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(1) Number of pages 1

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1263 Press Mis.

130-31

Dated 8 5 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 8th May 1871.

No. 130. Read the following letter from the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 2nd May 1871, No. 283.—

FOLLOWING the course prescribed in the Circular of the Accountant-General of the Public Works Department, No. 9, dated 13th March 1871, I have the honour to submit a statement of unauthorized outlay appearing in the accounts of the officer in charge of the Mannargoody Range of the Tanjore District for the month of March 1871.

No. 131. ORDER THEREON, 8th May 1871, No. 1,263.

ACCOUNT, No. 9.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 6th Division in continuation of G. O, No. 1,156, dated 24th April 1871.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. CARPENDALE, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

3B

No 283

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER OF
PUBLIC WORKS ACCOUNTS,
Madras, 2nd *May* 1871.

From

THE CONTROLLER OF P. W. ACCOUNTS,

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT SAINT GEORGE

SIR,

FOLLOWING the course prescribed in the Circular of the Accountant-General of the P. W. D., No 9, dated 13th March 1871, I have the honour to submit (over leaf) a Statement of unauthorized outlay appearing in the Accounts of the Officer in charge of the Mannargoody Range of the Tanjore District, for the month of March 1871.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Controller of P. W. Accounts.

3C

Ecolash

Statement of unauthorized outlay appearing in the Accounts of the Kummungoodye Range of the Tanjore District for the month of March 1871

Items	Estimate.	Total Expenditure up to the 31st March 1871	Grant for 1870-71	Expenditure in 1870-71 up to 31st March 1871	Expenditure in March 1871	Remarks
Imperial						
Agricultural						
Ordinary						
Repairs						
Repairing the Tank of Kummungcadoo	" " "	164 4 6	" " "	164 4 6	164 4 6	
D° the D° of Poothoovakory	" " "	63 9 2	" " "	63 9 2	63 9 2	There are no sanctioned estimates and no specific allotments for these works
D° the right-bank of Porcondanar in Tricalar limits	" " "	794 8 "	" " "	794 8 "	794 8 "	
D° the left-bank of Coraiyar from bridge on road No. 23 to Needamangalam	" " "	113 14 6	" " "	113 14 6	113 14 6	
Providing Naval groyne for Improving the Vennar in Aconathy limits		16 8 "	" " "	16 8 "	16 8 "	There is no specific allotment for this work.

Office of the Controller of Public Works Accounts, Madras, 2nd May 1871.

S. Wood

Controller of Public Works Accounts

From

The Controller of
Public Works Accounts,

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Dated 2nd May 1871.
Received 3rd

No 2833

Submitting a Statement of unauthorized outlay
in the Accounts of the Mannargudy
Range of the Tanjore District for
the month of March 1871.

No 1263

Communicated to the Acting Engineer of the 6th Dn
in Continuation of G. O. No. 1156 dy 21 April/71

To D R & Dn Engineer Statement Mr. check & book 8-5-71
Contractor P-C 13/5/71

Govt. of India

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
& Ex Officio

Dated

Recd

G. O. 8th May 1871, No 1263.

Nos. 177-181

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 8th May 1871.

Read the following papers —

No 123. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Palamcottah, 30th January 1871, No. 2,795.

I HAVE the honour to report upon the Subsidiary Jail and out-houses at Nangunery, 1st Range, Tinnevelly, carried into execution under the supervision of Mr. Sub-Engineer Colquhoun.

2. This work, estimated at Rupees 4,420, and sanctioned in G. O , No. 3,754, of 2nd December 1868, was completed in 1869 at a cost of Rupees 4,485-4-1.

3. Advances for beams and doors were made by Supervisor Muniappah Pillay, then in charge of 5th Range, but when the work was handed over to Mr. Colquhoun, n January 1869, on the amalgamation of the 1st and 5th Ranges, no actual work had been commenced.

4. On the 20th September 1869, in letter No 233, to the Collector, Mr. Stuart, the Sub-Collector, brings to notice the inferior nature of the beams, which he describes as of white jungle-wood, and already perforated by the attacks of some kind of insect. He suggests that the Contractor should be made to replace them with some durable kind of timber Mr Stuart also complains of the inferiority of the wood-work of the doors, and describes the workmanship as very bad.

Docket No 2,596 of 24th September 1869.

5. This letter is sent to Mr Colquhoun by the Superintending Engineer for explanation.

6 Mr. Colquhoun replies in letter No 215 of 2nd October 1869. He states that the beams (except 20 feet of Vengay) were procured by Supervisor Muniappah Pillay, that they are a species of "congoo," and when brought to site were quite free from insects, but since they were wrought and put up insects attacked them, and that an application of tar had caused the insects to disappear He admits that the doors are of "very inferior workmanship" and had warped much, but throws the blame on Supervisor Muniappah Pillay, who, he states, paid away the entire amount for them to a "wretched carpenter" before the articles had been completed and delivered.

7. The Superintending Engineer in memorandum No. 1,642, of the 14th October 1869, calls for further information from Mr. Colquhoun, and addresses the Collector on the subject, No 1,643, of 14th idem.

8 Mr. Colquhoun in letter No. 224, of 19th October 1869, submits further explanation. He states that the rates for the doors, namely, 30 Rupees each, was liberal and sufficient to secure good material and workmanship, but that the rate of Rupees 2-8-0 per cubic foot for beams ("of which only Rupees 2-4-0 was paid") he believes to be low, and not sufficient to provide good materials and workmanship, but for the description of wood supplied "i is a fair price." Mr. Colquhoun says it was not "congoo," but a species of jungle-wood, and such as he would hesitate to use in a permanent building. He states that "the doors were paid for in full

The Board (Mr. Jenkins) thought last

(Rupees 380)" on the 4th January 1869, the beams on 30th January 1869; and that these payments were made by Supervisor Muniappah Pillay when in charge of the range.

9. The Superintending Engineer then calls upon Supervisor Muniappah Pillay, memorandum No 1,764, of 26th October 1869, for explanation, who states that in the month of January 1869 the Contractor for the wood, a Mr. Wells, had delivered some of the wood at the work spot, and some at the foot of the hills, that the wood was "not so minutely examined "by him, as it was stored in two different places without being chiseled." He continues: "My successor, Mr. Colquhoun, instead of rejecting these useless woods, "the quality of which may have been found at the time of chiseling and making "use of them to the work, and hold the contractor who had been working under "him till after some time responsible for the delivery of good material—instead of "informing the circumstances at once to me, he forwarded me after its completion "a letter received from the Sub-Collector and asked my explanations on the subject; and I on the receipt of the above letter called on the Contractor (Mr. Wells) "to make good of them; but he, in reply, informed me that he cannot admit that "those woods which have been perforated by the attacks of insects have been "supplied by him, as they have already been used in works along with those of "others; and that this had not been intimated to him at the time of settling his "account by the 1st Range Officer when a retrenchment of Rupees 40 has also "been made by him for some deficiency in its measurement, and admits also that "he could have easily sold them and paid back the advance if this had been made "known to him at that time, and a copy of his reply has also been sent to the 1st "Range Officer.

