

(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.	1446	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
409-5411		
Dated	29. 5.	1843

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
25th May 1873.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 409. From R. E. NORFOR, Esq., Officiating District Engineer, South Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Stremustnum, 23rd April 1873, No. 14.

- Nor having yet received a disposal on my No. 67* of the 13th ultimo, I conclude you are awaiting a report on the result of my inquiry into the conduct of Ponurungum Moodelly with reference to paragraph 4 of letter above quoted.
- * 1 Copy of letter to the Assistant Engineer, No. 3 Range.
 - 1 Do. from A. Coopposawmy.
 - 1 Statement from D. Coopposawmy.
 - 2 Letters from Manickum Moodelly.
 - 1 Statement from Valoomyloo Moodelly.
 - 1 Do. from Ponurungum Moodelly.

2. By tappal petitions and reports I was given to understand that this man is in the habit of extorting money from the Overseers in the range, and that he had so received certain sums from D. Coopposawmy Moodelly, the Taluq Overseer of Virdachellum.

3. Without entering into a lengthy comprehensive report here, I would respectfully solicit your perusal of the papers herewith enclosed.

4. These, I think, will disclose to you a state of things in the 3rd Range very far from satisfactory, and will give you an insight into the very questionable proceedings of not only Ponurungum Moodelly but also the Overseers.

5. For my own part I do not entertain the smallest doubt that the reports against Ponurungum Moodelly are perfectly true. As Accountant in the Range Office he has no business to have any dealings of a pecuniary nature with the Overseers in the range, and I feel sure you will agree with me that the practice of Overseers mortgaging jewels and borrowing money at high interest and advancing the same on the execution of Government works through the Head Accountant of the range is in itself most objectionable.

6. There is no question as to D. Coopposawmy having paid various sums to Ponurungum Moodelly, so that so far the reports I have heard are confirmed; but it is alleged that these sums were paid him to remit to various parts of the district to advance to wudders: this may be in part true; but such a system is open to unlimited abuse, and he may receive any amount of money nominally for this purpose, but really for himself. A perusal of these papers will further show that there was really no necessity for Ponurungum handling the rupees at all; his conduct is therefore open to very grave suspicion.

7. On my appointing Chengalroyen Moodelly as Head Accountant to the 3rd Range and Ponurungum Moodelly to this Office, the former joined the Virdachellum Office on the 7th March 1873, but he was not permitted to take charge.* I have directed the Range Officer not to disburse Ponurungum Moodelly's pay as the case is exceptional, and I am unable to decide which of the two should draw the pay of the Head Accountant.

* The latter being still retained in the 3rd Range Office.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th May 1873.*

No. 410. Endorsement of the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts,
dated Fort St. George, 6th May 1873, No. 203.

From R. E. NORFOR, Esq., Officiating District Engineer, South Arcot, to the Assistant Engineer, No. 3 Range, dated Cuddalore, 25th April 1873, No. 97.

I HAVE the honour to request you will immediately discontinue the practice of allowing the members of your office establishment to conduct their office duties in the private dwelling-house of your Head Accountant, and a house in the town of Virdachellum adjoining or near it, lately occupied by the Dresser.

2. You have a Range Officer, and I must insist that you will see that your office people attend regularly at the office for the conduct of business.

3. Your excuse for permitting this, viz., that it is inconvenient for the Clerks to attend as it is too far from the town, cannot for a moment be accepted. The office is no further now than it was in your predecessor's time, and such a practice was not allowed then. The Sub-Collector's Office is equally as inconvenient, and yet, I presume, the Clerks attend the office and are not allowed to conduct their office duties at their private dwelling-houses. Your Draughtsman is the only one who appears to attend the office; he can do so, and the others shall do the same.

4. I am surprised that you should have for a moment permitted your Head Accountant to remove from the office official records belonging to Government to his own house. I was informed by him in your presence that he has your permission to do so, and I must now tell you that I shall hold the Head Accountant personally responsible for the loss of any record from the office. I have reason to believe that the records in the office are being tampered with by the Head Accountant and others of his gang.

