

(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.	1561	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.-
Dated	13 - 6	6874
		-195-

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th June 1874.*

Read the following letters:—

No. 243. From Major H. R. MEAD, R.E., District Engineer, Tanjore, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tanjore, 27th March 1874, No. 1,172.

I HAVE the honour to report that I find it impossible to have the work of No. 4 Range in this district carried on with Mr. Hall as Range Officer; I have, for the last six months, done all I can to help him, and to impress upon him the necessity of attention to orders, the submission of returns, etc., without unnecessary delay, and the exercise of proper check on his subordinates; but I regret to say that, although at times there has been improvement, he goes back to his old ways of inattention to orders and neglect of duty, and, therefore, I have no course left but to bring his conduct to the notice of Government.

2. No. 4 Range consists of two taluqs, Negapatam and Tritrapoondy, the last has been for years notoriously in bad order, but little has been done and the works in it are in a most unsatisfactory state. I have lately marched through a portion of it, and although Mr. Hall has been in charge for about two years, I find he knows little or nothing of the country, and not much even about the works in progress.

3. Little or no attention has been paid to the roads, and most of them are in a bad state.

4. In the case of Road No. 51, that has been for three years under construction, I find the contractors have been paid by Mr. Hall nearly the full estimated amounts for the earthwork, and in one case, owing to a mistake in the estimate of 10,000 cubic yards or Rupees 625, being left out (which mistake ought to have been brought to notice long ago), have been paid greatly in excess of the estimate.

5. The work is not nearly completed, as it requires both raising and widening owing to the earthwork having been thrown up without proper slopes. Mr. Hall's measurements, on which he has paid for the work, consist however of what he calls bank measurements, which are, in fact, copies of the estimate. I shall have to make a special report regarding this road, I am unable to do so at present as I have not yet received the estimate for the completion of the work that I have called for.

6. As the range is in such bad order, and I know Mr. Hall is unable to bring up his arrears of work, I request that he may be relieved as soon as possible. I would, had I a Supervisor I could spare, relieve him of the range now, but I cannot do so as both Serjeant Littlewood and Mr. Stephens are actively engaged on work as sub-officers, and at this season of the year I cannot relieve them from their present duties.

7. I would urge that, if possible, an officer of some little experience, and not an upper subordinate, may be sent to the charge of No. 4 Range, the range is not only in bad order but is one in which a great deal could be, and ought to be done, but which cannot be undertaken unless there is a competent officer in charge.

8. I would remark that the following important works are in it besides the Local Fund works and the ordinary agricultural repairs, the expenditure on which should be much increased.

Vedarniem Canal.
Negapatam Harbour.
Vedarniem Cutcherry.
A new Sub-Collector's Cutcherry.
A new Court-house, and probably a new Jail.

These works will probably be all shortly in hand, and it is of great importance that the range should be put in good order before they are commenced.

9. With regard to Mr. Hall he is utterly incompetent to be in charge of a range, he is unable to design any simple work, and will not attend to his office duties; he marches fairly over his range but does not exercise that check he should over his subordinates, and, I regret to add, does not appear able to write a short simple report on any subject. He has been for one year and a half years directed to send in surveys and estimates for two roads; I have not received them yet although I have given him sketch designs for the works.

10. When I took charge of the district from Major Oakes, I was informed that Mr. Hall was not doing his work. I have myself tried him for six months and find that it is impossible to allow No. 4 Range to go on in its present state, and there is no hope of improvement while Mr. Hall is in charge.

11. Mr. Hall came into the department in, I believe, 1856, but left it a few years after; he rejoined it in 1868. I would recommend his being reduced and sent as a sub-officer to some other district; he might, if strictly looked after, do his duty, but it is hopeless to expect him to do so as a Range Officer in independent charge.

No. 244. From the same Officer, dated Tanjore, 11th May 1874, No. 160.

As promised in my letter No. 1,172, dated 27th March 1874, regarding Mr. Hall's inefficiency as a Range Officer, I have the honour to report the following on Road No. 51:—

One letter from Mr. Sub-Engineer Hall, with enclosures.

This Road, which is to be formed on the right bank of the Hurrichundranuddy in Tirupatnam Taluq, was commenced in 1870 on an estimate for Rupees 33,800, the work consisting of earthwork, turving, and alterations to masonry works.

2. The work was given to five Contractors, who agreed to do all the earthwork and turving and to supply materials for the masonry works; the contracts were for half-work to be done in 1871, the balance in March 1872; the work progressed very slowly, and Major Hasted extended the time to March 1873. Mr. Hall was not in charge of the range when the work was begun, but he has been for more than the last two years.

