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(2) Date of repair _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2896	Press	<i>Original</i>
B.P. No.		Misc.	
Dated	11/ 10	195	1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th October 1875.*

No. 144. Read the following letter from Major J. BEATTY, R.E., Acting Superintending Engineer, Godavery, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 29th September 1875, No. 1,983:—

As directed in G. O., No. 2,552, of 8th September 1875, I have the honor to

1 Original petition with translation in English and two accompaniments. report on the petition of G. Seethiah, a boat carpenter, lately employed in the Government Workshop, Dowlaishweram.
5 Statements and endorsements marked A, B, C, D, and E.

2. This man first came to the Workshop in 1872-73. He worked on some boats that were building for the Collector; he was afterwards employed on some lock gates and sundry small jobs, besides the ferry boat for Chottipett, the twenty-two ferry boats for other places and the three iron-ribbed boats with wooden sheathing.

3. In all cases the petitioner merely undertook to provide labor; all timber, iron, &c., being found from the Workshop stores, and the arrangement was that he should be paid the rate that the estimate allowed for labor.

4. In the case of the Chottipett ferry boat a very high rate was provided in the estimate, because in 1873 there was a great deal of private boat-building going on; owing to the demand for timber the price of Godavery teak was high, it was difficult to get any boat carpenters, and the Workshop had to offer high rates for this kind of labor. Seethiah was therefore paid an exceptionally high rate for the work done on that boat, viz., 13 Annas* and 9 Pies per cubic foot.

5. He was then employed on some lock gates and other odd jobs in the Workshop, and in 1874 he undertook to provide labor for the twenty-two ferry boats then commenced under my predecessor's sanction.

6. Meantime the price of Godavery timber had fallen somewhat, boat carpenters came in good numbers, and Seethiah's duty was simply to keep as many men as he could on the ferry boats, and afterwards on the iron-ribbed punts.

7. In the case of the ferry boats the estimate provides a reduced rate of Rupees 2-4-0 for the wood-work per cubic foot for Godavery teak. The rate in the estimate for the iron-ribbed punts was 3 Rupees for Pegu teak. I send, herewith, details of each rate, and I am of opinion that Captain Brockman settled* the rates to be paid for labor in each case very fairly.

8. Seethiah commenced work on the ferry boats in January 1874 and completed them about February 1875, being paid up from time to time as the work progressed. I send a statement* showing the different payments made for labor on account of the ferry boats as well as the total sum due under that head. By this it appears that the ferry boats have been paid for in full. Some of the work on these boats was done by other carpenters employed by the shop, with the Contractor's knowledge and consent, and this was separately paid for as shown.

* *Vide* details of the rate herewith sent, accompaniment A.

* *Vide* endorsement on Seethiah's petition of 13th May 1875. Marked D, and accompanying Memorandum marked C.

* *Vide* accompanying Statement B.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th October 1875.*

9. Seethiah's own statement in the petition is that he was paid Rupees 684 and Rupees 312 on account of the ferry boats; the Workshop accounts show that he was paid on twelve different occasions, and that the total amounted to Rupees 992-1-7, while Rupees 116-8-5 were paid for part of the work to other carpenters, &c.

10. In the case of the three punts, he finished two and stopped work when the third was partly done. By this stoppage the work was delayed about three weeks,

other boat carpenters were set to finish it to whom Rupees 45 were paid, and Captain Brockman ordered* the petitioner to be fined Rupees 24 for breach of agreement and delaying the work.

11. So far as I can judge the petitioner has been fairly dealt with, but it is to be regretted that at the commencement of such a large work a written document was not obtained from the head carpenter, stating the general nature of the work and the rate to be paid for it, and I have directed that this shall be done in future whenever a work is not to be done by daily labor.

12. At the same time I may mention that although this system of working by verbal agreement has been customary, Mr. Joyce informs me that this is the first time, in the eleven years he has been employed in the Workshop, that such a complaint as that raised by Seethiah has been made.

No. 145.

ORDER THEREON, 11th October 1875, No. 2,896.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 9.

