

(1) Number of pages _____

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

G.O. No. 2973	Press ~~Mis.~~
147-48	
Dated 7.12.	1870.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th December 1870.*

No. 147. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 5th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Cuddalore, 17th November 1870, No. 178:—

In reference to G. O. No. 1,517, of the 22nd June last, I have the honour to submit, for the disposal of Government, the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Executive Engineer, Oosoor Range, transmitting the explanations offered by the Talook Overseer Hennessy regarding the loss of certain articles which were under his charge.

No. 148. ORDER THEREON, 7th December 1870, No. 2,973.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 9.

G. O. No. 1,517, dated 22nd June 1870.

			RS.	A.	P.
Bricks (7,000) ...	...	...	28	0	0
Arcot tiles (5,000) ...	...	...	16	4	0
Chunam, candies (60) ...	...	...	112	8	0
Stones, cubic yards (23) ...	...	...	34	8	0
Pot-tiles (10,000)...	...	...	30	0	0

In June last, the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division brought to notice that the building materials, as per margin, which were in the custody of Mr. Overseer Hennessy when he was in charge of the Oosoor Talook of the Salem District, were missing at the time he gave over charge of that Talook, and requested instructions as to whether the value of the articles, namely, Rupees 221-4-0, should be recovered wholly or in part from the Overseer or be written off to "Profit and Loss." Before passing final orders on the subject the Superintending Engineer was directed to furnish more definite information regarding the circumstances under which the loss in question took place, together with such explanations as Mr. Hennessy might have to offer. This the Officer in charge of the 5th Division now does, and from the papers submitted it appears that the actual deficiencies are of the value of Rupees 191-4-0, of which Rupees 147 are on the whole satisfactorily shown not to have been lost through any remissness on the part of the Overseer, and the Government accordingly authorize the latter sum to be written off to "Profit and Loss."

2. The loss of the remaining Rupees 44-4-0 having been traced to the carelessness and inattention to his duties of the Overseer Mr. Hennessy, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to direct that the amount be recovered from him in four monthly instalments.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No 23. 6th July 1870.

Sr,

Captain J. W. Hindle,
Executive Engineer, Salem Range.

Sir,

With reference to your Memo No 122 of the 4th July 1870, I beg to submit the following explanations regarding the articles said to be missing on my giving over charge of the Oosoor Salook.

2. With regard to the 7000 burnt bricks and 5000 Arcot tiles, said to be missing from the Remount Depot Oosoor, I would beg to explain that these two items are, in reality, merely the difference between the numbers of these articles as marked in the last station book kept by me for that work and the numbers actually on the ground at the time of my giving over charge of the Oosoor Salook.

3. At the end of all station books for works exceeding Rupees 2,500 there is, as you are doubtless well aware, Sir, a heading "Materials at site" which has to be filled in at the end of each month. When I last filled in this heading in the station book for the Remount Stables, Oosoor, there were, I believe, about two lacs (2,00,000) of Arcot tiles then on the ground, and as counting each tile

tile of this large number separately, and this is ^{the} only correct method, for to do so by measurement considering the form of a tile as well as the manner in which tiles are usually stacked would be very uncertain, would have been a labor of at least four or five consecutive days, I made as close an approximation to the number as I possibly could and set it down in the Station book at 20,000, while the Overseer who was deputized to take over charge from me approximated them at 19,500, thereby making a difference of 500 Ared tiles.

4. Likewise in the case of ^{the} bricks said to be missing from this work, when filling in the heading "Materials at site" the bricks were scattered all over the ground, as the work was then in progress, I therefore approximated the number as best I could. I had these bricks subsequently gathered together and stacked and in that form they were given over to the Overseer who took charge.

