

(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.	1204	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	30-4-1875	195.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 721. From the District Engineer, South Arcot, dated 3rd September 1874, No. 115.

No. 722. From G. S. SAGE, Esq., District Engineer, South Arcot, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Pooniar Anicut, 15th January 1875, No. 212.

With reference to the latter part of your memorandum, No. 706, of 14th September 1874, I have the honor to submit the letter, No. 512, of 11th instant, from officer in charge of the Virdachellum Range on the present state of the range.

2. Although it will be observed from this that the state of the range has, on the whole, much improved of late, still the works and accounts in the sub-division are in great arrears, and that there is some difficulty in bringing up these owing to the sudden absence of Supervisor Mr. Hicken without leave.

3. It is also observed from the Range Balance Returns of tools and stores for the half year ending 30th September 1874, that there are some excesses and deficiencies in the instruments and tools in the range. Mr. Hicken does not appear to have counted these and checked their correctness when taking over charge of the range or subsequently, but simply relied upon the returns of the Overseers. Some scientific instruments appear to have been missing when Mr. Bell gave over charge to Assistant Engineer Conductor Wiffen; this does not appear to have been reported to this office, nor does it appear that any steps were since taken to ascertain the cause of the same.

4. The present Range Officer, who has not had time for examining all the tools, &c., in the range, has been asked to submit a more detailed report on the deficiencies, &c., in each taluq and under each Overseer, &c., with explanation for the same; on receipt of which a further report on this matter will be submitted if necessary.

5. The records of the Range Office have not yet been completely arranged, the sanction accorded in G. O., No. 1,734, of 26th June 1874, for employment of a temporary clerk for this purpose being found by Range Officer insufficient. Separate application will be made on this subject on receipt of further information from that officer.

From R. E. NORFOR, Esq., Executive Engineer, No. 3 Range, South Arcot, to G. S. SAGE, Esq., District Engineer, South Arcot, dated Camp at Virdachellum, 11th January 1875, No. 512.

In answer to your No. 1,520, of the 8th instant, I have the honor to inform you that among the most important of arrears in which Mr. Hicken is concerned are the following :—

Five completion certificates for work completed in the last official year, which he alone can furnish certificates for.

Completion certificates for some works completed in the current year due during his tenure of the range; these also are only such as can be certified to by Mr. Hicken alone.

Several important requisitions on the unanswered reference list in his sub-division, the good water project at Chinnasalem amongst them.

Work registers for Tiagar choultry, Sunkarapooram road tunnels in Salem frontier road, and Kullacoorichi choultry; as the expenditure has been incurred in his time, his aid in explaining matters at least is wanted for the guidance of this office; he reported these were under preparation, but has now suddenly quitted the district.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th April 1875.*

A number of vouchers; a list is enclosed belonging to accounts so far back as October last; you have seen the correspondence on this subject.

2. Much important information can also be given by Mr. Hicken relative to the Pelandorai ancient works and the storage project connected with the same, as he has had a great deal to do with this since his arrival in the district in May 1873. I was only in the range during the first year of its progress when only preliminary preparations were made, and the main canal commenced, that was in April 1871; from that time to this I am a stranger to it except as District Engineer during the year I was in charge of the district when, as is required of District Engineers, I tried to get the accounts straight if possible, and all I got for it was being accused of wishing to falsify accounts.

3. As regards the present state of the range, I have to state that, with the exception of the four works abovementioned in the Kullakoorichi Taluq, I have now brought up work registers for every single work, big and small, up to October, and expect before this month is over to have them complete to end of December; none were opened when I joined. Estimate register, which was not attempted, has now been brought up to date, and is being regularly kept up.

4. Petty contract accounts, April to October, which were not brought up or sent to Controller, have been prepared and submitted; those for November and December will now be despatched; accounts are all regularly submitted to the Controller, and, with the exception of the voucher due from Mr. Hicken, everything is gone and no arrears.

5. Records have all been sorted up to 1872 and arranged in a box. I should like the remainder done up in the same way, but the small office establishment I have can only under great pressure struggle through the current work of the office.

6. As regards the works in the range everything is now in full swing. I feel sure you will find very considerable improvement in the general condition of the roads in the range, though I have now been here only five months; if this improvement continues as it has done I shall be certain of giving satisfaction. The gravelling of roads in the Chellumbarum and Virdachellum Taluqs, towards which when I took charge absolutely nothing had been done, has made such rapid progress that over 40,000 Rupees worth of work has been done in a very short time.

