

(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.	755	Press
B.P. No.		Mis?
Dated	19 3.	1874 195.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th March 1874.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 520. From the Inspecting Engineer for Buildings, dated 1st December 1873, No. 1,594.

No. 520A. From Colonel E. A. FOORD, R.E., Inspecting Engineer for Buildings, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 2nd December 1873, No. 1,599.

I HAVE the honour to bring to the notice of Government that the cost of petty repairs to Military buildings at the Presidency; now carried out by the Barrack Master, is annually increasing, and to suggest, for their consideration, whether it would not be advisable to return to the system which prevailed prior to 1870.

2. The District Engineer informs me that the expenditure in the last three official years has been as follows :—

	RS.
1870-71	269
1871-72	2,269
1872-73	3,323

Before 1870, the repairs were carried out by the Executive Engineer, upon requisitions from the Barrack Department, issued upon each occasion of the regular monthly inspection by the Barrack Master. The estimates and bills were checked by the Executive Engineer, and the works were inspected by him.

3. Under the present system, which was authorized in G. O. G., No. 357, 11th September 1868, the Barrack Master sends from time to time to the District Engineer a number of estimates of less amount than 50 Rupees each. These estimates are examined by the District Engineer and returned by him to the Barrack Master, with a cheque for their total amount. Neither the bills nor the works after completion are examined by the District Engineer. The estimates are prepared by a Native Contractor in the Barrack Master's Office, who also executes the repairs.

4. The increasing expenditure under this head attracted the attention of the Superintending Engineer last year, who wrote to the Executive, now District, Engineer on the subject, who now states that lapse of time has only confirmed him in the opinion that the present system leads to an unnecessarily heavy expenditure.

No. 520B. From Captain H. M. VIBART, R.E., District Engineer, Bangalore, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bangalore, 23rd December 1873, No. 248.

WITH reference to your memorandum No. 502, dated 15th December 1873, I have the honour to report as follows on the practice of repairs estimated to cost Rupees 50 and under, carried out by the Barrack Master, Bangalore.

1st.—The Barrack Master sends in estimates for petty repairs under Rupees 50 which are arithmetically examined (as well as with reference to rates) at the office and returned to that officer with the counter-signature of the District Engineer, in token of approval for execution.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th March 1874.*

2nd.—On the completion of the repairs so approved, the Barrack Master returns the estimates with a statement showing the amounts thereof for payment. The statement is then compared with the estimates and, if found correct, a cheque is forwarded for adjustment. All the estimates so forwarded bear the signature of the Officer Commanding Regiments or Heads of Department, with the words "work completed" entered above it.

The works executed by the Barrack Master are not inspected by me or any one of this department, as that officer is responsible for the same.

No. 520c. From Colonel E. A. FOORD, R.E., Inspecting Engineer for Civil and Military Buildings, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 29th January 1874, No. 151.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Order of Government of the 5th January 1874, No. 1, I have the honour to state
* Letter No. 1,599, dated 2nd December 1873. that I have already reported* on the method of carrying out works by the Barrack Department at the Presidency.

2. At Bangalore the estimates are examined by the District Engineer, but the works executed by the Barrack Master are not inspected by the District Engineer, or any one of the department.

3. The expenditure on petty repairs has been as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
For 1868-69	5,422	7	5
" 1869-70	4,169	7	7
" 1870-71	1,989	13	9
" 1871-72	5,486	10	3
" 1872-73	3,023	0	6
" 1873-74 (seven months)	4,052	9	1

4. The District Engineer has recently suggested that the petty repairs executed by the Barrack Master should, for the future, be restricted to the fittings, such as repairs to doors, windows, shelves, arm-racks, etc., leaving repairs to walls, roofs, and floors to be carried out departmentally. I think this change might be made with advantage.

5. At Bellary it was the practice for the Barrack Master to send estimates for petty repairs to be checked in the Range Office. The estimates were countersigned by the Range Officer and returned to the Barrack Master, who was afterwards paid for the work done on his own completion certificate. The District Engineer reports that the works are now inspected, as far as is practicable, by the Range Officer. The expenditure has been as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
1870-71	2,234	0	3
1871-72	1,640	3	0
1872-73	1,538	2	6

There does not seem to be any necessity for a change in the system at this station.

No. 520d. From the District Engineer, Chingleput, dated 6th February 1874, No. 2,988.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th March 1874.*

No. 521.

