

(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.	<i>A-576 (10)</i>	Press
		Mis
Dated	<i>20-7-1877</i>	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

20th July 1877, No. 456 W.

Buildings and Roads

Civil Works.

Read the following papers:—

No. 2777 From J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Nellore, 2nd July 1877, No. 1,137.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., No. 212 W, dated the 11th June 1877, calling for report in regard to the proportionally large amount of sickness that has prevailed among the European subordinates on the canal.

2. On receipt of the order I called upon the principal officers on the canal to state their opinion on the subject, and I beg to enclose copies of reports upon it from Messrs. deGrousilliers and Brooks, Lieutenant Henderson, R.E., and Dr. O'Hara.

3. Out of the twelve Non-commissioned Officers of Royal Engineers originally appointed to the canal, there are five present, five on sick leave, and two died. From reports in the newspapers, one of the men (Serjeant Bishop) registered as absent on sick leave died at Madras, but I have received no official information of it. If this is true and I have no doubt of it 25 per cent. of the men have died and 33 per cent. are now absent on sick leave.

4. This alarming mortality and sickness is attributed to want of acclimatization, physical unfitness, overwork, exposure to the sun, insufficient shelter, and want of food and provisions suitable for Europeans. The men who have died and fallen sick have not, I believe, been in any case more than two years in India, and it is probable that their breaking down so soon is in a great measure due to this cause.

5. One man, Corporal Tizzard, suffered from some pulmonary disease, another, Serjeant Bishop, contracted disease in Burmah, whence he was posted to the canal; and in these cases the men were, in my opinion, physically unfit for the work. The work was no doubt hard, but it was certainly not too severe; the men who have worked the hardest have stood best, and the sickness and mortality that occurred is not attributable to overwork. Some of the men have probably exposed themselves too much to the sun, but there was no occasion for it, and they were often cautioned against it; the men had good sheds and good tents, and were in this respect as well off as the officers; there is no ground for complaint in this respect. There was and is great difficulty in getting food suitable for Europeans, and no doubt the men suffered in health and spirits from this cause.

6. The heat on the canal for two or three weeks after the 20th May was terrific; it was from 100° to 110° in the shade, and this, in my opinion, is the sole cause of the breakdown among the European subordinates; it was certainly the cause of death in the cases of Corporals Knight and Bailly, and there was of course no help for it. In regard to the future, I shall recommend in a separate letter that the men who are now absent on sick leave be posted elsewhere. One of these, Corporal Tizzard, has applied for permission to leave the department, and I shall recommend that his request be granted; for, though he is an intelligent man and bears a good character, he is, I think, physically unfit for employment in this department; he is reported to have done no work on the canal during the time he was on it, and he fortunately left before the great heat in

May. There is very great difficulty in getting chickens, mutton and milk along the work; but Mr. Grose has kindly promised that he will order village officers to give more assistance hereafter in regard to chickens and milk; mutton cannot be got in less quantities than a whole sheep; which one man cannot afford to purchase, but when the men are near each other they can club together to purchase a sheep between them; when the officers kill a sheep, as they must frequently do, I have no doubt they share it with their subordinates; there is always plenty of splendid fish, and there is never any want of rice and condiments; altogether I cannot admit that the conditions of life are so bad on the canal as they are made out to be, though no doubt the young soldiers of Royal Engineers find it very different to what they have been hitherto accustomed.

7. I have done all I can for these men and they tell me that the officers on the canal treat them with great kindness. I cannot promise any great amelioration of their condition on the canal, but Government may rest assured that their reasonable wants shall be attended to as much as possible.

From F. G. BROOKS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Iskapully Division, to J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, dated 22nd June 1877, No. 614.

WITH reference to the letter from Dr. Ross, Zillah Surgeon of Nellore, No. 92, dated the 26th ultimo, to the address of the Deputy Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, I have the honor to report that it is quite true that the European subordinates on this canal have been greatly overworked, and there could be no better proof of this than the fact that 50 per cent. of them have been invalided or died within the last two months.

