M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

(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.	9	Press
B.P. No. 2356		~~Mis.~~
Dated	6-1-1874	~~195~~

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Rea the following papers:—

No. 23. From the Acting District Engineer, Malabar, dated 16th Oct. 1873, No. 95.

No. 24. From the Acting District Engineer, Malabar, dated 17th November 1873, No. 106.

No. 25. From the Acting District Engineer, Malabar, dated 26th November 1873, No. 108.

No. 26. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1874, No. 9.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 2.

THE first two letters above recorded contain an account of the death of a cooly named Coonjee Cooly who was drowned on the 23rd August last while employed in diving for sunken timber at the site of the Moorat Bridge in the Cooroombanad Taluq of the Malabar District, and the third letter is an application in the prescribed form for a gratuity of Rupees 54 on behalf of the family of the deceased.

2. It appears from the correspondence submitted, that no report of the accident beyond a mere verbal intimation on the 27th August was made by Mr. Mahoney, the Overseer in charge of the work, to the Range Officer till the 28th September, although he had been personally instructed by Lieutenant Dobson on the 1st September to obtain and furnish all necessary particulars, and was again reminded by letter on the 3rd September. It was not till the 22nd September that Mr. Mahoney addressed the taluq authorities for information on the subject.

3. The first official report to higher authority, which the Range Officer appears to have made, is dated the 2nd October, and he was then so little acquainted with the particulars of the occurrence that he reported that the body of the deceased had been found eight miles from the scene of the accident, while as a matter of fact the body had never been traced and all hope of its discovery had been long since abandoned by the Sub-Magistrate, as evidenced by his letter to the Joint Magistrate, dated 1st September.

4. It was not till the 16th of October that the District Engineer communicated the circumstances for the information of Government, and he then failed to correct the erroneous statement contained in the letter from Lieutenant Dobson regarding the recovery of the body, although as appears from paragraph 2 of letter No. 106, dated 17th November, Captain Bailey was at the time in possession of a copy of the Sub-Magistrate's letter reporting its loss.

5. A review of these circumstances cannot but lead His Excellency the Governor in Council to conclude that gross carelessness has been evinced not only by the Overseer and Range Officer but also by the District Engineer in dealing with the fatal accident in question, and he resolves to express his displeasure at the conduct of those concerned.

6. The payment of a gratuity of six months' wages, or Rupees 54, to the family of the deceased is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Malabar.
" Officiating Controller of Public Works Ac[illegible]
Ed. W. H. French.
Spare Copies

No. 701

Cannanore 2nd October 1873

3C

From

The Assistant Engineer
Cannanore Range, Malabar

To

The District Engineer
Malabar

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a report received from Tahsildar Coor-
-oombiroad Tabork, concerning a man who was drowned at Moorat bridge on Saturday 23d August. I was first informed of the occurrence by Mr. Coor-
-ser Mahoney on the 27th August, but he only reported it to me verbally and as a report he had heard, by passing the Moorat Bridge on Monday Sept-
-ember 1st I made enquiries and found that the report was true, and that the man had gone down to fasten a rope, round a pile and had never come up again. I happened to pass the bridge on the morning of the day the man was drowned, I was watching the proceedings, and they seemed to me

Continued

carried on in a proper way.

The way being this: they feel about with a bamboo until they strike on a pile and a man goes down with a rope and fastens it round the pile, and having done this, returns to the surface.

On enquiry I found that the man had often dived before and was accustomed to the work.

I was informed that the body had been recovered 8 miles away. No blame appears to be attached to any person. I have the honor to state that I have frequently given verbal instructions to Mr Conseer Mahoney to obtain and forward the proceedings of the Tahsildar and have only just received the accompanying report, and that this is the first official notice I have had of the circumstance. I have been waiting therefore to inform you of the Casualty until I should receive the proceedings of the inquest, which will be forwarded when received.

I have the honor to be

Malr: Dist. Engrs Office
Calicut 16th October 1873

No. 95

From,

The Ag: Dist. Engineer
Malabar

To,

Sir

Your most Obedt Servt.