ORDER THEREON, 19th March 1874, No. 755.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 16.

THE increase of expenditure on petty repairs to Military buildings, costing under Rupees 50, which is brought to notice in these papers, is commended to the notice of the Military Department by whose agency such repairs are carried out under the Barrack Masters at stations, the only check exercised by Executive Engineers under existing rules being of the figures and rates of the estimates.

2. The returns from Bangalore and Bellary do not appear to call for inquiry at those stations so much as do the papers relating to expenditure in Fort Saint George.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To District Engineers, concerned.

To the Inspecting Engineer for Buildings.

„ Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.

„ Military Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

5
Your Excellency
The Right Honourable
Lord the Henry Herbert K. G. B.
Governor of Madras

My Lord

Having to my letter of the 20th instant I beg to submit herewith for your Lordship's kind consideration Copy of the Bill characterised as the greatest robbery imaginable and trust your Lordship had the politeness to peruse my last letter which though rather long the information therein given would greatly recompense for the trouble. I trust your Lordship in concert with Lordship General the following remarks on the Bill in question in connection with my last letter above alluded to and its enclosure.

Office of the Inspector General.
None of Fringes, each of 16 feet in length, are said to have been supplied at Rs 1 per foot. I have also to my mind in my last letter in Fringes. It is not unlikely that this charge will be paid since was also by Colonel Goldard. This is followed by 5 most objectionable items

Carried forward

3 Moohurs at 8 Annas each. 4 Pombahmen at 4 Annas each. $\frac{1}{2}$ viss Cotton ropes at Rs 2 per viss. Thine 2 Annas. and conveying cooly Annas 4. For what purpose were these Moohurs and Pombahmen employed. There may have been $\frac{1}{2}$ viss Cotton Rope used, but all the rest should be rejected. With regard to Pombah Wheel see my remarks in my last letter.

Infantry Barracks

There are 5 viss Cotton ropes at Rs 2 each said to be supplied. There are only 5 half viss ropes, 12 half rattans, and no Thine supplied.

St. Michael's Field Officer's Quarters

Here a Pombah Fringe of 17 feet in length is said to have been supplied. Can the Contractor's statement be believed. There may have been only 10 feet of Fringe supplied. Vide above remarks on Fringes, and following items, in connection with my last letter.

Examined Commisariat A/c.

Here another Pombah Fringe occurs accompanied by the usual ridiculous and most objectionable items or charges.

Now follows the greatest ^{Requirement of Hospital} "Imaginable" A very large number of Pombah Fringes would appear to have been required. The number 140 is mentioned designedly to evade detection or suspicion.

Surely was there not a single Pombah in the whole Hospital that had a rope or a hook attached to it. Were all these Pombah in daily use without these requirements. Enough of such nonsense. In fact the repairs that were called for were that of the most petty and trifling imaginable. A nail to one a span of red Tape to another a piece of rope to this and a hook to that a few smokes of long Cloth or Holland to this or that, Pombah Fringes, so that the whole work of repairing was entirely finished in about a week by 2 men one of them an infirm old man and the other who

would make as many trips as possible to the Toddy shop. 2 Proper men would have completed the whole work in two or three most 3 days. Now with regard to the materials that were actually used.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Shaf. Tare nails 3 Annas was used.

The Bill Charges of this at 8 Annas per lb.

20 yards of red Tape 4 pice per yard was used.

The Bill Charges 360 yards at 1 Anna per yd.

$\frac{1}{2}$ yard Brown Holland 2 Annas was used.

The Bill Charges 9 yards at 9 Annas per yd.

1 yard long Cloth $\frac{1}{2}$ Annas per yd was used.

The Bill Charges 12 yards at 3 Annas per yd.

1 Cord red thread $\frac{1}{2}$ Anna was used.

The Bill Charges Rs 1-8.

6 Balls white thread $\frac{1}{2}$ Anna was used.

The Bill Charges Rs 1-4.

40 Hooks were used 9 pice each.

The Bill Charges 113 at 3 Annas each.

2 Men were employed for about 7 days @ 3-9 each.

The Bill Charges 33 Sailors at 6 Annas each.

22 Moohurs at 8 Annas each and 42 Pombahmen at 4 Annas each Rs 33-14.

18 viss Cotton ropes at Rs 2 per viss.

The Bill Charges 24 at Rs 2 per viss.

About 1 skein Thine to Pombah The Bill Charges Rs 1-4.

