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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.****Public Relations DEPARTMENT.**G.O. No. 2671Press
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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th November 1870.*

No. 129. Read the following letter from the General Superintendent, Public Works Stores and Workshops, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department; dated Chepauk, 19th October 1870, No. 1,235 :—

With reference to G. O., dated 11th October 1870, No. 2,446, directing me to report the circumstances under which the charge for iron-work, supplied by the Public Works Workshop for enclosing the Memorial Hall, was so greatly in excess of the estimate furnished by me, as represented in paragraph 2 of letter to Government from the Executive Engineer in charge of the Superintending Engineer's Office, 4th Division, I have the honour to state that no estimate was called for, nor was any information whatever furnished by me either to the Superintending Engineer or to the Executive Engineer, Northern Range. I enclose an indent received from the Range Officer for the supply of 236 bays of cast-iron and two gates with posts.

2. The railing was set up around the compound of the Hall, and painted black, which was the second coat put on. The cost of the whole being at the rate of Rupees 13-6-8 per cwt., which, I respectfully submit, is not excessive, for the English cost of such work, exclusive of painting and fixing, is about 25 S., or Rupees 12-8-0 per cwt., from which it will be seen that the cost is very moderate.

3. The Executive Engineer, in paragraph 4 of his letter, states that the work as regards the gates has not been satisfactorily performed, intending, I suppose, to give the Workshops the credit of such a result; but I beg to state that the gates were fitted and altered *several times* according to Captain Goddard's orders, for which alterations the Workshops must charge, as the work was done according to that Officer's plans in the first place. In the same paragraph the Executive Engineer says that certain "travellers" or wheels and hooks for the gates were charged for, but have not been supplied. The travellers were made according to Captain Goddard's verbal orders, but he afterwards rejected them, and they are now, to the best of my belief, in the Executive Engineer's Stores. As regards the gate-hooks, two sets were made, owing to the first set having been stolen at night from off the gate posts when in the Memorial Hall compound. The second set being now on the gates.

4. The Government will observe from the remarks noted in the Comparative Statement, forwarded with the Executive Engineer's letter, that the estimate in question was framed from data obtained from the Workshop, but I see no record in this office bearing on the subject, further than the indent alluded to in paragraph 1 of this letter, and from paragraph 5 of the Executive Engineer's letter it appears that the estimate for the work was calculated upon data furnished by the Workshop to that Officer's Estimator. Had an estimate been prepared in this office it would have been sent to the Executive Engineer in charge of that office, and not to a subordinate unauthorized to receive such communications, so that this paragraph is entirely at variance with paragraph 2 of the Acting Superintending Engineer's letter.

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5. I further beg to point out another cause of excess of the Workshop bill over the Executive Engineer's estimate. In the Comparative Statement submitted by that Officer, it will be observed that only 1,130 running feet of railing were estimated for, which gives 226 bays, each bay being 5 feet; whilst from the indent received, 236 bays were required, which was the quantity made and put up, showing an error of 10 bays or 50 running feet, which, according to his estimated rate of Rupees 2-4-0 per running foot, makes a difference of Rupees 125.

6. As complaints are made from time to time of the *excessive charges* made by the Workshop for work executed, I hope that Government will not consider it amiss in my stating here that these so-called excessive charges are, in the majority of cases, the result of errors made in the original estimates by Officers in the Districts, either in quantities or rates, as shown by the case in question, or from a non-comparison of the Workshop and English rates.

No. 130. ORDER THEREON, 8th November 1870, No. 2,671.

CIVIL WORKS, No.—11.

