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# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

## Government of Madras

*Public Works*

DEPARTMENT

|          |        |       |
|----------|--------|-------|
| G.O. No. | 2062   | Press |
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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
20th July 1874.*

No. 675. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Carnodai, 12th June 1874, No. 820 :—

I HAVE the honor to enclose copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer, Mount Range, as I cannot see my way to assisting him in the matter of Taluq Overseer S. Veeraragavalu Naidoo, whom Government have not considered worthy of any punishment, though I had dismissed him for repeated falsehood and attempts at fraud.

1 Copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer, Mount Range.  
4 Copies of Estimates.

2. I have had very little communication regarding this man with Captain Smith, as I was anxious to leave him unprejudiced, but I felt that he would shortly be in a dilemma when he came to his completion certificates.

3. The Government have apparently concluded that Veeraragavalu Naidoo is only incompetent. I have never met with any person who doubted his ability. He was particularly selected by Colonel Wilkieson for the Royal Artillery Barracks. I removed him from them because I had strong reason to suspect that he was in collusion with the contractors, and especially one for the supply of stone, named Rangacharry.

4. More lately, as I have been inspecting the tanks in Sydapet, on which work has been stopped for some months, this man's name has been repeatedly mentioned, or that of some one or two others with the addition of "Rangacharry's partners." I have more than once heard that Veeraragavalu Naidoo was the real contractor; and to say the least of it, it is curious that since I dismissed him and his absence on sick leave, no work has been resumed on these tanks.

5. The Collector complains that the tanks, etc., in Sydapet Taluq have been much neglected, and his complaint is certainly just. I cannot see how any improvement is to be expected, as Captain Smith has a great deal of work and cannot undertake to examine every tank estimate, and even if he did, the framer has only to plead error of judgment for saying that the tank was badly breached, when it was nearly sound, and the contractors could not find where they are to put any new earth.

No. 676.

ORDER THEREON, 30th July 1874, No. 2,062.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 35.

As it appears from the papers submitted by the District Engineer, Chingleput, that Taluq Overseer Veeraragavalu Naidoo has in several instances prepared estimates for closing breaches in the bunds of tanks, such breaches having no existence, and that his conduct has been altogether unsatisfactory, the Government concur with Colonel F. J. Moberly in considering his retention in the department unadvisable, and authorize his dismissal.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
30th July 1874.

2. It is necessary to observe that estimates, such as those forwarded for inspection, should not have been passed either by the Range Officer or by the District Engineer.

(True Extract.)  
(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,  
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.  
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Mount Range Office

N<sup>o</sup> 529. Veeragavalu Saidu. Oversee  
1<sup>st</sup> June 1874

Granted sick leave for 6 months  
from 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept 1873 to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1874  
GO to 207-29/1/74

Do extension leave for 3 months from  
22<sup>nd</sup> March to 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1874. Gazette Page  
800-87 19 May 1874

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you  
that I proceeded to inspect the tanks at Siroo.  
Siroonermalay this morning and with the following  
result, the facts are so bad that I am obliged  
to bring them to your notice.

There are four tanks belonging to  
Siroonermalay, all of which, according to  
the repairs estimates submitted by the  
Overseer Veeragavalu Saidu were in a  
very ruined condition, and when I  
proceeded to the spot some months ago on  
other duties, I was surprised to find that  
these tanks were all in pretty good order,  
and that there ~~was~~ <sup>were</sup> no breaches anywhere; I  
enclose the estimates for your information,  
in order that you may see how utterly untrue  
they are, and also how useless as a check upon  
work, for there is no telling, when the work  
is done.

Encls: 1/  
1 orig sanctioned  
estimate for Rs 30  
3 Copies of sanctioned  
estimate for Rs 30, 124  
+ 121 respectively.

(Copies)

know where it was wanted, and so dug pits  
and he daubed the earth all over the place.

When I see such work as this I come  
to the conclusion that it is the result of either  
incompetence or roguery, and in this instance  
I suspect there is a good deal of both.

I bring these facts to your notice  
because the late Overseer has been by G.O. No.  
722 dated 16<sup>th</sup> March 1914 reinstated and  
I wish to state that if he rejoins here I  
cannot consider myself responsible for the  
proper carrying on of work, for I have so much  
to do that I have frequently neglected small  
tank repair work, and I must have a thoroughly  
trustworthy man (such as the acting Overseer  
Moorogasa Pillai whom I wish to commend  
to your notices) in charge and these are not  
the only instances of, to say the least, utter  
neglect of duty on the part of the late Overseer  
Veraragavalu Naidu.

I have the honor to be  
Signed, A. E. Smith, Captain R.E.  
Executive Engineer.

True Copy,  
A. E. Smith, Captain R.E.  
District Engineer Chingleput.

