M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

(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. 2945 Press

B.P. No. Mis.

1145146

Dated 195 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

From the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th December 1873.

Read the following papers:—

No. 114. From R. RICE, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector in charge, to B. HORSBRUGH, Esq., Acting Collector of Coimbatore, dated Caroor, 30th August 1873, No. 195.

I HAVE the honour to bring to your notice that the roof of the new post-office at Caroor has already begun to show signs of insecurity; the building was only finished last year, and already the roof has to be supported by two unsightly beams stuck up in the middle of the office-room. In my opinion such a state of things is hardly creditable to the Public Works Department and calls for investigation.

No. 22.

TRUE copy forwarded to the Postmaster-General, Madras, for information.

COIMBATORE,
2nd September 1873.

(Signed) A. WEDDERBURN,
Collector.

No. 440—1,406.

TRUE copy forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, for information.

OOTACAMUND,
6th September 1873.

(Signed) E. R. BOURKE,
Postmaster-General.

REFERRED to the District Engineer of Coimbatore for report after personal inspection and inquiry.

OOTACAMUND,
8th September 1873.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

No. 115. From Colonel J. BEAN, R.E., District Engineer, Coimbatore, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 10th October 1873, No. 58.

IN reply to your endorsement,* dated 8th September 1873, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I inspected the Caroor Post-office on the 26th idem, and having yesterday received from the Range Officer the plan and section of the building which I called for at the time, I beg to offer the following explanation regarding the settlement of the timber in the roof.

2. I enclose two letters* from Supervisor Nicholson on the subject, and two sketches showing the amount of settlement in the two beams supporting the post-office terrace roof, with the position of the two props put up to support the two beams. The main building was commenced in September 1871, completed in July 1872, and handed over to the Postal Department in August. Mr. Nicholson, whilst the work was in progress, found that the beams were sagging and then at once had the supports put up, but he did not mention having done so in any of his official reports, though he is under the impression he reported it verbally to

*Herewith returned with G. O's., Nos. 85 of 7th January 1870 and 2,076 of 30th August 1872.

*No. 102 of 6th September and No. 122 of 7th October 1873.

the Superintending Engineer. When I met Mr. Nicholson at the end of January of this year, I remember his mentioning to me that Lieutenant-Colonel Farewell had inspected the building, and who did not suggest the removal of the supports. I was in consequence led to take no further notice of the matter at the time, intending to inspect the post-office on my next tour through his range, which was to have been in March. It was only on receipt of the Range Officer's letter, dated 6th September, that I spoke to Lieutenant-Colonel Farewell on the subject, who then informed me that his inspection was in the beginning of January, when passing through Caroor on his way to Madras, and after he had handed over the district to me, and had ceased to be Superintending Engineer of the division.

3. The room in which the two beams are placed is 24 feet by 13 feet, and the scantling of the wood being 6 inches by 10 inches, its strength may theoretically be supposed to be sufficient according to an old rule formerly in use in the department. But I would observe that allowance should be made for unseasoned timber, and the beams were let into the walls with a space *all round*, so that they were merely supported, not fixed, even on top, at the ends. The Roorkee College rule also for the scantling of timber of this description, supported under like circumstances, would show that the beams were over-weighted.

4. The upright posts now fixed in the room are unsightly, and I would propose that either struts with a straining piece be fastened under the beams, or that iron ties with plates and keys be fixed to the beams somewhat in the manner proposed by Mr. Nicholson. The timber appears to be perfectly sound, and I could discover no cracks on the roof caused by any settlement of the terrace; there is no further sagging likewise of the beams, as the supports, I find, scarcely hold them.

5. The out-houses consisting of three rooms for the clerks and peons sanctioned in G. O., No. 2,076, dated 30th August 1872, are in progress on an allotment of Rupees 740 granted in G. O., No. 1,803, of 14th July 1873, for the work in 1873-74.

From Mr. Supervisor J. NICHOLSON, Range Officer, to Colonel J. BEAN, R.E., District Engineer, Coimbatore, dated Caroor, 6th September 1873, No. 102.

In reply to memorandum No. 101, of the 4th instant, endorsement on a letter from the Acting Head Assistant Collector forwarded by the Collector, I beg to inform you that before the post-office was completed two posts, each 6 inches square, were fixed, one under each of the girders to prevent the beams from sagging. The beams are of teakwood and measure 10" × 6" cross section, the breadth of the room is 13 feet, and the beams are placed 8 feet apart.

