M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2577 Press / Mis.
25-26

Dated 2- 11- 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 25. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 5th October 1872, No. 2,452:—

With reference to paragraph 3 of G. O., No. 2,066, dated 29th August 1872, I have the honour to state that I called upon Mr. Supervisor Laskey for any explanation he may have to offer in connection with the delay in responding to the call made on him for a proper trace of the Toonee and Pentacottah road.

2. Mr. Laskey has sent in his explanation, from which I observe that he states his letter embodied in the above G. O. was not intended as an explanation for not attending to the marking out of a trace which had already been marked out by him, and this, I must observe, is correct; but Mr. Laskey further states, it is only in connection with the report called for as to the measures taken in the rectification of the line that the delay occurred, and this too at a time when he, without the aid of the proper number of Overseers, had to expend 15,000 Rupees on famine relief irrigation works, which he had to see so portioned out as to their giving work to the distressed poor all over the taluqs.

3. Mr. Laskey, moreover, states that explaining that the weather interfered in his taking a survey, owing to its being wet and showery, was not meant that it would bear simply as much as his words expressed, for the south-west monsoon this year broke in about the middle of June with great violence. A fact I can bear him out in.

4. As, under the foregoing circumstances, I trust Government will exonerate Mr. Laskey from blame in the matter of delay, I beg to state in conclusion that a survey of the proposed line of the Salt road from Toonee to Pentacottah was forwarded on the 1st August last to the Collector of Vizagapatam for approval, and I have not yet been favoured with a reply from that officer, although again on the 23rd September 1872 I invited his attention to my letter of the 1st August.

No. 26. Order thereon, 2nd November 1872, No. 2,577.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 2.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,

Acting Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.

Ex. S. T. Austin.

Govt. of {1872} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE ACTING SUPERINTENDING

ENGINEER, 1st Division.

Dated November 2nd.

Recd. *Encl.*

G. O., 2nd November 1872, No. 2,577.

NOVEMBER

Nos. 25-26

Toonee and Pentacottah Road—Letter from the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division submitting Mr. Supervisor Laskey's explanation as to the delay in responding to the call made on him for a proper trace of the Toonee and Pentacottah road, recorded.

No. 368

No. I or Golgonda Range Office
Yellamunchilly, 30th September 1

From

The Officer in Charge of
No. I Range
Vizagapatam District

To

The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Sir,

With reference to G. O. No. 2066 dated 29th Au censuring me for not giving prompt attention to the order Government regarding the rectification of the Tuni and Per line of road and my letter embodied in the G. O. being as explanation for delaying the work for two months has me quite by surprize, my letter you will, I beg leave mos respectfully to state, see from what I will explain was ne intended as an explanation for not attending to the marki out of a trace for a line you will remember was marked in the middle of April (vide your instructions in No. dated 14th March forwarding Collector's letter requesting I be instructed to do so) which was a month after Messrs Th hill and Melville visited Tuni; so that when the G. O. ca to my hand the question was already answered.

2. When Messrs Thornhill and Melville went t Tuni (which was the 15th March) they could have had no thing more than the direction in which the survey was shewn to them. their objection to the 2nd line was only wi reference to a bit in the last mile near Tuni which from going through cultivated lands (whilst a track lead into Tuni existed, lead both the gentlemen to view this

regarding of an existing trace and take

sent direction as being unnecessary and objectionable. A
tter line you would have seen from my report and survey
uld not have been chosen and the impracticability that
esented to the adoption of the line desired by the Collector
as really the circumstance that forced me deciding on
aking a survey when the question of the required report
as referred to me by Executive Engineer

The order of Government required that the marking out
f the line be taken on hand at once, this was already done
but what was wanted by your memo. which accompanied
" No. O. was a report from the Executive Engineer as
the measures taken in the rectification of the line. this
estion was referred to me by the Executive Engineer.
ich came to hand about the middle of May. This
ould have furnished at once but delayed it on ac-
nt of the survey and as nothing was being done at
time on the road I thought I could effect some little
ange in the line which you must have noticed on the
an was not to any advantage.

Delaying in answering this question you will,
Sir, remember that about the time I got the Executive
ngineer's instruction I had my hands filled with
usiness and that I was not in a position to attend to
t all. I had Rs. 15000 for famine relief, being ex-
ended on irrigation works, this was quite a difficult
sk, not such as spending grants given for roads. I
d to attend personally to every work. I had to
first what was to be done and then start work and
in estimates afterwards I had to see to these

