M.F.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 21

(2) Date of repair 23.5.2011

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2170 Press / Mis.

22-24

Dated 2-11- 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 22. From the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bellary, 20th October 1871, No. 1,346.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of Government, that on the 14th instant I suspended Mr. O. H. Cowley from his appointment as Supervisor, and also from the charge of the Pullumpett Range in the Cuddapah District, and beg to recommend his dismissal from the department.

2. Having received intimation that great irregularities were being carried on in the Pullumpett Range, but no information being given as to the nature of these irregularities, I made arrangements to run down suddenly without giving any one any intimation of my intention, and arrived at Pullumpett on the morning of the 23rd ultimo. Mr. Cowley and his office joined me on the 24th. I requested to see any of the contract bonds or memoranda of agreement that had been made with contractors or petty contractors, but could find none. I then asked for any specifications or memoranda that had been supplied to these men to show the nature of the work they were expected to do, as also the tenders furnished. I was informed that no tenders had been submitted, but that the works had been distributed amongst several men in what was considered the most satisfactory manner, and that these men were supplied with a copy of the estimate, both in detail and abstract, thus making no attempt to get the work done cheaply, and in direct opposition to all the orders that have been issued on the subject.

3. I examined the cash-book and finding that over Rupees 18,000 were paid away in the last ten days of March, and considering that some suspicion attached to some of the payments, I asked for explanation, which I then directed him to give me in writing, and a copy of which I attach.

4. You will observe in this that he states he assembled, in the presence of the Overseer, etc., all the Contractors and Red lies connected with the works, and that on the 26th he handed over certain cheques to Mr. Wade, and submits a statement of these cheques. On referring, however, to Mr. Wade's diary for March, I find that the Overseer was at Pullumpett* on the 25th and 26th, having gone there on the first of these two days, and there is no mention in either of their diaries that they were in camp together on any of the days about that date.

* Twelve miles off.

5. I inquired from Mr. Cowley if he had afterwards obtained any document from Mr. Wade to show when he paid the money, on which he quite repudiated the idea of his requiring such document.

6. Thinking that I might get some information on this matter from Mr. Wade, who is in Madras on sick certificate, I ran down to Madras and arranged a meeting at the Controller's Office on the 10th instant. I asked him about this large sum which he had received from Mr. Cowley, and if he had any document to show when he really paid this money away, as I was aware that the contractor's certificates were false. He replied that he had not taken any such document; but curious to relate, on the 12th instant, after my return from Madras, I received from Mr. Cowley an original letter from Mr. Wade, dated 9th October 1871, submitting two receipts

from two of the contractors, and dated 31st March 1871, stating they had received payment in full.

7. In Mr. Cowley's letter he states that he did not make the payments himself, as the works were not properly completed; but on referring to the diaries for April and May I can see no mention of any inspections.

8. As regards measurements, copies of which are attached to all the contractor's certificates, on inquiring from Mr. Wade for his measurement book and finding he had not kept one, I learnt that the measurements he had submitted were merely copies of the estimates, and when I asked Mr. Cowley for the check measurements, which he had certified he had made, he stated that he had taken the measurements submitted by Mr. Wade and checked a few of them. The truth, I believe, is that neither of them ever took any measurements, as on my measuring some of the stone work, I found that work had not been done to the extent certified to and paid for. They have also allowed the items for sundries to be expended on work not included in the estimate, and in this way have paid away almost every pie.

9. I have dismissed Mr. Wade, and have laid a charge of cheating against one of the contractors before the Head Assistant Magistrate, and shall be able to see, when this case is decided, what steps can be taken against Messrs. Cowley and Wade for aiding and abetting.

10. For the present I have placed Mr. Hunter in temporary charge, in addition to his work in the Cuddapah range; but I trust Government will be able to give me the services of an officer for the Pullumpett Range, even if it be only for a short time, in order that all the works carried out under Mr. Cowley may be as carefully measured up as possible.

