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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2547 (W)	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	8-9-	1874

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3th September 1875*

No 123 Read the following letter from Captain J W HINDLE, Officiating District Engineer, Vizagapatam, to Major-General G W. WALKER, R E, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Waltair, 19th August 1875, No 817 —

At the request of Mr Assistant Engineer Bell I have the honor to submit herewith, for the orders of Government, an original letter received from that officer, offering certain remarks with reference to the fine imposed on him in G O, No 1,108, of 19th April 1875

From J M BELL, Esq, C E, Assistant Engineer, Vizianagram, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R E, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Vizianagram, 16th August 1875, No 180

With reference to the Order of Government, No 1,108, dated 19th April 1875, in connection with the Vylur tank, South Arcot District, in which I have been severely blamed for gross carelessness, and fined Rupees 205, I beg to offer the following remarks with a view of explaining my conduct, which now appears blameworthy. When I first assumed charge of the Verdachellum Range from Mr Hawksworth, he left without handing over any of the works to me, as his orders to quit for Salem were peremptory, I was therefore to a very great extent dependent on the honesty of my subordinates. When I assumed charge I was allowed by Government to keep two office establishments in order to clear off the many arrears which had accumulated. Most of my time was occupied in disposing of this heavy work. Again, the range (Verdachellum) was increased on the re-organization by the addition of a taluk, and the additional work that was thrown on my hands, together with the arrears and the management I had to make for the disposal of the allotments on the Pelandora project, simply left me but little time to devote to each individual work.

2 The work executed during my time, so far as I can remember, was closing a breach in the bund, and I vouch from actual measurements I took of the pits the measurements agreed with the Overseer's bill. The Overseer D Coopposwamy Moodalhar had been in charge of the Vylur tank since the commencement of the work. All payments were made by this Overseer. Since it is now stated that the earthwork done on the bund falls short of the quantity paid for, I can only attribute it to old pits and hollows squared up to represent new excavations. During my inspection of the bund the work executed since my last visit was measured and found correct. The Overseer informed me that he had levelled the bund with an instrument, and my time being limited for visiting each work, I did not suspect that his statement could be untrue. The Overseer, from designs of his own apparently, kept back from me all papers in connection with the work that would throw any light as to what was to be done to the tank. It will be further seen that during my time only 6,092 cubic yards of earthwork were done, and comparing this to the large quantity, viz., 48,362* cubic yards, the probability is that the over-payment must have been in this quantity. Also, as I have been

* Executed during Messrs Norfor and Hawksworth's time

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th September 1875.*

informed, that the notes of Major Vertue, Acting Superintending Engineer, on this work were far from satisfactory, and the Overseer was fined Rupees 10 for bad work. When I was transferred from the South Arcot District, I had barely time to look carefully over the different completion certificates I had to sign, and this, coupled with the troubled state of my mind consequent on the report of Mr Norfor resulting in my degradation, &c, conduced in a measure to confuse my actions. However, notwithstanding all this, I am certain that, in forwarding the completion certificate for Vylur tank, I stated in a letter with it that I would only hold myself responsible for work done during my time. Also, in my administration report for that year, I stated "the work (Vylur) has been carried out to the extent of the estimate, but I regret to say that the estimate under repairs for closing breaches in the bund was not fully earned out. I shall exert to have the same closed at once, so that the tank may be of use for the next cultivation."

I therefore doubt if I did send a completion certificate for "repairs," closing breaches. In a letter from Mr Norfor, No 191, dated 25th December 1873, alluding to the Vylur tank, he says that the "work was reported completed in March, and that the bund that was thrown up four years ago was very much cut up by the rains during those four seasons, and in places it had sunk to below crest level of calingulah, yet the completion certificate was sent in by the Range Officer, &c." This strengthens my belief that the certificate if signed was done by an oversight, as it was my intention to have gone into the levels of the bund and the estimate in the same manner in which I did to other new works requiring certificates, many of which were withheld by me on account of surcharges and other irregularities which were reported to the Officiating District Engineer, Mr Norfor, who was the Range Officer when these irregularities happened, and all which subjects I reported in paragraph 6 of my appeal to Government. I cannot be charged with being careless with the works in the Verdachellum Range, as I did my honest duty in bringing to light many irregularities regarding the works in the range, notwithstanding the large charge I had at the time and the heavy arrears I had to clear. It would only be fair to me if Government would supply me with copy of all orders in which I have been censured with reference to transactions in the South Arcot District, so that I may have the opportunity of offering my explanation and vindicating my character. Mr Norfor has frequently made frivolous charges against me with the intention no doubt of damaging my prospects in the department, and also to bias Government against me, such charges even led to my degradation. If I had been allowed to be present at the late investigation held in South Arcot, I most decidedly should have proved every statement made in my appeal. In conclusion, I beg to add that I feel my position keenly, and consider that I have been severely dealt with. After the circumstances I have detailed, I respectfully beg to request that Government will be pleased to take all the circumstances of my case into consideration, and remit the heavy fine lately imposed upon me.

