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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P. IX. D. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	<i>H1277</i> <i>78J</i>	Press.
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Dated	<i>29.10.1878</i>	<i>197</i>

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

41778/78
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th October 1878, No. 4,177 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper :—

No. 330. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue (Famine) Department, dated 21st October 1878, No. 2,182.

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, dated 5th October 1878, No. 356 :—

In continuation of my fortnightly narrative dated 30th ultimo, I have the honor to forward herewith, for the information of His Grace the Governor, copy of a report received by me this day from the Acting Head Assistant Collector Mr. Cox, detailing the result of his inquiries into the frauds on the Palar channel works that he lately discovered.

2. Mr. Cox made a sudden and unexpected visit to the works, in company with Mr. Cotton, upon the last working day of the week on which day every cooly really on the rolls would undoubtedly be present in his gang, in order to secure his wages for the week. Measures were taken to separate the gangs in such wise that deficiencies in the numbers of one gang could not be made up by outsiders, and the maistries and head coolies were kept at a little distance while the muster went on. The result of the examination of the first seven gangs who were all working under one sub-maistry showed that out of 210 persons entered in the A Form Registers and for whom pay was to be drawn that day, only 157 had ever worked, and only 147 were actually present. The nominal rolls were then false to the extent of 25 per cent.

3. The examination of these gangs was the most satisfactory, so far as the detection of the frauds going on was concerned, for it was so unexpected that no preparations had been made to baffle inquiry or invent excuses for false rolls, and the coolies gave their answers freely and readily.

4. Mr. Cox then proceeded to examine the five gangs working under another sub-maistry, and here again the A Forms were found to be false. Instead of 153 persons entered therein as working in the gangs, only 106 were actually present, showing false entries to the amount of 31½ per cent. By the time the examination of these twelve gangs had been completed, it was midday, and the news of what was going on had travelled down the channel banks, and the ingenious excuse was ready everywhere that the coolies were really all present at the morning muster, but, as soon as they heard of Mr. Cox's visit, had run away through fear lest they should be drafted to the canal works at Sadras.

5. The twelve cases (one for each gang mustered) were at once taken up magisterially and will be tried by the Session Court of Chittoor in due course. I shall hereafter communicate the result of the trials for the information of His Grace the Governor.

6. The next question that arises is for how long have these frauds been going on? Mr. Cox in the body of his letter expresses his belief that they were commenced by a few head coolies about a-month ago, and were universally copied by the others for the last two or three weeks; but in his post-script he mentions that Mr. Cotton had informed him that the frauds could not have been so universal, and were, he believed, confined to the gangs, which from September 11th had been in charge of Serjeant Beavers. This man, it appears, was of intemperate habits and completely neglected

his work, and thus gave every opportunity for rascality to his subordinates. He is no longer on the works.

7. The other gangs were better supervised and frauds were therefore not practised. Mr. Cotton, on the 6th September, himself mustered all the coolies of the gangs working under one sub-maistry and found them correct; when I lately visited the works I had several gangs called up at random and mustered, but nothing was wrong then. My visit, however, was expected, and arrangements could, of course, have been made beforehand to fill up deficiencies in the gangs. When, as in the case of the Palar channel works, a vast body of coolies are working in gangs close together, it is very difficult on the occasion of a casual visit of inspection to check the numbers in any particular gang, for, if fraud is going on, it is extremely easy for a man belonging to the adjoining gang to step forward, at a signal from his head cooly, and answer to the name of an absentee.

8. Mr. Cotton lives on the works and is most indefatigable in his attention to his duties; he has spared no pains in supervising his subordinates, and I am satisfied that the frauds which Mr. Cox has just brought to light can in no way be ascribed to neglect of duty on his part. With so many thousands of coolies to manage, it is of course wholly beyond his individual powers to check the number of the gangs himself constantly. That duty must be performed to a great extent by his subordinates, and the neglect of duty of one of them has led to the frauds now under investigation.