2. As long as the weather kept moderately cool, the staff of subordinates was sufficient, but there never was any reserve to fill vacancies as they occurred, and when this terrific weather set in and with it a great influx of immigrant coolies, a tremendous strain was imposed upon all hands, both officers and subordinates, and it is hard to say which fared the worst.

3. I duly brought this state of things to your notice and you sent relief from every range in your circle as early as it was practicable to do so, but still the number of experienced subordinates has been under a fair working strength. But for serious interruption by the cyclone of last month, which delayed the completion of the Southern Sub-divisions, which would have set free some weeks ago a number of subordinates, the difficulty would not have been felt.

4. I fully concur with Dr. Ross' remarks that there should be a reserve of 50 per cent. of the European subordinates on a work of this magnitude and carried on in this weather.

5. With regard to shelter, the European subordinates were all supplied with good huts; which although rough and not very comfortable are infinitely better than tents for protecting them from the heat. In the Iskapully Sub-division the Overseers were also allowed small drawings of palmyrah leaves supported on a light frame at the points where the heaviest work was proceeding, in order that they might have occasional shelter when on the work.

6. With reference to the question of food supplies, there is no doubt but that the subordinates have not fared well. Fish has only been plentiful in one sub-division; inferior mutton is sometimes procurable, beef never. Fowls are very expensive from 6 to 8 Annas each, small size. Bread which has to be brought from Nellore or Ongole is beyond the means of most of the subordinates, vegetables there are none, and milk an essential to men with families is extremely scarce.

7. The Tahsildars of Kundukur and Kavalu Taluqs might have rendered some assistance, but they have not been disposed to help in any way. The Munsif connected with the former is said to be particularly indifferent when applied to for this purpose.

8. I would beg to suggest the following measures for improving the condition of the European subordinates and for the better preservation of their health.

- (1.) Increase of pay, nearly all these men have to keep up duplicate establishment and as a consequence, they cannot afford to provide themselves with proper food.
- (2.) There should be more of them, so that a man finding himself getting ill could be immediately replaced for a few days, which in most cases could be the "stitch in time."
- (3.) There should be more good Native subordinates capable of giving out and directing work, which would save the Europeans considerable exposure.

The last two remedies will be provided by the early closing of the greater part of the first four sub-divisions and by the new subordinates who have just joined.

From Lieutenant C. B. HENDERSON, R.E., Officer in charge of Karedu Sub-division, to J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, dated 19th June 1877, No. 222.

WITH reference to your endorsement No. 921 of the 15th instant, calling for a report on the conditions under which the European subordinates on the canal are employed, I have the honor to state that in my opinion the work has been throughout very much under-officered, and more has been expected from the subordinates than they can perform at this season of the year.

2. The European Non-commissioned Officers from Bangalore are apparently not acclimatized; they do not understand the evil effects of exposure to the sun, and in spite of repeated warnings they are very reckless in this matter; if an overseer is on his work at 5-30 A.M., he can be back again in his shed at 8-30, and he need not go out again till 4 P.M. Overseers, as a rule, appear on the work between 7 and 8 A.M. I have introduced a rule that no payments shall be made after sunset, the overseers pay from 9 to 11 A.M., and this gives them a rest in the evening which they much require.

3. The Non-commissioned Officers are all married men with families, and they find it difficult to keep up a double establishment on this account; they can afford very few luxuries and must often have to fare badly, the remedy (increased pay) is I suppose impracticable.

4. Sheds have been provided for the overseers and they are as well off in this respect as the officers.

5. Personally I have never had any difficulty in getting supplies, but I believe that all the other officers as well as the overseers have; I find that, if one will pay sufficient ready-money things are always forthcoming.

From Surgeon W. O'HARA, Medical charge, East Coast Canal, to J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, dated 24th June 1877.

