

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2140	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	4-8-	6874 195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th August 1874.*

No. 90. Read again letter from J. M. BELL, Esq., dated 25th January 1874, and recorded in G. O., No. 390-A, dated 17th February 1874.

Read also the following papers :—

From J. M. BELL, Esq., Assistant Engineer, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Cumbum, 4th April 1874.

As I have received no reply to my letter in answer to G. O., No. 33, dated 8th January 1874, and should Government institute any further investigation in connection with my reports regarding certain irregularities in the Virdachellum Range, South Arcot District, I beg to request that you will kindly favor me with papers, reports, etc., resulting from such investigation, in order to enable me, if required, to offer any further remarks in explanation, before the papers, etc., are laid before Government.

No. 91. From the same Officer, dated Cumbum, 30th April 1874, No. 40.

I AM just this day in receipt of G. O., 17th February 1874, No. 390-A, issuing instructions for a thorough investigation of the accounts of the Memathoor Anicut, Mutloor Bridge, and other works in the South Arcot District. I regret this delay in transmission as it prevented my offering a reply at an earlier date.

2. From the above Government Order it would appear that the Controller or his Deputy, in communication with Mr. Lister, has been appointed to make a thorough investigation into the works detailed. I here beg to again point out that in the concluding paragraph of my letter of 14th June 1873, to the Controller on the Mutloor Bridge subject, I stated, "I earnestly request that before I leave this Range you will be good enough to pay a visit to this place with a view to satisfy yourself by examining the books connected with the accounts of the bridge, etc., and if it cannot conveniently be done so, I solicit you will kindly depute a member of your office for the purpose, intimating at the same time to Government of the necessity of remaining here till these matters are brought to a close," and, therefore, it would be only fair to me, since Government has only now moved in the matter, to allow me to be present during the investigations, with a view to explaining any points raised, and also for my own information.

No. 92. From T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 30th April 1874, No. 917.

With reference to G. O., No. 390-A of the 17th February 1874, I have the

1 Copy of memorandum by Lieutenant Christie.
1 Copy of letter from the Acting Sub-Collector of South Arcot.

* No. 215 of 22nd April 1874.

honor to forward herewith copy of a memorandum by Lieutenant Christie, R.E., Deputy Controller, together with a copy of a letter* from the Acting Sub-Collector of South Arcot, relative to the accounts of the Mutloor Bridge.

2. I had no reason to suppose that there would have been any difficulty in obtaining the original accounts and vouchers, and, therefore, I did not send instructions to the Range Officer to collect the necessary records, a course which

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th August 1874.*

after events make me regret was not thought of before Lieutenant Christie left Madras to undertake the inquiry.

3. I agree with Lieutenant Christie that the inquiry should be deferred till his return from privilege leave, and that Mr. Bell should be instructed to attend. I attach much importance to Mr. Bell's presence during the inquiry, in order that there may be no after-calls on him for explanation on points which he has referred to, and which, in his absence, may not be easily traced or proved. It will, in my opinion, be more satisfactory to Government to receive and consider a report written on the spot after all the parties concerned shall have had the opportunity of explaining points which may appear doubtful, and which, if not so settled once for all, would probably lead to much correspondence and delay.

4. The papers brought away by Lieutenant Christie will be carefully kept under lock and key in this office.

MEMORANDUM.

WITH reference to letter No. 215, of 22nd April 1874, from Sub-Collector of South Arcot, I may state that I was in the South Arcot District from the 16th March until the 10th April waiting for the papers connected with the Pelandorai Anicut and Memathoor Anicut and Mutloor Bridge accounts to be made over to me. On the 9th April I had only received a portion of those papers, and on that date I wrote to Mr. Supervisor Hicken, who was in charge of the Range, telling him that I intended to leave the district next day on other duty; that a clerk of the Controller's Office would remain a few days longer and receive any papers which Mr. Hicken could in the meantime make over to him, and that any papers which could not be collected in the meantime should be sent afterwards to Madras.

2. The clerk in question overtook me at Negapatam with a box of vouchers and other papers, which I have not yet had time to examine. From what I have seen of the accounts of these works, I have very little doubt that it will be utterly impossible to prove any thing from them; but I am not prepared to express a final opinion at this time. I think the best course will be to resume the inquiry on the spot after my return from privilege leave, when Mr. Bell should, I think, be required to attend and give any assistance in his power. The charges brought by Mr. Bell and Poonunga Moodelly are, as they now stand, extremely vague, but as far as I can see they do not point to "fraud" on the part of any one, they seem to me to rest entirely upon estimates, and I do not think they can be either proved or disproved by examination of the accounts.

MADRAS,
29th April 1874.

