

(1) Number of pages _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1220

(N) Press
Mis.

Dated

1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

1st November 1877, No. 1,290 W.

General
Establishment.

Read the following paper :—

No. 1. From the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 9th October 1877,
No. 17 E. W.

SUBMITTING endorsement No. 50 S.L., dated 20th September 1877, from the
District Engineer, Salem.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, 1st November 1877, No. 1,390 W.

THE Governor in Council would have been much better pleased if the Range
Officer had devoted to the works in his charge the time he has devoted to this recrimi-
natory letter. Officers who discharge their own duty efficiently and zealously have
no time for controversy, and the Governor in Council has noticed that almost invari-
ably it is an officer who well knows his own conduct to be not free from more or less
blame who enters upon controversy of this nature.

2. These general remarks are equally applicable to officers in the Civil as in the
Public Works Department.

All should join in the endeavor to advance the objects and interest of the Govern-
ment to the utmost of their ability.

3. The Governor in Council expects that cordial co-operation, instead of mutual
criticism, will mark the future relations of the officers of the several departments.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
To District Engineers.
To the Revenue Department (Famine).

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

Endorsement of the Chief Engineer for
Irrigation, No. 17 E. S. dated 9th October
1877.

Mr. Fawcett's letter
not to be printed
what is the
difference between
read and recorded
when placed at
the head of an
order
on his own return
in the order
Prising up for
final order tomorrow
2/10 receiving 2/10

FOR ORDERS.

The Chief Engineer
considers that in justice
to the officers of the Public
Works Department, a
thorough investigation
is needed in this case.

E. A. M. J. P. C.
Chief Engineer and
Secy. to Govt. P. W. D.

Col. St. James
Oct 7/77-3

The long and
 closed ~~to~~ ~~at~~
 to the order in this
 case. The letter
 has devoted to the
 nomination letter
 officer who has been
 from our duty especially
 and yesterday from the
 for the meeting
 D. G. (has returned the
 almost immediately. It is
 an officer who seems to
 our country and for
 from the place where
 enter upon his duties
 of the station.

These papers do not convey
 an impression very favorable
 to the measure in which
 matters have been managed
 in Salem but there is no
 good object which I think
 is secured by pursuing
 the course further
 G.O. of 24th ult. has
 allowed the election of
 Civil & P.W. Officer & it
 will I think tend to
 improve the revenue of
 local officer. I am, Sir,
 Very truly
 Your Obedt. Servant
 Clear squabbles
 among themselves

The G.O. of 24th ult.
 have been much
 better than the

No. - Coopor Divisional Office,
 Camp Yerrimathoor, 27 Sep. 1877.

From
 The Executive Engineer,
 Coopor Division.

To
 The District Engineer,
 Salem.

*S
 No. 358 of 24/4/77
 from the subcollector Sir,
 to collector

- 1 No. 164 of 24/4/77 from
 Executive Engineer to
 District Engineer No. 142 of 2/5/77 from District
 Engineer to the Ex.
 Engr.
- 1 No. 143 of do.
- 1 No. 46 of 2/5/77 from
 Civil Engr. to collector margin received by you from the
 for of Salem
- 1 No. 220 of 4/5/77 from
 Ex. Engr. to Dist. Engr.
- 1 No. 396 of 1/5/77 from
 Subcollector to Ex. Engr.
- 1 No. 208 of 4/5/77 from
 Ex. Engr. to Dist. Engr.
- 1 No. 258 of 5/5/77 from
 Engr. to Dist. Engr.
- 1 No. 338 of 14/5/77 of do.
- 1 No. 222 of 22/5/77 from
 Civil Engr.
- 1 No. 698 of 18/7/77 from
 Subcollector to Ex. Engr.
- 1 No. 726 of 20/7/77 from
 Ex. Engr. to Dist. Engr.
- 1 No. 754 of 25/7/77 from
 the Ex. Engr. to Dist.
 Engr.
- 1 No. 300 of 25/7/77 from
 Subcollector to Ex. Engr.
- 1 No. 758 of 31/7/77 from
 Ex. Engr. to Dist. Engr.
- 1 No. 753 of 25/7/77 of do.
- 1 No. 1445 of 4/8/77 from
 Ex. Engr. to Dist. Engr. and
 Major Baynes.
- 1 No. 663 of 4/8/77 from
 Subcollector to Ex. Engr.
- 1 Extract from Fort
 nightly narrative of
 Subcollector of 4-8-77.

