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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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N. S. S.

1566

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

3rd July 1880, No. 1,566 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following paper :—

No. 16. From Major H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Second Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 16th June 1880, No. 123.

With reference to G. O., No. 755 W., dated 22nd March 1880, ordering me to report on the cause of the failure of the Tirupati Dispensary and the names of the officers under whose superintendence the building was constructed, I have the honor to state that judging from the correspondence, &c., I consider the failure due to defective design and bad work, and I will add that this is not the only dispensary in Southern India that has shown signs of failure from the above causes.

2. The roof consisted of palmyrah rafters with collar pieces and carried above it ridge ventilators, the span being 15 feet. Good palmyrah rafters suitable for a roof of this nature are not now procurable except at a great cost; the result is thin weak ones are put in the work (these might stand for some years were it not for the weight of the ridge ventilators); they fail and the walls give under the outward pressure caused by the weakness of the rafters.

3. The dispensary was built on contract and probably like most contract buildings was not built of the best materials, notwithstanding that there was an Overseer and Maistry on the work from its commencement to completion.

4. I forward a statement showing the dates on which the officers, &c., were in charge of the work in the course of three years; there were—

- 4 District Engineers,
- 5 Divisional Officers,
- 3 Sub-Divisional Officers,
- 1 Overseer.

5. Should Government wish it, I will inspect the building myself and report further regarding it.

STATEMENT showing the Dates on which Officers, &c., took charge of the construction of Civil Dispensary at Tirupati.

Name of Officers, &c.	PERIOD OF CHARGE.		Remarks.
	From.	To.	
<i>Overseers.</i>			
Mr. Enright	1st April 1875.	31st Mar. 1878.	
<i>Sub-divisional Officers.</i>			
Mr. Rathnasabapathy Pillay	1st April 1875.	21st April 1878.	
Seetharam Naidoo	8th May 1876.	13th Nov. "	
Sergeant Steward	15th Nov. "	31st Mar. 1878.	
<i>Divisional Officers.</i>			
Lieutenant T. Smither	1st April 1875.	May 1875.	
Mr. Appasawmy Pillay	May "	30th Sept. "	
Lieutenant W. G. Bewan	1st Oct. "	22nd July 1876.	
Seetharama Naidu (temporary charge in addition to sub-division).	23rd July 1876.	10th Sept. "	
Lieutenant Hamilton, R.E.	11th Sept. "	31st Mar. 1878.	
<i>District Engineers.</i>			
Captain J. Pennycook, R.E.	1st April 1875.	30th April 1875.	
W. B. Leggatt, Esq.	1st May "	31st July "	
Captain J. Pennycook, R.E.	1st Aug. "	May 1876.	
Major H. L. Prendergast, R.E.	22nd May 1876.	July 1878.	

16th June 1880.

(Signed) H. R. MEAD, Major, R.E.,
Supg. Engr., Second Circle.

No. . ORDER THEREON, 3rd July 1880, No. 1,566 W.

COMMUNICATED to the Financial Department, with reference to the 3rd paragraph of their Proceedings of the 16th February 1880, No. 326.

2. It is understood that the District Engineer of North Arcot was not consulted as to the contract for execution of the Tirupati Dispensary, previous to its being entered into by the President of the Local Fund Board.

3. The Superintending Engineer should take the first opportunity of inspecting the building.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Financial Department.
Superintending Engineer, Second Circle

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Gabt. of (1880) Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Tax FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Ac. Ac. Ac.

Dated July, 3rd.

Issued

Recd.

Recd.

G. O., 3rd July 1880, No. 1,560 W.

JULY.

Nos. 16-17.

Thrupati Dispensary, North Arcot District.—Passing orders on report on the cause of failure of the —.

No. 123

Supg. Engineers Office & Circle
Coimbatore, 15 June 1880.
recd. 18-0-80

From,

The Superintending Engineer
& Circle—

To,

The Chief Engineer
N.W.D. Madras.

Sir,

Enclosure
1 Statement

With reference to G.O. No. 705 W. dated 22nd March/80 ordering me to report on the cause of the failure of the Thrupatty Dispensary and the names of the Officers under whose superintendence the building was constructed I have the honor to state that judging from the Correspondence &c. I consider the failure due to defective design and bad work and I will add that this is not the only dispensary in South India that has shown signs of failure from the above causes.

2 The roof consisted of Palmyrah rafters with Collar pieces and carried above it ridge Ventilators the span being 15 ft. Good Palmyrah rafters suitable for a roof of this nature are not

not now procurable except at a great cost, the result is then weak ones are put in the work, (these might stand for some years were it not for the weight of the ridge ventilators) they fail and the walls give under the outward pressure caused by the weakness of the rafters.

3. The Dispensary was built on Contract and probably like most Contract buildings was not built of the best materials notwithstanding that there was an Overseer and Masterly in the work from its commencement to completion.

