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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 734 (W) Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

Dated 16-3- 1875.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers —

No 385 From G. D WYBROW, Esq, Officiating District Engineer, Trichinopoly, to Colonel G W. WALKER, R.E, Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Trichinopoly, 2nd September 1874, No 185

I HAVE the honor to submit a comparative statement for constructing a privy on Rogers' system for the detachment of European Infantry at Trichinopoly, lately completed on estimate Rupees 3,000, sanctioned in G. O, No. 1,395, dated 5th June 1872

2 From the statement it will be seen that an expenditure of Rupees 377-0-4 has been incurred in excess of the sanctioned estimate on the following items —

In the estimate palmyrah rafters and reepers were provided, but teakwood was substituted in their place by the order of the late District Engineer, hence an excess of Rupees 206 1-4.

Six iron air-tight receptacles, at Rupees 84, were provided in the estimate, but a sum of Rupees 254-15 0 has been incurred by the workshop of the Railway Company and Public Works Stores, the set supplied by the former, although made in accordance with the standard plan, were rejected by the Military authorities as being too heavy; hence an excess of Rupees 170-15 0 on this item

3 The rejected receptacles are carried to the stock account, and will be sold when their value will be carried to the credit of Government

4 Under these circumstances, I solicit the Government will be pleased to sanction the amount and provide the necessary funds The work was completed and has been handed over to Military authorities on the 8th August 1873.

No 386 Endorsement of the District Engineer, Presidency, dated Fort Saint George, 7th January 1875, No 5,457.

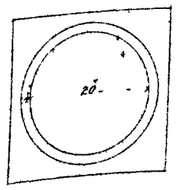
From J. N. GRAINGER, Esq, General Superintendent of Public Works Stores and Workshops, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. GODDARD, R E, District Engineer, Presidency, dated Chepauk, 5th January 1875, No 3,622

YOUR endorsement, No. 4,907, on memorandum, No 929, dated 4th December 1874, of Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, relative to latrine buckets supplied to District Engineer, Trichinopoly.

I have the honor to state that the six latrine buckets first made were ordered by Mr Wybrow demi-officially, and cost Rupees 15-9 6 each, being Rupees 93 9-0 for the whole delivered at Trichinopoly.

They were then returned for alteration according to the standard plan then sent, and to be fitted with covers, angle iron rims, &c. These alterations were made and the buckets sent to Trichinopoly at a cost of Rupees 207-0 7, which included railway fare and cost of first construction, viz, Rupees 93 9-0.

In making the alterations it was necessary to cut out rings of iron 20″ in diameter and 1½″ wide (*vide* sketch in margin), the remainder of the sheet being (in a sense) wasted, as regards this work, for the bottoms of the buckets being already fitted the centre portion of the plate could not be used. With a second requisition for three latrine buckets, Mr Wybrow forwarded a pattern bucket made at the Negapatam Workshops, and



these three buckets were made and delivered at Trichinopoly for Rupees 78-13-10 or Rupees 26-4-7 each, including all charges, being only Rupees 2-14-9 each more than the Negapatam Workshops charged.

3 The workshop at Negapatam is not self supporting as the Chepauk Workshops are, hence it can afford to turn out work at lower rates Had a working drawing been sent in the first instance, the work would have been done as satisfactorily. I put the work in hand on Mr Wybrow's rough sketch to save time

4 Enclosed I beg to send a tracing of the buckets as first made and as altered.

SUBMITTED to the Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,* with the remark that Mr Wybrow seems to be to blame for having failed to furnish full information to Mr Grainger Four trips by rail and alterations ran up the cost of the buckets, also the Public Works Stores have to charge a per-centage which the railway does not require Mr Grainger appears to have accounted for the high cost of the buckets

1 Tracing
* In reference to memorandum, No 929, dated 4th December 1874

(Signed) J GODDARD, Lieut -Colonel, R E,
District Engineer, Presidency

From Major G V. LAW, District Engineer, Trichinopoly, to Major A deC SCOTT, R E, Under Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp Vennar Head, 16th February 1875, No. 641