Letter to Superintending Engineer, No 432, of 30th October 1869

"The original letter of Mr. Wells is also herewith forwarded for your consideration"

10. The Sub-Collector (Mr. Stuart) again addresses the Collector (No. 285, of 2nd November 1869), and states that the timber used in the jail is not "congoo "as Captain Prendergast appears to think, but a common kind of wood, taxed at 1 "Rupee per bandy load in common with all not valuable kinds, and that, though "recently tarred," he saw in one or two places marks of insects at work again, and he suggests that if the timber cannot be replaced at the expense of the Contractor, that several more coatings of tar would be advisable.

11. Another reference is made by the Superintending Engineer to Mr. Colquhoun, who, four months afterwards, namely, on the 20th March 1870, in letter No 374, states the timber used in the construction of the Nangunery Subsidiary Jail is not of the best "description." "It is a species of jungle-wood from "the adjoining hills, and was not sufficiently seasoned when brought to work; "consequently it was rapidly attacked by insects." He states that "since the "application of tar the insects have vanished," and that "occasional applications "of tar will preserve this timber both from rot and insects, and that there will be "no necessity, for some years at least, to replace it."

No. 1,947 of 17th November 1869.

12 Meanwhile Mr. Pennington, the Sub-Collector, reports unfavourably of the new Subsidiary Jail. He says, "the workmanship surpasses anything I "ever saw for badness, even in Nangu-"nery. The compound wall of raw bricks in mud had simply melted away, and "shows scarcely a sign of a brick; the roof leaks shamefully throughout, and has "considerably subsided and sunk in places; the beams are rotting away already, "the gratings are entirely unprotected so that the rain beats in freely, and the "so-called hospital is an open shed, exposed to the sun nearly all the day long. The "whole structure answers to what was required merely in outward appearance, and "I would most earnestly request that an example be made of somebody this time. "Building a house or a bridge seems to be a lost art in the sub-division."

Letter to Collector, No 323, of 27th November 1869

13 In the month of March 1870, Captain Prendergast reports upon the building to the Collector, No 13, of 2nd April 1870. He states, "with reference "to the Sub-Collector's letter to you, No. 323, of the 27th November 1869, I have "the honour to remark that the Sub-Collector must go beyond the sub-division in "his disparagement of the Nangunery Subsidiary Jail, for the plan of additions was "drawn up at Madras, and the hospital shed is according to the standard plan, "precisely the same as others all over the country. This shed faces the morning "sun certainly, but it is so placed that it may give protection from the strong west-"erly winds which would cause far more discomfort to an inmate It must be "remembered that the new compound wall was subject to a very severe trial in the "violent rains of November, as was also the roof of the building. The grated upper "windows certainly require protection, and weather-boards should be put up The "beams give the appearance of rotting away when attacked by insects; but, after "being well tarred, no more damage has been done, and they will probably last "now for some time. Care should only be taken that after a while fresh tar is "again applied."

14. On my arrival in the Tinnevelly District, in May 1870, after assuming charge of the division, the Collector informed me that he was not satisfied with the Subsidiary Jail work at Nangunery, and requested me to report upon it. So many other works, etc, occupying my attention, I was not able to do this until last December, on the 9th and 10th of which month I examined the buildings carefully. Before passing my opinion on them, I have the honour to state, with regard to the attempt of Mr. Colquhoun to shift the blame of the bad wood-work on to Supervisor Muniappah Pillay's shoulders, that it is very clear that he, Mr. Colquhoun, accepted such wood as was handed over to him, and as the Supervisor very shrewdly says it was for Mr. Colquhoun to see that when worked up any inferior material was rejected. Mr. Colquhoun neither rejects the rotten wood nor inferior doors, nor does he make any report whatever on the subject to the Superintending Engineer until called upon to do so subsequent to the completion of the work.

15. On Mr. Colquhoun assuming charge in January, the works were at once handed over to his Contractors, "Ruthnam Moodelly and Co," and all further payments made to them, the sum expended by Supervisor Muniappah Pillay having been Rupees 681-13-8.

16. As specimens of bad work and inferior material perhaps these buildings surpass even those executed by Mr. Colquhoun in the 1st Range, Tinnevelly, and on which reports have already been laid before Government.

17. The doors of the jail wards are exceedingly rough, the wood of which they are made is inferior, and abounds with cracks and imperfections; the iron-work is weak and flimsy, and the screws and nails by which it has been fitted are already loose. Scarcely a bolt fits, nor can a door be made to fasten securely. The roofing of palmyra rafters, single couples, flat and pantiles, has sagged owing to the weakness of the rafters and couples; the reapers are badly fixed, and the flat tiles consequently have no proper bearing The flooring of the verandah is of wall-bricks laid flat in chunam with square bricks above; the total depth, where I had it broken up, was $6\frac{1}{4}$ to $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches. In the bill the charge for this flooring is made by cubic measurement, the depth being calculated at 9 inches, and the excessive rate of 8 Rupees per cubic yard allowed. Flooring of wards is of asphalte over a levelling course of brick-in-chunam laid flat. The thickness, where examined, of the asphalte was only half an inch. Roofing of verandah the same as main wards; palmyrahs thin and many-cracked and nearly severed, through careless sawing The roof has sagged; it rests on pillars with bress-summers. The latter, as allowed in estimate, should have been 9 inches × 6 inches. Of the six one only is of this scantling, the rest vary from $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches, 8 inches $\times 3\frac{1}{2}$, 4 inches, 5 inches. Moreover, they have been fixed with their greatest breadth flat instead of perpendicular, sagging being the consequence. the wood is of the commonest kind, scarcely fit for firewood, and is being destroyed by insects and dryrot in spite of a thin coating of tar. The roof of the wards and verandah is a succession of wavy lines, owing to the sagging of the weak frame-work. The covered passage to Police guard-room is supported on pillars, with intermediate bress-summers; the wood is of the same inferior quality, and is being destroyed by rot and insects From one of the bress-summers I noticed some of the bark had not even been planed off, the scantling of all is less than allowed for, and all the timbers are fixed wrongly, namely, with their least scantling perpendicular. In the Police guard-room two beams of 1 foot × 9 inches are wrongly fixed, and the wood is of the same inferior quality. It is coated with tar, which hides to a certain extent its defects. The roof of this room (terrace, resting on palmyra joists) leaks in several places: and the doors and windows are inferior, both as regards workmanship and material. The cooking-shed is a most miserable building; the south wall is cracked, and should be taken down. The pointing of walls is something ludicrous in appearance; the roofing, for which Rupees 20 per square is allowed, is simply disgraceful; the pantiles (no flat tiles provided) are too few in number, and are already falling down; the front part is supported by two weak wooden posts, charged in the bill at 3 Rupees each, whereas they are not worth more than 8 to 12 Annas. The work of latrines is very similar. For the well the high rate of Rupees 14 per cubic yard is charged for a few common quarried stones termed "cut," and the high rate of 4 Rupees per cubic yard allowed for removing $11\frac{1}{4}$ yards of rock.

The hospital-shed is a disgraceful piece of work. The roof has scarcely a straight line in it, and the walls have cracked in several places.

18. I cannot conclude this report without expressing my astonishment that the inferiority of this Jail and its out-houses, on which the expenditure has been Rupees 4,485-4-1, was not brought to the notice of Government by Captain Prendergast.