3. The Contractors have been allowed to do part work all along their sections, and when I inspected the road in March 1874 I found that Mr. Hall had passed and paid for the work done in sections Nos. 3 and 4 according to the estimate; in the case of No. 3 section he had paid Rupees 625 in excess of the amount allowed for in the estimate, this was due to a mistake in the estimate in the addition of

which 10,000 cubic yards had been left out, this, however, was not known to Mr. Hall until found out casually by me.

4. I found the earthwork of the road far from complete, and wanting in many places both in height and in slopes; turving had been done in places, but owing to the slopes not being properly completed it had in many places absolutely fallen down the slopes. I have had an estimate made of the work required to complete the road, and I find the earthwork that has been paid for, but now required to complete in Sections Nos. 2, 3, and 4, is 13,399 cubic yards, or in value Rupees 837-7-0.

5. With regard to the turving, that in No. 3 section to the full estimated value of Rupees 287-8-0 will have to be all done again, and a portion in No. 4 that I estimate at Rupees 75. In Section No. 2 there has been an overpayment of Rupees 198 for earthwork.

6. The Contractors' bills for these works are signed by Mr. Hall and Tiruvengada Iyengar, Taluq Overseer, the latter asserts now that he made out these bills under the direct order of Mr. Hall; this is under inquiry.

7. With regard to the overpayment, I hope to be able to recover the amounts from money that is due to the Contractors for materials supplied, there will, however, be difficulty in doing this, as Mr. Hall, the Range Officer, has passed the work in full.

8. In March I directed this estimate to be made out at once by Mr. Hall; I regret that I did not receive it until May, when I went myself to the road, in consequence of this much time has been lost, and I fear the road will not be completed this season, but I trust it will be before the official year. I have directed the earthwork required to be put in hand at once, but the heavy rain we have just had will delay it. The masonry works are very backward, but I trust that all except lengthening and repairing an under-tunnel will be completed this season.

9. I forward a letter* from Mr. Hall to you in explanation of his conduct, and in reply to my letter, No. 1,172, dated 27th March 1874, to you reporting

* Original.

him. I do not think any comment is necessary.

10. With regard to this road estimate, it has been made without levels, and as it has been three years under construction it is difficult to find what height of bank the original estimate allowed for; I have, however, been over the estimate and believe it allows for the full height of the original estimate; it is not, however, I consider, as high as it should be.

11. Mr. Hall has resigned, and I request he may be relieved as soon as possible, and I can only regret that I have no upper subordinate available in the district to enable me to do so at once.

12. With regard to Overseer Tiruvengada Iyengar, he is a very old servant of Government, being of nearly 33 years service, he has done good work, but latterly not having been properly looked after has fallen into bad ways, he is now anxious to be transferred or to be allowed to take his pension. I object to the latter and decline to transfer him at present, but will do so at the end of the working season; as, however, I do not think his conduct should be passed over, I request that he may be reduced to second-grade Overseer.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th June 1874.*

No. 245. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1874, No. 1,561.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 13.

THE reports above recorded on Mr. Hall's qualifications are drawn up in such terms as to leave no doubt of his unfitness for the position he holds in the Public Works Department.

2. Mr. Hall appears to have been originally employed, on a salary of Rupees 250 per mensem, as a Covenanted Overseer from January 1855 to April 1864, when his services were dispensed with.

3. He was re-employed as a Sub-Engineer of the second grade on a salary of Rupees 300 from June 1868, and was promoted to the first grade in September 1873. During this period he was twice suspended for the conduct detailed below.

4. In February 1869,* the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division reported him as "having systematically done his worst" with the subordinate agency available, and suggested his removal from the department, or at any rate his transfer from the division.

5. In May 1871,* the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, reported that Mr. Hall's management of his range had been exceedingly unsatisfactory, and suspicious in the matter of contracts, which had been entered into without the Superintending Engineer's sanction, and at higher rates than prevailed for departmental work. Specific charges having been prepared against Mr. Hall, he was suspended in July 1871,† till he should have cleared himself from these charges.

6. In G. O., No. 3,074, of 7th December 1871, Mr. Hall's defence was pronounced far from satisfactory; he was transferred to Tanjore, and informed that if not reported on favourably as a Range Officer in his new district he would be reduced to the rank of Overseer. A fine* of half his salary while under suspension was imposed on him.