(Signed) C. H. P. CHRISTIE, Lieutenant, R.E.,
Deputy Controller of P. W. Accounts.

From A. L. LISTER, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of South Arcot, to T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating
Controller of Public Works Accounts, dated Porto-Novo, 22nd April 1874, No. 215.

WITH reference to your letter No. 7,441, of the 19th February, I have the honor to state that I have been in communication with Lieutenant Christie, R.E., on the subject.

2. It was definitely arranged that we were to meet here yesterday and commence the examination of the Mutloor Bridge accounts.

3. Lieutenant Christie has left the district because all the accounts have not been produced before him, and he tells me that he has ordered the accounts to be forwarded to Madras.

4. I think whatever chance exists of detecting fraud, if there was any, will be entirely removed by transferring the records to Madras; the Range Officer, the Accountant, and the Overseer who built the bridge and prepared the accounts are all here, and as many accounts seem to be missing, the necessary explanation can, of course, be far better obtained here than at Madras.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
4th August 1874.*

5. I received a letter, dated 4th April, from the dismissed Accountant, Poonrunga Moodelly, in which he says:—"I hear that Head Accountant, Chengalroya Moodelli, left Chellumbrum a few days ago to meet Mr. Norfor at Cuddalore with the Mutloor Bridge records, etc. I apprehend that the delay in getting possession of the records, anent the charges brought forward, would facilitate the other party in tampering the papers that would throw light into the irregularities."

6. I am of opinion that the delay in producing the records should at once be brought to the notice of Government, for it certainly seems undesirable that the suspected records should be any longer under the control of the very Accountant, who, so far as I understand the nature of Mr. Bell's charges, prepared with his own hand the false accounts which it is alleged were submitted to the Controller.

7. Until the instructions of Government are received I think no papers connected with the Mutloor Bridge should be sent out of the district, and if you concur with me on this point, I hope you will instruct the Officiating District Engineer accordingly; it is of course quite useless for Lieutenant Christie to return here until some steps have been taken for procuring the production of the accounts.

No. 93.

ORDER THEREON, 4th August 1874, No. 2,140.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 10.

No. 93. ORDER THEREON, 4th August 1871.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 10.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council regrets that the inquiry ordered to be made by the Controller or his Deputy, in communication with the Sub-Collector of South Arcot, has fallen through for want of good arrangements for the production of the accounts required. The inquiry will be resumed in August, immediately after Lieutenant Christie's return from leave, and Mr. Bell will be warned to attend when that officer requires his presence.

2. Meanwhile Mr. Norfor will remain in charge of the Virdachellum Range, and will be held responsible for the production of all original records required.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

District Engineer, South Arcot.

Department

Revenue Department
Financial

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

54
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22^d April 1874 from Sub Col.
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of the Range, telling him that
I intended to leave the district
next day on other duty, that
a clerk of the Controller's Office
would remain a few days
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which Mr. Hickman could in the
mean time make over to him,
and that any papers which
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The Clerk in question over-
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Sd/ W. A. P. Christie
Deputy Controller of
P. W. Accounts.

Madras.

29th April 1844.

(True copy)

[Signature]

Offg Controller of P W Accounts.

[Signature]

No 3 or Cumbum Range Office
Cumbum 4th April 1874.

To

Colonel G. W. Walker R. E.
Chief Engineer D.P.W.
Madras

Sir,

As I have received no reply
to my letter in answer to G. O. No 33,
dated 8th January 1874, and should
Government institute any further in-
vestigation in connection with my
reports regarding certain irregularities in
the Viridachellum Range South Arcot
District, I beg to request, that you
will kindly favor me with papers
reports &c. resulting from such investiga-
tion in order to enable me if required,
to offer any further remarks in explanation
before the papers &c. are laid before Govern-
ment.

I beg to remain,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant.

M. J. Lee
Assistant Engineer

Enclosed in a letter for
the Chief Engineer of the
District is the document
to Government No. 33
dated 30 April 1874
No. 917
M. J. Lee
18. 4. 74
18. 4. 74

My dear Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. [Signature]

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. [Signature]

115
Kurnool District Eng^r Office
27 April 1874

No 7

From, The District Engineer
Kurnool.

To,
The Chief Engineer
D.P.R.

115
12/4
*
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

Sir,
I have no time in forwarding a letter to your address from the Assistant Engineer in charge of the Puntam Range. I have come across it for the first time today.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant.
W. T. [Signature] Captain
Executive Engineer in charge

45.11.16

info to be sent to the

172
252
1874

15-
No 3 or Cumbar Range Office
Cumbar 30 April 1874
The Assistant Engineer in charge of
Cumbar Range
Colonel J. W. Walker R.E.
Chief Engineer
D. P. W.