2. The beams are sound, and the breadth and thickness are such as are allowed in practice, viz., three-fourths of an inch of depth and half an inch of breadth for every foot of span, but as the beams showed a tendency to sag I placed a post under the centre of each of the girders. The building since completion has been inspected by the Postmaster-General and Inspecting Postmaster, and no objection has been made to the wooden pillars; they are small in section and the office table fit in with them.

3. Colonel Farewell inspected the building after it had been occupied and was opinion that the posts were not objectionable. I then proposed to strut the girders with iron rods and remove the post, but he considered it unnecessary.

From the same Officer, dated Camp Muujiapolliem, 7th October 1873, No. 122.

With reference to your letter of the 20th ultimo, I beg to inform you that the whole of the timber for the Caroor Post-office was supplied by a Contractor called Poonoorunga Moodelly. The timber is teakwood procured from Palghaut; I find on reference to my note book that I examined the wood on the 13th March 1873, and of thirty joists and eighteen verandah rafters received, twenty-three joists and sixteen rafters were passed for payment, and the remaining seven joists and two rafters rejected.

2. Shortly after the terracing was completed, the girders showed signs of sagging, for in a memorandum, dated 15th May 1872, from Vellacovil, I requested the Overseer to place the two posts under the girders, and I regret to find that I did not report direct or mention in my inspection report this sagging and placing of posts, but I think this may be accounted for by the fact that I was absent from Caroor on circuit from the 11th May to the 12th of September 1872, except a hurried visit of a few days in June. During this period I met the Superintending Engineer and accompanied him through the Dharapuram Taluq; I am under the impression that I did mention this sagging to Colonel Farewell, and regretted that a building otherwise well finished should show signs of weakness in the roof. The girders measure 15′ × 10″ × 6″, each end resting on a stone slab and extending 1 foot into the walls, a space of about three-fourths of an inch is left all round the ends of the girders, the ends being supported only but not fixed; I now think that if the ends had been fixed; the girders would not have sagged, otherwise I am unable to account for the sagging seeing that the dimensions are such as is allowed in practice, and the beams are sound and free from cracks. The beams may have been cut from unseasoned logs.

3. The roof shows no cracks and no leaking occurs from it.

4. I do not think that the posts are much in the way; if they were surely the Postmaster-General when he inspected the building last February would have objected to them.

5. I beg to submit a plan of the post-office room as called for, also a sketch showing the amount of sagging of each beam. I think the ends of the girders might be trussed with iron rods without removing the roof, the ends of the rod might be formed like the iron strap of a tie-beam and fixed at each end of the beam with a plate and keyed.

No. 116. Order thereon, 6th December 1873, No. 2,945.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 10.

It is evident from the explanatory reports submitted by the Range Officer and District Engineer that the sagging of the two beams of the Caroor Post-office, brought to notice by the Head Assistant Collector of Coimbatore, is due to the timber having been used in a green state, under which circumstances a larger scantling should have been given than is allowed for seasoned timber with reference to which only all calculations of building scantlings are made. The beams are stated to be perfectly sound; and they have probably taken a permanent set, which might not increase if the upright posts were removed; but these posts cannot be considered much in the way, and it will be better to have them than incur the risk of re-roofing, the existing roof being reported in good order.

2. The state of things is certainly, as remarked by the Head Assistant Collector, not creditable to Mr. Supervisor Nicholson; and he is greatly to blame for not reporting that the beams sagged in May 1872 when he had them supported, and when his bounden duty was to ask for orders. His management of works in

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department.
6th December 1873.

the Caroor Range has been unfavourably commented on in G. O., No. 1,432, of 27th May, and No. 1,563, of 14th June 1873; and he is warned to exercise more judgment in future.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Coimbatore.
,, Postmaster General.
,, Inspecting Engineer for Buildings.

Col S. T. Austin.
Spare copies.

1522/70/9/73

Coimbatore Sub Collectors Office
Caroor, 30 August 1873

No 195.

From
R. Rice Esq.
A. Hd Asst. Collector in charge

To.
B. Horsburgh Esq.
A. Collector of Coimbatore

Sir, I have the honor to bring to your notice that the roof of the new Court House at Caroor has already begun to show signs of insecurity. The building was only finished last year and already the roof has to be supported by two unsightly beams stuck up in the middle of the Office room. In my opinion such a state of things is hardly creditable to the Public Works Department and calls for investigation

I have &c
Signed/R. Rice
A. Hd Asst. Collector
in charge. Rs

No 22

Inclosed forwarded to the Postmaster General
Sundries, for information.

Comptroller's Office
2 Septr 1873

Wm A. Weatherburn
Collector

No 440/1486

One Copy forwarded to the
Secretary to Govt Public Works Department
for information.