With regard to the remaining portion of the Bill, please read remarks contained in my last letter of the 2nd Instant.

The above facts could most easily be ascertained by a person taking a drive to the Regimental Hospital and holding five minutes conversation with the Hospital Sergeant or native subordinates. Hence your lordship will clearly see how the Government money is wasted by fraud and Corruption. and it may be that your lordship will see the propriety of

Carried forward

Shag Li. wish you good-bye good-bye.

Most Humble and Obedient Servant.

Kakut

30th Dec 1893

N.B. Your Lordship will see from the above remarks that the Government is at the mercy of the Contractor to make any Bill he chooses for whatever sum he pleases without let or hindrance. The Bank's Master is ready to pass them as "Bona fide" Cheques. Only a few days ago a Bill for upwards of Rs 300. was passed on account of Purkash's things which will not be required for use therefore the month of March & April next year 1874. is not unlikely that before they are once used they will be destroyed by squirrels &c.

11. 1. 18

1875

1871

1871

Dear Sir,

1874

[Faint handwritten notes at the bottom of the page]

1873

Ben
C
with
left
from
1/1
C
1/2

1871

Lipsenburgh Esq^r. Barrack Master Lt.
To supplying the following Articles in the undermentioned
Said Fort Saint George and Saint Thomas Account 9.

6 of 2	Office of the Inspector General of Ordnance & Magazines Tringus supplied to 2 Punkahs 16 by 17 1/8 inch				
	To running foot 32 @ Rs 1-4 per run-				
	ning foot including Holland Gunny				
	Patta Long Cloth red Tape white				
	and red Thread Nails 25 each				
2	Morchees at 5 Annas each	1	5		
4	Punkah men at 4 Annas each	1	4		
1 1/2	Viss Cotton rope @ Rs 2 per Viss	3	2		
	Twine		2		
	Cord for crossing the Pookha Bridge		4		
1	Braap Wheel 6 inches	1	8		49 1/4
	Mountain Bomacks H.M. 1/24 Tassils				
5	Viss Cotton ropes @ Rs 2 per Viss	10	2		
12	Rattans at 2 Annas each	1	8		
	Twine		4		
2	Punkah men @ 4 Annas each		8		12-4
	No. 1/21 st Surulia No 2 Field Officer's				
1	Punkah Tringe 17 by 13 1/8 supplied at				
	Rs 1-4 per Running foot including				
	Holland Gunny Patta Long Cloth				
	red Tape White and red Thread Nail				
2	Braap pulling Hooks @ 3 Annas each		6		
1	Morchee		8		
2	Punkah men		8		22-11
	Twine				
	Office Examiner Commissariat Accts.				
1	Tringe to Punkah 9 by 17 1/8 supplied				
	@ Rs 1-4 per running foot including				
	Holland Gunny Patta Long Cloth Tape				
	red and white Thread nails 25 each				
3	Braap pulling Hooks @ 3 Annas each		3		
1	Braap Wheel 4 inches		8		
1 1/2	Viss Cotton rope		1		
2	Punkah men @ 4 Annas each		8		16 1/4
	Twine				
	Carried forward				101 1/4
	out pocket				
	Carried forward				110

96

South Family Laurence and Min Guard

4 Brass pulling Hooks @ 3 cts each

7 Punkah Lane. @ 2 Ann each

2 1/2 lbs Cotton rope @ Rs 2 per lb

Y. *Y. Y. Y.*

2. Pure Rubber Men & belts, each including 1000.

Total Papers

10.3-

Madras

2 Sept 1893



Christina Reid

14

P. Sothay

My Lord,

Is there not a single person in the whole Town of Madras, that will neither flatter your Lordship, nor the Government of which you are the head, who will give any information that will tend to prevent Corruption, frauds, dishonesty, and loss of the public money? I submit. Copy of a Bill that was sent a day or two ago, by the Barrack Master, to the Controller of Expenses of Accounts, for being paid for payment. I also beg to submit the following remarks upon the several items of this Bill, and trust your Lordship in Council will give them the consideration, the importance of the subject demands. Your Lordship will observe that this is comparatively a small Bill, and that each item or Charge has been stretched out to make a round number.

B. Black Family Quarters

The first item is hiring a Block-Cooty. And 6. There is a Carpenter attached to the Office of the Barrack Master, whose business it is to attend to such petty work, but this Carpenter never has any time to attend to Government work, having so much to do with private work of the Barrack Master, or Subconductor Shum who was a Clerk in the Barrack Master's Office in the time of Colonel Mather. With regard to this work,

Feb 27 1948 March 17
 Dr B. C. 18570.