7. For one twelve month he was satisfactorily reported on by the Officer officiating as Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, but a year later he had to be admonished (G. O., No. 274, dated 4th February 1874).

8. To set off against these serious objections to his further employment in the Public Works Department, Mr. Hall has two favourable certificates from his departmental superiors to show, both given him by the same Officer in 1857 and 1861. But His Excellency the Governor in Council cannot but conclude from the reports of two Superintending and one District Engineer that he is totally unfitted for the duty of a Range Officer. Every upper subordinate above the rank of Overseer must be qualified more or less to take occasional charge of a range, and this Mr. Hall cannot be trusted to do. He is accordingly offered the appointment of first-class Overseer, with the option of receiving instead a refund of the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th June 1874.*

gratuity of £300 which he re-paid under the orders of 23th January 1870, No. 364.

* G. O., No. 1,243-A, dated 8th May 1874.

The acceptance of Mr. Hall's resignation* is made conditional on his refusing the appointment now offered him.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Tanjore.
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

1172

District Engineer's Office
Taurine 27th March 1874

From

Major A. R. Mead R.E.
District Engineer. Taurine

To Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that I find it impossible to have the work of No IV Range in this District carried on with Mr Hall as Range Officer, I have for the last 6 months done all I can to help him and to impress upon him the necessity of attention to orders, the submission of returns &c without unnecessary delay and the exercise of proper check on his subordinates but I regret to say that although at times there has been improvement he goes back to his old ways of inattention to orders and neglect of duty and therefore I have no course left but to bring his conduct to the notice of Government.

2 — No IV Range consists of 2
Talooks

talooks Negapatam and Sriepandy
the last has been for years notoriously
in bad order but little has been done
and the works in it are in a most un-
satisfactory state. I have lately
marched through a portion of it and
although Mr. Hall has been in charge
for about 2 years. I find he knows
little or nothing of the Country and not
much even about the works in progress.

3. Little or no attention has been
paid to the roads and most of them are
in bad state.

4. In the case of Road No 51
that has been for 3 years under con-
struction I find the Contractors have
been paid by Mr. Hall nearly the full
Estimated amounts for the earthwork
and in one case owing to a mistake
in the Estimate of 10,000 Cubic Yards
or Rs 625 being left out (which
mistake ought to have been brought
to notice long ago) have been paid
greatly in excess of the Estimate.

5. The work is not nearly completed
as it requires both raising and widening
owing to the earthwork having been

thrown up without proper slopes.
Mr. Hall's measurements on which he
has paid for the work consist however
of what he calls Bank measurements
which are in fact Copies of the Estimate.
I shall have to make a special
report regarding this road I am unable
to do so at present. as I have not
yet received the Estimate for the completion
of the work that I have called for.

6. As the Range is in such bad
order, and I know Mr. Hall is unable
to bring up his arrears of work I request
that he may be relieved as soon as
possible, I would, had I a Superior
I could spare relieve him of the Range
here but I cannot do so as both
Sergeant Littlewood and Mr. Stephens
are actively engaged on work as
Sub Officers and at this season of the
year I cannot relieve them from
their present duties.

7. I would urge that if possible
an officer of some little experience
and not an upper subordinate may
be sent to the charge of No 4 Range.
the Range is not only in bad order
but is one in which a great deal could
be and ought to be done but which
cannot be undertaken unless there

is a Competent Officer in charge.

8—I would remark that the following important works are in it besides the Local fund works and the ordinary Agricultural repairs the expenditure on which should be much increased.

Vadavur Canal

Megapattam Harbour

Velluricutchary

a new Subcollector's Office

a new Court House

probably a new Jail

These works will probably be all shortly in hand and it is of great importance that the Range should be put in good order before they are commenced.

9—With regard to Mr. Hall he is wholly incompetent to be in charge of a Range he is unable to design any simple work and will not attend to his office duties he marches fairly over his range but does not exercise that check he should over his subordinates and I regret to add does not appear able to write a short simple report on any subject. He has been for 1/2 years directed to

send in surveys and Estimates for roads I have not received them yet although I have given him sketch designs for the works.

10—When I took charge of the District from Major Oakes I was informed that Mr. Hall was not doing his work, I have myself tried him for 6 months and find that it is impossible to allow the Range to go on in its present state and there is no hope of improvement while Mr. Hall is in charge.

11—Mr. Hall came into the Department in I believe 1856 but left it a few years after, he rejoined it in 1868 I would recommend his being reduced and sent as a sub Officer to some other District he might if strictly looked after do his duty but it is hopeless to expect him to do so as a Range Officer in independent charge.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant.
M. M. M. — Major R. C.
District E.