IN reply to your communication, dated 19th June 1877, *No. 85, in regard to G.O., 11th June 1877, No. 212 W, I have the honor to express my opinion on the following points which were

* Received on the 24th June 1877.

brought to the notice of Government through the report of the Zillah Surgeon, Nellore.

2. "Serious amount of sickness prevalent among the European Overseers, East Coast Canal." Inasmuch as you are acquainted with the numbers and names of the officers that have died and have been invalided from these works I shall not recount them; but in reference to the causes of sickness I have to observe that the majority of sufferers have been men who have scarcely been acclimatized, that they suffered from undue exposure, overwork, irregular and improper feeding, and such defective domestic and hygienic arrangements as, in the case of inexperienced men, are incident to district life.

3. *Insufficiency of Overseers and necessary consequent overwork.*—That the canal has from the commencement suffered from an inadequate staff is I believe so generally recognized and has been so repeatedly pointed out that further comment is unnecessary.

4. *Difficulty in procuring proper food supplies.*—This obtains in most stations along the line; sometimes to a serious extent. It is due to two causes as far as the subordinates are concerned, viz. :—

- 1st.—The absence of suitable European food stuffs in the various villages along the line.
- 2nd.—The difficulty of, and delay in, transport of provisions from large stations like Nellore and Ongole; besides which the insufficiency of the salaries of the overseers, many of whom are married and are obliged to maintain two separate establishments, prevents them purchasing at necessarily expensive rates nutritious and wholesome food.

5. *Shelter.*—I have made it a special duty to urge upon the Sub-divisional Officers and Overseers the importance of erecting for themselves suitable sheds, leaf pavilions, and I am glad to say that I believe during the recent very hot weather all Overseers on the line were provided with huts if they chose to use them.

(a). *In regard to the suggestions, "doubling the number of European Overseers,"* I presume if this were possible and the material available the small numbers whose energies have been overtaxed would long ago have been reinforced.

- (b). *Revenue Authorities might aid them in procuring a better class of food supply.*— If positive orders were issued on this point possibly they might ameliorate this condition to a certain extent, but I am convinced that unless a more liberal pay allowance be made, the men will scarcely reap any material advantage.
- (c). "Officers physically unfit." It is to be regretted that as the severity of the conditions of life out here requires men to be specially fitted to bear hardship and exposure, that the choice of any subordinates should have been made from men with neither experiences of Indian climate nor of the many precautions and duties that are essentially necessary to the well-being of a district official employed on works such as these.

From DEGROUSILLIERS, Esq., Executive Engineer of the Kottapatam Division, to J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, dated 27th June 1877, No. 549.

IN reply to your No. 921C of 15th instant, enclosing a report of Surgeon-Major Ross regarding the Overseers of the European subordinates on the Buckingham Canal, Nellore, I have the honor to report.

2. That it is four out of five Non-commissioned Officers in this division, one has died and three have gone on sick leave, but I hardly think that very hard work had much to do with their sudden breakdown.

3. Up to the middle of May we had very pleasant weather, the tropical heat was tempered by constant sea breezes, and camp life in tents was very agreeable.

4. But after the cyclone in May the change in the weather was so sudden and the heat so abnormally high that it required an unimpaired constitution to stand the sudden shock.

5. How far those who surmounted were physically fit for such a change and what made them so I think should be ascertained from the medical man who treated on them.

6. To my knowledge none of the sick overseers ever stayed out on the works until 11 o'clock, nor have I ever given an order that they should stay out until that hour, nor had they ever what you may call office work, two of them could hardly write, even Corporal Tizzard never did any work at all as much as I know and came here in an unfit state of health.

7. Corporal Tizzard who left long before the great heat set in and Corporal Curtis were the only Overseers without huts, but now all overseers have palmyrah leaf huts such as I am myself living in.

8. With regard to necessities of life they were and are hard to be got and at extremely high prices, and it would be well if the Civil authorities were to assist to procure them more readily.

