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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3145	Press
B.P. No.		Mis. _____
Dated	5-11	4874 —195—

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th November 1874.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 82. From Captain R. F. TAYLOR, Executive Engineer in charge Kurnool, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 15th April 1874, No. 1.

In forwarding an original report* and comparative statement (from the Officer in charge of Cumbum Range) showing the amount expended and required for

completing the sluice and closing breaches in the Rungareddy tank, I have the honor to observe that I think that Mr. Bell is in error as to the quality of the stone employed; he has probably mistaken some metamorphic rock for sandstone, and if so, I cannot agree with him altogether as to the exorbitancy of the Overseer's charge for cut-stone; it is a well known fact that dressed granite or gneiss costs from 60 to 64 Rupees the cubic yard, and I fancy the material used by Mr. Hollingsworth is quite as hard as granite. Under these circumstances, and making allowances for such previous dressing as the stone may have received, I am inclined to recommend a rate of Rupees 50 per cubic yard, the Overseer and maistry making good the difference. I have therefore deducted Rupees 81-8-10 from the revised estimate, which, with the other papers, I submit for sanction.

No. 530.

MEMORANDUM.

THE undersigned has the honor, in reply to the letter, No. 1, dated 15th April last, (despatched 10th July,) from the Executive Engineer in charge of the Kurnool District, transmitting a comparative statement showing that the sluice for the Rungareddy tank, sanctioned in Government Order of the 15th October 1873, No. 2,515,

will cost 2,045-3-10 instead of Rupees 1,330, the amount of the sanctioned estimate, to remark that he is not prepared to recommend the sanction of the difference of Rupees 715-3-10.

2. With regard to the cut-stone work, it is observed that no such work is provided for in the sanctioned estimate; that if it was ordered to be used, it should be explained when and by whom the order was given, for what work it was substituted, and what rate was fixed at the time. If the stone resembles granite in difficulty of dressing it 1 Rupee a cubic foot would be the maximum rate admissible; and indeed this would be too much, seeing that the stone was on the spot and already partly dressed. In Tanjore granite or gneiss well dressed, coursed, and carefully fitted has, after much correspondence and inquiry, been allowed a rate of Rupees 1-3-6, this stone having to be carried by railway 50 to 80 miles and then by road 3 to 10 miles.

3. Similarly, with regard to concrete, it should be shown clearly what the orders were; the section indicates that an additional depth of foundation was unnecessary, and indeed that, on the other hand, a smaller depth than that provided in the estimate would have sufficed.

4. The undersigned has no intention of recommending that members of the department should be relieved of pecuniary responsibility for unnecessary or improper expenditure, and it should be reported therefore after due inquiry—

1st.—What part of the excess may be deemed covered by specific orders relieving those charged with the carrying out of the work from responsibility.

2nd.—Who are responsible for the rest of the excess, and in what proportion the amount should be divided between them.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

23rd July 1874.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th November 1874.*

From J. M. BELL, Esq., Assistant Engineer, Cumbum Range, to the District Engineer, Kurnool,
dated Cumbum, 31st August 1874, No. 322.

I AM in receipt of your endorsement, on memorandum from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation,
requesting me to report what share of the neglect regarding the excessive cost of work performed
in the construction of the Rungareddy tank sluice is attached to Serjeant Hollingsworth, Overseer,
and Maistry Condapah, who were entrusted with its execution.

• Will follow.

2. I shall here summarize the facts in
connection with this work, and beg to forward
the correspondence* on the subject.

3. The sluice was commenced by Serjeant Hollingsworth, Taluq Overseer of Cumbum, who
had as his assistant the Imperial Fund Maistry Condapah.

4. The foundations of the work appear to have been sunk 6 feet below bed of tank; the
order for this the Overseer states was given by the late Mr. Fraser, District Engineer, who gave
instruction to carry the work down to the firm clay.

5. The execution of the work was carried out by departmental agency, the Overseer making
payments, and directly supervising the collection and preparation of materials as well as the
construction. The supervision exercised has been extremely lax on the part of the Overseer from
the fact that payments to work people were made on the mere presentation of the nominal roll by
the maistry, without apparently any check that the work actually performed was at reasonable
rates. The Overseer was constantly reminded to furnish me with a statement showing the com-
parative cost the work was being turned out at, and it was not till the month of November 1873
he furnished me with the statement, and reported the want of funds to finish the sluice. It is
customary in this range that maistries of the permanent establishments submit weekly diaries,
and the reports of Maistry Condapah were endorsed without exception by Serjeant Hollingsworth
as "working satisfactorily."