	RS.
Trunk Road No. 9	3,000
Virdachellum Road	24,000
Porto Novo "	3,800
Poodochuttrum "	4,000
In Virdachellum Taluq	5,500

40,300 roughly.

7. The bridge at Virdachellum has made a start, materials in abundance being prepared; the same remarks apply to the Munsif's Court-house; and the Dispensary will be finished by March; what is done is very good work. The choultry at Mangalum will also be finished by March. The Karoongale and Oodiyoor sluice are finished all but plastering. In fact I am of opinion that the range is now working well; of course more could be done if the number of hands were increased, but this is not the right place to comment on these points.

8. Regarding the Pelandorai Project I can say but little; there has been next to nothing done since I came here owing to freshes and rain; as I have already reported, the estimate has been exceeded, and I am going there shortly and will see how much more it is likely to cost to complete the work.

List of Vouchers required from Mr. Hicken.

- 1 Acquittance Roll for August.
- 1 Station Book for Kadathoor Tank.
- 1 Do. for Thatchoor large do.

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30th April 1875.*

- 1 Station for Kadamboor Tank.
- 1 Do. for Vanarootty large do.
- 2 List of purchases for Tiagadroog Choultry.
- 1 Station Book for Taskwork on Sunkarapoorum Road for September.
- 2 Do. for do. on do. for October.
- 2 Do. for do. for Cuddalore and Salem frontier road via Kullakoorichi.
- 1 Do. for do. Manalurput road.
- 4 Do. for do. for Reshivundiem road.
- 2 Acquittance Rolls for travelling allowance of Sub-Divisional Officer, Overseer, and his Writer.

VIRDACHELLUM,
11th January 1875.

(Signed) R. E. NORFOR,
Executive Engineer, No. 3 Range, South Arcot.

No. 723. Endorsement of the District Engineer, South Arcot, dated Camp at Porto Novo, 2nd April 1875, No. $\frac{D}{3}$ A.

From R. E. NORFOR, Esq., Executive Engineer, No. 3 Range, South Arcot, to the District Engineer, South Arcot, dated Camp at Porto Novo, 2nd April 1875, No. 3.

With reference to the Chief Engineer's memorandum, No. 318, of the 19th ultimo, calling* for complete report on the state of the Virdachellum Range generally, I have the honor to report as follows.

2. I left the Virdachellum Range in April 1871, and was again reposted to it and received charge in 13th August 1874, at which date the works in the range were, without a single exception, very backward, and the accounts and records considerably in arrears and in much confusion.

3. The Government authorized the employment of a temporary clerk for a period of three months, and subsequently extended this period for a space of two months; the services of the temporary clerk employed on this work were utilized to fill a vacancy as Overseer's writer on the 8th ultimo, not completing the two months, but the records in the range were arranged and sorted sufficiently up to current year to enable me to do without the temporary clerk's further services, what little has to be done forming only the work that ought to be performed by the regular establishment.

4. The accounts in the range office and with subordinates are all up to date, registers being maintained for all works in progress.

5. Some vouchers due by Mr. Hicken, as also completion certificates, have been since last reported obtained from him and submitted to Controller; the vouchers I speak of are some nominal rolls for salaries paid which were long detained in the office. Petty contract accounts which were in arrears are also brought up, and are now regularly submitted to the Controller, and, as far as the office generally is concerned, everything may be said to be on a satisfactory footing.

6. I have drawn up work registers for the Pelandorai Project from the commencement of the work in 1870-71 up to date, every item taken from vouchers and station books, and from these a revised estimate has been prepared showing cost of each item of work as actually executed. This revised estimate, with full particulars of expenditure under each sub-head of estimate, is a book in itself, and is now

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th April 1875.*

fair copied and submitted to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation; this has been no easy task to get through considering the confused state in which the early accounts of this work were kept, and I would here beg to make favorable mention of Taluq Overseer's Writer, Rungasawmy Moodelly, who has been of the very greatest assistance to me; in fact my own office establishment were fully occupied in current matters, and I could not depute one of them to this work; the complete manner in which the statements, papers, &c., for this work have been prepared will speak for themselves.

7. The accounts, &c., connected with the Vyllore and Kattoomyllore Projects have also been completed and sent up to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, and these also were prepared with the assistance of Rungasawmy Moodelly.

