

(1) Number of pages 12

(2) Date of repair 28.8.81

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	4692	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	18.8.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

We, the undersigned, certify

- I. That Mr. A. L. Lawford has received from Lieutt. O. V. Boddy the sum of Rs. Five, annas six and pie one only being the balance of Cash in his hands on this date.
- II That Mr. A. L. Lawford has received from Lieutt. O. V. Boddy R.E. all the tools and machinery in his charge on this date.
- III That Mr. A. L. Lawford has received a number of books & plans
- IV That Mr. A. L. Lawford has received all tents, furniture &c. shown by last return to be in use.
- V That Mr. A. L. Lawford has received from Lieutt. O. V. Boddy R.E. all surveying, and Mathematical Instruments. 1 circumferenter said to be with Pereacolon Overseer but no receipt.
- VI That the Office books now in use, have been brought up to date, and examined by us with the following exceptions.

Work Register is brought up to
June 1876.

Diary of letters received not
properly maintained before July 1876.

VII That the following works in
progress have been inspected and
measured by us.

- 1 Pulney Lutcherry
- 2 Vayapoor Channel (Masonry &c.)
checked by Mr. Lawford. Earth
work should be given by Lt. Boddy.
- 3 Ammajanaicknoor Travellers
Bangalow.
- 4 Veeruncolum Annicut.
- 5 Repairs of Range Office at
Dindigul.
- 6 Repairs of Moonseiff's Court
at D^o and as far as possible
the accounts of all unfinished
works in the Range have been
examined.

Mr. A. L. Lawford has compared
the expenditure on them up to
July 76 with the Progress Report.
That a list of Unanswered References

has been prepared by Lieut. C. V.
Boddy R. E. and made over to A. L.
Lawford Esquire.

Signed A. L. Lawford.

Signed C. V. Boddy R. E.

Dindigul

27th September

1876

(True Copy)

W. Livingston

District Engineer
Madura

Encls: 1. in a letter from
the District Engineer
Madura to the Secy
to Govt P.W.D. No 89
of 31st July 1877.

Copy of Transfer
Certificate

General

No 89

From

To

Sir,

District Engineer's Office
Camp & Cross Mangalam
Madurai 31st July 1877.

W. S. Harrington Esq.
District Engineer, Madurai

Colonel C. A. Ford R.E.
Secretary to Government
P. W. D.
Madurai

Enclosure-1

I have the honor to acknowledge
the receipt of G. O. No 102 W. dated
14th instant with which was forwarded
copy of G. O. No 2251 dated 7th idem
on letter from the Collector of Madurai
to the Board of Revenue dated 20th ultimo
No 398.

2. I must beg to be allowed to take
exception to one or two of the Collector's
remarks in which he takes it upon
himself to make assertions regarding the
Public Works Department in this District
notably when he says at the conclusion
of his letter "I see no reason why the P.W.
Department should be permitted to
lose the darkness rather than the light-
the first step to reform is open
admission of error". I respectfully contend
that Mr. Madurai is out of order in

making such a sweeping charge as the
farmer and that he is not in a
position to lay down the law as he does
in enunciating the latter. If I do not
remark on the collector's further expression
of his opinions I must beg the Government
to believe that it is not because I cannot
do so, but because I am fully sensible
that I must not take up their time
with personal complaints or the details
of wordy warfare between this officer
and myself, & further because I must
believe that Mr. McArthur is only
actuated by a sense of his duty to
Government and a sincere interest in the
well being of his District not by any
feelings of animosity towards myself.

