

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 832

B.P. No. →

Press

Mis. →

Dated 24/3/1955

1875

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th March 1875.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 607. From Captain J. L. L. MORANT, R.E., District Engineer, Nilgiris, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 20th October 1874, No. 314.

In Public Works G. O., No. 2,323, of the 19th August last, an estimate, amounting to Rupees 1,076, was sanctioned for certain admittedly necessary repairs to the Ootacamund Lake Sluice Drop.

2. This estimate was prepared by the new Taluq Overseer Mr. Evans on the 27th of July, he having been supplied by this office with all details of expenditure actually incurred up to 30th June 1874, amounting to Rupees 816-15-3.

3. On receipt of the estimate I examined it, and it appearing correct I had it numerically checked in the office. From Mr. Evans' antecedents I naturally supposed that if there was anything with which he was well acquainted it was the preparation of estimates. But I regret to say my confidence was misplaced. I am now obliged to come up again before you with a revised estimate, amounting to Rupees 1,256, or Rupees 180 in excess of the former estimate, owing almost entirely to some of the side walls having been carelessly omitted from the former estimate. On the 8th of September last, on my discovering that the estimate would be exceeded, I at once called upon Mr. Evans to explain the matter. He sends me a flippant letter, dated 10th September, stating a number of untrue reasons for exceeding the estimate, and not noticing the one fact which would have explained everything—that he had omitted some side walls.

4. I have, I regret to say, had much reason to be dissatisfied with this subordinate's dilatoriness in carrying out the sluice work, and have repeatedly told him so. His want of energy has unnecessarily prolonged its duration, and I firmly believe has added somewhat to the cost of the work.

5. Hoping that you will be pleased to sanction the estimate and provide the additional Rupees 180, I have the honor to append a comparative statement of sanctioned and revised estimate.

No. 608. From the same Officer, dated Ootacamund, 1st December 1874, No. 346.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge your memorandum, No. 898, of the 19th ultimo, and, in reply to your first question, beg to inform you that the Maistry's wages were charged to the work for 4½ months. His time was not taken up in mere supervision, but he worked also as a brick-layer, and prepared materials, &c. He was employed chiefly because Mr. Evans was new to the district and ignorant of practical work.

2. With regard to your second question, I beg to refer you to paragraph 3 of my former letter, in which it is clearly implied, and to the revised estimate and comparative statement accompanying it in which it is plainly stated, that the actual cost of 100 cubic feet of brick in soorkhee was Rupees 45. Had it cost Rupees 55, I should have been guilty of laying before you a false statement.

3. I trust this information is what you required; I shall of course be happy to furnish you with any further details.

of Rs 35 a month.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th March 1875.

No 609

ORDER THRELOV, 24th March 1875, No. 832

CIVIL WORKS, No 32

It would appear from these papers that about the middle of March 1874, the District Engineer of the Nilgiris commenced certain emergent repairs to the sluice drop of the Ooty Lake, and carried them on till a sum of Rupees 846-15 3 had been expended up to 30th June without estimate. He then had one prepared, the amount of which, Rupees 1,076, was sanctioned in G O, No 2,323, of 19th August. That amount has been exceeded by Rupees 180, owing to omissions of certain side walls, for which he blames the Taluq Overseer.

2. That subordinate doubtless deserves censure for the carelessness with which he must have measured the work, and for his failure frankly to acknowledge the same when reporting the cause of excess. But the District Engineer is himself to blame for setting an example to his subordinates of direct infraction of the orders of Government in this and many other instances, by his deliberate postponement of the duty of sending in estimates till much if not all the work to which they relate is performed. It is understood that he obtained the Chief Engineer's concurrence as to the emergency of the work at present under review while it was under execution; but that Officer has never failed to inculcate on the District Engineer the obligation under which he lies to cover his proceedings by the authority of sanctioned estimates at as early a date as practicable, holding most correctly that nothing is more conducive to high rates and lax supervision than the habit of working without such restrictions. With these remarks the excess is passed.