8. This is all there really is to say in the matter of accounts connected with the range. I will now proceed to give all the

	Outlay during 1873-74.			Outlay during 1874-75.		
ORDINARY.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Minor New Works	3,147	0	0	3,025	0	7
Repairs ...	26,188	5	8	*57,705	4	9
PROVINCIAL						
Original Works.						
Civil Buildings ...	7,827	6	5	7,323	2	6
Repairs.						
Civil Buildings ...	815	0	1	883	5	8
LOCAL.						
Original.						
Civil Buildings ...	3,873	0	4	17,057	4	1
Communications ...	40,720	12	9	64,787	1	2
Repairs.						
Civil Buildings ...	2,349	12	8	80	3	0
Communications ...	41,170	14	1	41,594	0	6
Total ...	1,26,091	4	0	1,92,405	6	3

* Only 13,000 Rupees expended up to date I took charge.

9. Much more could have been done in the way of masonry works but for the very uncertain weather we have had almost throughout the year.

10. There are very few incomplete works at the end of the last official year, and estimates for the current year have been prepared and many already sanctioned. I have specially taken in hand the Veeranum tank and the large important Irrigation Works in the Eastern Delta of the range, noticed in the report of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on his last inspection. Plans and estimates for sluices in and sections of the Veeranum tank have been submitted to this officer for his approval prior to sanction being accorded under Repairs Agricultural, and I have more in hand ready for despatch.

11. If early sanction is accorded to works, there can be no difficulty in carrying on operations more extensively than even in the last year, which, as I have said, contrasts very favorably with the operations of previous years, and being now in charge of the district, with a knowledge of what has been done in the other ranges, I know that No. 3 is second to none in the district.

12. Trusting that the remarks will show that the Virdachellum Range is now in good working order.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th April 1875.*

TRUE copy forwarded to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with reference to his No. 318, of the 19th March 1875. The correct return of the tools and scientific instruments in the range is in this office and will form the subject of a separate communication.

(Signed) R. E. NORFOR, *Executive Engineer,
In charge District Engineer's Office.*

No. 724. ORDER THEREON, 30th April 1875, No. 1,204.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 59.

THE Honorable the Governor in Council is glad to learn that the works and accounts of the Virdachellum Range were brought into a satisfactory state before the close of last official year, and trusts they will not again be allowed to fall into arrears.

2. He is disappointed to receive such unsatisfactory reports of Mr. Supervisor Hicken's efficiency.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, *Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.*

To the District Engineer, South Arcot.

" " Kurnool.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

no 706 Postmarked
Memo 14th Sept 1874

This application should have been
submitted through the Controller. 74

In the absence of any record of
pressing necessity for the leave, the
Chief Engineer desires that it be intimated
to Mr. Hickin that it will be more conve-
nient if he renews his application at a later
date, when the Range Officer may be able to
dispense with his services. A report of the
state of the Range will be submitted by the
District Engr. at the end of the Calendar
year.

Signed J. M. Walker Coll. R.E.
Chief Engr. D. 1874.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

18
 Subdivisional office
 No 3 Range Station
 1st September - 1874

[Handwritten signature/initials, possibly "W. H. H."]

[Handwritten date: 29/9/74]

The Subdivisional officer
 No 3 Range S.D.

Mr Executive Engineer
 No 3 Range S.D.

Sir,

I beg you will please
 Cancel my letter No 13 dated 29th ult.
 if you can instead of the leave therein
 asked for obtain for me 6 months leave
 under Sections 5 or 7 of the Unconquered
 Civil leave Code -

No arrangement will enable
 a Substitute being employed for me in
 the Subdivision while I am away
 on 'Furlough' or leave on Private affairs
 on half pay -

Yours most obedient servant
[Signature: A. P. K. K. K.]
 Subdivisional officer

No 115

From

District Engis Office I arced
Camp Port. Nov 3^d September 1874

The District Engineer
South arced

To

The Chief Engineer
D.P.W

Sir

Enclosure
Chief Application

I have the honor to forward an application from Mr. Supervisor Hicken for 6 months leave under either section 5 or 7 of supplement F of the Civil Leave Code and in so doing, to observe that unless a man can be sent in his place I object to his taking leave as he has allowed the work in the No. 3 Range whilst he was in charge of it to fall so much into arrears and got it into such a state of confusion that his services as Sub Division officers cannot be dispensed with if the work is to be done. I am on circuit in the range and trying to bring this to their proper state.