Rut Genl's Office
6 Septr 1873

Postmaster General

1571/9/1873.

No 102

Taurus Range Office
Taurus 6th Sept 1873.

To

The District Engineer
of Townsville

Sir,

Inviting reference to my 4th
Instt endorsement on a letter from the
Acting Head Storekeeper Collector Pmuan=
=dah by the Collector, I beg to inform —
you that before the Post Office was
constructed 2 locks each 6 square —
were placed underneath each of the finders
to prevent the beams from sagging —
We leased one of Harrison and mea=
=sure 10"×6" in cross section, the bladder
of the same is 13 feet and the beams
are placed 8 feet asunder.
We beams are round and the —
bladder and thickness are such as
are allowed viz Jarrah, Yiz; 3/4 of one
inch of depth and 1/2 an inch of breadth
for every foot of span; but as the beams

Rec'd 1873 Dept
No. 4907A.

Under Colonial Secty
" Lands
To Police
Under Secty Govt
Pub Works Dept
Lands

No. 440/486
Date 6 Oct 73
Remind —
P.W. 5568/73
Subject
Repts Inspection
State of P.B. Landing
at Taroom

No 2945-6 Dec 73.
x 48 Referred 2945-6-12-73

Returned with the
Dist Engineer's letter No
58 dated 10th October 73.

Referred to the
~~District Engineer~~
~~Inspecting Engineer~~
~~at Maryborough~~
~~for Bundaberg~~ for report
after personal in-
spection & enquiry.

C.W. Walker Colt
Secretary to Govt
Pub Works

Ordered accordingly
8 Sept 1873.

To The ~~District~~ ~~Inspecting~~
~~for Bundaberg~~
Engineer
with former Cor=
=respondence

No 114

showed a tendency to sag I placed a post under the centre of each of the girders. The building since completion has been inspected by the Post Master General and Inspecting Post Master and no objection has been made to the wooden pillars; they are small in section and the office tables fit in with them.

Colonel Farewell inspected the building after it had been occupied and was of opinion that the posts were not objectionable. I then proposed to shut the girders with iron rods and remove the posts, but he considered it unnecessary.

I have &c.

Chas Gilbert
Ranger & Officer.

Nearly after the building was

In a letter from the
Dist Engineer. Coimbatore to
the Secretary to Government
S.P.W. Madras. No. 580/10 Oct 2/73

Price

P.W. 5508/73

G.O. No. 2946 - 6-12-73

Caroor Range letter No 102
of 6th Sept 73 explaining
the necessity under which
two wooden posts were fixed
under the heams of the Caroor
Post Office

1782/9/10/73

No. 122.

Dy
Dc

Plan of Office
Caroor Public Hospital Outhouses
1876
Scale 3/4 of an inch to a foot
Coimbatore October 1873.

The District Engineer
of Coimbatore

Sir,

Enclosures-
2. Plans.

With reference to your letter of the
20th Ultimo I beg to inform you that
the timber of the temporary structure for the
Caroor Post Office was supplied by a Con-
tractor called Sonnooma Chetty. The
timber is teakwood procured from Palghaut.
I find on reference to my note book that
I examined the materials on the 13th January
1872 and of 30 joists and 18 verandah raf-
ters received 23 joists and 16 rafters were
passed for payment, and the remaining
7 joists and 2 rafters rejected.

Shortly after the terracing was

2

completed [illegible] showed signs of
sagging, for more [illegible] dated 15th May 1893
from Killarney I requested the Foreman
to place the two posts under the girders
and I regret to find that I did not specifically
direct or mention in my instruction to check
this sagging and placing of posts, but
I think this may be accounted for by
the fact that I was absent from Cork
on circuit from the 11th May to the 12th of
September 1893 except a few days in June. During this
period I met the Superintending Engineer
and accompanied him thro' the Manufactures
Sabook, I am under the impression that
[illegible] I informed Col. Harnett
and requested that a building otherwise
well finished should show signs of weakness
ness in the roof. The girders measure
15"x10"x6" each end resting on a stone
slab and extending 1 foot into the walls

a space of [illegible] round the ends of [illegible] Works Dept, the ends be
supported only [illegible] not fixed, I now think
that if the ends had been fixed the
girders would not have sagged, otherwise
I am unable to account for the sagging
seeing that the dimensions are such as
is allowed in practice, and the beams are
sound and free from cracks. The beams
may have been cut from unseasoned [illegible]
The roof shows no [illegible] and no
leakage occurs from it.

I do not think that the posts are
much in the way, if [illegible] the Post Master General when he inspected
the building last February would have
objected to them.

