

(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.	708	(W)	Press Mis.
Dated	8-9	1877.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

8th September 1877, No. 708 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following papers :—

No. 61. From Major P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department,—through the Examiner of Public Works Accounts,—dated Camp, Malloor, 23rd June 1877, No. 34 SL.

I HAVE the honor to submit copy of a letter from the Oosoor Range Officer under date the 20th June 1877, No. 565, reporting the robbery of the Cash-chest with Rupees 565 on the night of the 19th.

2. He has been requested to report without delay why the Cash-chest was not secured in a Police Station-house at night, and whether he adopted the precaution that Government have directed to be taken for the security of Cash-chests; also what necessity there was to maintain such a heavy cash balance in hand.

P.S.—I hope to be at Pennagoondapuram early next week, when I shall be in a position to submit a further report on the matter.

No. 61-A. Endorsement of the District Engineer, Salem, dated Camp at Tripatore, 9th July 1877, No. 45 SL.

From R. J. LOWRY, Esq., Executive Engineer, Oosoor Division, to Major P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, dated Oosoor, 30th June 1877, No. 630.

REFERRING to your letter No. 371 of the 23rd instant, received this day, I have the honor to state in reply to the questions put therein as follows.

2. The Cash-chest was that of the officer in charge of the Pennagoondapuram tank work; I had it in my possession from the time I arrived on the work on the 17th till the 19th, when, as I intended leaving the next morning, I made over the cash and work to Sub-Overseer Soondrum Pillay. There had only been Rupees 65-4-0 in the chest until this morning, for a cheque for Rupees 500 drawn on the Kistnagherry Treasury on the previous day was received and placed in the cash on that day (19th) after being counted by Sub-Overseer Soondrum Pillay, who then took over the cash and chest and whom I then warned to take care that nothing happened to the money in his hands as there were bad characters about. There was no chain attached to the Cash-chest, or rather box, for it was too small to be called a chest. I had indented on the Public Works Stores for four proper Cash-chests with chains to replace this and the other boxes so used by the Overseers of the range as long ago as April 1877, but have not yet received them. Had those Cash-chests been received in reasonable time, this loss would in all probability not have occurred, as the Cash-chest

would have been chained to some not easily moveable object, and any attempt to remove it would have been certain to have brought detection.

3. The amount in chest was required to pay up the Coolies, Writers, Maistries, &c., employed upon the work, the most of whose services had been or were about to be dispensed with; there was also some Rupees 85 due for rice to the supplier at the tank; so the amount was not too large for the immediate requirements.

4. I had thought that as the Sub-Overseer was staying in Muthoor, where there is a Police station, that he had taken the Cash-chest with him and placed it in the station for the night as is customary in such cases; and, as I have before mentioned, I had no knowledge that he had left it at Pennagoondapuram tank until I learned of the robbery, when I returned from inspecting the Mallayandahully anicut and channel about 9 o'clock the next morning.

5. I would point that this man had frequently been in charge of like amounts previously for the payment of laborers employed on works, and I need hardly point out that we are obliged every day to trust similar amounts to Overseers and Sub-Overseers without any such occurrences as this taking place. It required that there should be as in this instance a very stupid man in charge of the money and a bad character or characters about to take advantage of his stupidity and carelessness before such a thing could take place.

6. Sub-Overseer Soondrum Pillay expresses himself as willing to make all the reparation in his power in the accompanying letter, in which he proposes to pay up the amount lost by monthly instalments of Rupees 20 deducted from his pay.

SUBMITTED (through the Examiner of Public Works Accounts) to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, in continuation of this office No. 34 SL of 23rd June 1877.

1 Letter from Sub-Overseer.

(Signed) P. MONTGOMERIE, Major, R.E.,
District Engineer of Salem.

No. 61-B. From the Examiner of Public Works Accounts, dated 16th July 1877, No. E 78 SL.

No. 61-C. From Major P. MONTGOMERIE, R.E., District Engineer, Salem, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Salem, 2nd August 1877, No. 63 SL.

With reference to your No. 2,064, dated the 25th ultimo, I have the honor to submit a further explanation from Mr. Lowry regarding the robbery of the Cash-chest and cash at the Pennagoondapuram tank works. And I beg to report, for the information of Government, that, in my opinion, Mr. Lowry has, during the period I have been in charge of this district, acted with due care and circumspection in placing funds at the disposal of his subordinates; and that he has carried out my orders that no individuals unauthorized by the rules of the department shall be permitted to make cash payments.