6. I have already mentioned in my report that I was unable from press of other work and
constant attendance at my office to inspect this work, and I was led to believe from the Overseer's
endorsements on the maistry's diary that the work was really progressing satisfactorily.

7. On receipt of the report relative to these excesses, the District Engineer ordered that
the Overseer was to make good any irregular expenditure, and accordingly his pay to the amount
of Rupees 583-10-10 was kept back.

8. A subsequent order from the Acting District Engineer decided that Serjeant Hollings-
worth should only pay Rupees 81-8-10, being excess on the cut-stone work alone, and the balance
of his pay withheld was paid back to him.

9. Three months' pay of the maistry was also kept back for orders, but subsequently, when
the Overseer was remitted the balance of his pay, the maistry also received his. On being
relieved of his taluq by Mr. Overseer Bond the sluice work was continued to completion, and this
Overseer managed to execute the work for the rates allowed in estimate, and reports that they
were ample.

10. With reference to the cut-stone work, I am at a loss to understand why it was put in.
The Overseer appears to have done it on his own responsibility.

11. The specification accompanying the estimate provides grooves for shutters, and it is likely
the Overseer misconstrued the masonry, and constructed grooves with cut-stone.

12. When the comparative statement was prepared it was discovered that the charge for
this description was very high. Nothing but gross carelessness could have caused this high rate,
especially when it is considered that the Overseer has had upwards of seven years' experience in
the district and department.

13. It will be seen from the above that if the Overseer had exercised more care and super-
vision the above excesses would not have resulted, especially when it is seen that the sluice work
was subsequently completed at the estimated rates.

14. I, therefore, think the Maistry Condapah is also very greatly to blame, and that the
excess should be shared between the Overseer and maistry.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th November 1874.*

No. 808.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 82A.

In G. O., 15th October 1873, No. 2,515,* an estimate for the reconstruction of
a sluice of the Rungareddy tank in the
Kurnool District was sanctioned, and in
* Rupees 1,330.

submitting this estimate it was remarked that its amount was large, and that some
considerable reduction might have been effected; but as the arrangements had
been approved by the then District Engineer, the late Mr. Fraser, and as the
work had been already undertaken, no modification of the design appeared to be
feasible.

2. In a letter dated April last, but not despatched until July, application
was made for the sanction of a revised estimate amounting to Rupees 2,045, and
for the reasons stated in this office No. 530, of the 23rd July last, I declined to
recommend that the excess should be passed, and a report showing where the
responsibility, for what appeared to be a very unnecessary expenditure, lay, was
called for.

3. The papers now submitted by the District Engineer entirely confirm the
opinion that the sluice might have been properly completed for the sanctioned
amount, and the more immediate responsibility for the excess attaches to Serjeant
Hollingsworth and Maistry Condapah, as will be seen from the Range Officer's

No. 322, 31st August.

letter as per margin, but it is also clear
that this officer himself, Mr. Bell, was
to blame for not having inspected the work and ascertained everything connected
with it.

4. It will be observed that there was much correspondence between the
Overseer, the Range Officer, and the Officiating District Engineer, and that the
latter on the ground that he had no doubt of the additional depth of foundation
having been approved by the late Mr. Fraser, allowed certain pay of the Overseer
and maistry, which had been retained, to be disbursed, stopping only from the
former the value, Rupees 81-8-10, of certain cut-stone work which had been
executed without authority and at an exorbitant rate.

5. That a great deal of money has been wasted is quite certain, and it
would seem that Serjeant Hollingsworth was incompetent. After what has
passed I do not think that any part of the excess could be recovered from him or
from the maistry, and there appears to be no alternative but to pass the excess
expenditure, amounting to Rupees 715.

CAMP AT SHORNUNTHIENCOIL, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
10th October 1874. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 83.

ORDER THEREON, 5th November 1874, No. 3,145.

IRRIGATION, No. 8.

THE revised estimate of Rs. 2,045
for the Rungareddy tank sluice in the
Kurnool District is sanctioned in substi-
tution of that for Rupees 1,330 approved in G. O. of the 15th October 1873,
No. 2,575.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th November 1874.

2. The history of this work from first to last is extremely discreditable. After great delay in undertaking its reconstruction, it was commenced without a proper design and estimate having been prepared. Subsequently the Overseer, Serjeant Hollingsworth, left the work to a maistry, and took no pains to superintend it properly, while the Range Officer, Mr. Bell, omitted to visit and examine it, and for this the excuse pleaded that press of other work and office duties prevented his doing so is inadmissible.