5. The work of the Osovor Subjail was stopped several months previous to the time of my giving over charge; and at the time of its being stopped the amount of chunam belonging to the work was 160 Candies. Of these 30 Candies were transferred to the Remount Depot work owing to a difficulty

of providing chunam for this work at the time, and as the chunam was lying unused at the Subjail. Of the 130 Candies still remaining I know of no reason why this quantity should have been diminished except its having been exposed for so long a time to both sun and rain which, as is well known, solidify it, thereby reducing its bulk by about one fifth from that which it had when fresh.

6. The 23 Cys of burnt stone referred to were on the quarry when the work was stopped, but as the quarry is not only used by the public but is also situated about two miles from the Subjail and on the opposite side of the village, it is probable they were purloined by the woodmen who found the stones ready cut and burnt. The watchman being too far away to keep a guard over the stones. The late Maistry for the work, Josiah Jonathan, at present in Osovor, is aware both of the 30 Candies of Chunam having been sent to the work of the Remount Stables as also of the 23 Cys of stone having been on the quarry.

7. The 10,000 Pot tiles belonging to the DenKincottah Subjail were ready at the Potmakers in DenKincottah and may be had from him at any time; the site of the

the hospital for which the tiles were intended being just near the open road and there being no place for the tiles to be kept; I directed the man to keep them till the work should be commenced. I did not accompany the Overseer who took charge to Sen Kincottah owing to illness, and being under the impression that he took the Maistry with him, I did not find out till subsequent to his visit that, not being aware of the circumstance, he ~~was~~^{had} not at all gone to the place where the tiles were.

The late Maistry Shrenuwasooloo Modally, who is at present in Oospore, knows with whom the tiles are lodged.

8. In conclusion, with regard to Mr. Paynter's remark in his letter No 259 dated 7th June 1870 that I have kept watchmen for the different works contrary to his orders, I would beg to add that I did so under a misconception of his Memo: directing all works to be stopped, for at the end of that Memo: he directs that provision should be made for the safe custody of the materials at the different works, without, however, mentioning how this should be done, and as there were large and valuable quantities of materials belonging to the different works, and so situated that they might be

be easily stolen consisting, as they did, of doors, windows, teakwood, &c., I thought I was acting rightly, and in no way contrary to his orders for stopping the works, in retaining the watchmen already on them. What tended to confirm this impression was that Mr. Paynter himself did not allude to the subject, though the materials still remained on the different sites till near the time of my departure from Oospore some months after the stoppage of the works.

I beg to remain

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant

Signed / J. Kennedy

Overseer S. P. W.

/ True Copy /

W. M. M. J.

Executive Engineer
for As. Superintd. Engineer

N^o 999.

Copoor Range Office
Copoor, 12th November 1870.

From

The Executive Engineer,
Copoor Range

To,

The Superintending Engineer,
5th Division.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward
the reply to M^r Hennessey's N^o 23,
dated 6th July 1870, called for in your
N^o 164, dated 22nd idem.

2. I consider M^r Hennessey's
explanation regarding the 1000 bricks
and 5,000 Arcot tiles, deficient when
he gave over charge, very unsatisfactory.
There is no doubt that the number
of bricks and Arcot tiles on the ground
when he gave over charge was only
13,000 and 1,95,000, respectively, and
M^r Hennessey acknowledged this
by signing the statement of materials
given over. I do not mean to say
any

Enclosure
Letter N^o 23
of 6th July 1870
returned.

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any materials were lost or taken away from the ground, as I do not now think they were, but in my opinion Mr Hennessy is to blame for having entered so carelessly the materials at site in the Station book. The mistake in the number of Arcot tiles was not much being less than 3 per cent, but a mistake of over 50 per cent was made in the number of bricks, and I think, if any care had been taken, this would not have occurred.

3. Mr Hennessy's explanation regarding the 60 paras of chunam deficient is, I consider, satisfactory. There is no doubt it did consolidate considerably by the action of the weather. All of the chunam now at the site of the Oopoor Sub-jail has been spoilt.