The Collector's further report is awaited.

2. The papers will be communicated to the Public Works Department in view to Serjeant Beevers' neglect of duty and intemperance, and their result, being communicated to his superiors. Any salary due to him should be impounded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Addl. Secy. to Government.

To the Public Works Department.

No. 331.

ORDER THEREON, 29th October 1878, No. 4,177 W.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, North Arcot, for guidance with reference to paragraph 2.

2. Serjeant Beevers has been allowed to return to his own province, but a copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded for the information of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, North Arcot, with extract paragraph 6 of letter.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

4177828

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1878) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
NORTH ARCOT.

Dated October 29th.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 29th October 1878, No. 4,177 W.

OCTOBER
Nos. 330-331.

Serjeant Beevers.—Revenue orders regarding — ordered to be communicated to the District Engineer, North Arcot, and his return to his own province sanctioned.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

29th October 1878, No. 4,178 W.

General.
Establishment.

Read the following paper:—

No. 330. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue (Famine) Department, dated 21st October 1878, No. 2,182.

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, dated 5th October 1878, No. 356:—

In continuation of my fortnightly narrative dated 30th ultimo, I have the honor to forward herewith, for the information of His Grace the Governor, copy of a report received by me this day from the Acting Head Assistant Collector Mr. Cox, detailing the result of his inquiries into the frauds on the Palar channel works that he lately discovered.

2. Mr. Cox made a sudden and unexpected visit to the works, in company with Mr. Cotton, upon the last working day of the week on which day every cooly really on the rolls would undoubtedly be present in his gang, in order to secure his wages for the week. Measures were taken to separate the gangs in such wise that deficiencies in the numbers of one gang could not be made up by outsiders, and the maistries and head coolies were kept at a little distance while the muster went on. The result of the examination of the first seven gangs who were all working under one sub-maistry showed that out of 210 persons entered in the A Form Registers and for whom pay was to be drawn that day, only 157 had ever worked, and only 147 were actually present. The nominal rolls were then false to the extent of 25 per cent.

3. The examination of these gangs was the most satisfactory, so far as the detection of the frauds going on was concerned, for it was so unexpected that no preparations had been made to baffle inquiry or invent excuses for false rolls, and the coolies gave their answers freely and readily.

4. Mr. Cox then proceeded to examine the five gangs working under another sub-maistry, and here again the A Forms were found to be false. Instead of 153 persons entered therein as working in the gangs, only 106 were actually present, showing false entries to the amount of 31½ per cent. By the time the examination of these twelve gangs had been completed, it was midday, and the news of what was going on had travelled down the channel banks, and the ingenious excuse was ready everywhere that the coolies were really all present at the morning muster, but, as soon as they heard of Mr. Cox's visit, had run away through fear lest they should be drafted to the canal works at Sadras.

5. The twelve cases (one for each gang mustered) were at once taken up magisterially and will be tried by the Session Court of Chittoor in due course. I shall hereafter communicate the result of the trials for the information of His Grace the Governor.

6. The next question that arises is for how long have these frauds been going on? Mr. Cox in the body of his letter expresses his belief that they were commenced by a few head coolies about a-month ago, and were universally copied by the others for the last two or three weeks; but in his post-script he mentions that Mr. Cotton had informed him that the frauds could not have been so universal, and were, he believed, confined to the gangs, which from September 11th had been in charge of Serjeant Beevers. This man, it appears, was of intemperate habits and completely neglected

his work, and thus gave every opportunity for rascality to his subordinates. He is no longer on the works.