I have much pleasure in certifying to the unexceptionable character and steady good conduct of Mr J Hall of the D. P. W. during the time he has served under me, as also to the intelligence activity and energy with which the ^{works} under his charge have been conducted. Especial credit is due to Mr Hall for the manner in which he has overcome the serious difficulties experienced in laying the foundations of a Lock and Casing at Koochipoody, which operation he has entirely conducted from the commencement.

(Signed)
D. G. Pollard Capt
late Executive Eng
Camp Piddaravoor
1 August 1857

During the five months I was in command of the Seebundee Corps of Suggiapett I had every opportunity of judging of the zeal of Mr J Hall of the Department public Works, and I have much pleasure in stating my opinion that he is indefatigable in the performance of his duties, and a most sober, steady, person and from his

Ref: No. 1874 Depd.
No. 1918.

The District Engineer
Revenue

The Secretary to Govt.
P. W. Department

No. 1172

Dated 27 March 1854
Received 31 —
P. W. No. 1561. 13-6-74

Referring relative to
Mr Hall's neglect of duty
and requesting to assist
all Officers to receive
him at the Piddaravoor
Camp

No. 1172
Dated 13.5.74. No. 1561-5-74
No. 161/74 and 162/74

his intimate knowledge of conversing in
the Telugu Language must be an invaluable
servant in the Public Works of the Northern
Division

Signed
F. C. Anstey Capt
9th Native Infantry

Camp Moonegal
June 24th 1859

Having within the last four months
had opportunities of judging of the way
in which the Government Works has been
carried on by you, I have much pleasure
in bearing testimony to your zeal and
ability, and it will give me pleasure
to hear of your advancement in the De-
partment of Public Works

Suggiappett
24th Oct 1859

Signed
W. J. Cooke Capt
Commander M. S. Corps.

In reply to your Letter of the 10th instant
I have much pleasure in stating that
your services, during the period of two
years or more that you were in my Range
were very valuable; you gained and
applied experience in Roadmaking,
Bridging, Building, and Irrigation
Works of nearly all kinds and you always
displayed zeal energy and a readiness
in surmounting difficulties highly creditable.

Though often placed in irksome
and trying circumstances I always found
you at your post carrying on your work
uprightly, honestly and conducting
yourself in every respect most creditably.

Camp Berarrah
16th January 1861

Signed
D. G. Pollard Esq
1st Asst Dist Engr

I am glad to hear you are finally to
leave this tomorrow. It is high time you
should every day place your life in
jeopardy. You are a victim to zeal and
love for your duty: had you not exposed
yourself so much and to late an hour to the
sun in your daily inspections you might
have carried on for some time longer.
It is very pleasant and very gratifying
to do ones duty strictly and conscientiously
but those who do the least too often
do the best and get the most praise.

Signed
Bellary
30th April 1863

Signed
W. Jackson
Garrison Surgeon

At the request of Mr. John Hall of the
D. P. W. Bellary District, I have much
pleasure in certifying that I have
known him for nearly three years, and
that during that time I have not only
never heard of one complaint against his
character, but have always heard of
him, and when opportunity presented
myself to do so, observed him to be an
upright, and soberly man and a
zealous, hard working, and able officer
in his Department.
Mr. Hall leaves Bellary solely by
reason of broken health after several
illnesses contracted during continued
and

Signed:

Rev. B. M. O'Dea
Chaplain of Bellary

(True Copies)
Geo. Ball
4th Payee Office.

P. Mc 243/741

July 27 13 June 4/4
L. H. 6444

10-77/4/95

F. 15^u

N. 4 Range Office
Camp Aukuttumbady

22nd April 1874.

From,

Mr J Hall

Sub Engineer D. F. W.

4th $\frac{1}{2}$ Range Officer - Tuxford

To

The Secretary to Government.
P. W. Department.

Madras

Sir, With reference to Tanjore District
Engineers report N. 1172 dated 27th
March 1874, I beg to submit the following
explanations as I have procured a copy
on applying for the same.

Recd 14. 4. 74

In reply to No. 1 Para. I am at a loss to know how Major Mead has during the last 6 months helped me. I have been most attentive to all orders and carried them out as strictly as I possibly could, and all returns I have sent in, as punctually as I could, and kept the severest check on my subordinates, and I have instituted full enquiries into every thing referred to for investigation and when if I could not come to a just conclusion, I

I have called in Major Mead to decide.