Copy of letter No. 435, dated 11th October 1871 from the Supervisor in charge of Pullumpett Range, to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

In reply to your No. 1-A. of the 7th instant, calling for explanations regarding the disbursement of large sums at the end of March last to contractors, I have the honour to state that when I inspected, on the 25th and 26th of the same month, the channel works said to be completed, I found that such was not the case, and having to inspect the works in Sidhout Talook, I assembled, in the presence of the Overseer, Writer, and Maistry, all the Contractors and Reddies connected with the works to make arrangements about the payment for the same.

Cheques were made out on the 25th for disbursement to contractors on the morning of 26th, previous to my leaving; but I found I could not pay them then as the work in some places was not properly done. Under these circumstances I handed over the cheques, as per enclosed statement, to Mr. Wade with orders (as the treasury would be closed at noon on the 27th) to cash them, and pay up Contractors at the completion of the works.

As the Overseer sent in all his bills by the end of the month, and no complaints have yet reached me of non-settlement, I am of opinion that Mr. Wade carried out my orders correctly.

Cheques in two instances were issued within two or three days of each other; but it was presumed that the money for the last of them was not paid till the 31st. A cheque was made out for Contractor Paupiah Naidu for Rs. 300 on the 27th, which, through error in calculation, should have been included in his payment of the 25th.

Statement of Cheques handed over by the Range Officer on the 26th March, 1871, to Talook Overseer Mr. Wade, for disbursement to Contractors.

No. of Cheques.	Date of Cheques.	Amount.	Name of Contractors.	For what work.
		Rs. A. P.		
166	25th March 1871.	876 0 0	V. Moothookristna Moodelliar.	Road from Codoor to Chitwail.
167	Do.	224 2 0	Do.	Tungatoor Road.
168	Do.	1,242 0 0	Nullagunga Reddy ...	Rajoocoontah Tank.
169	Do.	1,068 12 8	V. Moothookristna Moodelliar.	Siddaveram Channel.
170	Do.	3,890 0 0	T. Paupiah Naidu ...	Pandaloor Channel.
171	Do.	1,476 13 6	Shashia Reddy	Narrain Nellore Channel.
172	Do.	1,871 13 6	V. Moothookristna Moodelliar.	Nullapareddypully Channel.
173	Do.	1,748 1 0	T. Paupiah Naidu ...	Nagareddypully Channel.
	Total Rupees...	12,397 10 8		

Pullumpett Range Office,
11*th October* 1871.

(Signed) O. H. COWLEY,
Supervisor in charge, Pullumpett Range.

No. 23. From Mr. O. H. COWLEY, Supervisor, 1st grade, Department Public Works.

Forwarding the Superintending Engineer's communication suspending him from his appointment of Supervisor, and requesting that the order may be cancelled. } (Here enter 20th October 1871.)

No. 24. Order thereon, 2nd November 1871, No. 2,770.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 4.

The Government approve of Mr. Supervisor Cowley's suspension, but direct that he be furnished with the substance of the charges against him in order that he may submit any defence which he has to offer.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
To Mr. Cowley.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 1346. Superintending Engineer's Office.
3rd Division.
Bellary 20th October 1874.

From,
The Superintending Engineer
3rd Division.

To,
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort Saint George

Enclosures. ~2~

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Government that on the 14th Instant I suspended Mr C. H. Cowley from his appointment as Supervisor and also from the charge of the Pullampett Range in the Cuddapah District and beg to recommend his dismissal from the Department.

2. Having received intimation that great irregularities were being carried on in the Pullampett Range but no information being given as to the nature of these irregularities, I made arrangements to pass down suddenly without giving any one any intimation of my intention and arrived at Pullampett on the morning of the 22d Ultimo. Mr Cowley

Mr Cowley and his Office joined me on the 24th. I requested to see any of the Contract Bonds or Memoranda of Agreement that had been made with Contractors or Petty Contractors but could find none. I then asked for any Specifications or Memoranda that had been supplied to Assistants to shew the nature of the works they were expected to do, as also the Tenders furnished. I was informed that no Tenders had been submitted but that the works had been distributed amongst several men in what was considered the most satisfactory manner and that these men were supplied with a Copy of the Estimate, both in detail & abstract sizes making no attempt to get the work done cheaply and in direct opposition to all the orders that have been issued on the subject.