2. As a rule, subordinates of the grade of Sub-Overseers are not usually entrusted with large sums of money; but, owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case, the expenditure on Public Works throughout the district during the present season being nearly tenfold what it is in ordinary seasons, I consider Mr. Lowry was justified in entrusting a Sub-Overseer with the money, and more especially as daily payments were being made on the Pennagoondapuram tank from Famine Relief Funds at the particular request of the Collector of the district.

No. 61-D. From the Inspector-General of Police, dated 3rd Sept. 1877, No. 3,947.

No. 62. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1877, No. 708 W.

THE Sub-Overseer who has shown gross carelessness in regard to the safety of the Cash-chest will be required to make good Rupees 100 of the loss, the remainder being written off to "Profit and Loss."

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Salem.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

116

234 Sub. District Engineer's Office,
Campbell's June 1877.
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer, D. B. M., thro' the Examiner, D. W. Accounts, Sir, Madras.

Enclosure
Copy of
letter.

I have the honor to submit copy of a letter from the Censor Range Officer under date the 20th June 1877, No. 565, reporting the robbery of the Cash Chest with Rs. 565 on the night of the 19th inst.

2. He has been requested to report without delay, why the Cash Chest was not secured in a Police station

House

House at night, and whether
 he adopted the precaution that
 Government have directed to be
 taken for the security of Cash
 Chests; also what necessity there
 was to maintain such a heavy
 Cash balance in hand.

I have the honor to be,
 Sir,

Yours faithfully,
 Major R. C. ...
 District Engineer, Salem.

P.S. I hope the ...
 between ... what shall be ...
 to submit a further report ...
 23/6/77.

NO. 107. S. L.

PORT ST. C. CAGE, 20TH JUNE 1877.

FORWARDED FOR THE INFORMATION OF GOVERNMENT.

... OF CASH STOLEN, VIZ., RS. 100, SHOULD BE
 ... ON THE MISCELLANEOUS ADVANCE ACCOUNT OF THE USUR DIVI
 ... THE ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT ON THE FURTHER RE-
 ... BY THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, SALM.

Lowrey-Jordan

STATIONER, P. M. ACCOUNTS.

END. A. F.

CD. E. H. M.

20-6-77.

...
 ...
 ...

Ch. 7020 of 1877.

P.W.D.

29 JUN 77

5369

28 JUN 77

From

The District Engineer,
Salem

To The Chief Engineer
P.W.D.
thru the Examiner of
P.W. Accounts.

Dated 23rd June 1877

No. 34 SL

Enclosure 1

Cash Chest.

Reporting the robbery
of the — of the District
Divisional Officer with Rs. 505

408 Sept. 1877

Cin 6-8-77

No. 630. Received Divisional Officer
30th June 1877.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd inst. in relation to the Cash Chest of the District Engineer, Salem. I am sorry to hear that the Cash Chest was lost. I have the honor to state in reply to the questions put therein as follows:

Referring to your letter No. 371 of the 23rd inst. received this day, I have the honor to state in reply to the questions put therein as follows:—
The Cash Chest was that of the Officer in charge of the ground survey work, which it was in my possession from the time I arrived on the 17th till the 19th morning, as I intended leaving the next morning.

morning I made over the Cash
and work to Sub Overseer Loodrum
Pillay. There had only been
Rs. 65 in the Chest until
this morning for a cheque for Rs. 500
drawn on the Kistungerry Treasury
on the previous day was received
and placed in the Cash on that
day (19th) after being counted
by Sub Overseer Loodrum Pillay
who then took over the Cash
and Chest and whom I then
warned to take care that nothing
happened to the money in his
hands as there were bad characters
about. There was no chain attached
to the Cash Chest, or rather
because it was too small to
be called a chest I had in-
dented for the Public Works

stores

Stores for four proper Cash Chests
with chains to replace his and
the other boxes used by the
Overseers of the Range as long
ago as the April 1877, but have
not yet received them. Had
those Cash Chests been received
in reasonable time this loss
would in all probability not
have occurred, as the Cash Chest
would have been chained to
some not easily movable spot
and any attempt to remove it
would have been certain to
have brought detection.

3. The amount in Chest was
required to pay up the coolies,
Writers, Ministries & employed
upon the work the most of
whose services had been or
were about to be dispensed
with, there was also some Rs. 85

due

due for rice to the suppliers at the tank is the amount in is not too large for the immediate requirements. I had thought that as the Sub Overseer was staying in Muthoor where there is a police station that he had taken the Cash Chest with him and placed it in the station for the night as is customary in such cases and as I have before mentioned I had no knowledge that he had left it at Pennagondapuram tank until I learned of the robbery when I returned from inspecting the Mallayandahilly Aricut and Channel about 9 o'clock the next morning.

