

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th April 1875.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 458. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Manundoor, 8th February 1875, No. 3,782:—

In reply to G. O., No. 289, dated 2nd instant, I have the honor to observe that the Reserve Powder Magazine at Saint Thomas' Mount has been completed for a very long time.

2. The alterations in the surrounding bank, &c., which has fallen down, were made by the Ordnance Officers, to whom the consequent delay should be attributed.

MEMORANDUM.

No. 459. *Reserve Magazine, Mount Range, inspected 2nd March 1875.*

Present state of the Work.—The out-buildings are completed, the outer porch is being tiled, and requires plastering. It will be completed about the 15th instant. The packing shed requires pointing. The work is in progress. The gateway has to be built. All the work in progress will be completed in about a fortnight.

Work proposed.—An estimate is under preparation, and will, it is said, be sent in to the Range Officer in two days for removing that portion of the traverse which is within the old compound wall to the outside of the wall and buttressing the latter, in order to enable it to withstand the pressure of the outside earth. This work is necessary. The space inside the old compound wall is altogether too confined to afford room for the earthwork which has been thrown up. The surface of the traverse has nowhere been protected from the effects of rain by turfing, and it is extensively guttered and cut, and has slipped down inside as reported by the District Engineer. I think that, if possible, the exterior slope should be $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, and it ought certainly to be turfed. At present the work is a completed eyesore.

Immediate use of the Magazine.—The magazine cannot be used in its present state, as the responsibility of the storage of the powder, with a number of people working within the enclosure, would no doubt be declined by the Ordnance Department. When the work now in progress has been completed, and after the earth has been removed from the interior enclosure and the buttresses have been constructed, it might be filled perhaps. A period of two months is estimated for by the Overseer to complete the work.

The District Engineer might be called on to expedite the submission of the estimate.

3rd March 1875.

(Signed) A. DEC. SCOTT, Major, R.E.,
Under Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 459A. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Guindy, 24th March 1875, No. 4,436:—

With reference to paragraph 2 of G. O., No. 201, dated 23rd January 1875, I have the honor to submit, for the sanction of Government, plans, revised estimate, and comparative statement for the traverse round the Reserve Powder Magazine at

Saint Thomas' Mount, amounting to Rs. 14,050, showing a net increased of Rs. 4,090

- 2 Plans.
- 1 Comparative Statement.
- 2 Abstract Estimates with Specification.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th April 1875.

over the original estimate sanctioned in G. O., No. 599, dated 7th March 1874.
The causes of this increase are as follow :—

1st.—Constructing buttresses to the old enclosure wall and turfing the top and slope of the traverse as per estimate attached, as suggested in paragraph 2 of G. O., No. 201, dated 23rd January 1875	rs. 2,170
2nd.—Increase in rates of certain items, the chief item being "brick-in-chunam"	936
3rd.—Work not provided in the original estimate but since found necessary	653
4th.—Additional work required, that provided in the original estimate not being sufficient	335
5th.—Corresponding increase in "Contingencies"	109
Deduct small savings in certain items aggregating to ..	4,203
	113
	4,090

The first item does not require any explanation, as its necessity has already been admitted by Government.

The second item is due to increase in current prices of articles.

The third consists principally of the levelling of the ground round the magazine and of the rocky soil, constructing rough-stone revetment, removing old masonry work, &c., to allow the drainage outside the traverse to pass off freely; unfortunately these items were not foreseen when the original estimate was prepared.

The fourth item is due, 1stly, to a mistake having been made in making certain deductions in the quantity of earthwork in the original estimate, but discovered in the actual execution of work; and, 2ndly, to extra length required in the road leading to the magazine.

The fifth item needs no remark.

3. The cause of increase and decrease in each particular minor item is entered in the "remarks" column of the comparative statement.

4. Rupees 9,360 have been allotted for this work during the current year, and I request that the balance of the revised estimate, viz., 4,690, may be granted early in April next from the reserve of the ensuing official year.

No. 460. ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1875, No. 1,081.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 7.

With the second letter above referred to, the Superintending Engineer of Chingleput submits fresh estimates for the works

sanctioned in G. O., No. 599, of 7th March 1874, revised as follows as to the amounts of each item, viz. :—

	Original.	Revised.	Excess.
Traverses	7,194	10,820	3,626
Packing shed	595	700	105
Sentry sheds	512	660	148
Tunnel	133	160	27
Outer porch	1,526	1,710	184
Total ..	9,960	14,050	4,090

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17th April 1875.