19. The rate for the wood-work charged in the bill, namely, Rupees 2-8-0 per cubic foot, is ample for the provision of good, sound timber, considering that the wood can be procured from the adjoining hills. All the other rates in the bill are liberal and good. Substantial work should have been turned out. The contrast between the sound work of the old Cutcherry (to which the jail is attached) built some years back, and the work performed by Mr. Colquhoun, is quite startling. Mr. Colquhoun's contractors have scamped their work, and he has permitted them to do so.

REFERRED to Captain Prendergast for such observations as he may have to offer.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
7th February 1871.

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

No. 124. From Major H. L. PRENDERGAST, R E, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 10th February 1871.

IN returning letter No. 2,795, of the 30th January 1871, from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, I have the honour to state that my letter to the Collector, of 2nd April 1870, had reference to the general design of the Nangunery Jail and the wood-work of the roof. The Sub-Collector had complained of the hospital and grated windows, and I explained the faults in the plan, and stated my belief that the wood might last some time if tar were applied to keep off the insects. In this letter, however, I did not dispose of the matter departmentally, as my intention had been to deal with the inferior work when sending to the Collector an estimate for such renewal as might be necessary. Sub-Engineer Mr. Colquhoun was responsible for taking over bad wood when he received charge of the talook, but Supervisor Muniappah Pillay was also not free from blame in receiving such wood, for the price of the wood was all paid before it was examined carefully. The rains in November 1869 had been exceptionally severe, and I had proposed, on considering all the circumstances, to apportion the responsibility of making good the loss by bad work, that Mr. Colquhoun had done, on each item of the estimate for renewal.

2 I must acknowledge that I made no minute inspection of the building, as Major Payne has done, in measuring the scantling, the asphalte flooring, brick flooring, etc, having no suspicion that there would be any such deficiencies as he has found I made but a hasty inspection of the place, looking principally at the wood-work of the main building. I much regret now that I did not go thoroughly into the details at the time and settle the matter, instead of leaving it to my successor, but there was then not the bad appearance that the buildings now present; the wall of the cook-room was not cracked, nor had the wood-work of the jail sagged and distorted the roof in the manner now represented by Major Payne. I

beg to state, however, that the further deterioration is but natural when the inferiority of the wood is perceived; that another monsoon had passed before the recent inspection; and I must ask the Government to take into consideration the state in which the district was after the great floods: tanks and channels were breached in all directions, the whole energy of the department was required in saving the irrigation works and revenue, and I looked on the Nangunery Jail as a work at that crisis of but insignificant importance, which would be properly left to be dealt with when there was a time of comparative leisure afterwards.

No. 125. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 8th March 1871, No. 3,121.

With reference to G. O, No. 3, dated the 1st instant, I have the honour to forward the plan, specification report and estimate of Rupees 4,420 for the Subsidiary Jail at Nangunery in the district of Tinnevelly, and to state that the construction of the building was commenced in January 1869 and completed on the 2nd July 1869.

No 126. From Major H L. PRENDERGAST, R. E, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Palamcottah, 13th March 1871.

With reference to orders No. 3, of the 1st March 1871, I have the honour to report that the only date on which I visited the Nangunery Jail while in construction was the 20th May 1869. The Jail and Hospital shed were then roofed in, the work was fresh, and the wood had not begun to give way. The first notice of its inferiority was in the Sub Collector's letter of 20th September. After the violent rains in November, the damaged state of the Jail was reported to me; but at that time little was thought of beyond the restoration of irrigation works. I gave a hurried look at the building again in the evening of the 10th March 1870, when I noticed the failure of some of the rafters, but I did not give more than casual observation, and told the Collector, in my last letter of 2nd April, what Mr. Colquhoun stated in his report of 20th March, namely, that the wood (in general) might last for some time. I then left the matter of the renewal of the wood-work to be disposed of by my successor in office.

2. The Superintending Engineer has fully stated what passed in correspondence in his letter of 30th January 1871, No. 2,795.

No. 127. Order thereon, 8th May 1871, No. 1,261.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 14.

In the first of the letters recorded at the head of these Proceedings Major Payne reports the result of his inspection of the Subsidiary Jail and out houses at Nangunery in the 1st Range of the Tinnevelly District for which a sum of Rupees 4,420 was allotted during 1868-69 from the grant of five lacs sanctioned* by the Government of India for Jail buildings in this Presidency.

*G O, No 3,754, dated 2nd December 1868

2. The Jail in question was commenced in January and completed and handed over for occupation in July 1869, but so early as September of the same year the wood-work was reported by the Sub-Collector to be much deteriorated through the attacks of insects. The timber employed was a description of white jungle-wood which was represented to be of inferior quality and wholly unsuited to building purposes. A coating of tar was, by the instructions of the Superintending Engineer, Captain Prendergast, applied, but without apparently effecting much good, for, in November, the Sub-Collector again considered it necessary to call attention to the state of the wood-work. The inferiority of the material used and the indifferent workmanship throughout the building were also brought to notice, the roof having shown symptoms of subsidence and the compound wall having become much damaged, owing to the raw brick-in-mud, of which it was formed, having become saturated with water during the great storm which passed over the district in November 1869.

3. Major Payne, who examined the building on the 9th and 10th December 1870, confirms these unfavourable representations of the character of the work. He describes the wood-work of the doors as being exceedingly rough and much split, the iron-work as unsubstantial and imperfectly put together, while the roofing had, he states, sagged, owing to the weakness of the rafters and couples. Deficiencies in measurement were also found to exist in the scantling and in the thickness of the asphalte and brick flooring.

4 After a careful perusal of Major Payne's report and of the explanations which on a reference made to him on the subject, the late Acting Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division has afforded, the Government are satisfied that the defects of the building are attributable in the first place to wood of an unsuitable description and in an unseasoned state having been accepted from a Contractor without, as far as can now be seen, any examination of its quality having been made, and in the second place to the work having been entrusted to Contractors over whom no control seems from one cause or another to have been exercised by the officer in charge of the range

5. The responsibility for the first error rests primarily on Supervisor Munniappah Pillay, but as the timber delivered on the work had not been accepted by him when he gave over charge to Mr. Sub-Engineer Colquhoun, the latter, who on succeeding to the charge of the range, seems to have followed the practice he had adopted of transferring all works to the Contractors Ruthnum Moodelly and Co, and leaving them uncontrolled, must be held accountable. Timber which ought never to have been allowed in a public building was under this system permitted to be used, and inferior materials as well as bad work seems to have been readily passed

6. Under ordinary circumstances the Government would have had to take into consideration the extent to which Mr Colquhoun should be held personally

responsible for the loss sustained; but as the Sub-Engineer has been convicted of fraud in the Sessions Court and dismissed the service, His Excellency can only now desire that the Superintending Engineer will submit an estimate of the cost of replacing such of the wood-work as it will be necessary to remove, and for putting the buildings of the Jail generally into a complete state of repair.

7. It will here be noticed that the design of the open hospital attached to Sub-Jails is thought to be unsuitable owing to the liability of the inmates to exposure. The question of effecting such modifications in the standard plan as are calculated to afford complete protection from the weather will accordingly be considered in the Judicial Department.