In reply to para 2. Major Mead admits that a portion of my Range Tritapondy Taluq has been notoriously bad for years. This is a very large and important Taluq. during the two years I have had charge, I have been very energetic trying to put it in order. I have so far succeeded that the Merasidaw and others are as a body well pleased with what I have done to improve the former bad state I found this Taluq in. There is hardly a hook or corner I am not conversant with the works in progress I am thoroughly acquainted with. Major Mead on his last tour of inspection did not hear a complaint from any one in this Taluq against me or any of the works I have carried out. The works Major Mead inspected, generally, he appeared pleased with. for instance the Vallavannam Bank put up 18 months ago. the Adypan Banks just completed. the Bridges under construction on Road No. 27, and was told by the Deputy Collector in charge of Salt Department. (E. J. Ricketts Esq.)

in my presence that since I have had charge, there has been no complaint of the Canal. The Telegraph office at Nigapatam is generally pronounced to be a good substantial building. The sub-jails of Nigapatam and Trivallur. Extending and facing of the Nigapatam Jetty, are a few of the works I have carried out during my term of office. but no credit given me for them in this report.

In reply to para. No. 3. Regarding no attention to the Roads. I can safely say that the maintenance of all has never been equal more judiciously than since I have had charge. the improvement in two years that I have made, is admitted by many of the inhabitants. Moreover the introduction of my new Road Macadam is much liked. Major Hastad was so satisfied with the trials and specimens, that he recommended to the Local Fund Board to have the Road from Nigapatam to Valangimur made with it. a distance of 8 miles at a cost of Rs. 6350. which work I am now carrying out. my neighbouring Range Officer (the 3rd Range) from what he saw

saw of it and the information I gave him how to manufacture it, led him to apply for a grant for the same purpose, which was also sanctioned. Major Mead also pronounced it good, which I think will prove I try my best to improve the Roads instead of neglect them.

In reply to para 4 regarding the case of Road N. 51. It is true it has been for three years under construction. Try one year or more before I came: there are literally five or six months working time for each year. It is the forming of a River Bank (the Hurichendia muddy) into a Road, directly the river fills with water cultivation commences and this generally takes place in the month of June and continues till February during which time nothing can be done as no earth is procurable and Labor not to be had at any price, as it is about 13 1/2 miles long and upwards of 300,000 Cycles of Earth work required. I think by this it will be considered that the time taken to construct it so far is not excessive as it is very nearly completed the remaining amount

Major Mead distinctly states that he found certain mistakes, but that he did not have time to correct them. He was very kind to write me and

amount of Estimate I think is sufficient to complete it, and there will not be any loss. Regarding the mistake of 10,000 Cycles or Rs 625... mentioned in this para I beg to state is caused thus N. 3 Contract by the details of Estimate or Takwan requires 71,642 Cycles of Earth work which is just 10,000 Cycles above the amount allowed in the Total of Estimate. It should be for the whole 5 sections as per Estimate details 3,13,551 whereas by the Abstract Estimate 3,03,551 Cycles are only allowed at 1 anna per Cycle amounts to Rs 18,971-15-0. the mistake was found out by me at the time of Major Mead's inspection, and the District Engineer said he would get sanction for it if I could prove by the Estimate there was this mistake. I have done so but by this report it would appear the Estimate created by this amount the work being incomplete there are balances still due to other Contractors as well as work to be done. the omission of 10,000 Cycles has passed in the District Engineer's Office unnoticed. This Estimate was framed before my time viz in April 1870.

In reply to para 5 regarding the work being not nearly completed, I beg to state Major Mead on last tour of inspection only saw a small portion

portion of Section N^o 2 and the whole of 3-4 & 5, and excepting a small portion in a very bad locality in N^o 3 section, he did not see the greater portion of N^o 2 nor any of N^o 1 section which are nearly completed, and the only place Major Mead complained of was in N^o 3 which had only been finished in the previous month of January and heavy rain had fallen and slightly injured it just before his inspection. In the Report this has not been taken into consideration. I feel assured on my submitting the Estimates called for by Major Mead for this work, that it will be seen that I have not exceeded the Estimate and I am not at all to be blamed. My measurement Major Mead calls as bank measurement and there and can be seen the height and width as well as slopes are generally correct. pit measurements have also been taken in many places. Books containing the same were shown which prove such measurements were taken at the original Estimate framed for bank measurement.