④ 116531/33
27/1

work of fixing a block what is it? to make a hole, and to lighten it therein - This is not ten minutes work any cooly could do it in ten minutes, and there are a number of blocks lying waste in the Government Stores, which would answer the purpose, and Government saved the expense. This charge is therefore most objectionable.

The 2nd item is for a Punkah Wheel binder Rs 4-8. This wheel could be purchased at Rs 2½ or a few Annas more in the Bazar. Here is a profit of Rs 1½ at the least.

The third item is for a punkah wheel. Annas 4. What man upon the earth would pay 4 Annas for screwing a punkah wheel to a block with four nails. The price of the nails is no more than 3 or 4 pice and any Carpenter or Cooly would be thankful to screw them in for half annas. This too is the proper work of the Carpenter above alluded to.

Commanding Officers Quarters

The next item is Punkah String at Rs 1-4. per Running foot. If Colonel Goddard be called upon he would produce Bills by the same Contractor charging 12 Annas per Running foot of Punkah string. Here is a clear profit of 8 Annas. Even this charge of 12 Annas yields a profit of 6 Annas, so that there is a profit of 14 Annas in the foot.

The next charge is of Viss Cotton rope Rs 1. Cotton rope of the 1st sort and very seldom purchased for more than 10 Rupees a maund, but that which is generally used by the Contractor of the Barrack Department is that of the most inferior kind which is constantly breaking and could be purchased at Rs 6 by the maund or 12 Annas the Viss. Here is a profit of 10 Annas on the half Viss. Good ropes are supplied to places where there may be any fear of detection. It is questionable whether the whole of Viss was supplied in this place.

The next item is 2 Punkah men at 4 Annas each. Two Coolies could be employed for a whole day at 3 Annas each. Now how long would it take two men to put up a single Punkah of 10 feet long, surely 5 minutes, would be too much. The Ponis in the Office could have done the work. This charge therefore should not be allowed.

Examined Compendiate Accounts

The next two items are 1 Bag of White Wash charge Rs 3-8.

and 1 Bag of White Wash. The wheel of 4 inches could be purchased in the Bazar for Rs 1-8 or a few Annas more, leaving a profit of Rs 2 or a few Annas left to the Contractor. The work of fixing the wheel with four nails is properly the work of the Government Carpenter, and the charge of 4 Annas should be rejected. The next item is 12 Annas for taking down 2 Punkahs and putting them up again in redressed place. The Examines of Compendiate Accounts must have been made stupid with having to do so much with figures, that he should call upon the Barrack Master to have a work done that could be done by 2 Ponis in his Office. If an Official wished to have his Punkah changed, he should go to the expense himself. This is certainly a most ridiculous charge, and should be rejected. The next charge is 2 Bags of Whiting Rs 1-8. The Bazar price of this is 8 or 10 Annas the pair, so leaving a profit of 14 Annas to the Contractor. The next item is 2 Annas weekly. This is most ridiculous charge, for how much string is required to tie a rope for pulling a Punkah. These 2 Annas would be quite enough, besides this there is no need of string at all for the rope itself could be knotted together. The quantity of string that could be purchased for an Anna would be sufficient to tie a hundred Punkah ropes.

1st Subalterns Quarters

2 Punkah Strings of 20 feet by 13 pice, supplied at Rs 1-4 the Running foot. Charge Rupees 50.

As observed above this Contractor supplied the Engineer's Dept. at the rate of 12 Annas the running foot, leaving him a profit Rupees 20 over the charge of the Engineer's Dept. but the actual profit is as shown above 14 Annas per foot or Rupees 35 on the 40 feet. In the time of Col. North's Cotton was selling at a very advanced figure, but since then great changes have taken place in the price of the article, so as to leave no room for continuing the above heavy charge.

The next item is 6 Putting Hooks @ 3 Annas each. The price of this article in the Bazar is 1½ Annas each, leaving him a profit of 10 Annas each.