THE Government observe that the mistake made appears to have been the entering into an agreement with the head boat carpenter at estimate rates, the variation in which was not clearly understood by G. Seethiah, instead of, engaging the labor at so much per boat with reference to the quantity of wood-work to be executed. Under the latter arrangement there would have been no room for misunderstanding. No very formal agreement would have been required, but simply in the case of each boat a memorandum showing the quantity of wood-work, the rate and the amount, or one memorandum giving these particulars for all the boats to be constructed by the head boat carpenter, to which his signature should have been affixed.

2. The Government have no means of determining whether the rates of 13 $\frac{3}{4}$, 7 and 4 Annas respectively, per cubic foot of wood-work, for labor, were fair and reasonable under the circumstances; and whether, setting aside the first rate, which is reported to have been rendered exceptionally high by the special circumstances of the time, the difference between the two latter rates is accounted for by the nature of the work to be done. Major Beatty should however take care that G. Seethiah is paid the full value of the work done by him, and that, if the details of estimate rates were, as regard the allowances for carpenter's work, incorrect, a proper adjustment is made.

3. It is noticed that in enclosure B deductions are virtually made from the rate of 7 Annas a cubic foot for shifting boats, &c., and that the cause of this proceeding is one over which the contractor could have had no control. Here then is one detail which appears to be open to objection.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
11th October 1875.*

4. Ordered that the following endorsement to G. Seethiah's petition be sent :—

"Inquiries have been made into the circumstances of the work undertaken by G. Seethiah for the Dowlaishweram Workshops, and the petitioner is informed that Major Beatty has been instructed to pay him the full value of the work done by him, which value must be settled by the Officiating Superintending Engineer."

(True Extract.)

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

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, Godavery.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

Okeley Bay
 Saturday 28th
 My dear Calcutt,
 As far as I can remember
 the petition was a pretty job.
 Carpenter contracts with workshops
 to show the building of the ferry
 boats (which you may remember
 were constructed last year) by
 you. The rate for building these
 was put at 7 as a cubic foot
 as they had to be framed
 in addition to the planking
 being fastened thereto. The

C. Calcutt: One returned

as full at the rate for
all the boats of that de-
scription he completed - Subse-
quently the contract for building
three of the boats ($72' \times 12' \times 3\frac{1}{2}'$)
with iron ribs & wooden sides
was given to him with the promise
of being paid according to the
estimate rate - This estimate rate
per cub. ft. of work was: I put
up was exactly the same I think
as the rate allowed for the
sides for the ferry boats, but was

much as the work consisted
of planking, which was
allowed as to the iron ribs, the
rate upon settling the contractors
accounts was fixed at 4^{cts} per
cub foot. The petitioner stuck
out for 7^{cts} per cft. which he
refused to give him, and he
stopped work - Upon petitioning
me he was informed that he could
be paid at the rate of 4^{cts} only
for the large boats, & his accounts
finally settled upon completion

No 1988. Sup^e Engineer's Office, Godavery,
Dowlaiswaram 27 September 1875.

Transf'd to the From,
Police Dept. 12/10

Major J. Beatty R.E.
As Superintending Engineer Godavery

To,
Major General G. W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government D.P.W.
Sir,
As directed in G.O. No 2552 of 8 September 1875, I have the honor to report on the petition of G. Sethiah, a boat carpenter lately employed in the Government Workshop Dowlaiswaram.

2. This man first came to the Workshop in 1872-73. He worked on some boats that were building for the Collector; he was afterwards employed on some Lock gates, and sundry small jobs, besides the ferry boat for Chittipett, the 22 ferry boats for other places and the three iron-plated boats with wooden sheathing.

3. In all cases the petitioner merely undertook to provide labor; all timber, iron &c being found from the Workshop store; and the arrange-

After the boat which he
in then engaged before. The
structure like for the workshop
the large boat did not
included smiths here for
tapping the river & making
all the carpenter had to do
for. Merely to better the plan
of the ribs - This as well as I
can remember in all the fact
the case. Dowlaiswaram
J. Beatty
Dowlaiswaram

arrangement was that he should be paid the rate that the estimate allowed for labor.