8. In conclusion, the Government cannot exonerate the Acting Superintending Engineer from blame in this matter. Major Prendergast visited the building before it was completely finished in May 1869, on that occasion he should have discovered the faulty character of the timber employed. His inspection in March 1870 should also have been of a more searching and careful nature

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Judicial Department.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
To Major H. L. Prendergast, R.E.

Ed. S. T. Aubrey.

Palamcottah
13th March 1871.

From Major H. L. Prendergast R.E.
To the Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir

With reference to letter No 3 of the 1st March 1871. I have the honor to report that the only date on which I visited the Nanguneri Jail while in construction was the 20th May 1869. The Jail and Hospital sheds were then roofed in. The work was fresh, and the wood had not begun to give way. The first notice of its imperfect was in the Sub-Collector's letter of 20th September after the violent rains in November the damaged state of the Jail was reported to me; but at that time little was thought of, beyond the restoration of irrigation works. I gave a hurried look at the building again in the evening of the 20th March 1870, when I noticed the fracture of some of the rafters, but I did not give more than casual observation, and told the Collector in my last letter of 2nd April, that Mr. Colquhoun states in his report of 1st March, very that the wood (in general) might last

No. 3121

Madras 15th March 1871

8th March 1871

From

Vault Colonel A. A. Robertson R.E.
Acting Chief Engineer
8th Division Burmah

To

Colonel C. A. Orr R. E.
Secretary to Government N.W.P.

Sir,

I Have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of the North Western Provinces a Report & Estimate of Rupees 11,20,000 for the Subsidiary Fort at Kangra in the District of Kangra & to state that the construction of the building was commenced in January 1869, and completed on the 2nd July 1869.

I have &c.

Richd Robert Vault Col R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer
8th Division

Public Works Department
No. 119 dated 15th May 1871
Major H. L. Pendergast R.E.

To the Secretary to Government N.W.P.

Dated 23 March 1871
Rec'd 16th April

States the proceedings with reference to the Subsidiary Fort at Kangra.

No. 1261 - 8 May 1871

No 126

Dated 15th March 1871 No. 20
Rec'd 12th April 1871 No. 12

Abstract Estimate No. of 1898/99

District Tinnevelly. Taluq Nangunery

Work — Estimate for Constructing a Subordinary Jail and its out Houses at Nangunery Taluq Cutcherry.

Quantity	Description of Work.	Rate	Amount		Amount of Part 6
1	2	3	4		5
	Jailward Covered passage and Police Room.				
222 5/12 27	Cubic feet of British Chunam	1/4	890	56	
30 1/2	Cubic feet of Square Brick work &c	8 "	245	5 4	
720	Superficial feet of Flooring Jailwards with Asphalte Junction	25	180	" "	
6173	Superficial feet of Plastering &c &c per &c	2 8	154	5 2	
2070	Superficial feet of Roofing with Palmirah rafters, reepers flat and Partition & Chunam borders &c per 100 Superficial feet	25	519	" "	
336	Superficial feet of Terrace including Joists &c	24	80	10 3	
103	Cubic feet of Wrought wood per Cubic foot	2 8	257	8 "	
8	Doors with frames &c Complete 4 x 7	30	240	" "	
1	Windows with frames Iron bars with shutters &c Complete 4 x 3	12	48	" "	
8	Ventilators with &c &c 5 x 2	10	80	" "	
	Opening a doorway with old Cutcherry western wall for Jail Row &c &c	5	5	" "	
	Excavating foundations and Sundries		101	13	2730
					2802 "

Rs 1 Annas 13 Rs Pie

Estimated by me
Executive Engineer
8-3-98

Checked by me
Superintending Engineer
Madura

Passed for Rs 2802
(Rupees two thousand eight hundred and two only)
Superintending Engineer
Madura
8-3-98

Checked 8-3-98
Examined & Recommended for Sanction
Executive Engineer
Tinnevelly
8-3-98

Estimate for Construction of Subordinary Jail & its out Houses at Nangunery Taluq Cutcherry

Rs 2802

Approved
Superintending Engineer
Madura
8-3-98

Sanctioned by Board's Proceedings No. 1261-8 dated 4/11/98

Sanctioned Rs 2802

Estimate No. 12 for 1898/99

Page 125

Vol. 6 Estimates P. 29 to 129

	Total Brought forward							202	-
	Cook Room.								
12 2/9	Cyds of Sundwall ——— C°	1	-	8	-	6	1	9	
401/2	Sq. feet of Roofing with Palmirah rafters, reeben Battens & Chunam borders	14	"	-	56	3	4		
8.	Jungle posts each 8 feet in length	2	"	-	16	"	"		
2	—do— " — " — 14 — " — do —	3	"	"	6	"	-		
1.	Excavating foundn. mud flooring Plastering and sundries ———				5	10	11	90	-
	Hospital Shed.								
60/3.	Cyds of Burnt Burkum mud Concrete C°	3	"	"	181	"	-		
973/9	Sq. feet of Roofing with Palmirah rafters, reeben flat & Battens and Chunam borders including ridge work ——— C°	25	"	-	243	6	"		
155	Running feet of wall plate & sills	"	1	"	28	12	"		
33	—do— " — of Tie beams C°	"	1/2	"	8	4	"		
	Excavating foundn. mud flooring & sundries ———				81	2	"		
3	Posts 10 feet in length — each C°	2	8	-	7	8	-	516	
	Labrine							500	-
27 12/27	Cyds of mud wall ——— C°	"	8	-	13	11	7		
8 4/9	Cyds of Burkum Chunam ——— C°	1/2	"	-	33	-	10		
206 27/8	Sq. feet of Flooring Labrine with ——— Asphalte per 100 sq. ft	25	-	-	51	8	6		
448/2	do of Roofing with Palmirah rafters reeben Battens and Chunam ——— borders per 100 sq. ft	1/2	-	-	69	12	8		
6	Posts in 7 feet in length — C°	2	-	-	12	-	"		
3	—do— 13 feet in do each C°	3	"	-	9	-	-		
	Excavating foundn. Mud Plastering and sundries ———				7	19	5	196	
	Well ———							1/28	
6 1/4	Cyds of Soft Rock ——— C°	"	8	-	3	2	"	111	
16.	Cyds of Rock ——— "	2	-	-	32	-	-		
11 1/4	Cyds of hard do ——— "	1	-	-	15	-	-		
	Carried over								

	Brought forward Rs			80	2	"	3557
13 22/27	Cyds of Burkum Chunam	1/2	"	"	55	-	3	
	Baling water and sundries ———				14	13	9	150	-
	Compound Wall								
168 1/4	Cyds of Raw Burkum mud C	1	"	-	168	12	"		
5.	Cyds of Burkum Chunam "	3	8	-	17	8	"		
4860.	Sq. feet of Plastering per 100 sq ft	1	8	"	72	14	5		
	Removing old Compound wall ———				7	"	-		
	Sundries ———				18	13	7	285	"
	Superintendence ———					1		128	-
	Total amount of Estimated Rupees —							4150	-

Rooney Peacock Esqr. Superintendg
27 Nov 68 Surveyor of Revenue Stamps & Stamped Papers

Chas L Sandwith Captain R.E
Offg. Superintending Engineer
8th Division

1/11/69

Enclosures (No 9)
to a letter from the
Offg Supg Engineer &
Jt dated 23rd January
1869 (No 2 of 69)

To The Secy to Govt
PWD

Abstract Estimate
for constructing a
Subsidiary Jail &
outhouses at Talay
Cutcherry Sub Division
Amount (Rs 4420

Jt 1/11/69

1-2-2/6

Tinnevelly

Estimate No 36 of

Work Estimate
of the Expences re-
-quired for Con-
structing a Sub-
sidiary Jail
& its out houses
at Nanguneery
Talay Cutcherry
Rs 4420

Estimate Rs 4458.