The next charge is 14 Annas for white washing 2 Punkahs. This is another most ridiculous charge. For 3 Handfuls of Chunan mixed with plain water, coating the

the rest about an Anna would answer this purpose,
leaving the Contractor a profit of 13 Annas.
There is another item for 11 1/2 lbs Cotton rope Rs 3.
It is doubtful whether this quantity was ever supplied.
The charge is most exorbitant as will be seen from
the above remarks. Here again twice makes its appear-
ance which should be rejected for reasons stated
above. The next item is 4 Punka wheels at 4 Annas each
Rs 16. Now long long would it take to put up 2 Punkas
The next an hour, any common cooly would be thankful
to do this for an Anna each, leaving the Contractor
a profit of 14 Annas.

Again a Bag of Whet 4 Annas appear priced
Rs 3. 8. The remark above profit Rs 2. also cooly
for fixing the whet charge 4 Annas, which should be
rejected as it should be done by the Carpenter attached
to the Barrack Master's Department.

Unlustrated Barrack & Sanitary Quarters.
Here are three items of the same character each 20
punka wheels greased. Charge Rs 11. 4.

Now surely all those who have passed this charge must
be either magicians or suffering from an awful
attack of delirium tremens. How much lamp
oil would be required for oiling or greasing as it
may be called, used a Punka wheel of 4 or 6 inches
thick or 4 drops of oil would be more than enough.
So that 9 pice of oil and 3 pice of Country Soap
mixed together would be sufficient to grease a
hundred Punka wheels. It should be observed
that this is altogether a novel charge, never
known before in the records of Government.
Any person who felt inconvenience from a dis-
agreeable noise in a punka wheel, had only to
apply or order a drop of Lamp Oil to be applied,
and it would at once check it. There is no charge
no doubt has been incurred by the Barrack
Sergeant Roff in connection with the Barrack
Master and the Contractor. This Sergeant Roff
could help the Contractor in a moment and in the
most daring manner procure him a 100 Rs.
There is an instance of this same presumption.
Last year he had received some money from
the Contractor, and he some contrived means of
remunerating him. He got a receipt for 60 Rs
of Punka ropes, signed by the Quarter
Master, which at once enabled the Contractor
to draw more than one hundred rupees.

Now it is strange it did not strike any body that
this was an entirely false charge. Of course the
Barrack Master knew all about it. He would
allow any thing that would secure him 10 per Cent.
This Bill dated 1st July 1892. It is also very
strange that it did not occur to the Officer who
signed the receipt that the whole of the Punkas in
the Barrack were supplied with ropes at the Com-
mandment of the season of putting Punkas and
that whenever a rope broke, he or then it was at once
supplied and that the Punkas were in good pulling
order with every needful article attached to them, and
that the receipt produced for his signature, was an
act of the most gross and brazen fraud, practised on his
confidence, and simplicity.

Paint Thomas Mount Battery 2nd & Main Guard
Here are only five items. The first 4 pilling boards
charged 12 Annas. The Bag price of this is 1/2 Annas.
The next 2 Annas. The price leaving a profit of 5 Annas.

The next charge is for 4 Rollers priced at
2 Annas each. Annas 8. These Rollers could be
purchased at 9 pice each giving a profit of 8 Annas.
4 pice being frequently only half a roll to work, but
a full one is charged.

The next item is for Cotton rope. The re-
ceipt of Barrack Sergeant Solank says that ten feet
of rope and one long rope, were used. Now there
could be no more than 1/4 of a lb used, and the
Government is fraudulently charged with 2 1/2 lbs.
at Rs 2 per lb. Rs 5. This article as shown above
is purchased at about 1/2 out the 1/2 3/4 1/2 9 Annas.
This is most exorbitant charge and should be rejected.

The next item is 2 Punka men
including Batta 6 Annas each. This is altogether a
false charge as Punka men were employed in the
forework for the Government. Lascar or Mithman
do frequently come to Madras with letters from
the Barrack. They take articles from home, and
do the needful work. I don't think it is out of place
in informing your Lordship that the receipt be-
fore last, with the amount of nearly a thousand