3. For the last seven months I have
labored hard to rectify what in my
judgment has been wrong in the morale
of the P. & I of this District, and I
firmly and conscientiously believe that
things are beginning to mend, though there
is still much room for improvement: it
is always, I submit, harder to correct
past errors and to establish an improved
system than it is to inaugurate a new
one, with no previous faults or failures to
guard against and no established errors
to discover and do away with: they who

have been accustomed to err will often
persist doggedly in their errors, refusing
to adopt a different system because they
are so wedded to the old - and happily
find it the preferable of the two. It is
I believe sufficiently well known both to
yourself and the Chief Engineer for
Irrigation that I had great difficulties
to contend against on joining the District,
that I have not disguised these difficulties
nor "losed the darkness rather than the
light" but that on the contrary I have
detailed them, and have done, and am
doing, my utmost to defeat them. When
I took charge of the District from Col. Fisher
on the 18th December last I found that
great disorder existed, the result of
various causes, and wherever I turned,
some new phase of irregularity, animosity,
discontent, sickness, and absolute want of
system presented itself, and I soon saw
that I had a very tangled web to unravel
and a heavy task to perform, and that
I should have to ask the indulgence of
Government, not I trust for any lack of
zeal or devotion in their service, but for
delays, bad work, and shortcomings, the existence
of which have been my misfortune I hope
more than my fault.

4. Lieut. Boddy a young officer of the Corps
of Royal Engineers succeeded the late Mr. Hawksworth.

in the charge of the Peraculuma Sub Division
of the Dindigul Range on the 16th of June 1874
and took over the Range itself from
that Officer on the 12th May 1875 (overseer
"Chinnasamy Pillay" being put in temporary
charge of the Sub Division) the usual
forms having I believe been complied with.
Lieut. Boddy left Dindigul and the
Madurai District, and any thing but a
good name behind him, on the 27th September 1876
on which date he finally gave over charge
of the Dindigul Range to Mr. Executive
Engineer A. C. Lawford, but, as it appears
from the records, in an unsatisfactory
and incomplete manner as testified by
the transfer certificate copy of which I
enclose. I am surprised that an officer
of Mr. Lawford's standing in the Department
was content to take over charge in such
a slovenly and unorthodox manner; on
many an after occasion he bitterly complained
of the state of the Division generally and
of the unmeasured, unfinished, & uninspected
works, and the accumulation of arrears,
but a large portion of it he never
visited at all, and he appeared to me
to work in a listless complaining manner
chiefly contenting himself with noticing what
he conceived to be defects in the Administration
instead of doing what in him lay to remedy
what he found to be wrong. The state

in which Lieut. Boddy left the works
that had been in his charge was simply
disgraceful, and the applications from
Contractors and others who claimed to have
done work which this officer never examined
or inspected have been well nigh numberless.
Mr. J. P. Davidson arrived in the District
on the 14th January 1876 and took over
charge of the Sub Division from Overseer
"Chinnasamy Pillay" on the 1st February following.
Whatever may have been the cause he failed
to give satisfaction to Colonel Fischer the
then District Engineer, and indeed his
Diaries show that with the exception of
three months his inspections and measure-
ments of works in his charge were very
few & far between, and on his leaving
the District last February the mass of
arrears, uninspected & incomplete works,
and unsettled claims of Contractors, Miskins,
bule coolies, & workmen "of sorts," equalled,
if they did not exceed, that left by
Lieut. Boddy. - latterly he suffered from
fever and general indisposition and was
expressly directed by General Bulker to
leave the District without complying with
the existing rules regarding giving over charge.
This on account of his state of health.
Mr. H. W. Monckton joined on the 29th
January last and almost immediately fell

sick; he has however done fair work since, and matters are mending in the Peracolum Sub Division. Mr. A. C. Lawford who had charge of the Dindigul Division obtained a medical certificate during March last & was desired by Government to hand over charge to his successor Mr. L. W. Poynter without travelling about in his Company to inspect works. I myself informed the Government that in my opinion Mr. Lawford should lose no time in leaving India and they are aware of that officer's peculiar condition and of the disordered state of his mind.

5. Thus, owing partly to fortuitous circumstances, the charge of the Division and Sub Divisions were given & taken over by three different officers without the usual and strictly enjoined formalities being complied with: confusion thus became worse confounded and when Mr. Poynter, owing to Mr. V. B. Hutchings' delayed arrival found himself in April last in charge both of the Madurai and Dindigul Divisions & Mr. Montserrat in that of the Peracolum Sub Division with arrears of every sort & kind, with two suspended overseers, & not a really good man among the rest, the state of things may perhaps be imagined; I should fail were I to attempt to describe it.