Part of the excess on the first item to the extent of Rupees 2,170 is owing to the additions called for in G. O., No. 201, of 23rd January, the remainder being due to omissions in the original estimate and to increase of rates. The former should have been detected during the long interval that elapsed between the estimate being called for and submitted; a delay which has been noticed in several orders. The latter is simply stated as a fact, but is not attempted to be in any way accounted for. In fact, from first to last there is not the slightest indication of the Superintending Engineer having been anything more than a channel of communication with Government, and that an obstructive one.

2. Hence the appeal from the Inspector-General of Ordnance recorded with G.O., No. 289, of 2nd February, which has, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, been most improperly met by the first of the Superintending Engineer's letters above printed. That letter was quite uncalled for; and the statement made in it, if literally correct regarding the magazine itself (as was well known to the Inspector-General and to Government), is inexact as regards the completeness of the works altogether. Major Scott's report shows their state to have been such on the 2nd March, that it would take two months after sanction of the estimate now under review, but then unsubmitted, before powder could be safely stored.

3. That estimate is now passed, and the balance required to complete the works is allotted from the reserve under Military. His Excellency the Governor in Council has very recently* been compelled to notice unfavorably Colonel Moberly's conduct; and now directs that Colonel Moberly be informed that he has by his continued obstructiveness and general negligence incurred the serious displeasure of the Government.

4. Should the conduct of Colonel Moberly again be brought unfavorably to the notice of Government, it will be the duty of His Excellency in Council not only to remove him at once to another district but to reduce him to the grade of Executive Engineer.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.

Military Works
Controller of P. W. A.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Spare Copies

NO 3
N^o 4426

Superintendent Office Chingleput
Sunday 24th March 1875
Despatch 26 — — —

From

The Superintending Engineer
Chingleput District

To
The Secretary to
Government D.P.O.
Sir

En-

2. Plans.

1. Comparative

2. Abstract
Estimates
with Spec^{im}

With reference to para 2 of
G.O. N^o 201 dated 23rd January 1875,
Statement have the honor to submit for the sanction
of Government plans, Revised Estimate
and Comparative Statement for the
traverse round the Reserve powder
Magazine at Saint Thomas Mount
amounting to Rs 14,050 showing an
increase of Rs 4,090 over the original
estimate sanctioned in G.O. N^o 599
dated 7th March 1874.

The cause of this increase are as follow
1st Constructing butresses to the old
enclosure wall and surging the
slope and slope of the traverse
as

as per Estimate attached as suggested
in para 2 of G.O. No 201 dated 23 Jan'y 1870.

2^d Increase in rates of certain items,
the chief item being "Brick in Channan" 936

3^d Work not provided in the original
Estimate, but since found necessary 653

4th Additional work required, that
provided in the original Estimate
not being sufficient

5th Corresponding increase in "Contingencies" 335

Deduct small savings in certain
items aggregating to Rupees 109

4203

113

4090

The 1st item does not require any
Explanation as its necessity has already
been admitted by Government.

The 2^d item is due to increase in
current prices of articles.

The 3^d consists principally of the
levelling of the ground round the magazine
and of the rocky soil, constructing
rough stone revetment, removing
old masonry work &c. to allow the
drainage

7-5
drainage outside the traverse to pass
off freely, unfortunately these items were
not foreseen when the original Estimate
was prepared.

The 4th item is due 1^{stly} to a mistake ^{having}
made in making certain deductions
in the quantity of earthwork in the
original Estimate, but discovered in the
actual execution of work, and 2^{dly} to
extra length required in the road leading
to the Magazine.

The 5th item needs no remarks.

3. The cause of increase and decrease
in each particular minor item is stated
in the "Remarks" Column of the
Comparative Statement.

4. Rupees 936 have been allotted
for this work during the current
year and I request that the balance
of the revised Estimate viz 4690,
may be granted early in April

next

most from the Reserve of the ensuing
Official year.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant

J. M. S. by Col. R. R.
Superintendent of the Chicago and North Western

60 2^d July/75 No. 62-63
 " 23 Aug/75 " 118-119
 " 30 Oct/75 " 134-135
 " 7 Mar/76 " 162-163
 " 11 May/76 " 382-383
 " 23 Oct/72 No. 409-410
 " 25 Nov/72 No. 411-412
 " 26 Dec/72 " 413-414

12457A

R.C. 14-4-75
 67-4-75 R.C. 14-4-75

Mr. 1875-1000
 From
 No. 2052
 The Supt Engineer
 Chinghai D.
 To
 The Secretary to
 Government P.W. D.