In reply to para 6 & 7 regarding my not being able to bring up the
arrear

arrear of work, I humbly beg to state there is a little left now to do and could soon be fully completed. but I must remark and beg special notice ^{will be taken of what I now state} which will show the many difficulties I had to contend with directly after taking charge. The Assistant Engineer who had it for years viz from 1864 to the date of his decease 1871 had as follows to assist him, viz Sergeant C. J. Littlewood in charge of Tintapoomly Talug. Overseer Mr. J. Donaghue in charge of Canal. Overseer Mr. Tharay Mundali in charge of Negapattam Talug. T. Tholasilingam Pillay in charge of Local Fund works and a draftsman. On my arrival on the 15th January 1872, Sergeant C. J. Littlewood was in charge. After going over a few works with him, he was directed to proceed to special work in Tanjore at once, thus leaving me with but little information regarding a deceased Officer Range, and during the time Mr. Littlewood was in charge from an accident of fire many Records were destroyed which put me to great inconvenience. Mr. J. Donaghue Overseer was removed on the 11th January 1873. Talug
overseer
Wm

oversee Appatharay Moodali an
influenced overseer died on the
5th December 1872. My draftsman
who held the post of an Assistant
accountant was removed to N. 1
Range. I had only one Local Fund
Overseer in charge of whole Tritrapoorody
Taluk and for some time had no
one in the Nagapatam Taluk. I
have now only three Native Overseers.
Taking this difference of assistance
into consideration, I think it
will be seen I have done my
utmost to keep the Range in order.

In reply to para 9 I beg to
forward copies of my certificates
which I think will prove the contrary
to what is therein stated. ^{that} I
am utterly incompetent to be
in charge of a Range and unable
to design. This I think Govern-
ment must see when I can prove
that Major Mead has accepted
my improved design for Sub-fauls
and foulwards.

Regarding my office duties I
can say with truth the Controller
has seldom had any objectionable
items from my Range and my
accounts have been fully passed.
I am not aware of what reports
Major Mead alludes to that I have been
unable

13
unable to write.

The plans of the two Roads men-
tioned here were made by a special
man some years ago. The Estimates
and sections of water courses &c.
were to be done by me and to be
sent to the District Engineer's Office
for the plans of Masonry works to
be drawn as I have no draftsman.
This was done last year when they
were returned by Major Mead
for me to draw the plans, sketch
designs I never had, but the
designs I made and drew for
the Masonry works, Major Mead
altered which is the cause of delay
as every one has now to be drawn
again.

In reply to N. 11. I beg to state
Major Mead is incorrect. My
services commenced 19th January
1855 under covenant with the
H. E. I. Co. as Mechanic on a
salary of £350 per annum. I
first joined at Bezoar for the
workshops but in those days none
existed this being the case I was
asked by the then District Engineer
(General C. A. Overy) to carry out
the
work

the completion of the Sictanagaram
side of the ancient which I did
and he was so satisfied I was
sent to build Doogallah Lock
also Coochampoor Lock and
Calingulah and afterwards other
large works which now stand to
my credit. In 1863 when I was
compelled to leave the country
from ill health. while in England
I was paid off because of a
reduction having taken place
in the Department. I regained
again in 1868 so that I have over
15 years service my Testimonials
if perused must prove I cannot
require the strict looking after mentioned

I further beg to state that on
a former occasion I was censured
from Major Head not allowing
the cost of extra wood used in
the Telegraph Office although I said
it was ordered by Major Hawley.
At the time I could not find
the Memo but have since done
so a copy I beg to forward and
if this is allowed the excess
will be within 5% Cent. of the
Estimate and as it is a very
low one I trust it may be
looked into.

⁺
Before receiving
a copy of it 1172
dated 27th.

I have submitted my resignation
to the District Engineer as I felt
aggrieved at the unmerited report
made against me by that officer.
I trust however that the Government
will be pleased to take the above
explanations into due consideration
and to pass an impartial decision.

I beg to remain
Sir,
Your most obedient servant

J. G. Ball.
Sub. Engineer D. P. W.

No. 160.

District Engineer's Office

Tanjore 11th May 1874.

For the purpose of the survey of the
road from the station to the station

Major H. R. Head R.E.

District Engineer

Colonel G. W. Walker R.E.

Secretary to Government

For the purpose of the survey of the

road from the station to the station

As promised in my letter

No. 1172 dated 27th March 1874, regarding

Mr. Hall's inefficiency as a Range

Officer, I have the honor to report

the following on Road No. 51.

This Road which is the formed

on the Right bank of the Kurrichundra

is muddy in the rainy season

Commenced in 1870 on the

for Rs. 33800 - the work consisted

of earth work, turning and alterations

to masonry work.