I have the honor to be
Sir

your most obedient servant

W. H. H.

District Engineer

Mr. H. H. H. (off the
No 3 Range etc)

Mr. H. H. H. (off the
No 3 Range etc)

Mr. H. H. H. (off the
No 3 Range etc)

Mr. H. H. H. (off the
No 3 Range etc)

Mr. H. H. H. (off the
No 3 Range etc)

D. P. W.
SOUTH ARCOT.

No. 212

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

Camp *Tornia Aincut*
Dated *15th January* 1875.

From

The District Engineer,

South Arcot.

To

The

Chief Engineer D. P. W.

Enclosures. 2

1 Letter

1 List

Sir,

With reference to the latter part of your Memorandum No. 706 of — September 1874, I have the honor to submit the letter No. 512 of 11th instant from Officer in charge of the Verdachellum Range on the present state of the Range.

2 — Although it will be observed from this that the state of the Range has, on the whole, much improved of late, still the works and accounts in the Sub division are in great arrears, and that there is some difficulty in bringing up these owing to the sudden absence of Supervisor Mr. Hickin without leave.

3 — It is also observed from the Range Balance Return of Tools and stores for the half year ending 30th September 1874, that there are some excesses and deficiencies in the Statements and Tools in the Range. Mr. Hickin does not appear to have counted these and checked their correctness when taking over — charge of the Range or subsequently, but simply relied upon the Returns of the overseers. Some scientific Instruments appear to have been missing when Mr. Bell gave over charge to Assistant Engineer, Conductor Wiffen; this does not appear to have been reported to this office, nor does it appear that any

any steps were since taken to ascertain the cause of the same.

4. — The present Range Officer, who has not had time for examining all the Tools &c in the Range, has been asked to submit a more detailed report on the deficiencies &c in each Taluq and under each Oversee &c, with explanation for the same; on receipt of which a further report on this matter will be submitted, if necessary.

5. — The records of the Range Officer have not yet been completely arranged. The sanction accorded in G.O. No. 1734 of 26th June 1874 for employment of a temporary clerk for this purpose, being found by Range Officer insufficient. Separate application will be made on this subject, on receipt of further information from that Officer.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most obedient servant

G. L. L. L.
District Engineer

Memo: to 706914: Sept 12/74
C. 1734926: June 14.
" 247A. 27 Jan 75.

P. SO. M. A. 1875 Dept.
From The District Engineer
No: 384
South Arcot.

To The Chief Engineer
D. P. M.

Date: 15th 18 } January 75
Despatched 18 }
Received 20 }

No. 212
Enclosures 2 ✓

I forward as called for
letter from No 3
Range officer regarding
the state of the record
in his office.

Memo: to 518919: March
1875.
St. No. 1204. 30-4-75.

1-722

620.4.75

Ny/N No 3

No 3 Range Office Arcot
Camp. P. to No 2 April 1875

From The Executive Engineer
No 3 Range S.A.
To The District Engineer
South Arcot.

Sir

* and your No 7
of 1.4.75

With reference to the Chief Engineer
Memo No 318 of the 19th ultimo calling for
Complete Report on the state of the Vindachell
Range generally, I have the honor to
report as follows:

2 I left the Vindachell Range in
April 1874 and was again reported to it and
received charge in August 13th 1874, at which
date the works in the Range were, without a
single exception, very backward and the accounts
and records considerably in arrears and in
much confusion.

3 The Government authorized the
employment of a Temporary Clerk for a
period of 3 months and subsequently extended
this period for a space of 2 months; the
services of the Temporary Clerk employed on
this work were utilized to fill a vacancy as
Bremer Writer on the 8th ultimo, not completing
the 2 months but the records in the Range
were arranged and sorted sufficiently
up to current year, to enable me to do with
out the Temporary Clerk further services, what
little

little has to be done forming only the work that ought to be performed, by the regular Establishment.

4 The accounts in the Range office and with Subordinates, are all up to date, registers being maintained for all works in progress.

5 Some vouchers due by Mr. Hickens as also Completion Certificates have been since last reported obtained from him, and submitted to Controller; the vouchers I speak of, are some Annual Rolls for salaries paid which were long detained in the office. Petty Contract accounts which were in arrears are also brought up, and are now regularly submitted to the Controller, and as far as the office generally is concerned, every thing may be said to be on a satisfactory footing.

