

(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.	687	(w)	Press
B.P. No.			-Mis. -
Dated	17.3.		1876.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th March 1876.*

No. 252. Read the following letter from Major H. R. MEAD, R.E., District Engineer, South Arcot, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Cuddalore, 11th March 1876, No. 222:—

With reference to G.O., No. 20, dated 4th January 1876, calling for an explanation of the statements made in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Collector's

report on the defective work in some of the Civil buildings in the district, I have the honor to report that I find the complaints quite true; at the same time, with regard to details of buildings carried out as sanctioned, I suppose there is no necessity for me to remark on them. I refer to his remarks as regards privies being constructed on erroneous principles, and to his opinion that the doors of a record-room should be turned into windows.

2. With regard to the sub-jail at Chellambrum, which is the most serious case, the work has not been carried out as planned or estimated, and a portion of the work is decidedly bad.

3. This work was commenced in December 1868, stopped in July 1869, Rupees 4,659-10-10 having been expended on it, recommenced in August 1873, Rupees 1,927-2-10 extra being sanctioned* on account of deterioration of materials, &c., and only reported completed last year; it has been only now taken charge of by the Magistrate and this at my request.

4. The following are the differences between the work done and that estimated for:—

Item.	Estimate.	Work.
Trusses ...	All teak ...	Three of the struts country-wood.
Bressummers ...	Teakwood ...	Country-wood, scantlings not as estimated, and they have slugged in places, they are however safe for the present.
Posts, Verandah ...	Teakwood, 27 in number...	Thirty-three very good palay-wood posts, spaces between less than designed, this has saved bressummers.
Posts, Passage ...	Teakwood, 10 in number...	Masonry pillars built, this makes the passage inconveniently narrow, being 4 feet only.

The alterations to Cutcherry have not been carried out; a door has been made, but no cross wall built to form a police station, and three Venetian windows allowed for in estimate left out.

Hospital Shed.—The estimate allows for country-wood trusses, &c., it has been roofed with palmyrah rafters and couples, the work is very fair, but there are no flat tiles as allowed for in the estimate. The privy and cook-room are built as estimated, but the verandah posts of the cook-room are very old and weak.

5. In April 1875 the state of the work was brought to Mr. Norfor's notice by Mr. Garstin, and he directed Overseer Valoomyloo Mudaliar (whose papers for pension have gone in) to make good all deficiencies; he reported there was no teakwood

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17th March 1876.*

available, and, I am informed, he removed a great deal of very bad country-wood that was in the work and replaced it with better.

6. Mr. Norfor forwarded the completion certificate to Mr. Irvine for counter-signature; he refused to sign it, but afterwards signed it on the receipt of the enclosed letter from Mr. Norfor; it has been sent to the Controller; there is no copy in the district, and I regret that I cannot find anything on record regarding the work, or anything explaining the serious deficiencies. The works register shows that there was an expenditure of nearly the full extent of the estimated amount for teakwood, and for windows, &c., before July 1869, when the work was stopped.

7. With regard to the buildings, I would recommend at some future time (there is no particular hurry) the bressummers being renewed with teakwood of proper scantling, the posts being left as they are, but new post to be placed for the passage roof in place of the masonry pillars.

The cook-room posts must be renewed at once, this can be done at once; it is but a small item.

8. The iron doors of the sub-jails in the district, I may say generally, are bad, but I must remark that this is not the only district in which this is the case; most of them were made in 1868 on bad designs.

9. I regret however to find that this has been brought to notice, but that the doors have not been, as reported by Mr. Norfor in letter, No. 83, dated 10th July, published in G.O., No. 2,125, dated 26th July 1875, put in an efficient state; small petty repairs and alteration were made, but they certainly have not been successful. Mr. Norfor was hasty in supposing and reporting that they had been made secure.

10. The iron doors at Chengam, Gingee, and Merkanum are all of one design, they were made in Pondicherry in 1868. I am having, at a cost of Rupees 187, iron cross bars made for them, and I hope this addition will make them serviceable.

11. The doors of Trickolore Jail are so bad that I consider nothing can be done to them. I have therefore ordered new iron doors to be made up at a cost of Rs. 220, and trust they will shortly be fixed and the Jail handed over and put in use. The well is useless, the bottom having fallen in; I hope to be able to sink a smaller well inside it, but the success of this is of course doubtful.