/Signed/ A. E. Dobson Lt. R.E.
Asst. Engr., Malabar.

/True Copy/

W. Bailey Captain
Ag: Dist Engr. Malabar

away as it was.
3. The Proceedings of the Inquest have been called for & will be forwarded as soon as received

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant

W. Bailey Captn:
Ag: Dist. Engineer, Malr:

True Translation

9c

From,

The Kellappen, 3d Class Sub-Magistrate
Koorumberaad Taluq.

To,

The Joint Magistrate
Malabar.

With reference to your order
No 1907 of 29th August last, I beg to inform
You that the man Coonjoo-Coolty therein men-
tioned in company with Badagara Padamal
Coongada dived to fix piles at the site of
Moorat Bridge, but Manapat Coonje Coolty
was drowned, this was on the 23d August 1873
at about 4½ o'Clock in the afternoon- other
divers dived to find out Coonje Coolty but
nothing was found. A Cooly working in P.W
reported to me verbally the above circumstances
on the same day at 6 P.M.- The 1st Constable
and Potoopanam Unnithan Adigaree were directed
to proceed to the place and they report that
on enquiry that no corpse was yet found-
Subsequent to this the Pyolly Station officer
the neighbourhood Adigaries were directed
to find out the corpse. The deceased with
the view of gaining higher wages he at his
own free will undertook the work which
proved

P. Narayanan 18/73 Kellappen
To Sub Dist Engineer
Malabar

To
The Exn. to Govt
S. C. Dist
Calicut

Dated 18th October 1873
Received

Superintending the Execution
of Public Works
Malabar

No 23
Civil Station
Calicut 18th Oct 1873

Copy of Letter addressed
to the Executive Engineer
Malabar Division
Dated 18th October 1873

proved fatal for himself - Several persons who were in the river, sea, & land saw Coonjee Coolly dive - It is doubtful that the deceased corpse will now be found as few days have now elapsed, but I report the matter as it now stands -

Dated 1st September 1873.

No. 916. 11C

From Lieutenant A. E. Dobson R. E.
Assistant Engineer Cannanore Range

To Captain H. Bailey
Ag: District Engineer Malabar

Sir In Continuation of my letter No. 907 of 2nd October 1873 and with reference to Endorsement No. 885 on letter No. 166 of Overseer Mahoney. I have the honor to forward translations of several Malyalum Statements, sent to me Concerning the death of Coonjee Coolly; I have also the honor to forward an Explanation from Overseer Mahoney why he was such a long time forwarding any papers or any Statement with reference to the drowned man:

From the Explanation of the Overseer; it will appear that he left an important duty to the Talook Maistry and that if he had written a letter himself at first to the Tahsildar of the Talook instead of waiting till the 22nd of September, much delay would have been saved.

Having

Ry 6332/73
No. 2-6
Panruti 1-72

Having received the evidence in connection with the death of the man, I have made enquiries personally concerning his family. whether I consider them entitled to gratuity I think they are fairly entitled. The man was an agricultural labourer by trade, but he had some experience with timber & had dived before. he was drawing good pay for the particular work, & I presume that when not doing such special work he was earning about 4 to 6 annas a day, and taking a fair average. I have calculated the gratuity at 6 months Pay at 9 Rs. a month.

He has left a widow and 2 male children aged 5 and 2 years, and these of course have to be supported by the widow.

I enclose the Proceedings of the enquiry and a record of evidence and remarks.

I would call attention to the notes made by me on Letter No. 166 of Overseer Mahoney. which is also ~~endorsed~~ enclosed.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obdt. Servant

A. T. Dobson Lt R.E.
Assistt. Engineer Cannanore Range.

Camp Jellicherry
15th November 1873

I

From.

Mr J. Mahoney Overseer Dist W.
In Charge of Cowombuttnad Taluq
Malabar.

To.

The Officer in Charge
Dist W Cannanore Range
Cannanore

No 166

Dated 3rd November 1873.