The

work

Enclosed -
1. Letter from
the District Engineer
to the Secretary to
Government

From

Mr. J. Hall

and Engineer

in charge of

the station house

To

The Secretary to

Govt. of M. P.

Madras

Received 22nd May 1874

Record

No. 15

Submitting this

Explanation with

reference to the District

Engineer's report to

Govt. No. 1172 of 27th March

concerning his (Mr. Hall's)

inefficiency as Range

Reld. No. 1561. 15-6-74

Enclosure

a letter from the

District Engineer

to the Secretary to

Govt. of M. P.

No. 15 dated 11th

May 1874

No. 13 of 13th June 74

No. 14 of 14th June 74

No. 15 of 15th June 74

No. 16 of 16th June 74

No. 17 of 17th June 74

No. 18 of 18th June 74

No. 19 of 19th June 74

No. 20 of 20th June 74

No. 21 of 21st June 74

2. The work was given to 5 Contractors who agreed to do all the Earth work and turning and to supply materials for the masonry works. The Contracts were for $\frac{1}{2}$ work to be done in 1871, the balance in March 1872, the work progressed very slowly and Major Hasked extended the time to March 1873.

Mr. Hall was not in charge of the Range when the work was begun, but he has been for more than the last 2 years.

3. The Contractors have been allowed to do part work all along their sections and when I inspected the Road in March 1874 I found that Mr. Hall had passed and paid for the work done in Sections No. 3 and 4 according to the Estimate, in the case of No. 3 Section he

16/5
he had paid Rupees 625 in excess of the amount allowed for in the Estimate this was due to a mistake in the Estimate in the addition of which 10000 Cubic yards had been left out, — this, however, was not known to Mr. Hall until found out casually by me.

4. I found the Earthwork of the Road far from complete and wanting in many places both in height and in slopes, turning had been done in places but owing to the slopes not being properly completed it had in many places absolutely fallen down the slopes. I have had an estimate made of the work required to complete the Road and found the Earthwork that has been paid for but none required to complete in Sections No. 2, 3 and 4, is 13,399 Cubic or in value Rupees 837-7-10 with

5 With regard to the turning
that in No. 3 Section to the full
Estimated value of Rupees 287-8-
will have to be all done again
and a portion in No. 4 that Estimate
at Rupees 75. In Section No. 2 there
has been an overpayment of
Rupees 198 for Earthwork.

6. The Contractors bills for
these works are signed by Mr. Hall
and Tirumayada Srinagar Talook
Overseer, the latter asserts that he
made out these bills under the
direct order of Mr. Hall, this is
under inquiry.

7. With regard to the overpay-
ment, I hope to be able to recover
the amounts from money that is
due to the Contractors for materials
supplied, there will however be
difficulty in doing this as Mr.
Hall, the Range Officer, has passed
the

2
the work in full.

8 In March I directed this
Estimate to be made out at once
by Mr. Hall. I regret that I did not
receive it until May when I went
myself to the Road, in consequence
of this much time has been lost,
and I fear the Road will not be
completed this season but I trust
it will be before the Official Year,
I have directed the Earthwork required
to be put in hand at once, but the
heavy rain we have just had
will delay it in the masonry work
and very backward but I trust
that all except lengthening and
repairing an underground will
be completed this season.
I forward a letter from
Mr. Hall to you in explanation of
his conduct and in reply to my
letter

Original

letter No. 1172, dated 27 March 1874
to you reporting him. I do not
think any comment is necessary.

10. With regard to the Road,
estimate it has been made without
levels and as it has been three years
under construction it is difficult
to find what height of bank the
original estimate allowed for.
I have, however, been over the estimate
and believe it allows for the full
height of the original estimate.
It is not, however, I consider
as high as it should be.

11. Mr Hall has resigned and
I request he may be relieved as
soon as possible and I can only
regret that I have no supersordi-
nate available in the District
to enable me to do so at once.

12. With regard to Overseer
Tirumengada Sengar

Tirumengada Sengar he is a
very old servant of Government
being of nearly 33 years service, he
has done good work but lately
not having been properly looked
after has fallen into bad ways.
he is now anxious to be transfer-
red or to be allowed to take his
pension. Subject to the latter and
decline to transfer him at present
but will do so at the end of the
working season. As however I
do not think his conduct should
be passed over I request that
he may be reduced to 2nd grade
Overseer.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obedient servant
Major R. R.
District Engineer

156/

P. W. D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government,

Under date the

187

Read the following:—

From the Lt. Gov. Tanjore (H.E. No. 1172 of 27 March 74
No. 168 of 11 May 74

The reports above recorded on Mr. Hall's qualifications are drawn up in such terms as to leave no doubt of his utter ^{incompetence} for the position he holds in the P.W. Dept.

