M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 397 Press Mis.

1567

Dated 8 2 1897.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 156. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Waltair, 22nd January 1867, No. 244 :—

1. I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of Government, the subject of the employment, by this department, of convicts, and the amounts to be debited to the estimates of works on which they are employed, which I conclude will be deducted from the total of allotment.

Enclosures 2.

2. I have done my best, agreeably to several orders of Government, to utilize the services of the prisoners on the three Jails in this division; but each of the Executive Officers complains that the rate, for which credit is taken by the Superintendent of the Jail, is higher than the outturn of work measured.

3. I have not heard lately from Rajahmundry. I personally settled with the Superintendent that, for convicts employed on buildings, he should take credit for the rate allowed in the estimate, after payment had been made for all material furnished.

4. If this arrangement is in force, we have nothing to complain of in Rajahmundry; the convicts have other and regular work, which the Superintendent finds remunerative, and therefore we have not the same necessity as there is in Vizagapatam and Berhampore, of finding employment for the inmates of the Jails, the Superintendents of which insist on crediting themselves at the rate of two-thirds of an ordinary cooly.

5. The enclosed Statements show the actual value of work done by the convicts, at the rates at which it is executed by contractors, from which it appears that our allotments are not likely to be sufficient.

6. I would beg to point out that the convicts are actually on the work only four-fifths of the time that the free laborers are, and that with the time occupied in parading the Police, marching the convicts to the latrines, breaking them up into gangs, counting and re-counting, they are never working two-thirds of the day.

7. In nearly every work that they do, further allowance must be made for their fetters, which impede movement. From the test of the enclosed Statement, it would appear that their value is really from thirty-nine to fifty per cent. of a free laborer, the larger amount being obtained by the men working at or near any spot, and not being obliged to move, as in conveying materials, &c.

8. The Public Works Officers and Agents have no control over the convicts at work. They can only show what is to be done, and compare the value of the outturn with that of similar work done by other means. The Superintendents of both Vizagapatam and Berhampore Jails have much other duty to perform, and at any rate they cannot punish a whole gang for idleness; the warders have no control over the convicts, and, I believe, are thoroughly inefficient.

9. I have no knowledge as to the economy of the employment of convicts by Captain Hankin at the Lawrence Asylum; but I am under the impression that he has succeeded in procuring a more satisfactory amount of labor from his prisoners. If this idea be correct, it appears to me that it can be due only to his having charge

credit for the rate allowed in the Estimate, after

of both the prisoners and the work, an arrangement which, I believe, the Government would find economical on all new large Jails, though not easy to make on the Jails now in question, which are considerably advanced.

No. 157. ORDER THEREON, 8th February 1867, No. 397.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 16.

1. The Order of the Government of India, recorded in the Proceedings of this Government, No. 3,292, dated the 16th November 1864, having finally disposed of the questions mooted by the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division, this reference is altogether unnecessary.

2. It has been distinctly ruled in those Orders that there shall be no arbitrary assumption of the value of convict labor, and that charges for it shall nowhere be booked in the accounts, or form a deduction against the year's allotment; all that is required being a Memorandum at the foot of the final bill of the *actual* value of the labor in question.

3. Colonel Moberly's attention is drawn to the orders contained in paragraph 6 of G. O. No. 3,060, dated the 24th September 1866, which directs a deduction to be made in the estimates for the new Central Jails under construction "equivalent to the full value of the convict labor" to be employed on those works.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 244

Supt. Engr's Office 1st D.
Waltair, 22d January 67.

From,
Lieutt Col. F. I. Moberly R.E.
Actg. Supt. Engineer 1st Dn.

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

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for the consideration of Government the subject of the employment by this Department of convicts and the amounts to be debited to the estimates of works on which they are employed, which I conclude will be deducted from the total of allotment.

Encls 2

2. I have done my best, agreeably to several orders of Government, to utilize the services of the prisoners on the 3 Jails in this Division - but each of the Executive Officers complains that the rate, for which credit is taken by the Superintendent of the Jail, is higher than the out turn of work measured.