then said, suppose you allow for Pindar work paid to
 be done at Saint Thomas Mount. I have not the
 least doubt if Circumstances Governed were disposed
 to go with these Bills, and compare with them the work
 that was done, there would not appear from the highest
 estimation that 100 Rupees worth of work was done.
 The Barrack Master, the Contractor, and one Meroogasen
 Chetty who formerly was a Clerk in the Barrack
 Master's Office, and who is now employed in the Civil
 Office, is still holding on doing work in the Barrack
 Master's Office, would have a good broly to divide
 among themselves the Barrack Budget. would not be
 last sight of, for this man who is perpetually drunk
 would get the Contractor any amount of Receipts signed
 by Officers for a few rupees, and a bottle of Brandy.
 It is when Orders for repairs of a large number of
 Pindars are given that Corruption and frauds are
 practiced to its utmost bounds. Two men in a few
 days may finish the whole work of giving a few sticks
 to cover applying a few nails to another, hanging a hook
 here, and nailing up a piece of red tape there,
 patching a piece of long Cloth to this one, and
 attaching a piece of rope to another, and earning no
 more than a few rupees. But when the Bill is
 drawn up, any amount of Bricklayers, Carpenters,
 Muckers, Carters, Coolies, Pindars, and
 of red tape, Long Cloth, Thread, lbs of white, Viss
 of Rope, Thine Sea, &c. making up a total of
 several hundred of rupees. It is too well known
 that the Bill will be passed without any objection, even if the
 fraudulent and exorbitant Charges were doubled, for no body
 seems to care about questioning the propriety or otherwise
 of any of the Charges. Having secured the signature of the
 Officers "Contents Received or work done" The Contractor con-
 sider himself allowed a latitude to make any Charge for
 articles supplied or unsupplied, as he will know he will
 never be liable to look regarding any of the Charges.
 When a real Sea European, or a Villanous native, has such
 Liberty conceded to him the fearful game he will play
 may be better conceived or imagined, than described with

with a goose quill, or a steel pen. So long as the present
 Barrack Master holds the Office every Bill after he has
 Certified at the foot of it, that the Charges are bona fide
 should be sent either for the initials, or Signature of
 the Officers, who signed the receipt. "Contents Received
 or work done" that he may see the propriety or
 impropriety of the Charges. There are other Departments
 of work attached to the Barrack Master Dept, which
 are as corrupt as this.

It is evident that the Contractor must
 be making a very considerable profit. Since within
 the last year, he was enabled to repair his dwelling
 house at a cost of about 1500 rupees. to Repair an-
 other house at Porsewathum at a cost of Rs 1000.
 and to build a New Upper Storey House adjoining
 the house in which he lives, of the value of about
 2000 Rupees. Besides having a large family of
 about 14 persons to support every day. From the
 above observation it will evidently appear, that
 Government business is given very smoothly and
 everyone who has a Chance is making as much
 money as he could, without any hindrance what-
 ever, and it is time that your Lordship should
 sit up and with a tight hand, put down Corrup-
 tion, frauds, dishonesty, and loss of Public
 money. *Yours truly* *Wm. G. G. G.*

I am, Sir, Believe me
 your Lordship's very
 humble and obedient servant,
 N.B. *Wm. G. G. G.*

Another Bill of the greatest robbery im-
 aginable, will be soon sent by the Barrack Master, to be
 passed for payment. I believe your Lordship has seen the
 propriety of refusing immediately, and private instructions
 to the Controller or Examiner of Accounts, to detain the Bill
 until an officer is appointed to enquire into the Charge
 by inspecting the work done, Examining the Contractor,
 and the men employed, and the public servant of the
 Dept, who is the party said to have been doing the re-
 gard to the quantity of articles supplied, & the number of men
 engaged, and time employed on the work, whether the Charge
 have not been paid for, before or not.

No. 1594

From

THE INSPECTING ENGINEER

FOR CIVIL AND MILITARY BUILDINGS,

To,

The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department.

Enclosure
Petition
returned Sir,

With reference to your endorsement
on a petition to the Right Honorable the
Governor, accompanied by what purports
to be a copy of one of the Barrack
Master's bills, I have the honor to state
that the petition being anonymous, it
is not advisable to take further notice
of it.

2 I am about to address you on
the subject of the comparative cost of
getting the repairs to buildings executed
by the Barrack Master and by the District
Engineer.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servant

Edwrd Leake
Insy Engineer for Public

To the Inspecting Engineer of
Military Buildings -
For such notice as may be
deemed advisable -

15.11.73

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTING ENGINEER
FOR CIVIL AND MILITARY BUILDINGS,
Chepauk, December 1873.

No. 1599

From

THE INSPECTING ENGINEER
FOR CIVIL AND MILITARY BUILDINGS,

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

SIR,

I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government that the cost of petty repairs to Military buildings at the Presidency, now carried out by the Barrack Master, is annually increasing, and to suggest for their consideration whether it would not be advisable to return to the system which prevailed prior to 1840.