Sir,

In reply to your Memo No 838 of
1st Instant I very respectfully beg to submit
the following report.—

To obviate accidents as much as
possible on the work, I made enquiries for
two good professional divers to work at the
Mhoriot Bridge, after some time, my two Sub
Contractors Jon Thoden Vittil Kanen informed
me that he could get the men I wanted
from Valiem they were good divers that
he had known them for a long time, but
that their rate of coolly hire was high viz
one Rupee per day each, I directed him to
bring the men and I would pay them "one
Rupee per day each," the rate for which they
agreed to work.

The two men worked for two
days and part of a third, and from the
report received from my Taluq Mastry

(who was in Charge of the work up to the morning of the day of the accident) they were very good divers, did not appear distressed, after work and understood it thoroughly.

I was on the Circuit by Grant now trace with the District Engineer when the accident occurred, but subjoin the report made to me by Cooly Maistry Narrainsawmy who was in temporary charge during the Jalug Maistry's absence on other duty.

"The men had been working from 7 A.M. till 12., when they left work to Cook their rice, they resumed work again at 2 P.M. & worked till between 4 & 5 PM, the deceased Coupie Coety went down to fasten a rope to the buoy as usual, and never was seen again, the river was not in flood and not dangerous. Mr Dobson inspected it in the morning, the man drowned was one of the professional divers and working at his own request."

In Conclusion, this is the first accident of any kind that occurred under my Charge, I reported the matter to Mr Dobson** Assistant Engineer when I arrived at Cocolor in the 27th August and applied for the report of the Court of Inquest, but received no authentic information that the body has ever been found up to this.

I beg to remain &c
J. Mahoney
Overseer P.W.D.

Note
** only as a matter of hearsay, not as a fact.
A.E. Dobson
2/08.

Notes made by the Asstt. Engineer with regard to the above.

17C

(1) I Consider Overseer Mahoney has been very careless and neglectful in this matter.

(2) On the 29th August at Cocolor Mr Mahoney reported the matter to me, saying he had heard from his Jalug Maistry that a man had been drowned, but he Could give no particulars, as having heard it.

(3) 1st September inspected the Inoorat ferry and made enquiries about the matter found, that it was true. ordered Mr Mahoney personally at the time to obtain a report of the proceedings from the Jahsildar as soon as he could & forward them to me. Also was told that the man's body has been recovered 8 miles away

(4) 3 September A letter No 583, Calling for despatch of particulars personally called for relative to the Casualty - Answer written 28 Septr

(5) 3 October. A letter No 708, again calling for proceedings of inquest written in Answer to letter No 108 of Overseer Mahoney forwarding a report (copy) addressed to Joint Magistrate by Ag Magistrate Coorumbumad.

(6) 20th October. No 777 again calling for the papers - Calling attention to No 708.

(7) 22 October (792) forwarding Copy of page 382 of Grant Circular & urging him to attend at once to the memo.

(8) No 804 Letter written. Penang (Copy) - "

" Memo 708. These papers have been asked for

over & over again personally & by letter, the 1st letter was dated 5 September 1873, & it is the 23rd October before I am informed, that no inquest has been held, if you had taken the least trouble to find out, whether an inquest had been held, much Correspondence & trouble would have been saved. In this matter great neglect has been shewn"

True Copy.

No. 885. A. E. Dobson Lt. R.E.
Asstt. Engineer Mals

Since writing the above Memo. of which the above is a true Extract. I have had several Statements in Malayalam. Concerning the Man who was drowned; which are hereby forwarded. Further enquiries will be made personally, as to whether a Fatality is necessary in the case

No 884 translated

A. E. Dobson Lt. R.E.
Asstt. Engineer Mals

Camanore
5th November '73
6th despatched.

Received 11th November 1873

From Mr. J. Mahoney Overseer D. P. W.
To The Officer in Charge
No 1 or Cannanore Range
Camp Buddagerra

No. 180.

Dated Buddagerra 11th November 1873.

Sir,

In Continuation of my letter No. 176 of 5th Instant and in reply to your Memo. No. 885 of 5th Instant I very respectfully beg to report, that the "Cause of the delay" was owing to the non receipt of the report from the Peruvagerra Thasildar.