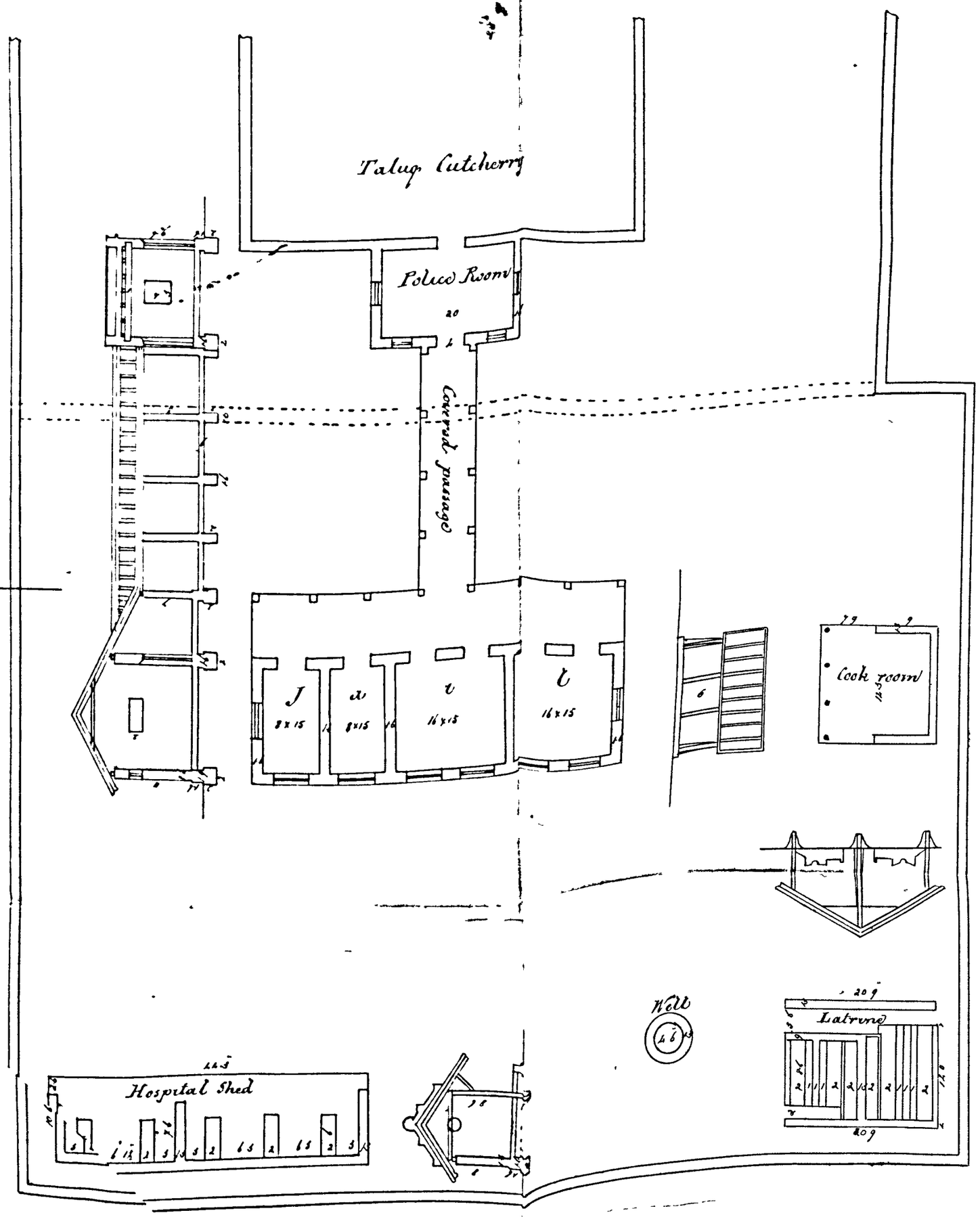
Enclosure 3 in a letter
from the Superintending
Engineer 8th Dec. to the
Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.
dated 8th March 1871
No. 3121

8/12/1871
Encl: Abstract Estimate

Abstract Estimate
for constructing a Sub-
-sidiary Jail & outhouses
to Taluq Cutcherry at
Arangunny Rs. 11,520.

Tinnevelly District
Nanguneny Talug

Plan and Sections of a Subsidary Jail and its out houses to be constructed in the Nanguneny Talug Cutcherry



Amount of Estimate
Rs 4423-

Sup[d] Eng[rs] Office
Madura 25[th] January
1869

Wm Lyon Sandwith
Captain R.E
Off[g] Sup[g] Engineer 8[th] Division

be folded or roughly handled

Enclosure 1 in 0 letter
from the Superintending
Engineer 8th Division to
the Secretary to Government
P.W.D. dated 8th March
1871. No. 3121

Recd 11/3/71
Answered 12/3/71

(Plan of a Subsidiary
Jail & out houses
at Kanguenere Rs
4120

Specification Report

Estimate for constructing a Subsidiary
Jail in Nanguenery Taluq
1. Amount of Estimate. Rupees 4150
Four thousand one hundred and fifty Only
Viz.

Main Building	2802
Cook House	90
Hospital Shed	500
Jail Latrine	197
Sinking a well	150
Compound wall	285
Superintendance	126
Total of Estimate Rs	4150

2. The Building is to be raised on a
Basement 1½ feet in height above found
-tions which are to be sunk 2 feet on rock
The principal walls are to be 11 feet high
and the Verandah pillars 7 feet of Brick
in Chunnam
3. The Building is to contain
4

4 rooms, Viz:

2 Rooms 16 feet long by 15 feet broad.

2 do do by 15 feet do

by front Open Verandah 9 feet broad with

2 Police room 20 feet long by 12 feet broad

joined by a covered passage of 3½ feet

3. The Cook House and the Latrine

are to be of ~~mud walls~~ and tiled roof

with asphalte flooring for the latter,

and the Hospital Shed is to be of burnt

Brick in mud Cement as shewn in

the Standard Plan.

4. The Compound wall is to be 6 feet

high enclosing an area of 2100 square

feet.

5. The well is to be 4½ feet in dia-

meter and 30 feet deep built of brick

in Cunnam.

Rooney Joseph Kelly Supervisor
Incl. Gen. Staff
Lincoln
Asst Surveyor
Offg Supdg Engineer
Captain RE

4 rooms, Verf.

10/1/69

Enclosure No 10.
in a letter from the
Offg Supt Engr & Dr
dated 23rd January 1869
No 2369.

To The Secy to Govt
P W D

989
P W 3/1/69

Report to accompany
Estimate for Constructing
Subsidiary Jail and
out Houses to Talug
Cutcherry at Ratnagiri
Rs 4420.