5. I would point out that this man had frequently been in charge of like amounts previously

for

for the payment of labourers employed on works and I need hardly point out that we are obliged every day to trust similar amounts to Overseers and Sub Overseers without any such occurrences as this taking place. It required that there should be as in this instance a very stupid man in charge of the money and of bad character of character about to take advantage of his stupidity and carelessness before such a thing could take place.

6. Sub Overseer Soondrum Pillay expresses himself as willing to make all the reparation in his power in the accompanying letter in which

which he proposes to pay up
the amount lost by monthly
instalments of Rupees 20 deducted

from his pay as per order

I have for

(Signed) R. J. Lowry
Executive Engineer.

on 20/7/1907

145 St District Engineer's Office, Enab.

Camp Repatore 7th July 1907. Letter from

submitted (through the Sub-overser

Examiner of St. W. Accounts) to

the Chief Engineer D. P. W. with

confirmation of this office of 31

St. of 23rd June 1907

to be made in the

Major R. E.

District Engineer, Salem.

to Mr. Adams & Co.

in regard to the

and the

and the

and the

and the

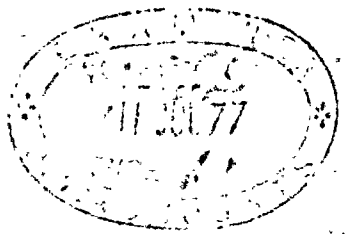
and the

and the

and the

and the

268 Sept. 11 B.D. 6/13



NO. E. 78. S. L. DATED 16TH. JULY 1877.

TO W.

FORWARDED FOR THE INFORMATION AND ORDERS OF GOVERNMENT IN CONTINUATION OF E. 67. S. L. DATED 20TH. JUNE 1877, FROM THIS OFFICE.

Almon Jordan

EXAMINER, P. W. ACCOUNTS.

EXD. A. F. 14-7-77

CD. S. B. 16-7-77.

From
The District Engineer,
Salut.

To
The Chief Engineer, C. M.
The Examiner P. W. Accounts

Dated 7th July 1877
Recd: 7th July 1877

No. 45 S. L.
Encls: 1

Submitting copy of
letter from Executive
Engineer Cooper of Range
replying to certain queries
sent by District Engineer
regarding the loss of
Cash Chest at Perma
gondapuram Tank.

4.6.994-31-5-73
• 273-31-1-76
• 131-26-5-76. Inis
Chs 6369 of 1877.

468 Sept. 11 B.D. 6/13

Encl-8-77

No. 772
30th July 1877

From
The Executive Engineer,
Coonor Division.
The District Engineer,
of Salut.

Referring to your indorsement
No. 527 of the 28th July 1877 in Extract
from a Memorandum from the Chief
Engineer No. 2064 of the 25th instant
in which you call upon me for
any further explanation I may
have to give in the subject of the
robbery of the Cash Chest at
Perimgondapuram tank, I have
the honor to state that I have
only to report what has already
been said in my letter as per
margin that I in common with
every officer of this Department
in

in the Famine Districts have to entrust sums as large as that robbed to Overseers and Sub Overseers to meet the large payments necessary for relief works.

2. That the amount was required to meet the disbursements required and intended to be made on the following day in the payment of the coolies and establishment employed in the tank on which there had been 720 labourers employed to whom there were six days wages due.

3. I had intended leaving this work on the following morning at day light for Darampuzha Taluq where my presence was urgently required and I made over the Cash (Rs 500 of which had only come that day from the Kistnagheery Treasury) to the Sub Overseer in the presence of the Temporary Writer attached to the work carefully warning Sub Overseer Soondrum Pillay to be careful

where

where he placed the Chest and pointing out that as I believed there were bad characters about and to be very careful.

4. As the Sub Overseer lived in Muttloor a town about 12 miles from the tank where there is a Police Station I was under the impression that he had after my warning taken the Cash Chest with him and placed it in the station, as was customary under such circumstances and I was never more surprised than when next morning I learned he had left it on a bench under the shed which sheltered the tent in which I was sleeping.

5. There can be no doubt that the loss was owing to the stupidity of Sub Overseer Soondrum but the man offers to make all the reparation in his power by agreeing in the petition I forwarded you with this office

letter

Letter No. 630 of 30th June 1877 to
pay the amount by instalments
from his pay commencing with
the pay now due him which amounts
to Rs. 98-11-10 and a half.

I have the

(Signed) R. J. Lowry,
Executive Engineer.