No 129

ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1875, No 2,547

ESTABLISHMENT, No 7-B.

THE Honorable the Governor in Council observes that the over-payments made on account of the Vylur tank in South Arcot being due to carelessness for which no excuse can be accepted, seeing

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8th September 1875*

that the difference between the proper and actual height of the bund, and the absence of conformity to the sanctioned longitudinal section were apparent upon the most cursory inspection, the fine imposed in G O, No 1,108, of the 19th April 1875, cannot be remitted

(True Extract)

(Signed) G W WALKER, Major-General, R E,
Secretary to Government

To the District Engineer, Vizagapatam ✓
" " South Arcot ✓
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation ✓
" Controller of Public Works Accounts

Ltd S T Austin

Spate Copies

M.O. 1-4002-18 9

1870

Wiccanagram Range Office
Wiccanagram 16th August 1870

The Assistant Engineer
Wiccanagram

The Secretary to Government
A. D. W.

Sir

With reference to the orders of
Government No. 1108 dated 17th April 1870
in connection with the Dylair Park District
in which I have been severely
reprimanded for gross carelessness and fined
Rs 205, I beg to offer the following remarks
with a view of explaining my conduct
which now appears almost worthy.
When I first assumed charge of the
Wiccanagram Range from Mr. ~~Wiccanagram~~ ^{Hawthornthwaite} he left
without handing over any of the works
to me, as his orders to quit for so long
were peremptory I was therefore to a
very great extent dependent on the honesty
of my subordinates. When I assumed
charge I was allowed by Government
to keep two office establishments in order

to clear off the many arrears which
had accumulated. Most of my time
was occupied in disposing of this heavy
work. Again, the Range (Kordachellum)
was increased on the reorganisation by
the addition of a Taluk and the addition-
al work that was thrown on my hands
together with the arrears and the arrange-
ment I had to make for the disposal
of the allotment to the Pelandonai Projects
simply left me but little time to
devote to each individual work.

The work executed during my time,
so far as I can remember, was closing
a breach in the Bund and I have
from actual measurements I took of the
pits the measurements agreed with the
overseer's Bill. The overseer & Corpora-
-my Invalian had been in charge of the
Kylur tank since the commencement
of the work; all payments were made
by this overseer. Since it is now stated
that the earth-work done on the Bund
falls short of the quantity paid for,
I can only attribute it to old pits

and hollows squared up to represent
new excavations. During my inspec-
-tion of the Bund the work executed
since my last visit was measured
and found correct. The overseer informed
me that he had levelled the Bund
with an instrument, and my time being
limited for visiting each work, I
did not suspect that his statement
could be untrue. The overseer, from
deceit of his own apparently, kept
back from me all papers in connection
with the work that would throw any
light as to what was to be done to
the Bund. It will be further seen
that during my time only 6,092 cu yds
of earth work were done and comparing
this to the larger quantity viz 48362 cu yds
the probability is that the over payment
must have been in this quantity. Also
as I have been recently informed
that the notes of Major Herbert, A. E. Superin-
-tending Engineer, on this work were far
from satisfactory, and the overseer was

+ executed
during my
visit and
the work was
done

joined Rs 10. per ha. work. When
I was transferred from the South
Krook District I had barely time
to look carefully over the different Com-
-pletion Certificates I had to sign, and
this coupled with the troubled state of
my mind consequent on the reports
of Mr. Norfor, resulting in my deprecia-
-tion, &c., conspired in a measure to
confuse my actions. However, not with-
-standing all this, I am certain that
in forwarding the Completion Certificate
for Nykur Tank, I stated in a letter
with it that I would only hold myself
responsible for work done during my
time. Also, in my administration
report for that year I stated "the work
(Nykur) has been carried out to the ex-
-tent of the estimate, but I regret to
say that the estimate under repairs
for closing breaches in the bund
was not fully carried out. I shall
speak to hand the same closed at once
so that the tank may be of use for
the next cultivation."

