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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P. W. D. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2815(W)	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	8-7-1878	1977

MSP

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2815
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

8th July 1878, No. 2,815 W.

General.
Account.

Read the following papers:—

No. 107. From J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Nellore, 6th July 1877, No. 1,207.

I HAVE the honor to report that a new levelling instrument, the value of which is at present unknown, was lost by Overseer E. French between the 5th and 7th May last.

2. The instrument was given to the Overseer by Mr. Lyon, Assistant Engineer, for the purpose of having levels taken on a new road about seven miles from Nellore. The Overseer left the instrument on the evening of the 5th in charge of a gunastah and head cooly; he ordered it to be kept in the store-shed attached to the work. The head cooly, for greater safety, and, as he says, by order of the gunastah, put the instrument in the house of a "Banyan." The gunastah denies having given such orders; when the instrument was required on the 6th or 7th it could not be found, and it has not been found since. The Overseer states that his lascars were with him at his head-quarters getting his "tent and things" from another station.

3. Mr. Lyon requests "orders as to the disposal of the value," and I beg to submit the matter to you for disposal.

Copy of the letter from the Superintendent of Police, Nellore District, to the District Engineer, Nellore, dated the 27th July 1877, No. 639.

In reply to your letter, No. 1,387, dated 14th instant, I have the honor to inform you that immediate inquiry was made by the Police of the locality into the reported theft of a levelling instrument on the night of the 5th May 1877 at Negamamapuram of Nellore Taluk. From that inquiry it appears that there was quarrelling on account of intrigues with females between Head Cooly Sashiah and Storekeeper Narahari Row, both of whom are Brahmins, and it seemed probable that one of them had made away with the instrument to injure the other. The instrument appears to have been taken away from the house of a Caste female named Subbala, not from the store as reported. The Taluk Overseer came and held inquiry and desired the Station House Officer at Butchireddipalem to arrest and charge the Head Cooly Sashiah, but as there was no reliable evidence against him that officer declined to do so.

No. 107-A. From the Officiating Examiner of Public Works Accounts, dated 25th August 1877, E. No. 216 N.L.

No. 107-B. From J. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Esq., District Engineer, Nellore, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Nellore, 26th June 1878, No. 757.

In reference to your memorandum, No. 2,471, dated 29th August 1877, I have the honor to enclose copy of a docket from the Executive Officer, Southern Division, with copy of a letter from Overseer French giving further explanation of the loss of the levelling instrument reported in my letter, No. 1,207, dated 6th July 1877.

2. In regard to the Range Officer's remark that the head cooly should have been prosecuted criminally, there is no proof that he abstracted the instrument from

under lock and key as stated by the Overseer, and there are no Government stores or individual petty works such as Mr. French describes.

3. The Overseer should have kept the instrument in his own charge and not in the charge of a temporary gumastah or head cooly. Banyan and Comatee appear to be synonymous terms in this district.

4. I regret the great delay in forwarding this explanation. I had to apply for it five times, and, as you will observe from the date of the Range Officer's letter, it was sent to me only a short time ago.

Copy of the letter from the Executive Officer, Southern Division, to the District Engineer, Nellore, dated 4th April 1878, No. 3.

[Reference.—Your No. 2,158, dated 20th September 1877.]

Has the honor to forward a further explanation from Mr. French of the loss of the levelling instrument under his charge.

If Mr. French's report is the correct one, it does not appear why the cooly who is said to have taken the instrument from the store was not proceeded against criminally.

Copy of the letter from the Officer in charge 3rd Sub-Division, Buckingham Canal, to the Executive Officer, Southern Division, dated 18th March 1878, No. 1,502.

With reference to your No. 561 of the 14th instant, I have the honor to give you the following information.

The instrument was placed in the Government store and locked up, the key always being in possession of the gumastah. The head cooly, also attached to the store, managed to get possession of the key and transferred the instrument at night from the Government store to the private house of a Banyan, with whom he was at enmity, and from whose house the instrument was that very night stolen. The gumastah deserted his post that night and the following day also, and visited his native village, so that the store was not guarded. I did not keep the instrument in my custody, for, as the Chief Engineer remarks, it being a "valuable" level, I know that much knocking about would only spoil it and put it out of order. I left it in the Government store as that was most assuredly the proper place to have Government property. If Government property is not safe in a Government store, it is not possible to suppose it can be left in a state of security elsewhere.

No. 168. ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1878, No. 2,815 W.

As the levelling instrument was given to Overseer French for a specific purpose, he should have kept it in his own charge. He will therefore be called on to make good a portion of the cost, viz., Rupees 15.