I have not leisure to write, nor
 would you have spare time to read any
 attempt in writing on my part to reply in
 detail to the large number of letters as
 received by you from the
 Subcollector, Major C. J. Baynes, and
 Assistant Collector Mr. Rathnavala
 chiefly on the short comings of myself and
 Subordinates in the Sub Division. I now
 see most of those for the first time, and
 perceive that altho many of them are
 unworthy of attention, still it will not
 do to allow the statements made in
 others to pass unnoticed, as to do so would
 be likely to leave an entirely erroneous
 impression on the minds of those who
 read them.

In his letter No. 763 of the 4th

August

August, the Public Collector denies that he kept the larger portion of the Famine Relief Works in the Subdivision in his own hands, but that this was the case is proved by his own report published in the proceedings of the Madras Government of the 31st January 1877, and communicated with G.O. No. 251 of 17th February 1877; this shows that he had works under his charge aggregating cautions to the amount of Rs. 73,898, among which, there were 96 miles of new road to cost Rs. 32,250; Irrigation Works, Rs. 14,900, and miscellaneous 21,748; while at the same time he made over to me 54 Irrigation Works for which Rs. 20,261 were sanctioned - Rs. 10,050 for the repair of roads and Rs. 2223 for clearing way side wells. All or nearly all the Irrigation works had been formerly sanctioned and were stopped for want of funds and the larger proportions were original works in which masonry formed the principal part and which ^{were} therefore insured for Famine Relief Works.

He repeatedly, in his letters, makes the assertion that he frequently asked the assistance and advice of this Department; no such application was made to me, altho' he must have seen

seen that it would have been to the advantage of Government to have called on me for estimates for the works he undertook and asked my advice as to their utility, but he did neither. The consequence is that some 5 Lacs of Rupees have been spent in the Sub division by the Revenue Department in such a way as to have demoralized the coolies working under them and with the result that there is not Rs. 10,000 value of useful remunerative work to show for this large expenditure. This will be proved when the result of the measurements and valuation called for in G.O. No. 125 of 29th June 1877 is known.

The coolies were demoralized by being paid whether they worked or played. I have had the works done by the Revenue people on several Farms in each of the three Taluqs, measured and communicated the result to you with my letter No. 783 of 31st July 1877; these measurements show and I am further prepared to prove by the measurement of any one hundred of their works, that in no case has the work done by the Revenue Department cost less than 4 annas per cubic yard and that it often cost 8 annas and even as much as one rupee per cubic yard.

My sole object in mentioning these facts is to show that this way of dealing with the coolies had the effect

of preventing me from getting any considerable amount of labor. Often when I had succeeded in getting together a good gang of coolies the moment a work was started in the neighbourhood by the Revenue authorities, the coolies at once left our works to get on theirs where they had so much easier times, as an instance of this, I may mention the Kurmasamoodram Tante works which my coolies left almost to a man to go to the Pullamungalum road when it was started.

The 18 works mentioned in this letter as made over to this Department from the Revenue authorities are all in progress or completed. For a time, those with other Irrigation works were delayed by the operation of Chief Engineer's No. 309 of 8th June 1877 calling on us to carry out Irrigation Works at the normal rates of the District, and the Collector, altho' well aware of the cause has not omitted to notice in his letters the stoppage of every work that came under his notice at this time.

Mr. Wilkinson in his letter No. 300 of the 25th July 1877 states that my schedule of expenditure for the

the month of May shows a total expenditure on Irrigation Works for that month of only Rs. 218-3-7, i.e. Rs. 194-15-0 on Original Works and Rs. 23-9-7 on repairs; whereas the fact is that the total expenditure on Irrigation Works in the Range in May was Rs. 8431-0-0. This was said by way of showing how unfit this Department is to manage the Public Works of the country. Again, in that of the 4th of August, he states in confirmation of this, that he wrote me 21 letters on the subject of Irrigation Works; but he does not as he might have truly added that these were all a rule asking me to take up some Tante or Channel repairs, an estimate for it and have it repaired, and altho' I am at the disadvantage of not knowing the numbers of those letters, and therefore ignorant of the exact purport of each, I feel I can easily say that not a single request made in those letters has been neglected as I have sent up estimates for 75 Irrigation works since the Tanime commenced all of which are either completed or in progress.