6. I had written thus far when on the evening of the 29th instant I received your reminder No. 102 W. dated 27th Idem marked "urgent" as soon as I possibly could I continued my report, but have deemed it advisable to make it shorter than I intended, for I wished to enter somewhat minutely into all details that Government might be enabled to judge whether or not I have exaggerated the very great difficulties that I have met with. I will now endeavour to bring this report to an end as quickly as possible. Mr. L. W. Poynter now in charge of the Dindigul Division is I hope exerting himself more than he did for many months his inspections during which period were lamentably few and his reports most unsatisfactory - he left nearly every thing in the hands of the overseers who of course took advantage of his doing so in every conceivable manner. I am averse to sending unfavorable reports regarding this officer but unless he improves greatly & obtains more & better work from his subordinates I cannot but do so. Mr. V. B. Hutchings who joined the District on the 9th of June & took over charge of the Madurai Division from Mr. Poynter on the 23rd Idem has started well and seems thoroughly alive to the necessity that exists for looking

personally into every thing & after every body -
I trust soon to see a great change in
the Madras Division which I cannot help
saying, has been very much neglected & mis-
managed by Mr. Poynder chiefly from his
trusting his overseers & others too much -
Mr. Moncrieff is also working hard in
the Peneas Division and I see
a marked change already. The overseers
as a body are the worst I have ever
seen in any District and seem determined
to try and behave as for the past three
years they have been accustomed to behave
viz to do such work as is apportioned
to them in the worst possible manner,
or not to do it at all, and by their
way of conducting themselves they would
appear to object to my earnest endeavours
to improve the state of the District generally
as reactions innovations against which
they are determined to make such head
as they can; they were in the habit of
measuring (or not measuring) works, paying
(or not paying) coolies, employing their own
nominees as contractors, letting the roads
& the works generally fall into a most
disreputable condition, and the cause of
all this ^{has} undoubtedly been the apathy
laziness & carelessness of their officers whose
inspections were very infrequent & who
allowed matters to go on anyhow, unreported

upon, and the term scarcely too strong
a one, unrepented of -

7. Judging from the state of the roads
so many of which I have personally inspected,
the Government money must have been
misappropriated, to use no stronger term,
in the most utterly shameful manner - the
maintenance allowances have been spent
certainly, but mis-spent, and many thousands
of rupees must have been worse than thrown
away - roads that I myself knew to be
in beautiful order thirteen or fourteen years
ago are scarcely recognizable now, such is
their shameful condition; & yet during all
this time liberal maintenance allowances have
been made - they simply cannot have been
spent in their entirety on roads which were
thoroughly metalled years ago and the sub-
-stratum & foundation of which is quite
firm & unyielding. I could write very much
more but time would fail me & perhaps
the Government do not absolutely require
me to be "vituperator temporis acti" but
they have a right to demand that things
shall not go on as they have and I
confidently affirm that they shall not,
and that by the end of this official year,
if I am destined to remain here so long
and keep my health & strength in any
fashion at all, the state of this District

shall not be run down & spoken against
as it is. If the overseers do not obey
implicitly the orders they receive they must
be summarily dismissed. The officers I
believe are able and willing, and determined
to help me to the outside of their strength
and energies in my earnest efforts to
bring about changes which are so imperative,
and I can only end my letter as I began
it by assuring the Government that existing
evils shall be rectified if my & their
best efforts can accomplish the task. Works
of all kinds are beginning to progress and
the officers promise, and I will do my
utmost to ensure the fulfilment of their
promise, that the allotments shall be fully
expended within the prescribed period. I have
no doubt whatever that this will be done.
As already stated I could say much more
but I trust that the Government will be
of opinion that I have said enough, and
that they will be pleased to believe that
all I have promised shall be zealously
and faithfully performed.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt servant
W. S. Harrison
District Engineer, Brasov

Grand.
 From,
 The District Engineer,
 Madras
 To,
 The Secretary to Govt.
 P. W. D.
 Madras.
 No. 1334

Dated 31st July 1877.
 Recd.

Encls: 1.

No. 89.

