M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 3273 Press

B.P. No. 330, 31 Mis.

Dated 9-11-1874 195 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

14

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

Read the following :—

No. 330. From the Officiating District Engineer, Ganjam, dated 16th October 1874, No. 60.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting an appeal from Mr. Leggatt, soliciting a reconsideration of his case in connection with the orders passed relative to the completion certificates furnished by him for certain works when in charge of the Madura District.

No. 331. ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1874, No. 3,273.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 14.

HIS Excellency the Governor in Council declines to re-open the subject of this letter.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Ganjam.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

No - Endo heading No 2 Range Office 1

Camp Calicut 3H

No 230. 30th September 1874

From

Geo. R. Leggatt Esquire

Executive Engineer

No II Range

To

Major A. Smalley RE.

District Engineer

Cuyaum.

Sir

I have the honor to ac-
-knowledge receipt of G. O. No
2005 dated 24th July 1874 Commu-
-nicated with your Memo No: 229
dated 21st August /74 & you are aware
that I have been busily engaged
assuming Charge of this Range
& that I have had no time
to do so before this.

2. I must express my gratitude
to His Excellency the Governor
in Council for having considered
my letter No: 161 dated 15th ulto.

and

and reinstating me in the
position of Executive Engineer
from the 8th June 1874.

3. I beg I may be pardoned
for once again stating that my
Case may be yet further recon-
-sidered by His Excellency in
Council and my position in
the Department which I held
prior to date of G.O. No. 607/73/74 de-
-priving me be again restored
to me. I ask no favor of Govern.
-ment but Common justice.

4. It would appear that
Government Consider my ex-
-planation on Charge 3 brought
against me by Lieutenant Colonel
Roberts as unsatisfactory and
for which reason I have been
degraded for three months and
placed at the bottom of the list
of Executive Engineers 4th grade
& that it was because I made
in 16 payments for work done
done in three instances that
I have been so severely punished
and that these payments
were made on my Overseers'
measurements.

5. I would with every respect
ask you, Sir whether this
Course is not one that has been
as a rule in force in this District.
I have had Charge of both
Ranges in No I it was generally
the practice and in this Range
always the rule to pay in full
all Bills submitted by the Ove-
-rseer prior to the Range Officers'
inspection of the work no deduction
being made. In my case I made
the payments after inspecting the
work and having as security for
my doing so large quantities of
material on the Cotton road in the
Madura District. I have no
doubt a similar Course is adopted
in other Districts also and indeed
it is very hard that I should
have been so unfortunate as to
have

have been Lapidated and thus Country dealt with. As I said before I made the payments after inspection and on good Security to guarantee my doing so but here it has been done without either

5. It may be said that my Case alone was before Government and so they dealt with it accordingly but are not all bills paid monthly subject to the Controller and surely if he thought the payments being made in full were irregular, he would have brought them to the notice of Government? Yet have bills been submitted to him in this form for years past from these two Ranges and no objection have been raised.

7. Had Government lost one Rupee from the course I had adopted I would Consider degradation but a lenient punishment meted to me.

8

8. I have always been able to utilize to the benefit of Government all allotments placed at my disposal yearly for Public Works in my Range, my roads in the Madura District were always kept in excellent order. I would refer Government to any official in the Madura District to substantiate my statement.

9. I had for nearly 4 years served under Lieutenant Colonel Roberts and until the 11th December 1873 when I applied to be removed from the District he after that (on the 19th idem) thought fit (without calling upon me for an explanation) to bring a series of Charges against me and then only found out I had Moral cowardice and professional inability.

10. I can only attribute the present animus displayed towards me by Lieutenant Colonel Roberts

10

said in para 2 of his letter, he states regarding the Levels it is difficult to understand how such long intervals as those that lapsed could have occurred between the date of my last inspection and that of my signature to the certificate in each case. If Lieutenant Colonel Roberts had simply taken the trouble to have requested the overseers to send in their measurements for his inspection, he could easily have satisfied himself that the course I had adopted was a correct one. When I got to Cottimpally on the Maylor Valley Levels immediately requested Lieut Col. Roberts by letter to direct the Valley overseer of Maylore to meet me there and who did so. I told the overseer what I had returned to do. When he showed me his measurement books which contained my

Check measurements 11th for these works; the date of my inspection and signature. Of course there was no use with this before me to go over the works again and I can only express my surprise that the certificates were not sent in. It must have been carelessness on the part of my office. Establishments do doing as if I had entered their inspection in my diary and if I had not so entered them it must have been my fault not having taken care to enter them from the measurement books of the overseers on my return to Camp from inspection of the works.

13. In para 3 of Lieut Col. Roberts letter under reference he states that with one Exception the Level Certificates are satisfactory.

