

(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.	1312	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
142-65144		
Dated	12. 5.	18 43.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th May 1873.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 142. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R. E., District Engineer, Godavery, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 4th April 1873, No. 74.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer in charge of the Eastern Delta Range on the subject of a serious oversight in carrying out the Cocanada river south groyne.

1 Copy of letter No. 794, dated 31st March 1873, from the Executive Engineer in charge No. 1 Range, Godavery.

2. At the time G. O. of the 14th August 1872, No. 1,938 was received, the dredge boilers had not arrived, and it was not possible to take up this work and it was put aside. After the boilers came to hand, and had been fitted into the dredges, Captain Mead took up the work commencing at its head which was the proper place to begin at, but not having referred to the G. O. above mentioned, paragraph 1 was lost sight of.

3. The work is absolutely required to complete the wharf and tow-path under the bridge, and replaces a very unsightly earthen bank supported by wooden piles immediately below a new iron girder bridge; under these circumstances I trust the Government will be pleased to accord their sanction to the work having been so executed, as the omission to report was a mere oversight.

No. 143. From the same Officer, dated Dowlaishweram, 17th April 1873, No. 162.

With reference to paragraph 1 of G. O. of the 14th August 1872, No. 1,938,

1 Section.

I have the honour to observe that if the wall is made 3 feet *wide* at top and 9

feet at bottom as ordered, the slope towards the river will be a little more than 1 to 1, as its height is 8 feet as shown in the accompanying sections; the stone facing will not stand at this slope subject to the ebb and flow of the tide twice a day and to the violent floods which prevail in this river during the monsoons, and which run out according to the Master Attendant at the rate of 11 knots an hour; I beg, therefore, to request that I may be allowed to retain the slope as originally designed, and widen the wall as shown in the section marked B.

2. An early reply is requested to this reference to enable me to get on with the work satisfactorily, as the slope designed had been purposely made to avoid the defects which are quite apparent on the north bank of the river, where an incline of only 1 to 1 had been allowed.

No. 144. ORDER THEREON, 12th May 1873, No. 1,312.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 4.

This Excellency the Governor in Council regrets to find that the contents of these letters are such as to tell greatly against the satisfactory execution and supervision of Public Works in so important a district as the Godavery.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department,
12th May 1873.*

2. The Executive Officer's letter enclosed in the first of those above recorded so fully acknowledges his unfortunate error that His Excellency in Council feels assured that Captain Meade will not again omit to scrutinize narrowly and work carefully within the limits of sanctions accorded by Government. But to all appearances the District Engineer has failed to take a proper view of the serious nature of the error committed, inasmuch as he has failed to submit the papers sent in by the Range Officer on which the sanction for a boat wharf was made dependent by G. O. No. 1,938 of 14th August 1872, paragraph 1.

3. Again, in the second letter above recorded, Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer has submitted a proposal calculated to add one-third to the cubic contents of the groyne under construction, and Rupees 7,000 to its cost, without informing the Government of those facts. His Excellency the Governor in Council cannot but notice with much dissatisfaction such a manner of laying before him a proposition of the kind. An officer in Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer's position and of his experience should have known that it was unbecoming of him to lay before the Government in so superficial a manner a matter involving very considerable additional cost without one word to that effect. Any further demands on account of the work in question will be submitted after consultation with the Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications, who will, if necessary, inspect the same.

4. There must be something defective in system, if a work expressly disallowed by Government can be in progress upwards of four months without the fact being detected either by the District Engineer or Controller; and the latter Officer is requested to state his opinion wherein the defect lies so far as departmental returns are concerned, and to propose such remedy as his experience may suggest. The former will also report whether he ever inspected the work previous to the date of the Executive Officer's report of its having been erroneously proceeded with.

(True Extract)

Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Godavary.
.. Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications.
.. Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

District
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1st Division,
BOWLAISHIVARAM, 17th May 1873

No. 162

From

Lieut. Col. J. H. Fischer M.E.
(District Superintending Engineer Godavary
1st Division)

To

Colonel J. H. Fischer M.E.
Secretary to Government D. P. W.

MADRAS

SIR,

With reference to para 1 of G.O. of the 14th August 1872 No. 1938, I have the honor to observe that if the wall is made 3 ft wide at top and 9 ft at bottom as ordered, the slope towards the river will be a little more than 1 to 1 as its height is 8 ft as shown in the accompanying section. The stone facing will not stand at this slope subject to the effect of the flow of the river during a dry and to the violent floods which prevail in this river during the monsoons and which run out according to the Master Attendant at the rate of 11 knots per hour. I beg therefore to request that they be allowed to retain the slope as originally designed and widened the wall as shown in the section marked B.

2. An early reply is requested to this reference to enable me to get on with the work satisfactorily.

satisfactorily as the slope designed had been
proposedly made to avoid the defects which
were quite apparent on the north bank of the
river where an incline of only 1 to 1 had
been allowed.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Yours most obedt servant

Wm. L. Tucker Esq. Col. M.

(District Engineer Georgia)

Cal. Pro 14 Aug 72 No 245 - 106

from
and
since
been

P. W. 1873. Depart
From
The Superintending Engineer,
First Division.
To No 2491. General
The Secretary to Government
Department Public Works
MADRAS

Dated 17th April 1873
Received 21st

No. 162

ENCLO.

Subject.

Request that for reasons stated
the slope of the training wall along the
South bank of the Cooum river may
be allowed as originally designed
and it may be considered as shown
in the accompanying section.