3. The Kurnool District being now in other hands, it may be anticipated that works will be in future managed in a more satisfactory manner. In any case however Range Officers will be held responsible that everything connected with works in progress in their ranges is ascertained from time to time by inspections, without which their duties cannot be properly performed. For the omission of such inspections no excuse can be accepted; and had Mr. Bell's conduct in this matter been earlier brought to the notice of Government, the promotion which he has lately obtained would have been deferred. The Chief Engineer will take into his consideration the grading of Serjeant Hollingsworth in the Overseer List with reference to his behaviour on this occasion.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Kurnool.
" Officiating Controller of Public
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

ounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

MEMORANDUM

REQUESTED for reference the under-mentioned papers :-

R N. 1825 of 25 Sept/74 with 1 Plan & 1 Estimate } Disposed of with
86 N. 2575 of 1873 with 1 Plan & 1 Estimate } 86 N. 3145. 5. 5. 1874

+ This was taken as enclosed
to P. W. 86 N. 3145 & 2
addressed to C. E. Bell on 20/11/74

+ 10 Encls. supplied
20/11/74
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
FOR IRRIGATION,
19 - 11 - 1874

D. M. H. H. H.
Head Clerk.

To

The Registrar of the

if so, I cannot agree with him altogether

No. 1 District Engineer's Office
Madras 15th April 1874
Despatched 10th July 1874.

From
Captain R. F. Taylor
Executive Engineer in charge

To
The Chief Engineer for Irrigation
Madras

In forwarding an original
report and comparative statement
(from the office in charge of Coimbatore
showing the amount expended and
required for completing the sluices
and closing breaches in the Perungu
-reddy Tank, I have the honor to observe
that I think that Mr Bell is in error
as to the quality of the stone employed,
he has probably mistaken some meta-
-morphie rock for sand stone, and
if so, I cannot agree with him altogether.

No. 611 dated
17th Dec 1874.

as the expediency of the over-seer's
charge for cut stone, it is a well
known fact that dressed granite or
quartz costs from 60 to 64 puffs the
cubic yard, and I fancy the material
used by Mr. Hollingsworth is quite as
hard as granite, under these circum-
stances and making allowance for
such previous dressing as the stone
may have received I am inclined
to recommend a rate of Puffs 50
per cubic yard. The over-seer and
I have therefore deducted the difference:

maintaining good the difference:
I have therefore deducted Rs 81-8-10.
from the revised estimate, which
with the other papers I submit for
sanction.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours Most Obedient Servant

P. J. Long
Executive Engineer

No 808. 9
 Note by the Chief Engineer for Brigadier
 to Lt. Col. 15 October 1875. No 2515
 has 1330 an estimate for the reconstruction
 of a sluice of the Runga
 located at the Tank in the Kurnool
 District was sanctioned and
 in submitting this estimate
 it was remarked that its
 amount was large, and
 that some considerable re-
 duction might have been
 effected; but as the arrange-
 ments had been approved by
 the then District Engineer,
 the late Mr. Fraser, and as
 the work had been already
 undertaken, no modification
 of the design appeared to be
 feasible.

2. In a letter dated April
 last, but not despatched
 until July, application was

made

to the Government of India

1875-76
 Estimate
 Rs. 1200

The District Engineer
 Kurnool
 to the Chief Engineer for
 Irrigation
 Bangalore

Estimate for the year 1875-76
 Rs. 1330

Estimate for the year 1875-76
 Rs. 1330
 The District Engineer
 Kurnool
 to the Chief Engineer for
 Irrigation
 Bangalore
 Report and estimate of the
 estimated cost of the
 proposed work for the
 year 1875-76
 Rs. 1330
 The District Engineer
 Kurnool
 to the Chief Engineer for
 Irrigation
 Bangalore

made for the sanction of a revised estimate amounting to Rupees 2045, and for the reasons stated in this office No 530 of the 23rd July last, declined to recommend that the excess should be paid, and a report showing where the responsibility for what appeared to be a new unnecessary expenditure, ^{lay} was called for.

3. The papers now submitted by the District Engineer entirely confirm the opinion that the sluice might have been properly completed for the sanctioned amount and the more immediate responsibility for the excess attaches to Sergeant Hollingworth and Maistry Condappa, as

No 322-31
August

will be seen from the ¹³ Range officers' letter as per margin. 3 but it is also clear that this officer himself, Mr. Bell, was to blame for not having inspected the work and ascertained everything connected with it.