WITH reference to your memorandum, No 2, dated 12th January 1875, I have the honor to forward correspondence as below.—

1 Letter from Range Officer, to Superintendent of Public Works Stores, No 826, 17th January 1874.

1 Reply to above, No. 2,945

1 Letter, District Engineer, Presidency, No 5,457, 7th January 1875.

1 Plan

1 Copy of late Acting District Engineer, Trichinopoly, No 625, 2nd February 1875.

No 387. ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1875, No 734

MILITARY WORKS, No. 11.

WITH his letter of the 2nd September 1874 above recorded, the District Engineer, Trichinopoly, submitted a revised estimate and comparative statement for constructing a latrine for a detachment of European Infantry at Trichinopoly, and in explanation of part of the excess adverted to the rejection by the Military Department of certain iron receptacles which had however been constructed according to the standard plan and the supply of others On being called on for further information, the District Engineer reported that the vessels were objected to on account of the weight, and he also entered into details calculated to show that the price charged at the Public Works Workshops for those which were finally supplied was enormous, and out of all comparison with the cost of the first set which had been made up in the Negapatam Railway Workshops

2. The District Engineers of the Presidency and Trichinopoly were then called upon to obtain from the respective workshops named above, details of

the expenditure in labor and materials on each occasion, and an analysis of these accounts seemed to confirm the view that the charges in the workshops at Madras were exorbitant.

3 The analysis and the bills were transferred to Colonel Goddard, with a view to his obtaining a full report from Mr. Grainger on the subject; who, in his reply, pointed out that the buckets had in fact been twice made up, and that they had twice performed the journey to Trichinopoly, that the cause of this was the insufficient information furnished by Mr. Wybrow, in the first instance (that officer having only supplied a rough sketch), in consequence of which the articles in question, improperly constructed in the first instance, had been returned.

4 These facts which were most material to the question of charge were never even alluded to by the Acting District Engineer during the course of references made to him in persuing the investigation, and his reply to the last made to him has been very long delayed

5. The explanation given by the General Superintendent of Stores in his letter under endorsement, No 5,457, of the District Engineer, Presidency, dated 7th January 1875, may be considered to explain satisfactorily why an exceptionally high charge was made for the iron buckets supplied to the Range Officer, Trichinopoly. It is not understood however why this explanation was not given to the Range Officer, on his remonstrating against the charge, nor is it clear how a reduction in the bill could be made as it was, if the charges for the work were calculated originally, and as they should be, on a fixed principle.

6 The Range Officer acted inconsiderately in forwarding a requisition, the details of which were very imperfectly described and illustrated by a rough sketch, and this is the more inexcusable as there was a standard plan to which the General Superintendent could have been referred, and it is obvious that when he preferred against the Public Works Workshops a charge of making exorbitant demands, he should have been very careful to communicate all the material facts and not withhold those which tended to throw the onus of blame on himself

7 The Presidency District Engineer will instruct the General Superintendent of Stores to decline to execute work on imperfect instructions. Requisitions should be accompanied by properly detailed drawings with figured dimensions, unless it is considered desirable that they should be prepared in the workshops. In the latter case they should be approved of by the District Engineer before work is commenced

8. The revised estimate, amounting to Rupees 3,377, is sanctioned The original estimate sanctioned, it is observed under G. O, No. 1,395, of the 5th June 1872, amounted to Rupees 3,000

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Presidency.
" do do Trichinopoly.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
Exd W J Lewis.
Spare Copies

District Engineer's Office
Camp. Denar Head -
16th February 1875

No. 641.