I am just this day in receipt of
G.O. 17 February 1874. No 290-A, issuing
instructions for a thorough investigation of the
accounts of the Memathoor ancient Mooloor
Bridge and other works in the South
Arrest District - I regret this delay in
transmission as it prevented my offering
a reply at an earlier date.

From the above G.O. it would appear
that the Controller or his Deputy in Com-
munication with Mr Sizer, has been
appointed to make a thorough investigation
into the works detailed. I here beg to
again point out, that in the concluding
para of my letter of 14th June 1873, to the
Controller

W. M. 1874 Sept.
From, No. 2549

He District Engineer
Cumbar Range
To, the Chief Engineer
D. P. W.

Letter 27th April 1874
No 302
Encls 1

Encloses a letter
from Mr. Bell, Chief
Engineer for dispatch

G.O. No. 2140. 1-5-74

157
3
Controller on the Milloor Bridge Subject.
I stated, "I earnestly request that before
I leave this Range you will be good enough
to pay a visit to this place with a view to
satisfy yourself by examining the books
connected with the accounts of the bridge, &c.,
and if it cannot conveniently be done so,
I solicit you will kindly depute a
member of your Office for the purpose,
intimating at the same time to Government
of the necessity of remaining here till these
matters are brought to a close," and
therefore it would be only fair to me,
since Government has only now moved
in the matter, to allow me to be present
during the investigations, with a view to
explaining any points raised, and also for
my own information.

I beg to remain
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
J. M. Cole,
Assistant Engineer

N^o 14 District Engineer's Office
Mumool 2^d May 1874

From, The District Engineer of
Mumool

To, The Chief Engineer
P. P. W.
Madras.

Sir,
I have the honor to forward a
letter from Mr. Bell to your address.
I am sorry in regard to his Complaint
having to admit that the late Mr.
Praser left a large box full of G. O's,
and Official letters opened, and unopened.
These documents were handed over to me
by Mr. St. Clair (the Judge of the District)
after he had taken possession of Mr.
Praser's property. I am getting a list
made, and am disposing of the documents
as fast as I can, but I fear it will

From J. M. Bell Esq
Off^r Engineer
Bombay Range

to Colonel G. M. Walker Esq
Chief Engineer
S. S. M.

Recd 30th } April 1874
R. D.

N^o 10.
P. W. 26/4/74.

Requesting to allow
him to be present during
the investigation of the
accidents of the Munatlam
canal, Moolam Bridge
& other works in South
West District. —

or a month at least before I go
through them all. I am at present
working from 6 am to 6 or 7 PM
and have so far succeeded in pre-
venting any additional accumulations.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt. St.

W. F. Taylor Captain

Executive Engineer

In charge

Es. H. 76

Sub. Works 1074 Dept.
From No: 2674.
The District Engr
of Kuviloole.

To, The Chief Engr
D. P. W
Madras.

Dated 2nd May 1874
Recd. 5th May 1874

N^o 14
Enclosure (1)

Forwards Mr. Bell's
letter and explains
the cause of delay
in circulating the
G. C. referred to in
his letter.

G. C. No: 2160. 4-8-74.

Car to City 5 May 1874.

South Arcot.

From The Acting Sub-Collector of
South Arcot.

To The Controller of Madras.

With reference to your
letter of the 19th February I have
the honor to state that I have been in com-
munication with Lieutenant Christie
on the subject.

It was definitely arranged
that we were to meet here yesterday and con-
sider the examination of the Muttaloor
Bridge accounts.

Lieutenant Christie has
left the District because all the accounts
have not been produced before him and he
tells me that he has ordered the accounts to
be forwarded to Madras.

I think whatever chance
exists of detecting fraud if there was any,
will

will be entirely removed by transferring the records to Madras. The Range officer, the accountant and the overseer who built the bridge and prepared the accounts are all here and as many accounts seem to be missing, the necessary explanation can of course be far better obtained here than at Madras.

5. I received a letter dated 1st April from the dismissed accountant Dourunga Mudali in which he says "I hear that Head Accountant Chingabroya Mudaliar left Chillumbarum a few days ago to meet Mr. Torf at Buddalore with the Muttur Bridge records &c. I apprehend that the delay in getting possession of the records and the charges brought forward would facilitate the other party in tampering the papers that would throw light into the irregularities."

I am of opinion that the delay in producing the records should at once be brought to the notice of Government for it certainly seems undesirable that the suspected records should be any longer under the control of the very Accountant who so far as I understand the

the nature of Mr. Bell's charges prepared with his own hand the false accounts which it is alleged were submitted to the Controller. Until the instructions of Government are received I think no papers connected with the Muttur Bridge should be sent out of the District and if you concur with me on this point I hope you will instruct the officiating District Engineer accordingly; it is of course quite useless for Lieutenant Christie to return here until some steps have been taken for procuring the production of the accounts.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
J. Lister
Acting Sub Collector.

