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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	363	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	10 - 2 - 18	76.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th February 1876.*

Read the following letters :—

No. 159. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 7th December 1875, No. 3,599.

REFERRING to G.O., No. 188, under date the 26th August 1875, I have the honor

- 1 Original letter from Sub-Engineer Mooneappah Pillay, to the District Engineer, Tanjore, No. 329, dated 20th September 1875.
- 1 Do. do. from do. do. No. 404, dated 3rd November 1875.
- 1 Do. do. from do. do. " 428, " 20th "
- 1 Original letter from Local Fund Sub-overseer T. Soonder Row, to the Madura Range Officer, No. 9, dated 29th September 1875.
- 1 Copy of a docket from the Collector, to the District Engineer, No. 2,566, dated 17th November 1875, with one enclosure, viz., of a Bill for Rupees 27.
- 1 Copy of an endorsement from the Madura Range Officer, to Sub-Engineer Mooneappah Pillay, No. 103, dated 20th June 1872.

to forward the accompanying explanations from Sub-Engineer N. Mooneappah Pillay and Local Fund Sub-overseer T. Soonder Row in connection

with the estimate of Rupees 2,170 for cutting a channel from the sea to salt pans at Muttaregunadapatam.

2. It appears the work had to be supervised by this department, and was given to Mr. Leggatt, who sent orders in a memorandum to the Sub-division Officer Mooneappah Pillay to attend to the matter (copy enclosed); the work, such as it was, was carried out apparently under Local Fund Overseer Soonder Row, and there is nothing to show that the Sub-divisional Officer attended to it at all; and it is much to be regretted a common boring apparatus was not obtained when the operations could have been carried on with much greater facility. The men employed appear to have been very inexperienced, and unable to judge of the character of the formation in that locality; but as soon as I saw the sand-stone formation at Point Tonitory cropping out into the sea, I suspected the existence of the bed all along the coast, and this has since been discovered in several places; as the great temple at Ramesweram is built entirely of sand-stone, it does appear strange the existence of this material in the vicinity was not thought of, as well as the drift sand in such a work on such a coast.

3. I regret to add I cannot accept the allegations that any proper levels were run before these executed by Mr. Fox, the Surveyor employed on this duty last year. The Sub-Engineer has no proper knowledge of surveying and levelling, and it appears from paragraph 4 of the Acting Superintending Engineer's letter, printed in G.O., of the 1st June 1871, No. 1,490, that this Range Officer was in the habit of performing his duties "in a perfunctory manner, and as I cannot with any confidence nominate him to a range in Madura, so no one in that district seems to care for his transfer there." On this I beg to observe only that Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts, R.E., made this report to Government, and I trust then it will be allowed that I had reason not to place much reliance on this subordinate's allegations when I found the racquet court estimate so incorrect.

No. 159-A. From the same Officer, dated Dindigul, 20th January 1876, No. 3,914.

In acknowledging the receipt of your memorandum, No. 925, under date the

30th December 1875, I have the honor to forward herewith the sanctioned estimate of Rupees 2,170 for cutting a channel from the sea to the pan to supply water for manufacturing salt at Muttaregunadapatam, together with the estimate for

- 1 Estimate of Rupees 2,170.
- 1 Do. " 5,940.
- 1 Do. " 5,300.
- 1 Specification.
- 1 Longitudinal Section.
- 1 Copy of Deputy Collector's letter, No. 139, of 21st August 1871, to the Collector of Madura.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th February 1876.*

Rupees 5,940, and all the original papers connected therewith which Mr. Potter has only just sent to me.

2. An original longitudinal section with levels has been sent to me for the first time by the present Sub-division Officer, and, from a remark on it, these do not appear to have been checked at all, but the estimate of Rupees 5,940 appears to have been prepared from this document and provides for earthwork only, whereas in execution "springs, sand-stone rock and drift sand" were met with and the work had to be stopped.

3. As already remarked, the existence of this rock does not appear to have been suspected before in this district until I traced it in several parts of the coast, but the fact of drift sand prevailing in such a locality should have been observed. If the Government consider this subject should be taken up in connection with the extension of the salt manufacture, I will take an opportunity to visit the locality and endeavour to see if any work can be profitably established, but I would beg to recommend the present design and estimate be cancelled.

No. 160.

ORDER THEREON, 10th February 1876, No. 363.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 9-A.