Mr. Hall appears to have been originally employed, on a salary of Rs. 250 per mensem, as a commissioned over-seer from

[Signature]

[Signature]

Pub. No. 1874 of 11 May 74
H.E. No. 1172 of 27 March 74
No. 168 of 11 May 74

The District Officer

Tanjore

The Secretary to

the District Officer

No. 168

Letter No. 1172 of 27 March 74

Received 13th May 74

G.O. No. 1561 of 12.6.74

Referring to the letter to

the District Officer

in connection with

work done in the P.W. Dept.

of No. 1561 of 12.6.74

By 21.5.74
16.6.74

from January 1853 to
April 1864, when his
services were dispensed
with.

He was re-employed
as a sub-engineer of the
2^d grade on a salary of
Rs. 300. from June 1868,
and was promoted to
the 1st grade in Septem-
ber 1873. During this
period he was twice
suspended for the
conduct detailed below.

In February 1869
the Superintending
Engineer of the 1st Divi-
sion reported him as
"having systematically
con-

* G. O. No. 546 of 19th Feb. 1869.

done his worst" with
the subordinate agency
available, and suggested
his removal from the
dept.; or at any rate
his transfer from the
Division.

* G. O. No. 1291 of 1st June 1871.

In May 1871 the
Superintending Engineer
2^d Div. reported that Mr.
Kall's management of
his Range had been
exceedingly uneatis-
factory, and suspicious
in the matter of con-
tracts, which had been
entered into without
the Superintending
Engineer's

Engineers' sanction,
and at higher rates
than prevailed for
heretofore work.
Specific charges having
been prepared against
Mr. Hall, he was sus-
pended in July 1871
till he ^{had} cleared
himself from them.

In G. O. 3074 of
7th December 1871 Mr.
Hall's defence was pro-
nounced far from
satisfactory; he was
transferred to Tanjore
and informed that
if not reported on
favorably as a
Rangl.

* G.O. 1821 of 11th July 1871.

Rangl Officer in his
new district he would
be reduced to the rank
of Officer. A fine of
half his salary while
under suspension
was imposed on him.

For one or two
months he was satis-
factorily reported on
by the Officer officiating
as Superintendent, Mysore
District, but a year later
he had to be admonished
(G.O. 24 dated 4th Feb 1874)
for the circumstances of his neglect
before the Governor in
Council.

Subordinate above the rank
of Overseer must be qualified
more or less to take charge of a
Range. Mr. Hall cannot be
retained in the R. S. in a
higher rank than that of
1st Class Overseer, which he
is accordingly offered, with
the option of receiving instead
a refund of the gratuity
of £300 which he repaid
under the orders of 28th Jan.
1870, No 364.

The conduct of Overseer
Srinivasa Lingar as reported
in this letter is deserving of severe
notice, and the Chief Engineer will
be requested to punish him
by such reduction in grade
as may seem necessary.

GMM

243-245

Recd - 19/5/74

Recd. 13-5-74 R.D. 24/5/74

R.D. & Recd 1/6/74

Cu 18/4/74 R.D. & Recd - 21/4/74

Subordinate above the rank of Oversee must be qualified more or less to take charge of a Range, Mr. Hall cannot be retained in the British in a higher rank than that of 1st Class Overseer, which he is accordingly offered with the option of receiving instead a refund of the gratuity of £300 which he repaid under the orders of 28th Jan'y 1870, No 364.

The conduct of Overseer Srivengada Syengar as reported in this letter is deserving of severe notice, and the Chief Engineer will be requested to punish him by such reduction in grade as may seem necessary.

Y.M.W.

243-245

Recd - 19/5/76

Regd. 13-8-74 Rd 22/5/76

Rd & Jany 76

Cu 18/4/76 Rd & Recd - 21/4/76

1915
2833

Govt of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

The Chief Engineer

Dated

Recd.

3

G. O. B. "General" No. 156

Nos. 243-245

Engineer Hall

appointment of 1st

now offered to

Mr. Hall, with the option of receiving instead a refund of the gratuity of £300 repaid by him under the orders of 28th Jan'y 1870 No 364 and the acceptance of his resignation made conditional on his refusing the appointment now offered.