

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Pullelaiah DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 485

Press
Mis.

346-47

Dated 21-2-1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 346. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 14th February 1872, No. 4,446:—

In compliance with the instructions contained in G. O., 8th February 1872, No. 68, directing me to report whether the Company of Sappers will be required for the Streevigoondum Anicut Project on the terms indicated in the G. O. quoted, I have the honour to solicit that, as the services of the Sappers will, in the interests both of the Government and of the people of the country, be of the greatest advantage, the necessary orders may be issued at the earliest possible date for the transport of the Sappers to Streevigoondum on the conditions intimated in the G. O. under notice.

2. The ruling of G. O., 19th March 1869, No. 919, as quoted by the Controller in his letter, copy of which accompanied my letter printed with the G. O. under reply, is, I submit, entirely prohibitive—much to be desired as Sapper labour undoubtedly is—of the use of that labour on Civil Works.

3. The Controller's interpretation however of this G. O. has always appeared to me to be scarcely warranted by the wording of that order; the G. O. merely specifies that the labour of the Sappers should be paid for at "the value of the work actually performed." It is nowhere stated that the cost of hutting and transport should also be debited to the Civil Works: indeed, one officer, the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division, distinctly states, in his report printed with that G. O., that Civil Works estimates are not calculated "to stand the cost of hutting, etc.," while the report of the Officer in charge of Operations in the Wynaad is also very clear in this respect.

4. I have already, in my last letter on this subject, pointed out that if the work done by the Sappers is to be paid for at the rates included for such work in the estimate, it is impossible for that estimate to stand the additional drain of paying the transport by sea and rail of the Sappers and their families, together with the cost of hutting them all.

5. If, however, as now ruled, the working pay alone of the Sappers is to be debited to the Anicut Works, in addition to the incidental expenses of transport, etc., above alluded to, the services of the Sappers at once enter within our means of payment.

6. Under these circumstances, and as the difference between the use and non use of Sapper labour on the project in question is very material in the pecuniary returns it will bring to Government and to the people by enabling the project to be completed this year instead of next year as must otherwise be the case, I trust that the Government will be pleased to give the necessary orders for the immediate transport of the Company to Streevigoondum.

7. In the meantime I have directed the Executive Engineer in charge of the work to proceed at once with the necessary hutting (estimated to cost Rupees 6,200), so that by the time the Company reach Streevigoondum they will find every thing in readiness for them in that respect.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
21st February 1872.*

8. Should the Government not approve of these arrangements, I request the favour of their telegraphing to Lieutenant Shepherd, R.E., direct to stop the hutting now ordered by me.

No. 347. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1872, No. 485.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 28.

COMMUNICATED to the Military Department with a view to the issue of the necessary orders for the Company of

Sappers required for the Streevigoondum Anicut works being sent on the conditions indicated in the Proceedings of that department, dated 30th January 1872, No. 356.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.
Military Department.

N^o 4446 Superintg Engineer's Office
Madras 14 February 1872

From
Lieut. Colonel N. A. Roberts R.E.
Superintg Engineer 8th Div.

To
Colonel J. Parpendale R.E.
Secretary to Government 8th Div.

In compliance with the instructions contained in L.O. 14th January 1872, No 68, directing me to report whether the company of sappers will be required for the Streevigoondum Anicut project, on the terms indicated in the L.O. quoted, I have the honor to solicit that, as the services of the sappers will, in the interests both of the Government and of the people of the country, be of the greatest advantage, the necessary orders may be issued

at the earliest possible date, for the transport of the sappers to Struwigordum on the conditions intimated in the L/O under notice.

2 The ruling of L/O 19th March 1869, No 919, as quoted by the Controller in his letter copy of which accompanied my letter printed with the L/O under reply, is, I submit, entirely prohibitive - much to be desired as sapper labor undoubtedly is - of the use of that labor on Civil Works.

3 The Controller's interpretation, however, of this L/O has always appeared to me to be scarcely warranted by the wording of that order - the L/O merely specifies that the labor of the sappers should be paid for at the value of the work "actually performed". It is nowhere stated that the cost of

5th 2

hutting and transport, should also be debited to the Civil Works. Indeed one Officer, the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division distinctly states, in his report printed with that L/O, that Civil Works estimates are not calculated "to stand the cost of hutting &c" while the report of the Officer in charge of Operations in the Wynaad is also very clear in this respect.

I have already, in my last letter on this subject, pointed out that if the work done by the sappers is to be paid for at the rates included for such work in the estimate, it is impossible for that estimate to stand the additional drain of paying the transport by sea and rail of the sappers and their families, together with the cost of hutting them all.

5 If, however, as now ruled, the working party alone of the sappers is to be debited to the Ancient Works, in addition to the incidental expenses of transport & above alluded to, the services of the sappers at once enter within our means of payment.

6 Under these circumstances, and as the difference between the use and non-use of sapper labor on the project in question is very material, in the pecuniary returns it will bring to government and to the people, by enabling the project to be completed this year, instead of next year as must otherwise be the case, I trust that the government will be pleased to give the necessary orders for the immediate transport of the company to Streivigondum.

7 In the meantime, I have directed the Executive Engineer in charge of the work to proceed at once... with the necessary hutting (estimated to cost Rupees 6,200) so that by the time the company reach Streivigondum, they will find every thing in readiness for them in that respect.

8 Should the Government not approve of these arrangements, I request the favor of their telegraphing to Lieutenant Shepherd A.C. direct, to stop the hutting, now ordered by me.

I have the honor to be,
Sir

Your most obst servant,

P. J. Roberts Supt. Col. R.C.
Superintg Engineer S.D.

680 826

Govt. of 1872 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

16⁺
To the *Superintending Eng^r*
8th Division

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 2

G. 021 Feb. 1872 485.

Nos. 2461 247

works communicated
to the Military Dept
with a view to the
necessary instructions
being issued -

Sappers & Miners - letter
from the Supg. Eng^r of
the 8th Divⁿ requesting
a company of Sappers
& Miners for employ-
ment on the ~~street~~
bigountain Ancient
works