

Potacumund 3 May 1886.

To.

The Executive Engineer
Nilgiri Division.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit to you the following report on the working of the Government Brickfield during the month of April: —

At the commencement of the month there were twenty five thousand (25000) unburnt bricks in the drying sheds left over from last year. These are now being burnt as rapidly as possible.

The supply of wood however for this purpose is not at all satisfactory, it being obtained from a Native Contractor, who is not regular in his supply, besides often sending inferior and green wood.

If this were remedied the bricks could be turned out much more rapidly.

At the present time there are upwards of (50000) fifty thousand bricks in the kilns.

During the month, fifty five thousand bricks (55000) have been moulded and placed in the drying sheds, at an average rate of Rs 3-5-0 per thousand.

Yours

There are usually 4 moulders at work who turn out more than 1000 bricks each per day. Taking into consideration those rejected, each moulder may be taken to turn out 1000 good bricks per day. To keep the moulders supplied with clay, etc. each man has the following: One ballman, one hackman, two carrying clay to moulding table; three runners to carry bricks to hackman, one clay digger, two carrying clay to pug mill, one to look after pug mill, half turn out of pug mill. The total wages of all these (some being men, some women and the rest boys) together with the wages of a moulder is Rs 3-5-0. Sookhee boy omitted.

Consequently, omitting wear and tear of plant, the above sum may be taken as the price per 1000 of unburnt bricks.

The amount of wood required to burn 1000 bricks has been found from experience to be 2000 lbs.

The present price is Rs 3-10-0 per 1000 lbs. The dried bricks, ready for burning

burning, are carried from the sheds, and loaded in the kiln for Rs 14-0-0 per 1000 bricks.

The only remaining charge is the wages of the firemen, which is Annas 12 per 1000 bricks (approx).

From the above it will be seen that the cost of burnt bricks per 1000 is:—

3-13-0	Digging, moulding etc.	3-5-0
7-8-0	Firewood	7-2-0
0-9-0	Fireman's wages	0-6-0
1-14-0	Loading kiln	1-14-0
<u>13-12-0</u>		<u>Rs 12-4-0</u>

Does not include superintendence.

Or in round numbers Rs 13 per thousand.

If a small outlay could be sanctioned for the purchase of pallets, strikes, and moulds the quality of bricks would assuredly improve as the work at present is being carried on with inferior plant.

I have etc etc.

Sydney Stewart B. Murray
Assistant Engineer.

(True copy)

/ By order
A. Divasikhamany
Head Clerk Nilgiri Division Office

In May's acct this is entered as 1-4-0 per 1000

may 9 men work on day to put 1000 but in end men 120 full time

R. 3-12-0



Ootacamund 2nd June 1886.

From

The Assistant Engineer
Nilgiri Division.

To.

The Executive Engineer
Nilgiri Division.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the following report on the working of the Lake Brick-field during the past month, with a comparison of the cost of the working of the Government field at Madras.

During the month, moulding has been going on steadily, the result being an ~~out~~ out-turn of 59400 bricks. At the present time there are 37000 bricks undergoing burning in the kiln, 44800 bricks which have been burnt and 51400 in the drying sheds.

The average cost per 1000 bricks is Rs 11-4-0 or say Rs 12 made up as follows:—

	R/-	A/-	P/-
Digging, puffing, moulding and hacking	3	3	0
Carrying to kiln, and loading	1	4	0
Firewood @ 3/12 per 1000 lbs	5	10	0
unloading & stacking	1	4	0
Firemen's wages	0	9	0

Rs 11-14-0

Encl 4
M. 5804. 86

Subsequently explained.

Before stated that
2000 lbs necessary
i.e. 7.8.0.

The corresponding price in Madras is Rs 10-4-0 (sold @ 11/8) per 1000, made up as follows: —

	Rs.	A	P
Digging, tempering, moulding & packing —	2	10	0
Loading —————	1	8	0
Firewood @ 4/8 per 1000 lbs —————	4	0	0
Unloading —————	1	8	0
Fireman's wages —————	0	10	0
	<u>Rs 10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>

Comparing these prices, it is seen that the moulding etc. is done cheaper in Madras than here.

The reason for this is that the work is not done departmentally but by Contract.