No. 277-A. Endorsement of the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 3rd July 1877, No. 1,342.

From Surgeon W. O'HARA, Medical charge of East Coast Canal, to the Secretary to the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department, dated Iskapully, 24th June 1877.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of the Surgeon-General, a copy of my letter to the District Engineer, Nellore, in which is expressed, according to his requisition, my opinions on the several points treated of in Dr. Ross' report* on the subject of the amount of sickness which has prevailed amongst the European subordinates employed on the East Coast Canal Works.

2. As the subject has engaged the attention of Government, it is hoped that ere long relief commensurate with, and suitable for, the amount and nature of the work that has to be performed, will be provided.

No. 398.

FORWARDED to the Chief Secretary for the information of Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
28th June 1877.

(Signed) G. SMITH, M.D.,
Surgeon-General, I.M.D.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

No. 278. ORDER THEREON, 20th July 1877, No. 456 W.

THE correspondence above recorded shows that in spite of the organization adopted after the anxious consideration of Government, much distress, arising in part from the difficulty of obtaining supplies, in part from the great heat, has prevailed among the Public Works Establishment in charge of the Buckingham Canal Relief Works.

2. The Government regret that it is not in their power to prevent much hardship. The intensity of the heat has, His Excellency in Council trusts, by this time in some measure abated. The completion of some portion of the canal will have enabled Mr. O'Shaughnessy to strengthen the staff on the remaining sections, and thus to lessen the strain upon the men. While the question of supplies has, it is observed, been discussed with Mr. Grose, the Collector of the District—on whose exertions to remove, so far as he may be able, the difficulties in the matter, His Grace the Governor in Council confidently relies. Any suggestion which may be offered for alleviating hardship will receive immediate consideration by Government.

3. In face of the stringent orders of the Government of India, the Government cannot entertain the question of granting to the Overseers in charge of the works more than the regulation pay and allowances.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Nellore.
" Collector of Nellore.
" Military Department.
" Revenue "

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

8048

Copy of the Letter from the Principal Engineer to the
Division to the District Engineer Vellore, dated
22 June 1877 No 614

Sir.

With reference to the Letter from Doct. R. P. S.
Gilliah Surgeon of Vellore No 92 dated the
26 ultimo to the address of the Deputy Surgeon
General M. B. I have the honor to report
that it is quite true that the Europeans
Subordinators on this canal have been greatly
overworked, and there could be no better
proof of this than the fact that 50 Percent
of them have been injured or died within the
last two months.

2 As long as the weather kept moderately
cool the staff of Subordinators was sufficient,
but there never was any reserve to fill vacancies
as they occurred and when the tropical weather
set in and with it a great influx of Immigrant
coolies, a tremendous strain was imposed upon
all hands, both officers and Subordinators and
it is hard to say which fared the worst.

3. I duly brought this state of things to your notice and your relief from every danger in your circle as early as it was practicable to do so, but still the number of superintendents & subordinates has been under repair, & is now strength. But for serious interruption by the cyclone of last month, which delayed the completion of the Southern Sub-Division, which would have set free some considerable number of subordinates, the difficulty would not have been felt.

4. I fully concur with the Board's Recommendation that there should be a reserve of 50 percent of the European Subordinates, on account of their magnitude, and command in the various divisions.

5. With regard to shelter, the European Subordinates were all supplied with good huts, which although rough, and not very comfortable, are infinitely better than tents for protecting them from the heat. In the Skapully Sub-Division the overseers were also allowed small drawings of Palmyra leaves supported on a light frame

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at the points where the heavy work was proceeding, in order that they might have occasional shelter when on the work.

6. With reference to the question of food supplies, there is no doubt, but that the subordinates have not fared well. Fish has only been plentiful in one Sub-Division. Superior Mutton is sometimes procurable, but beef mutton is very expensive, from 6 to 8 annas each, small size. Bread which has to be brought from Kallaroo Cay is beyond the means of most of the subordinates. Vegetables there are none and milk an essential to men with families is extremely scarce.