3. I examined the Cash Book and finding that over Rs 18000 were paid away in the last ten days of March and considering that some suspicion attached to some of the payments I asked for explanation, which I then directed him to give me in writing and a Copy of which I attach.

4. You will observe in this that he states he assembled in the presence of the Overseer &c all the Contract

and Reddies connected with the works and that on the 26th he handed over certain Cheques to Mr Wade and submits a Statement of these Cheques. On referring however to Mr Wade's Diary for March I find that the Overseer was at Pulhampett on the 25th & 26th having gone there on the first of these two days and there is no mention in either of their Diaries that they were in Camp together on any of the days about that date.

*12 miles off

5. I enquired from Mr Cowley if he had afterwards obtained any document from Mr Wade to shew when he paid the money, on which he quite replied that he had not taken any such document; but curious to relate on the 12th Instant, after my return from Madras I received from Mr Cowley one

5. Finding that I might get some information on this matter from Mr Wade, who is in Madras on sick Certificate, I proceeded to Madras and arranged for meeting at the Controllers Office on the 10th Instant. I asked him about this large sum which he had received from Mr Cowley and if he had any document to shew when he really paid this money away as I was aware that the Contractors Certificates were false. He replied that he had not taken any such document; but curious to relate on the 12th Instant, after my return from Madras I received from Mr Cowley one

saw original letter from Mr Wade, dated 9 October 1871, submitting two receipts from two of the Contractors and dated 31st March 1871 stating they had received payment in full.

7. In Mr Cowley's letter he states, that he did not make the payments himself as the workmanship not properly completed but in referring to the Diaries for April & May I can see no mention of any inspections.

8. As regards measurements, copies of which are attached to all the Contractors Certificates, on inquiring from Mr Wade for his measurement book and finding he had not kept one I learnt that the measurements he had submitted were merely copies of the Estimates, and when I asked Mr Cowley for the check measurements which he had certified he had made he stated, that he had taken the measurements submitted by Mr Wade and checked a few of them. The truth I believe is that neither of them ever took any measurements, as on my measuring some of the stonework I found that work had not been done to the extent certified to and paid for. They have also allowed the items for sundries to be expended on work not included in the Estimate and in this way have paid away almost every pie.

9. I have dismissed Mr Wade, and have laid a charge of cheating against one of the Contractors before the Head Assistant Magistrate and shall be able to see, when this case is decided, what steps can be taken against Messrs Cowley and Wade for aiding and abetting.

10. For the present I have placed Mr Munster in temporary charge, in addition to his work in the Cuddapah Range and Trust Government will be able to save me the services of one Officer for the Particepatt Range, even if it be only for a short time, in order that all the works carried out under Mr Cowley may be as carefully measured up as possible.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed Servant

Supt Engineer 3rd Dist.

No. 1540 Department

1871

From,

The Superintending Engineer

3rd Division.

To,

The Secretary to Government.

Public Works Department.

Fort Saint George.

No. 1540.

Dated 26th October 1871

Received

Enclosures 2

No 2770-2 Nov 71

Requests suspension of Sd Assistant Superintendent Mr C Sharpey and dismissal of Sd Mr J. Grade, Jaboo & Cassoo, Contractors Pallamcottah Range, Cuddapah District on the circumstances which lead to such action being taken

No 22

Copy to Collr 1/11/71

Copy of Letter No. 435 Dated 11th October 1871 from the Supervisor in charge of Pullumpett Range to the Superintending Engineer 3d Division

In reply to your No 1614 of the 7th Instant calling for explanations regarding the disbursement of large sums at the end of March last to Contractors; I have the honor to state that when I inspected on the 25th & 26th of the same month the Channel works said to be completed I found that such was not the case, and having to inspect the works in Sidhout Taluk, I assembled in the presence of the Peisear, Writer, and Mastry all the Contractors & Raddies connected with the works to make arrangements about the payment for the same.