Dated 24th March 1875
 Despd 26
 Recd 29
 Encl. 7.

Submits for
 sanction a revised
 estimate & comparative
 statement for the
 traverse round
 Reserve Powder
 Magazine at Saint
 Thomas Mount
 G. No. 1081. 17-4-75

Reserve Magazine, Mount
 Range - Inspected 2nd March 1875.

Present State of the Work. The out-
 buildings are completed the outer
 Porch is being tiled and requires
 plastering - it will be completed
 about the 15th instant. The packing
 shed requires painting - the work is
 in progress. The gateway has to be
 built. All the work in progress
 will be completed in about a fort-
 -night.

Work Proposed. An estimate is
 under preparation and will it is
 said be sent in to the Range officer
 in two days - for removing that portion
 of the traverse which is within the
 old compound wall to the outside
 of the wall and buttressing the latter
 in order to enable it to withstand
 the pressure of the outside earth.
 This work is necessary - the space

inside the old compound wall is altogether too confined to afford room for the earth work which has been thrown up. The surface of the traverse has nowhere been protected from the effects of rain by turfing and it is extensively guttered and cut and has slipped down inside as reported by the District Engineer. I think that if possible the exterior slope should be $1\frac{1}{2}$ to one and it ought certainly to be turfed. At present the work is a complete exposure. Immediate use of the Magazine. The Magazine cannot be used in its present state as the responsibility of the storage of the powder with a number of people working within the enclosure would no doubt be declined by the Ordnance Department. When the work now in progress has been completed and after the earth has been removed from the

interior enclosure and the battlements have been constructed. it might be filled perhaps. A period of two months is estimated for by the Overseer to complete the work.

The District Engineer might be called on to expedite the submission of the Estimate.

Adm. Secy.

Major R. E.
Under Secretary to Govt.
S.H.C.

3rd March 1875.

Report by the
Military Secretary

6.3782.

CHINGLEPUT DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
Camp Mamdoor
-Guindy, 8th February 1875.

From

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,

Chingleput.

To

The Secretary to Government
Department of Public Works.

SIR,

In reply to G.O. No. 289 dated 23rd
instant I have the honor to observe
that the reserve powder magazine
at Mamdoor has been completed
for a long time.

The alterations in the surround-
ing bank as which has fallen down
were made by the Ordnance Officers.
To whom the consequent delay should
be attributed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Colonel R. E.,

District Engineer Chingleput.

N/459-

Report by the

Mr 1875

From

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER.

CHINGLEPOT.

To

THE Secretary to the
P. M. Dept.

Dated 8

Received 10

} Feb 7 1875

No. 3782

ENCLOSURE.

Informing that
the reserve powder
magazine at Saint
Thomas Mount
has been completed
for a very long time.

N-458

Oct. 14. 1875

Oct. 14. 1875

N-459

The undersigned is at
a loss how to deal with
the case of the Reserve
Powder Magazine at St.
Thos. Mount, to which
the accompanying un-
finished Draft refers.
Colonel Roberts, is com-
mendable for promptness
in the completion
of the work. The amount
all 1872-73, & 1873-74.
To him is due the full
credit of the Government;
his treatment of the
appeal made by the
Dep. Secy of Ordnance
that the completion of
the work may be spe-
cified, is most mag-
nanimous & commendable for

Taken in conjunction with the manner in which he has handled the subject of the Porro matter Domach, his treatment of all migration matters so often unimadverted in by the Chief Insp. for migration; and the little satisfaction his management of Local Board work appears to give; Colonel Walker cannot but arrive at the conclusion that ~~Colonel Walker~~ ^{Colonel Walker} ~~has~~ ^{is} ~~several~~ ^{is} ~~other~~ ^{is} Districts, and re-direction from the rank of Insp. 8 to that of Executive Engineer, undesirable

in the interests of the Public Works Dept., & Public service generally. 194

5.4.75

Colonel Moberly is very co-operating
 & gives the Gvt more trouble
 than any other officer in the DPM
 but he is one of our senior
 Engineer officers - & I hesitate
 to degrade him ^{at once} as proposed.
 Perhaps the best thing to be
 done will be to tell him
 that if he continues to obstruct
 progress ^{generally} ~~work~~, & to neglect his duties
 it will be the duty of Govt
 to remove him to another Dis-
 -trict & to reduce him to
 the rank of Lt. Engineer.

