M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 172

(2) Date of repair 8- 8- 94

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2268 Press ~~Misc.~~

80-86

Dated 6 — 9 — 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

d again letters from the Superintending Engineer of the 1st on, recorded in Proceedings dated 12th May and 21st June 1871, 37, 153, and 154.

Read also the following papers:—

No. 81. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.
(Here enter No. 2,525, dated 23rd June 1871.)

No. 82. From the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
(Here enter No. 1,078, dated 3rd July 1871.)

No. 83. From do. do. do.
(Here enter No. 1,188, dated 11th July 1871.)

No. 84. From do. do. do.
(Here enter No. 1,207, dated 12th July 1871.)

No. 85. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.
(Here enter No. 2,385, dated 14th July 1871.)

No. 86. ORDER THEREON, 6th September 1871, No. 2,268.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 10.

IN March 1871 the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division recommended that Mr. Supervisor Hamnett should be "invalided" as he considered him unfit for the charge of a range, and mentally and physically disqualified for the work of the department. As an instance of the little reliance that could be placed on Mr. Hamnett's statements Major Fischer referred to a conversation he had with the former at Vizianagram during which he was informed that certain Local Fund Road Surveys had all been sent to the Collector, although they were actually in Mr. Hamnett's own office. The Government were not prepared to deal with Mr. Hamnett in the manner proposed upon such vague charges, and accordingly called upon the Superintending Engineer to report fully the specific grounds upon which his recommendation was based, and to submit such explanations as Mr. Hamnett might have to offer.

4th April 1871, No. 994.

2. This reference has led to the correspondence recorded at the head of these Proceedings, and the papers marginally noted relate to the road surveys. Mr. Hamnett states that he attended the Superintending Engineer's office during Major Fischer's stay at Vizianagram on only one occasion (the 13th March) when no questions were put to him by the Superintending Engineer regarding the surveys, and in corroboration of this statement he forwards letters from Serjeant Overseer Spencer and others who were present at the time. Major Fischer states that Mr. Hamnett besides attending on the 13th was also present at his office on the 11th March, and that it was on this occasion that the conversation about the surveys took place. Mr. Hamnett denies having called at the Superintending Engineer's office on the 11th, and in reference to this denial Major Fischer, in his letter of the

From Superintending Engineer, 29th April 1871, No. 299.
G. O., 12th May 1871, No. 67.
From Superintending Engineer, 22nd May 1871, No. 568.
Do. do. 8th June 1871, No. 769.

8th June, No. 769, states that he "hopes to be able to prove shortl[illegible] Hamnett's statement is incorrect."

3. In support of the charge of Mr. Hamnett's inefficient adminis[illegible] range, Major Fischer cites the proceedings in connection with the ex[illegible] the road from Gajapatinagram to Parvatipur. An examination of the accounts of this road showed that there was an unadjusted balance of Rupees 10,775-13-3, of which Rupees 2,681-10-10 related to expenditure between July and December 1869, and yet the first intimation received by the Superintending Engineer from the Range Officer of the transaction was on the 31st October 1870. No claims have been preferred for the sum of Rupees 2,681-10-10. The balance of Rupees 8,094-2-5 represents the value of work alleged to have been carried out in excess of the sanctioned allotment by Local Fund Overseer Pudmanabhasawmy. Mr. Hamnett, and Serjeant Overseer Spencer who held charge of the range during Mr. Hamnett's absence on privilege leave, represent that the outlay was incurred in contravention of orders directing the stoppage of work, but Pudmanabhasawmy denies having received any such instructions. The claims made for the payment of the balance of Rupees 8,094-2-5 are under investigation by Serjeant Overseer Cormac, and Major Fischer promises to report on them further.

4. With regard to the delay in bringing the subject of the outstanding balance to notice, Mr. Hamnett explains that, in April 1870, he reported to the Superintending Engineer that the Local Fund Overseer had been incurring expenditure on certain roads without authority and making fictitious entries in his accounts. The Superintending Engineer acknowledges that some loose charges were preferred against the Overseer, but that on being investigated by Mr. Assistant Engineer Turner they could not be substantiated, and the magisterial enquiry resulted in the Overseer's acquittal. Mr. Hamnett explains, with reference to the balance of Rupees 2,681-10-10, that when he availed himself of privilege leave in December 1869, neither he nor his Head Accountant nor Mr. Spencer were aware that the amount was outstanding, the entries in the Overseer's accounts having been intentionally so mysteriously made as to escape the notice of the Superintending Engineer's as well as the Controller's offices, and that the Superintending Engineer himself would have known nothing of the matter if the Overseer did not personally explain the transaction. The Superintending Engineer points out that the information regarding this outstanding balance was deduced from Mr. Hamnett's own monthly progress reports, prepared by the Head Accountant from the station books of the work and signed by Mr. Hamnett himself.

5. Reports from Captain Beckley on the unsatisfactory condition of some of the roads in Mr. Hamnett's range are submitted by the Superintending Engineer, and form enclosures N. to Q. of the Superintending Engineer's letter, dated 3rd July 1871, No. 1,078.

6. Under instructions from Major Fischer Mr. Hamnett appeared before the Surgeon attached to the 33rd Regiment Native Infantry with a view to its being ascertained whether a change of air was still necessary, but the Surgeon objects to granting a medical certificate as Mr. Hamnett was not, and has not been for the last three months under his treatment. The Superintending Engineer has accordingly directed Mr. Hamnett to do duty in No. 2 Range of the Vizagapatam District under Lieutenant Dorward pending further orders.

7. The Government are led to believe that Mr. Hamnett's state of health is not such as to necessitate or warrant his removal from the department, but it is clear that the Acting Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division has no confidence in him as a Range Officer, and it is therefore unadvisable that he should remain in the 1st Division as the strength of the department will not admit of a subordinate of his standing doing duty in another range. An early opportunity will accordingly be taken advantage of to transfer Mr. Hamnett to another division.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2,525.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd June 1871.

Read the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 29th April 1871, No. 408:—

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of the Calendar called for in Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 1,318, dated 21st April 1871.

2. The Board will observe that the Local Fund Overseer referred to in Major Fischer's letter was tried and acquitted, not as that officer strangely states found guilty and the charge against him dismissed.

3. As in this letter Major Fischer makes assertions equally strange, some of which concern myself, I trust the Board will allow me to make a few observations and to enclose copies of letters which will lay the whole matter before the Board and Government.

4. The case against the Overseer was disposed of early in May last year. On the 10th of that month I received a letter, dated May 6th, from Major Fischer, Superintending Engineer, asking me to call on the Magistrate who tried the case to have a balance due to Government repaid to the Range Officer. I replied to this request pointing out that as the Overseer charged had been tried and acquitted, the Magisterial authorities had no power to recover money from him. In Major Fischer's letter was enclosed one from Mr. Hamnett, Executive Agent, in which most improper insinuations were made against the Magistrate who tried the case. These I requested Major Fischer to call upon his subordinate to retract and apologize for. This Mr. Hamnett did by the orders of his superior.

5. From May to September I heard nothing more on the subject. I own I was surprised to learn that the Overseer who had clearly been guilty of an open breach of departmental rules was still in the same position in the department; that no departmental inquiry had been held, and, in fact, that nothing had been done; but I never supposed that the Executive Agent had neglected to see that the Contractors, who in his presence had admitted the receipt of advances, and their willingness to work them out, executed their contracts.

6. That any interference of mine in the matter of the spending of money, for the due spending of which Major Fischer and his department were alone responsible, or in the conduct of his subordinates would have been resented by that officer, is abundantly clear from the tone of his letter recorded in Government Order, No. 1,910, dated 11th August 1870.

7. At this time Mr. Hamnett (the Executive Agent) seems to have enjoyed the entire confidence of his chief. He endorsed all his statement with but little inquiry as to their accuracy or otherwise—*Vide* my letter dated January 20th, 1871, No. 68A., recorded in Government Proceedings, No. 310, dated March 21st, 1871.

8. In September, I marched along the road from Vizianagaram to Parvatipore, and was met on all sides by petitioners complaining that they had not been paid cooly-hire for road works. From time to time, as received, I forwarded such petitions to the Superintending Engineer. I heard nothing on this matter till I received a letter from Major Fischer, dated March 9th, 1871. This letter led to my referring the matter to the Board of Revenue. The letters on this subject will be found in Board's Proceedings, No. 1,490, dated April 5th, 1871.

9. From the last two of Major Fischer's letters therein recorded the Board will observe that at this point Major Fischer can hardly find language strong enough to express his opinion on the conduct of Mr. Hamnett, the Range Officer, an officer in whom he formerly had implicit confidence, and of whom he now writes to Government "that he does not wish to exonerate him "from blame entirely." What has recently happened to change Major Fischer's strongly expressed opinion, I am of course unaware.

10. I have subsequently received three other letters from Major Fischer. To the first, No. 11, dated March 17th, I replied (March 21st, 1871,) forwarding a copy of the Calendar to show him that it was on record that certain Contractors had admitted in the presence of the Magistrate and Mr. Hamnett that they had received advances and were willing to work them out, and expressing an opinion that it was to be regretted that no action had been taken on their admissions. In the two other letters, Major Fischer commented in, what appears to me, a most unbecoming tone on the proceedings of the Magistracy. In my answer to both these letters I declined to discuss such matters with him.

11. The Board have now before them a statement of the whole matter with copies of the correspondence, and will be in a position to decide how far I am guilty in the words of Major Fischer "of making general charges against his department and never affording any assistance to it." As regards the first accusation, if I am the person meant, I made a particular and not a general charge when I remarked on the bad state of the road from Vizianagaram to Chittevulsah and that from Palcondah to Parvatipore. I made these remarks in the ordinary course of business and should have failed in my duty had I not made them. If the accusation refers to the remarks made in the Calendar (which was sent by me to Major Fischer as I thought it might be of assistance to him in forming an opinion of the conduct of his subordinates), I would state that many of the remarks are brought out by the circumstances of the case. The relevancy of others has been shown by the late trials in Bombay and Tinnevelly. The facts which then came out were no news to any one who has been a year or two in the Mofussil. As to the second accusation, I imagine Major Fischer means that I did not recover money due to the department as he requested me in the first letter subsequent to the trial. I need scarcely observe that neither as Magistrate nor Collector had I the power to do anything of the sort, that had the Contractors been made to work out their advances, no money need have been lost at all.

12. Finally, I request the Board will obtain an expression of opinion from Government as to how far an officer of Government in Major Fischer's position is justified in commenting on the proceedings of the Magistracy in the manner and tone which he has made use of both in his letter to Government and in his letters to me.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of Calendar.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Copies of Correspondence.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to Government Order, dated 13th April 1871, No. 667.

2. Pudmanabhaswamy Naidoo was acquitted on the Criminal charges brought against him under Sections 403 and 465 of the Penal Code, but it seems to have been shown that he made irregular advances to Contractors. This is probably what Major Fischer meant when he said in an exaggerated way that he had been released "after being found guilty of illegal practices with public funds."

3. It is to be regretted that Major Fischer should have complained of "the Collector and his subordinates" as he has done.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

H. Grote
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two original enclosures.

Copy to the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam.

Exd. T. Cartlodge.

Rs Rutnagiree Pk 73 Rii
" 21/ March/71 - 310 - 11
" 13/ April/71 - 138 - 3½
" 5/ May/71 - 22 - 4½

1871.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 23RD JUNE 1871, No. 2,525.

Desp.d 14 July/71 Encl. 2

Received

JUNE.

No. 2,525.

Local Fund Overseer Pudmanabhaswamy Naidoo —in Vizagapatam District,—Letter from Collector forwarding Calendar of trial of, on certain Criminal charges brought against him, and passing certain observations on remarks of Major Fischer, Superintending Engineer, regarding this case, submitted to Government with remarks.

1881

C Cir. 5 Aust/71 Pp. 28

Transferred to Dpt
No. 2268-6 Sheet 2/4
10 July/71 to Secy to Govt

No. 370.

Superintending Engineer's Office 5th Div.
Doulaishwaram May 6. 1870

To

The Collector of
Vizagapatam.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for your perusal the enclosed original letters from the Officer in charge of the Vizianagrum Range and to request you will be good enough to call upon the Assistant Magistrate to have the balance of Rs 926 : 8 : - which he appears to be satisfied is due to Government repaid at once to the Range Officer.

Enc: two
No 417/1st
" 42 of 2nd

2. I am unable at present to go into the particulars of this case, but it is very surprizing to me the Assistant Magistrate should have allowed the Defendant to go out of Court owing any thing to the Government and then subsequently call upon him to furnish Security. I am not even aware what Security has been taken to protect the Government against any loss in this matter.

I

3. I beg you will be good enough to return the enclosures as soon as possible.

I have the honor to be &c.

Sd/- J. H. Fischer, Major R.E.
Off. Supg. Engineer, 1st Division

No. 332.

To Vizagapatam May 11, 1870.

The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your letter No. 370 dated May 6th 1870, with enclosures.

2. The case referred to was tried and disposed of by the Off. Senior Assistant Magistrate, who is a Magistrate with full powers and his decision is final. The Off. Senior Assistant Magistrate acquitted the Prisoner and dismissed the case, and it is no part of his duty as Magistrate to see that money in respect of which the charge of misappropriation had broken down, was repaid to the department Responsible for it.

3. From the evidence given before the Magistrate, it would appear that what is due to the Department is not money but work and materials. The Local Fund Overseer while in temporary charge of the road, was owing to lax supervision, allowed to pay away on advances the whole of the balance in his hands. The Contractors who had received the advances admitted the fact before the Off. Senior Assistant Magistrate and it nowhere appears that they are unwilling or unable to carry out their Contracts. As the contracts were made by an Officer of the Department in charge of the work, the contractors who have received the advances cannot be made to refund the advance, but should be made to fulfil their Contracts.