I beg to submit a plan of the Post Office
room as called for, also a sketch showing
the amount of sagging of each beam.

I think the ends of the girders might

be trusted with any to pass without removing out the rod, the ends of the rod might be formed like the iron strap of a tie beam and fixed at each end of the beam with a plate and keyed.

I have &c.

(Signed) James Rickerby
Ranges Officer.

1522
10/9/73

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 7th January 1870.

No. 163. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 6th December 1869, No. 149:—

I HAVE the honour to forward a plan and estimate of Rupees 4,200, for a Post Office to be constructed at Caroor, prepared at the request of the Postmaster-General, and approved by the Director-General of Post Offices in India. An allotment of Rupees 3,000 was entered for this work in the current year's Budget, Item No. 78, but that allotment having been withdrawn in G. O., No. 3,247, of 8th October, provision should be made for carrying out the work next year, in the outgoing Budget.

1 Plan.
1 Estimate No. 17.

No. 164. ORDER THEREON, 7th January 1870, No. 85.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 15.

THE Government approve of the estimate of Rupees 4,200 for the proposed Post Office at Caroor, but as the Budget for 1870-71 has been closed, the execution of the work must be deferred.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant-General.
" Public Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

1522
14/9/73

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 30th August 1872.

No. 518. Read the following letter from the Postmaster-General, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 4th August 1872, No. 1861-1804 :—

I HAVE the honour to forward a letter to your address from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, No. 88, dated 20th July 1872, with three enclosures, which has been sent to me by that Officer for the purpose of my reporting thereon. I beg to state that the accommodation for the clerks and peons as provided for in the plan is very desirable and necessary, and I trust therefore that it may be found possible to provide the extra funds which is required from any balance of the Reserve or otherwise.

From the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 20th July 1872, No. 88.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the sanction of Government, a revised estimate, with a comparative statement, amounting to Rupees 5,075, for completing the buildings connected with the Post Office at Caroor, for which the original estimate of Rupees 4,200, sanctioned in G. O. No. 85 of 7th January 1870, has been exceeded.

1 Revised Estimate No. 20 for Rupees 5,075.
1 Comparative Statement.
1 Extract letter from the Caroor Range Officer, No. 50, of 24th June 1872.

2. Of the works estimated for and sanctioned in the above G. O., all have been completed and ready for occupation, except the out-houses for clerks and peons comprising of three rooms each measuring 9′ × 9′, for the completion of which the net excess of Rupees 875 is required as shown in the comparative statement.

3. The excess over the sanctioned estimate is chiefly owing to the made earth found in excavating foundation, which necessitated a deeper foundation of 6½ feet than that of 2 to 3 feet originally anticipated and provided for when preparing the estimate in July 1869, since which the site of the building has been changed, the extra foundation has been provided as economically as possible by the Range Officer, by using concrete-in-chunam for a depth of 3 feet.

4. From the accompanying extract of the Caroor Range Officer's letter,* it would appear that the out-houses for clerks and peons are not required ; this question, however, I leave for the Postmaster-General's opinion, through whom I forward this letter, and if it be decided that all the buildings, as per the sanctioned plan, should be completed, I have the honour to solicit the sanction of Government to the revised estimate of Rupees 5,075 now submitted, and for provision of the necessary funds.

* No. 50 of 24th June 1872.

No. 519. ORDER THEREON, 30th August 1872, No. 2,076.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 37.

THE balance of the Reserve having already been appropriated to supplement the grant for the Mylapore Post Office, and no other funds being available, the remaining work provided for in the supplemental estimate submitted with these papers and now sanctioned must stand over until the Postmaster-General is able to provide for its execution.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th August 1872.

2. The Superintending Engineer should have ascertained the probable deficit at a much earlier date and reported it in time to share in the allotment of funds for unfinished works. The increased depth of foundation to which the excess is attributable must have been apparent at the commencement of the work.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
,, Postmaster General.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No 58. District Engineers Office
Coimbatore 11th October 1873.

From.
Colonel J. Beans R.C.
District Engineer, Coimbatore

To,
Colonel G. W. Walker R.C.
Secretary to Government
D. P. W. Madras

4
Enclosures.

Sir,

In reply to your endorsement
* herewith re- dated 8th September 1873, I have the
turned with honor to report for the information of
G.O. No. 885 of Government that I inspected the
7th January 1870 Karoor Post Office on the 26th Idem,
and 2076 of 30th and having yesterday received from the
August 1872. Range Officer the plan and section
of the building which I called for at
the time, I beg to offer the following
explanation regarding the settlement
of the timber in the roof.

