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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2693	(W)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	20.9.		1875.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

A

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th September 1875.*

No. 421. Read the following letter from Major J. N. HUNTER, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tripatore, 31st August 1875, No. 72 :—

IN acknowledging the receipt of G. O., No. 2,363, dated 16th August 1875, I much regret to observe the censure of Government which, I think, would not have been passed, had my letter of the 6th August, No. 38, been put before them, as well as that of the 30th July 1875.

2. The latter was merely a reply to the Chief Engineer, informing him how far we had got in the matter of despatching the estimate, and was not intended as a report on the work, but merely a preparation for it.

3. In my letter of the 6th August, I was able to state that the work at Pereapett was on the point of completion. Six out of seven groynes having been finished, and the seventh and last requiring only the modussil, the banks have been formed with a slope 2 to 1, and nanel and corokai have been planted on the slopes of the bank and in the bed of the river, as provided in the estimate. In short, the Pereapett bank has, as I think, been rendered quite safe.

4. I trust, then, that the Government will see that there has been no want of energy in "doing" the work. The difficulty has been in making the estimate, and that difficulty has arisen from there being no definite rates for this sort of work, which is quite new in the taluq, and from the consequent necessity of fixing the rates from actual experience after the work was done. We tried to keep the rates down; but it was a very difficult business, as we had to compete with the Railway who were executing extensive works at the time, and labor of any sort and at any price was very hard to get.

5. At the commencement, during Mr. Arbuthnot's tenure, I endeavored to get skilled labor and superintendence from Tanjore and Trichinopoly, but could not induce the men wanted to come at anything like moderate rates of pay, and eventually got them from South Arcot.

6. This caused delay in commencing the work; but the work once commenced was, as above stated, done both well and vigorously, and I respectfully submit that the delay in preparing the estimate was, under these circumstances, unavoidable.

7. Another reason that put the estimate back was this. The Chief Engineer, when ordering emergent work to the Pereapett branch, did not say anything about the protection of the Rymanpet village, which includes the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry.

8. At the request of the Collector, I visited the place in June and made an estimate for protecting this bank also, and ordered the work to be commenced. This was included with the Pereapett estimate which had to be detained for the purpose.

9. The work at Rymanpett has been commenced; the banks have been sloped, and these as well as the bed of the river planted. The Range Officer expected that four groynes out of the six would have been completed by the end of this month, but I fear that this recent outbreak of cholera at Vaniembady will have thrown the work back.

10. I trust that after this explanation Government will reconsider their order of the 16th August 1875.

A.H.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th September 1875.

No. 422. ORDER THEREON, 20th September 1875, No. 2,693.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 25.

THE Government consider that the papers recorded in G. O., of the 30th August 1875, No. 2,479, show that the personal supervision of the District Engineer over the emergent work on the Palar near Vaniembady and over the survey and levelling operations was altogether insufficient, and he has, so far as the Honorable the Governor in Council is at present informed, been rightly held responsible for the great delay which has occurred, first in the preparation of the estimates for the emergent works, and secondly in preparing the surveys and levels required for the determination of the arrangements required at the head of the two principal branches of the river. Should Major Hunter still consider that the censure passed upon him in G. O. of the 16th August last, No. 2,363, is undeserved, he must show what visits he has paid to Vaniembady since January last, and what measures he took on the spot to ensure the correct carrying out of the instructions contained in the notes of inspection of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Salem.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

1072 - District Engineer's Office,
Camp Triplicane 31st Augt. 1875.

From

The District Engineer,
Salem.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of G. O. No. 2363 dated 16th August 1875, I much regret to observe the censure of Government, which, I think, would not have been passed, had my letter of the 6th August, No. 38, been put before them, as well as that of the 30th July 1875.

2. The latter was merely a reply to the Chief Engineer, informing him how far we had got in the matter of despatching the estimate, and was not intended as a report on the work, but merely a preparation for it.

3. In my letter of the 6th Augt., I was able to state that the work at Perapet was on the point of

Completion

completion - but the progues having been finished - and the seventh and last requiring only the mudsill - the banks have been formed with a slope 2 to 1, and camel and corokai have been planted on the slopes of the bank and in the bed of the river, as provided in the estimate. In short, the Pereapett bank has, as I think, been rendered quite safe.

