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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	516	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	23. 2.	195
		1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd February 1875.*

No. 556. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. KENNEDY, Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Luckadie, 30th January 1875, No. 83:—

I HAVE the honor to forward a revised estimate for Police Lines at Oliote, in North Wynaad Range. It would have been submitted earlier, but that owing to the late Range Officer's decease there was great difficulty in getting at the causes for the excess; neither the Taluq Overseer nor any of the Maistries being able to afford much assistance.

2. Mr. Pringle, on taking charge of the range, had very great trouble about almost all the work in progress, for not only had the death of Mr. Hasler removed the one person who could give clear information as to details, but minor sources of explanation were also crippled owing to the removal of Mr. Huxham, under whose subordinate superintendence several works were being executed; the Police Lines being one of those which could not be proceeded with during the monsoon, others were given priority in investigation, hence the delay.

3. When the present Range Officer took the work under reference in hand, he reported to me that he could not approve of part of what had been done; I took an early opportunity of carefully examining the building, and the result was that we both agreed in condemning the whole of the wood-work of the roof as well as of some portion of the metal covering. The fact is that, during my absence on leave in 1873, the late Range Officer wrote to Mr. Pringle, my *locum tenens*, asking permission, as a matter of economy, to purchase the materials of a bungalow that was for sale. Mr. Pringle accorded permission with the express proviso that nothing should be purchased that was not serviceable: this proviso cannot have been much kept in mind, or I rather suspect the Range Officer made his bargain without sufficient examination, and his use of such bad material as the wood used in the roofing can only be accounted for by the severe illness which ultimately carried him off, and during which the roofing was executed. I cannot acquit the Taluq Overseer of blame in the matter, for it appears that he superintended the work, and although he pleads that he was expressly ordered by his superior to use this wood, he could scarcely have made strong enough representation of its condition.

4. The work being one of those costing less than Rupees 2,500, for which the details of expenditure are not ordered to be kept so minutely as is the case with larger works, there has been very great difficulty in getting at the reasons for excess in other items. Mr. Pringle has however, after much trouble, elucidated matters so far as to show that faulty management and laxity in exacting sufficient work from bricklayers are the chief causes; for instance, it appears that mortar was carted all the way from Manantoddy, and that the cost of carts was very high. Bricklayers also were paid exceptionally high rates, and did but short work; while the number of assistants given them was excessive; and in these latter respects I consider the Taluq Overseer was again to blame, though he too, like the late Range Officer, was a good deal disabled by sickness, and unable to give the work such constant supervision as is absolutely necessary to obtain anything decent, or at fair rates in this district. I trust, however, that

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though undoubtedly he might have done better, indulgence may be shown him in consideration of the difficulties with which he was surrounded; in fact, at one time, he was the only effective in the range of higher standing than ordinary maistries, or as they should more properly be called, head coolies.

5. The excess amounts to Rupees 430, as will be seen from the accompanying comparative statement; there is still a portion of the original estimate expended, but Rupees 430 represents the sum required in addition to current year's grant to allow of the completion of the building.

No. 557.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd February 1875, No. 516.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 35.

OUT of the total excess of Rupees 430 on the sanctioned estimate of Rupees 2,040, that of Rupees 80 on account of roofing is attributed to the North Wynaad Range Officer having been permitted by the Acting Special Executive Engineer of Wynaad to purchase second-hand materials which turned out to be worthless. An excess of Rupees 356 on account of masonry is attributed simply to bad management. For both the Range Officer is held responsible in the first instance; and the Taluq Overseer to a lesser extent.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council conceives that nothing could have exonerated the former from entire liability for the excesses so improperly incurred had he been now alive. He exculpates the Overseer on the first account; but desires that he be reduced from the 2nd to the 3rd grade on the second; with effect from 1st February. And he cannot but remark on the apparent absence of all real check by the Special Executive Engineer over the work of a sub-division of his charge; owing to which the building of two Police huts has been allowed to be protracted over two whole years, and to cost upwards of 20 per cent. more than the original sanction, which was high enough to have covered every contingency.

3. Endeavour will be made to provide the total sum of Rupees 922* required to complete the work in the current official year when passing orders on the District Statements of Savings and Demands in reliance on which provision the work will proceed without stoppage.

(True Extract)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Special Executive Engineer, Wynaad.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

*Comparative Statement
showing excess of Rs.
= revised estimate over
original estimate
for constructing one
block of 10 Police
huts at Chittoor.*

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Comparative Statement showing excess of Revised Estimate over Original Estimate for Constructing one Block of two Police Huts at Otiote.