3. I have not heard lately from Rajahmundry - I personally settled with the Superintendent that for convicts employed on building, he should take credit for the rate allowed in the Estimate, after

after payment had been made for all material furnished-

4 If this arrangement is in force, we have nothing to complain of in Rajahmundry; the convicts have other and regular work which the Superintendent finds remunera= =tive, and therefore we have not the same necessity as there is in Vizagm and Berhampore, of finding employ= =ment for the inmates of the Jails- the Superintendents of which insist on crediting themselves at the rate of $\frac{2}{3}$ of an ordinary Cooly.

5 The enclosed Statements show the actual value of work done by the convicts, at the rates at which it is executed by contractors; from which it appears that our allotments are not likely to be sufficient.

6. I would beg to point out that the convicts are actually on the work only $\frac{4}{5}$ of the time that the free labourers are, and that with the time occupied in parading the police, marching the convicts to the latrines, breaking them up into gangs, counting and recounting, they are never working $\frac{2}{3}$ of the day-

7. In nearly every work that they

do further allowance must be made for their fetters which impede movement- from the test of the enclo= =sed statement it would appear that their value is really from 39 to 50 per cent of a free labourer- the larger amount being obtained by the men working at or near any spot and not being obliged to move, as in conveying ma= =terials &c.

8. The P. W. Officers & Agents have no Control over the convicts at work- they can only shew what is to be done, and compare the value of the outturn with that of similar work done by other means. The Superintendent of both Vizagapatam and Berhampore Jails, have much other duty to perform; and at any rate they cannot punish a whole gang for idleness; the warders have no control over the convicts, and I believe are tho= =roughly inefficient.

9. I have no knowledge as to the economy of the employment of convicts by Captain Hankin at the Laurence Asylum; but I am under the impression that he has succeeded in procuring a more satisfactory amount of labour from his prisoners- if this idea be correct

correct, it appears to me that it can be due only to his having charge of both the prisoners and the work. an arrangement which I believe the Government would find economical on all new large Jails; though not easy to make on the Jails now in question which are considerably advanced.

I have &c &ca

H. Newberry

Ag. Supdg Engineer 1st Dn

No 150

de 397-8 Feby 1867

Statement showing the work done by the convicts at the Zillah Jail of Vizagapatam from the week ending 27th October to the week ending 29th December 1866.

k ending	Number of Convicts	Quantity of work done	Amount
October 1866	618	190 Cyds of Earth work	Rs 11 - 14 - 0
		190 parahs of Sand	3 - 15 - 4
ovember 1866	896	170 Cyds of Earth work	10 - 10 - 0
		255 parahs of Sand	5 - 6 - 0
		70 Cyds of demolition	6 - 9 - 0
November 1866	993	228 Cyds of Earth work	14 - 4 - 10
		310 parahs of Sand	6 - 7 - 4
		20 Cyds of Gravel	5 - 0 - 0
		60 Cyds of Demolition	5 - 10 - 0
November 1866	1169	200 Cyds of Earth work	12 - 8 - 0
		458 parahs of Sand	9 - 8 - 8
		58 Cyds of Gravel	14 - 8 - 0
		201 Cyds of demolition	18 - 13 - 6
November 1866	1146	326½ Cyds of Earth work	16 - 14 - 6
		477 parahs of Sand	9 - 15 - 0
		41/6 Cyds of Gravel	9 - 0 - 1
		330 Cyds of demolition	17 - 9 - 8
		23/6 Cyds of metalling	6 - 8 - 3
		Clearing away small trees	" - 8 - "
ecember 1866	1131	444 Cyds of Earth work	22 - 15 - 6
		600 parahs of Sand	12 - 8 - 0
		76½ Cyds of Gravel	7 - 10 - 9
		120 Cyds 3 Cft of demolition	4 - 6 - 8
ecember 1866	1093	153 5/6 Cyds of Earth work	8 - 14 - 0 2/3
		355 parahs of Sand	7 - 6 - 4
		54¾ Cyds of Gravel	11 - 15 - 7½
		54 Cyds of Rough stone	9 - 3 - 0
		240 parahs of Chunam	2 - 12 - 0