(True Extract)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Nilgiris.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin
Spare Copies

Police and 10 Sept 1875

No 27.

to Captain J. L. L. Morant R.E.
District Engineer
Nilgiris.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No 614 of the 8th Current, I beg to submit herewith the explanation called for.

The cost of executing the repairs to the Khandal Sluice-Drop has exceeded the estimate prepared by me by 110 Rupees. This I attribute mainly to the cost of supervision being quite out of all proportion to the price of labor and material expended on the work. In proof of this, I have only to quote such entries in my Cash Book as the following:-

April 23 ^d	Paid Coolies for March 1874 (15 days)	Rs 28
May 7 th	do do April	80-4-9
	(This includes the Maistry's wages for the month)	
June 9 th	Paid Coolies for May 1874	Rs 49-14-0
	(This likewise includes the Maistry's wages for the month)	
do	Paid Coolies for week ending 6th June	Rs 3-12-0
June 22 ^d	do do 13 th do	17-4-4
June 29 th	do do 28 th do	4-8-3
	(No work was done during the previous week)	
July 7 th	Paid Coolies for week ending 4th July	Rs 4-4-9
	See See See	

All this time it must be borne in mind the Maistry who was supervising the work was receiving wages at the rate of Rs 35 a month.

An account for the extraordinary disproportionate cost of supervision on the work in this way - From the middle of March to the end of May we were dependent for our supply of quick-lime solely on one Contractor - Rajoo Moodelliar. His man's best efforts could in all that time only procure for us $2\frac{1}{2}$ parabs of quick-lime. Then when we became independent of him by burning our own lime the weather proved a bar to the satisfactory progress of the work. Thus the execution of the work which, had all circumstances been favorable would probably have not taken more than six weeks to accomplish, really took four and a half months to do. Here is at once accounted for, three times 35 Rs. (the Mistry's monthly wages) or 105 Rupees of the excess. —

Another reason for the excess is this - In the preparation of the estimate, I wrongly took for the cost of 100 Cubic Feet of Brick and Soorkee mortar, 45 Rupees, the highest rate supplied me from your office for work of the kind. On careful calculation I find this to be inadequate, as will be seen from the following data -

Cost of 100 Cubic Feet of Brick in Soorkee Mortar.	
1600 bricks @ 15 Rs. per 1000	Rs. 24-0-0
Carting of the above @ $3\frac{1}{2}$ Rs. per 1000	5-9-7
5 parabs of quick-lime @ Rs. 2/8 per parab	12-8-0
20 do - Brick-dust @ 7d. 6p. do	9-6-0
$3\frac{1}{2}$ Bricklayers @ 12 Rs each	42-10-0
1 Man Cooly @ 5 Rs	5-0-0
7 Boys @ 3 Rs each	21-0-0
	Rs 55-11-7

I fear I have also underrated the cost of baling out water from foundations &c. —

If the Estimate were rectified by substitution of Rs 55-11-7 for Rs 45-0-0, as the cost of 100 Cubic Feet of Brick in Soorkee mortar, and if the cost of supervision on the work was what it ought to have been, a surplus instead of a deficit would have been shown and this would doubtless be owing to the comparative cheapness of Sapper labor which was largely used on the work -

I beg to remain
 Sir,
 Your most Obedt. Servt.
 J. P. W. W.
 Oversee D. V. W.

No. 130 of Ch... Particulars of work
 done on ...

~~1774~~ Dec 5th 1774

7/1 2/2 2/2 1, 632

39 21 31 3400 Andros binnung sidewall 1780 1850. steep south side

37 22 34 3002 Audit summary 11/11/11

\$2.14 1/2 1027 Foundation of 100 ans. & bridge on river.