THE documents submitted by the District Engineer of Madura disprove entirely Sub-Engineer Mooneappah Pillay's repeated disclaimers of responsibility for the work of sinking trial pits on which the estimate of Rupees 5,940 purports to have been framed.

2. As Mooneappah Pillay appears to be over fifty-five years of age and thirty-four years of service, the District Engineer of Tanjore will arrange for his pension papers being sent in at once.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Tanjore.
" " Madura.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

It is established by the papers obtained from the Madras District Engineer, that the sum of Rs 50 granted by the Revenue Board for sinking trial pits was not placed at the disposal of the P.W. Dept, but in the hands of the Salt Dy. Collector, who was to sink such trial pits under the supervision of Sub-Engineer Mooneappah Pillay, by whom the estimate was then to be prepared. From the Bill submitted to the Salt Dy. Collector, who certifies that the work was properly executed.

counted, it appears
that 13 pits were
sunk; which, by
the testimony of
L. D. Oversee, Gov.
Don Rao, who as-
sisted, were at
intervals of 500
ft apart, and to
a depth of 10 ft.
The survey and
levels which have
been submitted
show ~~as~~ that ^{at}
out of the 13 places
at which pits
may be presumed
to have been sunk
(for the exact spots
are not marked)
that depth would
have been ineffi-
cient - The
Oversee states
that high winds
and springs pre-
vented greater
depth being at-
tained -

The project ap-
pears to have
been an ill advised

one, taken up
on the suggestion
of a Salt D. Col.
and its execu-
tion entrusted
to much to
subordinate of-
ficers of the P.W.
Dept, ~~instead~~
~~of being~~ and not
checked by the
Sup & District
Engineers - But
the P.W. Dept. who
was not entrusted
with the control
of the sum granted
for sinking pits
cannot be held
entirely responsi-
ble for the waste
of money that
has occurred -

L.D.O.
29/1/75

573
7880

The report of the
to be sent to the
but can be
of the...
the...
help...
only...
draft...
The...
in one...
draft...
draft...
The...
The...

No. 3914
District Engineer's Office
Dindigul 12 January 1876
From...
To...
District Engineer Madras
Major General J. W. Walker R.E.
Chief Engineer D.P.W.
Madras

In acknowledging the receipt
of your letter No. 925 under date the 30th
December 1875, I have the honor to forward
herewith the sanctioned estimate of Rs. 2170
for cutting a channel from the sea to the
Pan to supply water for manufacturing
salt at Muthuragoonadapattam, together
with the estimate for Rs. 5940 and all
the original papers connected therewith
to which Mr. Potter has only just sent
the collector of Madras.

1. Estimate of Rs. 2170
1. Do Rs. 5940
1. Do Rs. 6300
1. Specification
1. Longitudinal section
1. Copy of Dep. Coltr. letter No. 139 of 21st Aug 1871 to the collector of Madras.

2. An original longitudinal section with levels has been sent to me for the first time by the present sub Division officer and from a remark on it, these do not appear to have been checked at all, but the estimate of Rupees 5940 appears to have been prepared from this document and provides for earthwork only whereas in execution, "springs sand-stone rock and drift"

1598

G.O. No 363 10/2/76

Recd. 20th 3 Jan 1876
 No: 3914
 From the Chief Engineer
 to the District Engineer
 Madras
 Re: 2170 and 5940 for
 cutting a channel from
 the sea to the pond to
 supply water for ma-
 nufacturing salt at
 Muttaragunadapatam
 together with certain
 papers connected therewith

Madras District Engineer's Office
 Madras 7 Decr 1875
 To the Secretary to Government P. W.
 Madras
 Referring to G. O. No: 188 under
 date the 26th August 1875. I have the honor
 to forward