4. I trust, then, that the Government will see that there has been no want of energy in "doing" the work. The difficulty has been in making the estimate, and that difficulty has arisen from there being no definite rates for this sort of work, which is quite new in the Colony, and from the consequent necessity of fixing the rates from actual experience after the work was done. We tried to keep the rates down, but it was a very difficult business, as we had to compete with the Railway who were executing extensive works at the time - and labor of any sort and at any price was very hard to get.

5. At the commencement, during

during Mr. Bruburn's tenure, I endeavoured to get skilled labor and superintendence from Tongareva and Arichimopoly, but could not induce the men wanted, so came at any thing like moderate rates of pay and eventually got them from Santa Cruz.

6. This caused delay in commencing the work, but the work once commenced was, as above stated, done both well and vigorously; and I respectfully submit, that the delay in preparing the estimate was, under these circumstances, unavoidable.

7. Another reason that put the estimate back was this. The Chief Engineer when ordering urgent work to the Pereapett branch, did not say anything about the protection of the Pymapett village, which includes the Sub Inagis-bratis butchery.

8. At the request of the Collector, I visited the place in June and made an estimate for protecting this bank also, and ordered the work to be commenced. This was included with the Pereapett estimate which

which had to be detained for the present.

9. The work at Rymainpett has been commenced; the banks have been sloped and there as well as the bed of the river, planted. The Bridge Officer expected that four groyne out of the six would have been completed by the end of this month; but I fear that this recent out break of cholera at Vambady will have thrown the work back.

10. I trust that after this explanation, Government will reconsider their Order of the 16th August 1895.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedt. Servant.

J. W. Miller Major R.E.,

District Engineer.

3.6.1895/56278-279.

P. W. 1895 Dept.
From No: 5643
The District Engineer,
Salem.
S.

To
The Secretary to
Government P.W.

Dated 31st Augt 1895
Recd. 2nd Sept

N. 2655-26575.
Protection of Pucapett
near Vanimbady.

Requesting that, under
the circumstances explained,
Government will reconsider
their Order of the 16th Augt,
expressing great dissatisfac-
tion at the neglect of duty
shown in connection with
the delay in the submission
of the estimate for the -

1895

Ci-18.9.75 Alia 20.9.75
B. 10-9-75.
D. 10-9-75.

No. 2693 Public Works Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 20th Sept. 1895.
Read the following
From
The Dist. Engineer
Salem

(N. 72 of 31st Augt 1895)

The Govt. consider
that the papers recorded
in G.O. of the 30th August
1895 N. 2479 show that
the personal supervision
of the District Engineer
over the emergent work
on the Palar near Vanim-
bady, and over the survey
and levelling operations
was altogether insufficient
and

Acad. 9.

and he has, so far as
the Honble the Governor
in Council is at present
informed, been rightly
held responsible for the
great delay which has
occurred first in the
preparation of the Estimates
for the emergent works,
and secondly in preparing
the surveys and levels
required for the deter-
mination of the arrange-
ments required at the
head of the two principal
branches of the river -

Should Major Hunter
still consider that the
censure passed upon him
in G.O. of the 16th August
last No. 2303 is undeserved
he

he must show what
visits he has paid to
Vaniembady since January
last, and what measures
he took on the spot to
ensure the correct carry-
ing out of the instructions
contained in the Order
of Inspection of the
Chief Engineer for
Irrigation.

Wm. H. J.
M. J.

B.S. Salem 5
Chrgs for Irrig. 5
H. J. 17

27
3

SC Inspd - 5-10-75

5643

Gobl. of 1875 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS

Sh. S. S. S.
Salem.

Printed

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G. O. 20th Apr. 1893

421 - 422

~~415 - 416~~

Major J. Hunter, D. S. S. S.
Declining, for reasons stated,
to reconsider
G. O. No. 2363 of 16 Aug. 1875,
expressing great dissatisfaction
at the neglect of duty
shown by , in
connection with the delay
in the submission of the
estimate for the protection
of Periapett, near Tanjore.