No. 137.

READ letter from A. Ponurungum Moodelly, dated 29th April 1873, giving certain reasons for not obeying the District Engineer's very clear and explicit instructions to join the District Office at once.

2. Ponurungum's letter, with its accompaniments, will be submitted to Government; the Head Accountant having failed to obey orders will cease to draw any pay from the 29th April.

Cuddalore,
2nd May 1873.

(Signed) R. E. NORFOR,
Officiating District Engineer.

To the Controller of Public Works Accounts, for information.

From T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to R. E. NORFOR, Esq.,
Officiating District Engineer, South Arcot, dated Fort St. George, — May 1873,
No. —.

With reference to your No. 97 of the 25th ultimo, to the address of the Assistant Engineer, No. 3 Range, I have the honour to state that, in my opinion, you have very properly prohibited the preparation of official returns and accounts in the private dwelling of the Head Accountant.

2. I trust you have been able to find time to examine the records which you have reason to believe are being tampered with, for if this be the case, some heavier punishment than that of suspension or dismissal should be inflicted on the Accountant.

Copy of correspondence to the Secretary to Government of Madras, Public Works Department, for information.

(Signed) T. MOSS,
Offg. Controller of Public Works Accounts.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
29th May 1873.*

No. 411. ORDER THEREON, 29th May 1873, No. 1,446.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 54.

In his Order No. 1,261 of 2nd May, His Excellency the Governor in Council gave the District Engineer of South Arcot to understand that his manner of dealing with the case of the Accountant of the Virdachellum Range met with the disapproval of Government, and the course that he has since adopted appears to have been equally marked with indecision.

2. Government Order No. 518 of 17th February, empowered the District Engineer to make such arrangements for filling up the establishments of the district as might, in his opinion, be most conducive to the benefit of the public service, and yet under date the 23rd April he reports himself unable to decide whether his own nominee or the Range Officer's shall draw pay as Head Accountant of the range from the date on which the former attempted to assume office, but was not permitted by the Range Officer to do so. The Controller will pass the salary of the office to Chengalroyen Moodelly from the 7th March, and recover from Mr. Bell any excess payment thereby incurred, and Mr. Norfor will understand that the Government look to him to support his authority as District Engineer by decisive action.

3. The District Engineer would further appear from the correspondence submitted by him and the Controller of Public Works Accounts to have been in the habit of communicating direct with a Sub-divisional Officer, several Overseers, and an Accountant under the orders of Mr. Bell. It is quite possible that such direct communication with Mr. Bell's subordinates may have been forced upon the District Engineer by the Range Officer's contumacy, but such is not stated to have been the case, and the course being unusual and provocative of complaint, should have been explained.

4. The voluminous papers submitted to Government do not appear to contain any proof of Accountant Ponurungum's having received money from Overseer D. Cooposawmy Moodelly; there is only the assertion of the one against the denial of the other, Supervisor Manickum Moodelly's statement being only hearsay evidence; and the Government have yet to receive proof of the charge made by District Engineer to the Controller that records have been falsified by Ponurungum. Matters cannot stop here, and the District Engineer will frame such specific charges against that individual as he is prepared to substantiate by direct evidence, and take steps to have them judicially inquired into.

5. Very grave irregularities appear however to have prevailed in the Virdachellum Range, and Mr. Bell will be called on by the District Engineer of Kurnool after he shall have joined his new range at Cumbum to account for them. They are—

1st.—The forcing of Overseers to make advances from their private means, instead of making public advances, and adjusting them as provided for by departmental standing orders.

Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department.
29th May 1873.

2nd.—The payment of large sums to contractors through the medium of Overseers, instead of directly by the Range Officer as is strictly enjoined.

3rd.—The issue of cheques to Overseers for large sums, thus enabling them to make much larger payments and retain much larger cash balances than are warranted by the rules of the department.