3. I must now call your attention to something that appears to have entirely escaped Your notice, I refer to the most

improper

improper insinuations contained in para 3 of your Subordinate's letter No. 41 dated May 1st 1870, as his letter has come before me officially, I have the honor to request you to call on your Subordinate at once and officially to withdraw his insinuations and apologize. Should he refuse to do so, I shall at once forward to Government the letter in question of which I have taken a copy.

I have the honor &c

Signed/ R. J. Melville

Cy Collector

No. 41. From, The Executive Agent Vizianagram Range.

To, The Superintending Engineer 1st Division Dowlaisswaram.

Sir, I am sorry to inform you that the case charging Local fund Overseer with making false entries and misappropriating public money, was tried and dismissed yesterday because since the local fund Overseer was suspended by me/ on the 30th March to 23rd April last/ the sum of Rs. 1566---- in ready money and Rs. 795---- by the value of materials was recovered and as some of the Overseers friends came forwarded and acknowledged having received the balance viz. Rs. 926-8-- and promised to pay it back if necessary before the Magistrate.

2. The Magistrate does not consider the false entries a crime punishable by him - but an offence deserving departmental punishment, he was perfectly satisfied as long as the sum of Rs. 2361---- was recovered and the balance was promised to be refunded by the Overseers friends - that the money was not misappropriated and dismissed the case.

3 I am perfectly dis-satisfied with the decision and request you to grant me permission to appeal against it to the higher authorities because from the conversation I have had with the Magistrate before I gave my deposition on oath that he either received papers from the local fund Overseer or has had an interview with him and was altogether prejudiced against

against the charge being brought against the Overseer.

4 I told the Magistrate on the 29th of the past month before the trial commenced that I had another charge to bring against the Overseer for making fictitious entries in the accounts of the Road between Vajrapatinagram and Parva=tipore and not paying the money to the work=men and for other embezzlements - he told me after the 1st case was settled I could bring the other charge forward - May I request your instructions regarding the prosecution of the Overseer on the 2nd charge.

5 I know it for a fact that the sum of Rs 1095-- given to me was not recovered from the Contractors but it was obtained by the Overseer by mortgaging the ground and the new house he was building at Vizianagram before his suspension - the wet lands and houses he purchased at Bobb=ili and Boorjivalsa during my absence on leave - the rest Rs Viz 471-- was recovered by me in cash and Rs 795-- in building materials

6 The balance Viz Rs 926-8-- promised to be refunded before the Magistrate is not yet paid and as the people who came forward to ac=knowledge the receipt and the repayment of the money could not be depended upon I declined before the Magistrate to be responsible to make the recoveries from them.

7 Until the trial I did not know that the Local fund Overseer was capable of such rascality

rascality and infamy, he brought up men before the Magistrate who knew nothing about original vouchers sent to the Controller to state that the names entered therein were theirs and that they received the sum mentioned within for the sup=ply of materials.

8 As it is very unsafe to have such a dangerous man in the Department, I would re=commend his removal from it without the least hesitation - not through any ill will or hatred but for the benefit of the public service and for that of the members of the Department - Public Works in this Range.

9 An application for the Magis=trate's decision has been made and it will be dispatched to you on its receipt.

Rs 3 or Vizianagram
Range Office
Vizianagram
1st May 1870

I am &c.
/Signed/ J. A. Hammett Superr.
Executive Agent Vizianagram Range.

True Copy
of a Copy/
H
Asst Collector

Supt. Engineer's Office 1st Dist.
No 814. Dowlaishwaram 8th June 1870.

To
The Collector of
Vizagapatam District
Sir,

Enclosure 1. Adverting to your letter of the 11th Ultimo No 332, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter No 476 dated the 3rd Instant from Mr Hallett, expressing his contrition for using the expressions objected to by you and retracting the same, which I hope will be considered satisfactory. He might have escaped any notice and I had written to take steps in it, as soon as the case was settled. I can now only express my regret that any member of this Department should have behaved so unbecomingly.

I have &c
(Signed) J. F. Fleeting
Asst R.E.
Ag. Supg. Engr 1st Divn

No 332 Vizianagram Range Office
Vizianagram District 3d June 1870.
No 96.

To The Superintending Engineer,
1st Division.

Sir,

With reference to the instructions conveyed in your Memorandum No 563 dated the 30th ultimo I beg to inform you that I am sorry for having written the 3d para of my letter No 44 dated the 1st May last and retract it under circumstances explained by the Officiating Magistrate of Vizagapatam in his letter to me addressed No 332 dated the 1st instant.

I have &c
(Signed) J. D. Hammett
Executive agent
Vizianagram Range

No 563

Supg. Engineer's Office 1st Div.
Dowlaishwaram 30th May 1870

Memorandum

With reference to Mr. Superin-
tending Engineer's letters noted in the
Nos 41 and 42 dated 1st and 2d May respec. tively. margin and the accompanying Copy of one received from the Officiating Magistrate of Vizagapatam, the undersigned requests Mr. Hammett will officially retract that portion of the first of the foregoing letters relative to the decision arrived at in the case of breach of trust against Local Funds Overseer Padmanabhaswami, and offer an ample apology for the insinuations contained in the letter in question. If Mr. Hammett was not prepared to substantiate the charges preferred by him against the Overseer, he had no business to reflect upon the decision arrived at by the Magistrate.

(Signed) J. T. Thackeray
R.E. Supg. Engr Engr.

Superintending Engineers office
1st Division Camp Vizianagram
9th March 1871

No. 8

To. The Collector of
Vizagapatam District

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement on the petitions herewith returned, I have the honor to inform you that the expenditures therein referred to were incurred by the Local Fund Overseer Pudmanabha Swamy without any sanction or allotment of funds and against the express orders of the Range Officer, and this Department therefore has nothing whatever to do with the matter which is one entirely between the Overseer and the Coolies or Masonries who gave him their labor.

2 For his disobedience of orders in the most wilful manner, I shall deal with the Overseers Conduct as soon as the further enquiry I am now making is closed.

I have &c.

(Signed) J. F. Fricker
Actg Superintg Engineer
1st Division

To

No. 230

Vizagapatam 13th March 1871

To,

The Superintending Engineer
1st Division
Vizianagram

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 8. dated March 9th 1871.

2 As I am unable to agree in the opinion you express that the payment of the Coolies within Arzis your return is a matter "entirely between the Overseers and Coolies" I have the honor to inform you that I have referred the matter to the Board of Revenue with a view of its being submitted to Government for an expression of their opinion.

I have &c.,

(Signed) R. J. Melville
Acting Collector

18 II

Superintending Engineer's Office, 1st Division
Camp Chicacole, 17th March 1871.

To,

The Collector of Vizagapatam District.

Sir, In continuation of this Office letter of the 14th March 1871, 18 EE, I have the honor to suggest for your consideration the advisability of recommending the Contractors and others who prefer claims for work performed on the road from Ramakhadrapuram to Gajapatinagram prosecuting this before the Principal Assistant Magistrate against the Range Officer and the Local Fund Overseer.

2 As already intimated to you the accounts rendered to this Office shew that the allotment for the year had been worked out in January 1870, and there is sufficient evidence to shew that Serjeant Spenser the then Acting Range Officer directed all further expenditure to cease, there is further evidence to shew that prior to this date, Mr. Hammett had allowed work to be performed and remain unpaid for several months whilst his accounts would tend to exhibit these claims as settled, these transactions appear to have taken place between July 1869 and January 1870.

I have reported Mr. Hammett's conduct to Government and expressed my opinion that he is totally unfit for the discharge of Range duties but at the same time I cannot help thinking there must have been collusion of some kind between the Range Officer, the Local Fund Overseer and the people employed on the works as in all my experience I never heard of work being done and remaining so long unpaid for, it is with difficulty that we usually can get work done except by giving advances, but in this instance alone, matters [illegible] have been reversed and for no reason, whatever that

a criminal prosecution conducted with such assistance as local knowledge can afford, might throw considerable light on the matter and I am as anxious as you can be to have this thoroughly sifted and cleared up and the work people righted.

I have yea.

/Signed/ J. F. Fischer Major R.E.
Ag. Superintending Engr. 1st Division.

No. 262.

Vizagapatam, March 21st 1871.

To
The Superintending Engineer
1st Division,
Chicacole.

Sir.

In answer to your letter No. 11, I have the honor to enclose an extract from the Calendar of the case brought by Mr. Hamnett against Overseer Padmanabhaswami.

2 You will therein see references made to certain contractors who admitted having received advances from Padmanabhaswami and expressed their willingness to work them out. It is to be regretted that Mr. Hamnett did not take any action on the admissions then made.

3 I think it doubtful whether a criminal prosecution would succeed. If brought at all it should be brought in the Court of the Senior Assistant Magistrate in whose jurisdiction the occurrence took place.

4 The individual referred to in my former letter as being unpaid and from whom I received returns is a Coolie. I made no reference to Contractors

I have &c
/Signed/ R. D. Sheiville
Ag. Collector

No. 1218

Superintending Engineer's Office 1st Div.
Dowlaishweram 31st March 1871

25

To The Collector of
Vizagapatam.

Sir.

With reference to your letter of the 27th March 1871, No. 288 in which you state, "it is the duty of a Magistrate in arriving at a decision in a case before him to be guided solely by the evidence before him" - I have the honor to observe that as according to the Calendar the Magistrate had already found the Prisoner Padmanabhaswami guilty of obtaining money for illegal purposes I am at a loss to understand on what grounds he was subsequently discharged as there is nothing in the Calendar to shew this decision was erroneous.

2. If a Magistrate's duty is to be guided in a case before him solely by the evidence before him, will you be kind enough to point out on what evidence in the case under reference the Magistrate preferred the several general charges he made against this Department

I have &c
/Signed/ J. F. Fischer Major R.E.
Ag. Supt. Engineer 1st Div.

No 324 Vizagapatam 4 April 1871

To The Superintending Engineer
Dowlaishweram

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 4218 dated March 31st 1871

2 I do not propose to discuss your Criticisms on the Magisterial Proceedings therein referred to as I consider them to be entirely out of place coming as they do from an officer of the department of whose duties the revision of Magisterial Proceedings does not form a part

I have &c &c
Signed H. I. Nicholls
Ag Collector

True Copies

H. Stevenson
Ag Collector

Vizagapatam:—Printed at the Collectorate Press.

1871
Dept.
Enclosure No 2
In a letter from the
Ag. Collector of Vizaga-
patam dated 29th April
1871 No. 408

1

R 2129/71
P.P. 3314/71
Mis-Sep/1871 Ds 30.

Copies of Correspond-
ence between the Ag.
Collector of Vizagapa-
tam and the Asst. Superin-
tending Engineer &c.
Division in the Case of the
Local Fund Overseer
Padmanabhaswami

Judl. No 2400/71
2 Encls

1871
Enclosure No 1

Judicial Department.

From
THE MAGISTRATE OF
VIZAGAPATAM,

To
THE SESSIONS JUDGE,
OF VIZAGAPATAM

Dated 30th April 1870
Received

Judl. No 2400/71

2

R 2129/71
P.P. 3314/71
Mis-Sep/1871 Ds 30.

True Copy of an
EXTRACT from the Register of Preliminary En-
quiries held before the Magistrate in the Zillah of
Vizagapatam.

Vizagapatam:—Printed at the Collectorate Press.

2

by the side of the Gajapatinagrum to Parvatipore Road, which he ordered the prisoner who was riding with him to excise the new road and to adjust the transfer of the chunam from one road to the other in the books. Now Mr. Spencer spoke to the best of his belief and of his memory, but what he did say, was extracted from him more than said by him. Indeed he appeared to know a very little indeed about the road in question, and no doubt he has a great deal of office work at head quarters to attend to. But it seems to the Court that Mr. Spencer should have noticed in the cash account, when he came to the entry marked C, that no mark of the transfer alleged to have been ordered by him, had been made. On the contrary Mr. Spencer says in his deposition "I had no reason to challenge the entry of 200 Rs. I merely took to see if the cash balance is right." One would think that if Mr. Spencer had actually made such an error as the above, relating to the chunam which he saw by the side of the road, he would not have passed by unchallenged this entry only a fortnight after without imputing to any of Padmanabhaswami's conduct more correctness than he is shown to have acted with in other matters. The Court considered his explanation of this matter satisfactory in the absence of other evidence against him. He said that Mr. Spencer's alleged order was never given, that the idea of transferring more chunam, which he had bought at Gorchimi for the new road, to his other road and taking the chunam stored at Komitipelle for the new road was his own and suggested by the similarity of the amount in both heaps. The chunam stored at Komitipelle was an old balance, shewn in the January station books, but the chunam at Gorchimi stored by himself had to be paid for. The amounts being the same, he states that he did no harm in transferring the charges, and he saved a great deal of bandy hire to the Government. In this way the apparent error had crept into the accounts. Padmanabhaswami calls this an apparent error, though it is distinctly a false entry without a single note of explanation. However there was no evidence that he had not used the 20 garces stored at Gorchimi for the Gorchimi tunnel. Mr. Spencer's evidence was given very doubtingly, and his careless omission to challenge the account when it passed before his eyes shows that he knew so little about the works of which he was in temporary charge, that it would be impossible to find Padmanabhaswami guilty of the forgery of the receipt in question, even if the witnesses whose signatures the receipt bears, and who were not examined, are not prepared to state as they are, that the transaction, and the handing over of the 200 Rs. entered in C, was bonâ fide.