The District Engineer informs me that the expenditure in the last three official years has been as follows

1840/41	Rs. 269
1841/42	2269
1842/43	3323

Before

Public Works Department

151 - 1840/41

From

The Inspecting Engineer

To

The

Chief Engineer
Public Works Department

for Buildings,

Dated 13th Decr 1873.
Recd. 1873.

Encl. 2

Returning the position
addressed to the Public
Works Department
and stating that it being
inconvenient if it is not
possible to take
further steps in the
matter.

No 455-19-3-72

10520.

for 25th/74

Ms. A. 9. 5. 5. 19 - 5-7-2

Before 1840 the repairs were carried out by the Executive Engineer, upon requisitions from the Barrack Department, issued upon each occasion of the regular monthly inspections by the Barrack Master. The estimates and bills were checked by the Executive Engineer, and the works were inspected by him.

Under the present system, which was authorized in G.O. No. 357, 11th September 1868, the Barrack Master sends from time to time to the District Engineer a number of estimates, of less amount than 50 Rupees each.

These estimates are examined by the District

District Engineer and returned by him to the Barrack Master with a cheque for their total amount. Neither the bills nor the works after completion are examined by the District Engineer. The estimates are prepared by a Native Contractor in the Barrack Master's Office, who also executes the repairs.

The increasing expenditure under this head attracted the attention of the Superintending Engineer last year who wrote to the Executive, now District, Engineer on the subject who now states that lapse of time has only confirmed him in the opinion, that the present system leads to an unnecessarily heavy expenditure.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
E. A. Mill Coll. R.E.
Inspecting Engineer
for Buildings

No

No. 348

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Bangalore 27 Dec 1879

From

The District Engineer

Bangalore

The Chief Engineer

Public Works Department

Madras

With reference to your Memo No 502 of 15th December/79, I have the honor to report as follows on the practice of repairs & alterations to cost Rs 50 and under carried out by the Barrack Master Bangalore.

The Barrack Master sends in estimates for petty repairs under Rs 50 which are authenticated by him (as well as with reference to rates) at the Office and returned to that Officer with the countersignature of the District Engineer in token of approval.

Public Works Department

(57) 28.12.33

No. 1599

From

The Inspecting Engineer

for Buildings,

The Secy. to Govt.

W. M. Dwyer

Dated 27 Dec 1879
Recd. 31

Depot to Inspecting Engineer
to the Secy. to Govt.
at the Secy. to Govt.
must not be by the Barrack
Master and his signature
whether it is made out
be advisable to return
to the Secy. to Govt.
Minister's Memo to 1879
No 505-19 - 3-7-74

for execution.

2nd. On the completion of the repairs so approved, the Barrack Master returns the estimates with a statement showing the amount thereof for payment. The statement is then compared with the estimates and if found correct, a cheque is forwarded for payment. All the estimates so forwarded bear the signature of the Officer Commanding Regiment or heads of department with the words "Work Completed" entered above it.

The work executed by the Barrack Master are not inspected by me or any one of this department as that Officer is responsible for

for the same.

29.5.6

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servant
Major W. West Captain R.E.

District Engineer Bangalore

No. 151

No. 151

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTING ENGINEER
FOR CIVIL AND MILITARY BUILDINGS,
Chepauk, 29 January 1874.

31

From

THE INSPECTING ENGINEER-
FOR CIVIL AND MILITARY BUILDINGS,

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Sir,

With reference to para 3 of the
Order of Government of the 5 January
1874 No. 1, I have the honor to state
that I have already reported on the
method of carrying out works by the
Barrack Department at the Presi-
-dency.

At Bangalore the estimates are ex-
-amined by the District Engineer,
but the works executed by the Barrack
Masters are not inspected by the District
Engineer or any one of the Department.

The



No. 248
1873
1907

For the Barrack Department
at Bangalore
1907

24th 23rd Jan 73

1873

Reporting on the

practice of repairs

estimated by Barrack

and Civil Engineers

by the Barrack

Department.

10th 1st 4th Jan 74
1874

No. 52015

No. 27564/74
1874

3 The expenditure on petty repairs has been as follows.

For 1868/69	Rupies 5122.7.5
1869/70	1169.7.7
1870/71	1989.13.9
1871/72	5186.10.3
1872/73	3023.0.6
1873/74 (7 months)	4052.9.1

4 The District Engineer has recently suggested that the petty repairs executed by the Barrack Master should, for the future, be restricted to the fittings, such as repairs to doors, windows, shelves, arm racks &c., leaving repairs to walls, roofs and floors to be carried out departmentally. I think this change might be made with advantage.