7. The Sahibdar of Kallaroo and Kowaly taluqs might have rendered some assistance, but they have not been disposed to help in any way. The Moonsiff came to see with the families and he particularly indifferent when applied to for this purpose. I would beg to suggest the following measures for improving the conditions

3. of the European subordinates and for the better preservation of their health.

(1) Increase of pay: nearly all these men have to keep up duplicate establishments and as a consequence they cannot afford to provide themselves with proper food.

(2) There should be more of them so that a man finding himself getting ill could be immediately replaced for a few days, which in most cases could be the time in time.

(3) There should be more good native subordinates capable of giving out and directing work, which would save the Europeans considerable exposure.

The last two remedies will be provided by the early closing of the greater part of the 1st four sub-divisions and by the new subordinates who have just joined.

I am Sir,
(Signed) J. G. Brooks
Executive Engineer

/me by/
W. H. M. M. M.
District Engineer

Copy of the letter from the Officer in Charge of the
Sub-Division to the District Engineer, Bellary
dated 19 June 1877 No. 222

Sir,
With reference to your endorsement No. 921 of the 15 instant calling for a report on the conditions under which the European subordinates on the canal are employed I have the honor to state that in my opinion the work has been throughout very much under officered and more has been expected from the subordinates than they can perform at this season of the year.

2 The European D. C. officers from Bangalore are apparently not acclimated to the climate. They do not understand the evil effects of exposure to the sun and in spite of repeated warnings they are very peckish in this matter. If an overseer is on his work at 5.30 a.m. he can be back again at 8.30 and he need not go out again till 4 P.M. Overseers are

rule appear on the work between 7 and 8 a.m.
I have introduced a rule that no payments
shall be made after sunset, the overseer
pay from 9 to 11 a.m. and this gives them
a rest in the evening which they much require.

3 The B.C.C. are all married men with
families and they find it difficult to keep
up a double establishment on this account
they can afford very few luxuries and must
often have to fare badly, the remedy (increased
pay) is I suppose impracticable.

4 Sheds have been provided for the overseers
and they are as well off in this respect as the
officers.

5 Personally I have never had any difficulty
in getting supplies but I believe that all
the other officers as well as the overseers have.
I find that if one will pay sufficient
ready money things are always forthcoming.

I have &c

Yours faithfully
C. B. Henderson

Lieut. R.E.

W. Humphreys

Dist. Engineer

*received in the
24 June 1877

Copy of letter from Surgeon W. O'Hara Medical Charge
East Coast Canal to the District Engineer
dated 24 June 1877

Sir,

In reply to your communication dated
19 June 1877 & to 25 in regard to G.O. 11 June 1877
No. 212 W. I have the honor to express my opinion
on the following points which were brought to the
notice of Government through the report of the Zilla
Surgeon, Kellora.

2 "Serious amount of sickness prevalent among the
European Overseer East Coast Canal." Chasmanah
as you are acquainted with the numbers and names
of the officers that have died and have been invalided
from the work I shall not recount them.
But in reference to the cause of sickness I have to
observe that the majority of sufferers have been
men who have scarcely been acclimated, that
they suffered from undue exposure, overwork,
irregular and improper feeding and such defective
domestic and hygienic arrangements as in the
case of inexperienced men are incident.

to distrust life.

3. Inefficiency of messengers and necessary
consequent overwork. That the mail has from
the commencement suffered from unsatisfactory
staff is the line so generally recognized and
has been so repeatedly pointed out that further
comment is unnecessary.

4. Difficulty in procuring proper food supplies
This obtains in most stations along the line.
Sometimes to a serious extent. It is due to two

causes as far as the subordinates are concerned viz
1st. The absence of suitable European food
stuffs in the various villages along the line.