/True Extract/

/Signed/ J. Lee Warner

Ag. Senior Assist. / Magistrate

/True Copy/

Illegible

Ag. / Magistrate

No 1078 Asst Engineer's Office 1st Div.
Dowlaisweram 3rd July 1871.

From

Major J. F. Fischer R.E.
Acting Asst Engineer
1st Division

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government
P.W.D.
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for Hammill's application on my letter C.C. of the 11th March 1871.

With reference to the Register expressed by Mr Hammill that I had inspected only two Canals and did not inspect the whole of the works in the Range at the time of writing that report I have to observe, I was then reporting on the Discharge of the Range and not by Mr Hammill in particular case and not on the condition of any works in particular, but as he appears to be dissatisfied with the report I have made, I beg to transmit for the consideration of Government a letter via original addressed to me by Mr Hammill after I had prepared a first report. On receipt of this letter I asked Serjeant Menezes to

Cairn

bring Mr. Hamnett to my Office at the Public Bungalow, if he were able to come, and I would listen to any explanations he had to give, and I modified my report, which Mr. Hamnett now alleges to be unsatisfactory. I am sorry to say I kept no copy of my first report, but I will state the main points with some additions which my return to Head Quarters enables me to supply.

3. It is true, as Mr. Hamnett states that in his letter of the 3d April 1870, No 331 he did report in a loose manner certain defalcations against the Local Fund Overseer (Pudmanabhaswamy, but he makes no reference to the report furnished to this Office by Mr. Turner Assistant Engineer D.P.W. who was deputed by me to investigate this matter. I beg to enclose that Officer's Report for submission to the Government: it will be observed that Mr. Hamnett accompanied this Officer on his duty and failed then to substantiate any charges against this Local Fund Overseer.

4. After receiving such a report and also hearing from Mr. Hamnett that the Magistrate had dismissed all the charges he had preferred against the Local Fund Overseer

E

Overseer, I removed this man to the Jeypore District, as it was quite clear that we could not work together any longer, and I wished to find out if there really was any thing against the Local Fund Overseer, against whom Mr. Hamnett had been heaping charges as fast as he could put them together.

F

5. Mr. Hamnett's letter of the 31st Oct. 1870 No 218 is in reply to a reference from this Office on certain petitions received here and endorsed from the Collector of Vizagapatam and is herewith sent in original with the Statements belonging to it. I have already explained to Government why I was unable to go to Vizianagram to look into this matter earlier than March, and the conclusions I arrived at was that of the sum of Rs 10778-13-3 alleged to be existing against the Local Fund Overseer, there were no claimants for Rupees 2681-10-10, and this, Mr. Hamnett admits in his letter to be 3/8, and for the balance, the Range Officers and Local Fund Overseers were about equally responsible as there was no authority for incurring this expenditure at all, and it was not reported to this Office until too late for any steps to be taking, and the proper remedy for recovery was

was by an action against those individuals by the Claimants. I do not believe the Secretary Accountant would have presumed to go on in this manner, if he had not thought he could calculate on the habitual Facility of his Range Officers or his concurrence and Padmanabha Chetty's Defence is, he had Mr Hamnett's instructions to proceed with the work in Anticipation of the sufficiental Estimate being sanctioned, this Mr Hamnett denies, but I do not suppose the Pleader would have gone on this manner entirely without authority of some kind, and Mr Hamnett himself let an Example of so many irregularities as these for his own convenience, Ease and Profit, as without compunction, and his subordinate Officers to have done the same, and as Mr Hamnett had made no inspections or investigations of this matter subsequent to Mr Turner's Report who saw nothing to lead him to suppose any misappropriation had been made by the Local Fund Overseer, it would have been a severe waste of Public time to go into these squabbles, for there are no accounts and Mr Hamnett does not appear to have checked the Goomastahs' claims at all.

Mr

6. Mr Hamnett alleges that on the 16th December 1869 Neither he nor Mr Spencer or his Head Accountant Sircar employed at all of the Sum of Rs: 9681-10-10 being due to Coolies, as arrears in the Statement which accompanies his Letter of the 31st Octr 1870, this Sum is put down as Stale due, and it was obtained from his own monthly Progress Reports prepared by the Head Accountant from the station books of the work and signed by himself, and the accompanying Statement contains the several items as taken from the Office records and which shew these transactions extending from July 1869 to January 1870, and this I discovered myself when going over his Office records in March last, for the first time, and his Letters Nos 3537 & 3735 dated 9th and 11th March last are in explanation of this first thing and also sent in original.

Mr Hamnett states that from the effects of a severe cold and fever he had applied for leave to go to Madras or Bangalore to recruit his health, I forwarded his original applications Nos 332 and 351 requesting to be transferred to any Division in the Presidency almost. By

J.A

E H

x dated 16th January and 6th March 1871 Respectively

J K

G.O. of the 31st October 1866 No 3461, it will be seen that Mr Hammett had already incurred the displeasure of Government for being concerned in every similar case of transactions as these in former years and had been transferred here in consequence from the 4th Division, and the Deputy Commissioners reports on him is far from favourable. In a former report Mr Hammett had already described the bleeding condition of his body when he alleges I dragged him all over the Cantonment and Shamirmarket this in pencil he now states he was suffering the effects of from Severe fever and ague, the Doctor informed me he was convalescent at that time and able to attend Office, and Sergeant Spencer considered him quite able to do so and this is further confirmed by his present statement. In the original letter referred to in para 2 of this report, Mr Hammett gives another description of himself, and is quite evident on his own showing that he was then malingering to avoid giving me any assistance in the matter of his Hangers accounts.

Vide G.O. No 100 dated 14th June 1871.

× original on already sent.

8. Mr Hammett declares that

"no claims whatever were ever made to me
"or to Serjeant Spencer for the sum of
"Rs: 2,681-10-10 previous to the time of my
"absence & after" and yet he does not scru-
ple to impose this on me item in the
Court against the Local Fund Overseer
which alleging his utter ignorance &
being due to my one attack, and his explanation
reports show that for the 6 months in which
over which this expenditure is stated to have
been incurred, Mr Hammett never inspected
this workable. For the balance of Rupees
2,094-2-5 which was laid out without
any sanction. Mr Hammett began
endeavouring to fix the charge on the Local
Fund Overseer, has done nothing, whatever
to verify the claims, and did nothing until
the matter was taken up by the Collector
altho' he had the opportunity of doing so
at the time he accompanied Mr Stanes and
even now beyond reiterating his charges
against Chidumma Chetty, he has no
proof of any sort or kind to offer in
support of them & the allegations
of some Jemadars by Mr Cornac has the
matter

matter in hand however and it will be questions
Reported on.

9th Mr Hamnett in his letter of the 18th November 1870 No 238, sent in to this Office, Estimates for Emergent Repairs to the Roads of his Range amounting to Rs: 23,748. On learning that Captain Beckley was deputed to look into these Emergent Repair demands, he at once wrote to this Office requesting that the Estimates on the 27th November 1870: Captain Beckley found Rs: 4,426 would suffice for all necessary purposes, and I send that Officers original Reports on those Estimates, together with a subsequent Report received from him. With reference to the notes complained of by Captain Beckley, I regret to say Sergeant Cormac writes yet further unfavorable Reports which will be sent in as soon as completed.

10th The allegations regarding paras 9 of my Report have been disproved & abandoned and require no further explanation. Mr Hamnett's own inspection Reports and Notes will show if necessary that he was always

L

M

NOPQ

R

always at his Head Quarters as much as possible, and I had to order him down to the Andaboka Light-house 2 or 3 times before he inspected that work at all, & he then found the work so unsatisfactory he had to attend to it personally to get finished in any thing like a proper manner, thus entirely due to his own neglect of his Range duties and inspections.

11th Mr Hamnett's guide right in alleging he was not in the least backward in suspending the Local fund Overseers from Roads and Bays, and from all I saw and heard he was quite prepared, if the opportunity offered, to have carried his measures out literally in another sense, and I did in consequence I did not consider this man to be as responsible as his Range Officers and Headmen do I now, as he admitted his own faults and endeavoured to explain them as well as he could: and I believe had he been under a good Officer, he would have turned out a good man, but as it is, he and his Range Officer, and the Head Accountant, have evidently been all in one boat, and have now

how fallen out, and I do not consider either of them fit for any independent responsible post. My surprise is the Magistrate, before whom the Local Fund Overseer was tried, did not dismiss the charge altogether, as he could scarcely have failed to dismiss the Summons against the Defendant.

12. I will make further enquiries about the letter which was stolen from my Office, but I am afraid nothing can be arrived at very satisfactory in the matter. It is quite evident the letter was purloined, as it was in the same cover with two others which arrived safely in Madras.

13. I have nothing further to add in this report regarding the matter of the Local Fund Surveys, except that, upto this date they are still incomplete, and I dare say Sergeant Cornan will find they have all to be done over again. I send five letters from Sergeant Spencer who supports Mr. Hamnett's allegations in regard to his attendance at my Office, and shews Mr. Hamnett was quite fit to attend at the time he wrote such lugubrious accounts of his health. If Mr. Hamnett is reported fit for duty by the Medical Officers who examine him, and he must remain in Vizagapatam District, I propose placing him under Lieut. Norman or Captain Beatty as he is in my opinion quite unfit for the charge of a Range, and this conclusion I should have arrived at, from his treatment of the Local Fund Overseer, and the manner he endeavoured to prosecute the man, but this report will shew there are other circumstances which preclude any trust being placed in the statements he makes. S. 71

14. Mr. Hamnett quotes Captain Beckley's Memo on the Road from Chittivalsa to Vizianagram, his own Head Quarters as proof of the satisfactory state of his work; this Officer considered Rs. 25 per mile would suffice for the necessary work required to be done on Undergone by Mr. Hamnett's Estimate for the same is Rs. 3,300 for 11 Miles or at the rate of Rs. 300 per mile. 20 times the sum asked for by Captain Beckley for all necessary work, and his other Estimates were framed on the same

same liberal scale, & that at the very time he Mr Hammett
15th (Mr Hammett alleges Mr. was preferring charges against the Local Fund
endeavoured to draw out the matter regarding
the sum of Rs: 2631-10-10, and did not examine
into the balance of Rs: 8094-2-8. There was
not much to find out regarding the former
sum, as it is all in the Acctt progress
Reports, whereas Mr Hammett and his
Head Accountant claimed it, and the Collr
shewed me the several Clerks in the Cocks
to verify a statement he had prepared in
anticipation of my arrival, and as soon
as this was known to me without any
application from me for explanations
(Mr Hammett sent in his letters Nos
353 and 355 endeavouring to exculpate himself. Vide
As regards the sum of Rs: 2094-2-8
Mr Hammett admits the Local Fund
Overseer had sent his accounts into his
Office. There are, and were, no Station Books
to prove the money was due to any one, for
Turner inspected the Road immediately on
after the work was done, and did not
Consider the Local Fund Overseer had
made any over charges and on this
inspection

inspection (Mr Hammett was present and
failed to substantiate any thing against the
man, so that, beyond the circumstance of the
attap being wholly unauthorized, there is absos-
lutely nothing against the Overseer. Several
people did prefer their claims to me, and I
referred them to the Collector and Magistrate for
redress, as I had no funds to satisfy their
claims, and this was reported by him to Co
Government See G.O. of the 3d May 1871 No 1226
Mr Hammett during the whole week I was
in Vizianagram failed to assist these people
in any manner, and excused his absence
from my Office on the plea of sickness, and if
now appears he only required a mere change
of air to Bangalore or Madras tho' he could
not walk half a mile to do his duty as he pre-
tends in his letter of the 9th March 71 No 353.

I

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obdt Servant
Lt: Tuckey Major RE
Actg Exec Engineer 4th Dn

No. 3 OR VIZIANAGRAM RANGE OFFICE,
VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT.

No. 246 .186 47

From The Executive Agent
Vizianagram Range

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division
Dowlaishwaram

Sir,

Refer to my letters Nos 212 & 238 dated the 30th October & 18th Novr last. I humbly beg to inform you that as the rains have altogether given over within a very few days after the storm on the night of the 4th and the morning of the 5th Instant and as the state of the weather at present portends that there will be no more rains until after the end of the Current Official year Captain Buckley & myself have arranged it that all unspent maintenance grants be expended on certain items of works entered in the Emergent Estimate for restoring damages caused by the late heavy rains & Storm & flood as it cannot be otherwise utilized and

Rs 3 Pies 11 — 52-58
" 11 Annas — 180 Pice
" 21 — 134 —

C. P. No 184 Dated 29th Sept 1871
Executive Engineer's Office
Main Division
Dowlaishwaram

Executive Engineer's Office
Vizianagram
Dated 30th Sept 1871
Received 2nd Oct 1871

Forwarded for information to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D. Madras.

Executive Engineer

Forwarded for information to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D. Madras.

Executive Engineer

Received 3rd Oct 1871

Forwarded for information to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D. Madras.

Executive Engineer

Dowlaishwaram
Dated 4th Oct 1871

Forwarded for information to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D. Madras.

Executive Engineer

Received 6th Oct 1871

Forwarded for information to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D. Madras.

Executive Engineer

Dowlaishwaram
Dated 7th Oct 1871

Forwarded for information to the Secretary to Govt P.W.D. Madras.

Executive Engineer

Received 9th Oct 1871

No 22681

and I do hereby request you to be
good enough to consider all the estimates already
submitted cancelled until revised ones
are submitted.