(True Copy)

Charges for Major R.E.,
District Engineer, Salem.

408 Sept 11 1877

No. 565. Quarter Divisional Office,
Ponnagondapuram, 20th June 1877.
From
The Executive Engineer,
Quarter Divisional Office,
Ponnagondapuram.
The District Engineer,
Salem.
Sir, I regret to have to report
that the Cash Chest with Rs. 565
did not was stolen from the shed
under which was the tent in
which I was sleeping last night.
I had made over the Cash and
accounts to Sub-Overseer Soudham
Pillay during yesterday morning
him to take care as there were in
my opinion more than one bad
character about the camp. I
had thought to have left this
morning but the accounts were
not completed in time and I
therefore put it off till this
evening. I have the honor to
inform

informing further that on
enquiry I find no proper
precautions were taken for the
custody of the Cash Chest by
Sub-Overseer Soondrum Pillay
and the temporary Writer
Ragapah who had it in their
possession. Although they left
it they say in charge of a
lascar which the lascar denies
own a bench under the same roof
and near the door of the tent
in which I was sleeping neither
the one or the other mentioned
to me that the Cash Chest
was there nor had I the slightest
knowledge of the fact nor
I would have at once put it
under my bed nor was my
servants aware of it with the
exception of one of my lascars
(Ragapah) who with two lascars
left by Mr. Epps I suspect
of the robbery. I have made
the matter known to the Police

and

and the Joint Magistrate
who strange to say was here
last and left this morning
before the robbery was dis-
covered by the man Soondrum
Pillay.

I have &c
(Signed) R. J. Lowry,
Executive Engineer.
(True Copy)

Charge Major R.E.,
District Engineer, Salem.

Barbipall, 1.
and some part of
your name with
the name of the
and the name of the

P.W.D.
29 JUN 77
6369
26 JUN 77
ENC.

in hand
I am sorry
to hear
of your
illness

Yours
truly

Yours
truly

and such
of the
and the
and the

and the
and the
and the

608 Sept 77 Loke 61

25-6-77
P.H.

Admanulotte
25 June 1877

Most Respected Sir,

The mere thought that I have been
robbed off the cash-chest with the Rs. 565-4-0
throws me into such a state of confusion and embar-
rassment that I have neither wit nor power of utterance
to state my own condition of life and to deplore your
Kind mercy. To speak the truth all what I
seek owing to my excessive fear and disappointment
is to screen myself from your sight, for which
my conscience reproaches me and warns me that
I am working my own ruin by doing so. But if
I appear before your presence I am struck dumb
unable to convey you my idea. What a thunder-
bolt is hurled from Heaven on upon my head! What
a sad trial I am afflicted with! Tracing back
to the past course of my life, I never experienced
a greater calamity than the present one. All this,
I am conscious, is the fruit of my overconfidence
in the word of a Temporary Writer Rayappa
than in your honor's sound advice. I have been
duped considering the place which seemed to be
a safe custody owing to its being abounded with officers
servants and attendants. Alas I have now been
taught a better lesson and I have proposed to pay
dearly for my foolish character.

My
S. H. S.

NO 2855
11 JUL 77
ENCL 1
ACCOUNT

I now therefore beg to represent to your
benign view that I am a stranger in this
strange place, my circumstances are very
narrow, I have not any possible means
to restore the loss unless I run to my
friends and relations and seek their assistance.

I therefore propose to surrender the amount
of my pay which is due to me from the
time of my entertainment in the Department
and to deduct the residue by instalments
@ Rs 20/ per mensem.

As I have no other alternative
but your honor to alleviate my distress
may I look to you that your honor
will kindly accept my proposal and
relieve me from the impending misery.

For which act of ^{kindness} I shall
ever, as in duty bound, pray for your
long life and prosperity.

I beg to remain
Your most ob-
and humble servant

I Soondrum Pillay

968 Sept 1/77 S.O. 1/1

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

READ the following:-

Letters from the District Engineer, Salem
No 34 S.D., 45 S.D., & 63 S.D. dated 23 June,
9th July and 2nd August 1877.

FOR ORDERS. whether the ^{same} ~~be~~ ^{should} be borne by

I do not think the Government, or made
uplace Rs 100. as a punishment for his neglect. and write
off the rest of his expenses. good by the Sub
assuming that this is no Oversee - There is
no doubt that due
case in securing the
chest was not taken.

It seems that the
that a man should be
the first - as to the
reference to the S.D. by
at all right Sir. an
open shed. with innocent
in the town. J.T.

E. A. M. J. S. S. S.
Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

Sub. S. S. S. S.
2nd Aug 77. 3

FOR ORDERS.