4th.—The disuse of the office set apart for transaction of public business and custody of public documents, and issue of the latter to office servants in their private houses.

6 Mr. Bell will also be called on to state whether to his knowledge the Head Accountant of his range ever had pecuniary transactions with the Overseers.

7. The Government however are not prepared to endorse the District Engineer's injunctions in paragraph 14 of his letter to the Range Officer; the entire relinquishment of task work for contract work is not at all to be recommended, especially in a district which has for years been worked so successfully by Colonel Foord with but sparing resort to the latter system.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, South Arcot.
" " Kurnool.
" " Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Ed. S. T. Austin.

Deposed by B. Coopooosamy Mudaly

I received your letter of the 28th March
on the 1st April at Vidachellam.
I took the letter to the Range Office
the same day, and showed it to Ponn-
rangum Mudaly, the Head Account-
ant, and told him the District En-
gineer wanted the letter suspending
me, I asked for the letter. he did
not give me the order of suspension,
but told me I was mistaken in con-
sidering it a suspension order, it was
only to say that if I did not come
immediately to the Range Office
he would suspend me, and told
me to write and tell the District
DB

Engineer this, I did not write this,
I wished to see the Dist. Engineer
personally, it was not true that I
was not suspended, I was suspended,
so I was afraid to write what was
not correct. and kept quiet till now
So the best of my recollection the
Memorandum from the Range officer
was worded as follows.

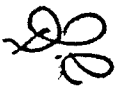
"D. Coopocanny Masdy is suspended."
"ed he will bring and deliver up his "
"Cash and Book Rs. if the Overseer "
"does not attend at once, a Magistrate's "
"Warrant will be issued against him."
I showed this to Lunnghah Lillay's
writer and others. I took all my
cash Rs. and went to the

DL

Range Office at once and saw Mr. Bell,
and told that gentleman, I could not
come immediately he sent for me
as I was with the Sub Collector, and
asked to be excused. Mr. Bell asked
me for that memo suspending me
and I gave it to him. Before I went
to the Range office I went to Lonn-
ringum's the Head Accountants House
he told me to go to the Range office.
I mortgaged my jewels for Rs. 200
and gave the money to Lonnringum
to send to Kullacunchy and Trich-
aloor to advance for wadders for the
Lalandorai Amment. This occurred
2 or 3 days after my suspension.

DB on

On another occasion I also sent
in the same way through Lounnamun
Rs 350. The Range Officer is aware
of I am advancing money for Govern-
ment work out of my pocket. I have
advanced my own money in this way
to the extent of nearly 1000 Rs. A
Laspoozawmy does the same, I pay
interest 12 per cent per annum for
the money I thus borrow, this interest
I do not recover, ~~the interest~~ in work
from the wudders, I am a loser of this
interest which I have to pay. in fact
I make it a present to Government.
It cost me about 10 Rs. a month
the interest alone, which I have to
make good from my pay.

The 

The ryots complained for want
of water in the Kananor Channel,
the Range Officer asked me the
reason of this personally at the office,
I informed him that I had sent him
an estimate for removing accumu-
lation at the Head, and if that
work is carried out the water would
pass freely - the Range Officer then
ordered me to do the work. after
the work was completed Mr. Bell
inspected it and measured it on the
11th September/92. I was with him
on that occasion. he asked me what
I had done with the earth I had ex-
cavated, I told him I filled up
the deep holes in the rear of the
of Anant

Annunt Mr. Bell said this
was humbling, 13 days after this
on the 24th September the day on
which I attended the Sub Collec-
tors at the Salak Cutcherry/ride
Inspection Report / I received the
order suspending me. The Range
Officer first sent his lascar to
call me. I was with the Sub
Collector when the message came
to me. for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour, in
the mean while before I could
get away from the Sub Collector
I received the order suspending me.