I am
Sir
Your most Obt. Servant
J. A. Adamek Esqr.
Executive Agent
Vizianagram Range

No. 3 or Vizianagram Range Office, 51
Vizagapatam District. 6th March 1911

49

District in the 4-0"-6-7"-0" Undesi
or

From

The Officer In-charge of No. 3
or Vizianagrum Range,
Vizagapatam District

To

The Asstt Conservator
of 1st Circle

Dated 27th March
Despd.
Received
1870

No. 246

Enclosures. 1

Prop. Expending Rs 3299/12 Requesting to cancel all the Estimates already submitted for the Trenches Covered by the late heavy rains

No. 3 or Vizianagram Range Office,
Vizagapatam District. 6th April 1870

No. 361

From The Executive Officer
Vizianagram Range

To The Superintending Engr
1st Circle

Sir,

Gudal

With reference to your Memo No. 3942 of the 25th Ultimo I beg to enclose a certificate from the Doctor who considers a change of air is necessary for the restoration of my former health and to request you to be kind enough to recommend me to Govt to transfer me to some healthy District in the 4-5-6-7th or 8th Division

or

or to grant me 2 months leave from
the date of quitting the Range to
obtain Medical treatment. Either
at Madras Bangalore, or at
Cannanore if cannot be transferred

I am
Sir
Your most obt. Servant
A. A. Hamnett Lieut
Executive Agent
Vizanagram Range

This is to Certify that Mr. J. A. Bannatt
Superintendent D. P. W. in charge of Vizianagrum
No. 3 Range is suffering from Fever and I
therefore Recommend that a change of Air
is Essentially necessary for his Recovery

D. McCathy
Assistant Surgeon
33rd Regt. N. I.

Vizianagrum
4th March 1871

From

The Officer In-charge of No. 3
or Vizianagrum Range,
Vizagapatam District

To

The Superintendent
Public Works

Dated 6th March 1871

Desp'd.

Received

No. 1607

Enclosures. 1/0

1871

No. 238

No. 3 or Vizianagram Range Office,
Vizagapatam District. 18 November 1870

57

From The Executive Agent
Vizianagram Range.

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

1 Plan & profile from Vizianagram to Palcondah by Chipurupilli
1 " " " to Bobbili road
1 " " Bimlee to [illegible] road
1 " " Vizianagram to Chittivalsa
1 " " " to Gajapathinagram
1 " " Gajapathinagram to Parvatipoor
1 Statement of maintenance of Roads
Set 7/- Fair Copy of a letter No 22 5th November 1870

Sir,

In forwarding the accompanying Statement called for in your Circular No 2457 dated 20th Ultimo with other enclosures as per margin I beg to inform you that owing to the late rains the Imperial fund roads in this Range have suffered serious injuries in consequence of which I request you to be good enough to obtain sanction of Govt. to exempt the maintenance grants for Imperial fund roads in this Range from the 6 per Cent reduction

I am
Sir
Your most Obt. Servt.
J. L. [illegible] Supervisor
Executive Agent Vizianagram Range

No. 3 OR VIZIANAGRAM RANGE OFFICE,
VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT, 1871

No. 383

From The Officer In-charge of No. 3 or Vizianagram Range

To The Officer In-charge of the Range

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a requisition from the Sub-Assistant Commissioner of Salt Revenue for the Vizianagram Range for the issue of [illegible] Salt for the use of the Cattle employed on the Road Cleaning establishment of the Vizianagram Municipality for the month of [illegible]

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient Servant

[illegible]

From The Officer In-charge of No. 3 or Vizianagrum Range, Vizagapatam District

To The Supt. Ganjam Dist.

Dated 18th November 1870
Despd. 19 do
Received 25th Nov 70.

No. 238

P.W. 3299/71

Enclosures.

From 1st Sept 1871 to 2nd Sept Requests to apply to Govt. for the Exemption of 5 per cent on Imperial fund Read 1.

To Captain J. Bulkley D.S.

Dated 19 November 70

To Captain
Dublin

on the work? Never prohibited Asst.
Officers of the Local Fund Coroner staying
the sums of any thing of the Kind
Complaints would have been made
me before Dept. or to Asst. Officers
upon my departure left to the present
date no one has made any claims for it
After my return when I found false entries
in the accounts of the Local Fund Coroner
I was prosecuting him some daily Coomastahs
complained to me about not being paid for
work done during my absence I told
them to prosecute the Local Fund Coroner
for the money due to them as he owed
for the work after the funds allotted for
the work Enquiries was found and after
the work Enquiries was found and after
it was ordered to stop it
As soon as the funds have come I will

made it my duty to call on you
I am Sir
Your most Obt. Servt
S. A. Hamnick Deputy
Executive Agent
Ryan afsam Range

Special Executive Engineer's Office
Camp Chicacole 7th December
1870

No. 232. despatched 12th December 1870 from Hanefore

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have inspected in a somewhat Cursory manner the following roads in No. III Range Vizagapatam District.

Trunk Road from Chicacole & Chittivalsa	12 Miles
Chittivalsa & Vizianagaram	13 Do.
Vizianagaram & Bowdara River	14 Do.
Ganjam Frontier near Palcondah & Parvatepore	28 Do.
Vizianagaram & Parvatepore	52 Do.
Rambudrapooram towards Pachepenta	3½ Do.
Total	152½ Miles

The roads not inspected are.

of Rambudrapore & Pachepenta	8½ Miles
Vizianagaram & Palacondah	45 Do.
Total	53½ Miles

There are no irrigation works in this Range

From 1st Lieut. [illegible]
The Officer In-charge of No. 3
or Vizianagrum Range,
Vizagapatam District

To
The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Dated 9th December 1870
Despd.
Received [illegible]

No. 3873

Enclosures.

P.P. 3299/11
Returned to the Executive Engineer
with the information required
in the accompanying letter.
[illegible]
1st Lieut. R.E.
Asst. Engr. 1st Div.

To Captain [illegible]
Dated 7th Dec.

on the work. Diver prohibited Supt.

Range belonging to Government.
No Public Buildings are reported to have
suffered damages. I inspected the
Sub Magistrates Cutcherry at Vizianagaram
a work entered in the Progress Report
and about half Completed.

2. Separate reports upon Trunk Roads
on Palacondah & Parvatipore road and
on Vizianagaram and Parvatipore road
will be sent to you together with Copies
of orders issued to Wm Hammett Superviser
in charge.

3. The Salooru and Pachepenta road
so far as I saw is being Executed in
a Solid manner and has sustained no
damage from the late storms.

4. The Vizianagaram and Chettiveldu
road is I believe entered in the Progress
Report as 13 miles and an allowance
made for that distance it should
be 11 miles as the eleventh mile stone
is just where it joins the Trunk Road.

5. The Vizianagaram and Bowdara road
is if I remember rightly, entered in the Progress
report as 20 miles at 150 Rupees per mile
but I believe 6 miles have been made over
to No. II Range if this is so a deduction
should be made in the grant.

6. I have made Estimates and given them
to Wm Hammett to forward for repairing
damages on Trunk Road on the Bowdara
and on the Gajapatinagaram & Parvatipore
road and given instructions (Copies of which
will be sent you) relative to damages on other
roads. I have kept these Estimates as low
as possible providing only for the most
part for repairs where the road Embankment
has been entirely destroyed, leaving other
repairs to the maintenance grants. Wm
Hammett's Estimates provided for all
damages caused by floods and rains and
I should think for even more, they appeared
to me high both as regards rates and
quantities. I think I understood from
Wm Hammett that some of the Estimates

here

were prepared according to his instructions
not actually before his eyes it is important
that the Range officers should as far as
possible take the measurements and
prepare these Emergent Estimates themselves
7. I have ordered the Earthworks to be
proceeded with in anticipation of Sanction
otherwise the roads will even now not
be passable at night and when the rains
Commence will be altogether impassable
8. Mr. Hamnett is I think quite Correct
in attributing the greater part of the damage
done to the bursting of tanks in the Zemindaries
probably the damage done to the roads from
this Cause is not far short of 10,000 Rupees
in addition to which unless the will be
remedied we must build more Bridges
and Culverts that would otherwise not be
required, the reason why the tanks
burst as a matter of course when the
rains are heavy is that they have no
Waste weirs.
9. It is remarkable that in this
Range

Range except on portions of the Salur
road all Excavation is done by daily Coolies,
this ought to be changed. I would suggest
that the Native Subordinates be informed
that after 9 months if they Cannot get work
done by Contract they will be liable
to have their services dispensed with
I Cannot but think that they Can get
work so done if they Choose, at present
the daily wages are low 1a. 6p per Man 10 pice
per woman & Children but the rates of work
are merely Moderate and in some Cases
high.
10. Both Mr. Hamnett and Mr. Spencer
Overseer have their Head Quarters at
Vizianagaram. Mr Hamnett seems to think
this arrangement necessary on account
of Cantonment Buildings, I think
a Society under the Supervision &
immediate orders quite able to give
satisfaction to the Commanding Officer
there is however just at present no
objection to Mr. Spencer having his Hd.
Quarters at Vizianagaram as he has
very

very little to do in fact were there a Local Fund Overseer Mr. Spencer might be sent to some other Range if the Trunk Road is proceeded with Mr. Spencer if in the Range should be located on that work although Vizeaiagaram might be left in his charge as no one would wish an European like Condemned to more solitude than is necessary -

I have the honorable
Sir
Your most obedt Svt.
J. Buckley Captain & E
Executive Engineer
Ousfl only Ganjam
& Vizag Districts

651

very little to do in Each were there as

No 3407.

To.

The Secretary to Govt
P.W. Madras.

Dated 10th January 1871

No 232

From

The Ex Engineer Duty
Cuddapah & Nagapatam
Divides.

To The Supdg Engr
1st Dvn

Dated 9th December 1870.

Rec'd

P.W. 3299/71
Recd 15 Sept 71 L L Sz
N

Pl Enclosure
Examined &
for Govt
Approval

Special Executive Engineer's
Office Camp Arkal
19th December 1870

No 253.

To.
The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the following remarks on the Vizianagaram and Parvatipore road.

2. The road 52 miles long is well advanced towards Completion as shewn in the Progress Report, the work appears to me solidly done but some of the Masonry works though otherwise Completed are not fully plastered as Estimated for, perhaps it may be intended that this should be done hereafter, the brickwork in the Vizianagaram Range generally is of an inferior description.

3. For a great part of this road 6" or 8" inches of Metal is allowed in the Estimate, now no Metal properly so called is used in this Range, What is used is a layer of stones usually as picked up on the Hill sides but occasionally large stones may have been broken into pieces of nearly 75 Cubic inches and then layed down

If

It seems necessary that the Superintending Engineer should when receiving a road Estimate understand the Material that is going to be used, the difference between stones and broken stones or Metal would not be less than 4 annas per C.yard; the rate allowed 8 annas per Cubic yard appeared to me high for the Material used but not knowing the distances it has to be Carried I Cannot speak very Confidently on this Subject. I do not anticipate that a road thus made i:e gravel on a layer of large stones will give satisfaction, I think an intermediate layer of 3" inches of broken stone will eventually be found necessary as the gravel will after a few be washed off by heavy rains and the 6 inches really only about 4 inches solid, is soon powdered into dust by the traffic when ground against an unyielding hard substratum. I believe in India that over red soil and wherever good gravel is procurable it is preferable to lay down gravel only, the road becomes Certainly heavy and rutted during very wet weather but is easily smoothed and is pleasant to travel over for most part of the year which is seldom the case with

with such a road as Mr. Hammett has made with only 100 Rs. per Mile to keep up the gravelling

4. There is a good deal of Embankment and I can hardly believe that by daily Coolies the Earthwork of this road has been done for the Estimated rate of 1 anna. I Expect it has Cost more.

5. The turfing rate of 9 pie per yard is 2 or 3 times the rate in the Ganjam District. I think myself that if turfing Cannot be done for 6 pie it ought to be omitted and the slopes gravelled or left alone for the Spontaneous growth of grass.

6. The Cost of this road will be nearly Rs. 4000 per Mile, it is a very important line but I think this rather much for a Local Fund Road, the Cost of the Ganjam roads vary between two thousand and three thousand Rupees per Mile; other Local Roads in this Range should I Consider be limitted to Rs. 2500 per Mile in the first instance

7. The next line of road that should be Constructed Certainly should be from Ramchandrapooram to the Salt Pans at Kuppilli this would relieve several existing

Existing lines now subjected to a heavy traffic and would besides benefitting a large tract of Cultivated Country extend the salt trade with Jeypoor; well aligned it would Cross little drainage and should be a good road at a Cost not Exceeding Rs. 2500 per mile. I believe a road has been talked of between Palcondah and Sartima in the Kimedy Zemindary I think it would be a very useless road. A direct road from Kagode on the Palcondah and Parvatepore road to Gomiscor is very desirable.

I have the honour Sir
Your most obt Servant
J. Buckley Captain &
Executive Engineer Vizp.
Duty Ganjam & Vizag

N.B. A Copy of this report has been sent to J.S. Hammett Superviser D.P.W.

Cristina Li

No. 8410.

To.