Thrs D. I. G.

^{No. 566/77}
District Police Office

No 346 Salem 26th August 1877

From

The Superintendent of Police
Salem

To
The Inspector General of
Police
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to the
enclosed endorsement No 3425
dated 7th Instant and its
enclosures I have the honour
to inform you that the
Asst Superint of Police made
a personal inquiry into
the case and found that
the Sub Overseer was not
an accomplice in the theft
of the cash chest.
A copy of the Assistant

Inspector General of Police

468 Sep 77 Bd. 61

468-8-77

Superintendent's report on
the matter is herewith en-
closed for your information.

I have the honour to be

^{sin}
Your most obed^t servant

~~W. H. Dyer~~ Major

Superint^d of Police

J. W. Linn

Esq.

CH

From
The Asst Inspector of Police
Tripattur

To
The Superintendent of Police
Talav

Sir,
With reference to the enclosed
Memorandum No 2208 and its
enclosures, I have the honour to
make the following report.

1. Shri Arundram Pellay
took charge of the cash chest and
its contents on the 19th of June.
2. Rayappa Mr Oppi temporary
writer, had charge of the cash chest
from the 14th to 19th June but between
those dates it contained only
195 Rs 9 annas

3. This man managed to get
Arundram Pellay to believe that
the cash chest was perfectly safe
where he had left it outside the
Sub. as he stated he had always
left it there himself. He also
was

To General of Police

No 346

From
The Inspector of Police
Talav

To
The Superintendent
Talav

Dated 26th
August 1877

Substance
Substance

Informing that the
Sikh. Comander was
not an accomplice
in the theft of the
cash chest

468 Sept 11 1877

was induced to believe in its safety from the fact that both the Range Officer and Sub-Collector slept on the night in question not 12 yards from the chest.

4. I have investigated the case myself personally and have no doubt whatever that Rayappa and one of the Range Officer's Lascars named Ariyappa stole the cash chest and that Sub-Inspector Sundram Pillay is in no way criminally connected with its loss.

5. Sundram Pillay has only been grossly careless and over confident in trusting Rayappa.

I have &c

(Signed) E. Stevenson

H. Act. Supdnt. of Police

(True copy)

W. D. J. Major

Supdnt. of Police

cc

W. D. J. Major
Supdnt. of Police
15.11.11
11.11.11

Chief Office of the Inspector General of Police,
No. 3947 Madras, 3^d September 1877.

From The Inspector General of Police.

To The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort Saint George

Sir,
Enclosures. g With reference to your memorandum No. 2208 dated 6th August 1877 I have the honor to forward reports from the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Police Salem on the subject of the Suboverseer's complicity in the loss of the Cash Chest. Of this they do not suspect him. The papers accompanying your memorandum are returned.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servt
J. Inspector General of Police

1877 Department
Enclosure)

In a letter from
the Insp. Genl of Police
dated at Madras 3^d
Sept. 1877 No. 3947

From
The Supd. of Police
Salem
To The Insp. Genl of Police
Madras

Informing that
the Suboverseer
was not an ac-
= complice in the
theft of the Cash
Chest.

468 Sept. 11 1877

Superintendent of Police

Oct 4-8-77

Clab
Edab

No 708 W Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 8th Sept 177

Read the following:—

From the St Engr Salem (H.C. No 34 S.L. 8 23rd June 177)
" " do do " " 45 S.L. 9 July "
" " do do " " 63 S.L. 2 Aug "
" " Insp. General of Police " 2947 " 3rd Sept 177

The Cash Officer who has shown gross carelessness in regard to the safety of the Cash Chest will be required to make good Rs 100 of the loss—the remainder being written off to "Profit and Loss".

207
5/9

St Engr Salem Desd 8/9/77
Exr. P. M. Accts. L 5-17
J. M. L. Insp - 17-9-77

Salem

1877 Department

From
The first fund of
Police
To the Secy to Govt

P. M. Department

St. M. George

Dated 3rd Sept 1877

Recd

No 3947

St. M. George reports
from the Cash Officer
Assistant Cashier
-tendant of Police
Salem on the subject
of the sub overstock
conflict, in the
top of the Cash Chest

408 Sept 11 1877

108603



Sept. of 1877 **INDIAN**
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

11-9

G. O., 8th Sept 1877. No. 708 W

Nos. 61-62

Loss of Cash Chest. Taken
by Lourdnam Pillay, the
Insubarces ordered to make
good to 100 of the loss;
The remainder being written
off to "Profit & Loss".

Encl. 9.7