11/11/36/22/14.

Chingleput

No. 820

Chingleput District Engineer's Office  
Camp Carnodai 12<sup>th</sup> June 1914.

From

Colonel F. J. Moherly R.E.  
District Engineer Chingleput

To

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

Sir,

Encls: 5  
Copy of a letter  
from the Ex. Eng.  
Mount Range.  
Copy of Estimate

I have the honor to enclose copy  
of a letter from the Executive Engineer Mount  
Range, as I cannot see my way to assisting  
him in the matter of Salug Overseer S. Veraraga-  
valu Naidu whom Government have not  
considered worthy of any punishment, though  
I had dismissed him for repeated falsehood  
and attempts at fraud.

I have had very little communication  
regarding this man with Captain Smith, and  
was anxious to leave him unprejudiced, but  
I felt that he would shortly be in a dilemma  
when he came to his completion certificates.

The Government have apparently  
concluded that Veraragavalu Naidu is only  
incompetent. I have never met with any  
person who doubted his ability. He was parti-  
cularly selected by Colonel Wilkinson for the

Royal

Royal Artillery Barracks. I removed him  
from them because I had strong reason to  
suspect that he was in collusion with the  
Contractors, and especially one for the supply  
of stone named Ranga Chetty.

More lately as I have been inspect-  
ing the tanks in Sydapett on which work has  
been stopped for some months, this man's name  
has been repeatedly mentioned, or that of  
some one <sup>or</sup> two others with the addition of  
"Ranga Chetty's partners." I have more-  
than once heard that Veeragavulu Naidu  
was the real contractor; and to say the least  
of it, it is curious that since I dismissed him  
and his absence on sick leave, no work has  
been resumed on these tanks.

The Collector complains that the  
tanks off in Sydapett Salug have been  
much neglected and his complaint is certainly  
just. I cannot see how any improvement is to  
be expected as Captain Smith has a great deal  
of work and cannot undertake to examine  
every tank estimate, and even if he did, the  
flawer has only to plead error of judgment  
for saying that the tank was badly breached,  
when it was <sup>merely</sup> bled, and the Contractors  
could

<sup>not</sup>  
Could find where they are to put any new earth.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

H. M. S. S.

Col. R. B.

District Engineer, Bangalore.

Memo  
 Requests to forward the estimate sent in the  
 No. 1454 of 29<sup>th</sup> July 1774 and varied in  
 of 11<sup>th</sup> August 1874 regarding the Government House, at  
 Grundy Park. and also estimates sent in the No. 820 of 12 Aug 74  
 on which was passed on 26<sup>th</sup> 27/30 July 1774 was passed  
 Heinrich Aug<sup>r</sup>s Office  
 Chugstap  
 Grundy 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 74  
 Heinrich Aug<sup>r</sup>s Office  
 Chugstap

To The Registrar  
Secretariat D.P.H.  
J. H. Jones

P<sup>d</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> 1874 Del.  
 of Mining & Geology  
 No. 3602  
 of District Engineer  
 of Mining & Geology  
 of the Secretary of the  
 of the Secretary of the

October 12<sup>th</sup> } June 1874  
 1870-15 }  
 Enclos. 3.  
 No 826

Presented a further  
report on the conduct  
of J. Desbaragats  
Chairman Council of  
Episcopal College.

Page 2062-30-4-4-

Chas.

*Wm. B. Eddy*

Public Works Department  
Proceedings of the Madras Government  
Read the following  
From  
The Engineer  
Chingleput (No. 820 dated  
12 June 1874)

As it appears from  
the papers submitted by  
the Engineer, Chingleput,  
that Taluk Overseeer Veera-  
ragarao has in  
several instances prepared  
estimates for closing  
in the bunds of tanks, and  
brakes having no existence,  
and that his conduct has  
been altogether unsatisfac-  
tory

MM  
3/7

Edl

1/4/74

Contract

Could

unsatisfactory, the Govt.  
concur with Col. F. H. Moberly  
in considering his retu-  
tion in the Department  
unadvisable, and autho-  
rize his dismissal.

2. It is necessary  
to observe that estimates  
such as those forwarded  
for inspection should  
not have been passed  
either by the Range of-  
ficer, or by the R<sup>d</sup> Engr.  
-ner.

May 27/6/74

C.M.W.

To the S. E. Whippleport ✓  
" Comptroller ✓  
" S. Caprio despatch 5/6/74.

15/7/15

36023

Govt. of 1874 Madras.  
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Deputy Magr.  
Chingleput

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 18 July 1874. No. 2062

Nos. 675-676

Taluk Overseer Veerasingavoo  
Naidoo -

The retention of the Overseer  
in the Department, considered  
unadvisable, and his dis-  
missal authorized -

P. 11/11/11