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 (2) Date of repair 27.8.87
 (3) Initials of the Referencer cong ✓

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W.D DEPARTMENT

1082

G.O. No.	1082. W.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated 1. 5 - 1884 187 .		

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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1ST MAY 1884, No. 1082 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.
Establishment.

READ—the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. MEAD, R.E., Superintendent Engineer, VI Circle, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Trichinopoly, 27th March 1884, No. 26021 T.J.:—

I regret to have to report the following regarding a serious waste of public money in closing a breach, and the unsatisfactory conduct of Mr. Baker, Assistant Engineer, and Supervisor Vettivalu Pillai.

The facts as far as I can understand them are as follows:—

A breach occurred in the Cauvery right bank in the 90th mile; it was in 1883; it was about 10 yards wide and 4 deep; he gave general orders for the breach to be closed and the Sub-Magistrate who was present gave assistance. Mr. Baker left the place, and although in camp not far off up to the 12th, and knowing that the breach was not closed but had increased in size, went to Tranquebar on the 14th and remained there; as far as I can learn he did not receive or ask for any reports or accounts of the work but left it entirely to the supervisor.

On the 16th November a bill, signed by the supervisor for Rs. 622-15-9, was presented to Mr. Baker; he considered it far more than it should be and paid Rs. 400 on it, and proceeded to inspect the work which he did on the 19th. However he made no detailed examination or measurement of the work done, or, as far as I can see, any inquiries as regards the accounts. On the 30th of the month he reports the matter to the Executive Engineer, but in far from a definite or satisfactory manner, at the same time he throws great blame and suspicion on the supervisor.

Finally a bill for Rs. 842-15-9 is made out by the supervisor, and Mr. Baker reports that he, on examination, accepts only Rs. 699-13-10 as the value of the work done, leaving what he considers an overcharge of Rs. 143-1-11 and this entirely in items in the first bill. As this examination was more than a month after the completion of the work, I cannot consider it is a very reliable one.

Now, with regard to the supervisor: he was on the 7th told to close the breach; no funds whatever were given to him; he was told to employ the coolies sent to him by the Sub-Magistrate and for them to be paid by a contractor who was afterwards to be repaid by Mr. Baker.

There was the greatest confusion; the ryots and others whose crops were submerged of course were all crying for the breach to be closed at once; the river rose day by day as they were attempting to close it, and it was not until the 14th that it fell and then the breach was closed.

I forward six questions and their answers by the supervisor; it will be seen that he simply states he has no accounts whatever; that revenue coolies and contractor's coolies were all working together and of course it is impossible in any way to separate the

work turned out by each; he lays considerable stress on the fact that the Sub-Magistrate's list of the number of revenue coolies employed corresponds with the numbers that he reported in his form A (his diary), but as he did not in that form mention that other coolies were employed, this has nothing to do with the point.

It does appear that it has been for some time Mr. Baker's practice, in order to save trouble in keeping his accounts, to have revenue coolies paid by a contractor and afterwards pay the contractor.

The supervisor also brings to notice that he and Sub-Magistrate did make a report regarding the serious nature of the breach of the 10th, but a reference to it shows that Mr. Baker paid little or no attention to it.

Mr. Baker states he was not well, but this hardly justified his leaving everything to the supervisor (to whom he gave no money) and proceeding to Tranquebar, and not afterwards going thoroughly into the accounts, &c.

I have seriously reprimanded Mr. Baker and informed him that I consider he has neglected his duty, and directed that works are not to be done nominally on contract to avoid the trouble of keeping accounts. If daily coolies are employed they must be paid by supervisor or overseers and not by so-called contractors. The supervisor I have transferred to another division; this man is of long service and bears a high character; he was lately promoted being recommended by Mr. Baker, the Executive Engineer and myself for his long and good service. Although I cannot consider that he has been fairly treated by Mr. Baker, I think he has shown himself, in not being able to produce any accounts, unfit for the post of supervisor. I therefore recommend his reduction to overseer, 1st grade.

With regard to the so-called contractor's accounts, I have directed that the amount of his bill, Rs. 842-15-7, less the Rs. 143-1-11 rejected by Mr. Baker, be paid to him; should he refuse to accept it, the whole amount to be paid to him, but that in future to be never employed again. I request the sanction of Government for the Examiner to pass the expenditure incurred and to be incurred in closing this breach.

ORDER—dated 1st May 1884, No. 1082 W., Public Works.

A careful consideration of the papers forwarded with the above letter leads to the conclusion that money has been wasted and an opening for fraud given by the sub-divisional officer's attempt to save himself and his office trouble. Honorary Assistant Engineer Mr. Baker has been a long time in the service, and the Government regret to have to notice that an officer of such long standing has so failed in his duty.