2nd. The difficulty of and delay in transport
of provisions from large stations like Villavieja and Olaya;
besides which the inefficiency of the services of the
messengers many of whom are married and are obliged
to maintain two separate establishments, prevents
them purchasing at necessarily expensive rates
nutritious and wholesome food.

4. Shelter. I have made it a special duty
to urge upon the Sub Divisional Officers and
messengers the importance of erecting for themselves
suitable sheds leaf pavilions, and I am glad

to say that the line during the recent rough
weather all messengers on the line were provided with
huts if they chose to use them.

5. In regard to the suggestion "Doubling
the number of European Messengers" I presume
if this were possible and the material available
the small number whose energies have been
over taxed would long ago have been reinforced.

3. Revenue Authorities might aid them in
procuring a better food supply

If positive orders were issued on this point
possibly they might ameliorate this condition
to a certain extent, but I am convinced that
unless a considerable pay allowance be made
the men will scarcely reap any material
advantage.

c. Officers physically unfit. It is to be regretted
that as the severity of the conditions of life out
here requires men to be specially fitted to bear
hardship and exposure, that the choice of
any subordinates should have been made
from men with neither experience of Indian
climate nor of the many precautions and duties

that are essentially necessary to the well-being
of a District Official. Employed on works
such as these.

I have

Signed, W. O'Hara

Surgeon

Copy of the letter from the Executive Engineer to the
Division to the District Engineer, Bellary, dated 27
June 1877 No. 549

Sir,

In reply to your No. 921 C of 10th instant
enclosing a report of Surgeon Major Ross regarding
the overmen of the European Subordinates on the
Buckingham Canal, Bellary. I have the
honor to report.

2 That it is to out of 5 now commissioned
Officers in this Division, one has died and 3 have
gone on sick leave, but I hardly think that
very hard work had much to do with their
sudden breakdown.

3 Up to the middle of the day we had very
pleasant weather, the tropical heat was
tempered by constant sea breezes, and

camp life in tents was very agreeable.
But after the cyclone in May the change
in the weather was so sudden and the heat
so abnormal high that it required an unimpaired
constitution to stand the sudden shock.

5 How far those who surmounted ^{were} physically
fit for such a change and what made them
so I think should be ascertained from the
medical man who treated them.

6 To my knowledge none of the sick overmen
ever stayed out on the works until 11 O'clock
morning. I never given an order that they should
stay out until that hour nor had they ever
what you may call, office work two of them
could hardly write even. Corporal Tizzard
never did any work at all as much as I know
and came here in an unfit state of health.

7 Corporal Tizzard who left long before
the great heat set in and Corporal Curtis
were the only overmen without huts, but none
all overmen have poles for shade of huts such
as I am myself living in.

8 With regard to necessaries of life they are
and are hard to be got and at extremely

the high prices and it would be well if the
Civil authorities were to assist to procure them
more readily

51277

6541

Haute

Alphonse

Excellence

(Encl. Opus)

Whangmuck
District Engineer

4th 22nd July 1877 No. 279

Comp. 1877

No. 1137

103
District Engineer Office
Yellow
2nd July 1877

From
The District Engineer

To
The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Sir,
I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of G. O. No. 212 W. dated the
11th June 1877, calling for report in regard to the
proportionally large amount of sickness that
has prevailed among the European Subordinates
on the Canal.

On receipt of the order I called upon
the principal officers on the Canal to state
their opinion on the subject and I beg
to enclose copies of reports as per it from
Messrs. Alphonse, Brooks, Lieutenant
Henderson R.E. and Doctor O'Hara.

Out of the 12 new commissioned officers
of R.E. originally appointed to the Canal in

there were 5 present, 5 on sick leave and 2 died.
From reports in the newspapers, one of the
men (Sergeant Bishop) registered as absent
on sick leave, died at Madras but I
have received no official information of
it. If this is true and I have no doubt of
it, 25 per cent of the men have died and
33 per cent are now absent on sick leave.