From, The District Engineer,
Trichinopoly

To The Under Secretary to Govt
P.W. Department
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your memo No. 2 dated 12th January 1875. I have the honor to forward Correspondence as below:—

5. 1 Letter from Range Officer to Supt. of P.W. Stores. No. 826 - 17th Jan. 1875.
1 Reply to above. No. 2945.
1. Letter. District Engineer Presidency. No. 5457 - 7th Jan. 1875.
1. Plan.
1. Copy of late Ag. District Engineer Trichinopoly No. 625 - 2d Feby 1875

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servt

George V. Law. Major
District Engineer.

P W 1875 Depart.

From, No. 1092
The Lieutenant,
Trichinopoly

To, The Under Secretary
to Govt. Mad
Madras

No. 641

Dated 16th July 1875
Recd 18th July 1875

Reference { Your No. 2
Govt. Jan. 1875

Enclosures. Four
Five

Forwarding certain
Correspondence
relating to the
latrine iron buckets.

G.O. No. 734-16-3.75

626-2-75

P. W. 1875 Dist.
No. 110.

From.

The Dist. Engineer
Presidency

Dated 7th } January 1875
Recd 8th }

Enc: 1. No. 5457.

Submitting a letter from the Asst. Supt. P. W. Workshops explaining the cause of the high charge for the latrine buckets supplied to the Dist. Engr. Trichinopoly.

P. W. 1092/75
5

Recd 2-2-75

Forwarded for information & return.
Submitting copies of letters to the Dist. Engineer Trichinopoly
S.O. No. 736 dt. 3.2.75

No. 625

Trichinopoly Range Office
2nd February 1875

From,

The Officer
in charge of Trichinopoly Range.

To The District Engineer,
Trichinopoly.

Sir,

With reference to your Docket letter No. 514 dated 15th January 1875 enclosing correspondence (here with returned) relative to the Latrine Buckets supplied to this Range by the P.W. Workshops, Madras, I have the honour to state that I overlooked the fact that the alterations were made to the original buckets first made up and that the cost was therefore, naturally raised.

2 I may however be allowed to remark that on my remonstrating with Mr. Grainger (in letter No. 826 dated 17th January 1874) on the high cost of the buckets, he made no allusion in his reply letter No. 2925 dated 7th February 1874 to the fact that the high costs of the buckets was

Encls: 4
1 Plan
2 Copies of letter
1 Letter from Asst Engr Pres. Sidney

× Copies enclosed

Asst Engineer

was owing to the alterations made to the Original Buckets and moreover I beg to bring to your notice that Mr Grainger's Bill No. 364 dated 8th Jan. 1874 was reduced from Rs 237 to Rs 207-0-7 as per bill No. 462 dated 7th February 1874 on my remonstrance alluded to.

3. The Standard plan was not furnished to Mr Grainger in the first instance but only referred to in my demi-official as it was naturally supposed that Mr Grainger had a copy of the same in his office.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your obedient Servt
/Signed/ G. D. Wybrow.
Assistant Engineer.
/True Copy/
Geo. W. Law. Major
District Engineer Trichinopoly

No 826 — 17th January 1874

From

The Officer in Charge of
No 1 or Trichinopoly Range

To

The Superintendent of
P W Stores and Work Shop

Sir

Relative to your Bill No 364 dated 8th Instant for 6 iron latrine buckets, I have the honor to call your attention to the very high price charged for them, Namely, Rs. 39 12/16 per bucket excluding Railway Charges &c. I had 6 buckets, as per Standard plan (of 1/8 thickness), made by the Railway Deptt at the Rate of Rupees 22 each, these are air tight buckets which I regret to say the ones made by you are not, In the ones made by the Railway Deptt the rim of the cover is fastened on with L iron whilst the ones made by you are not, and I have since had to render them air tight getting up the crevices with tar.

I have the honor to return the 3 Bills with a hope that you may be able to reduce the amount charged.