Cheques were made out on the 25th for disbursement to Contractors on the morning of 26th previous to my leaving but I found I could not pay them them as the work in some places was not properly done, under these circumstances, I handed over the Cheques as per enclosed Statement to Mr Wade with orders (as the Treasury would be closed at noon on the 27th) to cash them and pay off Contractors at the completion of the work.

On the Peisear sent in all his Bills by the end of the month, and no complaints have yet reached me of non-settlement, I am of opinion that Mr Wade carried out my orders correctly.

Cheques in two instances were issued within 2 or 3 days of each other but it was presumed that the money for the last of them was not paid till the 31st

M

as Cheque was made out for Contractor Punjiah
Naidu for Rs 300-0-0 on the 27th which Error
in error no Calculation should have been included
in his payment of the 25th

L. Holt R.E.
Supdg Engineer 3rd Div

20/10/71

Stations

Statement of Cheques handed over by the Range Officer on the 26th March 1871 to Taluk Overseer Mr. Wade for disbursement to Contractors

No. of Cheques	Date of Cheques	Amount Rs	a	p	Name of Contractor	For what work
166	25 March 1871	876	"	.	V. Northbrooksteina Moodr	Road from Codoor to Chilwail
167	Do	224	2	.	Do	Irrigation Road
168	Do	1242	"	"	Nullagengaredd[illegible]	Rajaveemtah Tank
169	Do	1068	12	8	V. Northbrooksteina Moodr	Siddaveemu Channel
170	Do	3890	"	"	T. Ranjiah Naidu	Mandalaor Channel
171	Do	1476	13	6	Shaikia reddy	Narrain Nellore Channel
172	Do	1871	13	6	V. Northbrooksteina Moodr	Nullagaredd[illegible] pully — do —
173	Do	1748	1	"	T. Ranjiah Naidu	Nagareddypully — do —
		Total Rs	12847	10	8	

Pullampett Range Office
11th October 1871

/ Signed / O. H. Cowley /
Supervisor
In charge Pullampett Range

True Copy / J. Mc. Lellan Lt. Col. R.E.
Supdt. Engineer 3d Dev.

20/10/71

No. 103 A.

Superintending Engineers Office
Camp Gonderoor
14th October 1871.

Memo.

Pending the orders of Govt. -vernment on a report about to be submitted on the irregular and improper manner in which the distri- of the Department in the Pulicamplete Range have been conducted during the last 12 months, the Asst. Cowley is suspended from his office ment as Supervisor and also from the charge of the Pulicamplete Range.

2 Mr. Cowley is directed to at once send up his Office and all records that may be in Camp to the Superintending Engineer.

Lieut. Colonel
Superintending Engineer 1st Circle

Public Works Department

No 2770

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 2nd November 1871

Read the following

From The Supg Engr 3rd Division / H.C. No 1346 / 20th October 1871

From Mr O.H. Cowley Superintendent 1st Grade PWD " — " — " — 20th — " — "

The Government approve of Mr Superintendent Cowley's suspension, but direct that he be furnished with the substance of the charges against him in order that he may submit any defence which he has to offer.

G.
Pro. 1.

To The Supg Engr 3rd Dn
" Controller P.W. Accounts
" Mr Cowley.

Mr-s Desp 2/11/71 to all. P.C despe to all 6/11/71.

Chas 5010 & 5119-

Cobt. of 1871 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr 2d Division

Dated

Read. Encl. 2

G. O. 2 Nov. No. 2770.

Nos. 22-23 & 24

Mr Supervisor Cowley - The suspension of Mr Supervisor Cowley approved & the substance of the charges against him ordered to be furnished to him to enable him to submit his defence -