Government supplies the Contractor with all necessary plant, drying sheds etc., in fact with every thing except labor, and in return buys his bricks @ a fixed rate, if considered good enough by the Superintendent of the field.

With regard to the loading and unloading it is seen that a higher price is paid in

in Madras than here. The reason for this is, that in the Madras kiln, which is a patent one by Hoffman & Co. the coolies have to work in excessive heat, and consequently demand a higher rate of pay. In the expenditure of wood, the Madras kiln shows a great saving over the ^{circular} trench kiln employed here. The former burns 1260 bricks with 1000 lbs of wood, whereas the latter takes the same amount to burn 700.

From the above it will be seen that the manufacture here exceeds that of Madras only in two items viz moulding and firewood.

The former is owing to less facilities of working and a more scattered field, while the latter is owing to the difference between the kilns used.

In loading, unloading and firing a saving is effected.

For some time to come now the wood will be procured from the Sub

div.

SUPD. E. NO. 2/509 H. & C. 25 JUN. 86 P. W. D. FOURTH CIRCLE

Sub Divisional Office Compound, and delivered at the field, will only cost about $\frac{1}{6}$ per 1000 ths. This will reduce the cost of the bricks to about $\frac{8}{8}$ per 1000 which is a very moderate price. mistake.

I have etc etc
Sd/- Stewart B. Murray
Assistant Engineer.

Encls 3
P.W.D. 58024.86

Ootacamund
2 June 1886

(True copy)

(By order)

P. Divanikhan

Head Clerk Nilgiri Division

no 68.

Ootacamund 9 June 1886.

To.

The Executive Engineer
Nilgiri Division.

Sir,

In reply to your endorsement N^o 340 of 640 d/b May 14 June 1886, respectively, they to state that the actual cost of moulding bricks per 1000, now obtaining is Rs 4-1-6. as follows viz.

1 Moulder	" 8 "	1 clay digger	" 4 6 "
1 Ballman	" 4 6 "	3 women carrying clay to pug	" 9 "
1 Hackman	" 4 6 "	1 Dr attending pugmill	" 3 "
2 women carrying clay to moulding table	" 6 "	1 Boy guiding Surker	" 2 "
3 boys do bricks to Hackman	" 7 "	1 woman carrying water	" 3 "
C. O. 1 1/4 "		1/2 pair of Bullocks	" 14 "
		Dep etc	" 3 "
		Total	Rs 4-1-6.

2. This allows nothing whatever for contingencies and we are always wanting little things, so if we put 0-1-6 down for this we shall get a total of Rs 4-3-0. per 1000 for bricks moulded.

3. The actual cost of moulding as shown by the Divisional accounts, for the month of April was Rs 5-1-9. per 1000, but this was probably due to our not having got properly into our working order.

4. Mr. Murray, in his 1st report, omitted the cost of unloading and in his 2nd, he has, I am inclined to think underestimated the quantity of firewood required. He has certainly made a mistake regarding the cost of firewood received from

from the Compound of the sub division office, these
 are changing to the Brickfield at the rate of Rs 2-12-0.
 per 1000 tbs & the Brickfield coolies are employed
 in putting it down and into pieces fit for the kiln
 this with the cost of cartage brings it up to about
 the price charged by the supplier. I thought it
 would be only misleading to make it any cheaper
 than we can get it outside, besides we want
 the money for clearing.

SUPD. EN. IN.
 NO. 579 P. 1.
 15 JUL. 86
 F. N. D. O.
 FOURTH CIRCLE
 2m: 1.

5. We may then put down the present cost
 of burnt bricks @ Rs 15/- as shown below:—

Moulding	Rs 4-3-0	B. & D — 14-3-0.
Loading & unloading	2-8-0	Firemen's wages 0-9-0
Firewood (2000 tbs)	7-8-0	Contingencies 0-4-0.
C.O	14-3-0	Total per 1000 15-0-0

This is 3 per 1000 below the estimate, &
 includes nothing for superintendence, which
 may be put down @ Annas 6 per 1000, making
 a total of Rs 15-6-0 per 1000, which I do not think
 we shall exceed as we are I find, thro experience,
 working more economically than ever.

6. I have, I think, been able to settle the ques-
 tion of pallets & strikes, mentioned in Mr. Murray's
 report, by cutting up some wood, useless for anything
 else, which I found in the field, the money will
 last for some time to come at least.