12 1/2 3/4 1 1/2 2

$\frac{1}{6}$ $\frac{1}{10}$ $\frac{1}{12}$ $\frac{1}{18}$ $\frac{1}{24}$ $\frac{1}{36}$ $\frac{1}{72}$

20th Sidewells - 1/2

16 1/2 1 1/2 4 1/2 P.3 Dr. J. H. Baker 237. 901

144 12 12 83 _____

72-14 13191/5 100 100

147.3 C. fab. Lemm. in 1841

6-2-12 Widow of [unclear] 18 1 60

22. west side

23. Dr. J. H. Ward

23

1.0 —————

No. 1st Step East side

10/1/3 31P

106. 3 318
220 Learned Over

330 Learned lost

106 Caries Over 212

7

2710	Sqft. Grimming & dressing slopes and surfacing	10756
32	Cords Excavation	10756
198	ft Pulling down old wall and removing debris	6.. Apr 27
1	Sq. Removing old plaster and raking out mortar joints	18. 22 18.
833	Sqft. Pulling up rough stone and mortar flooring	8.. 0. 66 10 3
	Bailing water from foundation	30.. 07 21
	Superintendent & Sundries	56104
	Total Estimate	10756
	Excess \$	100

No. 7124A
 2/14

District Engineer's Office
 Tacoma
 25th October 1874.

District Engineer

No. 7124A

2/14

Revised Estimate No 59 of 1874-75

Kilgenny District

Comparative Statement of Expenditure & Receipts Estimated & Reprising the Lake Slieve Donard at Ballymonee.

Particulars	Ret for Estimate	Amount	Revised Estimate	Remarks
570yds Concrete below foundation	54 cft	194.		
160yds Portland Cement in concrete	100yds	662 57		
7 1/2 yds Plastering with smooth mortar including Plastering	100 yds	716 5		
9 1/2 yds Rough stone flooring with stone chips & smooth mortar including Polishing	200 yds	189 49		
3 1/2 yds Rough stone flooring dry	80 yds	25 14 9		
6 1/2 yds Rough stone pavement	180 yds	9 12.		
790yds Earth filling & dressing slopes	80 yds	29 8.		
27 1/2 yds Trimming & dressing slopes and surfacing	100 yds	27 20		
320yds Excavation	20 yds	6.		
498yds Pulling down old wall and removing debris	60 yds	29 14 1		
16 yds Removing old Plaster and rendering out mortar joints	180 yds	18.		
8 1/2 yds Pulling up rough & mortar flooring	80 yds	66 10 9		
Draining water from foundation		50.		
Light and lantern		53 10 4		
Total Receipts		1288.		
Balance due				
Excess Receipts		177.		

This excess is caused by error - has omission on the part of the Tally Overseer of some side walls from former Estimate.

The estimated Estimate did not calculate fully for work done.

Not accurate
 Brett Esq. Esq.
 21st October 1874

James Macdonald
 Captain R.E.
 District Engineer

6-6-22827-5-5-70

District Engineer's Office
 Vicksburg, Miss., Feb. 20, 1878.
 Sir:
 I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst. in relation to the estimate for the repairs to the Vicksburg Lock and Dam. The estimate was forwarded to the Chief Engineer of the Vicksburg Lock and Dam, who has examined it and has approved it. The estimate is for the repairs to the lock and dam, and is for the sum of \$10,000. The estimate is for the repairs to the lock and dam, and is for the sum of \$10,000. The estimate is for the repairs to the lock and dam, and is for the sum of \$10,000.

\$6 125.00 to \$6 180.00 in excess of the
former estimate, owing almost entirely
to some of the side walls having been
carelessly omitted from the former
estimate. On the 8th of September last
on my discovering that the estimate
would be exceeded I at once called
upon Mr. Evans to explain the mat-
ter. He sends me a flippant letter
dated 10th September stating a number
of untrue reasons for exceeding the
estimate and not noticing the one fact
which would have explained every
thing that he had omitted some
side walls.

4 I have I regret to say had much
reason to be dissatisfied with this
subordinate delinquency in carrying
out the slave work and have re-
peatedly told him so. His want of
energy has unnecessarily prolonged
its duration and I firmly believe
has added somewhat to the cost
of the work.