7. The other gangs were better supervised and frauds were therefore not practised. Mr. Cotton, on the 6th September, himself mustered all the coolies of the gangs working under one sub-maistry and found them correct; when I lately visited the works I had several gangs called up at random and mustered, but nothing was wrong then. My visit, however, was expected, and arrangements could, of course, have been made beforehand to fill up deficiencies in the gangs. When, as in the case of the Palar channel works, a vast body of coolies are working in gangs close together, it is very difficult on the occasion of a casual visit of inspection to check the numbers in any particular gang, for, if fraud is going on, it is extremely easy for a man belonging to the adjoining gang to step forward, at a signal from his head cooly, and answer to the name of an absentee.

8. Mr. Cotton lives on the works and is most indefatigable in his attention to his duties; he has spared no pains in supervising his subordinates, and I am satisfied that the frauds which Mr. Cox has just brought to light can in no way be ascribed to neglect of duty on his part. With so many thousands of coolies to manage, it is of course wholly beyond his individual powers to check the number of the gangs himself constantly. That duty must be performed to a great extent by his subordinates, and the neglect of duty of one of them has led to the frauds now under investigation.

THE Collector's further report is awaited.

2. The papers will be communicated to the Public Works Department in view to Serjeant Beevers' neglect of duty and intemperance, and their result, being communicated to his superiors. Any salary due to him should be impounded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Addl. Secy. to Government.

To the Public Works Department.

No. 331. ORDER THEREON, 29th October 1878, No. 4,177 W.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, North Arcot, for guidance with reference to paragraph 2.

2. Serjeant Beevers has been allowed to return to his own province, but a copy of these Proceedings will be forwarded for the information of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, North Arcot, with extract paragraph 6 of letter.

No. 332. (DOCKET No. 4,178 W, dated 29th October 1878.)

COPY of the above forwarded to the Government of India. Serjeant Beevers is a Supervisor on the Establishment of the Military Works Branch, Bengal.

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

Exd. E. C. Shunker,
Spare Copies

41778/78
H

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT.

Govt. of (1878) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Dated October 20th.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 391A October 1878, No. 4,178 W.

OCTOBER

Nos. 330-332.

FORWARDING PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT WITH REFERENCE TO SERJEANT BEEVERS AND HIS RETURN TO HIS OWN PROVINCE.

Revenue Finance Dept.
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following letter
from the Collector of North Arcot of
5th October 1878. No. 356.

In continuation of my
last night's narrative dated 30th Ultimo,
I have the honor to forward herewith
for the information of His Grace the
Governor a copy of a report received
by me this day from the Acting Head
Assistant Collector. Mr. Cox
detailing the result of his inquiries
into the frauds on the Palau
Channel works, that he lately
discovered.

2. Mr. Cox made a
sudden and unexpected visit to
the works in company with Mr.
Cotton upon the last working
day of the week, on which day every
coolie really on the rolls would
undoubtedly be present in his
gang in order to secure his wages
for

for the week. Measures were taken to separate the gangs in such wise that deficiencies in the numbers of one gang could not be made up by outsiders, and the Maistries and Head Cooks were kept at a little distance while the muster went on. The result of the examination of the first gangs who were all working under one Sub Maistry showed that out of 210 persons entered in the A Horn Registers and for whom pay was drawn that day only 157 had ever worked, and only 147 were actually present. The nominal Rolls were thus false to the extent of 25 percent.

3. The examination of these gangs was the most satisfactory so far as the detection of the A Horns going on was concerned, for it was so unexpected that no preparations had

had been made to haffle uping or innocent excuses for false Rolls, and the Coolies gave their answers freely and readily. W/6

4. Mr. Cox then proceeded to examine the five gangs working under another Sub Maistry, and here again the A Horns were found to be false. Instead of 153 persons entered there in as working in the gangs only 106 were actually present, showing false entries to the amount of 31 2/3 per cent. By the time the examination of these 12 gangs had been completed it was midday, and the news of what was going on had travelled down the channel banks, and the ingenious excuse was ready everywhere that the coolies were really all present at the morning muster, but, as soon as they heard of Mr. Cox's visit, had been away through fear lest they should be grafted

to the canal works at Sadras

5. The twelve cases (one for each gang) mustered, were at once taken up magisterially, and will be tried by the Session Court of Chittoor in due course. I shall hereafter communicate the result of the trials for the information of His Grace the Governor.