THE Controller of Public Works Accounts having brought to notice in his Statement of objectionable items in the estimate of Rupees 4,900 for the enclosure of the Memorial Hall had been exceeded by Rupees 744, the Superintending Engineer was called upon to explain the cause of the excess and the circumstances under which the work was proceeded with beyond the prescribed limitation. With his letter of the 4th October 1870, No. 2,770, Captain Rogers forwarded the Range Officer's explanations, and as it appeared Public Works Workshop having been greatly in excess of the estimated rates, the papers were communicated to the Superintendent of that Workshop for report. From Mr. Grainger's reply the Government learn that no estimate of the cost of the iron-work was called for or furnished by him, and that the only record in his office is the Range Officer's indent for 236 bays of cast-iron and two gates with posts. As it appears from Captain Hunter's letter of the 23rd August 1870, No. 945, that data regarding the cost of the articles were obtained from the Workshop by the Estimator in the Range Office, there is reason to believe that the information thus procured was incorrect. From paragraph 5 of Mr. Grainger's letter it would seem that although 236 bays of cast-iron were indented for and actually used on the work, the estimate inaccurately provided for only 226 bays.

2. Under the circumstances, His Excellency the Governor in Council authorizes the Controller to pass the expenditure which has been incurred in excess of the sanctioned estimate.

3. Colonel Wilkieson's attention will be drawn to paragraph 3 of Mr. Grainger's letter, which contains explanations with reference to the alleged unsatisfactory

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8th November 1870.*

execution of work by the Workshop, and regarding the wheels and hooks for the gates, which, though charged for, Captain Hunter states, were not supplied.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

- To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
- „ Controller of Public Works Accounts.
- „ General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Public Works Workshop. 15
Sept 19th October 1870.
No 1235

The General Superintendent
Public Works Workshop and Store
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort Saint George
Sir

With reference to L.O. dated
11th October 1870, etc. 24th inst. directing
me to report the circumstances under
which the charge for iron work, sup-
plied by the Public Works Workshop
for enclosing the Memorial Hall was
so greatly in excess of the estimate
furnished by me, as represented
in para 2 of letter to Government
from the Executive Engineer in charge
of the Superintending Engineer's Office
4th Division I have the honor to
state that no estimate was called
for nor was any information what-
ever furnished by me, either to the
Superintending Engineer or to the
Executive Engineer Northern Range
I enclose an indent received from the
Range Officer for the supply of 236
Bags of best iron and two Gates with
posts.

The

2. The railing was set up around the compound of the Hall, and painted black which was the second coat put on. The cost of the whole being at the rate of Rupees 12. 6. 8 per cwt, which I respectfully submit is not excessive, for the English cost of such work, exclusive of painting and fixing is about £ 25/- or Rupees 12. 8. per cwt. from which it will be seen that the cost is very moderate.

3. The Executive Engineer, in para 4 of his letter, states that the work in regard to the Gates has not been satisfactorily performed, intending, I suppose, to give the workshops the credit of such a result, but I beg to state that the Gates were fitted and altered several times according to Captain Goddard's orders, for which alterations the workshops must charge, as the work was done according to that Officer's plans in the first place. In the same para the Executive Engineer says that certain "Travellers" or wheels and hooks for the Gates were charged for, but have not been supplied. The Travellers were made according to Captain

Goddard's verbal orders, but he afterwards rejected them, and they are now, to the best of my belief, in the Executive Engineer's stores. As regards the Gate hooks two sets were made, owing to the first set having been stolen at night from off the Gate posts which in the Memorial Hall compound. The second set being now on the Gates.

4. The Government will observe from the remarks noted in the Comparative Statement furnished with the Executive Engineer's letter that the estimate in question was framed from data obtained from the workshops, but I see no record in this Office bearing on the subject; further than the allusion to in para 1 of this letter, and from para 5 of the Executive Engineer's letter it appears that the estimate for the work was calculated upon data furnished by the workshops to that Officer's estimator. Had an estimate been prepared in this Office it would have been sent to the Executive Engineer in charge of that Office, and

and not to subordinate and
threaten to receive such con-
siderations, so that this para
is entirely at variance with para
2 of the Acting Superintending
Engineer's letter.

