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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1448	Press	<i>Original</i>
B.P. No.		Mis.	
Dated	3 - 8 - 1954		

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 30. Read the following letter from Captain R. F. TAYLOR, Assistant Engineer in charge of District Engineer's Office, Kurnool, to the Honourable D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Kurnool, 29th April 1874, No. 11 :—

I HAVE this morning stumbled across G. O., No. 456, of the 24th February 1874. The late District Engineer did not circulate this or a great many other papers connected with the Cumbum Range, the result so far as I am concerned being most disastrous both to my reputation as a gentleman and to my abilities as an Engineer. I might ask on what grounds Mr. Hudson bases his assertions; he must be as thoroughly well aware as I am that not one statement of his (*vide* paragraph 2 of the aforesaid order) is true; but as a simple and truthful narrative of the facts will elucidate matters I trust I may be pardoned for so long presuming on the time of Government, and after a perusal of this letter I would respectfully ask His Excellency in Council to reconsider such portion of the censure passed on me in G. O., No. 1,025, of the 21st April, as relates to this work.

2. On taking charge of Cumbum Range I found that several of the roads were under the control of the Revenue Department, and amongst others the old line to Cuddapah. I had been engaged in this range for about six months when Mr. Chase visited Cumbum. I did not see him, but heard from his Head Assistant that the Collector was very much pleased with the great improvement he had found every where. Shortly afterwards I was directed to assume charge of three additional roads.

3. Colonel Moberly directed me to prepare surveys of the proposed new line from Tadcherla to Cuddapah frontier. Of the three trial traces mapped out a modified fourth line was (in my humble opinion) very judiciously marked out by Colonel Moberly; he saved much of the old road, and in so doing reduced the expense of masonry works enormously; on the Superintending Engineer's return to Kurnool he persuaded, I think, Mr. Chase to sanction Rupees 6,000 for repairs;

* A portion. this money* I expended in connecting the made portions of the old road. I

gave the work out on task, or petty contract, to certain parties, who were distinctly told that I would bind myself to no condition; that I would only pay for such work as I approved of; that they must stop operations at a moment's notice; and that I would not be answerable for any loss they might sustain. I told them also most distinctly that I had only a repair grant of 6,000 Rupees which would lapse with the official year, and that such work as the parties took up should be finished early in March.

4. Of the work executed there were, and there must be, (unless the books are destroyed) three sets of measurements (these were in detail), those taken by the Maistry, those taken by the Overseer, and those taken by me. Moreover, the Overseer's and Maistry's measurement sheets were after being checked, countersigned by me. Besides these books there were contract certificates giving every item, noting the mile, or section, describing the class of work, etc., etc. Of the 6,000 allowed for repairs, I had already paid 4,500, or thereabouts, and the balance still due to the contractors slightly exceeded Rupees 1,500; and in

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd June 1874.*

February I indented for funds to meet this claim, but unfortunately the Superintending Engineer did not sanction the indent. I lost no time in sending in a supplemental estimate of funds, but this, if I remember right, did not reach Colonel Moberly in time, and the parties in consequence were not paid; I brought this fact to Colonel Moberly's notice, and the contractors were told that every effort would be made to settle with them.

5. I became extremely unwell after this, and, in leaving Cumbum Range, I gave Mr. Hudson a *written document* showing what was due on this and on every other work; this paper he or Mr. Stephens, his successor, lost, (*vide* the latter's letter.)

In regard to the work on this road, every portion of it was personally pointed out by me to Mr. Hudson, in presence of lascars, maistry, and contractors.

* This I will prove, if necessary.

6. I trust I have proved:—

1st.—That I did not undertake work without sanction.

2nd.—That I did not lay out work to the detriment of the contractor.

3rd.—That so far as lay in my power I adjusted the contractor's claim, and left behind me not one but three or four books, or documents, and contract certificates containing all necessary information in regard to this and all other works.

4th.—That I have done nothing so far as regards this road to merit censure.

No. 31.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd June 1874, No. 1,448.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 3.

ORDERED to be recorded with reference to the Orders of Government Nos. 1,025 of 21st April and 1,066 B. of 24th April, in which Captain Taylor's case is finally disposed of.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Kurnool.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

N^o 11 District Eng^rs. Office
Kurnool 29th April 1874.

From,
The Off^r District Eng^r.
Kurnool.

To
The Chief Secretary to Govt.
Madras.