I therefore doubt if I did send a
Completion Certificate for repairs
closing breaches. Now a letter from
Mr. Norfor No 191, dated 25th December 1873,
alluding to the Nykur tank, he says
that the "work was reported completed
in March and that the bund that was
thrown up four years ago was very
much cut up by the rains during
those four seasons and in places
it had sunk to below street level
of Aringulab, & the Completion
Certificate was sent, in July, the
Range Officer, &c." This strengthens my
belief that the Certificate if signed
was done by an oversight as it
shows my intention to have gone into the
bunds of the bund and the estimate
in the same manner in which I
did to other new works requiring
Certificates, many of which were with-
-held by me, on account of charges
and other irregularities which were re-
ported to the Offg. District Engineer

Mr. Horner who was the Range - Officer
when these irregularities happened, and
all which subjects I reported in para-
- 6 of my appeal to Government. I can-
- not be charged with being careless
- with the work in the Verdachellum
- Range as I did my honest duty
- in bringing to light many irregularities
- regarding the work in the Range not-
- withstanding the large charges I had
- at the time the heavy arrears I had
- to clear. It would only be fair to
- me if Government would supply
- me with copy of all orders in which
- I have been censured with reference
- to transactions in the South Street
- District, so that I might have the opportunity
- of offering my explanation & vindicating my
- character. Mr. Horner has frequently
- made frivolous charges against me
- with the intention no doubt of damaging
- my prospects in the Department and
- also to bias Government against me.

such charges even led to my degra-
- dation. If I had been allowed to be
- present at the late investigation
- held in South Street I most decided-
- ly should have proved every statement
- made in my appeal. In conclusion
- I beg to add that I feel my position
- keenly, and consider that I have
- been severely dealt with. After the
- circumstances I have detailed, I
- respectfully beg to request that Govern-
- ment will be pleased to take all the
- circumstances of my case into consi-
- deration and remit the heavy fine
- lately imposed upon me.

I have the honor to be
- Sir
Your most obedient servant
M. J. L. L.
Assistant Engineer
Rio Grande

N^o 817

District Engineer's Office
Maltair 19th August 1875

From

The Offg. District Engineer
Viragapatam

Letter

To

The Secretary to Government P.W.D.
Madras

Sir

At the request of Mr Assistant
Engineer Bell, I have the honor to submit
herewith for the orders of Government, an
original letter received from that Officer,
offering certain remarks with reference to
the fine imposed on him in G.O. N^o 1108
of 19th April 1875.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedt. Servt.

In Witness Whereof Captain

Offg District Engineer, Viragapatam

mpd Ch

No 2547
 P.W.
 Proceedings of the Madras Land
 Revenue Board
 Under date the 8th Sept 1875
 Read the following

From
 The Dy District Engr
 Vizagapatam } (H. E. Engr 817 of 19th Aug 1875)

The Honorable the
 Governor in Council
 observe that the over-
 payments made on
 account of the Taylor
 tank in South Arcot
 being due to careles-
 -ness for which no ex-
 -cuse can be accepted,
 seeing that the difference
 between the proper and
 actual height of the
 land, and the absence

MD
 1/4

805 Nov 14 1875
 14-11-75 579-500-

D. W. 1875 Del.

The Dy District Engineer
 Vizagapatam
 No: 51485
 The Secretary to Government
 Madras

Dated 19th
 Dec 26 } August 1875

Submits for the order of Govt
 an original letter received from
 the Dy District Engineer
 Vizagapatam
 containing remarks with
 reference to the fine imposed
 on him in Q.O. 214 of 19th
 April 1875.

Q.O. 8 of 19th April 1875
 19-4-75 257

11-12-75
 11-12-75 257
 11-12-75 257

Del. 1875 26-8-75

of conformity to the spec.
-tioned longitudinal sec-
-tion were apparent
upon the most cursory
inspection, the fine im-
-posed in G. O. No. 1103 of
the 17th April 1875, can
-not be permitted.

Wm. 31/8
Wm.

St. George's Dyakapaton 4
" " Southbrook 6
" Chief Langford 45
" Cant. S. to. Accs. 5

128-129

W. 12/8

sc. 23-9-75
Office 1/8

85
✓
U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR
PUBLIC WORKS.

Mr. Luper
✓ Angel

D. C.

T.

U. S.

22 Apr 1875 No 2547

Dec 128 29

Mr. George Bell.

Intimating that the fine
imposed on — in Ct No
408 of the 17 April 1875

Cannot be remitted