4. It will be observed that there was much correspondence between the overseer, the Range officers and the officiating District Engineer, and that the latter on the ground that he had no doubt of the additional depth of foundation having been approved by the late Mr. Fraser, ^{assumed} allowed certain pay of the overseer and Maistry, which had been retained to be disbursed, stopping only from the former the value Rupees

81-8-15

Rs. 8.10 of certain cut stone work
which had been executed with-
out authority and at an ex-
orbitant rate

That a great deal of
money has been wasted is
quite certain, and it would
seem that Sergeant Hollings-
worth was incompetent. After
what has passed I do not
think that any part of the
excess could be recovered from
him or from the masonry &
there appears to be no alter-
native but to pay the ex-
cess expenditure amounting
to Rupees 715.

Camp at
Chormuthencal
10 October 1874

Whitcomb's Lt. Col.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation

The Secretary to Govt. P. W. D.

P. W. D. 1874 Sept.
No. 6523

The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

To: The Secretary to
Government P. W. D.

No. 808

Dated 10th } October 1874
Sept 17th }
Recd 17

Encls. 11.

Submitted
Note on the revised
estimate of Rs 2045
for the Rungareddi
Tank sluice in the
Kurnool District.

U. No. 2145. 5-11-74.

No. 82 A.

10 Oct 17 Oct 174

Abstract of Reports relating to the Conduct and qualification of Capt H Hollingsworth Overseer 2nd Grade.
Fully Qualified for Talook Overseer by College Certificate.
Appointed as Talook Overseer. 19th June 1867
Do 2nd Grade - 1st July 1872

Quartended 31st August 1872 } I hope this man will improve under a strict Range Officer like Mr Taylor. He that he has not been in good hands and is alarmingly careless and apparently indifferent gives no instruction to his subordinates does not attend to orders and allows Contractors to do as they please.
By J Hunter Major R.E.
Talook Engineer

Do 31st Dec 1872 - - - - -
Do 31st March 1873 } I have changed my opinion of this officer many times - any prospect over from personal observation is hopeless.
By J Hunter Major R.E.
Talook Engineer

Do 30th June 1873
Do 30th September 1873 }
By J Hunter Major R.E.
Talook Engineer

Do 30th September 1873 } him as well conducted but wanting in zeal and energy; I have seen much of him and believe he will never be worth anything as an Overseer. He has no go in him and he can be neither driven nor led.
By J Hunter Major R.E.
Talook Engineer

Do 31st Dec 1873 - - - - - } anything will never. I am assured, worsted.
By J Hunter Major R.E.
Talook Engineer

Do 31st March 1874 - - - - -
Do 30th June 1874 - - - - -
By R F Taylor Capt R.E.
Talook Engineer

Do 30th Sept 1874 - - - - -
Do 30th Sept 1874 - - - - -
Transferred to Talook District
By R F Taylor Capt R.E.
Talook Engineer
Transferred from the Talook District in June 1874 - no energy so far.
By J & H Hunter Major R.E.
Talook Engineer

Public Works Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following.
From the Chief Engineer (No. 808 dated 10 Oct 1874)

3145-

The revised estimate of Rupees 2045 for the Rangareddi Tank sluice in the Kurnool District is sanctioned, in substitution of that for Rupees 1330 approved in G.O. of the 15th October 1873
No 2575

MA 21/10

2. The history of this work from first to last is extremely discreditable after great delay in

in undertaking
its reconstruction,
it was commenced
without a proper
design and estimate
having been prepared.
Subsequently the
overseer Sergeant
Hollingsworth left
the work to a mason-
try, and took no
pains to superin-
tend it properly,
while the Range
officer, Mr. Bell,
omitted to visit
and examine it,
and for this the
excuse pleaded that
press of other work
and office duties
prevented his doing
so.

is inadmissible.
3. The Kurnool
District being now
in other hands, it
may be anticipated
that works will
be in future ma-
naged in a more
satisfactory man-
ner. In any case
however Range offi-
cers will be held
responsible that
everything connected
with works in pro-
gress in their Ranges
is ascertained
from time to time
by inspection, with-
out which their
duties cannot

be

6523

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Mr. G. S. S. S. S.
- Kumool

Dated

Recd.

Encl. //

G. O. 524, No. 3145

Nos. 82-83.

Pangare doli Tank & sluice
in the Kumool district.

The revised Estimate
of Rs. 2045 for the tank
sluice sanctioned with
observations; the conduct
of Mr. Bell noticed &
the Chief Eng. to take
into his consideration the
grading of Sergeant Hol-
lingworth in the Engineer
List with reference to his
behaviour in connection

note his proceedings
with the work -