12. The doors of Bowanagherry Jail are defective; they are so heavy that they have shaken the frames, &c. I propose next official year, when money is available, reducing their width and putting in new frames; this will cost Rupees 185.

13. I have not yet inspected Villapuram Sub-Jail, but the defects pointed out are being rectified; I would remark that the ground outside the Jail wall is private property; I have therefore had the wall raised.

14. The Jail at Porto Novo is, I regret to say, not yet completed or handed over; it is, I am sorry to say, not first-class work, it will however be perfectly serviceable, I hope, shortly; all that remains to be done is asphaltting; as the buildings are built in the backyard of an old native house it can never be a good sub-jail, it has been built as designed.

15. The Police huts at Vanoor and Chonien choultry, also the station-house at Pinnalur, I have not inspected, but the defective work in them has been some time ago removed and replaced.

16. With regard to the Collector's remarks on the Cutcherry repairs, I must bring to the notice of Government that it is impossible for work to be carried on

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th March 1876.*

properly unless sufficient money is allowed to execute the repairs at once. This estimate for the Cutcherry amounts to Rupees 5,590, it has been under execution since April 1874. The expenditure is as follows:—

								RS.	A.	P.
In 1874-75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,853	5	3
„ 1875-76	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,785	9	7
								3,638	14	10

the reason has been no funds available for it; frequent representations have been made to Government regarding funds for this work, but sufficient funds have not been given.

17. The following has been the expenditure for the last five years on the Collector's house, which is the property of Government:—

								RS.	A.	P.
1870-71	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1871-72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,647	14	11
1872-73	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	145	7	8
1873-74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,211	0	0
1874-75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251	15	1
								4,256	5	8
Up to January 1875-76	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	291	1	0

The house is certainly not in very good order, but I must say it is as good as most up-country bungalows. The small wing containing bath-rooms has been made secure by wooden struts; nothing else can be done except rebuilding.

The bungalow is in bad order, and the roof of the verandah (Cawnpoor roofing) has many of the tiles, as is often the case near the sea air, going and gone to decay, and it leaks in many places.

18. Unless Government increase the allowance for Civil Buildings I cannot hope to be able to repair these as they should be.

From R. E. NORFOR, Esq., Officiating District Engineer, South Arcot, to the Sub-Collector of South Arcot, dated Camp at Shatiatope, 13th July 1875, No. 125.

In answer to your letter, No. 432, of the 10th July 1875, I have the honor to inform you that I am not aware of the Collector having ordered teak bressummers and posts to be put in in the sub-jail building at Chedumbrum, nor can I recognize his authority to give any orders in such matters.

2. I found that Mr. Hicken, under whose supervision the work was carried out, had put in country-wood bressummers and pally-wood posts instead of teak, and by my instructions some of the bressummers and all the posts were removed and replaced at the expense of the Overseer who did the work, as they were not of sufficient scantling; I could not replace these with teak, as there was none in the market to be got at the time worth buying; the posts now put in, however, are immensely superior in strength to teakwood of the scantling in the estimate and unsound bressummers are replaced by sound ones, and the work, I consider, in its present condition is sound and very substantial.

3. With reference to your paragraph 2, I fancy you could not have looked in the right place for the "Remarks by Range Officer," as you will see on reference to the completion certificate again that the deviations are noticed in this column.

4. I request that in the event of the above explanation not being considered satisfactory you will return the completion certificates to me, inserting therein any remarks you may have to offer.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th March 1876.

No. 253. *cl Waks* ORDER THEREON, 17th March 1876, No. 687.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 16.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, South Arcot.
" Revenue Department.

Public Works Dept

Letter from the District Engineer South
Arcot No 222 dated 11th March 1876.

For Orders

Submitted for orders
as to disposal

G. W. Walker
Secretary to Government

I have found the
bad work done
I have been under
as far as possible
M

1861

D. P. W.
S. M. C.

125

District Engineer's office

And: Camp Shattuck

Washed 13th July 1875

From: ...