2. The instrument will now be written off the books.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

(True Copy.)

Major, R.E.,

Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Nellore.

" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

51 are Copies

2815
2

GENERAL
ACCOUNT.

Govt. of (1878) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To
THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NELLORE.
&c. &c. &c.

Dated 8th July.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 8th July 1878, No. 2,315 W.

JULY.

Nos. 107-108.

Loss of a Levelling Instrument.—The
ordered to be made good in part by
Overseer French, Nellore.

No. 1207

District Engineer's Office

Nellore

6 July 1878

From.

The District Engineer,
Nellore.

The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to report that
a new levelling instrument the value of
which is at present unknown, was lost by
Overseer E. French between the 5th and 7th
May last.

The instrument was given to the overseer
by Mr. Lynn, Assistant Engineer, for the
purpose of having levels taken on a new road
about 7 miles from Nellore. The overseer
left the instrument on the evening of the 5th
in charge of a Gumatiah and head cooly, he
ordered it to be kept in the store shed attached
to the work. The head cooly for greater safety
and as he says by order of the Gumatiah

put the instrument in the house of a
"Banyan". The Government clerks having
given such orders, when the instrument
was required could be got it could not
be found and it has not been found
since. The surveyor states that his servants
were with him at his head quarters getting
his "tool and things" from another station.

The Agent requests orders as to the disposal
of the value and I beg to submit the
matter to you for disposal.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant

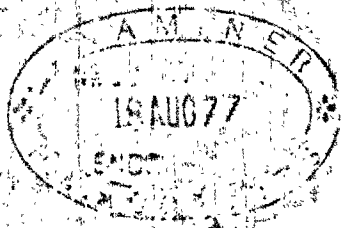
Whangpungy
District Engineer

Recd
9/10

Copy of the letter from the Superin-
-tendent of Police Nellore District &
the District Engineer Nellore No 630
dated the 27th July 1877.

Sir

In reply to your letter No 1337
dated 14th Instant, I have the honor
to inform you that immediate
inquiry was made by the Police of
the locality into the reported theft
of a levelling instrument on the night
of the 6th May 1877 at Nagamambapuram
of Nellore Taluk. From that inquiry
it appears that there was quarrelling
on account of intrigues with females,
between Head cooly Sashiah and
Store-keeper Narahanipon both of
whom are Brahmins, and it seemed
probable that one of them had



made away with the instrument
to injure the other. The instrument
appears to have been taken away from
the house of a Komatee female named
Subbaka, not from the store as
reported. The Sahy Amerseer came
and held enquiry and desired the
Station House Officer of Dutcherdoli-
pale to arrest and charge the head
coolie Sashiah but as there was no
reliable evidence against him that
Officer declined to do so.

I have the
Signature of Geo. Chrystie Capt
Superintendent of Police
Nellore
True copy

H. Hopland
Head of Dist
Exp's Office Nellore

No 757 Euc 1
District Engineer's Office
Nellore
26 June 1877
J/S

From,
The District Engineer
To,
The Chief Engineer
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

In reference to your memo
No. 2471 dated 29th August 1877.
I have the honor to enclose copy
of a docket from the Executive
Office, Southern Division with copy
of a letter from Overseas French
giving further explanation of the loss
of the levelling instrument reported
in my letter No. 1207 dated 6th July 1877.
In regard to the Range Officer's
remark that the Head Coolie should

copy

have been prosecuted criminally
there is no proof that he abstracted
the instrument from under lock and
key as stated by the Overseer and
there are no Government stores
on individual petty works such
as Mr. French describes.

The Overseer should have kept
the instrument in his own charge
and not in the charge of a
temporary Gamantah or Head Cooly.

Bamian, & Comate appear to be
synonymous terms in this District.
I regret the great delay in
forwarding this explanation.
I had to apply for it 5 times
and as you will observe from
the date of the Range Officer's

letter it was sent to me only a
short time ago.

1876

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant
W. H. M. S. M.
District Engineer

Copy
H. H.

CE No 2471 of 29th Aug/77
G.O. " 243 " 27th Jan'y/75

From

The District Engineer
Mellore

To
The Chief Engineer
D.P.W.
Madras

No 757

Dated 26th June 1878

Received

Enclosure 1

Loss of Levelling
Instrument — Giving
further explanation
regarding the —

To Acty 1-7-78

Cir 4-7-78

Copy of the Letter from the Executive
Officer, Southern Division, to the
District Engineer Mellore dated 14th
April 1878 No 3. —

Reference Your No 2158 dated 20th
September 1877. —

It has the honor to forward a
further explanation from Mr. French
of the loss of the Levelling instrument
under his charge.