The money I borrowed viz Rs 200
on the first occasion I took my-
self to Ponnurungum, and left

D.E.

him to send it to Trichalore and
Kallacourchy by a Head Cooly.
I went out into the District
myself. On the second occasion,
I think in the month of December
1872. I again borrowed Rs 350 from
Chedambara Chetty by mortgaging
my jewels, and this time I sent the
money to Ponnurungum by a Head
Cooly and asked him to send it to
Kallacourchy. I did not leave the
station on this occasion but re-
mained at Vidachellam.

I am aware that it is against
the rules to borrow money and carry
on work in the way in which I am
doing / also at Caspocanny / I do
D.E. 11

it by the Range Officers permission
I told Mr. Bell I could not
get widders without I give them
some advances I was told that
I could advance it myself and
recover as the work goes on.

I observe the blue pencil
marks by West Engineer in my
Cash Book against payments over
No 20 on Bills for material and
Contract Certificates. Some of
these as much as No 450 each. this
has been the practice in the Range
as far as I know. I did not
ask the Range Officers permission
to make these payments, but he
knows I do so and frequently

examines

DL

examines my Books and has
never found fault on this point.
All the payments for the works
under my charge were made by
me in March and no Bills paid
by Range Officer direct nor did
I send my Bills up.

DL ~~over my~~
Cash Book

Caddah
10th April 1873

W. H. Bell
Offg. West Engineer

Statement from Valomylloo Moodellar

8

I observe the few pencil remarks
of the District Engineer against the pay-
ments above 20 Rupees. Some of these payments on
Contract Certificates amount to as much
as 2064 Rupees. Nearly all the payments in
March were made by me direct - this has been
the practice for several months as my Cash
Book shows. I make all the payments on
that portion of the Lelandorai Channel in
my charge - work is all done on Contract -
this is done with the Range Officer's know-
ledge, he has frequently examined my ac-
counts, and supplies me with funds by cheques.
My cash book was last examined by the Range
Officer on the 7th April 1893 at Shatitope.
I was at Virdachellum by Range Officer's
orders from 31st March to 6th April with all
my accounts, the Range Office was held
in a vacant house in the Town of Virda-
chellum where all the work was conducted,
I attended there, not at the Range Office
itself on the East side of the River, there

Enclosure in a letter
from the District
Engineer about work
at the Chief Engineer
at 20th date 1893
April 1893 both.

Enclosure in a letter
from the District
Engineer about work
at the Chief Engineer
at 20th date 1893
April 1893 both.

P. N. 2595/93.

was no water in the River to prevent the
Office people attending the Range Office
proper, the house in which the work was
conducted is near the Head Accountants
House, and was lately in the occupation
of the Brewer.

17th April 1873 / Signed: S. Valcoingloo Head
Cating Overseer

/ True copy /
H. H. H.
District Engineer

Enclosure in a letter from
the District Engineer
sent to the Chief
Engineer & dated
23rd April 1873. L.H.

Copy of S. Valcoingloo
Head Cating Overseer.

17
M. Opposammy made came to my house
with his man requesting to give him
a letter to some boy at Kulla emishy
or Kikula who I know to advance
the money to labour who may be
willing to come to work at the
Pelandarni main channel. He
said that he has got Rs 200 to send
by the bearer, but I never received
the money.

H. H. H.

Redachellam &
21. April 1873

W. H.

P. H. 2595/73.

No. 1
 Enclosure in a letter from
 the District Engineer South
 Arcot to the Chief Engineer
 D. M. dated 23rd
 April 1873 No. 14.

Ponnurungum Muddali's
 Statement.

P. W. 2595/73

No. 3
 Camp Muddalore
 3rd April. 1873. 1-8

From. The Supervisor
 In charge of Sub Division
 No. 1 Range. South Arcot.

To. The District Engineer of
 South Arcot.