In his fortnightly narrative dated the 4th August 1877, the Sub-collector mentions that he found only 5 masons and 3 coolies on the Tally Tante; he is well aware of the

the cause of this stoppage of work at
the time he visited the works, for I
personally explained it to him, we,
as you know were then trying under
the orders as per margin to get the
Irrigation Works carried out at the
ordinary rates ruling before the famine
and were not at all likely to succeed
where he and his people were paying
for work in the next field at the
normal rate of 6 and 8 cubic yards
but the actual one of 4 cubic yards
per rupee. It is again incorrect in
his statement in this narrative when
he says the D. P. W. expended on Ir-
rigation Works during June Rs. 750,
as the expenditure on this account
in that month was actually Rs. 6159.
This will be proved by a reference to
my schedule for that month.

Perhaps the most ungenerous
remark as well as the least accurate
on the impression sought to be con-
veyed by it made by the Subcollector
is that respecting the payment
made to the Contractor who is
building the Range Officers Bazaar
at Copoor. This as Mr.
Wilkinson well knew was sanctioned
in August 1876 on the under-
standing that it would be paid

for in 1877, and this payment mentioned
by him of Rs. 2147 in the month of
May last was the first money received
by the man - altho' the building had
been in course of construction from the
previous September and was then three-
fourths completed.

I think enough has been
said in this letter to prove that matters
are not as represented by the Subcollector,
and that I have had no ordinary diffi-
culties to contend with in executing the
works which have been carried out in
this Range for the last 8 months. I
am glad to be able to say (and an in-
spection of the works will prove) that
no money has been expended by me
on any but works of utility and
that all has been well done.

With reference to what has
been said by Major G. P. Boynes,
about the Department and of its being
of no assistance to him, I can only
say he never applied to me for assis-
tance but once, and that was a
request that I would order the Taluk
Overseer of Datampoor to make out
an estimate for him for the demolition
of the Fort of that place. I sent the
man at once to do the work, and I
believe he did it, but as the estimate
was exceeded three times over and

the work is not yet completed, Major
Brynes, I believe was not satisfied with
the Overseer's estimate; as for assist-
ing him in the reckless career of the
expenditure he pursued in Catampoor,
I need hardly say I would have been
breaching through every rule of the
Department in attempting it. But
why Major Brynes who admitted
in a conversation we had in your
presence at Palcode Bungalow that
neither he himself nor any of his
people either know how to measure
works or make out an estimate,
should have been preferred for con-
ducting Relief Works to this Depart-
ment who were on the spot ready,
willing and even anxious to be em-
ployed and further why the Collector's
Department should have had any
thing to do with the organization
of the labor, preparation of estimates
and carrying out of any but the
simplest works has yet to be explain-
ed.

I don't think the remarks
of Assistant Collector Mr. Rathna-
valoo (better requires comment, as
they are altogether unwarranted,
and it is evident from them that
he had but little knowledge of the
subject

subject he was writing about.

May I request that as Mrs.
Wilkinson and Major Brynes' letters
have been sent up to Government,
that this letter may also be laid be-
fore them, such a proceeding being
necessary to their proper knowledge of
the situation, and I would respectfully
request that it be read in justice to
myself and my subordinates who have
been most unjustly accused of neglect
of duty by the Subcollector.

I have &c.
Signed R. J. Lowry
Executive Engineer

No. 50 SL

District Engineer's Office,
Salem 20th September

Submitted for the consideration
orders of Government with reference to
Subcollector Wilkinson's Memo. No. 463
dated 14th August 1877.