I ordered my Peon Maistry to go to the Valay and ask for a Copy of the report on the Sefolender, and was informed, that as the body had not been found no Inquest was held. I proceeded to the Coly Ghaut on the 8th from whence I again ordered my Peon Maistry to ask for the report, and was again informed, that the body has not been found. I returned to Head Quarters on the 10th I proceeded to Buddagerra the next day and found that the Thasildar was on Circuit in the Valay, on the 22nd September I visited the Cutcherry and inscribed a Letter to the Thasildar (who was still absent on duty) requesting to be furnished with a Copy of whatever steps had been taken in the matter, I received a Copy of a report made to the Sub-Collector on the 28th September and despatched it to the Range Office the same day.

Rly 6330/73
2/
5 Nov 9-0 Farm

Statement made in the presence of the Kurumburad Overseer Mr Mahoney by Embichy Cooty Cankapilla of Daniel Moses Timber Contractor - I have seen from the 21st to the 23d of August last up to 4 P.M. Conjee Cooty & Kunger and other Coolies diving at the Morat Bridge and recovering the Timber which fell into the river. At about 4½ P.M. Conjeecooty dived into the water to get out a timber but having found him coming up till 6 in the evening on that day. I believe he is drowned. I have heard from various people the corpse has not been found as yet. I do not know myself nor have I heard from any of his suffering from any disease I have heard from himself that he came to the work of his own accord.

Dated the 28 of October 873. Signature of Embichy Cooty.

Statement made in the presence of the Kurumburad Overseer Mr Mahoney - Nearly since eight months I am employed in the Morat Ferry Contract for pulling the Changadam I have seen persons by name Conjeecooty & Kunger and some other Coolies from 21st to 23d of August till 4 P.M. and taking out timber which were

Stop to remain
Sir
Your most Obt Servant
Signed J. H. Mahoney
Overseer P.W.D.
Ist Spur Coffy

A. E. Dobson Lt R.E.
Superintending Engineer &c

Amk, at the Moorat Bridge. Conjeeverty dived into water to take out timber at 4½ P.M. and as he did not come out until 6 o'Clock. I believe he is dead. and have heard from several persons that his body has not been found.

Dated 28 October 73.

Mark of Pakkey Ajee
Boat man or Chandadu
Karen.

From P.Bloby Edathil Coonjee Appa
Nunbiyar. Addygarry of Karryada Amshom

To The Crusser's Office of Kurumbranad
Talug.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter Yesterday, applying for information regarding the heirs now in existence of the deceased Kydanjal Mana. patil Coonjee coolty of this Amshom who died while diving & taking out timber. On enquiry I find that the following 10 persons are now living in this Amshom

1 Korathy, brother of the deceased.
2 Manykotha Mathy coolty Karuvan, Maternal Uncle of the deceased.
3. Chappla, sister of the deceased.
4 Her Younger sister Chiratha
5 Pokky. daughter of No 3 Chappla.
6 Her sister Chirutha. 7 Mathu younger sister of Chiratha. 8. Younger brother Onaken. 9 Pokkychy. daughter of No 7

Chiratha. 10 her younger sister Korambatty

Dated the 4 of Nov. 73

Signed. Coonjee appa Nunbiyar
Addygarry.

Statement given in the presence of Mr Mahoney Peraer of Kurumbranad Talug by Jacobe Vaydiar residing in the Vicinity of the Moorat Bridge. I have seen from the 21st August to 23d August 4 P.M. Conjeevaty Konjee and other Coolies diving at the Moorat Bridge and taking out timber which fell in. Conjeevaty who dived at 4½ P.M. to take out the timber did not come up that day until 6 o'Clock. I therefore think he is dead. I have heard from many people that his corpse is not found as yet. I have not found him to be suffering from any disease I have heard from him that he came to work at his own accord. Dated 28 Octr 73.

Signed. Jacobe
Resident near the site of the
Moorat Bridge.