Ex L. 18/1/69

1 Rooms, Vol.

10/

Enclosure

Enclosure 2 in a letter from the Superintending Engineer 8th Div. to the Secretary to Govt. P.W.D. dated 8th March 1871 No. 3121.

8/III/71
Rec'd May/71 & Ans

Report to accompany Estimate for constructing Subsidiary Jail and out buildings &c. at Sangamri
Rs 11420

7

From

Major H. Le Prevost Goodridge
Royal Engineers

To

Colonel C. A. Orr R. E.
Secy to Government
P W Deptt
Fort Saint George

Sir,

In returning Letter 2795 of the 30th January 1871, from the Superintending Engineer 8th Division, I have the honour to state, that my Letter to the Collector of 2d April 1870, had reference to the general design of the Nanganeri Jail, and the wood work of the roof. The Sub Collector had complained of the Hospital, and grated windows: and, I explained the faults in the plan, and stated my

belief that the wood might last some time, if tar were applied to keep off the insects. In this letter, however, I did not dispose of the matter Departmentally; as my intention had been to deal with the inferior work, when sending to the Collector an estimate for such renewals as might be necessary. Sub Engineer Mr. Colquhoun was responsible for taking over bad wood, when he received charge of the taling; but Supervisor Mooneappah Pillai, was also not free from blame, in receiving such wood - for the price of the wood was all paid, before it was examined carefully. The rains in November, 1869 had been exceptionally severe, and it had proceeded, on considering all the circumstances, to apportion the responsibility of making good the loss by bad work, that Mr. Colquhoun had done, on each item of the estimate for renewal.

2. I must acknowledge that I made no minute inspection of the building; as Major Payne has done, in measuring the seantling, the asphalte flooring, brick flooring &c.; having no suspicion, that there would being such deficiencies, as he has found. I made but a hasty inspection of the place, looking principally at the wood-work of the main building. I much regret now that I did not go thoroughly

into the details at the time, and settle the matter. instead of leaving it to my successor; but there was then not the least appearance, that the buildings now present; the wall of the cook room was not cracked, nor had the wood-work of the jail sagged, and distorted the roof, in the manner now represented by Major Payne. I beg to state, however, that, the further deterioration is but natural, when the inferiority of the wood is perceived; that another monsoon had passed, before the recent inspection, and I must ask the Government to take into consideration, the state in which the District was, after the great floods: tanks and channels were breached in all directions, the whole energy of the Department, was required in saving the Irrigation works and Revenue; and I looked on the Nanganeri Jail as a work, at that crisis, of but insignificant importance, who's wants would be properly left to be dealt with, when there was a time of comparative leisure afterwards

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant

Madras
10th February
1871

Wm Lewin Smith Major
Royal Engineers.

No. 2795

Palamcottah
30th January 1871

From

Major G. M. Payne
Ag Superintg. Engineer 8th Dn.

To

Colonel C. A. Orr RE
Secretary to Government Mras.

Sir,

I have the honor to report upon the subsidiary jail and out houses at Nanguneri, 1st Range Tinnevelly, carried into execution under the supervision of Mr Sub Engineer Colquhoun.

2 This work, estimated at Rupees 4420 and sanctioned in G O No 87 54 of 2nd December 1868, was completed in 1869 at a cost of Rupees 5485-4-1.

3 Advances for beams and doors were made by Supervisor Muruappah Pillay then in charge of 5th Range; but when the work was handed over to Mr Colquhoun in January 1869 no actual work had been commenced

4 On the 20th September 1869 in letter No 233 to the Collector, Mr Stuart the Sub Collector brings to notice the inferior nature of the beams, which he describes as of white jungle wood and already perforated by the attacks of some kind of insect. He suggests that the Contractor should be made to replace them with some durable kind of timber.

Mr Stuart also complains of the inferiority of the wood-work of the doors and describes the workmanship as very bad.

5 This letter was sent to Mr Colquhoun by the Superintg Engineer for explanation.

6 Mr Colquhoun replies in letter No 215 of 2nd October 1869. He states that the beams (except 20 feet of vengay) were procured by

Docket No 2596
of 24th September
1871

Docket No 2596 of 24th September 1871
Major G. M. Payne
Ag Superintg Engineer
Nanguneri Jail
Explanations, the Chief
Engr. requires
Of the Executive Engr
Nanguneri in
the Tinnevelly Dist.
Dy. 12th Oct. 1871.

Ch. 12th
Collector R. 12th
Recd 14th Oct. 1871

Supervisor Muniappah Pillay, [illegible] they are a species of "Coigoo" and when brought to site were quite free from insects, but since they were wrought and put up insects attacked them, and that an application of tar had caused the insects to disappear. He admits that the doors are of "very inferior workmanship" and had warped much but throws the blame on Supervisor Meome. appah Pillay, who he states, paid away the entire amount for them to a "wretched Carpenter;" before the articles had been completed and delivered.

7. The Superintg. Engineer in Memo No 1642 of the 4th October 1869 calls for further information from Mr Colquhoun and addresses the Collector on the subject. No 1643 of 14 idem.

8. Mr Colquhoun in letter No 22 of 19th October 1869 submits further explanation. He states that the rates for the doors viz. 30 Rupees each was liberal and sufficient to secure good material and workmanship but that the rate of 2-8-- per cubic foot for beams "of which only 2-4-- was paid" he believes to be low and not sufficient to provide good materials and workmanship but for the description of wood supplied "it is a fair price" Mr Colquhoun says it "was not long ago that a species of Sunglewood

and such as he would hesitate to use in a permanent building. He states that the doors were paid for in full (Rupees 380) on the 4th January 1869 the beams on 30 January 1869 and that these payments were made by Supervisor Muniappah Pillay when in charge of the Range.

Letter to Supg. Engineer No 432 of 30 October 1869

9. The Superintg. Engineer then calls upon Supervisor Muniappah Pillay Memo No 1764 of 26 October 1869 for explanation, who states that in the month of January 1869 the contractor for the wood, a Mr Wells had delivered some of the wood at the work spot and some at the foot of the hills that the wood was "not so minutely examined by him as it was stored in two different places without being chisseled". He continues "My successor Mr Colquhoun, instead of rejecting these useless woods, the quality of which may have been found at the time of chiseling and making use of them to the work and hold the contractor who had been working under him till after some time responsible for the delivery of good material instead of informing the circumstances at once to me, he forwarded me after its completion a letter received from the sub Collector and asked my explanations on the subject; and I on the receipt of the above letter, called on the contractor (Mr Wells) to

"to make good of them; but he respectfully
"informed me, that he cannot admit that
"those woods which have been perforated
"by the attacks of insects have been sufficient
"by him as they have already been used up
"works along with those of others, and that
"this had not been intimated to him
"at the time of settling the account by the
"Ist Range Officer when a retrenchment of
"Rupees 40 has also been made by him for some
"deficiency in its measurement, and admits
"also that he could have easily got them
"and paid back the advance if this had
"been made known to him at that time
"and a copy of his reply has also been
"sent to the Ist Range Officer."

"The original letter of Mr Wells is
also herewith forwarded for your perusal."

