

- (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.

1787

B.P. No.

Press

Mis.

Dated

4. 7. 1874

195.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1
No 16 District Engineers' Office
Kumool 4th May 1874.

From,

The District Engineer,
Kumool.

To,
The Secretary to Govt.
Madras

Sir,

With reference to
the strictures of Government
contained in para 10 of
their order No 1025 dated
21st April I would res-
pectfully place the
following remarks for
their further considera-
tion, I am constrained

to take this course as certain letters written by me have been regarded by His Excellency the Governor in Council as my "Defence" the real fact being that Mr. Fraser placed a couple of reports from Messrs. Bell, and Tardou before me, and demanded immediate replies: I had not a single record relating to either works with me, I could not institute a single inquiry, and with one chance exception, I had no opportunity of examining

a single witness, I was therefore solely dependant on my memory, and in the given space of 11 hours had to submit my replies.

2. At the time I tried to impress on Mr. Fraser that my reputation was at stake, that it would be impossible for me to do justice to myself, but he appeared to regard the whole affair with indifference, nor was he really alive to the painful position I was placed in till he received my

letter No 2 dated the 7 April 1874
when, in justice to him,
I must admit that he
did all in his power
for me.

3. I have never denied
the correctness of Mr. Bell's
sketches, or the truthfulness
of his report. I am con-
vinced from what Mr.
Traseo told me that
unfortunately they too
closely resemble, and
describe the present ap-
pearance, and state of
the foundations; but
I most respectfully sub-
mit that it has not



5
94a
been established that I
built them so. It is true
that the then Overseer
sent a petition to Colonel
Moberly, stating that a
portion of the work was
of Stone in Mud, and
that I wished him to
alter the words "Stone in
Mud" into "Stone in
Concrete", but no where
does he say that the
foundations are unsubstan-
tially, or unskillfully
built, or that the upper
portions projected beyond
the lower courses (I have
since met this Overseer

6
to and astonished him with
some rough copies of Mr.
Belle's sketches, he denied
by most emphatically
their accuracy, and was
surprised to find that
the drawings truly repre-
sented the foundations
as they appeared in
(1873-74) whilst his petition
and inspection report go
to prove that he did
not see the work (he
reported on) put in,
further more on receipt
of this petition, I lost
no time in asking Mr.
McCarthy C. S. to examine

7
the foundations which
he did 12 hours after I
received the communica-
tion, still this officer
did not confirm the
Overseer's Statement; this
was not all. I took
down in writing the
evidence of 14 witnesses
of these two at any
rate were respectable men,
the then 2^d Accountant
of the Range, and Local
Overseer) I then gave
certain written questions
to the Overseer, which he
answered, and strange
to say his replies contradicted

to the allegation made in
his petition, after this
I directed the matter
by proceed to Cayaloo (with
all his witnesses), where
Colonel Mobely was
encamped, in order that
a Departmental investi-
gation might be held
by the Superintending
Engineers; but (though
refused a medical
certificate by the Doctor)
he evaded this ordeal on
the plea of sickness, and
finally shrank from
facing a magisterial
inquiry by with-drawing



9
his petition.

4. Besides the Head
Assistant Collector, Mr.
Chase, Late Supervisor
Mullins, ^{and} Late Overseer
Ottmann examined the
foundations, yet, not one
of these persons recorded
an adverse opinion on
them though all were
perfect strangers to me;
what makes the circum-
stances more remarkable
is, that 3 or 4 months
afterwards Mr. Ottmann
was dismissed by me,
and he left without
making a single allusion

to this work though intimately acquainted with it.

5. I would now refer to the Koilcoontla Cutchery.

Had the orders of Colonel Moberly about securing the site (a work⁺ commenced by me) been carried out by my successor, the foundations would have stood to this day, the late Mr. Trease in reconstructing this work pursued a precisely similar course to that recommended by Colonel Moberly by using puddle.

⁺ Digging a deep trench round the site and filling it with puddle.



Superintending Engineer it should be borne in mind that he issued a circular order directing Range Officers to stop work after all necessary steps had been taken to secure these new buildings, and all belonging to them: There was another circular also wanting to know what funds Range Officers would require for this purpose.

7. It is roundly put down that the loss on these works will be somewhere about Rs. 20,000 and it would naturally be inferred

that I alone am to blame
for ^{this} great waste of money,
this I venture to think
that the loss will not be
much more than half
this amount.

Expenditure Cumbum Catchery — 13,482.

———— " Koilcoontla ——— 9,449

Total ——— 22,931.

Deduct Rs. 1030 recovery
of material on Koilacoontla
Catchery by Mr. Fraser ———

1030

21,901

Deduct Material belong-
ing to Cumbum Catchery,
cost of site &c. and valued
by Mr. Fraser at ———

8928
~~9200~~

~~12,000~~

Purchase of
land ———

1200

Building a
store shed ———

200

Earthwork
foundation ———

100

Leveling surface ———

500

Wood work ———

1200

Ornamental
stone work ———

2700

This was admit-
ted conditionally
by Mr. Fraser.