Statement given in the presence of Mr Mahoney, Kurumbranad Talug Peraer. by Thoden Vittil Warrier, inhabitant of Paddyarakkara Deshom in the Palayat Amshom of the above Talug. — Talug Monthly Karpagum Moodaly spoke to me about timber having fallen at the Moorat Bridge, and asked me to get persons who could dive and take timber out. As I was formerly acquainted with Nordo. vyla Kunjar inhabitant of the Pandiapura

Statement given in the presence of Mr J. Mahoney, Kumumburra Jaluy Overseer — Since four months I am employed as watchman at the Moorat Bridge. I have seen Coolies Conjeeroty, Wonger & other persons engaged from the 21st August in diving & cutting out the timber which have fallen in at the Moorat Bridge. For full days the timbers have been taken out by diving, on the 3d day have seen them diving & getting out the timber until 12 m the noon, after 12 o'clock they went for their rice and returned to work at 2, and have seen them working till 4 P.M. After about 4¼ or 4½ P.M. Conjeeroty descended into the water to get out the timber, & did not come up until 6 m the evening, on which it being supposed that he expired, the circumstance has been reported to the Jaluy. I have heard from several people that his body was not found. I do not know of his being suffering from any disease. I have heard from him that he came to work at his own wish.

Dated 28 October 73.

Mark of Ambos Nair
Watchman at the Moorat
Bridge.

Amshow, and as he is a diver. I spoke to him about this subject, upon which Wungar brought Conjeeroty for diving and taking out timber at Moorat on the 21st August from that date up to the 23d 4 P.M. in both persons at different times dived and stuck the rope to the timber & came up and the 10 Coolies were top on the Jangadas pulled up the timber and took it to the shore, after which on the 23d August after 4½ P.M. Conjeeroty dived to stick the rope to the timber, did not come up until 6 m the evening, therefore supposing he was dead the circumstances were reported to the Jaluy. I have heard from several people that his body is not found. From the date he came to work up to the date of his death he had no disease. When he came to work, he told me that he came for work at his own wish. I do not know his country nor his House name. It will be evident if enquiry is made with Wungar & I don't know any thing about that.

Dated 28 October 1873.

Mark of Kamen

Statement taken by Acting Adjutant Ramsay Kanimpoo of the Pondicherry Contingent from Nadanal-pattoom Hunger on the 25 August 1873.- On the 9th of Bhimjemm Castumpelf and Manapatil Conjeeverty belonging to Kotyam Taluq have been diving in the Mootat River for fastening rope to the timber appertaining to the Mootat Bridge which have been sunk. I dived & fastened rope to five pieces of timber & they have been taken up.- at each occasion of diving, rope was fastened to each timber. In the same manner Conjeeverty fastened rope to four pieces of timber they have also been drawn up. On the fifth occasion Conjeeverty dived to fasten the rope to a timber and seeing him not ascending for about half nayga (12 minutes) I dived & searched and did not find Conjeeverty. The rope which he took when diving I found was put round a piece of timber. I ascended and mentioned the circumstances to Thoden Vettil Kannen. Thoden Vettil Kannen who was then present on the Jangadar & several other persons examined the spot where the diving took place by poking &

2/C

sticking with long bamboos which reached the bottom of the water. At that very time and subsequent to it upto this date has been made in different ways at the site where the diving occurred and in several other localities of the river, but Conjeeverty has not been found. When Conjeeverty dived he may have struck against timber or his hands and legs may have become exhausted or entangled. and thus being disabled to ascend. & thus died through suffocation. On one occasion prior to the 6th of Bhimjemm Thoden Vettil Kannen told me that if the rope is fixed by diving to the timber will be paid at the rate of one Rupee for each timber. When I left my house for that purpose on the morning of the 9th & came on the road I met the above Conjeeverty on my way. I told him the parties who of the ways, he then told me that he has practice in diving and offered to accompany me. We both went together to Thoden Vettil Kannen at the Work site of the Bridge & told him that we would dive that he must give us the Rupee. Kannen accepted to it. We descended into the water and dived. At last it was about 4½ P.M. when Conjeeverty dived. did not come up. at that

mentioned Kannen &

others were present in the Jungadar in the river the wages of the timber to which Conjeecooty fixed the rope has not been paid. I know Conjeecooty before. He was about 35 years of age. his complexion is little fair. On the 9th morning when I saw him he had only the Moondoo (cloth) he draped and a small town Moondoo (cloth) in his hands. He dived in the order with the Moondoo he draped & the other was kept on the bank. That is the Cloth which is found placed here.-

Have heard read. Correct.- (signature)

Ag: Adygary Ramen Koorapoo
(signature)

Remarks on this Evidence. by Range Officer

There is some mistake in his main Evidence he Evidently is only speaking of one day, All the other witnesses state that they saw. the boo men diving for three days.