Sir,
 In reply to your Memo No. 1440
 dated the 28th ultimo, I beg to inform
 you that my brother-in-law Ponnurungum
 Muddali, residing at Viduthaluru in
 formed me that a cousin and a brother
 named Vythelingum and Ramasamy
 respectively of Overseer D. Cooprasamy
 Muddali's told him that Rs. 300 had
 been taken by Ponnurungum Muddali
 from D. Cooprasamy Muddali
 to acquit him from certain charges made
 up against him in connection with
 an Emergent work executed in the
 Kcenaroor channel and a comparative
 statement prepared for the Katoomy
 Low Project. Besides this, Maistry
 Soobroya Muddali and Asmeiw
 Vythelingum Muddali employed
 on

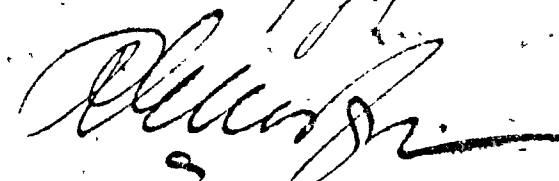
on the Palandrai Main Channel and
the latter of whom is a relative of
Ponnurungum Moodaliyar have also
told me in person that the above
said money was paid to Ponnurungum
Moodaliyar by the Overseer through
the father-in-law of Ponnurungum Moodaliyar
who is also the father of Overseer B. Coopasawmy Moodaliyar
on account of the said charges.

I have &c. &c.

(Signed) M. Manikam Moodaliyar
Supervisor.

In charge of Sub Division
Coimbatore Range.

(True to copy)


Offg. District Engineer.

Camp Panniar Annicut.
No 64 27th March 1873 19

From M. Manikam Moodaliyar
Supervisor in charge of Sub Division
No 1 Range South Arcot.

To
The District Engineer
South Arcot

Sir, In reply to your Memo No ^A 1000
dated the 21st Instant I beg to inform you,
Overseer B. Coopasawmy Moodaliyar him-
self told me in the Month of September last,
he received an order from the Range Officer
suspending him from duty and which was
handed over to him while inspecting the
Talag Lenteberry accompanied with the
Sub Collector, to whom he showed the
order.

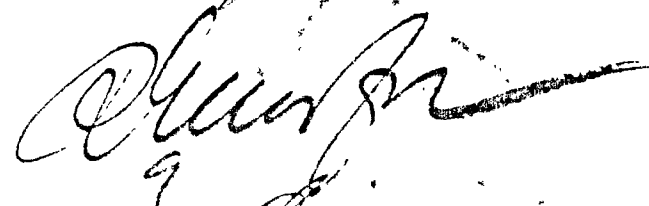
order at the time, but this order
was subsequently destroyed by the
Range Officer at Ponarungum.
Moodally having spoken on his be-
half. This order I hear was gone
owing to some affairs concerned with
an emergent work done in the Keena-
wood Amient and also about a Com-
parative Statement of Katoomylock
Amient.

2. Regarding the 300 \$: said to have
been received by Ponarungum Moodally
from the Coarner, I beg to state
my source of information from
certain parties at Vondachellum, whom
I doubt much will come forward
to admit what they stated at the

time, consequently I regret I am un-
able to give the detail information
called for.

I beg to be
Signed / s. M. Manickam Mood.
Supervisor
In Charge of Sub Division
No. 1 Range South District.

Per True Copy /


Offg. Works Engineer

Lelandorai 100

Nº 2 5th April 1873.

To, Mr. E. Norford Esquire

District Engineer, S. Arab.

Sir,
As directed in your Memorandum Nº 1 of the 2nd April, received

just now, I beg leave most respectfully to inform you that the Ministry in charge of the Main Channel has been entrusted with some private money to advance the works now going on in my position.

I am fully aware that the rules in force in the Department, strictly prohibit the system of advance from Government money without

Nº 3

Enclosed is a letter from the District Engineer about a road to the Chief Engineer. S. Arab. dated 23 April 1873.

Copy of the letter from the District Engineer to the Ministry.