This alarming mortality and sickness is
attributed to want of acclimatization, physical
unfitness, overwork, exposure to the sun,
insufficient shelter and want of food
and provisions suitable for Europeans.

The men who have died and fallen sick
^{shelter} have not been in any case more than 2
years in India and it is probable that
their breaking down so soon is in a great
measure due to this cause.

One man Corporal Tizard suffered
from some Pulmonary disease, another
Sergeant Bishop contracted disease in
Burma whence he was posted to the
canal and in these cases the men were
in my opinion physically unfit for the work.

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was no occasion for it and they were often
cautioned against it, the men had good
sheets and good tents and were in this
respect as well off as the officers, there is no
ground for complaint in this respect, there
was and is great difficulty in getting food
suitable for Europeans and no doubt the
men suffered in health and spirits from
this cause.

The heat on the canal for 2 or 3 weeks
after the 20th May was terrific it was from 100
to 110 in the shade and this in my opinion
is the sole cause of the break down among
the European Subordinates, it was certainly
the cause of death in the cases of Corporals
Slight and Bailly and there was of course
no help for it.

In regard to the future I shall recommend
in a separate letter that the men who
are now absent on sick leave be posted
elsewhere. One of these Corporal Tizzard
has applied for permission to leave the
Department and I shall recommend
that his request be granted for though
he is an intelligent man and bears a good
character, he is I think physically unfit
for employment in this Department, he
is reported to have done no work on the
canal during the time he was on it and
he fortunately left before the great heat in May.
There is very great difficulty in getting
chickens, mutton and milk along the
work but Mr. Grose has kindly promised
that he will order village officers to give
more assistance hereafter in regard to chickens
and milk, mutton cannot be got in less
quantities than a whole ^{sheep} which one man
cannot afford to purchase but when the
men are near each other they can club together
to purchase a sheep between them when the

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Officers kill a sheep as they must frequently
do I have no doubt they share it with
their subordinates, there is always plenty
of splendid fish and there is never any
want of rice and condiments, altogether I
cannot incline that the conditions of
life are so bad on the Canal as they are
made out to be, though no doubt the young
soldiers of B. & find it very different to
what they have been hitherto accustomed to.
I have done all I can for these
men and they tell me that the officers
on the Canal treat them with great kindness.
I cannot promise any great amelioration
of their condition on the Canal but Government
may rest assured that their reasonable
wants shall be attended to as much as
possible.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most obedient servant

W. H. Murray
District Engineer

[Illegible handwritten signature]

[The page contains several lines of extremely faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the document.]

11 June 1877 No 212, W.

General
6541
From, The District Engineer
To, The Chief Engineer
P. W. Department
Fort Belvoir
No 1137 Enclosure
Dated 2nd July 1877
Recd

European Subordinates
Employed on the Canal
Reports regarding
their Physical Condition
of — & encloses
Copies of reports on
the subject —

4020 July 11, 1877 No 279

6.7.77 - 1877-77 - Recd 12-7-77

FOR ORDERS

I am sure that applying
1 Mr. Jones and all that
his business. He does
not in all supplies
to know what these
things require
is provable in the
D. but it may be
to maintain that the first
why in his best position
for the first position. I

1178-817-7
No 398.

Wm. F. Trice
No. 4920.
From
1877.
By

General
J. M. B.

18929
 Mission - Street
 J. M. B.
 Sub/

General
J. M. B.

Dec 27-67
Dec 29-56

Howards for information

copy of letter to District

Aug. 11. 6. 77. (on Dr.)

Don't report du Sickness

of Subordinate Lookout
Travellers

4020: July 11 1898

must that the interest
has moderated by this
time. But it is not
likely I shall reach the
book continues.

The completion of some
portion of it will have
enabled the D.E. &
bring them the staff on
the remaining sections
& to lessen the strain
on the men.

I don't think we
can entertain the suggestion
of add^g pay beyond what
the Regt^y allow. Specimens
they do not want
add^g ~~from~~ but they
don't at Bangalore.
Possibly the Journalist

might help in the matter
pupils. But I don't
think it.

