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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2996

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Dated 10 12

1870 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th December 1870.*

No. 197. Read the following Endorsement of the Military Department, dated Fort Saint George, 8th November 1870 :—

From the Officer Commanding Mysore Division, to the Quarter Master General, head-quarters, Fort Saint George, dated Bangalore, 1st November 1870, No. 296.

I HAVE the honour to request you will be good enough to lay the accompanying correspondence before the Commander-in-Chief, in the hope that His Excellency will see fit to take such action in the matter as will put a stop to the serious inconvenience which is likely to be experienced if the Acting Superintending Engineer of this Division is permitted to make a practice of declining to forward plans and estimates which have been prepared by the Executive Engineer by my direction, and approved by me, instead of submitting the same with any remarks he may think proper to the head of his Department, if necessary, and in all cases for the approval of the Commander-in-Chief.

2. This latter course is the one laid down in the rules relating to Military Members of the Public Works Department—*Vide* paragraph 20 of G.O.C.C. No. 13, dated 8th of February 1866, and any deviation therefrom appears to me likely to prove very injurious to the public service.

3. In the present instance the Executive Engineer at this station was called upon, on the 13th of July last, by Brigadier-General Selby, who was at that time in temporary command of the division, to prepare a plan and estimate for additional sick-cart accommodation at the Race Course Hospitals.

4. The present shed only contains accommodation for three sick carts; and as two vehicles of this description are in daily use with the European Cavalry Regiment, and two with the Royal Horse Artillery and Field Batteries, it follows that one cart is constantly exposed to the deteriorating effects of sun, wind, and rain.

5. A reference to letter No. 1,491, dated 23rd July 1870, from the Assistant Quarter Master General of this Division to your address, will show that some sort of protection is urgently required to prevent the frequent perpetration of acts of mischief to the sick carts which are constantly brought to notice by the officers in charge of them.

6. The Executive Engineer was, therefore, requested to prepare a design for constructing three additional sheds at the back of the present one, which would complete the accommodation for the number of sick carts which will be required when the third pavilion is finished, and also for the erection of a mud wall with coping and a gate with secure fastenings to enclose the buildings and protect the carts.

7. The design prepared by the Executive Engineer appears to me to be in every respect suitable, and the estimate which accompanied it a very reasonable one.

8. The Acting Superintending Engineer, however, as will be seen by the correspondence, takes great exception to both plan and estimate for reasons stated in his Memorandum No. 148, dated 8th October 1870, to the Executive Engineer; but his objections are, I consider, fully met by Captain Wood, in his letter in reply, No. 667, dated 14th October 1870.

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10th December 1870.*

9. Nevertheless, the Acting Superintending Engineer declines to receive the design which, notwithstanding it had met with the approval of the Officer Commanding the Division, he stigmatizes as being "as faulty as it is paltry," and prepared in accordance with the "Native groove."

10. The general tone of Captain Roberts' second Memorandum No. 156, dated 20th October 1870, is undoubtedly objectionable, and in drawing attention to it, I would invite reference to the correspondence forwarded with my letter No. 258, dated 16th September 1870, which was of a similar nature.

11. In conclusion, I would beg to remark that the site of the present sick cart shed was selected in communication with Deputy Inspector-General, British Medical Service, who expressed himself well satisfied with it, and that I consider it would be very unadvisable for many reasons to build a fresh shed in another locality.

MEMORANDUM.

No. 5,246.

FORWARDED for submission to Government for such action in the matter as may be required.

2. His Excellency fully agrees with the views expressed by Major-General Borton in paragraph 10 of his letter.

By order,

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
4th November 1870.

(Signed) A. HOWLETT, Colonel,
Officiating Quarter Master General.

REFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) A. WILDE, Major-General,
Secretary to Government.

No. 197. ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1870, No. 2,996.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 9.