10 The Sub Collector of Mr Stuart's pass
addresses the Collector, No 285 of 2d Instant, stating
that the timber used in the
jail is not sanjoo as last and Chundergaol
appears to think, but a common kind of
wood classed at 1 Rupee per hundy. inferior
to common with all not valuable
kinds and that though recently lanced
he saw in one or two places marks of
insects at work again and he suggests
that if the timber cannot be replaced
at the expense of the contractor that
several more coatings of tar would be
advisable.

No 1947 of 17th November 1869

11. Another reference is made by the
Executive Engineer to Mr Colquhoun who
four months afterwards, viz on the 20th March
1870 in letter No 874 states the timber used
for the construction of the Serampore
subsidiary jail is not of the best description.
It is composed of jungle wood from the
adjoining hills and was not sufficiently
seasoned when brought to work, consequently
it had partially attracted by insects. He
state that "since the application of tar
the insects have vanished" and that
"repeated applications of tar will pre-
serve the timber both from rot and insects
and that there will be no necessity for
any timber to be replaced"

Letter to Collector 72
No 303 of 27 Nov 1869

Meanwhile Mr Pearmington
the Collector reports unfavorably
of the new subsidiary jail. He says "the
workmanship surpasses anything I ever saw
for badness round Serampore. The joints
from want of proper pricking up mud had
simply melted away and shews scarcely
a vestige of tar. The roof leaks shame-
fully throughout and has considerably
subsided towards the middle of the beams
are splitting away already. The gratings are
entirely unprotected so that the rain beats
in freely and the so called Hospital is an
open shed exposed to the sun nearly
all the day long. The whole structure

"answers to what was required merely out
"ward appearance and I would most
"earnestly request that an example — be
"made of some body this time: Building
"a house or a Bridge seems to be a best act
"in the Sub Division."

13 In the month of March 1870 Lieutenant
Spendergast reports upon the buildings to the
Collector / No 13 of 2d April 1870 He states
"with reference to the Sub Collectors letter
"to you No 323 of the 27th November 1869 I have
"the honor to remark that the Sub Collector
"must go beyond the Sub Division in his
"disparagement of the Vanguiery subsidiary
"jail: for the plans & additions was drawn
up at Madras and the Hospital shed
is according to the standard plan precisely
the same as others all over the country this
shed faces the morning sun certainly
but it is so placed that it may give
protection from the stormy westerly winds which
would cause far more discomfort & annoyance
"It must be remembered that the new
"compound wall was subject to a very severe
"trial in the violent rains of November as
"was also the roof of the building. The
grated upper windows certainly require
protection and weather boards should be
put up. The beams give the appearance
of rotting away when attacked by insects
but after being well tarred are more

damage has been done and they will
probably last now for some time. Care should
only be taken that after a while fresh tar
is again applied."

14 On my arrival in the Tinnevelly
District in May 1870, after assuming charge
of the Division, the Collector informed me
that he was not satisfied with the subsidiary jail work at Vanguiery and
requested me to report upon it. So many
other works occupying my attention I was
not able to do this until last December,
And the 9th & 10th of which month I examined
the buildings carefully. Before passing any
opinion on them I have the honor to state
with regard to the attempt of Mr Colquhoun
to shift the blame of the bad wood work
on to Supervisor Munuppah Pillay's shoulders
that it is very clear that he (Mr Colquhoun)
accepted such wood as was handed over
to him and as the Supervisor very shrewdly
says it was for Mr Colquhoun to see that
when worked up any inferior material
was rejected. Mr Colquhoun neither
rejects the rotten wood nor inferior doors
nor does he make any report whatever
on the subject to the Superintg Engineer
until called upon to do so subsequent
to the completion of the work.

15 On Mr Colquhoun assuming
charge on January the works were above

handed over to his contractors Muthuyan Moodely & Co and all further payments made to them, the sum expended by Supervisor Munuppah Pillay having been Rupees 687. 13. 8.

16. No specimens of bad work and inferior material perhaps these buildings surpass even those executed by Mr Colquhoun in the 1st Range Triangle and on which reports have already been laid before Government.

17. The doors of the jail wards are exceedingly rough, the wood of which they are made is inferior and abounds with cracks and imperfections, the iron work is weak and flimsy and the screws and nails by which it has been fitted are already loose, generally at bottom, nor can a door be made to fasten securely. The roofing of plantain rafters single couples flat and frail has sagged owing to the weakness of the rafters, couples the battens are badly fixed and the tiles consequently have no proper bearing. The flooring of the verandah is of wall-tiles laid flat in chunam with a gradient backwards above the total depth of which the bottom up was 6½ to 6⅝. In the bill the charge for this flooring is made by cubic measurement the depth being 9.

5

calculated at 9" and the excessive rate of 8 Rupees per cubic yard allowed. Flooring of wards 9" of asphalte over a levelling course of brick on chunam laid flat. The thickness where examined of the asphalte was only ½ inch. Roofing of verandah the same as main wards, palmyrahs thin and many cracked and nearly severed, through careless sawing, the roof has sagged, it rests on pillars with cross-summers, the latter as allowed in estimate should have been 9" × 6". Of the 6 one only is of this scantling, the rest vary from 8½" 8" × 3½" to 4, 5. Moreover they have been fixed with their greatest breadth flat instead of perpendicular, sagging being the consequence. The wood is of the commonest kind, scarcely fit for firewood, and is being destroyed by insects & dryrot in spite of a thin coating of tar. The roof of the wards and verandah is a succession of wavy lines owing to the sagging of the weak framed work. The covered passage to Police guard room is supported on pillars, with intermediate cross-summers, the wood is of the same inferior quality and is being destroyed by rot and insects. Some of the cross-summers I noticed in one of the wards had not even been planed off. The scantling of all is less than allowed for, and all the timbers are

fixed

fixed wrongly viz with their least scantling perpendicular. In the Police Guard room two beams of 1x9" are wrongly fixed and the wood is of the same inferior quality. It is coated with tar which hides to a certain extent its defects. The roof of this room (terrace resting on palmyra joists) leaks in several places and the doors and windows are inferior both as regards workmanship and material. The cooking shed is a most miserable building, the south wall is cracked and should be taken down. The pointing of walls is something ludicrous in appearance, the roofing for which Rupees 20 per square is allowed is simply disgraceful, the pantiles (no flat tiles provided) are too few in number and are already falling down, the front part is supported by two weak wooden posts charged in the bill at 3 Rupees each, whereas they are not worth more than 8 to 12 annas. The work of latrines is very similar. For the well the high rate of Rupees 4 per cubic yard is charged for a few common quarried stones termed "cut" and the high rate of 4 Rupees per cubic yard allowed for removing 1½ yds of rock. The Hospital shed is a disgraceful piece of work. The roof has scarcely a straight line in it and the walls have cracked in several places.

18. I cannot conclude this report without expressing my astonishment that the inefficiency of this jail and its outhouses on which the expenditure has been Rupees 4485-4-1 was not brought to the notice of Government by Captain Spendergast.

19. The rate for the wood work charged in the bill viz Rupees 2-8-0 per cubic foot is ample for a provision of good sound timber considering that the wood can be procured from the adjoining hills. All the other rates in the bill are liberal and good substantial work should have been turned out. The contrast between the sound work of the old Cutcherry to which the jail is attached, built some years back and the work performed by Mr Colquhoun is quite startling. Mr Colquhoun's contractors have scamped their work and he has permitted them to do so.