4 In the case of the Chellipett ferry boat, a very high rate was provided in the estimate, because in 1873 there was a great deal of private boat building going on; owing to the demand for timber the price of Godavery teak was high; it was difficult to get any boat carpenters; and the Workshop had to offer high rates for this kind of labor. Lethiah was therefore paid an exceptionally high rate for the work done on that boat; viz, 13 annas & 9 pies per cubic foot.

4 He was then employed on some lock gates and other odd jobs in the Workshop, and in 1874, he undertook to provide labor for the 22 ferry boats then commenced under my predecessor's sanction.

5 Meantime the price of Godavery timber had fallen somewhat, boat carpenters came in good numbers, and Lethiah's duty was simply to keep as many men as he could on the ferry boats; and

afterwards

* These details of the rate here with sent. Li. companionment.

15 2
afterwards on the iron-ribbed punts.
6. In the case of the ferry boats the estimate provides a reduced rate of Rupees 2-4-0 for the woodwork per cubic foot for Godavery teak. The rate in the estimate for the iron-ribbed punts was 3 Rupees for Pegu teak. I send herewith details of each rate, and I am of opinion that Captain Brockman settled the rates to be paid for labor in each case very fairly.

* This endorsement on Lethiah's petition of 13th May 1875.

and accompanying statement.

* vide accompanying statement
B

7. Lethiah commenced work on the ferry boats in January 1874 and completed them about February 1875; being paid up from time to time as the work progressed. I send a statement showing the different payments made for labor on account of the ferry boats as well as the total sum due under that head. By this it appears that the ferry boats have been paid for in full. Some of the work on these boats was done by other carpenters employed by the shop with the contractor's knowledge.

knowledge & consent, and this was separately paid for as shown.

8. Sethiah's own statement in the petition is that he was paid Rs 684 and Rupees 312 on account of the ferry boat; the Workshop accounts show that he was paid on twelve different occasions, and that the total amounted to Rupees 992-1-7, while Rupees 116-8-5 were paid for part of the work to other carpenters &c.

9. In the case of the three points, he finished two, and stopped work when the third was partly done. By this stoppage the work was delayed about three weeks, other boat carpenters were set to finish it, to whom Rs 45 were paid, and Captain Brockman ordered the petitioner to be fined Rs 24 for breach of agreement and delaying the work.

10. So far as I can judge the petitioner has been fairly dealt with, but it is to be regretted that at the commencement of such a large work a written document was not obtained.

* Vide endorsement on Sethiah's petition of 30 July 1871

obtained from the head carpenter stating the general nature of the work and the rate to be paid for it, and I have directed that this shall be done in future whenever a work is not to be done by daily labour.

11. At the same time I may mention that, although this system of working by verbal agreement has been customary, Mr. Joyce informs that this is the first time, in the eleven years he has been employed in the Workshop, that such a complaint as that raised by Sethiah has been made.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your Most obedient Servant
L. Beatty, Major R.
Sr. Supr Engineer Coimbatore, D.

Details of the rates allowed for woodwork in the Chettipett Ferry Boat; in the 22 Ferry Boats subsequently built; and in the 3 iron ribbed punts.

- 1 Rate for Chettipett Ferry Boat.
Rs 3. for Godavery Teak wrought and put up.
Details.

Timber including waste	_____	Pcs 1-13-3
Sawyers work	_____	" - 3 - 4
Nails	_____	" - 2 - 4
Carpenters	_____	" - 13 - 9
Total Pcs -		3 - 4 - 4

2. Rate for the 22 Ferry Boats—

Rs. 2-4-11 for Godavery teak wrought & put up.
Details.

Timber including waste	Rs 1-8-
Sawn-pers	" 3-
Nails	" 2-
Carpenters	" 7-
Total Expenses	Rs 14-

3. Rate for the three iron ribbed Punt.

Rs 3 for Paper Teak wrought & put up -

Details

Timber including waste	Rs 2 - 2 - 0
Lawyers	" " - 8 - 0
Bolts & nuts to secure the planking to the iron frame work	" - 9 - 0
Carpenters	" - 4 - 0
Total Expenses	Rs 3 - 6 - 0

L. Beatty. Major Q.
Asst Supr Engineer Ordnance

206-11171-1218-139

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Heath's Supper

Godfrey

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the Secretary to the

1994

11-20-64

Page 4 of 4

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Shall we do this?