I am of opinion that Mr. Lowry's
defence so far as concerns Mr. Wilkinson's
charges of neglect to assist the Revenue De-
partment, is complete; and the special
attention of Government is drawn to
the fact regarding the expenditure in
May and June as contrasted with
Mr. Wilkinson's representations

on the subject.

Montgomery

Major, R.R.

District Engineer

R. No 17 S.L.

From

The District Engineer,
Salem.

To

Joint
The Secy. to Govern-
ment, D. P. W.
Irrigation Branch.

Dated 20th
Recd: } Sept: 1877.

No 50 S.L.

Bringing to notice the
want of cooperation
on the part of the Sub-
Collector in the execu-
tion of Relief Works
by the D. P. W.

461: 10/1/77 S.L.

No 17 E.W.

Endorsement No 50 S.L. of the 20th
September 1877 from the Dis-
trict Engineer Salem.

Enclos

Transferred to the Chief
Engineer P. W. D. as the explana-
tions submitted by the District
Engineer refer to the way in which
the Public Works Establishments
in the Coosoor Range performed
their duties in connection with
the management of Public Works
generally.

2 Such difficulties as the Pub-
lic Works Establishments experi-
enced in this Range in getting
work done appear to have been
in a great measure due to the
inefficient arrangements of the
Sub Collector in connection with
the works under execution by Civil
Agency

Agency, by which any reasonable execution of work by the Public Works Officers in return for expenditure was rendered almost impracticable, and consequently labour on Departmental works was obtainable only with difficulty—

Camp at
Coimbatore
9 Oct. 1877

Whitcomb

Colonel R.E.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation

S.

The Chief Engineer D.P.W.

The above is a list of the
 names of the persons who
 have been admitted to the
 membership of the Society
 since the last meeting.
 The names are given in
 alphabetical order.

Rev. Bd. Prov. 20 Aug 1877 No. 3842.
 80 sub 29 June " " 1253.
 Mis " 17 July " " 251.

1877
 From
 The Chief Engineer for Engg.

Just Staff

Dated 7th } Oct. 1877
 Despd. 11 }
 Encls.
 N. 17 Encl.

Management of Public
 Works in Coosoon Range -
 Salem District. - Transfers
 with remarks, explanation
 submitted by the D.E., as to the
 way in which the — was
 carried out by the P.W. S. Encl.

Lt Col. H. J. J. B. D. /

No 1390 W Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 1 Nov 77
 Read the following:

From the Chief Engineer
 for Migration (H. E. No 17 E.W of 9th Oct 77)
 Submitting endorsement
 No 50 S.L. of 20 Sept 77 from the
 Chief Engineer,

~~Received~~

1. The Government in Council
 will have been
 much better pleased if
 the ~~Chief Engineer~~ had devoted
 to the works in his charge
 the time he has devoted
 to this recriminatory
 letter. Officers who dis-
 charge their own duty
 efficiently and zealously
 have no time for con-
 troversy, and the Governor
 in Council has noticed
 that almost invariably

it is an Officer who well
knows his own conduct
to be not free from
more or less blame
who enters upon con-
troversy of this nature.

2. Pungent remarks
are equally applicable to
Officers in the civil as in
the P.W.D. -

All should join in the
endeavour to attain
the object & intent of
the Govt. to the detriment of
their ability.

The Govt. expects
that cordial cooperation
instead of mutual
criticism will mark

the future relations
of the officers of the
several departments
Yours
W. H. S.

Chapman English
to the Secy. 132

Rev. W. H. S. / Fanning / 221
Desd 2-11-77. 17

23-4-77 ✓

Copy

Sect. of 1877 *Star*
PUBLIC WORKS. ✓

To

Chas. F. Davis

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 1st Nov 1877, No. 1390W

Nos. 1-2

Relief Works in Cassio or
Range, Salem Co.

Remarks on the subject
of want of cooperation
between the Civil & Militia
in the execution of—

Ind. M. R. R.
11-22

Bm

23-11-77 ✓
Copy

Sept. of 1877

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 14 Nov 1877. No. 139014

Nos. 1-2

Relief Works in Coosaw
Range, Salem Co.

Remarks on the subject
of the want of co-operation
between the Civil & P. & R.
in the execution of—

Wm. D. Miller
8-11-77

Wm