With whole I don't
think for birds much?
Heser the landscape
is not the highest
including and better
of some considerable
exposure. The
the slope steady from
advent. Supplies
improved.

I cannot but fancy
this possible when
occurred. The Ch.
Eng^r. Lieut. Col. W.
Lowe suggested it.

LD

The papers certainly show
that considerable hardship
& consequent loss of health
has attended the operations

FOR ORDERS.

but beneficial work should
the most anxious organ
Zakaria & Co.

But I agree with Mr.
Huddleston that work can
be done. I am not sure
I hear from all I
hear that the numerous
native labor can in
their state of the in conse-
quence & mortality
11/4 100

A certain sick men
to run by these men in
fighting the enemy in
the shape of soldiers
in the shape of tropical
sun - we can do but
little - we cannot
pay beyond regulation
of supply & in the
been named to Mr. Jones
I am sure we would have
seen to it -
it might be an

an apartment to the
officers employed
there perhaps if a
boat were run weekly
(say once a week) to
from the boat with
such supplies as they
cannot work for and
to bring away any
supplies from the
charge - it would not
cost much. run by
fencing coolies tracking
it - & one man in charge
not improperly a contract
might be made for it
with some native merchants

Port 157

Public Works Department
No 456

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 20th July/77
Read the following:-

Dist. Eng. Mellore (No. 1137 of 2nd July/77)
Department } (in 1342 - 3rd -)

The correspondence
above recorded shows that
in spite of the organization
adopted after the anxious
consideration of Government,
much distress arising in
part from the difficulty
of obtaining supplies, in
part from the great heat,
has prevailed among the
Public Works Establish-
ment in charge of the

Buckingham Canal Relief
Works.

2. The Government regret that it is not in their power to prevent this distress. The intensity of the heat has, His Excellency in Council trusts, by this time in some measure abated. The completion of some portion of the Canal will have enabled Mr.

O'Shaughnessy to strengthen the Staff on the remaining sections, and thus to lessen the strain upon the men.

While the question of supplies has, it is observed, been discussed with Mr. Grose, the Collector of the District on whose exertions to remove,

1883 14,
so far as he may be able, the difficulties in the matter, His Grace the Governor in Council confidently relies.

3. In face of the stringent orders of the Govt of India, the Govt cannot entertain the question of granting to the Overseers in charge of the works more than the regulation pay.

EW 7
7/7

Dr. Kellou
Collector of Kellou
Military Department
Revenue Department

Despatch 24-7-77

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and dates, which appears to be a record of some kind. The names are written in a cursive script, and the dates are in a more formal, printed style. The list is organized into columns, with names in the first column and dates in the second column.

2. The second part of the document is a series of handwritten notes or entries. These are written in a cursive script and are organized into paragraphs. The notes appear to be a continuation of the information in the first part, providing more detail or context.

3. The third part of the document is a series of handwritten notes or entries, similar to the second part. These are also written in a cursive script and are organized into paragraphs. The notes appear to be a continuation of the information in the first part, providing more detail or context.

4. The fourth part of the document is a series of handwritten notes or entries, similar to the second and third parts. These are also written in a cursive script and are organized into paragraphs. The notes appear to be a continuation of the information in the first part, providing more detail or context.

5. The fifth part of the document is a series of handwritten notes or entries, similar to the second, third, and fourth parts. These are also written in a cursive script and are organized into paragraphs. The notes appear to be a continuation of the information in the first part, providing more detail or context.

Cir 6511/1519

Sept. of 1877

PUBLIC WORKS.



To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Harmon

Car

Encl.

2 PM

G. O. 20-10-1877 No. 456 W

Nos.

17-280

Buckingham Canal.

Letter to Declining to
entertain the question of
granting to him the
regulation pay allowance
to the overseers employed
on the —

*Included in Register
26-7-77*