4. I forward a Statement showing the dates on which the Officers &c. were in charge of the work in the course of 3 years there were.

- 4 District Engineers
- 5 Divisional Officers
- 3 Sub Division and
- 1 Overseer.

5. Should Government wish it - I will inspect the building myself and report further regarding it.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedt. Servant.

M. M. M.

Supd. Engr. H. C. M. M. M.

Ms. No. 758 N. 22-2-80.

P.W.D.

19 JUN 80

From ^{N^o} ~~1~~

The Superintendant
Bengal Civil.

Dated 16th
Despatch 18th } June 1880.
Recd.

No. 123.

Encls. 1

Tripurthy Dispensary, North
Arcot District.

Reporting on the
Cause of failure of the —,
and forwarding a state-
ment showing the dates
on which the several
officers ^{has} were in charge
of the work.

Cin 21.6.80. Ptd. 7.80 —
D. 15.6.80.

Statement showing the dates on which Officers ^{has} took
charge of the Construction of Civil Dispensary at Tripurthy.

Period of Charge
Name of Officers ^{has} From To Remarks.

Enwright ——— 1st April 1875 31 March 1878.

Rathnasabapathy Pillay ——— 1 April 1875. 21st April 1876
Setharam Naicker ——— 8 May 1876. 13 November 76.
Sergeant Steward ——— 15 Nov. 76. 31st March 78.

Subaltern J. Smither ——— 1 April 1875. May 1875
Lt. Appasawmy Pillay ——— May 1875. 30 Sept. 75
H. W. G. Benson ——— 1 Oct. 75. 22nd July 76.
Setharama Naicker (Temporary) ——— 23 July 76. 10 Sept. 76.
Change in addition to Sub. Off. ———
Lt. Hamilton R.E. ——— 11 Sept. 76. 31st March 78.

Apr. 1875
Lt. J. Pennington R.E. ——— 1 June 1875. 30 April 75.
Lt. B. Leggatt Esq. ——— 1 May 75. 31 July 75.
Lt. J. Pennington R.E. ——— 1 Aug. 75. May 1876.
Major A. L. Thundersgate R.E. ——— 22 May 76. July 1878. 2 years

16th June 78.


Major R.E.
Supy. Engr. to Civil.

Recd. No. 1

In a letter No. 123 of
18 June 1880 from the
Engineering, 27.

P.W.D.

10 JUN 80

No.

Statement of officers
in which ~~cases~~ they have
been in charge of the
Tripathy Dispensary while
under construction.

GOVT.
OF MADRAS.

188

P. W.
DEPT.

SECRETARY.

Chepauk,

19 June

1880.

OFFICE NOTE.

To

Letter No 123 of 1880
June from S.E. II

For orders -

It ought to have
been stated that the
contract for this work
was entered into by
the President A.C.
Board without consulting
the District Engineer, and
that it was only at the
urgent request of and to
avoid controversy that

I cannot ^{accept} ~~offer~~
the contract on behalf
of the P. W. S.

1966
6

Next the District room
after the work was begun
and do not think I ever
saw it in progress, but I
have very little doubt that
as much back work was put
in as the contractor could
get paid.

Trudy is in an out
of the way corner of the
Division, and the division
officer had a great deal of
work on his hands during
1875-77 from the rebuilding
of the Patent & Power machine,
and it occurs from the
statement enclosed that the
Division must have been re-
established having been
then in charge of an Bureau.

Mr W. W. W. W. W.
1566

For order

In submitting the
annexed case with
your note by the D.
W. I would wish
to know whether
under all the cir-
-cumstances it is con-
-sidered desirable to
make further en-
-quiries (1) as to the
facts connected with
the work being entrusted
to a contractor who
was not approved
of by the Dist. Engineer
(2) as to the bad
work being passed.

27/6/80

W. W. W.

Co. 21/6/80
10/6/80

N 1566 W
Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 3rd July 1880
Read the following:—

From the Supt. Engrs
20/6/80 (N. No 123 of 16 June 1880)

Communicated
to the Financial Dept.
with reference to the
3rd paragraph of their
Proceedings of the 16th Feb 1880,
No 526.

2. It is understood
that the District Engineer
of South Arcot was not
consulted as to the
contract for execution
of the Turinpatu dis-
-pansary, ^{being} which was
entered into by the
President of the Local
Fund Board.

3. The Supt. Engineer

should make the first
opportunity of inspect-
ing the building.

S₂₇

1566
9

Emil Rept ✓
J. E. D. Cude ✓

Sept
14-7-50

17

✓  3732

Gobt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

Dated

Forwarded

Recd.

Encl.

W. O. 1807 July 1880 No. 158835.

Nos. 12 2/7

Respectfully proposed,
R. A. D. D. D. D. D.

Passing order on
the report on the
Cause of failure
of the —.

3/12