It appears from these papers that a plan and estimate for extending accommodation for sick carts at the Hospital on the Race Course at Bangalore having been prepared by the Executive Engineer and approved by the Major-General Commanding, were forwarded to the Superintending Engineer for submission to Government. Captain Roberts, however, objected to the plan, and pointing out wherein he considered it defective and unsuited to its purpose, sent it back for revision; whereon the Executive Engineer returned it with such explanations as he believed would satisfy the Superintending Engineer. This however they failed to do, and Captain Roberts then peremptorily desired his orders to be attended to. Instead of complying, Captain Wood appears to have referred the matter to the Major-General, who has handed it up to the Government through His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

2. According to the strict reading of the clause of the Public Works Code which lays down rules for the guidance of members of the Department in preparing plans and estimates for Military buildings, it was not required of the

Clause 77, Chapter V.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th December 1870.*

Superintending Engineer to criticise a design which, prepared by the Executive Engineer, had received the approval of the Military authorities; but the Govern-

ment having ruled that Superintending Engineers are to be held responsible for

the suitability of all designs which they may submit, it was open to Captain Roberts to return to the Executive Engineer the plan in question, if, in the Acting Superintending Engineer's opinion, it was faulty or not prepared on approved principles, and it was Captain Wood's duty to have obeyed the orders of his departmental superior. The Executive Engineer was, under the circumstances, to blame for the course adopted by him, and he will now be directed to submit at once a modified plan and estimate in conformity with the Acting Superintending Engineer's instructions. The latter Officer will then submit both designs together with a plan of the whole locality. With both before them the Government will be in a position to determine the design to which preference is to be given.

3. His Excellency in Council is constrained to remark that Captain Roberts would have exercised more discretion had he sent up to the Government the plan and estimate approved by the Military authorities with an expression of his own views. It is clear that the language used by him in his last letter to Captain Wood was irritating and disrespectful to the Major-General Commanding, and the Government must express their disapproval of the tone in which that and his other communications under notice are couched.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
.. Military Department, with one Enclosure.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

THE ACTING SUPERINTENDING

ENGINEER, 5th Division.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated December 10th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 10th December 1870, No. 2.

DECEMBER.

Nos. 19²⁻³₈-199

Sick-cart Accommodation.—Passing orders on correspondence which has passed between the Public Works and Military authorities at Bangalore regarding the preparation of a plan and estimate for additional sick-cart accommodation at the Race Course Hospital at that station.

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145142

From

The Military Dept

Dated 8th { November
Recd. 10th }

Enclosure 1.

12996-10 of 1910.
Referring
correspondence which
has passed between
the R. M. & Military
authorities at Banga-
lore regarding the
preparation of a plan
& estimate for ad-
ditional sick cart
accommodation at
the Race Course Hospital.

Oct 1918
1019 Nov 170 R. M. 21

The plan was framed by
the Executive Engineer
in correspondence with
the Military authorities,
and was forwarded to
the Superintending
Engineer. It was of course
sent to the Superintending
Engineer to make any
remarks he pleased
with a view to the
protection of the
interests of Govt
and Capt Roberts
considered the plan
defective he was not
returning it to
Capt work for
correction

Memorandum.

A plan and esti-
mate for extending accommo-
dation for sick carts at the
Hospital on the Race Course
at Bangalore having been
prepared by the Executive
Engineer and approved by
the Major General Command-
ing, were forwarded to the
Superintending Engineer for
submission to Government.
Captain Roberts however
objected to the plan and,
pointing out wherein he
considered it defective and

submitted to its purpose, but
it back for revisions; whereon
the Executive Engineer re-
turned it with such explana-
tions as he believed would
satisfy the Superintending
Engineers. This however
they failed to do, and Capt.
Roberts then peremptorily
decided his orders to be
attended to. Instead of
complying Capt. Wood
appears to have referred
the matter to the Major
General, who has handed
it up to the Government
through His Excellency the
Commander in Chief.

According to the
strict reading of the clause
of

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explanation. Capt.
Wood gave an explanation
but Capt. Roberts was
not satisfied and
ordered a plan to be
prepared according
to his own notions.
Capt. Roberts had
thought, a right to
make the order of Capt.
Wood should have
been decided but
think that Capt.
Roberts could have
exercised more
discretion if he
had sent up the
plan to the Secretary
of War and he had
been affirmed by the
proper command to
Clause 77. Chapter V.