14. In para 4 he states that the exception he takes is for the certificate for the "Maintenance of the road from Kandyoor to Tirumdoor alias

Sd

It is strange indeed that even in this case as he had done in the matter of the Cotton road Lieut Col Roberts has so deliberately misled Government as to the real facts of the case, he writes about his experience of this road but he has left Government quite in the dark that between Kandyvaud Tumboor a distance of (I recollect rightly now) 5 miles there are not 2 miles of made road, the rest a track in a hilly country difficult to get over. Since I took Charge of the Madura Range the allotment which I think is 350 or 450 Rupees for the whole line was expended in keeping up the made portion, filling in ruts caused by bandies over a width of Counties extending many yards and in the year for which the certificate was granted by me from this maintenance allotment I took the trouble of extending the made portion

portion of road, though little, it was as much as I could do with the sum at my disposal.

15 I have for nearly 4 years as I said before, been under Lieut Col Roberts and though the Commencement of this road is not one mile from his House I got up to the time I left Madura he did never ask me to go over this particular road with him (though I have done so many others) nor did he express to me at any time that he felt from "personal experience of his own" of the road in question that he did not feel satisfied that the Expenditure incurred by me supported by my Completion Certificate was "bonafide" incurred

16 In both the cases before Government Lieutenant Colonel Roberts has not thought proper to call upon me for any Explanation, and in both instances he has not shown that from his personal

personal check measurements
to examination of the work
in what way or where I have
been at fault or that the certi-
-ficates measurements do are
deficient.

17. In the case of the Cotton road
Lieutenant Colonel Roberts report
to Government was made, on
that drawn up by one overseer
a youth who had not two months
experience in the department
and fresh from the Civil Engineering
College; in the last he condemned
"the Vandyar and Tirumbur Road"
work and considers the expenditure
"not bona fide incurred" writing
from the Pulney Hills upwards
of 65 miles from Madura and as
Lieutenant Colonel Roberts has
not shown to Government
in what single item my certi-
-ficate was (as he would have
Government to infer) untrustworthy
I think I have a right to
demand until shown to be the
Contrary

Contrary that my Certificate be
approved and passed without
Censure.

18. In Conclusion I have the
honor to request you will be so
good as to forward this letter to
Government and in doing so
you will submit it with any
remarks of your own. You are
aware and I said before that
the practice of paying for Earthy
work on measurements
and without previously having
measured in the Range officers
has obtained in the Range for
years past. You are also aware
I am doing my utmost to put a
stop to this practice, but I fear that
it will be long time before it can
be thoroughly introduced and
expenditure on Public Works
must of a necessity be small.
I find already the Contractors under-
-pond to come forward to under-
-take works since I have deducted
15 per cent and it is only after
Estimates

assuring them that I shall take frequent opportunities of inspecting and measuring their work myself and to being able to pay them in full name I got them or three to continue in their work a course straightout me to say I was not allowed to adopt by Lieutenant Colonel Roberts who acted as my (his letter on the Madura Range office records) that I was not to measure and pay for any work until it was first measured by the overseer an order not only adverse to the interest of Government but made a Range Officer's position in his Range a cipher. I protested against the order and requested Lieutenant Colonel Roberts to refer it for the decision of the Chief Engineer but whether he did so or not I am not aware of.

I have &c
Lieut Geo. E. Leggatt Executive Engr
In charge of No 2 Range
Coimbatore

True Copy

No 60

Forwarded to Government.

With reference to para 5 in the Executive Range Lieutenant's letter reported to the Controller of Public Works Accounts his instructions to carry out work of the description mentioned were precisely those laid down in the Department Range Manual and I am not aware that the Lieutenant has the general rule.

H. Cumalley
Major R.E.
Officiating Executive Engineer
Coimbatore

Camp de Coimbatore
16th October 1874

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

6824

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To Mr. Dr. Engr. Ganjam

Dated.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 19th June 1874, No 2273

Nos. 330-331.

Mr. G. R. Leggatt

Declining to reopen the subject of Mr. Leggatts appeal in connection with the orders passed relative to the Completion Certificates furnished by him for certain Works when in charge of the Macherie Range —

P. W. 1874 Department
Govt. of Madras for Ganjam
Num. 6824.
The District Engr.
Ganjam

To The Secretary to
Govt. P.W.D.

Dated 16th Oct. 74.
Recd 20th Oct. 74.
Mem 2nd November 74.
No 66

Forwards Copy of
Mr. Leggatts letter
regarding the Completion Certificates
furnished by him
while in charge
Chicacole Range

Executive Engr

From The Executive Engineer Ganjam
Dated 28th Oct. 1874
Received 30th Oct. 1874

Submitting the Correspondence noted in the margin relative to the Completion Certificates furnished by him while in charge of the Chicacole Range.

Executive Engr

330-331

Ceir 6/11/74
Desp 6 Oct 2-11-74