/Signed/ G D Wybrow C.E.
Assistant Engineer

/True Copy/ G. D. Wybrow C.E.
Asst Engineer

No. 2945

Public Works Shop
Chepauk 7th February 74

From

The General Supt.
P.W. Works shop
& Store

To

The Officer in charge of No. 1
or Erection Range

Sir

In reply to your letter No. 826 of 17th January 1874 I have the honor to submit a revised Bill for early adjustment amounting to Rs 207 — — 7 for the six Latrine buckets with covers &c as per Standard Plan in charge of Railway Charge. I regret being unable to reduce the charge to Rs 22/- each, the rate at which you state the Railway Department made similar buckets as the Iron cost two annas per lbs. in the first instance whilst I suppose the Railway price of same was about one anna per lbs. The circular form of these buckets necessitates great wastage

Wastage of Iron in working them up.

Name the Honorable
Sir
Your Most Obt Servt
Geo J M Grangers
General Supte P W Workshops

True Copy

C. L. Jones
Asst to Engineer

Recd 2-7-76

Recd 2-7-76

3

PRESIDENCY WORKSHOPS, D P W,
Chepauk, Madras, 5 July 1875.

No 3622

From

THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT,
PUBLIC WORKS WORKSHOPS AND STORES,

To

THE District Engineer
Palandaing
Nort Arcot Circle

SIR,

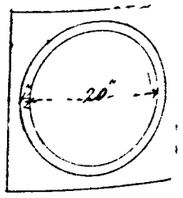
Enclosures 1 Your endorsement No 3904 on Memo No 929 dated 6th December 1874 of Under Secretary to Government to P.W.D. forwarding to Stores Keeper Supplied to District Engineer Palandaing

I have the honor to state that the six lotions buckets for which were ordered by Mr Mylesin demi-officially and cost Rupees 15-9 each, being Rupees 93-9 for the set delivered at Trichinopoly.

They were then returned for alteration according to the standard plan then sent and to be fitted with covers, angle irons &c. These alterations were made and the buckets sent to Trichinopoly

at a cost of Rupees 207-0-7 which included Railway fare and Cost of fort Conveyance Viz Rupees 93-9-0

2 In making the alteration it was necessary to cut out pieces of iron 20 inches in diameter and 1½" wide (Vide Sketch in margin) the remainder of the sheet being (in a sense) useless, as regards this work; for the bottom of the bucket being already filled the centre portion of the plate could not be used. With a second equivalent for the latrine bucket Mr Myburgh forwarded a pattern bucket made at the Regulation Workshop and these three Buckets were made and delivered at Trichinopoly for Rupees 78-13-10 or Rupees 26-4-7 each including all charges, being only Rupees 2-11-9 each more than the Regulation Workshop charged.



3 The Workshop at Regulation is not self supporting as the Elephant Workshops are, hence it can afford to turn out work at lower rates. Such a working drawing lies

lent

lent in the first instance the work would have been done as satisfactorily & put the work in hand on Mr Myburgh's rough sketch to save time.

Enclosed I beg to send a tracing of the Bucket in question & an attested

Have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obt Servant
J. J. Cooper
Colonel Commdg Madras Sappers

Pub. Works Dept. B

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following:-

From the Dy Engr Trichinopoly (No. No 185 of 2nd Sept. 1874) to
From the District Engineer Trichinopoly (No. No 641 dated 16th July 1875)

734

With his letter of the 2nd September 1874 above recorded, the District Engineer Trichinopoly submitted a revised estimate and comparative statement for constructing a latrine for a detachment of European Infantry at Trichinopoly and in explanation of part of the excess advised to the sanction by the Military Department of certain iron receptacles which had however been constructed according to the standard plan and the supply of other

On

Pl. 3 No.