The Collector of Vizagapatam

Dated 16th January 1871

From

The Executive Engineer
on special duty, Ganjam

To The Supg Engineer
1st Division

Dated 19th
Received December 1870

D° No. 5299/71
Trans. to Supt. 1st Div. 21/12/70

Offering certain observations on the Vizianagram and Parvatipore Road and stating that a copy of the Report has been sent to Mr Hammett

O

Special Executive Engineer's
Office Camp Atcha
No. 256 21st December 1870

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

I have the honour to forward you that I gave Mr. Hammett an Estimate Amounting to Rs. 2348 for repairing the damages Caused to the Trunk Road No. VI between Chicacole and Chittivalsa (No. III Range Vizianagaram) during the late heavy Rains on the 28th & 29th October and 4th November as much as 14 inches is recorded to have fallen in Vizianagaram on 28th October

2. The principal damage has been sustained between the 30½ and 33rd Mile near Ronadah (from Chicacole) where the road is carried across low Marshy ground by an Embankment in which are 3 Small bridges Viz. 1-2-21 ft. Arch 1-3-18 ft. Arch and 1-1-12 ft. Arches; the waterway thus afforded proved quite insufficient. I have told Mr. Hammett to prepare Plans and Estimates for adding 3 Arches to the 2 Arch bridge and for a Road

Road dam 90 ft long. Should this in some future Cyclone prove insuffi= =cient the 3 Arch bridge Can be turned into a 5 or 6 Arch Bridge. Experience only Can show the waterway required in such places, where the floods spread over a large flat area and it is impos= =sible to Calculate the velocity; at the 36th Mile the road has again been breached in 3 places and I have instructed Mr Hamnett to prepare plan and Estimate for adding 3-12 ft Arches to An Existing 1-9 ft Span bridge.

3. Besides the damages for which a Special Estimate has been prepared the road has sustained minor damages, which must be made good from the Maintenance allowance. It is Essential to bring the road of the Vizagapatam and Ganjam District into tolerable order after the late unusually heavy rains that no deduction from the original Maintenance grant should this year be made.

4. The breaches above alluded to should be at once set right or the safety of Masonry work will be endangered and traffic is altogether stopped Restrains and also the Tappal runners, they were in October delayed 4 days at Konada whereby in the Ganjam District we were not only deprived of News from the South for that time but also prevented sending letters to the North and to Europe, the runners at Chicacole waiting for these halting for 4 days at Konada.

5. A further report Concerning this portion of the Trunk Road will here= =after be forwarded.

I have the honorable
Sir
Your most obd. Servant.
J. Buckley. Captain R.E
Executive Engineer on
Special Duty Ganjam.
& Vizag.

Special Executive Engineers
Office Camp Arkal
No 267 24th December 1870

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the following remarks upon Trunk Road No VI between Chicacole and Chattivalsa.

2.) For 1st 9 miles no additional pieces of Embankments here and there are the only signs of work done, at the 9th mile there is a bridge in Course of Construction = pleted up to springing of Arches, this Bridge is I think to be 5 - 28 ft Arches the Masonry is very Common, the stones small, & dejn of the stone having been hammered dressed ever for the Cutwaters of the piers, I suppose it is all to be plastered over when it will look better, I think the work ought to be better Considering that above the foundation this Masonry is in lieu of Brick work Estimated at 3 Rs per Cubic yards, At the site of bridge were some bricks, the Mastry said they would only be used for parapet

No. 267.

From
The Executive Engineer
on Special duty, Ganjam

To The Supt Engineer
1st Division

Dated 21st December 1870
Received 23rd December 1870

No. 256

Submitting Report on the damage caused by the Rain on the 9th & 10th Inst, to Trunk Road No VI between Chicacole and Chattivalsa and informing that on Estimate for repairing the damage has been handed over to Mr Hammett.

P

parapet walls, for which they are quite unfit;
between 9th and 10th Miles there is a bridge
3-15 ft. Arches Completed up to springing
of Arches, work rough and Common like
that at the 9th Mile and the same remark
may be truly applied to several lately
Completed Tunnels; at the 13th Mile there
is a bridge 3-15 ft. Arches Completed 2 years
ago all but some plastering; work rough;
bricks in face of Arch already shewing evident
signs of decay; such brick work I should
think dear at the ordinary Ganjam rate
of Rupees 3 or Rs 8-8-0 per C.yards and Rs 5-8-0
appears to me an extravagant Charge for
such work with bricks and building one
side would hardly be pleased with giving
the same for walls of dwelling houses; if there is
real difficulty in getting good brick kilns
this Ganjam work would be well to try Concrete
Arches, where the Span is small, there would
or at any rate might be the advantage that
the Cost would only be Rs 2-8-0 per C.yard
instead of Rs 5-8-0; Most of the small
tunnels are Covered with large unshapen
stones I fear they will not endure a heavy traffic
often break down the rates generally for
the

the Masonry are higher than would be found
necessary in the Ganjam District.

3. Mr Hammett informed me that he
had heard of or seen, I forget which, some
rocks in the river some distance below the
site fixed on for the Konadah Bridge
it would be advisable to build this bridge even
a mile or more above or below where the road
now crosses the River if by so doing a rock
foundation could be obtained as with Nothing
but Sand and no stone close at hand for
piers this bridge will be very Expensive
in proportion to its size and importance
if the bridge were built on the direct line
of the bridge were built on of the direct line
it would be best to make the Main road
as at present for fine weather with a loop
line for wet weather.

4. The Metal and Gravelling begins at about
18 Miles from Chicacole and 23 Miles from Chitte-
-vulsa I did not Examine the thickness of
road Material much, but what is called
Metal is really only a layer of stones of various
sizes mostly in the state as found on the Hill
sides, there is no reason why such Metal
or stones the distance Carried being the same
should Cost more than Gravelling, and why

a

a rate of 12 Annas should be entered in the Estimate is to me inexplicable, except near the 31st Mile stone, where the road was badly breached this year there is no point I think where the stone has to be carried over 3½ Miles the distance it has been brought to the 5–18ft bridge alluded to above and the Mistry told me the Cost of the stone there was 8 annas per Cubic yards, Now there is very little difference between the stone packed there for building and that placed on the road, but one would Expect that stone selected for the former would be more Expensive; I may be wrong but until reasons are given to prove the Contrary. 6 Annas will appear to me about a fair rate for the "Metal" really "Stone". along this road, the rate for gravelling is 8 annas per C yard I should say 5 annas ought easily to suffice, with low daily wages (7–6) and Cart hire 6 annas per diem 6 Annas is about a fair rate for gravel Carted one mile I believe the percentage of distance that gravel would have to be taken so far is not great, for more than a Mile very small, whilst for many

Miles

Miles no Cartage at all is necessary; I beg to recommend that as Mr. Spencer has very little to do now he should be instructed to make a fresh Estimate in accurate detail, giving very Carefully the distance for every quarter or half Mile that the stone or gravel would have to be Carried.

5. In some parts of the Completed portion more waterway is required for the drainage as I have stated in a former letter. I think this might be provided by reducing rates of Masonry works Estimated for.

6. One Anna per Cubic yard for Earthwork is high for this road where the soil is mostly Sandy if the same rates for the Vizianagaram and Parvatipore is really sufficient, as there the soil is black and Embankments heavy; 9 pie per Square yard for Turfing appears somewhat about double what it ought to be, and I think that with Overseers and Local Fund Mistries 5 per cent for Superintendence ought to suffice if not for the Masonry works at any rate for such simple work as making the road –

7. I beg to recommend that Rs. 100 per Mile

Maintenance

Maintenance be allowed at once for the whole 41 Miles from Chittivalsa to Chicacole at present Rs. 2000 is allowed for the 23 Completed Miles, but for the untouched 18 Miles Rs 100 per Mile Annually might be very profitably Employed the Country for the whole distance being red soil is passable for Carts unless during heavy rain, Except in low Marshy places which are often unpassable and for the greater part of the year difficult to get across, a small Expenditure would suffice at those places & make low Embankments and rough road-dams such a fund seems desirable as it is uncertain when the road will be Completed and the traffic between Chicacole and Chittivalsa is Considerable -

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obd Servants
J. Buckley Captain R.E
Executive Engineer Ganjam Division

No 3416.

To.

No 3 Range Vizagapatam.

Dated 11th January 1871.

From

The Executive Engineer
in Special Duty

Guntur

The Deputy Engineer
1st Division

Dated 24th December 1870.

Rec.

No 267.

P. W. 3299/71

Forwarding certain observations on Trunk Road No VI between Chicacole and Chittivella.

Special Executive Engineers

No 73

Office Camp Moojagada

15th June 1871.

To

The Superintending Engineer

1st Division

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 744 dated 5th Inst. I have the honour to inform you that as may be seen from the reports sent to you and orders given to Mr. Hamnett Supervisor, Copies of which were sent to your office I was not at all pleased with some of the roads in No 3 Range.

Palcondah to Parvatepore

2. I have never seen a road with a maintenance allowance present such a neglected appearance as does this road. I cannot believe that of late years the maintenance allowance has been fairly Expended upon it, I can say most Certainly it has not been well and Economically Expended, repairs except between Parvatipore and River Nagavully (7 miles) have been done in a most slovenly fashion, which for long lengths one could see no signs of work having been done for years.

Vizianagaram to Parvatepore

3. I Considered the quality of work generally on this road Satisfactory, but what is Called Metal in No 3 Range is never broken stone and the rate for unbroken stone is high. I cannot think

think the Earthwork is done for one Anna per yard by daily Coolies and probably some of the allowance for Metal and gravel has been expended on Earthwork: the rate of 9 pie per Square yard for Turfing is 2 or 3 times the rate that prevails in the Ganjam District.

4. The work on the Saloor and Pachipenta Revenue Road appeared to me to be going on Satisfactorily.

5. I should think this road must have been in very good order before it suffered so severely from the late heavy rains. — Vizeanagaram and Rowdara.

6. This road I found in fair order — Vizeanagaram & Chittivalsa.

7. By the detailed report I sent you it will appear I considered the Masonry of some Bridges and tunnels on Trunk Road No VI very rough, although the rates were high, and some brick arch work very bad both as to quality of bricks and workmanship, although the rates were Rs 5-8-0 in the Ganjam District good brick work would cost about Rs 3 or Rs 3-8-0 twelve annas per Cubic yard and is allowed for stone and Eight annas for gravel. I believe that a Carefully prepared Estimate would shew these rates to be nearly if not quite double what they ought to be, the stone not being broken. Mr. Hammett I think agreed with me that six annas per Cubic yard of Gravel is quite sufficient if the average — Trunk Road No VI

Cartage

Cartage is one Mile but he had no data to shew me how he arrived at the high rates in the Estimate and I do not see how a Correct Estimate Can be made unless the Cartage is calculated for every ½ Mile or less.

8. The Cantonment roads were in good order and the Monsiff's Court house I sais to the Guard Commandant.

9. The Estimates sent in by Mr. Hammett Superviser were I considered much more than sufficient for Current repairs, they more than provided for Completely making good all damage done, also for the formation or raising of Embankments higher than they were before, the renewal of gravel and Metal was very amply allowed for, much of the material being recoverable from the side drains it is due to Mr. Hammett to state that I never understood from him that the Estimates were intended for only Emergent works. I learnt from him also that some of the Estimates had not been made or checked on the spot by himself. I Cancelled them all and made fresh ones myself except for the Parvatepore and Palaconda road which was not much damaged by the floods but requires the remade altogether, and for the Vizeanagaram and Palacondah road which I did not see but

but which Mr. Hamnett said he could put in passable order out of the maintenance
10. Whilst Acting Superintending Engineer so far as I remember the office work of No. III Range Vizianagaram was well performed I know nothing about the Head Accountant further than as he told me he is an old Godavery man and formerly under Mr. Haskins; in several of these Emergent Estimates three annas per square yard for turfing was entered Mr. Hamnett informed me there were Clerical Errors, but as the items amounted to several hundred rupees such serious errors ought not to have escaped the notice of the Head Accountant.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servt.
T. Ruthy Captain R.E.
Executive Engineer on
Special duty Cuyaum.

From
The Executive Engineer
on Special duty
Cuyaum
Dated 1st June 1871

R.M. No. 99 of 1871 & 52

No. 10

Vizianagaram
2nd June 1871.

To
Mr. Thomas Worster
in Charge of Vizianagaram
Range

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a letter dated 27th May 1871 and Memorandum No. 27 dated 23rd May received from the Superintending Engineer for the first Division for the Superintending Engineer Gen. I found on my arrival at the Travellers Bungalow the Superintending Engineer waited for me if I has seen Mr. Hamnett, I said yes. He then asked me if he could walk, I said yes, but was unable to attend Office on account of Sickness, but would do so during this if he wished to see him, after this I do not recollect any Conversation taking place about Mr. Hamnett, I did not send Mr. Hamnett to Office that day,

But Mr. Hamnett attended Office

On

On Monday the 13th March, Major
Fraser holds his Office at this time in a
small Bungalow in Colonel Applegaths
Compound;

Please Remember to the

Sir.

Your most Obt. Sert.

G. Spencer

Acting Chaplain

C.A. 3 29/11/82

95

Major Fraser - Rev. Spencer

Thursday evening last

Office people told me very subject
of the report you read to them
regarding the Local Fund under
Mr. Pedmans Charge - I feel
ever since my heart is breaking to
know you are dying very gradually & slowly
but fatally Thinking of the future
& the poverty of my poor motherless

Chisholm and two orphans my
fathers law. who died suddenly
leaving them penniless - at this time
pleased God to afflict me with
sickness - it to find this favour with
you - I have taught this poor
good to others poor fellow creatures
but I have been reaping evil by
the thoughtless going from children
penniless - and without an appointment
in Killingworth to continuously bring
dear to my eyes - not Lane
ashamed to be seen in the

State by. others - I beg you to favour
appear before you & the office pleb
besides I am really ill & miserable
should any thing happen to me
I most respectfully beg of you
to see the security I have lodged
in your office be paid to my poor
Children

In Dec^{r} 1866 when I took
charge of this range the accounts
were in a confusion - in consequence
Wm Hudson was removed - the present
Beat decumbant degraded to this
1st Beat Range on 30 Pds - & Pedmenday

No. 3 or Vizianagram Range Office,
Vizagapatam District. 31st October 1870

No. 218

From The Executive Agent
Vizianagram Range

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir, With reference to your clauses
Nos 2226-2253 & 2303 dated 1st 5th & 8th
instant- I beg to inform you that the
amount due to be paid for work done
on the Road between Gangadittapuram
& Paradipoor is Rupees 16"/"6-13-3 as
per accompanying list-

On the month of January last Mr.
Spencer Taluq Corrector in temporary
charge of the Range having ascertained
that the amount sanctioned for the
construction of the road was exceeded &
that it was exceeded by Rs. 268-12-10 and
ordered the Local fund Overseer to stop
the work- Contrary to his ordered the work
was in progress on the road in question
+
was carried on, until my rejoining the
Range & stopping it- for which the sum
of Rs. 804-25 is to be paid for as
shown

O.P. 3299/70
from 1st to 31st Oct 1870

discovered - A few months after
this you came as Controller & found
my books & found them quite
correct - When the last bill
was sent back to this Range
I brought it to your notice
recommended Pustimanadu
as he was really hard work
out door workman &c

I am
Sir
Your most humble
Servt
S. K. Somasundaram

shewn in the above named list.