work to the distressed poor all over the talug
5. I had no Overseer at this time to assist me, Mr. M
went away on leave in May and Mr. Jeffery the Loca
Fund Overseer who was appointed to act for him relieved
me of the Overseers duties only on the 26th of June.
6. By the 15th June, my arrangements in carrying
out the famine relief works had received all that was
necessary in attention and were going on satisfactor
Hence it occurs you will observe for my stating in that le
which is dated 2d July, that I had been waiting a fur
night past to attend to the question and that it was the
inclemency of the weather that prevented it; my letter
was an explanation not called for. I was simply t
in your memo. No. 1130 dated 21st June, that the Execu
Engineer in charge of No. II Range having reported
that I had been asked to report direct to you on
Juni and Pentacosta Road I was accordingly requ
ed to expedite the same.
7. Explaining that the weather interferred to
taking a survey owing to its being wet and showe
was not mentioned that it would bear simply as mi
as my words expressed for you must be aware tha
the S. W. Monsoon this year broke in about the
middle of June with great violence a fact that I
concluded must have been felt even in the Godavary
District.
8. My last letter from all the facts now brought
forward, taking the place of an explanation aga
so serious a question as to a want of alacrity in n
responding to a call that required prompt at
tion and receiving no condemnation as being
competent for the charge of Range

I must most respectfully say, quite by surprise.

That I have been a Subordinate working with energy and persiverance and have always evinced an amount of emulation to distinguish myself and to rise in the service by merit will not, I know, be denied to me when the several large irrigation schemes that were brought to notice receive consideration. I have put in 17 years in the Department, 12 of which have been in the capacity of Range Officer. I have always, I must respectfully say, worked with determination and never allowed reverses that have occurred to my prospects discouraging my spirit or weakening the hope that industry and perseverance will some day receive their reward. Sir, I have a large family and to have me superseded will be a measure to stop my future prospects in the Department. I will say nothing further, but submissively throw myself on your mercy and beg that you will give my case your favorable consideration.

I beg to remain
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servt
(Signed) J. W. Caskey
Range Officer

Superintending Engineer's Office 1st Division
Dowlaiswaram 21st June 1872

No. 1130

Memorandum

The Executive Engineer in charge of No 2 Range Bezagapatam having reported to this office that Mr Caskey had been asked to

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Superintending Engineer's Office, 1st Division.
Dowlaishwaram, 5th October 1872

No. 2452 Sept 7 D

From

Lieutenant Colonel B. Pitcher RE
Superintending Engineer
1st Division

To

Colonel G. D. Walker RE
Secretary to Government D. P. W.
MADRAS

SIR,

With reference to para 3 of G.O. No 2066 dated 26th August 1872, I have the honor to state that I called upon Mr Superviser Caskey for any explanation he may have to offer in connection with the delay in responding to the call made on him for a prospective of the Poonee and Pentacottah Road.

2. Mr Caskey has sent in his explanation, from which I observe that, he states his letter embodied in the above G.O. was not intended as an explanation for not attending to the marking out of a trace which had already been marked out by him, and I think, I might observe, is correct,

but

Lieut. Mr. Lackey's further states, it is only in connection with the report called for as to the measures taken in the rectification of the Line, that the delay occurred, and this is at a time when he, without the aid of the proper number of Coolies, had to expend 15,000 Rupees on Famine relief irrigation works, which he had to set on foot, as to their giving work to the distressed poor all over the Talugs.

Mr. Lackey moreover states that, explaining that the weather interfered in his taking a Survey, owing to its being wet and Showery, was not meant that it would bear entirely as much as his words expressed, for the South West Monsoon this year broke in about the middle of June with great violence. A fact I dare bear him out in.

As

4 As under the foregoing circumstances Govt. will exonerate Mr. Lackey from blame in the matter of delay, I beg to state in conclusion that, a Survey of the proposed line of the Salt Road from Vizagapatam to Anakapilly was forwarded on the 14th August last to the Collector of Vizagapatam for approval, and I have not yet been favored with a reply from that Officer, while again on the 23rd September 1872 I invited his attention to my letter of the 14th August

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed't Serv't
Wm. Stevenson Lieut. Col. R.E.
Ag. Superintending Engineer 4th Div.

P. W. 1872. Sept. No. 5027.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
First Division.

To

The Secretary to Government
Department Public Works
MADRAS

Dated 5th October 1872.
Received 7/10 — do —

No. 2452

ENCLO.

Subject.

Stating what explanation has been received from Mr. Supervisor Laskey in connection with the delay in responding to the call made on him for a proper trace of the Tsonnee and Pentacottah Road.

2 Encls.

Sd/ Alexander Greeb

Copy to be recorded.

It would appear that the method of transacting business between the Revenue and Public Works Depts in the Tsajahatom District admits of much improvement.

Sd/

Cor 22 pages

No. 5027

Govt. of 1872. Sept. Works.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Acting Superintending Engineer 1st Division

Dated
Recd. Encl.

G. O. 2nd Nover 1872. 2577

Nos. 25 & 26

Tsonnee and Pentacottah

Road. Letter from the Superintending Engr. 1st Divn. submitting Mr. Supr. Laskey's explanation as to the delay in responding to the call made on him for a proper trace of the Tsonnee and Pentacottah road, recorded.