5728

that I alone am to blame.

In this case the scaffolding material collected, the temporary sheds built have been omitted altogether, but it seems hard to ask me to account for property handed over to my successor and which has since disappeared.

Hence roughly under the most unfavorable conditions the material ~~see~~ should realize 10,000 Rupees.

8. I now take up the second portion of the question the extent of my liability - of the Rs 9449 spent at Kovilacoontla Rs 2,000 was accounted for by my predecessor Mr. Howell, the material he collected was not good, but as I did not purchase it I do not see how I am to be held accountable more especially as Colonel Moberly, in his reticence

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was obliged to ^{order} me to take
temporary charge, as the
Range Officer Mr. Howel
had broken his arm, and
had unfortunately given
way to drink; one of the
two Overseers in the Range
was under trial at the
time for fraudulent entries
in his Cash book, and
with the assistance of
a lad fresh from the
Civil Engineering College
I had to check measure
a large quantity of Tank
works, take stock, adjust,
and recover overpayments,
mark out Cutchery

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foundations, prepare
Estimates &c. &c. it was
not really till the month
of April that I made a
fair start, when the pre-
sent Overseer Munisamy
Chetty was appointed,
and in May I was
relieved by Mr. Vardon.
so that I had really
very little to do with
outlay of 74419 beyond
I may say that of
collecting a better quality
of material, and starting
works; in fact on my
last inspection the
concrete was not entirely

put in, and only in one corner was the masonry work commenced.

9. In regard to Cumber I have already shown in my letter No. 7 of 14th November 1873 that over 11,000 Rs. could be recovered or accounted for.

I would earnestly pray that in lieu of the degradation awarded in G. O. No. — dated 24 April 1874. Government would impose a fine, and allow me to revert to my original position in the Department.

Had this misfortune not occurred I should

now be an Executive Engineer 3rd Grade. I would respectfully point out that officers far senior to me (the junior amongst them having double my service in the Department) have only been reprimanded vide G. O. No. 1736 dated 22nd July 1872 — and I would earnestly pray for similar consideration. —

10. Since assuming charge of this Range I have succeeded in lowering the prices of materials very considerably. I forward specimens of some of the many

designs submitted by me
to Mr. Fraser for your
inspection, and I leave
it to Government to decide
whether they have been
neatly drawn, and care-
fully calculated or whether
they disclose so decided
a want of practical, and
technical knowledge as
to render my reduction
desirable. —

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servt

W^m Teym Captain

P. W. 1874 Dept
P. W. 1874 75
No: 2724

From

Thos Distt Engr

Kurnool

To The Chief Engineer

P. W. Dept

Dated 4th May 1874
Recd 7th

Submits for

consideration his
explanations in
behalf of his con-
duct touching the
Cumbam & Kovila
= Juntla Cutcheries -

No 70

Subd to Act, 7 May 1874

245 024 16

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

From 16 Ag St Engr (K. S. 16 2/4 May 1874)

The Engineer in
Council has no
reason to reconsider
his decision com-
municated in L. O.
No. 1066 B, dated 24th
April 1874.

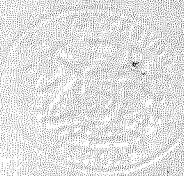
22

70

The St Engr R. S. 1
L. O. No. 1066 B dated 24/4/74.

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Public Works Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Road the following

From

The District Engineer (H. C. to 16 district)

16 May 1871

Forwarded

Sir
The following is
a copy of the
report of the
District Engineer
on the subject of
the proposed
road from
the Public Works
Department, and
with his subsequent
restoration to the rank
of Executive Engineer
4th grade, though in
a lower place. No-
thing that he has
advanced tends

Captain Taylor
may rest satisfied
with the mitigation
of the original sen-
tence of dismissal
from the Public Works
Department; and
with his subsequent
restoration to the rank
of Executive Engineer
4th grade, though in
a lower place. No-
thing that he has
advanced tends

to clear him of the
responsibility for
the ~~disgraceful~~ man-
ner in which the
foundations of the
Columbian and Rail-
-giant's Cutcherries
were laid, and of
the charge of want
of practical and
technical knowledge
evinced in his attempts
at defending himself.

G.M.W.

27

2/10
Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.



Act. Insp
Kernwell

Date

Recd.

Encl.

6. 6. 1874, No. 797

Nos.

70-71

Captain R. F. Taylor

Intimating that ~~the~~
Government see no reason
to reconsider the decision
communicated in G.O.
No. 1066 B dated 24th
April 1874 —

Recd 19/6/74, Ret 25/6/74