4. I also do not consider he is much to be blamed for the loss of the 23 cubic yards of stone. The stones

stones were on the quarry when he received orders to stop work, and he had no option but to leave them where they were. All that he can be blamed for in this matter is that he made, or appears to have made, no attempt to sell these stones.

5. Mr Hennessy's account of the 10,000 pot tiles missing is correct, and the pot maker at Denkencottah has now given a bond to deliver the tiles to this Department when they are required. But I consider Mr Hennessy is very much to blame in not having procured and delivered this bond himself to the Overseer who took over charge from him, or at all events he might have been mentioned where the tiles were. His negligence in this matter has caused a great deal of inconvenience and trouble, and it is not at all improbable the materials might never have been recovered.

6. Mr Hennessy in his last para.

para states he kept watchmen to look after the materials at the sites of the different works under a misconception of my memo, but it is very singular that he was the only Overseer that could not understand the memo, and also if he considered that I intended watchmen to be employed, he should have charged their pay to the works on which they were employed and not to other works that were in progress as he did do.

I am sorry for the delay that has occurred in forwarding this letter. It has been caused partly by difficulty in procuring information and partly by my recent illness.

I have &c.
Signed L. W. Paynter
Executive Engineer

(True Copy)

W. J. M.
Executive Engineer for
Ag. Superintg Engineer

N^o 178.

Superintg Engr's office, 5th Div.,
Cuddalore, 17th Nov. 1870.

From

The Ag. Superintg Engineer,
5th Division.

To.

The Secretary to Government,
P. W. Department,
Madras.

enclosures. 2
2 Copies of
letters.

Sir,

In reference to G. O. N^o 1517 of the 22^d June last, I have the honor to submit, for the disposal of Government, the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Executive Engineer, Cospoor Range, transmitting the explanations offered by the Talook Overseer Hennessy regarding the loss of certain articles, which were under his charge.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedt Servant

W. J. M.
Executive Engineer for
Ag. Superintg Engineer.

No 2973 P.M.D.
 Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following

Learn.

The Supt Engineer
 1st Div

(H.E. Dec 1787 17th Nov 70)

In June last the Acting
 G.O. No 15173/22nd June/70. Supt of Engrs of the 5th Div brought
 to notice that the building

Bricks—(7000)	Rs 28—	materials, as per margin,
Arch tiles (5000)	16—4—	
Chunam, Caudies (60)	112—8—	which were in the custody
Hones cut. yds (23)	34—8—	of Mr Overier Kennedy
Port tiles—(10000)	30—	when he was in charge of

the Pooner Taluk of the
 Salem District, were missing
 at the time he gave over
 charge of that Talook,
 and requested instructions

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as to whether the value of the articles viz. Rs 221-4- should be recovered wholly or in part from the Overseeer or be written off to Profit & Loss. Before passing final orders on the subject the Suptg Engr^r was directed to furnish more definite information regarding the circumstances under which the loss in question took place, together with such explanations as Mr Kennedy might have to offer. This the Officer in charge of the Sth Sⁿ now does,

and from the papers submitted it appears that the actual deficiencies are of the value of Rs 191-4- of which Rs 147 are on the whole satisfactorily shown not to have been lost through any premices on the part of the Overseeer, and the Gov^t accordingly authorize the latter sum to be written off to Profit and Loss.

The loss of the remaining Rs 44-4- having been traced to the carelessness and inattention to his duties of the Overseeer Mr Kennedy, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves

to direct that the amount (9)
be recovered from him
in four monthly instal-
ments.

WLB

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To
The S. Ings (S. Ings)
Su Controller

to 30 Nov 90 A. 2nd Dec

Recd 8/12/90

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Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To Mr. Superintendent
5th Division

Dated

Recd.

2

G. O. 7 Decr 1870. No. 2973.

Nos. 147 & 148

Building Materials Papering
Orders on the letter from the
Superintendent of the 5th Division
explaining regarding the
cost of certain Building
Materials through the
Agency of Mr. Anand
Kannan.