I have &c
S. M. Payne Major
Ag Superintending Engineer
S. D.

6

Public Works Department
No 1481
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 8th May 1871.
Read the following
(1)

From the Superintending Engineer, H.C. No 270 of 30th January (71)
8 Annexures

Fine Major No. Hindugars 1 — — — ½ 23/21 — 10- 8 Rupees 12-10-
Three Cwt. Royal Ensigns 1 — — — — — — — 8 Rupees 12-10-
Rupees 12 annas 8 and P.S.

for the year of the
below recorded at the head

of Civil Proceedings Major
Payne reports the results
of his inspection of the
Cuddalore Jail and
subordinate at Sangamary
in the 1st Range of the
Vizagapatam District for
which an sum of Rs 44,020
was allotted during 1868/69
from the grant of 8 lacs
sanctioned by the Govt.
of Madras for Jail Buildings
in this Presidency.

Referred to Capt. Prescott for such observations as he may have to offer.

Col. R.C.

Fort St George
7 Feb, 1870

No 123
6 Abul Kas. 12
6th Feb 71

Copy of letter from the Sup. Surgy Engineer — No 520
8 Encs
To the Secretary to Govt
P.W.D.

P. W. Bhc/71-
Recd 1st May 71 L.L. 124.
Dated 30 January 1871
Recd 3 February 71.

Enclosure forwarded

Reporting on the Subsidiary Jail at Sangamni Vizagapatam District

Referred
No 1261-8 May 71

The Jail in question was commenced in January and completed and handed over for occupation in July 1869, but so early as September of the same year the wood work was reported by the Sub Collector to be much deteriorated through the attacks of insects. The timber employed was a description of white jungle wood which was represented to be of inferior quality and wholly unsuited to building purposes. A coating of tar was by the instructions of the Sup[t] Engineer, Capt. Prendergast applied, but without apparently effecting much good, for in November the Sub Collector again considered

Sanctioned in Do. C. 68. It is reported to have been completed in 1869 - an oversight by which no credit was given to the Executive Engineer, Superintending visited the building during the progress of construction and he does not give the date of his visit. It was furnished. I would call attention to Prendergast's visits to this building and for an accurate statement of all his proceedings - respecting Capt. Prendergast acknowledges his error which is attributable to his incidental connection with

urgent repairs I would refer to the date of the disaster which he refers in order to learn whether he visited and examined the building during its erection before the same showed by the works under the Contractors. There are letters which my Assistant Enclosed he forwarded to me - I fear after the question of our Establishment which is under revision. I remark that the Hospital at the Asylum is always crowded with patients. I think that this is erroneous. It should be revised.

considered it necessary to call attention to the state of the wood work. The inferiority of the material used and the indifferent workmanship throughout the building were also brought to notice, the roof having shown symptoms of subsidence and the compound wall having become much damaged, owing to the raw brick in mud of which it was formed having become saturated with water during the great storm which passed over the District in November 1869.

Major Payne, who examined the building on

on the 9th and 10th Dec/90 confirms these unfavorable representations of the character of the work. He describes the wood work of the doors as being exceedingly rough and much split, the iron work as insubstantial and imperfectly put together, while the roofing had, he states, sagged, owing to the weakness of the rafters and couples. Deficiencies in measurement were also found to exist in the scantling and in the thickness of the asphalte and brick flooring.

4 After a careful perusal of Major Payne's report and of the explanation which

which on a reference made to him on the subject, the late Acting Supt Engineer of the 8th Div. has afforded, the Govt are satisfied that the defects of the building are attributable in the first place to wood of an unsuitable description and in an unseasoned state having been accepted from a Contractor without, so far as can now be seen, any examination of its quality having been made, and in the second place to the work having been entrusted to Contractors over whom no control seems from over cause or another to have been exercised

exercised by the officer in charge of the Range.

5 The responsibility for the first error rests primarily on Supervisor Imminiapah Pillay, but as the timber delivered on the work had not been accepted by him when he gave over charge to Inr. Sub Engineer Colquhoun, the latter who on succeeding to the charge of the Range, seems to have followed the practice he had adopted of transferring all works to the Contractors Putnums Woodelly & Co. and leaving them uncontrolled, must be held accountable. Timber which ought never

never to have been allowed in a public building was under this system permitted to be used, and inferior materials, as well as bad work seems to have been readily passed.

6. Under ordinary circumstances the Govt. would have had to take into consideration the extent to which Inr. Colquhoun should be personally held responsible, but finding the result of the approaching criminal prosecution of the Sub Engineer on charges of the most serious nature, His Excellency the Governor in Council will

merely instituted against

for the loss sustained but as the Sub Engr. has been convicted of fraud in the Sessions Court and dismissed the service, His

will defer preparing final orders on the subject.

Excellency can only attend desire that

Meanwhile the Superintending Engineer will submit an estimate of the cost of replacing such of the wood work as it will be necessary to remove and for putting the buildings of the Jail generally into a complete state of repair.

It will here be noticed that the design of the new Hospital attached to Sub Jails is thought to be unsuitable owing to the liability of the inmates to exposure. The questions affecting such modifications in the standard plans as are calculated to afford complete protection from the weather will accordingly be considered in the Judicial Department.

R.C. 132 of April 1871 R. 201
6 Enclosures
Dup[?] rec'd 17 Ap. 25th

Memorandum.

The information called for by His Excellency the President regarding the Sub Engineers proceedings in connection with the construction of the Rangamurry Sub Jail in the Tinnevelly District is not circulated in the shape of an original letter from that officer together with a plan of the hospital attached to the building which was commented upon by His Excellency.

From the further particulars now supplied it

I do not see the necessity of the Madras Government to conduct Pendergast's case any further.

it will be observed that the Jail was commenced in January and completed in July 1869, and that on the buildings were first inspected by the Supt Engineer on the 20th May 1869 while in course of construction but before any signs of bad workmanship were apparent. They were again visited on the 10th March 1870, when appearances of failure in the wood work of the roof were noticed by him. The bad state of the Jail was first reported to the Supt Engineer in November 1869, but the wide spread disasters to irrigational works occasioned by the Cyclone which passed over the District on the 16th and 17th of the same month left, he explains, little leisure for him to attend to works of a less urgent character.

This is an instance in which the Government by sanctioning the use of other than the best materials in the construction of a public building afforded an opportunity for the employment of inferior kinds which, in the case of this Jail, seem to have been taken advantage of. The term "Jungle wood" covers such a variety of timber as to make it easy to substitute for those kinds which

[illegible] worthy but botanically [illegible] in material for Sherically bad taken.

The so called Hospital is merely a shed — intended for the location of 8 [illegible] cots or six double cots. Such rarely occur at the time. The shed is used as a [illegible] shed.

The term single [illegible] shed be defined as meaning [illegible] work of [illegible] kind.

Dist

But what does this shew? Return to Question 16 [illegible] Hospital [illegible] the Jail is [illegible] the Hospital [illegible] the Jail [illegible] the Hospital [illegible] the materials [illegible] work [illegible] 187

Govt of [illegible] Works.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Superintending Engr
8th Division

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Date

Read 4

" 8th May 1261.

Nos. 123 @ 127

R.205

Offg Supdg Engineer 8th Dn