The Local fund Conductor while attending overcharge of the records &c was added by the Head Accountant to furnish the accounts of all daily Goomastas to whom payments were still due, but without complying with his request he was told to obtain them from the Goomastas.

Since the work was stopped by Order of the Salug Corps no daily reports or Station books were sent to the Range Office by the daily Goomastas as they were prohibited not to submit them by the Local fund Conductor so nothing but Official documents for the sum of Rupees 2631-10-10 is to be found in the Range records

I am
Sir
Your most Obt. Servt.

Camp Umtavalasa
2d. November 1870

J. A. Hamilton Lieut
Executive Asst
Vizianagram Range

From

The Officer In-charge of No. 3
or Vizianagrum Range,
Vizagapatam District

To

The Supdg Engr Nth Dn

Dated 31st October
Despd. 3rd November } 1880
Received

No. 218

Enclosures. 5 Pieces

GOM. 3299/71 regarding the Amount recorded on the Pl. of letters Conveyance Hyderabad & Vizagapatam

F.

Proc-s-Sept 71 Ln L 82

No. 2771

Range Office No 3 Vizianagram
Dated 15th Novr 80
Rec'd
Noted
Sent
Dated 16th Novr 80

W. Hammett and his subordinates responsible for this and the numbers on the cancelled Hyderabad ...

No. 3 OR VIZIANAGRAM RANGE OFFICE,
VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT, 11th March 1861

No. 355

From The Executive Engineer Vizianagram Range

To The Superintending Engineer Northern Circle Vizagapatam

Sir,

I have to wrote my letter No. 218- dated 6th Septr the Head Accountant made me understand that the Sum of 2681-10-10 entered in the Statement that accompanied the letter No. 218- was the amount of expenditure incurred between the date the verbal order was given by Mr. Spencer and that on which he sent a written order to the Local Fund Overseer as a few weeks elapsed during the interval I thought it probable -

The other evening while one of your Office clerks explained to me I did not know that the Sum of Rupees 2681-10-10 was due for anything else but for Labor during my absence -

I am
Sir
Your most Obt. Servt
S. A. Hammett Supr
Executive Engr Vizianagram Range

Statement showing the amount unpaid up to the date of stopping the work on constructing the road between Vizianagram and Bavanatipoor

Month & Year	Items	Arrears paid	Arrears unpaid
		Rs as Rs as	
1869			
July	Unpaid	" "	1648 1 5
August	do	" "	2650 "
September	do	" "	440 15 8
October	Arrears paid	65 7 15	573 9 0 1
November	do do	15 6 3 1	
December		" "	
1870			
January	Unpaid	" "	233 1 10
	Arrears paid	70 " "	
			497 2 12 11
		229 1 2 1	
Total amount unpaid up to the end of January 1870			2681 10 10

Vizianagram
Range Office
15th July 1871

C. Narasalingam
Head Asst

Sd/ Thomas Cruise
Manager of Vizianagram
Range

Rec'd Jany 1872

Rate Dist Branch 1871

Rec'd 10½ ds

No 1555
C. P. 3299
Superintendent Public Works

2681-10-10 entered in the Statement Register during the Road between Vizianagram & Bavanatipoor

H.

No. 3 OR VIZIANAGRAM RANGE OFFICE,

No. 332 - VIZAGAPATAM DISTRICT. 14th Feby 1867

From The Executive Agent
Vizianagram Range

To The Superintending Engr
1st Division

Sir,

As I am not recovering
fast enough the Doctor considers
that a change of air is necessary to restore
me to perfect health and advises me
to obtain 6 or 7 months furlough and to proceed
to an healthy climate -
As I have a large family to sup
=port I cannot maintain myself and
Children on half pay therefore
request you to be good enough to recom
=mend my transfer to the 5th 6th or 8th
Division should no vacancy exist. I
am sorry ~~I have~~ I be compelled to request
you to obtain 2 months sick leave
for me from the 9th Instant (the date on
which Sept. Spencer is carrying on
the Range duties) to attend the General
Hospital at Madras -

105

Cooly Account of Road from the Over Seer Mr. Subramanakaden in the Vizianagrum Division of Vizagapatam Range

Month & date	Description of Charges	Rupees	Pays-ments	Balance
24th	By amount paid as Hire/wages for the road between Vizianagrum and Bimlipatam as also Salary &c. &c.			
	By Metalling the abo-ve Sp.	"	" 300	"
12"	By Carriage from the Office in charge	200	"	
14"	By amount paid as Hire/wages for the road between Vizianagrum and Bimlipatam as also Salary &c. &c.	390	"	
	By amount paid as Hire/wages for the road between Vizianagrum and Bimlipatam as also Salary &c. &c.			
	5000 Cft. of Rough Stone ——— 600 — "			
	at 10 — " — per 100 —			
	150 Cubic ft. of Chunam ——— 1050 — "			
	at ½ — " — per Cubic ft.			
	300 Nos. of Country Cart ——— 225 — "			
	0 — 12 — " per Cart			
	9000 Cft. of Earth work ——— 562 — 8			
	done by Cooly Contractor at			
	0 — 1 — 0 per Cft. ———			
		"	243	8 "
15"	By amount paid as Hire/wages for 100,000 bricks for the road between Viziana-			
	-grum & Bimlipatam at	"	" 300	"
	3 — 0 — 0 per 1000			
	T. O.		1037	8 "

No 3942

To No 3 Range Office

Dated 24 February 1871

From

The Officer In-charge of No. 3
or Vizianagrum Range,
Vizagapatam District

To

The Secy. to Govt.
" Dept. of Public Works

Dated 11th Feby
Despd.
Received 1871

No. 332

Enclosures.

P. W. 3299/71

Requests that as she is not recovering & health to recommend him for 2 months furlough &c

Mr. Mercante handed in the Certificate and the recommendation mentioned therein Mr. H. has not yet settled the accounts of the Road in the Land Road Museum

H

† for the Secretary

H

Mem. Sir

Asst. Secy. to Govt. Madras

I. A. Hamilton Capt.

Officiating Asst. Engr. Vizagapatam Range

Cash Account of Local Fund Overseer Mr. Padmanaban
in the District of Vizagapatam

Month & Date	Description of Charges	Receipts	Payments	Balance
	Brought Over		3037 8 "	
18"	By Amount paid as per receipt as follows for the road between Ramabadrapuram & Panchapattala			
	20 Carts of Chunam at 10-0-0 per Cart } 200-0-0			
	20 Cart of Chunam for Coolies at 2/8 per Cart } 50-0-0			
		" "	250 " "	
			3,287 8 " " "	

Signed Mr. Padmanaboswamy
Local Fund Overseer

/ True Copy /

J. A. Hammett Superintendent
Executive Agent Vizagapatam Range

Mr. Padmanaboswamy
Agent Vizagapatam
1st April 1870

work executed for the money

From
The Executive Agent
1st Division
Ranges

To
The Superintending Engineer
1st Division
Northern Irrigation

Sir,

I've submitting the accompanying extract of Local Journal Account Cash book for the 24th of January and for that from the 12th to the 18th of February last, I beg to inform you that the third day after my resuming charge of the Ranges I set out to inspect all the works in ~~Lettings~~.

On visiting the road between Kankuduppy and Sanchipoolah I find that the sum of Rupees 3287-8- entered in the Cash book of which the work to be a false charge.

On the 24th January the sum of Rupees 300-- is inserted in the Cash book as on account of payment for 800 Cyds. of chetalley stone and between the 14th and 18th February the sum of Rupees 600-- is charged for 1500 Cyds. of rough stone Rupees 1050 for 150 Garees of Chunam Rupees 225-- for 300 Garees of sand Rs. 562-8- for 9,000 Cyds. of Earth work done by Contract Rs. 300 for 100,000 of bricks & Rs. 250 for 20 more Garees of Chunam-There is neither Chunam, sand, bricks, rough stone, nor metalling, to be seen on the road nor is there any earth work executed for the money

entered.

All the vouchers that accompanied the station and cash books are downright forged documents.

The expenditure on the unfinished portion of the road from Gogatoor to Saradhipoor is Rupees 7015-3-10 I doubted the correctness of this expenditure also & inspected the entire length of the road and find that the work executed to be of a very inferior description and not at all in accordance with the sanctioned Estimates. Over heavy embankments consisting of purely cotton soil the Local Fund Overseer has only spread about 2 to 3 inches of gravel (without any metalling underneath it) and that of a very inferior quality - and I consider the money really expended for it must amount to a mere trifle - and actually thrown away.

On roughly examining the accounts furnished by the temporary Coomadahs employed on this road with that submitted by the Local Fund Overseer I find that a great difference exists between them - the accounts for this work are still undergoing examination & am unable at present to state the exact amount that will have to be examined for on this road.

It appears from the records in this office that no more work was ordered to be carried on the road in question by Mr Spencer as far back as the end of January last. On the 28 and 29 of the past month when I was travelling between Ramchundrapoor and Parvathipoor I saw laborers still employed under what authority the Local Fund Overseer has done so I am unable to explain and he was again ordered to stop the work.

The amount due to the laborers since the last payment was made is nearly Rupees 6000 from what source the Local Fund Overseer proposed to pay this amount I am unable to explain.

The work was pushed on & finished orderly to mislead and to satisfy the inspecting officer and to make it appear to him that the work done is equivalent to the expenditure viz. Rupees 7015-3-10

I am
Sir
Your most Obt Servant
S. A. Hammick Superintendent
Executive Agent Vizianagram Range

Vizianagram Range
Vizianagram
April 1870

No 3 or Vizianagram Range Office
Vizagapatam Dist. 5th July 1871.

No: 132.

From

The Owner in charge of the
Vizianagram Range

To

The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

I beg respectfully to inform you that in obedience to your Memo No: 1029 of 30th June, I met with Mr. Hammett at the Regimental Hospital this morning, and asked the Surgeon attached to the Regiment if Mr. Hammett had exhibited any symptoms of Mania, he replied that Mr. Hammett is still under the Surgeon in charge, stated that Mr. Hammett is suffering under medical treatment and Recommended to Government the last three months, he could not grant him a medical certificate.

I beg to remain &c &c

Sd/ J. L. Colman
Owner

True Copy

Lieutenant Major R.E.
Superintending Engr 1st Div

No 117.

To
The Range
Vizagapatam

Dated 7th April 71

From C.P. No 132
The Executive Agent
Vizianagram
Range

To
The Supt. Engineer
1st Div.

Dated 3rd April 71
Rec'd 6 — Do.

No 381 C

Encld
P.W. 3299/71
Reports Local Fund
Overseer Pudmanabha
for inserting pictures
amounting to Rs 3287-8-
Charges in his Cash book
during the months of
January & February last

From C.P. No 331.

Report as above & requesting
Mr. Hammett may be changed
Placed

Superintending Engineer's Office, 1st Division

Dowlaishwaram, 11 July 1871

No. 1188

From

Major J. T. Fischer R.E.

Acting Superintending Engineer

1st Division

To

Colonel J. Alexander R.E.

Secretary to Government D. P. W.

MADRAS

SIR,

I have the honor to refer to your Memo of the 21st June 1871 No 154. I have the honor to forward herewith Copy of a letter received from the Officer in Charge of the Vizianagrum Police Range, which was deputed for me to take Mr. Hammett's depositions before the Surgeon attached to the 33d Regiment N.I. and to obtain a Medical Certificate in the proper form.

2. From Sergeant Comacs letter it will be seen that the Surgeon states that as Mr. Hammett is not now under his treatment and has not been so for the past three months he could not grant him a Medical certificate.

3. I beg to add that I have directed Mr. Hammett to do duty in No 2 Range Ongole Palcum under Lieut. Dorward until further instructions regarding him are received.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obt. Servant

Wm. T. Fischer Major R.E.
Acting Supg Engineer 1st Dn.

P. W. 3418/71
Superintending Engineer
Dowlaishwaram
1188 dated 11th July 1871
Major Fischer
Acting Supg Engineer
1st Division
To Government Public Works
Secretary
Madras

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION

DOWLAISHWARUM, 12th July 1871

No. 1207

From

Major J. T. Fischer R.E.

Acting Superintending Engineer

1st Division

To

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.

Secretary to Government D. P. W.

MADRAS

SIR,

I have the honor to request you will be good enough to lay before His Lordship the following observations on the 3rd Instant Mayor's letter to your address of the 3rd Instant No 1078.

Para 5. "for communication and concurrence."

Para 14. "After liberal grants are made at"
"the very time the Hon'ble Hammett was"
"preferring charges against the Local"
"Fund Overseer for fraud and peculations."
"he himself, on the plea of emergency and abso-"
"lute necessity, did not hesitate to make these"
"wanton extortionate demands for repairs to"
"his works and afterwards quote the opinion of"
"an inspecting Officers in their favor as an"
"instance of the good condition they were in, and"
"such an example before their eyes, the subordinates"
"can hardly be expected to do any better."