- Enclosures viz:-
- 1. original letter from Sub. Engg. Mooneappah Pillai to the District Engineer Sanjose No: 329 d/20th Sept 1875
 - 1. do do from do do No: 404 d/3rd Nov 1875
 - 1. do do from do do No: 478 d/26th Nov 1875
 - 1. original letter from D. Fr. Sub. Engineer J. Saunderson to the Madras District Engineer No: 9 d/29th Sept 1875
 - 1. copy of a docket from the Collector to the District Engineer No: 2566 d/17th Nov 1875 with two enclosures viz:-
 of a Bill for Rs. 27
 - 1. copy of an endorsement from the Madras District Engineer to Sub. Engineer Mooneappah Pillai No: 102 dated 20th June 1872

in connection with the estimate of Rs. 2170 for
 cutting a channel from the sea to the salt pans
 at Muttaragunadapatam.
 It appears the work had to be
 supervised by this Department and was given
 to Mr. Leggat, who sent orders in a memo to
 the Sub. Engg. Mooneappah Pillai to attend
 to the matter (copy enclosed) the work such

as it was, was carried out apparently under
Local Fund overseen Sander Row and there
is nothing to show that the sub Divisional
officer attended to it at all: and it is much
to be regretted a common levelling apparatus
was not obtained when the operations could
have been carried on with much greater
facility. The men employed appear to
have been very inexperienced and unable
to judge of the character of the formation
in that locality, but as soon as I saw the
sand stone formation at point Somitorry
cropping out into the sea, I suspected the ex-
istence of the bed all along the coast &
this has since been discovered in several
places: as the great temple at Rameswaram
is built entirely of sand stone it does
appear strange the existence of this material
in the vicinity was not thought of, as well
as the drift sand in such a work as well
as coast.

2. I regret to add I cannot
accept the allegations that any proper
levels were run before these executed by
Mr. Soro, the Surveyor employed on this
duty last year. The sub Engineer has no
proper knowledge of levelling and levelling
and it appears from para 4 of the Ag Supt.
Engineer's letter printed in G. O. of the 1st

June 1871, No: 1490, that this Range officer
was in the habit of performing his duties
"in a perfunctory manner, and as I cannot
"with any confidence nominate him to a"
"range in Madras, so no one in that dist." it
"seems to care for his transfer there." On this
I beg to observe only that Lieut. Col: Roberts
made this report to Government and I trust
then it will be allowed that I had reason
not to place much reliance on this subordi-
nate's allegations, when I found the Rae-
quet Court estimate so incorrect.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

your most obt. servant,
W. T. T. Lieut. Col: Roberts
District Engineer of
Madras

363

No 363

P. W. Dept

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Dated the 10th February 1876

Read the following

From the Dist. Engineer } (H.C. No 3599 of 7th Dec 75)
Madras } (No. 3914 - 20 Jan'y 76)
A. — the —

The document sub-
mitted by the District
Engineer of Madras dis-
prove entirely subser-
gineer Mooneappa Pillay's
repeated disclaimer
of responsibility for
the work of sinking
trial pits on which the
estimate of the 3rd of Jan-
uary 76 have been
framed. It is not
satisfactory dealing

4923-4924/1875-76
1st June - 4-5
10th July 1875 - 16 hrs
16-18 Aug 75 - 188--

G.O. No 363. 10. 2. 76

P. W. 1875 Dist
April - No 7880

To, The District Engineer
Madras
The Secretary to Govt.
P. W. D.
Secy.

Order of Secy.
Dated 10th Feb
No 3599.

Encl: 1
+ Madras No 35820

By the Secy.
The Secy. to Govt.
Madras

No 1579

Jan 21-12-76

in the Public Works
Department with
failures to carry out
Estimates of such a
nature and amount
which have been
sanctioned originally
in other Departments,
in which they could
not be properly checked;
and the Revenue
Department will be
requested to transfer
all such papers in
future for final dis-
posal in the Public
Works Department,
limiting its action to
an expression of general
approval or otherwise.

As

9 6
As Mr. M. P. Pillay appears to be
over 55 years of age,
and 34 years of
service, the District
Engineer of Sanyal
will arrange for his
Pension papers being
sent in at once.

G.M.N.

22.2.76

D. E. Fanyal - 7
D. E. Madan
Rev. Depts.

L. Attg.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text in the left margin]

[Faint handwritten notes at the top of the page, possibly including a circled '13']

[Handwritten notes in the middle section, including the phrase "The only..." and other illegible text]

1880/290/3
5/2/1

Gobt. of 1876 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
Rt. Engineer

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 10 Feb 1876, No. 333

Nos. 159-160

N. Nonesappah P. P. P.
Sub. Engineer

Passing orders on matters from
the Sub. Eng. Madras, Sub. Eng.
Explanation from — in
connection with the Estimate
for cutting a Channel from
the Sea to the Salt pans at
Muttaregmadapatam