The Taluq Maistry personally told me the 12th day of November, on making enquiries as the difference that he (Conjeecooly) was diving from 21st – 23d August. and that the agreement was for Rupee one. per day. The Taluq Maistry left the bridge on the morning of the 23d August. to accompany me. down the Coast Road as far as Illatur

Camp Buddagara
12.11.73

A. F. Dobson LMC.

In a letter from the
Ag: Dist. Engineer
Malabar to the
Chief Engineer D.P.W.
Madras, No 106
dt 17th November 1873

P.W. 6332/73
G.O. No: 9 6 Jany/74
Ln 91: 24

Papers connected
with the fatal
Accident which
occurred at the
Moorat Bridge

12.11.73

No. 106

From Captain H. Bailey
Ag. District Engineer
Malabar

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

Sir I have the honor to forward herewith the Statements called for in your letter No. 399 of the 22nd Ultimo.

By an oversight a Copy of the Tahsildar's report to the Sub Collector was not forwarded with my letter No. 95 of the 16th October 1873 it is herewith enclosed

Upon it you will see that Lieut. Dobson was mistaken in reporting that the body had been found, a body was got on the Sea Beach near Quilandy but in such a state that it could not be recognized and I am of opinion that the distance from the Moorat Bridge where the accident took place to Quilandy is so great by Backwater & Sea that the body must have been washed up long before.

The accident is almost unaccountable as

as if the man had been caught amongst the Bridge Timber his body would have floated as soon as the Timber was taken up & if washed away would have been found on the Banks of the River.

Owing to my being at Eddatur-pa when Lieut. Dobbin's letter reached me some delay occurred in the transmission of the report to you as the Draft had to be sent to Calicut and the letter returned for signature and again sent to Calicut for despatch

I have also the honor to forward an application for Gratuity to the man's family and to recommend its being granted.

Overseer Mahoney has been fined a Months Travelling Allowance for the delay in submitting the Official report of the Accident.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt. Servant

District Engrs. Office
Malabar
17th. Novr. 43

W. Laidley
Actg. District Engineer
Malabar

35

35

32

Dated 15th February 1852

Rec'd 19th do

No 106

Subject matter

Chief Engineer's No 459

Further report on the fatal accident at Coolie Cootty &c the Marapet Bridge

No 94 dated 14th Jany 1852

Ch 24

Ch Rec'd 1/3

From

Lieut. Col. Hutchinson

Executive Engineer

Madras

To

The Chief Engineer

P. W. D.

Madras

Proceedings of Lt A. R. Dobson R.E. Assistant Engineer to investigate a claim to Gratuity or Pension in the case of Jaycandyjil Tirival Widow