No 1312-12 dated 7/5

No 140

2077 dated 1/7

The Executive Officer
is fully acknowledged his
unfortunate error. That
I need not censure him
I need point out to
Col Fischer that he
has not taken a proper
view of the serious nature
of the error. and ask
him simply if he
ever inspected the
work during progress

It is excitable
neither to the Executive
Officer nor to the District
Engineer that a portion of
an Estimate expressly
disallowed by Govern-
ment should have been
the first portion of it to
be carried out. - Sent
Col. Fischer is required
to state how often since
his appointment to the
District Engineer he in-
spected this important
work at the chief town
of the District. It is the
more extraordinary that
the Boat Wharf should

have been constructed
when the call for its
plan and explanation
of its necessity must
have been on the Dis-
trict Engineer's Unanswered
Reference File. - Even
now, he has failed to
submit the papers sent
in by the Range Officer,
in the absence of which
His Excellency the Governor
in Council must again
refuse his sanction to the
work already carried out.

There must be some-
thing defective in sys-
tem, if a work expressly
disallowed by Government
can be in progress upwards
of four months without
the fact being detected
either by the District Engineer

I must say here that
the work must postpone
their sanction till their
papers are submitted
The work must be
eventually sanctioned

Stk.

His Excellency
the Governor in Council
declines to entertain
a proposal calculated
to add one third
to the cubic contents
of the groove in ques-
tion and Rs 7000
to the Estimate.
And he is
constrained to remark
of

he of the unsuitability for A. E. the Govt in Council
in charge of a District which with much diff.
manifested by Scott's satisfaction the manner
of Colonel Fisher in in which this proposal
thus superficially is submitted to the
laying before Govt. Govt. An officer in it
a matter involving higher position & of
very considerable cost, his experience should
without one word to have known that
that effect. To say it was unbecoming
nothing of the kind - to say, in no sapient
attention to the subject ^{a manner, before Govt}
before evinced by ^{a matter involving very considerable}
permitting unreason- ^{costs without one word to}
-tioned work to the ^{that effect. -}
value of Rs 3000 to ^{Indi.}
be carried out without ^{I would not say more than}
detection; and further ^{this on the present occasion}
shown ^{If it is necessary to}
^{do more. General}
^{I have prepared a draft}
^{on the unsanctioned}
^{work. He need not again}
^{be which - or the whole}
^{subject may be thrown}
^{into a single order}

or Controller; and the
latter Officer is requested
to state his opinion
wherein the defect lies
so far as Departmental
Returns are concerned,
and to propose such
remedy as his experience
may suggest -
EW

N^o 13/2

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.
Read the following:-

From

The District Engineer

Godavery

(H. E. Dec 4th & 4th 1843)

" do

do.

(" " " 16th & 17th do)

His Excellency
the Governor in Council
regrets to find that the
contents of these letters
are such as to tell
greatly against the
satisfactory execution
and supervision of
Public Works in so
important a District
as the Godavery.

The Executive
officer's letter enclosed
in

M.S. E.

in the first of those
above recorded, so fully
acknowledges his un-
fortunate error that
His Excellency in Council
feels assured that
Captain Meade
will not again omit
to scrutinize narrowly,
and work carefully
within the limits of
sanctions accorded
by Government.

But to all appearances
the District Engineer
has failed to take a
proper view of the
serious nature of the
error committed; in-
as much as he has
failed

shown by the foregoing
demanded being brought
forward some eight
months later than
it should have been
submitted, if at all.
The Govt expect
more business like
execution of their
orders from an
Officer entrusted
with so important
a District as the
Godavary.

G. W. W.

failed to submit the
papers sent in by the
Range Officer on which
the sanction for a Boat
Wharf was made
dependent by G. O.
No. 1938 of 14th August
1872, para 1.

Again in the second
letter above recorded
Lieutenant Colonel
Fischer has submitted
a proposal calculated
to add one third to
the cubic contents
of the groynes under
construction, and
Rs 4000 to its cost,
without informing
the Government of
those

12 May 1873
1312

N^o 142.44.

those facts. His Excel-
-lency the Governor
in Council cannot
but notice with much
dissatisfaction such
a manner of laying
before him a propo-
-sition of the kind.
An officer in Lieut.
Colonel Fischer's po-
-sition, and of his
experience, should
have known that
it was unbecoming
of him to lay before
the Government in
so superficial a
manner a matter
involving very con-
-siderable additional
cost,

cost, without one word
to that effect. Any
further demands
an account of the work
in question will be
submitted after con-
-sultation with the
Inspector General
for Porto and Cam-
-munitions; who
will if necessary in-
-spect the same.

There must be
something defective
in the system, if a work
expressly disallowed
by Government can
be in progress up-
-wards of four
months without the
fact

fact being detected either
by the District Engineer
or Controller; and the
latter officer is requested
to state his opinion
wherein the defect
lies so far as Depart-
mental Returns
are concerned, and
to propose such remedy
as his experience may
suggest. The former
will also report on
whether he ever in-
spected the work
previous to the date
of the Executive
Officer's report of
its having been
erroneously

erroneously proceeded
with. G.M.W.

38
The District Eng^r Gadavay.
The Chief Eng^r for Ports & Harbors.
The Controller of P. & C. A.
The Chief Engineer for Eng^r Dec^r 19-5-78.

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Publ. of 11373: India
PUBLIC WORKS.

The District Engineer
Godavari

[Faint signature]

Order

Recd.

Vol. 2

12" Map No. 1312.

Nov. 14/2 @ 14/4

Cauwada River South
Bridge. Passing orders
by letter from the
Sd. Eng. Godavari,
reporting ~~the~~ ^{the erroneous} ~~the~~
construction of the bridge.