5. Hoping that you will be pleased
to sanction the estimate I provide
the additional \$6 180.00. I have the honor
to append a comparative statement of sanctioned
& Revised estimate.

I

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant
J. M. Evans.
District Engineer

District Engineer's Office
Harrisburg, Pa. Dec 27/74.

No. 316.

From, The District Engineer
Harrisburg

To, The Chief Engineer
of the State of Pa.

Sir,

I have the honor to
acknowledge your Memo No. 898
of the 19th inst. and in reply to
your first question beg to inform
you that the Maistoy's wages were
charged to the work for 4 1/2 months.
His time was not taken up in mere
supervision but he worked also as
a bricklayer and prepared materials
for the work. He was employed chiefly by
cause Mr. Levaus was new to the
District and ignorant of practical
work.

2. With regard to your second
question I beg to refer you to para
3 of my former letter in which
it is clearly implied and to the
referred estimate and comparative
statement accompanying it, in which
it is plainly stated that the actual
cost of 100 cubic feet of brick in
Harrisburg was \$11.50. Had it
cost

P. M. 1874 Seph.
No. 316
No. 774A

The District Engineer
Harrisburg

The Chief Engineer
of the State of Pa.

Order of the
Board of Supervisors

Indorse - This

Submits a Review
of the Accounts of the
District Engineer
with
Certain Explanations

History
1874-75

1874-75

Coet # 65. I should have been
guilty of laying before you a
false statement.

I trust this information is what you require; I shall of course be happy to furnish you with any further details.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Yours most Obedient,
servant. Capt. W.
District Engineer

S. M 1874 Defiant
No 346
From, No 7550.
The District Engineer
N.Y.
N.Y.
The Chief Engineer
Dowd
Water 13
Recd 23 Nov/74

Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the

READ the following :—

Law

832

The District Engineer
of California

2

2.

{ 14. E. 314 of 20. Dec 1894.
" " 346 - 1. Dec 1894.

It would appear from these papers that about the middle of March 1874, the District Engineer of the Reclamation Service commenced certain emergent repairs to the Sluice Drop of the City Lake; and carried them on till a sum of Rs 846-15-3 had been expended up to 30th June without estimate. He then

Co then had one prepared,
for the amount of which
Rs 1076, was sanctioned
in L.O. No. 3323 of 17th
of August. That amount
has been exceeded by
Rs 180 owing to mis-
-isions of certain side
walls, for which he
blames the P. L. O.
Oversee.

That Subordinate
is doubtless blame-
-headed for the exor-
-bance with which
he must have measured
the work, and for his
failure frankly to ac-
-knowledge the error
when reporting the cause
of excess. But the
District Engineer is
himself

himself to blame for
setting an example
his Subordinates of
direct infraction
of the orders of Govt.,
in this and many other
instances; by his de-
-liberate postponement
of the duty of sending
in estimates till much
if not all the work
to which they relate is
performed. It is under-
-stood that he obtained
the Chief Engineer's con-
-currence as to the
emergency of the work
at present under
review, while it was
under execution; but
that officer has never

failed to inculcate on
the District Engineer
the obligation under
which he lies to control
his proceedings by the
authority of sanctioned
estimates at as early
a date as practicable,
holding most correctly
that nothing is more
conducive to high
rates and less super-
vision than the
habit of working
without such restrictions.

In the above remarks
the excess is passed.

G.W.

To The N. B. Railway Co.
- - - Controller of R.R. & C.

2607-609

Recd 31-3-78

617-3-78 R. 18-3-78

7174^A 7560 ✓
Cobl. of 1875: 8 Jaden

PUBLIC WORKS.

Sir Esquire
J. L. Harris

Noted

Recd.

For 3

6 24 May 1875. No. 832

Recd. 607. 609.

Take place drop at
Rotterdam - The
except or pendition on
the - paper with
Remar-Ro.