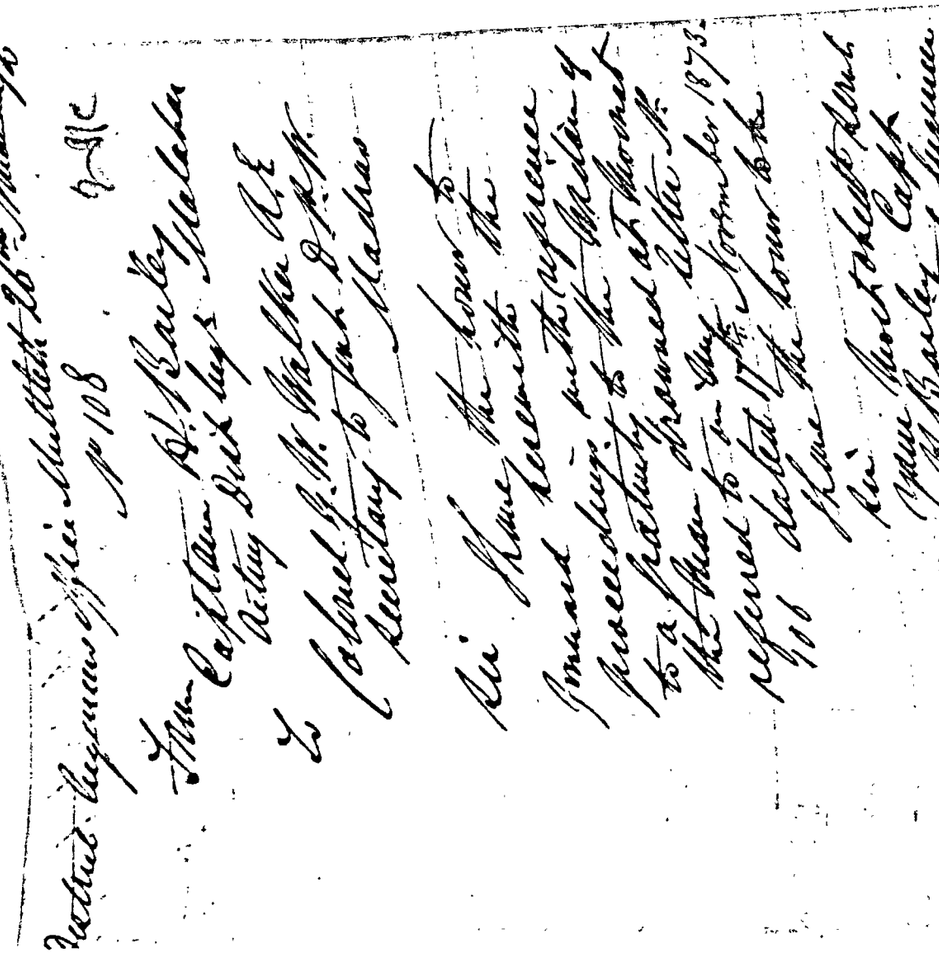
97C

Description of Claimant								Description of deceased					Amount of Gratuity proposed.	Record of Evidence and remarks
Name	Age Years	Age Months	Height Feet	Height Inches	Religion Caste Tribe	Present Occupation and Residence	Reasons for requiring to examine Witness from Home	Name	Occupation and Residence	Nature of injury whether Contributed to	Name Residence & Occupation of Witnesses in support of the Claim			
Jaycandyjil Tirival			4	7	Christian Native Coolie	Labourer Ft Dobson Cart Contractor	Principal Witness	Jaycandyjil Tirival	Agricultural Labourer	Wife	Valaly Eddatil Cumalan Appal Mundian Valaivi Pottari Pydal		57 Rupees, 2 annas	He deposes that he is employed as a Labourer under Lieut Dobson R.E. that on the 27th August 1873 he was employed and was present when Jaycandyjil Tirival was killed by the fall of a rock, that deceased left a wife and children, No Inquest was held by the Police, but the Head Coolies of the Gang reported the matter to the Police, No Inquest was held by the Police, but the Head Coolies of the Gang reported the matter to the Police, that deceased was killed by the fall of a rock, that he had been employed by Lieut Dobson R.E. for 2½ days, that he was receiving Rupees 2 annas per day, that he left a wife and 2 children,	
Jaycandyjil Poden (1)* Jaycandyjil Pokan (2)*	Abt 25													
* Two Infant children Boys Aged 5 and 2 years														

Camp Tellicherry
13th November 1873.