From

The General Superintendent,
P. W. Workshops,

To

The District Engineer
Trichinopoly

Dated 5th January 1875
Received 7th January 1875
No 622

Enclosures

Submitted to Council with Chargeable Estimate for Latrine Buckets with enclosure to the Dy Engineer Trichinopoly

Dy Sec to Govt
Pub Works Dept
No 34

Dy Sec to Govt
Pub Works Dept
No 34

Submitted to the Council of Madras
P. W. Department
Dated 1st January 1875

Submitted to the Council of Madras
P. W. Department
Dated 1st January 1875

Mr. Ashburner
Mr. Stokes
Mr. Frere
Mr. Ellis
Mr. Morris
Mr. Dalyell
Mr. Ashburner
Mr. Stokes
Mr. Frere
Mr. Ellis
Mr. Morris
Mr. Dalyell

On being called on for further information the District Engineer reported that the vessels were objected to on account of the weight, and he also entered into details calculated to show that the prices charged at the Public Works Workshops for those which were ultimately supplied was enormous and out of all comparison with the cost of the first set which had been made up in the Negapatam Railway Workshops.

2. The District Engineers of the Presidency and Trichinopoly were then called upon to obtain from the respective Workshops named above

above, details of the expenditure in labor and materials on each occasion; and an analysis of these accounts seemed to confirm the view that the charges in the Workshops at Madras were exorbitant.

3. The analysis and the bills were transferred to Coll: Goddard with a view to his obtaining a full report from Mr Grainger on the subject. Who, in his reply, pointed out that the brackets had in fact been twice made up and that they had twice performed the journey to Trichinopoly, that the cause of this was the insufficient information furnished by Mr Wybrow

on

in the first instance (that Officer having only supplied a rough sketch) in consequence of which the articles in question, improperly constructed in the first instance, had been returned.

4. These facts which were most material to the question of charge were never even alluded to by the District Engineer during the course of references made to him in perusing the investigation and his reply to the last made to him has been very long delayed.

5. The explanation given by the General Superintendent of Stores in his letter under Endorsement No. 5457 of

of the District Engineer Presidency dated 7th Jany 1875 may be considered to explain satisfactorily why an exceptionally high charge was made for the iron brackets supplied to the Range Officer Trichinopoly. It is not understood however why this explanation was not given to the Range Officer on his remonstrating against the charge, nor is it clear how a reduction in the bill could be made as it was, if the charges for the work were calculated originally and as they should be, on a fixed principle.

6 The Range Officer acted inconsiderately in forwarding

forwarding a requisition, the details of which were very imperfectly described and illustrated by a rough sketch, and this is the more inexcusable as there was a standard plan to which the General Superintendent could have been referred, and it is obvious that when he preferred against the Public Works Workshops a charge of making exorbitant demands, he should have been very careful to communicate all the material facts and not withhold those which tended to throw the onus of blame on himself.

The

7. The District Engineer will ~~be good enough to~~ instruct the General Supdt. of Stores to decline to execute work on imperfect instructions. Requisitions should be accompanied by properly detailed drawings with figured dimensions, unless it is considered desirable that they should be prepared in the workshops. In the latter case they should be approved of by the District Engineer before work is commenced.

8. The revised estimate amounting to Rupees 3377 is sanctioned. The original estimate sanctioned, it is observed under G.O. No. 1393 of the 5th June 1872

amounted

amounted to Rupees 300
Ades
Linn

5570 / 1092 / 1

Gott. of 1875, Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Sir Enquire
Presidency.

Dated

Recd Rec'd

G. O. 16 March 1875, No 734

Nos. 285. 284.

Enquire

~~Dist~~ (Trichinopoly
~~Dist~~) — The revised estimate amounting to Rs 23177 — for the construction of a — for the detachment of Trichinopoly of European Infantry, sanctioned with remarks. The excess outlay on buildings the Dist. Engr. Presidency directed to instruct the Local Supt of Stores to decline to execute work on short notice.

amounted to Rupees 300
Ades
Gnr

5570/1092

Govt. of 1875 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dist Engineer
Presidency.

16 March 734

885. 30

Estate

Dist. — The revised est
mate amounting to Rs
3,777 for the construction
of a — for the detachment
at Conjeeveram sanctioned
with transmission of Dist. Engr's
letter no 1223 dated 16th
March last, the Sub-Collector
of Chingleput has been
requested to submit the
Sanction of Govt. to
the line to be made and
to submit a fresh
estimate