P.R. 2595/73.

without authority from my superiors.
As there was no possibility of procuring
wedders without advances being
made to them, I was compelled to
borrow 200 Rupees from one Socha:
roya Pillay a Vakil in the Meer:
siff Court, Verdachellam, which
I sent to Sri Kalore for the
purpose of advancing the wedders;
and on their arrival, I borrowed
a further sum of Rupees 60 from
the above Pillay: and it is out of
this money that I have entrusted the
Marshy to supply with the necessaries
to the wedders.

Overseer D. Cojooomay
Mendaly has also adopted the same
plan.

plan. I am Overseer A. Valoomyloa Mendly
executes his work by contract.

I beg leave
Signed / A. Cojooomay Mendly
Overseer in charge of Pelandorai
Project.

/s/ J. C. J. J.
Mendly
Coffy But Engani

No 97

District Engineer's Office, South
Friedlandore, 25th April 1893
111

From

The Off^r District Engineer,
South. Arct.

To The Assistant Engineer
No 3 Range.

Sir,

I have the honor to
request you will immediately
discontinue the practice of
allowing the members of your
Office Establishment to conduct
their Office duties in the private
dwelling house of your Head
Accountant and a house in
the Town of Verdachellen ad-
joining or near it lately
occupied by the Director. You

W. B.

Enclosure in a letter from
the District Engineer
about street to the
Chief Engineer 27th Feb
1893 25th April 1893
111.

Copy of letter from
Governor of S. Conference
with a copy in charge of
Friedlandore, May 1893.

By C. H. H. 111

P. M. 2595/93.

2. You have a Range Office,
and I must insist that
you will see that your
Office people attend regularly
at the Office for the
conduct of business.

3. Your excuse for permitting
this viz. that it is inconvenient
for the Clerks to attend, as
it is too far from the Town,
cannot for a moment be
accepted. The Office is no
further now than it was in
your predecessor's time, and
such a practice was not
allowed then. The Sub Collector's
Office is equally as inconvenient,
and yet I presume, the
clerks attend the Office and
not attempt to conduct their
Office

Office duties at their private
dwelling houses. Your draughtsman
is the only one who appears
to attend the Office; he
can do so, and the others
shall do the same.
I am surprised that
you should have for a moment
permitted your Head Accountant
to remove from the Office official
records belonging to Government
to his own house. I was informed
by him in your presence, that
he has your permission to do so,
and I must now tell you
that I shall hold the
Head Accountant personally
responsible for the loss of
any record from the Office
have reason to believe that the

the records in the Office are
being tampered with by the
Head Accountant and
others of his gang.

I have &c
Signed R. E. Norfor
Off: District Engineer
(True Copy)

Signed R. E. Norfor
Off: District Engineer

To
The Controller of P.W. Accounts
for information.

No 134 District Engineer's Office S. Arch
Cuddalore 2 May 1873.

A Read letter from A.
Ponnurungam Madaly dated
29th April 1873 giving certain
reasons for not obeying the
District Engineer's very clear
and explicit instructions
to

to join the District Office
at once.

Ponnurungam's letter with
its accompaniments will
be submitted to Government,
the Head Accountant
having failed to obey orders
will cease to draw any pay
from the 29th April.

Signed R. E. Norfor
Off: District Engineer
To A. Ponnurungam Madaly
Off: 3 Range, thro: Range Officer
(True copy)

Signed R. E. Norfor
Off: District Engineer
To
The Controller of
P.W. Accounts

No.

Office of the Controller of
P.W. Accounts
Fort St. George May 1873

From

The Off^r Controller of
P.W. Accounts

To The Off^r District Engineer
South Arcot

Sir

With reference to your
No. 97 of the 25th ultimo to
the address of the Assistant
Engineer No. 3 Range, I
have the honor to state
that in my opinion you
have very properly prohibited
the preparation of official
Returns and Accounts in
the private dwelling of the
Head Accountant.

I

2. I trust you have been
able to find time to examine
the records which you have
reason to believe are being
tampered with, for if this
be the case, some heavier
punishment than that
of suspension or dismissal
should be inflicted on the
Accountant.