2. As is not uncommon in these cases, the onus is brought down to the subordinate in charge of the work, Supervisor C. Vettivalu Pillay.

3. The method of working was so confused that, though the Executive Engineer has come to the conclusion that the supervisor submitted false accounts, there is considerable doubt in the matter; and taking into account the good character given him by the Superintending Engineer, the Government decide to allow him to retain his position in the department, trusting that this warning will show him the necessity of keeping a strictly accurate account in such cases in future.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, with four enclosures.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

Exd. A. Aubert.

Spare Copies

1082
2

IRRIGATION.
ESTABLISHMENT.

Gobt. of (1884) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated May, 1st.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 1st May 1884, No. 1082 W.

MAY.

Honorary Assistant Engineer
Mr. Baker and C. Vettivalu
Pillay, Supervisor

Censuring — for their conduct in connection with the closing of a breach in the Cauvery right bank.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

6TH CIRCLE.

Trichinopoly 27th March 1884.

Recho: 292.

No. 26021 T.T.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
6th Circle.

To

The Chief Engineer
for District.

Sir,

I regret to have to report the following regarding a serious waste of public money in closing a breach and the unsatisfactory conduct of Mr. Baker Asst. Engineer and Supervisor Vettivalu Pillai.

The facts as far as I can understand them, are as follows:—

A breach occurred in the Cauvery Right bank in the 90th mile it was inspected by Mr. Baker on the 7th November/83 it was about 10 yards wide & 4 deep, he gave general orders for the Breach to be closed and the Sub. Magistrate who was present gave assistance. Mr. Baker left the place and although in camp not far

ENCLOSURE 3.

1. Success memo
letter no 3790
22-12-83

1. Dr. no 324
13-2-84

with Mr. Baker's

no 1294
7-12-84

1. Supervisor's no. stand them

no 21-3-84

with 2 enclosures

far off up to the 12th and knowing that the breach was not closed but had increased in size went to Sangaebor on the 14th and remained there, as far as I can learn he did not receive or ask for any reports or accounts of the work but left it entirely to the Supervisor.

on the 16th November a bill signed by the Supervisor for Rs 622-15-9 was presented to Mr. Baker he considered it for more than it should be and paid Rs 400 on it, and proceeded to inspect the work which he did on the 19th however he made no detailed examination or measurement of the work done or as far as I can see any enquiries as regards the accounts, on the 30th of the month he reports the matter to the Executive Engineer but in far from a definite or satisfactory manner, at the same time he throws great blame and suspicion on the Supervisor.

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1088/4 p 2
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There was the greatest confusion the ryots and others whose crops were submerged of course were all crying for the breach to be closed at once, the river rose day by day as they were attempting to close it and it was not until the 14th that it fell and then the breach was closed.

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but that in future to be never em-
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the expenditure incurred & to be
incurred in closing this breach.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

M. M. M. L. C. 1886

Sup. Engineer, Biele.

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2/10/82
P. W. D. 6TH CIRCLE.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
6th Circle.



To

The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

No. 2602 T.T

Dated 27th } March 1884
Received 5th } April

Encl. 4

Enclosure 3.

No. 1082 W of 18 May 1884

Mr. Baker asst. Engr
+ Vethivathu Pillai
Supervisor.

Reports on the un-
satisfactory conduct
of — in doing a
breach in the Damery
R-B. in the 9th mile —

Recd. 4/4

Civ 21/4. Ret 28/4

Recd. 7/6/84

1082 W
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 18th May 1884

Read the following:—

Letter from the Supg Engr. S. B. N. 2602 T.T. dated 27th March/84

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A careful consideration of
the papers forwarded with the above
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regret to have to notice that an
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The method of working was
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the Executive Engineer has come
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-visor submitted false accounts,
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given him by the Superintend-
-ing Engineer, the Government
decide to allow him to retain
his position in the Department,
Trusting that this warning
will shew him the necessity
of keeping a strictly accurate
account in such cases in
future.

11/14/84

W

21-4-84

9/5/88

Supp. Engr. VI Circle for the
Ch. for Irrigation
Ex. P. M. Accounts

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Ruoloca

The Hon. A. S. Sullivan

1082/9

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Govt. of (1883) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

(a)

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Dated

Recd

Encl

G.O. / May 1884 No. 1082. 11

Nos.

Honorary asst Engr
Mr Baker & C. Velluvelu
Pillay, supervisor

Censuring

For their unsatisfactory
conduct in connection
with the closing of
a branch in the
Canary Right Bank

1- 55
14
Sub in Dept Dept

2/5

2/5