2552 of 8

December 1895 on

Deputy of G.

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Lord in the Court

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Statement of
payments for light
employed on the
22 ferry boats

Details of rates for
woodwork on and
Settled was and
blended.

11/17/25
1/25

173

Statement showing the payments made for Constructing Ferry Boats in 1913

Godanery District

Names	For first class Ferry Boats			For second class Ferry Boats			Grand Total
	Date of Payment	Amount	Total	Date of Payment	Amount	Total	
Gidda Sethiah	14 th February/14	200 . .		25 th April/14	48 . .		
	20 th do	10 . .		23 rd May/14	200 . .		
	28 th do	10 . .		31 st July/14	72 . .		
	28 th March	60 . .		2 nd Nov/14	3 . .		
	31 st do	65 . .					
	11 th April	150 . .					
	20 th do	90 . .					
	do	84 . .	669 1 7			323 . .	992 1 7
Carpenters							
James	13 th February 1876/1	8 . .					
V. Narasingaraju	12 th March	5 . .					
@ Boolliah	31 st do	1 2 5					
N. Veriah	20 th April			20 th April/14	7 2 6		
C. Bangarao				30 th May/14	6 . .		
Doorkara Appiah				7 th Nov/14	40 . .		
Cizra Venkataray				14 th January/15	12 . .		
do				27 th Feb/15	4 . .		
			14 2 5			69 2 6	83 4 11
Work shop & foundry men			683 4 .			392 2 6	1075 6 6
9 men	February/14	3 6 .		8 men - April 1876/1	3 . .		
16 do	March	6 . .		2 do (Oct/14)	12 . .		
25 do	April	9 6 .	18 12 .			3 12 .	22 8 .
Coolies							
2 men	February/14	1 14 .		38 men - April 1876/1	8 7 6		
			1 14 .	2 do - Oct/14	6 . .	8 13 6	10 11 6
			703 14 .			404 12 .	1108 10 .

12 first class Ferry Boats containing 1616 ft. 8 1/2 ft. 703-14-0
 10 second class do do 905 ft. 404-12-0
 2521 ft. 1108-10-0
 at 7 annas per foot

Carpenters employed by the ship to construct the Contractor with his knowledge and consent and paid separately

For shifting the boats on to and off the steamer at a time the work was temporarily stopped, while waiting for government sanction to the estimate and for moving and finished work into and out of the shed

Don't know name
 29 September 1915

R. Beatty - Major R.R.
 1/9/15

Memo showing the quantity and
Amount of Carpenters hire of 3 Boats
72 ft. long wooden hulls with iron

ribs - 479 1/2 ft. wood at 4 a. { 119-14-0
per Cubic foot.

For 3 Boats 359-10-0

Disburse

Amount paid to { 250-0-0
G. Lethal

Disburse for other
Carpenters for Com.

Completing 3rd Boat { 45-0-0
295-0-0

Balance to be paid 64-10-0

Disburse fine for not completing { 24-0-0
the work on 3 Boat

40-10-0

Resd, R. R. B. (left)

L. Beatty Major R.E.
Capt. Engineer General

... at ...
 ...
 ...

Plans showing
 the quantities
 and payments
 for work done
 on the work
 of the iron
 points.

W. D. 233
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No 47

Endorsement to Gidda Sethia

On his petition dated 13th May 1875
 ... with regard to the short
 payment he has received for the
 first & second class ferry boats
 he built and on the large boat with
 iron ribs, the undersigned finds
 that he was paid in full for the
 22 Ferry Boats at 7 annas per
 Cubic foot in accordance with the
 reduced rates of estimate.

2^d He will be paid at 4 annas
 per Cubic foot for the large boats
 minus advances when he completes
 the 3^d Boat.

W. D. 233
 20th May 1875
 Capt. R. R. Bramman
 Engr. in Ch. - Govt.
 Works Dept.

L. Beatty Major R. E.
 Supg. Engr. Godavari

The undersigned
 Captain Brockman
 has the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst.

