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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1174	Press
183-H	Mis.
Dated 18 4 -	1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th April 1863.*

No. 283. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Palamcottah, 3rd April 1863, No. 23 :—

1. With reference to Government Order of the 10th February 1863, No. 451, on the subject of a defective foundation to the sixth pier of the bridge under construction across the Nulla Mulla Oday, on Road No. 8, in the Tinnevely District, in which Government ordered that Mr. Roberts, Range Officer, and Mr. Hamilton, Talook Overseer in charge, should make good in whole or part the outlay which the re-construction of the pier would involve, I have the honor to report that, being in the neighbourhood of the bridge investigating the Streevigoontum project, I ordered Mr. Roberts to meet me at the spot, and have the foundation of the sixth pier opened out for my inspection.

2. This was accordingly done, and I was quite satisfied that the foundation, although not laid in chunam from the bottom, was on a secure substratum, and of sufficiently large blocks of stone to ensure stability and safety. The cause of there being no chunam, as provided in the estimate, was that it was almost impossible to put any as the water could not be kept under, and Mr. Roberts did not know the way to make hydraulic chunam.

3. The foundation is both broader and deeper than allowed for in the estimate.

4. Captain Prendergast was with me when I inspected the work, and quite agrees with me. His report to Government, as therein stated, was not from personal inspection, but founded on a report from Mr. Roberts, which was made up quite as much from hearsay as from facts ; as he could not, owing to the amount of water, inspect the foundation.

5. I have ordered Mr. Roberts to be himself always present when foundations are being laid on the remainder of this, as well as in any other, work.

6. The call of Government for a report on the bad work was founded on a groundless petition from a native, because he had a spite against the Contractor, which has put Government to needless expense for baling and excavating, and was nearly the cause of a fatal accident, as the sides of the excavation, which was made in order that I should inspect the foundation, fell in and two men narrowly escaped with their lives, being buried up to their armpits.

No. 284. ORDER THEREON, 18th April 1863, No. 1,174.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 41.

1. Ordered to be recorded.

2. The Government understand from this report that the re-construction

of the sixth pier of the Nulla Mulla Oday bridge is unnecessary.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
.. Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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No 23 Superintd Engrs Office
Palamcottah 3rd April 1868
From

Lieutenant Colonel C. V. Wilkinson R.E.
Superintending Engineer & Division
To
Colonel C. A. Carr R.E.
Secretary to Government S. D. F. W.
Sir

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I have &c
Mr. Wilson
Superintending Engineer 8th Div.
Lieut. Col. 86th Regt.