2

2. I enclose two letters from Supervisor Nicholson on the subject, and two sketches shewing the amount of settlement in the two beams supporting the Post office terrace roof, with the position of the two props put up to support the two beams. The main building was commenced in September 1871, completed in July 1872, and handed over to the Postal Department in August. Mr Nicholson whilst the work was in progress found that the beams were sagging and them at once had the supports put up, but he did not mention having done so in any of his official reports, though he is under the impression he reported it verbally to the Superintending Engineer. When I met

× No 102 of 6th September and No 122 of 7th Sept/73

Mr Nicholson at the end of January of this year, I remember his mentioning to me that Lieut Colonel Farewell had inspected the building and who did not suggest the removal of the supports. I was in consequence led to take no further notice of the matter at the time, intending to inspect the Post office on my next tour through his Range, which was to have been in March. It was only on receipt of the Range Officer's letter dated 6th September, that I spoke to Lieut Colonel Farewell on the subject, who then informed me that his inspection was in the beginning of January, when passing through Caroor on his way to Madras, and

after

after he had handed over the District to me and had ceased to be Superintending Engineer of the Division.

3. The room in which the two beams are placed is 24 feet by 13 feet, and the scantlings of the wood being 6" by 10", its strength may theoretically be supposed to be sufficient according to an old rule formerly in use in the Department. But I would observe that alloivance should be made for unseasoned timber; and the beams were let into the wall with a space all round, so that they were merely supported, not fixed, even on top, at the ends. The Poorkee College rule also for the scantling of timber of this description supported under like circumstances would shew that the beams were overweighted.

4. The upright posts now fixed in the room are unsightly and I would propose that either struts with a straining piece be fastened under the beams, or that iron ties with plates and keys be fixed to the beams somewhat in the manner proposed by Mr Nicholson. The timber appears to be perfectly sound, and I could discover no cracks on the roof caused by any settlement of the terrace, there is no further sagging likewise of the beams, as the supports, I find, scarcely hold them.

5. The outhouses consisting of three rooms for the clerks and peons sanctioned in G. O. N° 2076 dated 30th August 1872 are

in

in progress on an allotment of Rs. 740 as granted in G. O. No. 1803 of 14th July 1873 for the work in 1873/74.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obt Servant

J Rear Colonel R.E.

Dist Engineer Coimbatore.

P. W. D. 1873 Depart.
From Chief Engr's Office No. 5568.
The District Engineer
Coimbatore
To
The Secretary to Govt.
Public Works Dept.
Madras
Sir,-
Dated 10th
Recd 13th } October
1873
No. 58.
Enclosures. 1.
2 Estimates
Reports regarding the
settlement of timber
in the roof of the Karoor
Post-office.

No. 2945-6th Dec 1873.

No 715
Sent to Coll. 13 Oct 1873 (20 13 11

No. 2945 P.W. Deptt
Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Read the following
From, The Post Masters General (H.E. No. 440/1486 dy 6 Sep/73)
The District Engineer of Coimbatore } (H. E. No. 388/10th Octr/73)

It is evident from the explanatory reports submitted by the Range officer and District Engineer that the sagging of the two beams of the Karoor Post office, brought to notice by the Head Assistant Collector of Coimbatore, is due to the timber having been used in a green state, under which circumstances a larger scantling should have been given than is allowed for seasoned

timber with reference to which only all calculations of building scantlings are made - The beams are stated to be perfectly sound and they have probably taken a permanent set which might not increase if the upright posts were removed; but these posts cannot be considered much in the way, and it will be better to leave them than incur the risk of reroofing the existing roof being reported in good order -

The state of things is certainly, as remarked by the Head Assistant Collector not creditable to Mr Supervisor Nicholson; and he is greatly to blame for not reporting that the beams sagged in May 1872 when he had them supported and when his bounden duty was to ask for orders. His management of works in the Arroor Range has been unfavorably commented on in S.O. Nos 1432 of 27th May, and No 1563 of 14th June 73; and he is warned to exercise more judgment in future -

Genl

30
4

Ret to Engr Coimbatore
" Postmaster-Genl
" Supt Engr for Buildings

Desp 9/12/73 with S.C

2407 of 5568

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The District Engr
Coimbatore

Dated

Recd. Encl. 7

G. O. 6th Decr 1873, No. 2945.

Nos. 114 & 116

Caroor Post Office.

Passing orders on letter
from the Dist Engr. Coimbatore,
~~Reporting~~ submitting explanation
respecting the settlement
of the timber in the
roof of the Post Office.

N 114-16.

R 13-11-73