

Report on Contracts
October 1878

Contract 20 Construction of suspension Bridge over the Manuhickia river near Alexandria.

Since my last report very little work has been done at this Bridge. The pier on the East bank mentioned as being well forward, is now completed, as also are the shafts and tunnels on the west bank.

A difficulty with regard to the masonry of the pier on the west bank has already been reported on.

Contract 21 Construction of Bridge over the Clutta river near Bendigo.

This work was almost completed when the floods commenced and all work was consequently stopped. All that is now required to finish the Bridge as designed is the painting of hand rail but until the water goes down nothing can be done. I think the Bridge may fairly be considered to have been completed on Monday the 30th day of September so that the fine for non-completion in contract time may be calculated up to that date.

This will make the retaine 109 days which at £2 per day will give £218 and I must therefore recommend that this deduction be made from the Contract sum. In almost every report

Adopted

Report received

since the commencement of the work I have remarked on the slow manner in which the work was being prosecuted and the Council has been kept fully informed from time to time of the various causes of delay so that it is not now necessary to enlarge any further upon the subject. There will be some small extras to pay for, amounting in all to about £30 being for covering struts for ends of planking and covering piece for heads of fence piles.

During the floods the bridge has withstood a very severe strain and to all appearance so far is uninjured, but it would be inadvisable to make the final settlement with the contractor until a thorough inspection can be made.

Contract 35 - Construction of foot Bridge across the River river opposite the Township.

This work which has been completed for some months has now been washed away by the recent floods. Mr. Slater inspected it and it appeared to be substantially and well put together but the foundations of the trestles - the most important part - he was of course not able to inspect.

Mr. Slater reported that it was not properly tanned and painted, and the schedule amount for this will be deducted from the contract price.

Reported
adopted

Contract 36 Extension of road through
the Township of Oplis.

This contract has been finished and
passed for some considerable time.
It is a very creditable piece of work.

Report accepted

Contract 38 Construction of foot and pack
horse bridge over the Nevis river.

No work has been done at this
contract on account of the impossibility
of getting material over. An extension of
time has been asked for by the
contractors which is reported upon
separately. It will be necessary for
me to inspect the site of this bridge
before any more work is done as it
may be necessary to raise the level.

Resolution moved
on this subject

The water is said to have been 2'6"
higher than any former season's flood.

Contract 39 Construction of 57 chains of
road between Tiger Hill & Spotts Creek.

This work has been progressing very
slowly indeed. An application for
extension of time has been reported
upon elsewhere. The work done is
very creditable.

Contractor's
allowance & work
extension of time

Contracts 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44. Tenders were
called for these works but with the
advice and concurrence of Councillors Jolly
and Edborough I withdrew them on account
of the damage sustained by the floods.

Postponement
agreed to

D. H. Meyer
County Engineer