		115 Cyds of Earth work	@	0	—	15	0.
15th December 1866	1027.	714 Perches of Land	@	14	—	14	—0.
		40 Cyds of Rough Stone	@	13	—	12	—0.
		30½ Cyds of Gravel	@	6	—	10	—9.
		163⅓ Cyds of Demolition	@	0	—	9	—9.
22nd December 1866.	1155	169 Cyds of Earth work	@	10	—	9	—0
		41⅓ Cyds of Gravel	@	9	—	0	—8
		46 Cyds of Rough Stone	@	15	—	13	—0.
29th December 1866.	918.	105 Cyds of Earth work	@	6	—	9	—0
		10⅓ Cyds of Gravel	@	2	—	4	—3
		50 Cyds of Stone	@	14	—	8	—0
Total No. of Vouchers 10145			Total value of Work done Rs.			379	—7—5

By Statute.
Executive Engr's Office
Pattaia 2nd January 1867.

Executive Engineer
Executive Engineer
Ryzyastan Range

Note. Under an arrangement with the Superintendent of the said, the measurements of work done were taken by the P.W. Overseer in the presence of the Native Contractor.
Weight of the Rail stated that the Inspector Genl. of Rails fully tolerates the error of 1 - 2½ per mean per day.
Conveyance of Stone is the above statement that the Contractor has in only 2 days 7½ Rice per day, the Contractor's Coolies are only seven doing 50.8 per cent of the work expected of them by the Inspector General of Rails.
The rates at which the value of the work has been calculated are those at which the Contractor are willing to perform it.

J. Hudson Lieut
Asst Engr

Statement showing number of Convicts employed and the amount of work executed by them from 6th to 29th November 1866.

Number	Particulars	Rate	Amount	Remarks
2498	Convicts	Cost at 1 anna per day		156-2-0
55⅓	Cubic yards Earthwork excavated	Per Cubic Yd	0 0 10	2 ½ 1
65	Do of Rough stone quarried	Do	0 2 0	8 2 0
122	Do of Shell lime removed from site of foundations	Do	0 0 6	3 13 0
21⅓	Do of Brick in Mud & Lime kiln built	Do	0 8 0	10 8 11
100	Panahs of lime mixed with sand	Per Panah	0 3 0	0 3 0
16000	Burnt Bricks carted to site	Per 1000	0 13 0	13 0 0
17000	Brick moulded	Do	1 0 0	17 0 0
16	Bamy loads of firewood Conveyed to Brick kiln	Per Bamy	0 2 0	2 0 0
8	Cubic Yards of Masonry	Per Cub. Yd	0 5 0	2 8 0
6⅔	Do of Mud wall to Brick kiln	Do	0 3 0	1 14 0
		Total Rupees		61 5 0

Berhampoor
10th Dec 1866.

J. Hudson Lt Col R
Asst Engr Executive Engr Murshidabad

C Dawes Capt R.E.
Executive Engr Ganjam

Public Works Dept

No 397

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 8th February 1867

Read the following

From the Actg Supy Engr

of the Nilgiri Dn 31st Decr 1866 / Rec'd 22nd January 1867

No 2444

The order of the Govt of India recorded in the Proceedings of this Govt No 3292, dated the 16th November 1864, having finally disposed of the questions mooted by the Actg Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division, this reference is altogether unnecessary.

It has been distinctly ruled in those orders that there shall be no arbitrary assumption of the value of Convict-Labour, and that charges for it shall

Actg Supy Engr Nilgiri Dn

no where be booked in the accounts, or form a deduction against the Years allotment; all that is required being a memo at the foot of the final bill of the actual value of the labour in question—

Colonel Moberly's attention is ~~also~~ drawn to the orders contained in para 6 of G-O- N°-380, dated the 24th September 66, which directs a deduction to be made in the estimates for the New Central Jails under construction "Equivalent to the full value of the Convict Labour" to be Employed on those works—

For the Ex. Engr of the 1st Divn

16 Sept 9/2/67

Pub: Works 1867 Department

Pro: of Govt. for February

No. 397

Pro: of the Madras Govt.

Dy 8th February 1867

No 156-157