I have &c
(Signed) T. Mof
Off^r Controller of P.W. Accounts

No. 266

Copy of correspondence
to the Secretary to Government
of Madras Public Works Department
for information.

Office of the Controller of
P.W. Accounts
Fort St. George 6 May 1873

To The Secretary to Government, Public Works Dept^t
Fort St. George

Free

Dist. Engrs Office, S. Street.
 No 14 Camp Street 23 April 1873

From The Offg. Dist. Engineer,
 South Street.

To The Chief Engineer,
 P. W. Department.

Sir, Not having yet received a dis-

Enclosures 6

- 1 copy of letter to the Offg. Engr. W. 3 Range
 - 1 10" from H. Coopersmith
 - 1 statement from D. Lee
 - 1 statement from Valaruppa
 - 2 letters from Ponnurungum Mudaly
 - 1 also statement from Valaruppa
 - 1 do Ponnurungum Mudaly
- Utturo I conclude you are awaiting a report on the result of my enquiry into the conduct of Ponnurungum Mudaly with reference to para 4 of letter above quoted.

By total petitions and reports I was given to understand that this man is in the habit of

P. M. 1873 Mechanical
 No of bolt for 11" by 11" 2814.
 From The Offg. Engineer of P. W. Accounts

To The Secy to Government
 Public Works Dept
 Fort St George

Dated 6th May 1873
 Recd 7th May 1873
 No 266

Forwarding correspondence from the Offg. District Engr. South Street regarding the prohibition of the preparation of official accounts & returns in the private books of the head accountants.
 No 1046. 29 May 1873.

Chas 109
 20th Oct 1873

Feb 6 Oct 17 1873

St. Louis, Mo. 11/1

of extorting money from the Overseers
in the Range, and that he had
so received certain sums from D. Cooper.
saying Mudaly the Saloo R Overseer
of Verdachellum.

3. Without entering into a lengthy
comprehensive report here, I would
respectfully solicit your perusal
of the papers herewith enclosed.

4. These I think will disclose
to you a state of things in the 3^d Range,
very far from satisfactory. and will
give you an insight into the very
questionable proceedings of not only
Ponwungum Mudaly, but also the
Overseers.

Yours

5. For my own part I do not
entertain the smallest doubt, that the
reports against Ponwungum Mudaly
are perfectly true. As Accountant
in the Range Office he has no
business to have any dealings of a
pecuniary nature with the Overseers
in the Range. and I feel sure you
will agree with me, that the practice
of Overseers mortgaging jewels and bar-
rowing money at high interest and
advancing the same in the exco-
tion of Government work through
the Head Accountant of the Range,
is in itself most objectionable.
6. There is no question as to
D.

MS. A. 9. 1. 11. 173

D. Cooper having paid various sums to Lomrungum Mudaly, so that so far the reports I have heard are confirmed. but it is alleged that these sums were paid him to remit to various parts of the District to advance to wooders. This may be in part true, but such a system is open to unlimited abuse and he may receive any amount of money nominally for this purpose, but really for himself, a perusal of these papers will further show, that there was really no necessity for Lomrungum having the Rupees at all - his

conduct is therefore open to very grave suspicion.

7. On my appointing Chenglerogun Mudaliar as Head Accountant to the 3rd Range and Lomrungum Mud. to this Office, the former joined

the Virachellum Office on the 7th March 1873,

x the latter being still retained in the 3rd Range Office.

but he was not permitted to take charge. I have directed the Range Officers not to disburse Lomrungum Mudly's pay, as the case is exceptional, and I am unable to decide which of the two should draw the pay of the Head Accountant.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Most Obedt. Servant.

Chenglerogun
Offg. Dist. Engineer

Northrup Rd.

Prov. of the Madras Govt.

Recd this morning...

