under the circumstances mentioned, recommend that the usual Moat Apparatus may be substituted, though at the cost of Rupees 300 as stated by the Executive Engineer.

From the Officer Commanding Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 8th September 1865, No. 109; to the Quarter Master General, Ootacamund.

With reference to docket, No. 474, from the Quarter Master General, relative to the erection of a double action Pump at the Well in the Bellary Lines, the enclosures will show the circumstances under which the Pump was put up.

From the Executive Engineer, 1st Class, Bellary, 13th May 1864, No. 223; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts.

In the event of Government sanctioning a new watering trough being constructed at the Grass-cutters' Well for the use of the Artillery Horses at this Station, I have the honor to request, you will be good enough to inform me, if there would be any objection to employing the Lascars and Horse-keepers to work a double action Pump at the Well to fill the trough. There is a very good Machine of this description in the yard, and if it were set up for use, as I now propose, much of the annoyance and inconvenience now experienced in drawing water would be avoided.

From the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 16th May 1864, No. 211; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts, Bellary.

In returning the accompanying letter, No. 223, dated 13th instant, from Captain Fischer, 1st Class Executive Engineer, I have the honor to state that, should Government sanction a new

watering trough at the Grass-cutters' Well, there would be no objection to Horse-keepers being employed to work the double action Pump.

A.

From the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 21st June 1865, No. 286; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts, Bellary.

I have the honor to request, that a Moat Apparatus may be erected as early as possible, at the Horse-keepers' Parcherry Well, for drawing water for Horses of D Battery, D Brigade Royal Horse Artillery. The Pump at present in use requires so much labor, that the Battery is unable to keep it at work.

B.

From the Officer Commanding Royal Artillery, Ceded Districts, Head Quarters, Bellary, 11th August 1865, No. 392; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts.

In reply to your letter, No. 1099 of the 9th instant, I have the honor to state, that the Officer Commanding D Battery, D Brigade Royal Horse Artillery, reports

1st.—That it takes thirteen Horse-keepers to work the Pump at the Horse-keepers' Well, and 2½ hours to fill the trough.

2nd.—That the Battery is now thirteen Horse-keepers short of its proper complement, ten have been wanting for some time, the other three have been absent since they received pay on the 9th instant; the former vacancies have been filled up by men of late E Battery, 23rd Brigade Royal Artillery, who have returned to this Station from Oosoor and Bangalore.

3rd.—That working this Pump is such heavy work, and so much disliked by the Horse-keepers, they constantly absent themselves when detailed for this duty, preferring to have their pay stopped, to taking their turn at the Pump, which, of course, not only deprives the Battery of their services for that morning, but also of the services of the men necessarily sent to take the place of the absentees at the Pump.

C.

From the Assistant Engineer, Bellary, 19th July 1865, No. 395; to the Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, Ceded Districts.

In returning Memorandum, No. 780 of 22nd ultimo, I have the honor to state, that the approximate amount for erecting a Moat Apparatus at the Grass-cutters' Well, similar to the one in use for the European Regiment, with Pecottah and all complete, will be about Rupees 300.

2. I beg to inform you that the difficulty experienced in working the Well at present is that several nuts and screws have been taken away, and the places supplied by bits of bamboo, rendering the upper part of the piston loose; also from some dirt having got in between the sucker and piston, thereby losing some of the water every lift. When handed over by us in the beginning of this year, a party of eight Sappers was able to fill it in less than an hour.

ORDER, No. 3547, 22nd September 1865.

Approved for execution.

2. The Government observe, however, that had the Pump been properly looked after and kept in repair, it would have answered its purpose. They desire to be informed whose duty it is to look after such matters.

3. The Moat Apparatus will require the labor of a pair of bullocks, or of two men at least.

(True Extract.)

Marshall

Secretary to Government.

To the Quarter Master General, with 4 enclosures.

„ Public Works Department. *With 204 spec. Copies.*
„ Controller of Military Accounts.
„ Commissary General.

Ed. T. Stubbs.

*For St George's
28th Sept 65*

*To the Supt Engineer
Controller
Mly Dept
Accountant*

*3:25 S
P.H. Accounts*

General S. Staff-28th September

*2871. Mily Works
ex. 28/91
Communicated to the
Superintending Engineer of the
3rd Division, who will take
measures for providing the moat
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*2. A regular estimate
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9th W 1865 Depa
Pro. of Govt for September
No. 3690

Pro. of Govt. in the
Military Depart

Of 22 } Sept 65
Rec. 26 }

No. 3547

Approving of a
Moat Apparatus being
substituted for the
Pump used for lifting
water for the Horses of
the W. Battery D Brigade
Royal Artillery at
Bullary -

No. 673. 674

With an Order
No. 871-280 Sept 65-