The officiating District Engineer

South Street

The Sub-Collector

South Street

Sir,

In answer to your letter No 432 of the 10th July 1875 I have the honor to inform you that I am not aware of the collector having ordered Leak Pressmen and Poets to be put in in the Sub Jail Building at Chichambrum nor can I recognize his authority to give any orders in such matters

I found that Mr Hicken under whose supervision the work was carried out had put in country wood Pressmen and Pally wood Poets instead of Leak, and by my instructions some of the Pressmen, and all the Poets were removed and replaced at the expense of the overseer who did the work

as they were not of sufficient scantling, I could not replace them with Seat as there was none in the market to be got at the time worth buying the Posts now put in however are immensely superior in strength to Seat wood of the scantling in the Estimate and unsound Pressumers are replaced by sound ones and the work I consider in its present condition is sound and very substantial.

3. With reference to your para 2. I fancy you could not have looked in the right place for the "Remarks by Range Officer" as you will see on reference to the completion certificate again that the deviations are noticed in this column.

4. I request that in the event of the above explanation not being considered satisfactory you will return the completion certificates to me inserting therein any remarks you may have to offer.

I have the honor to be
Signed / R. E. for
officiating District Engineer

(True Copy)

M. M. M. Major R. E.

District Engineer

D. P. W.
SOUTH ARCOT. No. 222.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S OFFICE.

Camp *Lundalose*
Dated *11 March 1876*

From
The District Engineer,
South Arcot.

To
The Secretary to Government
D. P. W.

Enclosures.

Sir,

Copy of

With reference to G.O. No. 20
dated 4 January 1876 calling for an
explanation of the statement made
in para 9 & 10 of the Collector's report
on the defective work in some of
the Civil Buildings in the District,
I have the honor to report; that
I find the complaints quite true;
at the same time with regard to
details of buildings carried out
as sanctioned I suppose there
is no necessity for me to remark
on them. I refer to his remarks
as regards premises being constructed
on erroneous principles and to his
opinion that the doors of a record
room

11/186/76

Enclosed in
letter No 222 of
11 March 1876 from
The District Engineer
South Arcot to the
Secretary to Govt. P.W.

17 March 76 B.P. 252

Room should be turned into windows.

2. With regards to the subject at Chellambaram which is the most serious case, the work has not been carried out as planned or estimated and a portion of the work is decidedly bad.

3. This work was commenced in December 1868, stopped in July 1869, Rs 4659.10.10: having been expended with, recommenced in August 1873 Rs 1927-2-10 extra being sanctioned in account of deterioration of materials and only reported completed last year; it has been only now taken charge of by the Magistrate and this at my request.

4. The following are the differences between the works done and that estimated for:—

Items.	Estimate	Works
Trusses	All teak	3 of the struts Country wood.

Presummers. Teak wood Country wood, scantlings not as estimated and they have

slugged in places they are however safe for the present.

Estimated 27 in diameter. 33 very good Plywood, spaces between less than designed this has saved the Presummers.

Estimated 10 in diameter. Masonry pillars built, this makes the passage inconveniently narrow being 4 feet only.

The alteration to late cherry has not been carried out a door has been made but no cross wall built to form a police station and the window allowed for in estimate left out.

Hospital shed. The estimate allows for Country wood trusses &c, it has been roofed with palm-leaf. After

4 afters of couples, the work is very fair but there are no flat tiles as allowed for in the estimate.

The Privy & Cook room are built as estimated but the Verandah parts of the Cook room are very old and weak.

In April 1875 the state of the work was brought to Mr. Norford's notice by Mr. Garstin and he directed Messrs. Valoomyloo Mudahan (whose papers for pension have gone in) to make good all deficiencies; he reported there was no teak wood available and, I am informed, he removed a great deal of very bad country wood that was in the work and replaced it with better.

Mr. Norford forwarded the completion certificate to Mr. Bruce for countersignature; he refused to sign it, but afterwards signed it

on

on the receipt of the enclosed letter from Mr. Norford; it has been sent to the Controller; there is no copy in the district and I regret that I cannot find anything on record regarding the work or anything stating plainly the serious deficiencies. The work register shows that there was an expenditure of nearly the full extent of the estimated amount for teak wood & for windows &c before July 1869 when the work was stopped.

7 With regard to the building I would recommend at some future time (there is no particular hurry) the Brecciamens being renewed with teak wood of proper scantling, the posts being left as they are, but new posts to be placed for the passage roof in place of the masonry pillars.

The Cook room posts must be renewed at once this can be done at once.

it is but a small item.