I have the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst.
 and in reply to inform you that
 the same has been forwarded to the
 proper authorities for their consideration.
 I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, Sir, obedient servant,
 Captain Brockman

I have the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst.
 and in reply to inform you that
 the same has been forwarded to the
 proper authorities for their consideration.
 I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, Sir, obedient servant,
 Captain Brockman

I have the honor to acknowledge
 the receipt of your letter of the 13th inst.
 and in reply to inform you that
 the same has been forwarded to the
 proper authorities for their consideration.
 I am, Sir, very respectfully,
 Yours, Sir, obedient servant,
 Captain Brockman

no 115

Endorsement to Gidda Sethian
 on his petition dated 30th July 1875

The petitioner not having
 completed the 3rd Boat a fine of
 Rs 24-0-0 is inflicted for breach of
 Contract which is equivalent to Rs 20 per foot
 on the whole amount of his Contract for
 one Boat viz Rs 119-14-0 for 4792 ft
 at 4 as per ft he is therefore required
 to present himself at the work shop
 & take the balance Rs 40-10-0 as per
 Memo herewith accompanying.

Signed / R. R. Brockman
 (Dowlaismura) { Lt. Col.
 9th August 1875 { Lt. Col.
 Lt. Col.

/Enclosure/

Lt. Col. Major R.
 Supy. Engineer Godan

[Faint handwritten text, possibly a letter or report, mostly illegible due to fading.]

Capt. Brockman's
 endorsement on
 Sethrick's petition
 of 30th July 1875
 M. 2596
 8/7/75
 O. A. L. & Co. 1875
 1875

[Faint handwritten text, mostly illegible.]

No 2596

15th Oct
 Public Works Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 11th Oct. 1875
 Read the following:

The Ag. Supp. Engrs } (M. 2596 4/29 Sept 75)
 Godavery

The Government
 observe that the mis-
 take made appears to
 have been the entering
 into an agreement
 with the head boat
 carpenter at estimate
 rates, the variation in
 which was not clearly
 understood by J. L. that the
 material

132
instead of engaging
the labour at so much
per boat with reference
to the quantity of wood
work to be executed.

Under the latter arrange-
ment there would have
been no room for mis-
understanding. No very
formal agreement would
have been required, but
simply in the case of
each boat a memoran-
dum showing the quan-
tity of woodwork, the
rate and the amount,
or one memo giving these
particulars for all the
boats to be constructed
by the head boat carpenter,
to

270-13-6
to which his signature
should have been af-
fixed.

2. The Government
have no means of deter-
mining whether the
rates of $13\frac{3}{4}$, 7 and 4
annas respectively, per
cubic foot of woodwork, for
labour were fair
and reasonable under
the circumstances, and
whether, setting aside
the first rate, which is
reported to have been
rendered exceptionally
high by the special
circumstances of the
time, the difference be-
tween the two latter
rates

rates is accounted for by the nature of the work to be done. Major Beatty should however take care that G. Sutherland is paid the full value of the work done by him, and that, if the details of estimate rates were, as regard the allowances for Carpenters' work, incorrect, a proper adjustment is made.

3. It is noticed that in enclosure B deductions are virtually made from the rate of 4 annas a cubic foot for shifting boats &c. and that the cause of this

this proceeding is one
over which the contractor
could have had no control.
Here then is one detail
which appears to be
open to objection.

4. Ordered that the following endorsement to G. Seethiah's petition be sent.

"Enquiries have been made into the circumstances of the work undertaken by G. Suthak for the Daulahwarum work shops, and the Petitioner is informed that Major Beatty has been instructed

01-12-52

[Illegible handwritten signature]

to pay him the full
value of the work done
by him, which value
must be settled by
the officiating Super-
tending Engineer!

Wm. S. 10

G.M.W.

Aspd - 21-10-75

Ag. Super. Eng. Goddard
Petition Dept. and Petition
+ Endt. only - sent in home.
Receipt - 13-10-75

E. A. B.

6299

Gobt. of Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
Mr. P. S. S. S.
Secretary.

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 11/10/1914 No. 283/1

No. 11/1 - 145

Petition of S. Senthiah,
a Contractor in the Govt.
Workshop, Dowlaishewer.
Passing orders on letter
from the Dy. Super.
Engr. Godavery, reporting
on the same.