5. I further beg to point out
another cause of excess of the
Workshop bill over the Executive
Engineer's estimate. In the Com-
parative statement submitted
by that Officer, it will be observed
that only 1130 running feet of
railway were estimated for, which
gives 226 bags, each bag being 5
feet, whilst from the audit
received, 236 bags were required,
which was the quantity made
and put up, showing an error
of 10 bags or 50 running feet, which
according to his estimated rate of
Rupees 2-4-0 per running foot
makes a difference of Rupees 125-0-0.

As complaints are made from
time to time of the excessive charges
made by the Workshop for work
executed, I hope that Government
will not consider it amiss in my
stating here that these so-called
excessive charges are in the majority
of cases the result of errors made
in the original estimates by Officers in

93
in the Districts, either in quantities
or rates, as shown by the case in
question, or from a non-comparison
of the Workshop and English rates.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt Servant.

A. J. Pringle
Genl Supt P. W. Workshop
and Stores

From Mr. W. H. P. Dept
The General Superintendent.

P. W. Workshop & Stores
To
The Secretary to Government
P. W. Department
Fort St George.

Dated 19th October 1870.
Recd 20. 3

No 1235.

No.

Enclosures

Explains the cause
under which the cost
of Railings for enclosing
the Memorial Hall
exceeded the Estimate
framed by the Executive
Engineer

No 2671-8 Nov 1870.

No 129
6 24 Oct 70

Public Works Department
No 2671
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 8th November 1870.
Read the following

From The General Superintendent P. W. H. E. No 1235 of 19th October 1870/
Workshop and Stores.

The Controller of
Public Works Accounts
having brought to notice
in his Statement of
objectionable items in
the accounts of the 4th
Div for the month of
June 1870, that the sanctioned
estimate of Rs. 4900
for the enclosure of the
Memorial Hall had
been exceeded by Rs.
144. The Supg. Engr. was
called upon to explain
the cause of the excess
and the circumstances
under which the work

were proceeded with
beyond the prescribed
limitation. With his
letter of the 4th October
1870 No. 2770 Captain
Rogers forwarded the
Range Officers expla-
nations, and as it
appeared that the in-
crease was due entirely
to the charge for iron
work supplied from
the Public Works Workshop
having been greatly in
excess of the estimated
rates, the papers were
communicated to the
Superintendent of that
Workshop for report -
From Mr. Granger's

156
reply, the Government
learn that no estimate
of the cost of the iron
work was called for
or furnished by him,
and that the only re-
cord in his Office is
the Range Officers
incent for 236 bays
of cast iron and two
gates with posts. As
it appears from Cap-
tain Munter's letter of
the 23rd August 1870 No. 945
that data regarding
the cost of the articles
were obtained from the
Workshop by the Estimator
in the Range Office,
there is reason to believe
that the information
thus

thus procured was
incorrect. From para 5
of Mr. Pranger's letter
it would seem that
although 236 bays of
Cast iron were intended
for and actually used
on the work, the estimate
inaccurately provided
for only 226 bays.

Under the circum-
stances, His Excellency
the Governor in Council
authorizes the Controller
to pass the expenditure
which has been incurred
in excess of the sanctioned
estimate.

Coll.

Colonel Wilkerson's
attention will be drawn
to para 3 of Mr.
Pranger's letter, which
contains explanations
with reference to the
alleged unsatisfactory
execution of work by
the Workshop, and regarding
the wheels and hooks
for the Gates, which,
though charged for, Cap-
tain Hunter states
were not supplied.

To The P. Engr & Draughtsman,
5- Controller
2- Genl Supt of PW
Stores & Workshop
with indent

Decr 9/11/70.

W.B.

Oct 6/93

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Superintending Engineer
4th Division

Date

Recd.

Ref.

G. O. No. 2671.

Nos. 129 & 130.

Madras.

By orders on the letter
The Genl. Insp. of P.W.
& Workshop explain.
The nature of the excep-
tion over the same.
Estimate for the
work on the same.
at Madras.