(True Copy)

[Signature]

Offg. Controller of District

[Signature]

The following is a list of the
 names of the persons who have
 been appointed to the various
 offices of the Government of
 Madras, for the year 1874.
 The names are given in the
 order in which they were
 appointed, and are taken from
 the official list published by
 the Government.

The following is a list of the
 names of the persons who have
 been appointed to the various
 offices of the Government of
 Madras, for the year 1874.
 The names are given in the
 order in which they were
 appointed, and are taken from
 the official list published by
 the Government.

Concurrence in a letter from
 the Officiating Controller
 of P. W. Accounts to
 the Secretary of Govt.
 D. H. No. 10-11-1874
 April 1874

Office of the Controller of
 P. W. Accounts
 Madras 30 April 1874.

No. 917

From.

The Officiating Controller of
 P. W. Accounts

The Secretary to Government
 Public Works Department
 Fort St. George.

The following is a list of the
 names of the persons who have
 been appointed to the various
 offices of the Government of
 Madras, for the year 1874.
 The names are given in the
 order in which they were
 appointed, and are taken from
 the official list published by
 the Government.

Sir,
 With reference to G. O. No. 3908
 of the 17th February 1874 I have
 the honor to forward herewith
 copy of a memorandum by
 Lieutenant Christie R. E.
 Deputy Controller together
 with copy of a letter from
 the Acting Sub Collector of
 South Arcot relative to the
 Accounts of the Muttaloor
 Bridge.
 I have no reason to
 suppose that there would have

No. 215 of 22nd
 April 1874.

been any difficulty in ob-
taining the original accounts
and vouchers and therefore
I did not send instructions
to the Range Officer to col-
lect the necessary records,
a course which after events
made me regret was not
thought of before Lieutenant
Christie left Madrid as to
undertake the inquiry.

3. I agree with Lieutenant
Christie that the inquiry
should be deferred till his
return from privilege leave
and that Mr Bell should
be instructed to attend. I
attach much importance
to Mr Bell's presence during
the inquiry, in order that
there may be no after calls
on him for explanation on
points which he has referred
to and which, in his absence,
may not be easily traced.

or proved. It will, in my
opinion, be more satisfactory
to Government to receive
and consider a report
written on the spot after
all the parties concerned
shall have had the opportunity
of explaining points which
may appear doubtful and
which, if not so settled once
for all, would probably lead
to much correspondence and
delay.

4. The papers brought away
by Lieutenant Christie will
be carefully kept under lock
and key in this Office.

I have the honor to be

Yours

Your most Obedient Servant

Officiating Controller of
P. & A. Accounts

W. B.

Public Works Department
 Proceedings of the Board of Public Works
 2140.

Read again letter from
 J. M. Bell Esquire, dated 25th January 1874
 and recorded in G. O. No. 390 S. dated 17th Feb/74.

Read also the following
 from J. M. Bell Esquire - (H. E. No. — 94th April 74)
 " do " (" " 40 " 30 " do)
 " offg. Controller of } (" " 91st " 30 " do)
 S. H. A. do }

His Excellency
 the Governor in Council
 regrets that the inquiry
 ordered to be made by
 the Controller or his
 deputy has fallen
 through for want of
 good

MDLXVII

in communication with the
 Govt. Secy. of S. H. A.

By Mr. 1874
 the offg. Controller of
 Public Works

The Secretary to Government
 Public Works Dept
 Mr. J. M. Bell

Subst 300
 Recd 17th May 1874
 J. O. 917

Forwarded to the
 Controller of Public Works
 for his consideration

G. O. No. 2140 4-8-74

Page 2

Public Works Department

MDLXVII

good arrangements for
the production of the
accounts required. The
inquiry will be resumed
in August immediately
after Lieutenant Brunk's
return from leave,
and Mr Bell will be
warned to attend when
that officer requires
his presence.

Meanwhile Mr
Dorfor will remain
in charge of the Tir-
dachelum Range,
and will be held res-
ponsible for the pro-
duction of all original
records required.

90-93 LMW

Cir 25/1/74 Retd 30/7/74

To the Controller ✓
" D. E. S. A. Crest ✓
" " " " ✓
" Revenue Dept ✓
" Financial " ✓
S. Caput despt 10/8/74.

641-2575-2674-2587

Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Engineer A.

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 4

G. O. 4 August 1874, No. 2140

No. 90493.

Mr A. E. Norfor

Issuing instructions
for the inquiry into the
charges brought
against Mr Norfor
being resumed by
Lieut^{nt} Christie in
August —