8. The iron doors of the Sub Jails in the District I may say generally are bad but I must remark that this is not the only district in which this is the case, most of them were made in 1868 on bad designs.

9. I regret however to find that this has been brought to notice, but that the doors have not been, as reported by Mr. Norfor in letter No 83 dated 10th July published in G. O. No 2125 dated 26th July 1875, put in an efficient state; small petty repairs & alterations were made but they certainly have not been successful; Mr. Norfor was hasty in supposing and reporting that they had been made secure.

10. The iron doors at Chengam Gingee & Kerkannam are all of one design, they were made in Pondicherry in

in 1868. I am having at a cost of Rs 187 ~~and~~ iron cross bars made for them and I hope this addition will make them serviceable.

11. The doors of Tricholoo Jail are so bad that I consider nothing can be done to them. I have therefore ordered new iron doors to be made up at a cost of Rs 220 and trust they will shortly be fixed and the jail handed over and put in use.

The wall is weak at the bottom having fallen in, I hope to be able to sink a smaller wall inside it but the success of this is of course, doubtful.

12. The doors of Rawanagherry Jail are defective; they are so heavy that they have shaken the frames &c. I propose next official year when money is available, reducing their width and putting in new frames, this

this with cost Rs 185

13. I have not yet inspected Villupuram Sub Jail but the defects pointed out are being rectified; I would remark that the ground outside the Jail wall is private property; I have therefore had the wall raised.

14. The Jail at Porto Novo is I regret to say not yet completed or handed over, it is I am sorry to say not first class work, it will however be perfectly serviceable, I hope, shortly; all that remains to be done is asphalting; as the buildings are built in the back-yard of an old native house it can never be a good sub Jail, it has been built as designed.

15. The Police huts at Tanjore and Chonim Choultry, also the station house at Pimaleis I have not inspected but the defectives work in them has

has been some time ago removed and replaced.

16. With regard to the Collector's remarks on the leutecherry repairs I must bring to the notice of Government that it is impossible for work to be carried on properly unless sufficient money is allowed to execute the repairs at once. This estimate for the leutecherry amounts to Rs 5590, it has been under execution since April 1874. The expenditure is as follows. —

in 1874-75 Rs 1853-5-3

in 1875-76 — — 1785-9-7 3638-11-10

the reason has been no funds available for it, frequent representations have been made to Government regarding funds for this work but sufficient funds have not been given.

17. The following has been the expenditure

expenditure for the last 5 years
on the collector's house which
is the property of Government.

1870-71. *R.* —————

1871-72 - 1647-44 - 11

1872-73 - - 145-7-8

1873-74 - " - 2211 - " - "

1874-75 — " — 257-15-1

425.6 - 5 - 8
 291 .. 1 .. -

The house is certainly not in very

good order but I must say it is as good as most up country bungalows.

The small wing containing bath
rooms has been made secure by
wooden struts; nothing else can
be done except rebuilding.

The Lenzgallow is in bad order and the roof of the Verandah (Bamboo roofing) has many of the tiles as is often the case near the sea are going and gone to decay, and it leaks in many places.

18. Unless Government increase the allowance

a allowance for Civil Buildings.
I am & hope to be able to repair
these as they should be.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours most obed^t Serv^t
Wm. M. Chapin

Dietrich Engineers

4010-Sept/73 No 2489
 - 9: Decr " " 2965
 - 19: April/5 " 1107
 - 26: July " " 2125
 - 4: Jan'y/76 " 20-

1. 11/1876 23/2/76
 SOUTH ARCOT D. P. W.
 From No 1861
 The District Engineer
 South Arcot.
 To The Secretary to Government
 Dated 11/11/76
 Despatched 11/11/76
 Received 13/11/76
 No 687 of 17th March/76
 Recorded

No. 222
 Enclosures 1

Submitting explanation
 the Collector's observations
 regarding Civil Building
 and his report on the
 Public Works of South
 Arcot for 1874-75.

22.5.1876

1861
Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

H. Engr.
S. Harcourt.

Filed

Issued

Recd

Encl.

G. O. 17 Dec 1876, No.

Dec. 252-253.

Report on the Public Works
of South Arcot for 1874-75.
Explanation from the Engr.
Engr on Collectors Statements
regarding the Civil Buildings
in his — recorded.