Sub head.	Original Estimate.				Revised Estimate				Excess due to				Decrease due to			
	Quantity	Rate	Per	Amount	Quantity	Rate	Per	Amount	Increased Quantity	Increased Rate	Increased Difference	Total	Decreased Quantity	Decreased Rate	Decreased Difference	Total
Brick in Chunarum	Cft 2,372	35	100 Cft	830 3 2	23 1/2	50	100 Cft	1136	1	355	12 10	355 12 10				
Plastering	26 10 1/4	8	100 Sft	208 13 1	26 10 1/4	8	100 Sft	208 13 1								
Country wood	47	2	Cft	94	47	2	Cft	94								
Roofing - Continuous iron under Tiles	12 12 1/4	62	Sq	744	12 12 1/4	68	Sq	824 5 3 2			80 5 3	80 5 3				
Flooring	46 3 1/2	1 8	Sq	6 15 3	46 3 1/2	1 8	Sq	6 15 3								
Excavation of foundation	32 1/2	2	Cyd	4 1	32 1/2	2	Cyd	4 1								
Batten Doors	2	16	each	32	2	10	Each	20								
Ditto Windows	2	10	"	20	2	5	"	10								
Ladlocks large	2	12	"	1 8	2	12	"	1 8								
Superintendence & Sundries	5	"	100	98 7 6	"	"	"	114 5 5			15 13 11	15 13 11				
Total Estimate				2040				2470			452	452				22
Amount of Original Estimate								2040								
Difference or amount requiring sanction								430								

1. Rate raised on account of excessive cost of labor and carriage.
2. Rates raised owing to timber of roof having been condemned.
3. Doors and Windows made up of timber purchased at a cheap rate.

Manantoddy,
28th January 1875.

Spl. Engrs Office,
Lucknow, Wynaad,
3rd January 1875. }

Wm. H. Kunkle, Lt Col
Capt. Engr. Hyman

/Signed/ E. H. Pingle,
Executive Engineer,
In Charge of Salt Hydrate
Range

3
No. 83. Spl. Executive Engineer's Office,
Lucknow, Wynaad, 30th January 1875.

From

Lt Colonel P. B. Kennedy,
Special Executive Engineer,
Wynaad.

To The Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward a revised estimate for Police Lines at Olisti in North Wynaad Range. It would have been submitted earlier, but that owing to the late Range Officer's decease there was great difficulty in getting at the causes for the excess; neither the Taluk Officer, nor any of the Maistries being able to afford much assistance.

Mr. Pringle on taking charge of the Range, had very great trouble about almost all the work in progress, for not only had the death of Mr. Hasler removed the one person who could give clear information as to details, but minor sources of explanation were

were also crippled owing to the removal of Mr. Husham, under whose subordinate superintendence several works were being executed; the Police Lines being one of those which could not be proceeded with during the Monsoon, others were given priority in investigation, hence the delay.

3. When the present Range Officer took the work under reference in hand, he reported to me that he could not approve of part of what had been done; I took an early opportunity of carefully examining the buildings; the result was, that we both agreed in condemning the whole of the woodwork of the roof as well as of some portion of the metal covering. The fact is that, during my absence on leave, in 1873, the late Range Officer wrote to Mr. Pringle, my locum tenens asking permission, as a matter of economy, to purchase the materials of a Bungalow that was for sale. Mr. Pringle accorded permission with the express proviso that nothing should be purchased that was not serviceable: this proviso cannot have been

much kept in mind, or, I rather suspect the Range Officer made his bargain without sufficient examination, & his use of such bad material, as the wood used in the roofing can only be accounted for by the severe illness which ultimately carried him off, & during which the roofing was executed. I cannot acquit the Taluk Overseer of blame in the matter, for it appears that he superintended the work, & although he pleads that he was expressly ordered by his superior to use this wood, he could scarcely have made strong enough representations of its condition.

4. The work being one of those costing less than Rs. 2500, for which the details of expenditure are not ordered to be kept so minutely as in the case with larger works, there has been very great difficulty in getting at the reasons for excess in other items. Mr. Pringle has, however, after much trouble, elucidated matters so far as to show that faulty management

H. T. though undoubt-
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that he be reduced from the 2nd to the 3^d grade on the second, with effect from 1st February. And he cannot but remark on the apparent absence of all real check by the Special Executive Engineer over the work of a Sub Division of his charge, owing to which the building of 2 Police Batts has been allowed to be protracted over 2 whole years; and to cost upwards of 20 per cent more than the original sanction, which was high

high enough to have
covered every contingency.

3. Endeavour will be
made to provide the total
sum of Rs 922 required
to complete the work
in the current official
year when passing
orders on the District
Statements of Savings
and Demands in
reliance on which
provision the work
will proceed without
stoppage.

G.M.N.

(9)
* Inclusive of Rs 473 allotted in
G.O. No. 1943 of 20 July, but sub-
sequently credited to Reserve
in G.O. No. 2429 of 28 Sept 74.

[Handwritten signature]

To the Special Secy to Govt
- Controller of P. & W. -
- Judicial Dept -
Chief Secy 24-2-75.

704
Govt. of 1875; Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

Dated
Recd.
Encl. ✓
G. O. No. 2300 Feb; No. 576

Nos. 556-557

Police Lines at Eloté
North Mysore
Passing orders on the
excess outlay incurred
on the lines and reducing
Inspector Edwards from the
2nd to the 3rd Grade &
ordering the work to be
proceeded with in an
acceptation of funds being
provided -