They etc.
 Signed C. Lord Sub Div.
 Sub Engineer
 (True copy)
 Aldrich Major R.E.
 Executive Engineer

Encls 2
 PW. 38021-86

N^o 1091
 Nilgiri Division Office
 Coimbatore 13th July 1886
 From
 The Executive Engineer
 Nilgiri Division

To.
 The Superintending Engineer
 4th Circle.

Sir,
 In reply to your letter N^o 406 of
 2nd Instant regarding the further informa-
 tion required on the working and pros-
 pects of the Lake Brickfield, I have
 the honor to refer you to the explanatory
 notes on the original reports of Mr. As-
 sistant Engineer Murray and to enclose
 copy of Sub Divisional Officer's letter N^o 68
 of 9th June 1886, giving further particulars
 on the subject.

2. The rate for bricks per 1000
 now turned out will be Rs 15-6-0 plus
 Rs 6-0-0 charge for land and kilns =
 total Rs 21-6-0 per 1000 but as a large
 stock

Encls 1
 Copy of letter

Stock of bricks some $2\frac{1}{2}$ laes remain under
the old manufacture these have to be
charged for @ Rs 30 per 1000.

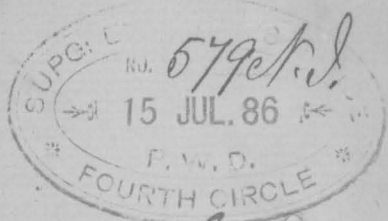
I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most obedt Servant.

Al Smith Major R.E.

Executive Engineer

P.S.



From

The Executive Engineer
Nilgiri Division.

To

The Superintending Engineer
4th Circle.

No. 1091.

Dated 13th July 1886.

Encl¹
P.W.D. 5802. 86.
Encl¹

Lake Brick Field.
Qty. working and prospects
of the - Reports.

No. 276
P.W.D.

Superintending Engr's office. 4th Cir.
Coimbatore, 26th July 1886.

From,

The Superintending Engineer,
IV. Circle.

To,

The Chief Engineer,
P. W. Department.

Sir,

Enclosures 4.
Letter from Executive Engineer
No 1091 of 13th July 1886 with
one Enclosure
Mr Murray's
Letter of 3rd May
and 2nd June 1886.

With reference to G.O. No. 1990 of
24th March last, I have the
honor to forward herewith
for your information copies of
the most recent reports on the
working of the Lake Brickfield
at Ootacamund.

2. From these it appears that
the present cost of burnt bricks
is Rupees 15-6-0 per 1000 as shown
below:—

	Rs.	as.	P.
Moulding	4	3	.
Loading & unloading	2	8	.
Firewood (2000 lbs)	7	8	.
Firemen's wages	"	9	.
Carried over	14	12	.

Brought forward	14	12	4
Contingencies	"	4	"
Superintendence	"	6	"
<u>Total Rupees.</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>

To which has to be added the sum
of Rs 6 for Land & Kilns bring-
ing up the cost to Rs: 21-6--.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obt Servt.

L. Beatty. Colonel. R.E.
Superintending Engr. 4th Div.

B. No 1601 W. 24.6.86
 No 2156 C. 24.6.86
 B. No 1142 W. 24.6.86
 " 923 W. 24.6.86
 " 790 W. 24.6.86
 B. No 742 W. 24.6.86
 " 367 W. 24.6.86
 B. No 101 2.86

J.W.C. No 580
 From, The Supg: Engineer,
IV Circle.

No 1957 W a 6th August/86
 Recorded, with
 remark that the
 reduced cost at
 which the bricks
 are at present
 being manufactured
 is satisfactory.
 a report on the
 further endeavours
 to be made to reduce
 the cost will be
 awaited.

To,
The Chief Engineer,
P. W. Department.

Dated. }
 Recd } July 1886.

No 276
 No 1957 W a 6th August/86
 Encl: 4

29/7/86

Lake Brickfield
 Oatacanumde.
 Forwards for
 information copies
 of Reports from the Exec.
 Engineer and Mr Murray
 regarding the —

St IV C
 Esqr.
 Desd
 7/8/86
 10.30.7.86

Encd in R.R. 1/8