Sir, I have this morning stumbled across G. O. No. 456 of the 24th February 1874. The late District Engineer did not circulate this or a great many other papers connected with the Cumbum Range, the result so far as I am concerned being most disastrous, both to my

*And for mention
of Mr. J. J. J.
in the report
of 1874
dated 3-1-75*

reputation as a Gentleman, and my abilities as an Engineer.— I might ask on what grounds Mr. Hudson bases his assertions, he must be as thoroughly well aware as I am that not one Statement of his (vide para 2 of the aforesaid Order) is true; but as a simple and truthful narrative of the facts will elucidate matters, I trust I may be pardoned for so long presuming on the time of Government; and after a perusal of this letter, I would respectfully

ask His Excellency in Council to reconsider such proposition of the Censure passed on me in G.O. No 1025 of the 21st April as relates to this work.

2. On taking Charge of Cumbar Range I found that several of the road were under the ^{control} ~~Charge~~ of the Revenue Department, and amongst others the old Line to Cuddapah. I had been ^{engaged in} ~~in Charge~~ of this Range for about 6 months when Mr. Chase visited Cumbar, I did not see him, but heard from

his Head Assistant, that the Collector was very much pleased with the great improvement he had found everywhere. Shortly afterwards I was directed to assume charge of 3 additional roads.

3. Colonel Moberly directed me to prepare surveys of the proposed new line from Tadcherla to Cuddapah frontier.

Of the 3 trial traces mapped out a modified fourth line was (in my humble opinion) very judiciously marked out by Colonel Moberly,

he saved much of the old road, and in so doing reduced the expense of masonry works enormously.

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of - that they must stop
operations at a moment's
notice & that I would not
be answerable for any
loss they might sustain -

I told them also most
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the Oversees' and Maistries'
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these books there were
Contract Certificates giving
every item, noting the
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Of the 6,000 allowed for
repairs I had already
paid 4,500 or thereabouts,
& the balance still due

to the Contractors slightly exceeded Rs. 1500; and in February I indented for funds to meet this claim, but unfortunately the Superintending Engineer did not sanction the indent, I lost no time in sending in a Supplemental Estimate of funds, but this, if I remember right, did not reach Colonel Moberly in time, and the parties in consequence were not paid; I brought this fact to Colonel Moberly's notice, and the Contractors were

Here again
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5. I became extremely unwell after this and in leaving Cumbum

Range I gave Mr. Hudson a written document showing what was due on this, and on every other work this paper he or Mr. Stephens, his Successor, lost (vide the latter's letter 7).

In regard to the work on this road, every portion of it was personally pointed out by me to

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Mr. Hudson, in presence
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1st That I did not undertake work without sanction.

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3^d That so far as lay in my power I adjusted the Contractors' Claims and left behind me not one but 3 or 4 books or documents, and Contract Certificates con.

No. 1000 - 1000
S. M. R. R. Co.
J. W. R. R. Co.
C. M. R. R. Co.

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This is, perhaps, the
most remarkable
man, whose be-
havior, from the
mismanagement
and other
causes, re-
sulting in
the
loss, is not to be
thought of as a
misadventure,
but as a
disaster.

Forrest's case

1700

[Handwritten signature]

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

information in regard
to this, and all other
works.

works.
 4th That I have done
 nothing so far as regard
 this road to merit
 censure.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servt
W F Tuzin Captain
Asst Engr In Charge

4044 #6

P. M. 1874 Sept.
 No: 2638
 The District Engineer
 Summit.

To, the Secretary &
 Improvement
 P. M. Sept

Letter 29: 3rd Sept 1874
 Res 4: 8th Sept - 1874

Road from Sunday
 to Cumtun.

States that the work
 mentioned in 4. &
 No 456 of 24. Sept 1874
 was not undertaken
 without sanction. —

With regards.

To the D. & C. Thumwal
 d. Chief d. 27/6/74

1315

case is finally disposed of.

to the orders of Govt. No. 1025 of 21st April 1874
 10663 of 24 April in which Capt. Taylor's

Orderd to be recorded with reference

1448

1448

30-3

1448

2638
 Govt. of MS74 27th Nov.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the D. & C. Thumwal

Recd. Exd.

G. 03 June 1874, No. 1448

Nos. 30-31. 20

Captain R. J. Taylor

Assistant Engineer

Letter from Captain Taylor
 offering explanations with
 reference to the proceedings
 in connection with the Cuddalore
 Road in the Cumbum Range
 and also with records with
 reference to previous orders —