G.O. No. 10288. dated 14th
 August - reports on
 the - & the general
 past & present condi-
 tion of this District &
 its P. W. D. members.

Statement showing outlay in the Madras District under
 all heads of service and from Lamine Funds

Months	Outlay against Budget Grant			Lamine Relief	Grand Total
	Buildings and Roads which comprise Imperial Provincial Local and Special	Irrigation (Ordinary & Extraordinary)	Total outlay against Budget Grant		
October 1876	30,298	6,272	36,567	.	36,567
November —	26,263	6,420	32,693	.	32,693
December —	30,153	3,282	33,437	.	33,437
January 1877	17,883	16,73	19,556	2087	21,643
February —	17,332	1938	19,270	.	19,270
March —	28,136	3,475	31,611	130	31,741
April —	4,904	522	5,406	.	5,406
May —	7,887	974	8,881	.	8,881
June —	.	.	.	1128	1128
Total	162,855	24,566	187,421	3348	190,766

Fort St. George
 26th July 1877

Lowry-Jordan
 Examiner P.W. Accounts

recd.
 26/7

FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

MADRAS.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

GENERAL BRANCH.

NO. 65.W.

PORT ST. GEORGE, 26TH JULY 1877.

SIR,

WITH REFERENCE TO G.O. NO. 102.W. DATED 14TH JULY 1877,
I HAVE THE HONOR TO FORWARD HERewith A STATEMENT SHEWING
THE OUTLAY INCURRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IN
THE MADRAS DISTRICT, UNDER ALL HEADS OF SERVICE, SINCE
OCTOBER LAST INCLUDING THE OUTLAY FROM FAMINE FUNDS.

I HAVE THE HONOR TO BE,

SIR,

YOUR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

Lowry-Jordan

EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNTS.

ENCLOSURE. ONE.

EXD. A.P.
25-7-77.

CD. S.B.
26-7-77.

FROM THE EXAMINER, P.W. ACCOUNT.

MADRAS.

TO THE SECY. TO GOVT.

P.W. DEPT.

GENERAL BRANCH

NO. 65. W.

Ln 2
76334

DATED 26TH. JULY 1877.

RECD.

ENCLOSURE. ONE.

FORWARDING A STATEMENT SHEW-
ING OUTLAY IN THE MADURA DISTRICT
UNDER ALL HEADS OF SERVICE AND
FROM FAMINE FUNDS.

No 2189

Memorandum

The Chief Engineer is
of opinion that matters are by degrees
mending in the Madura District. The
cause of the deterioration of discipline
in the P.W. Establishment is known
to Government. There appears to be
no reason to take any notice of the
complaints made by Mr. Harrington
against those officers who are now
no longer in the District. Both Liatt
Boddy and Mr. Davidson are doing
very good work in their present districts.

Edmund Colonel, R. E.
Chief Engineer P.W.D.

Fort St. George }
4th Aug^r 1877 }

P.W.D.

No 2190

12

Memorandum by Chief Engineer

Letter from Examiner Public Works Accounts
No 65 M. dated 26th July 1877

Letter from District Engineer, Madras No 89.
dated 31st July 1877.

Chief Engineer's Memorandum No 2189 of 4th Aug 77

Transferred to the

Revenue Department, Tanjore, with
reference to G. O. No 2251 dated 7th July
1877.

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

Fort St George }
4th August 1877 }

To The Revenue Department, Tanjore

En 76334

Rev. 1877 Dept

Fl. 6334

Subt. P. W. Dept

Dated 4 }
Recd 8 } August 77

Enc: 3 v 1 No 2

Let
Miss G. O. N. 4692

Received

4/8 J. H.

18 August 1877

Transferring with reference
to G. O. No 2251 papers refer-
ing outlay in the location
of under all heads of
franchise funds

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

7 No. 6334

From Public Works Department

Dated 4th August 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

9.00 p. m.

I have read
the petition
in regard - but
probably too late
11/0 P. m.
J. H.

Revenue Dept.

FOR ORDERS.

✓

19th
Min 40 18 August 1877 N^o 692

CP-57 R 16-8-77