6 I have drawn up work Registers for the Pelandara Project from the commencement of the work in 1870-71 up to date, every item taken from Vouchers and Station Books and from these a Revised Estimate has been prepared showing cost of each item of work as actually executed. This Revised Estimate with full particulars of expenditure under each sub-head of estimate, is a book in itself and is now fair copied and submitted to the Chief Engr for Irrigation; this has been

been no easy task to get through, considering the confused state in which the early accounts of this work were kept, and I would here beg to make favorable mention of Talag Oveser Winter Punga-saamy Mudaly, who has been of the very greatest assistance to me, in fact my own Office Establishment were fully occupied in current matters, and I could not devote one of them to this work. The complete manuscript in which the statements, papers &c. for this work have been prepared will speak for themselves.

7 The accounts connected with the V. L. and Kallangai Projects have also been completed and sent up to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation; and these also were prepared with the assistance of Pungasamy Mudaly.

8 This is all there really is to say in the matter of accounts connected with the Range. I will now proceed to give all the information in my power in respects to the state of the progress of the works in the Range generally exclusive of the Extraordinary works (Pelandara Project) and I think I need but to point to the figures given in the

the margin; these will show themselves a very con-

-siderable improvement on last & previous year operations, and indeed hardly add that I have done my utmost to utilize, to the best advantage and to the full extent possible, the allotments granted for the last year's expenditure - the Officers have done their work &

with due consideration to the seasons, and punctual and prompt payment, I have been able to get work done in the Range with not much difficulty and in some instances in a marvellously short space of time.

9. Much more could have been done in the way of masonry works but for the very uncertain weather we have had almost throughout the year.

10. There are very few incomplete works at the end of the ^{current} official year and estimates for the ensuing year have been prepared and many already sanctioned. I have specially taken in hand the

	Outlay during 1873-74	Outlay during 1874-75
Ordinary		
Minor Works	3147	3025
Repairs	26188	58577
Commercial		
Original works		
Civil Buildings	7827	657323
Repairs		
Civil Buildings	815	1888
Local		
Original		
Civil Buildings	3872	417057
Communications	40720	12964787
Repairs		
Civil Buildings	2349	128303
Communications	41170	14141594
Total	126091	4192405

only 13000 is expended up to date Stock change

Veranum Tank and the large important Irrigation works in the Eastern Delta of the Range, noticed in the report of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, in his last Inspection. Plans and Estimates for these in and sections of the Veranum Tank have been submitted to the Officer for his approval prior to sanction being accorded under Repairs Agricultural and I have more in hand ready for dispatch.

11. If early sanction is accorded to works there can be no difficulty in carrying on operations more extensively than ever in the last year, which as I have said contrasts very favorably with the operations of previous years and being now in charge of the Distt. with a knowledge of what has been done in the other Ranges, I know that No 3 is second to none in the District.

12. Trusting that the remarks will show that the Vidachellum Range is now in good working order.

I have seen
Sd/- R. E. Norris
Ex Engineer 3 Range &c.

No 3 a
Distt Engineer's office
Camp Porto Novo 2nd April 75
True Copy forwarded to the Chief Engineer
Public

W. H. Allen

Ex: Engr in ch.: D. E.
Officer

Kumool
Cuth RV & S

Gm

Indelible

60 27 Aug/75 No 507A-507B
26 June/74 - 588-590

P.W. 1895 Dist
From No. 2215
The Dist Engr
S. Arch

To
The Chief Engr
D.P.W.

Dated 2nd } April 75
Recd 5th }
No 23

Forwarded as called for
a Complete Report
of the Viridachellum
Range in the South
Arch Dist generally.

G.O. No. 1204 20-4-75

No 723

60 20-4-75

P.W. D. 1895

Proc. of the Madras Govt.

Read the following:-

From the Dist Engr, South Arch. (H.L. No 115 of 3rd Sep/74)

No. 212 of 15 Jan/75

No. 5 A of 2nd April/75

G.O. No. 1204 of 30 Apr/75

His Excellency
the Governor in Council
is glad to learn that the
Works and Accounts of the
Viridachellum Range were
brought into a satisfactory
state before the close of
last Official year; and
trusts they will not again
be allowed to fall into
arrears.

He is disappointed
to receive such unsatis-
factory reports of Mr.
Supervisor Hicken's effi-
ciency.

J. Dist Engr. South Arch.
Kumool
C. P. W. 1895

Recd 12-5-75

5604
384
22/5

Gob. of 1875 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

on file
The St. Supr,
Chincol.

Date

Recd.

Ex. L.

G. O. 30 April No. 1204

Nos 721 - 724

Viridachellum Range Accounts

The satisfactory state of
the — favorably noted
but expressing disappointment
at the unsatisfactory reports
of Mr. Supervisor Hickens
efficiency -