Lieut R. E. Dobson
Assistant Engineer Cannanore Range

True Ch
A. Baile Capt
D. District Engineer



Inclosure Engineers office Shelbyville Ky Nov 26th 1873
No 108

Wm Caldwell Esq
Acting Quick Master
&
Colonel S. M. Walker A.Q.M.
Secretary to Board Examiners
Nashville

Sirs I have the honor to
transmit herewith the
proceedings of the Board
convened at this place by
Special Order No 4 Hdqrs
Mil Div of the Mississippi
referred to in Chief Engineers
letter of October 17th 1873
for the purpose of
examining Claims
&c. Claims
Gen Thos J Wood
Capt
Jno Bacon
Capt Engineers
Bvt Lieut Colonel
U.S. Army

In a letter No 108 of 26th Nov 1873 from the Ch. Engr's office to the Engr to Gen. J. P. K.

Proceedings of Th. E. Baker R.R. Assistant Engineer to investigate a claim to gratuity or Bounty on the part of Jane Caudy Widow of Jerrard Caudy

Ltr Engrs 6-1-74

P.W. 6494/73

Ltr W 25

Pub. Works 1873 Despatch
From Sup. of Govt Dockyard
No. 6494
The Ag. Dist. Engineer
Malabar

To
The Secretary to Govt.
P. W. Department
Madras

Dated 26th
Desp'd 29th } November 73
Rec'd 1st } Dec.

No. 108
Encls. N

Forwarding Application for gratuity to the Widow of Cooje Cooty drowned at Mooratt.

No. 9 - 8th Jany 74.

No. 25
Lein 6 Dec 73

Mad. 872

P. W. Dept. 41

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

From the Ag. Dist. Engr.
Malabar

Do. Do. Do.

Do. Do. Do.

(H. E. No. 95 of 16th Octr. 1873.)
(H. E. No. 106 of 17th Novr. 73.)
(H. E. No. 108 of 26th Do.)

The first two letters above recorded contain an account of the death of a cooly named Coonjee Cooty who was drowned on the 23. August last while employed in diving for sunken timber at the site of the Mooratt bridge in the Cotroomba road, taluq of the Malabar District, and the third letter is an application in the prescribed form for a gratuity of Rs. 52 on behalf of the family of the deceased.

It appears from the correspondence submitted that

that no report of the accident beyond a mere verbal intimation on the 27 August was made by Mr Mahoney the Overseer in charge of the work to the Range Officer till the 28 September, although he had been personally instructed by Lt Dabeow on the 1st September to obtain and furnish all necessary particulars, and was again reminded by letter on the 3 September. It was not till the 22 d September that Mr Mahoney addressed the Taluq authorities for information on the subject.

The first official report to higher authority which the Range Officer appears to have made is dated the 2 October, and he was then so little acquainted with the particulars of the occurrence that he reported that the body of the deceased had been found 8 miles from the scene of the accident, while as a matter of fact the body had never been traced and all hope of its discovery had been long since abandoned by the Sub Magistrate, as evidenced by his letter to the Joint Magistrate dated 1st September.

It was not till the 16 of October that the District Engineer communicated the circumstances for the information of Government, and he then failed to correct the erroneous statement contained in the letter from

4 [illegible]

from Lt Dabow regarding the recovery of the body, although as appears from paragraph 2 of letter No 106 dated 17 November Capt Bailey was at the time in possession of a copy of the Sub Magistrates letter reporting its loss.

A review of these circumstances cannot but lead His Excellency the Governor in Council to conclude that gross carelessness has been evinced not only by the Overseer and Range Officer but also by the District Engineer in dealing with the fatal accident in question, and he resolves to express his displeasure at the conduct of those concerned.

The payment of a gratuity of six months wages, or Rs 564 to the family of the deceased is sanctioned. W.C.

Gen W.

To The Dy Engr Malabar
" Contr P.W.D.

Respd 8/1/74 [illegible]

Total recette Fs

Compte de ses avances

Nos. 6494, 6332 & 5656

Govt. of [1873] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The District Engr
Malabar
Calicut

Dated

Recd.

Encl. 7

G. O. 6th Augt 1873 No. 9.

Nos. 23 @ 26

Fatal Accident. Passing orders on letters from the Dist Engr Malabar, reporting the death of a Coolie who was drowned while diving for sunken timber at the side of the Mooratt Bridge and applying for a gratuity of Rs 54 on behalf of the family of the deceased.

Circ Dec 73