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servant

Mort. Fischer Major RE
Actg Supt Engineer 1st Divn

Chief Engr
Public

Admin. Dept. 1871 Public Works Dept. 5418.
Superintending Engineer
1st Division

To
The Secretary to Govt. P. W. D.
Madras

Dated 11th July 1871
Rec'd 18 " "
No 11888

Reports that as the Superintending Engineer 1st Division is absent on leave, the letter from the Secretary to Government P. W. D. No 2268 dated 6th September 1871 addressed to the Superintending Engineer 1st Division has been forwarded to him at Dowlaishwarum.

Revenue Department

Miscellaneous No. 2385

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 14th July 1871.

Read Government Order dated 9th May 1871 No. 805 ordering to lie over the letter from Major Fischer relating to the Local Fund Overseer Padmanabha-swamy, pending the receipt of the report from the Board of Revenue.

Recorded with reference to Board's Proceedings dated 23rd June 1871 No. 2525.

(True Extract)

J. Grote
Acting Secretary

To

The Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with 11 enclosures returned

Rec'd 18th July 1871
Read 18th July 1871
No. 2385
Requests certain additions & alterations to be made in the letter of the 3rd Assistant R.I. to the Collector of Tinnevelly to the dependence of Mr. Hannett

No. 84

Fort St. George 3 Aug 1871

To
The Secretary to Govt
P.W. Dept

Madras
Dated 12th July
Rec'd 18 } 1871
No. 2385

Fort St. George 18th July 1871.
Sir,
I am directed by the Board of Revenue to forward the accompanying letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, dated 12th instant, No. 2385, with enclosures, and to request that you will be pleased to submit the same to the Government for orders.
I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
[illegible]
Secretary

Transferred to the
Public Works Deptt.

D Hamilton
Fort St George
15th July 1871

PW
Revenue 1871 Dept
Pro: of Govt for Dpt
No 3434.
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 14th July 1871.
Recd. 15—
Desp 14 July 1871
en 11
Recd. 18 July 71.

Recording order of
Government directing
that letter from
Major Fischer re-
garding Local Fund
Overseer, Pudumana-
bhaswamy, lie over
pending report of
Board of Revenue

No 2268. 6 Sept 71
Transferred

No 885
6 Oct 3 Aug 71

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION.

DOWLAISHWARUM, 9th March 1871.

No. 129.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
1st Division

To

The Collector of
Vizagapatam DISTRICT

SIR,

With reference to your endorsement on the petitions herewith returned, I have the honor to inform you that the expenditures therein referred to, were incurred by the Local Fund Overseer Pudmanabhaswamy without any sanction or Allotment of funds, and against the express Orders of the Navy Officers and this Department. Therefore, has nothing whatever to do with the matter which is one entirely between the Overseer and the Coolies or Mistries who

gave

cause him their labour.

2. For his disobedience of Orders in the most wilful manner I shall deal with the Overseer's Conduct as soon as the further enquiry I am now making is closed.

I have &c &c

(Sd) J. F. Fischer Major R.E.

Ag. Supdg Engineer 1st Dn

/True Copy/

Maskell Captain Major R.E.

For Ag. Supdg Engineer 1st Dn

Rec. 2/1390/71

No. 3434

Dt. 4/4/71

R 2258/71

To Govt PWD 8/4/71

131

Vizagapatam
13th March 1871

No 230-

From

The Acting Collector

Vizagapatam

To

The Acting Superintending Engineer

1st Division

Bandaichavaram

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 8 dated March 9th, 1871-

2 As I am unable to agree in the opinion you express that, the payment of the coolies whose arrears you return is a matter "entirely between the Overseer and Coolies" I have the honor to inform you that I have referred the matter to the Board of Revenue, with a view of its being submitted to Government for an expression of their opinion.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

(Sd) R. J. Melville

Acting Collector

/True Copy/

Maskell Captain R.E.

For Ag. Supdg. Engineer 1st Division

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION
Vizianagaram
DOWLAISHWARAM, 14th March 1871.

No. 133

From

Acting
The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

To

The Collector of
Vizagapatam DISTRICT

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No 230 dated the 13th Inst., and in reply I beg to state, the grounds on which I informed you the matter of excess expenditure on the Ramabhadrapooram, and Jayapatinagram Road was entirely between the Overseer, and the Contractors viz", and I request you will be good enough to communicate these to the Revenue Board.

2 On making a thorough examination of the Office records here, I find Serjeant Spencer ordered this Overseer verbally on the 18th January 1870, to stop all expenditure at once on that date - this statement is confirmed by the entries in the Cash books, and the monthly progress report submitted to my Office - on the 22nd February last I find Mr Spencer writing to this Overseer expressing his surprize same he was continuing the work, and directing him to

3
No. 1390/71

2
R 2258/71

5434
11/7/1871

11/7/1871

to stop, warning him that no funds were forthcoming to meet this outlay. the man continued to incur further expenditure even upto April without any sanction or authority. I may here note Serjeant Spencer was acting Range Officer at this time, in the absence of Mr Hammett who had obtained privilege leave.

3 I have reported all the circumstances of the case as far as I can ascertain them to Government with my opinion on the conduct of Mr Hammett, which I consider most reprehensible as well as that of the Overseer, no blame however can attach to Serjeant Spencer who did his duty in trying to stop this outlay both by giving the necessary orders to the Overseer incharge, and by not issuing any more cheques on account of this work, you have formed your own opinions on the subject, but these you have not been pleased to communicate to me at any time, I am therefore unable to add any thing further to what I have already stated.

I have &c &c

(Signed) J. F. Fischer Major R.E.
A.S. Supt.g Engr. 1st Division
(True Copy)

J.H. Catlett Captain Major R.E.
For A.S. Supt.g Engineer 1st Dn

In Con. No. 1390/71

No. 1390/71
R. 2258/71
Dy No. 834
1871

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION
DOWLAISHWARUM, 187

No. 77 Vizianagram 14th March 1871.
From 135
A
The Superintending Engineer
1st Division
To
The Collector of
Vizagapatam DISTRICT
SIR,

In continuation of this Office letter of the 9th March 1871 No 5 I have the honor to inform you that, I find on a careful examination of the books &c of the Range that Serjeant Spencer ordered the Local Fund Overseer Padmanabhaswamy to stop on expenditure on the Road from Gajapatinagaram to Parvatipore verbally on the 18th January 1870, and the Cash-book clearly shews that, after date no further cheques were issued to that subordinate on account of that work - subsequently on the 22nd Febry following Serjeant Spencer wrote

wrote to the Local Fund Overseer
expressing his surprize he was con-
-tinuing to incur any further outlay on
this Road, & ordering him again this
time in writing to stop, notwithstand-
-ing these instructions, the Overseer
continued the work up to April
without proper sanction, or authority,
and if the Contractors incurred the
expenditure on his representations they
must recover from him, the Govern-
-ment are not responsible in any way
for these proceedings.

2. I have reported to Government
the circumstances connected with these
transactions, and stated what I
consider ought to be done in the
matter of providing this District with
better supervision, as I consider the
Range Officer's conduct to have been
most reprehensible & have recommend-
-ed his removal.

3

3 Pudmanabhaswamy will probably
have to appear before a Magistrate on
charges about to be preferred against
him by the Contractors - I do not think
he is at all qualified for the post of
Local Fund Overseer, and should
have dismissed him, had the Range
Officer's conduct been less reprehen-
-sible, but should he be allowed
to continue in the Department, it must
be in an inferior position.

I have &c &c

(d/) J. H. Fischer Major R.E.
Ag. Supg Engineer 1st Dn.

(True Copy)

Wm. Stuart Captain Major R.E.
For Ag. Supg Engineer 1st Dn.

No II

Superintending Engineer's Office
Chicacole 17th March 1871

From

The Acting Superintending Engineer
1st Division

To

The Collector
Vizagapatam

Sir,

In continuation of this office letter of the 7th instant, I have the honor to suggest for your consideration, the advisability of recommending the contractors, and others who prefer claims for work performed on the road from Ramchandrapuram to Cocanadapuram, prosecuting their claims before the Principal Assistant Magistrate against the Ranger Officer, and the Local fund Overseer.

2 As already intimated to you, the accounts rendered to this office show, that the allotment for the year had been worked out in January 1870, and there is sufficient evidence to show, that Lieutenant Spencer the then acting Ranger Officer directed all further expenditure to cease, there is

5
NW-1390/71.

3454
P. Mackenzie 24/3/71

4
R 258/71

Govt Revd 19/4/71

further evidence to show that prior to this date
Mr Hammett had allowed work to be performed
and remain unpaid for several months whilst
his accounts would tend to exhibit these claims
as settled these transactions appear to have taken
place between July 1869, and January 1870.

3 I have reported Mr Hammett's conduct
to Govt, and expressed my opinion that he is totally
unfit for the discharge of Ranges duties, but at
the same time I cannot help thinking there
must have been collusion of some kind between
the Ranges Officer, the Local firms & even
the people employed on the works, as in all experience
I never heard of bills being done, and remaining
so long unpaid for, it is with difficulty that
we usually can get work done except by giving
advances, but in this instance accounts appear
to have been received, and for no reason whatever
such a convenient prosecution connected with such
expenditure as Canal Embankments can afford. I might
throw considerable light on the matter, and I am
as anxious as you can be to have this thoroughly
sifted, and cleared up, and the work
people regulated.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Sv.

J Begnet Lt. F. Fisher Major R.E.
Actg. Superg. Engr. 1st Division
J True Copy J

J Mantell Captain Inspr RE
For Acting Supt Engineer 1st Div

141

No 262.

Vizagapatam
March 21st, 1871

From

The Collector
Vizagapatam

To

The Superintending Engineer
1st Division
Chicacole

Sir,

In answer to your letter No 11
I have the honor enclose an extract
from the Calendar of the Case brought
by Mr Hammett against Overseer
Padmanabhaswamy.

2. You will therein see references
made to certain Contractors who ad-
-mitted having received advances
from Padmanabhaswamy and
expressed their willingness to work
them out. It is to be regretted that
Mr Hammett did not take any
action on the admissions then made

3. I think it doubtful whether a

In Govt Rs 10/11/71

P. Mahadevan
3456

Rev 6/1390/71.

A 2258/71
5

a Criminal prosecution would succeed. If brought at all, it should be brought in the Court of Senior Assistant Magistrate in whose jurisdiction the occurrence took place.

4. The individuals referred to in my former letters as being unpaid and from whom I received petitions were Coolies. I made no reference to Contractors.

I have &c. &c.

/sd/ P. J. Melville
Ag Collector

/True Copy/

Lieutenant Captain Major &c.
For Ag Superintending Engineer &c.

Rec. 13th Feb. 1871
No. 434
Dated 11th Feb. 1871

Extract from the Register of Preliminary Enquiry held before J. Leo Warner Esquire A.S. Senior Assistant Magistrate of Vizagapatam.

No 2 of 1870.

7

Statement of the Evidence and grounds of conviction.

In last December Mr Hammett, the first witness obtained three months leave of absence. certain works then in progress along the new road, which is being made from Ramabhadrapooram to Pachipenta, and these had to be handed over to local fund overseer Padmanabhaswami, the prisoner, who was also engaged on the road from Gajapatinagram to Parvatipoor. It seems to have been the Prisoners object to get as much work done or as much money spent as possible during the absence of Mr Hammett, and when Mr Hammett returned from leave he found that Padmanabhaswami had spent the whole of the balance handed over to him when he assumed charge on the new Road. Mr Hammett finding the money all spent determined to inspect the works at once, and taking Padmanabhaswamis Cash account book with him he found in his own words, that "the whole of the entries of money spent in the purchase of materials for the Road were false, as with the exception of a few Cubic yards of Rough stone, and Chunam the materials were not there, and the work was not done," and that with respect to the entry marked in the account C, and supported by the voucher D the voucher D was a forgery, and the Chunam alleged to have been purchased had never been brought or supplied at all. Mr Hammett appears to have been very indignant on the discovery, and reported the matter to the superintending Engineer entirely refusing to listen to Padmanabhaswamis explanations. Padmanabhaswami explained that the entries were not false as the monies

monies had really left his hands, and gave in bonâ fide advances to an army of Contractors, who would supply the materials as soon as possible or return the money. To prove his assertions he even gave back to Mr Hammett the sum of Rs: 1195, and produced Contractors who admitted another sum of Rs: 987 against themselves Mr Hammett received the money offered but not the explanation, as he immediately brought a charge against Pudmanabhaswami for misappropriation of the remainder Rs: 1105, and for false entry of ——— Rs: 200, alleged to be due for chunam delivered, which was never delivered — It there seemed to be some doubts about the value of the material already admitted to have been supplied by Pudmanabhaswami the department was called upon to supply an independent Officer to inspect the new works in the Company of Mr Hammett and Pudmanabhaswami. The third witness was the Officer employed and Mr Hammett submitted a new account of the sum mis-appropriated furnishing the valuations of that Officer in his Column of recoveries for earth work. Some money not received at the time that Mr Hammett made his first deposition. The Amount of mis-appropriation was thus reduced from Rs: 1105 to Rs: 920. At the resumption of proceedings against the prisoner the 2nd witness called by Mr Hammett at once admitted that he had received advances to the full of Rs: 1050, as per Cash account book, and that he was prepared to work it out. This admission seemed to take Mr Hammett by surprize, and no other witnesses out of the Department were called. It may here be mentioned that there were present in the Court from ten to fifteen Contractors, all prepared to make similar admissions as to the bonâ fide nature of the advances, and some were even prepared to pay money into the Court of which the Court took ocular demonstration. The Charge of Criminal mis-appropriation was therefore dismissed. The system is very much to blame under which Pudmanabhaswami was enabled unchallenged to make such heavy advances. There does not appear to have been any proper supervision of the work at all;

else

else Mr Spencer would have at once seen that the rules of the department prohibiting advances were being recklessly infringed. Any loss that has occurred to the Government ought to be made good in the department. Pudmanabhaswami's object has clearly been to get out as much money as he could legally lay hands on with a view to secure for himself the unlawful Commission which it is generally known follows the skilful placing of money in work connected with this department. In doing this he has been careful to secure the admissions of his friends that they did actually receive the lump sums charged in the Cash account books. Such being the case it was unnecessary to bring this part of the charge before a Criminal Court merely to expose how absolutely the department is in the hands of its subordinates.

