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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	290	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	2 . 2	-195- . 18/5

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 54. Read the following letter from Captain J. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Neilgherries, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 9th January 1875, No 11.—

I REGRET to have to report that No 3 block of the Wellington Barracks was struck by lightning at 7-30 P.M. on the 29th ultimo. I was at Kotagerry at the time, but visited Wellington on the 1st instant.

2. The lightning fortunately divided into two portions before it struck the barrack, so that the injury it caused is comparatively trifling. One stroke hit the ridge of the block near its centre, and the electric fluid passed down the southern fall of the roof, tearing a teak rafter to pieces and injuring the purlin. It then fell on to the terrace verandah roof, tearing up a large portion of it and cracking a joist, eventually passing harmlessly down one of the water-pipes.

3. The other stroke hit the side of one of the chimneys at the south-west end of the block and the fluid tore down the southern fall of the roof, breaking the tiles but not injuring the rafters. It then fell on to the flat terraced verandah injuring it, and eventually passed harmlessly down one of the water-pipes.

4. The thunder-storm was very severe, and an unusual quantity of rain fell. The block lies south-west by west and north-east by east.

5. The barrack was occupied, but was not so full of men as it usually is. Some were knocked down by the shock. But none were in any way injured.

6. The destruction in every way might have been expected to be far more severe.

7. I have the honor to enclose an estimate countersigned by the Commandant, for repairing the damage caused by the lightning, amounting to Rupees 1,955. An early allotment of funds is requested.

8. None of the buildings at Wellington, except the Powder Magazine, have any lightning conductors. Severe thunder storms on these hills occur annually, and these buildings are so situated as to render themselves peculiarly liable to being struck by lightning. I am, therefore, preparing an estimate for providing all the buildings with lightning conductors.

No. 55. ORDER THEREON, 2nd February 1875, No. 290.

MILITARY WORKS, No. 4.

THE estimate, amounting to Rupees 1,955, for repairing the damaged portions of No. 3 block of barracks at

Wellington is sanctioned. Funds will be allotted from the balance of the grant under Repairs, Military at the disposal of the Chief Engineer.

2. The estimate for lightning conductors will be awaited.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Neilgherries.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.
„ Military Department.
Exd E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

— Estimate No. 74. of 1874-75. —

— Nilgahy District. —

Work — Estimate of the probable cost of restoring & repairing the damaged portions No. of No. 3 Block of Barracks at Wellington. —

Measurements
No. 2 B A

Contents

Particulars of Work.

1 170 14' 2380 Removing terrace roof to replace broken
1 170 10' 1700 — do — Tiled — do — do. Rafters

1 11 2 3 24 Rebuilding main wall of tiled roof
1 11 2 2 16 — do — Wall — " — terrace do.
1 1 1/2 1 1/2 9 — do — parapet wall to — do —
49 Cft. of Brick in Chimneys —

8 1/2 4 36 Replastering main wall of tiled roof —
8 1/2 6 51 — do — Wall of terrace roof, including
14 2 28 — do — Siding & Sundry work —
113 Sqft Plastering with 2 coats. —

1 21 1 3/4 4 2.6 Furlin —
1 16 7 1/2 2 1/2 2 1/2 Siding to terrace roof —
1 17 4 1/2 2 1/2 1 3/4 Rafters to tiled roof —
1 1/2 add wastage —
6 1/2 Cft. Sealwood wrought & put up. —

1 170 10' 1700 Sqft of roofing with fresh super
Nails, flat Van tiles & Chimneys
borders & strips

— Estimate No. 74. of 1874.75. —

— Nilgerry District. —

Work — Estimate of the probable cost of restoring & repairing the damaged portions No. of No. 3 Block of Barracks at Wellington. —

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8 1/2 11 6 34 Replastering main wall of tiled roof ————
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1 1/2 add wastage ————
6 1/2 Cft. Teak wood wrought & put up. ————

1 170 10' 1700 Sqft of roofing with fresh super
Nails, flat Van tiles & Chumman
boards & strips

District Engineer's Office
Otago 9th January/75.

No 11
From

The District Engineer
Nelson

The Chief Engineer
Secretary to Govt. S.W.O.

Sir

I regret to have to report
that No 3 Block of the Wellington
Barracks was struck by lightning at
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It then fell on to the terraced verandah
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cracking

Mr 18/75.
Nelson

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4. The thunder storm was very severe and an unusual quantity of rain fell. The Block lies S. W. by West and N. E. by East.

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7. I have the honor to enclose an Estimate countersigned by the Commandant

Commandant for repairing the damages caused by the lightning amounting to Rs 1955. An early allotment of funds is requested. 8. None of the buildings at Wellington except the Powder Magazine have any lightning conductors. Severe thunder storms on these Hills occur annually. And these buildings are so situated as to render themselves peculiarly liable to being struck by lightning. I am therefore preparing an Estimate for providing all the buildings with lightning conductors.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant,
John Morant. Capt. R.E.
District Engineer