6. The next question that arises is for how long have these frauds been going on? Mr. Cox in the body of his letter expresses his belief that they were commenced by a few head coolies about a month ago, and were universally copied by the others for the last 2 or 3 weeks, but in his Postscript he mentions that Mr. Cotton had informed him that the frauds could not have been so universal, and were, he believed, confined to the gangs which

which from September 11th had been in charge of Sergeant Peener. This man, it appears, was of indolent habits, and completely neglected his work, and thus gave every opportunity for fraud, to his subordinates. He was no longer on the works.

7. The other gangs were better supervised, and frauds were therefore not practised. Mr. Cotton, on the 6th September, himself mustered all the coolies of the gangs working under one Sub-Master, and found them correct. When I lately visited the works I had several gangs called up at random and mustered, but nothing was wrong then. My visit however was expected, and arrangements could of course have been made beforehand to fill up deficiencies in the gangs. When, as in the case of

of the Palar channel works, a
vast body of coolies are working
in gangs close together, it is very
difficult on the occasion of a
casual visit of inspection to
check the numbers in any
particular gang, for, if fraud
is going on, it is extremely easy
for a man belonging to the
assessing gang to step forward,
at a signal from his head cooly,
and answer to the names of an
absentee.

8. Mr. Cotton lives on
the works; and is most indefatigable
in his attention to
his duties; he has spared no
pains in supervising his
subordinates, and I am
satisfied that the frauds which
Mr. Cox has just brought to
light can in no way be ascribed
to neglect of duty on his part.
With so many thousands of
coolies

coolies to manage, it is of course
wholly beyond his individual
powers to check the numbers of
the gangs himself constantly.
That duty must be performed
to a great extent by his subordi-
nates, and the neglect of duty
of one of them has led to the
frauds now under investigation.

Order thereon, 21st October 1878 & 19th 1882.

The Collector's further
report is awaited.

2. The papers will be
communicated to the D.P.W.
in view to Sergeant Beever's neglect
of duty and intemperance, and
their result, being communicated
to his superiors. Any salary
due to him, should be impounded.
(True Extract)

J.H. Panti
Asst Secy to Govt

For the D.W. Department.

C.E. 4793. 23-10-78

1878

12264

Recd 31 Oct 78

Cir 25-10-78. Rtd 29-10-78
V. n. Phil 95 Oct

Genl
Hobbs

No 4177 W Public Works Department.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 29 Oct 78.
Read the following:—

2288
11/9

Pro: in the Revenue Finance } (A.C. No. 2182 d/21st Oct 78)
Dept.

Communicated
to the District Engineer
North Arcot for guidance
with reference to para. 2.
Sergeant Beavers
has been allowed to return
to his own Province, but
a copy of these Proceedings
will be forwarded for the
information of the Govt. of
India.

AK

A.C. No. 4178 W d/ 29 Oct 78

A.C. North Arcot with W
extract para 6 of letter. Copy of the above
forwarded to the Govt.
M. 5 to SR d/ 29/10.
20 " " 12-11-78

of India. Sergeant Beever
is a Supervisor on the Estab.
of the Military Works
Branch Bengal.

Wt

26.10.78

Dec 12-11-78

A177878
10

Cir 26-10-78 Dtd 29-10-78
D. S. Shukla 95 Oct

12264

Govt. of (1878) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS

To

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 19 Oct 1878, No. 477W

478W

NOB. 3306332

Serjeant Beavers

Has returned from
his own Province
with Reference to
in order and the fact
of India is as follows

Resolves regarding
ordered to be Com to be
Kacok and as such and
his return to his own
Province sanctioned.

forwarding Proceedings
of this job. with reference
to Serjeant Beavers and
his return to his own
Province.