From the D. Supr., South Arcot, (H. E. No. 12 of 23 April 1913)
Controller of Mr. Ant. (No. 266 of 6 May 1913)

In his order No. 1261 of 2nd May, His Excellency the Governor in Council gave the District Engineer of South Arcot to understand that his manner of dealing with the case of the Accountant of the Tiruchellur Range met with the disapproval of Govt. and the course that

he has since adopted
appears to have been
equally marked with
indecision.

Government Order
Dec. 5-18 of 17. February
empowered the District
Engineer to make such
arrangements for filling
up the Establishments
of the District as might
in his opinion be most
conducive to the benefit
of the public service.
And yet under date
the 23^d April he reports
himself unable to decide
whether his own nominee
or the Range officer's

shall draw pay as Head Ac-
countant of the Range
from the date on which
the former attempted
to assume office but
was not permitted by
the Range officer to do so.
The Controller will
pass the salary
of the office to Chen-
galayen Inoodlihar
from the 1st March
and recover from Mr.
Bell any excess pay-
ment thereby incurred.
And Mr. Confor will
understand that the
Govt. look to him to sup-
port his authority as
District Engineer by
decisive action (other-
wise)

wise they will be under
the necessity of superse-
ding him as unfit to
hold that position.

omit

The District En-
gineer would further
appear from the corres-
pondence submitted by
him and the Controller
of Public Works Accounts
to have been in the habit
of communicating
direct with a Sub-
Divisional Officer,
several Overseers,
and an Accountant
under the orders of Mr.
Bell. It is quite pos-
sible that such direct
communication with
Mr. Bell's subordinates

may have been forced
upon the District
Engineer by the Range
officer's contumacy;
but such is not stated
to have been the case,
and the course being
unusual and pro-
vocative of complaint,
should have been explained.

The voluminous
papers submitted to
Court do not appear to
contain any proof of
Accountant Town-
shingamis having re-
ceived money from
Overseer D. Cappin-
sawing. Doubtless, there
is only the assertion
of the one against the
denial of the other.

Supervisor Manick Ram
Inoddy's statement being
only hearsay evidence.
And the Govt. have yet
to receive proof of the
change made by the
District Engineer to the
Controller that records
have been falsified
by Ponnurungam.
Matters cannot stop
here, and the District
Engineer will frame
such specific charges
against that individual
as he is prepared to
substantiate by direct
evidence, and take
steps to have them
judicially inquired
into.

Very grave irregu-
larities appear however

12
to have prevailed in the
Tiruchellur Range,
and Mr. Bell will be
called on by the District
Engineer of Karnool
after he shall have
joined his new Range
at Lumbani, to ac-
count for them. They are.

- 1st the forcing of Overseers to make ad-
vances from their private means,
instead of making public advances,
and adjusting them as provided for by
departmental Standing Orders.
- 2nd the payment of large sums to Con-
tractors through the medium of Over-
seers, instead of directly by the Range
officer as is strictly enjoined.
- 3rd the issue of cheques to Overseers for large
sums, thus enabling them to make much
larger payments and retain much larger
cash balances than are warranted by the
Rules of the Department.

4th the disuse of the office set apart for transaction of public business and custody of public documents, and issue of the latter to office servants in their private houses.

Mr. Bell will also be called on to state whether his knowledge the Head Accountant of his Range ever had pecuniary transactions with the Quereens.

The Govt however are not prepared to endorse the District Engineer's injunctions in para 14 of his letter to the Range Officer, the entire relinquishment of task work for contract work is not at all to be recommended, especially

in a District which has for years been worked so successfully by Coll. Ford with but sparing resort to the latter system.

G.M.W.

To the D.C. Lanthier
at the Museum
in Controller of P. W. A.
in Chief Engineer Building

Sept. 14-6-73.

Cps 2595 + 2814

Sept. of 1873 Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The District Engineer
South Arcot

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 6

G. O. 29th Aug 73, No. 1446.

Not 409 @ 411

Ponnuruppi Maadelly,
Asst. Accountant, No 3 Range,
South Arcot Dist. - Passer