At Bellary it was the practice for the Barrack Master to send estimates for petty repairs to be checked in the Range Office. The estimates were countersigned by the Range Officer and returned to the

the Barrack Master who was afterwards paid for the work done on his own Completion Certificate. The District Engineer reports that the works are now inspected, as far as is practicable, by the Range Officer. The expenditure has been as follows.

1870/71	Rupies 2234.0.3
1871/72	1640.3.0
1872/73	1538.2.6

There does not seem to be any necessity for a change in the system at this station.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most obedient servant
Edmond Coll. R.E.
Inspecting Engineer
for Buildings

No. 2988

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT ENGR'S OFFICE,
Guindy, 6th February 1874.

From

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,

Chingleput.

To

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

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 5th January, I have the honor to observe that G.O. No. 357 of 11th September 1868 distinctly as it appears to me, relieves the Executive Engineer of all responsibility for the execution of the work done by the Barrack Master. Moreover the Executive Engineer's duty is defined to be "examining and checking the items of the estimate" I would urge that he is not allowed any voice in selecting or deciding on the necessity of any repair below Rs. 50 which the Barrack Master may estimate for.

In support of this view I would point out that in Draft Rule II published at page 9 Proceedings Madras Government P.W.D. No. 530 of 27th January 1865 it was proposed to give the Executive Engineer some control over requisitions. The omission of any mention in the sanctioned rules of this power would shew that the Government disapproved the proposal.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. Walker, Colonel, R. E.,
District Engineer Chingleput.

From

The Inspecting Engineer
for Buildings,

The Inspecting Engineer
for Buildings,

To
The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.

Dated 29th January 1874
Recd. 30th Jan 1874

Report regarding
the health of the
Barrack Master, etc.

at Chingleput

at Chingleput

at Chingleput

CCPC

Jan 520 8.

To

THE

Secretary to
Govt. P. W. D.

Dated

Received

ENCLOSURE

No. 2988

6th Feb 1874

From

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER

CHINGLEPUT

28-716

Public Works Dept. Madras

*Desires that as
soon as possible
within twelve months
the amount of all
repairs to all
works done by the
District Engineer
be sent to the
Secretary to Govt.
P. W. D.*

37
P. W. D.

755

Proceedings of the Madras Government,
Under date the February 1874.

Read the following:-

- From the Inspy Engrs } (H. E. No. 1594 of 1st Decr/73)
- for Buildings } (H. E. No. 1599 of 2nd Decr/73)
- Do Do } (H. E. No. 248 of 23rd Decr/73)
- Do Dist Engrs } (H. E. No. 151 of 29th Janr/74)
- Bangalore } (H. E. No. 2988 of 6th Feb/74)
- Do Inspy Engrs } (H. E. No. 151 of 29th Janr/74)
- for Buildings } (H. E. No. 2988 of 6th Feb/74)
- Do Dist Engrs Chingleput } (H. E. No. 2988 of 6th Feb/74)

43-74

The increase of
expenditure on Petty
Repairs to Military
Buildings, costing under
Rs. 50, which is brought
to notice in these papers
is commended to
the

the notice of the Military Department by whose agency such repairs are carried out under the Barrack Masters at stations, the only check exercised by Executive Engineers under existing rules being of the figures and rates of the estimates.

The returns from Bangalore and Bellary do not appear to call for inquiry at those stations, so much as do the papers relating to expenditure in Fort Saint George.

W.M.

520-521.

27 Feb 1904

- Drugs Bangalore ✓
- Vijay ✓
- Bellary ✓
- Pune ✓
- Chingleput ✓
- M. A. B. ✓
- Bangalore ✓
- Trichy ✓
- Malabar ✓
- Madras ✓
- Tamilnad ✓
- Supd Engr for Bgs ✓
- Control ✓
- Milr Dept ✓

Depd with S-c 23/2

6531
6533
6537 565 716

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Milit. Engineers,
concerned

Dated

Recd.

Incl. 2

9. 0. 19 March 75

Nos. 520 & 521

Military Repairs

Requesting attention to
the increase of expenditure
on Petty Repairs to Military
Buildings under the
Barrack Department

Curran
In the
Weop. work 11/1/75