The second charge was also dismissed for want of proof. Mr Hammett relied upon the statements of the 4th witness Mr Spencer in corroboration of his own deductions made from a Comparison of entry C in the Cash account book with Voucher D, to prove that no such transaction had ever taken place Mr Hammett expressed himself strongly as to say that the Voucher D was a forgery without calling any of the persons whose signatures it bears. Mr Spencer's statement was that about the 4th of February he saw 20 gauges of chunam lying by the side of the Gazapatinagram to Parvatipûr road, which he ordered the prisoner who was riding with him to use on the new road and to adjust the transfer of the chunam from one road to the other in the books. Now Mr Spencer spoke to the best of his belief and of his memory; but what he did say was extracted from him more than said by him. Indeed he appeared to know a very little indeed about the road in question, and no doubt he has a great deal of Office work at head Quarters to attend to. But it seems to the Court that Mr Spencer should have noticed in the Cash account when he came to the entry marked C that no note of the transfer alleged to have been ordered by him, had been made on the contrary Mr Spencer says in his deposition: "I had no reason to challenge the entry of 200 Rs. I merely took to see if the Cash balance is right." One would think that if Mr Spencer had actually made such an error as the above relating to the

chunam

Chunam which he saw by the side of the road he would not have passed by unchallenged this entry only a fortnight after without imputing to any of Pudmanabhaswamis Conduct more correctness than he is shewn to have acted with in other matters. The Court considered his explanation of this matter satisfactory in the absence of other evidence against him. He said that Mr Spencers alleged order was never given, that the idea of transferring some Chunam which he had bought at Goochimi for the new road, to his other road and taking the Chunam stored at Komtipilli for the new road was his own, and suggested by the similarity of the amount in both heaps. The Chunam stored at Komtipilli was an old balance shewn in the January station books, but the Chunam at Goochimi stored by himself had to be paid for. The amounts being the same he states that he did no harm in transferring the charge, and he saved a great deal of baneybirie to the Government. In this way the apparent error had crept into the accounts. Pudmanabhaswami calls this an apparent error though it is distinctly a false entry without a single note of explanation. However there was no evidence that he had not used the 20 garces stored at Goochimi for the Goochimi tunnel. Mr Spencers evidence was given so very doubtingly, and his careless omission to challenge the account when it passed before his eyes shews that he knew so little about the works of which he was in temporary charge, that it was would be impossible to find Pudmanabhaswami guilty of the forgery of the receipt in question, even if the witnesses whose signatures the receipt bears, and who were not examined are not prepared to state, as they are that the transaction and the handing over of the 200 Rs: entered in C. was bonâ-fide.

/True Extract/
/Signed/ H. Richardson
Dr for H.S Collector

(True Copy)
Lt Col Captain Major RE
For A.S. Supt Engineer 1st Division

8
Rev-1390/71
A 3434/71
A 2258/71

In Govt R/Powell's

167

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION
DOWLAISHWARUM, 187

No. C 4 Chittavalsa 25th March 1871

From

The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

To

The Collector of
SIR, Vizagapatam DISTRICT

With reference to your letter of the 21st March 1871 No 262, I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following Extract from the Calendar sent to me. "Pudmanabhaswamis objects" "has clearly been to pick out as much" "money as he could legally lay hands" "on with a view to secure for himself the" "unlawful commission which it is" "generally known follows the skilful" "placing of money in work connected" "with his Department".

2. After coming to the above conclusion the Court dismissed the charge

of mis-appropriating funds for unlawful purposes, and discharged the Prisoner

3 Comment on the above proceedings is not the duty of this Office, but I may be allowed to remark that, as, in this Department, appeared to be in the eyes of the Court in its general operations, it would be difficult to shew greater disregard for the interests of the Government than the above extract clearly exhibits.

I have &c. &c.

Lt. J. H. Fischer Dragoon N.C.

Ag. Insp. Engineer 1st. Dist.

[True Copy]

Lieut. Captain Dragoon N.C.

For Ag. Insp. Engineer 1st. Dist.

No 288

Vizagapatam March 27th 1871

From The Collector
Vizagapatam

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division
Chittivalsa.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No C.I. dated March 23rd, 1871

2 In Comment on the Proceedings of the Magistracy is as you correctly observe no part of the duty of your Office. You then proceed to pass sundry remarks on the Proceedings of a Magistrate's Court. These remarks I do not propose to reply to. I would only observe that it is the duty of a Magistrate in arriving at a decision on a case before him to be guided solely by the evidence. Regard for the interests of Government or any other party should not influence him in his decision. Should he allow his decision to be influenced by any such consideration he would be committing a gross breach of duty and would be unworthy of his post.

I have &c &c
(Signed) R.J. Melville
A.S Collector

(True Copy)
Lt Colonel Captain Major RE
For A.G. Supt Engr 1st Div.

In Govt No 1011/71

P. 1390/71
5434

Rev 9/1390/71

D. 2258/71 8

15-5

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION

DOWLAISHWARUM, 31st March 1871.

No. 4208

From

Acting

The Superintending Engineer

1st Division

To

The Collector of

Vizagapatam DISTRICT

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 27th March 1871 No 288 in which you state "it is the duty of a Magistrate in arrang-ing at a decision in a case before him" "to be guided solely by the evidence before him" I have the honor to observe that as according to the Calendar the Magistrate had already found the Prisoner Pudmana-bhaswamy guilty of obtaining money for illegal purposes, I am at a loss to understand on what grounds he was subsequently discharged as there is nothing in the Calendar to shew that this decision was erroneous.

2 If a Magistrate's duty is to be guided in a case before him solely by the evidence before him, will you be kind enough to point out on what evidence in the case under reference

Dec 14/871

3454

10
Nov-13907/1

In Board's Proceedings

reference the Magistrate preferred the several General Charges he made against this Department.

I have &c &c

/Signed/ J. F. Fischer Major R.E.
A.S. Supt.g Engr. 1st Dn.

(True Copy)

J.C. astell Captain/Major R.E.
For A.S. Supt.g Engr. 1st Division

No 1930/71
Rec'd 11 Nov 1390

Enclosures in addtn
As 191 dated 24th Octr
from the Supdg Engineer
1st Division to the
Secretary to Government
of Madras

Dr Gr. No 1930/71

15/3826 71

Vizagapatam 4th April 1871

No 324.

From The A.S. Collector of
Vizagapatam

To, The A.S. Supt.g Engineer
1st Division
Dowlaiswaram

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 4218 dated March 31st 1871.

2 I do not propose to discuss your criticisms on the Magisterial proceedings herein referred to as I consider them to be entirely out of place coming as they do from an Officer of a Department of whose duties the revision of Magisterial proceedings does not form a part.

I have &c &c

/Signed/ R. J. Melville
A.S. Collector

/True Copy/

J.C. astell Captain/Major R.E.
For A.S. Supt.g Engineer 1st Division

No 2268 1st D.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read again letters from the Supdg Engr of the 1st Dn recorded in Revs dated 12th May and 21st June/71. Nos 67, 153 and 257.

Read also the following:-

Revs Office Ltr of Rev.- (H.L. No 2525 dated 23rd June/71)
From Supdg Engr- 1st Dn - (" No 1078 —— 3rd July/71)
Do- Do- (" No 1188 —— 11th Do
Do- Do- (" No 1207 —— 12th Do
Revs Ltr of Rev —(" No 2385 —— 14th Do

In March 1871 the Actng Supdg Engineer of the 1st Division recommended that Mr Supervisor Hammett should be invalided as he considered him unfit for the charge of a Range, and mentally and physically disqualified for the work of the Dept. As an instance of the little reliance that could be placed on Mr Hammett's statements Major Fischer referred to a conversation he had with the former at Vizianagram

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during which he was informed that certain Local Fund Road Surveys had all been sent to the Collector although they were actually in Mr Hammett's own Office. The Govt were not prepared to deal with Mr Hammett in the manner proposed upon such vague charges, and accordingly called upon the Supt Engineer to report fully the specific grounds upon which his recommendation was based and to submit such explanations as Mr Hammett might have to offer.

From Subs Engr - 29 April/71, No 299
G.O. - 12 May/71, No 69
From Subs Engr - 22 D° - No 568
D° - 8 June/71 - No 769

4 April/71, No 994

This reference has led to the correspondence recorded at the head of these Proceedings and the papers marginally noted relate to the Road Surveys. Mr Hammett states that he attended the Supt Engineers Office during Major Teicher's stay at Vizianagram on only one occasion (the 13 March) when no questions were put to him by the Supt Engineer regarding the Surveys, and in corroboration of this statement he forwards letters from Seryt Overseer Spencer and others who were present at the time. Major Teicher states that Mr Hammett besides attending on the 13 was also present at his

Office on the 11th March and that it was on this occasion that the conversation about the surveys took place. Mr. Hammett denies having called at the Supg. Engineer's Office on the 11th, and in reference to this denial Major Fischer in his letter of the 8th June, No. 769 states that he "hopes to be able to prove shortly that Mr. Hammett's statement is incorrect."

In support of the charge of Mr. Hammett's inefficient administration of his Range Major Fischer cites the proceedings in connection with the expenditure on the road from Gajapatinagram to Parvatipur. An examination of the accounts of this road showed that there was an unadjusted balance of Rs. 10.775-13-3 of which Rs. 2681-10-10 related to expenditure between July and December 1869, and yet the first intimation received by the Supt Engineer from the Range Officer of the transaction was on the 31st October 1870. No claims have been preferred for the sum of Rs. 2,681-10-10. The balance of Rs. 8.094-2-5 represents the value of work alleged to have been carried out in excess of the sanctioned

allotment by Local Fund Overseer Padmanabhasawmy. Mr. Hammett, and Serjt. Overseer Spencer who held charge of the Range during Mr. Hammett's absence on privilege leave, represent that the outlay was incurred in contravention of orders directing the stoppage of work, but Padmanabhasawmy denies having received any such instructions. The claims made for the payment of the balances of Rupees 8.094-2-5 are under investigation by Serjt. Overseer Comrae, and Major Fischer promises to report on them further.

With regard to the delay in bringing the subject of the outstanding balance to notice, Mr. Hammett explains that in April/90 he reported to the Supt. Engineer that the Local Fund Overseer had been incurring expenditure on certain roads without authority and making fictitious entries in his accounts. The Supt. Engineer acknowledges that some loose charges were preferred against the Overseer, but that on being investigated by Mr. Apt. Engr. Turner they could not be substantiated and the

al Magisterial enquiry
Pr resulted in the Overseer's
M acquittal. Mr Hammett
Pr explains with reference
C to the balance of
M Rs 2181-0-10 that when
he availed himself of
privilege leave in De-
cember 1869 neither he
nor his Head Accountant
nor Mr Spencer were
aware that the amount
had not been brought to the
entries in the Overseers
accounts having been
intentionally so mys-
teriously made, as to
escape the notice of the
Supt Engineer's as well as
the Controller's Offices,
and that the Supt Engr
himself would have known
nothing of the matter

if the Overseer did not
personally explain the
transaction. The Supt Engr
points out that the in-
formation regarding this
outstanding balance was
deduced from Mr Hammetts
own Monthly progress re-
ports prepared by the
Head Accountant from
the Station books of the
work and signed by
Mr Hammett himself.

Reports from Capt.
Beckley on the irrigation
& factority condition of
some of the roads in
Mr Hammetts Range are
submitted by the Supt
Engineer and form enclosures
N. 1 to 2 of the Supt
Engineer's letter dated
3d July/71. No 1078.

Under instructions from Major Fischer Mr. Hammett appeared before the Surgeon attached to the 33d Regt. N. I. with a view to its being ascertained whether or change of air was still necessary, but the Surgeon objects to granting a Medical Certificate as Mr. Hammett was not, and has not been for the last three months under his treatment. The Superintending Engineer has accordingly directed Mr. Hammett to do duty in No. 2 Range of the Vizagapatam District under Lieut. Harward pending further orders.

The Govt. are led to believe that Mr. Hammett's state of health is not such as to necessitate or warrant his removal from the Department, but it is clear that the acting Superintendent of the 1st Division has no confidence in him as a Range Officer, and it is therefore undesirable that he should remain in the 1st Division as the strength of the Dept. will not admit of an interchange of his standing doing duty in another Range. An early opportunity will accordingly be taken to avail of the services of Mr. Hammett

to

a' to another division.

Aug. 18.

To the Hon. S. Lushington
Controller

Ltr 8814-8299-8418-8421-8424-

Govt of INDIA Works.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To Superintending Engr
1st Circle

Dated 33

Rec'd 6 Sept 1868.

Nos. 80 & 81

From Superintendent Hammett

Passing orders on the charges
debited by the Supdg Engrs
Circle for remitting to them for
Office Contingencies &c