If Mr. French's report is the correct
one it does not appear why the cooly
who is said to have taken the
instrument from the store was not
proceeded against criminally.

Signed, A.W. Smart
Lieut. Col.
Range Officer

Copy of the letter from the Officer
in charge 3^d Sub Division, Buckingham
canal, to the Executive Officer, Southern
Division dated 18th March 1878. No.
1502.

Sir:

With reference to your No. 561
of the 14th Instant, I have the
honor to give you the following
information—

The instrument was placed in
the Government store and locked
up, the key always being in possession
of the Goormastah. The head cooly
also attached to the store managed
to get possession of the key and
transferred the instrument at night

from the Government store to the
private house of a Berian, with whom
he was at enmity and from whose
house the instrument was that very
night stolen. The Goormastah deserted
his post that night and the following
day also and visited his native
village so that the store was not
guarded. I did not keep the
instrument in my custody for, as the
Chief Engineer remarks, it being a
"valuable" level I knew that much
knocking about would only spoil
it and put it out of order. I left
it in the Government store as that was
most assuredly the proper place to
have Government property. If
Government property is not safe

in a Government Store it is not possible
to suppose it can be left in a state
of security elsewhere.

I have to

Signed / E. D. French.

Officer in Charge & Subd.

(True Copies)

Wm. French
District Engineer

H2

9.

2815
9

No 1905

Returned to the District Engineer
Balloos for re-examination
through the Examiner vide para
4 of G.O. No 1576 dated 15th Jan'y 1873.
The District Engineer should
direct the matter to be in-
vestigated by the District.

W. H. H. S. S.
Dy. Chief Engineer
P. D. D.
11 July 1877. No 1734

Submitted through
the Examiner P.W.A.
as directed, a report
on the subject by the
Supt. of Police is
attached,

Whunpung
Dist. Engr

14-8-77

L. NO. 215. S. L. 15TH AUGUST 1877.

TO

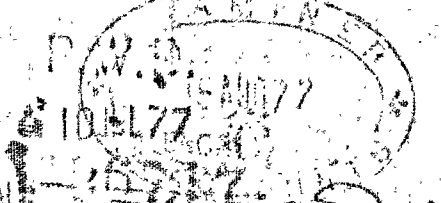
SUBMITTED FOR ORDERS WITH
REFERENCE TO PARA 2 OF G.O. NO. 242
DATED 27TH JANUARY 1873.

AS FAR AS THE ACCOUNTS ARE
CONCERNED IT WILL BE SIMPLY NECESS-
SARY TO WRITE OFF THE MISSING IN-
STRUMENT FROM THE BALANCE RETURN
OF 1873.

Agreeable

CAPT. F. E.
OFFG. EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

From



The District Engineer
Vellur

To

The Chief Engineer
Public Works Dept
Fort St. George

Dated 6th July 1877
Recd

No 1207

Levelling Instrument
Reports that a heavy
was lost by
Overseer E. French between
the 5th & 7th May last.
Requests us to the disposal
of the value & submit
the matter for disposal.
Returned

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

785
No 1

Letters from the District Engineer Vellore, No 1107
dated 6th July 1877 and No 757 dated 26 June 78

FOR ORDERS.

As the levelling
instrument was given to
Overseer French for a
specific purpose he should
have kept it in his own
charge and he is responsible
for the loss.

As the cost of a levelling
instrument would
be a large sum for an
Overseer to make good
the Chief Engineer recom-
mends that the Over-
seer should be made to
pay a portion of the cost
only, say ten or fifteen
Rupees.

Approved
14/8

FOR ORDERS.

There is not sufficient care taken of the valuable instruments entrusted to Members of the Department

24th July 1878
Chngs Secy to Govt
P.O.

4th July 1878

Public Works Department.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the
Read the following:—

From

The District Engineer (No. 1207 of 6th July 1877)
— do — do — (No. 757 of 26th June 1878)

As the dwelling instrument was given to Overseer French for a specific purpose he should have kept it in his own charge. He will therefore be called on to make good a portion of the cost, viz Rs 15.

2. The instrument will now be written off the books.

D. C. Milner
Examining Engineer

Appld Ref

24th July 1878

1. 7. 78
24th July 1878

28/5
-12

7300

Govt. of (1878) Madrid

PUBLIC WORKS

D. E. Bellini

Date

Amount

Recd.

Arch.

O. O. 8 July 1878, No. 2815W

Nos. 7 to 17

Loss of a levelling instrument

The — ordered to be made good
in part by voucher & receipt, Bellini

Encl. in Rep.