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Benson, making such
remarks as he deemed
necessary. His clear
statement that the papers
used by Capt. Roberts
in his last order to
Capt. Wood was
erroneous, and did not
represent the Major General's
Command. I would
assume from this
and remark that
the Genl. has seen
the time of his coming
generally with
displeasure. Capt.
Wood when then had
helped himself to
the papers and
and the Secretary to
present the plan
decided by Capt.
Roberts. I am
his instructions

the Public Works Code referred
to by General Barton which,
embodied in G. O. C. No 13
dated 1st February 1886, lays
down rules for the guidance
of Officers of the Department
in preparing plans and esti-
mates for Military Buildings,
it was no part of the Super-
intending Engineer's duty to
criticize a design prepared
by the Executive Engineer
and approved by the Military
Authorities, but the under-
signed believes that the
Code does not in this respect
correctly express the views
of Government, and that
Superintending Engineers
would lay themselves open
to severe animadversion
if

if on any design submitted through them for the approval and sanction of Government proving defective or unworkable, they should plead Clause 77 of the Public Works Code as an excuse. This view is confirmed by the L. O. in this Department of the 20 March 1885, No 777 herewith circulated.

It is submitted that the Executive Engineer was bound to obey the orders of his Departmental Superior, leaving the objection of the Military Department to any modified plan that he might have prepared to be

made

with the proper certificates. The plan can then be submitted to Govt. and it can decide between them. I respect to the proposed Muddwah I cannot judge whether it is desirable or not. The absence of any plan of the whole locality.

I agree with the President the plan to be adopted for the security of the work is a separate question that can best be decided by those who know the plans before them and know the locality. But this is a question of principle for the project of the work. I do not suppose that the Proceedings of Government of 20 March 1885. No 777 were communicated to the Military authorities. Para 30 of the Minute for the President requires the design proposed by the Military authorities to be submitted to the Engineer in command of the division before being laid before Government. The above plan must be taken as a supplement to Clause 77. Chp. V. Public Works Code.

I agree with the President

B. D.

J. D. S.

made when it came to be submitted to them for the approval without which it could not be laid before the Government.

Orders are solicited.

A. B.

Min 27/5 P. W. D. 13
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From

The Milly. Department (H. E. Secy - 28th Nov 77)

It appears from these
papers that a plan and
estimate for extending
accommodation for sick
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the Race Course at Bangalore
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According to the
strict

Clause 77 Chapter 8

L. C. 1777 d/ 20 March/85

1815
strict reading of the Clause of the Public Works Code which lays down rules for the guidance of members of the Department in preparing plans and estimates for Military buildings, it was not ~~required~~ ^{required} ~~necessary~~ for the Sup^r Engineer to criticise a design which, prepared by the Executive Engineer, had received the approval of the Military authorities, but the Government having ruled that Sup^r Engineers are to be held responsible for the suitability of all designs which they may submit, it was open to Captain Roberto to
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return to the Executive Engineer the plan in question, if, in his opinion, it was faulty or not prepared on approved principles, and it was Captain Wood's duty to have obeyed the orders of his Departmental superior. The Executive Engineer was, under the circumstances, to blame for the course adopted by him, and he will now be directed to submit at once a modified plan and estimate in conformity with the Acting Supr Engineer's instructions. The latter officer will then submit both designs together with

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with a plan of the whole locality. With both before them the Government will be in a position to determine the design to which preference is to be given.

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W.E.

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6 The Supr. Cong. 6th Div.
15th Mily. Departt. Wt.
Original in the
Desp. 12/12/71

Further Ch. 1062 Dec 2-71

Cp 4542

Gobt. of 1870 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Asst. Superintending Engr.
5th Division

Date

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. No. 1870, N. 2976

Nos. 1721 193

Sick Cart accommodation

Meeting orders on correspondence
which has passed between the
P. & Military Authorities
at Bangalore regarding the pre-
paration of a plan & estimate
for additional sick cart ac-
commodation at the Race
course Hospital at that
Station.

W. S. 12/12/1907