Spente agree with Col

I think this will
be the best
come 11/14

rather as to let nobody
 efficiency and
 obstruction keep & would
 add to the instances of
 default & credit the horrible
 storage of the at the point
 the delay in finishing
 which has been quite out-
 -rageous & I am however
 content to deal with
 them as suggested by
 the Mr. R. S. W.

8-5-75 - *AS*

I am Walter G.
 Moberly's work for 10th
 and I cannot help say
 that I cannot hold the
 head of the Dep responsible
 for the discredit condition
 of this district unless
 this recommendation is
 carried out. My plan military
 local 7th Railway, admininstrative
 (as subject introduction) I am all suffering - I
 we remove not return *W. H. 87*

N^o 459.

D.C. 11-4-75
 67-4-75 D 11-4-75

China

From

The Super Engineer Chingleput. (H. E. No 3482 of 8th July 1875)

Report by Under Secretary H. E. dated 3rd March 1875

Super Engineer Chingleput. (H. E. No 1436 of 31st Dec 1874)

G. O. No 1081 of 17th April 1875

With the second letter
 also referred to, the
 Superintending Engineer
 of Chingleput submits
 fresh estimates for the
 works sanctioned in
 G. O. No 599 of 4th
 March 1874, re-
 vided as follows
 as to the amounts
 of each item viz:-

Traverses

	Original	Revised	Excess
Traverses	7194	10,820	3626
Pack Ring Shed	595	700	105
Sentry Sheds	512	660	148
Tunnel	133	160	27
Outer Porch	1526	1710	184
	<u>9,960</u>	<u>14,050</u>	<u>4,090</u>

Part of the excess on the job item to the extent of Rs 2170 is owing to the additions called for in G. O. No 201 of 23rd January, the remainder being due to omissions in the original Estimate and to increase of rates. The former should have been detected during the long interval that elapsed between the Estimate being called for and submitted; a delay which has been noticed in several orders. The

latter is simply stated as a fact, but is not attempted to be in any way accounted for. In fact, from first to last, there is not the slightest indication of the Superintending Engineer having been anything more than a channel of communication with Govt; and that an obstructive one.

Hence the appeal from the Inspector General of Ordnance recorded with G. O. No 289 of 22nd February; which has, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor in Council, been most improperly met by the

first of the Sup Engineers
letter above printed.

It was quite uncalled
for; and the statement
made in it, if literally
correct regarding the
Magazine itself, (as
was well known to the
Inspector General and
to Government) is the
most quibble as regards
the completeness of the
works altogether. Major
Scott's Report shows
their state to have been
such on the 2nd March
that it would take
2 months after sanction
of the Estimate now
under review, but
then unsubmitted before

Must
be
over
looked

See note on
p. 100
H. L. The Gov. in Council, has
very recently, been compelled to
note unfavorably Colonel
Moberly's conduct; He now
directs that Col Moberly be
informed that he has by
his continued obstructiveness
& general negligence incurred
the serious displeasure of the
Govt.
Should the conduct Col Moberly
again be brought unfavorably

Powder could be safely
stored.

That Estimate is
now passed and the
balance required to
complete the work
is allotted from the
Reserve under Military.
It only remains
to call Colonel
Moberly's grave
attention to the
warning given
him on the 1st
para. of G.O. No.
768 B of 18th March,
and to inform
him that the
measures allu-
ded to will
not only consist
in his summary
removal to an

other District,
but may also
involve his re-
duction to the
rank of Ex-
ecutive Engineer.

LYNN

to the notice of your it will
be the duty of H. C. in
Council ^{not only} to remove him
at once to another district
but to return him to the
grade of Ex. Engineer -

PAK

to Supr. Eng. Carpenter with 7 Under: staff 26-5-75 Vols 6P310

Engr. Dept -

Cont. W. Weeks

Disp. 27-4-75

SC Disp - 25-6-75

(7)

John R. L. S. Co.

Wm. L. S. Co.

Wm. L. S. Co.

Wm. L. S. Co.

Wm. L. S. Co.

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Wm. L. S. Co.

14-458-460

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14-475

14-475

871
21

Govt. of Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

Recd. 5/10/1875

Mr. J. J. Meier
Chungli put.

Date

Recd.

Encl.

17 April 1875 No. 1087

Nos. 458-460.

Transacted the Reserve

J. P. H.