

199

DOMESTIC

C.O.

38134

Rec

REG 27 OCT 05

AFR PROT.

8134

(Subject.)

1905

Sheer Legs for Port Clarence Dock

Transmit my report by Circular letter
on proposed supply of - better advice

(Minutes.)

Mr. Reed

Upper C. Legt.
existing tunda of Mifos
Caplin - inform Compt.
and get up in 2223. off 1000 10/10
1st m. copy 1 or 2nd

atm:

p.g.R

27/10

ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE
CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES,
THE ABOVE REFERENCES AND THE
DATE OF THIS LETTER BEING QUOTED
TEL. ADD "CROWN, LONDON".

C.O.
38134
Ref
Rec 27 OCT 05

200

Mr. G. S. G. G.

WHITEHALL GARDENS,

LONDON, S.W.

26th October 1905

Rhodesia Railway - Port Florence Dock

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd September No. 38233 relative to the proposed supply of sheer legs in connection with the Dock at Port Florence.

2. I enclose for the information of Mr Secretary [unclear] a copy of a report by the Consulting Engineers from which it will be seen that they consider the sheers a necessary appendage to a dry dock and that the f.o.b. cost of the apparatus which they recommend would be £1000. They consider that there should be ample funds for the sheer legs out of the money provided for the new steamer the "Clement Hill" as the contract price of the vessel delivered f.o.b. on the Clyde is only £24,699 and the amount provided in the estimate is £45,000.

3. They point out that the sheer legs if supplied in time will materially reduce the cost of erection of the "Clement Hill" in the Protectorate. The vessel is due for delivery on the 10th November and although the contractors are large one is likely to be ready within three months. The matter is therefore one of urgency.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

As As As

Colonial Office

Messrs. Ronald & Robertson & Crown Agents

5 Great George Street,

London, W.C.

24th October 1907.

UGANDA RAILWAY

Sheer Legs for Dock at Port Florence.

Gentlemen,

In compliance with your N/283/9 of the 2nd October we beg to report on the sheer legs for the dry dock at Port Florence.

The questions asked in Colonial Office No.332233 of the 22nd September are:-

- (a) Are the sheers necessary ?
- (b) What will they cost ?
- (c) Are there funds available from the £45,000 provided for the new steamship ?

2. As regards (a) we think sheers may be considered a necessary appendage to a dry dock. Of course boilers and engines can be shifted by ordinary tackle, but at great waste of time and money and appreciable risk.

3. (b) We had some difficulty in finding the makers of sheer legs as there are not many of them but we have communicated with the best via Messrs. Cowan Sheldene.

A. Chaplin of Govan and G. Russell of Motherwell and enclosed analysis of their quotations. On these we have to remark that time is of first importance as the sheers ought

to

1. We will immediately after the "Clyde" has
left and their high price puts Comme, Sheldon & Co.
out of court.

4. Uganda asks for the sheref although we have
boiler, but we consider that the delay and expense
of adapting an engine to Uganda to the sheref will
apparently saving. Further we cannot arrange

complete details of the engine. Therefore I hope
you will supply us with all details as soon as
possible. Your first info. will be sent.

5. The choice lies between A. Chaplin £2000 in
three months and G. Powell £2000 in 6 months. The
latter would be at first quite safe for us, very at
all up to fuel rate or difficulty about the size very
and as the difference is not great, consider it may
safer to give the order to Chaplin on the guarantee
given in their letter of 19th October and with
time in their telegram of 23rd October taking care to
impress upon them that time is the essence of the contract.
We enclose a schedule and form of tender for this purpose.

6. (c) As the contract for the vessel delivered
I.e.o. Clyde is only £24,000 there appears to be ample funds
for the sheref lags which intend will reduce the cost of
erection in Uganda if supplied without delay.

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Uganda with us immediately after the "Element Hill" type, and their high price puts Cowans, Sheldon & Co. out of court.

4. Uganda asks for the shire's lithograph boiler, but we consider that its delay and expense adapting an engine 21/2 times to the shire's will appear saving. Further we cannot arrange complete details of the shire's engine until we have the shire's drawing. It seems that an engine must be supplied and shire will not be sent.

5. The choice lies between 4 Chaplin @ £1000 in three months and 4 Russell @ £2000 in 6 months. The latter would not at first quote extra for delivery at all and we feel rather doubtful about the time they give and as the difference is not great, consider it wiser to order from Chaplin on the remonstrance given in their letter of 19th October and, at the same time in their telegram of 23rd October taking care to impress upon them that time is the essence of the contract. We enclose a schedule and form of tender for this purpose.

6. (c) As the contract for the vessel delivered f.a.b. Clyde is only £24,000 where appears to be ample funds for the shire's loss which intend will reduce the cost of erection in Uganda if supplied without delay.

30/10/00
File No. 1000

to go out with or immediately after the "Clement Hill". This and their high price puts Cowans, Sheldon & Co. out of court.

Uganda asks for the sheers without engine and boiler, but we consider that the delay and expense of adapting an engine in Uganda to the propeller will off-set any apparent saving. Further we cannot arrange the gear without complete details of the engine which there is no time to get, we therefore conclude that an engine must be supplied but a boiler need not be sent.

5. The choice lies between A.Chaplin @ £1050 in three months and G.Russell @ £950 in 4½ months. The latter would not at first quote a time for delivery at all and we feel rather doubtful about the time they give and as the difference is not great, consider it would be safer to give the order to Chaplin on the general description given in their letter of 19th October and price and time in their telegram of 23rd October taking care to impress upon them that time is the essence of the contract. We enclose a schedule and form of tender for this purpose.

6. (c) As the cost of the vessel delivered f.a.b. Clyde is only £24,699 there appear to be ample funds for the sheers' fees which indeed will reduce the cost of erection in Uganda if supplied without delay.

We are &c.,

Sd) Rendel & Robertson

5. The address of Messrs Alex. Chaplin & Co. is:-
Grantonhill Engine Works
Helen Street, Govan N.B.

Enclosures:-

Letter telegram & drawing from Messrs Chaplin
On analysis of tenders
New form of tender.

DRAFT.

correspondents.

MINUTE.

Mr. Refuge 20/10

Mr. Read 28

Mr. Astrobus.

Mr. Cox.

Mr. Lucas.

Mr. Graham.

Sir M. Ummaney.

The Duke of Marlborough

Mr. Lyttelton.

Gentlemen, I am etc to acknowledge
the receipt of your letter of the 26th
of October, F 283/9, and
therefore to inform you
that he approves of your
accepting the tender of Messrs.
Chaplin & Co. for the
supply of sheer
logs for the dock at Port
Kieran, from the
knots mentioned in your
letter.

I am,
etc.

Drafts.