M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 6

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 403 Press / Mis.

11-12

Dated 2-11- 18 66.

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11-12

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
2nd November 1866.

No. 11. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 25th October 1866, No. 3408.

Sanctioning the transfer to the charge of the Revenue Department from April next, of all the Irrigation Works in the Tanjore, Madras, North Arcot, and Nellore Districts. } (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Department, dated 25th October 1866, Nos. 599 & 600.)

No. 12. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1866, No. 403.
To be recorded.

(Signed) J. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

No. 599. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Account,) to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, in the Public Works Department, dated Simla, 18th September 1866, No. 850 A:—

1. I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 2,182, dated 12th July 1866, in continuation of previous correspondence regarding the amount of the Public Works grant assigned to Madras, and in reply to communicate the following remarks.

2. In reply to the remark made in my previous letter,* that the preparation of estimates still lagged behind the supply of funds, it is explained that estimates for irrigation works, to the extent of nearly twenty lakhs, are sanctioned and waiting for the supply of funds to be undertaken. I am, however, to point out that the remark made by the Government of India had special reference to works *entered in the Budget Estimate*, items 16, 37, 63, 64,† large Military and Civil Works, which were going on without properly sanctioned estimates. And it was noticed in paragraph 12 of the Budget orders for the current year, that provision had been made in the Budget Estimate for upwards of fifty items, under Original Works, for which estimates were not sanctioned, and of which about twenty appeared to be in progress.

* No. 501 A of 26th May 1866.

† 16. Race Course Barracks, Bangalore.
37. Lawrence Asylum building, Ootacamund.
63. Jail at Rajahmundry.
64. Jail at Coimbatore.

3. The Governor General in Council, however, is glad to learn that a large number of projects for irrigation works are matured; but I am to point out that the Government of Madras was invited (in paragraph 5 of my letter above quoted) to send up a list of these irrigation works, with reference to a call made in Public Works Department Circular, No. 25 of 1866, and in view to enable the Government of India to consider the desirability of obtaining authority for raising funds to carry them out.

4. With regard to what was said of the comparative costliness of the Madras Establishment, you have now furnished a Statement, comparing certain parts of the Madras Public Works Establishment with the same parts in Bengal, to show that the former is the cheaper of the two. But I am to observe that the *total* charge for this head of service is nevertheless higher in Madras, although the grant to that Presidency is smaller. A Statement is attached, comparing the total cost of the two establishments.

5. The requisition for additional funds for the construction and improvement of Jails has been met by the grant made in my letter No. 783 A, dated 31st August 1866.

6. In respect to the suggestion made by the Government of India, to transfer the maintenance of petty irrigation works from the control of the Public Works Department to that of the Civil authorities, I am to say that the petty irrigation works referred to are matters with which the Government does not concern itself, except under a ryotwari settlement. Such small tanks are not properly imperial public works, but matters of local improvement, which elsewhere would fall under the management of Zemindars. It appeared to the Government of India that, without attempting any sudden radical change, these charges of the nature of land-

lords improvements might, by degrees, be separated from the really Imperial Public Works charges, and placed under the Revenue administration, to which they seem more properly to belong. This might be done experimentally in one or two localities where circumstances were favorable and local Officers inclined to try the change; and if successful, the change might be gradually extended. So far as it was carried out, the Imperial Public Works grant for the Madras Presidency would be relieved from exceptional charges, and brought into a fit state for comparison with other Governments and provinces. This would of itself be no small advantage, though it might not be accompanied by any saving of expense to the Government on the whole.

7. The Secretary of State, in a Despatch No. 33, dated 24th July 1866, of which a copy* has been forwarded to the Government of Madras, with my docket as per margin†, has lately expressed himself as favorable to such a system as that above suggested.

* Extract paragraph 7.

† No. 843½A, dated 15th September 1866.

8. The Governor General in Council does not, however, desire to attempt any change in the present arrangements, as regards the maintenance and repairs of minor irrigation works to which the local Government does not clearly see its way, but leaves the matter in the hands of the Madras Government.

9. I am to remark, however, that it would not be regular to allow any charge for the construction or repair of small irrigation works to be charged direct against the revenue, or to be deducted from the collections brought to the credit of Government. Whatever charge is made for this purpose must be provided under regular entry in the Budget Estimate and subsequent submission of accounts, whether Civil or Public Works, so that the Officers of either Department must in any case act under proper sanction and control.

10. Lastly, with respect to the general question raised in your letter regarding the insufficiency of the Public Works grant assigned to Madras for the wants of the country, I am to say that the Government of India has now under consideration the subject of the distribution of the Public Works grant to the various local Governments and Administrations, and that the decision which may be arrived at on this point will be duly communicated to the Government of Madras.

Statement comparing the cost of the Public Works Establishments in Madras and Bengal, as provided for in the Budget Estimates for 1866-67.

Madras.		Bengal.	
	Rs.		Rs.
Direction	3,11,484	Direction	2,76,930
Construction	13,84,330	Construction	12,30,824
Accounts	60,840	Accounts	1,16,936
Total...	17,56,654	Total...	16,24,690
Deduct amount debitable to Local Funds.	40,556	Deduct amount debitable to Local Funds.	24,690
Net amount debitable to Imperial grant.	17,16,098	Net amount debitable to Imperial grant.	16,00,000

No. 600. ORDER THEREON, 25th October 1866, No. 3,408.

ACCOUNT, No. 83.

1. In this letter the Government of India refer to a former suggestion which they made to transfer the management of petty irrigation works in this Presidency from the control of the Public Works Department to that of the Civil authorities, and they recommend that, as the charges for the maintenance of these works are of the nature of landlord's improvements, they might, by degrees, be separated from the really Imperial Public Works charges and placed under the Revenue administration, to which they seem more properly to belong. The Government of India point out that if this could be done experimentally in one or two localities where circumstances were favorable, and if the change proved successful, it might be gradually extended, and so far as it was carried out, the Imperial Public Works grant for the Presidency would be relieved from a large amount of charge which now presses heavily upon the annual assignments for works of Public Improvement.

2. The Government quite concur with the Government of India that this, of itself, would be a great advantage, though no saving on the whole might accrue, and His Lordship in Council accordingly resolves to direct that the maintenance of all irrigation works in the Districts noted in the margin, shall be transferred, as an experiment, to the charge of the Revenue Department from the 1st April 1867, and that, in accordance with paragraph 9 of Colonel Dickens' letter, provision for the purpose to the extent* made in the Current Public Works Budget, with an additional allowance for Petty Establishments, shall be included in the forthcoming Revenue Budget. Orders in the Revenue Department will be issued to this effect.

Tanjore.
Madras.
North Arcot.
Nellore.

	Rs.
* Tanjore	1,14,000
Madras	89,136
North Arcot ...	60,240
Nellore	40,800

3. Such larger reconstructions of earth and masonry works as may require the intervention of the professional Department will be provided for in the Public Works Budget as at present.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

True Copy
Chas. A. Orr Colonel R.E.
Secretary to Govt.

To the Superintending Engineers 2nd, 4th, and 6th Divisions.
To all other Superintending Engineers, for information.
To the Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Accountant General.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Financial Department.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

Pros 25 Oct 66 - 61-62
25 July 66 231-232
24 Sept 66 - 260a 260B

Filed 6 Nov 1866

403

Financial 1866 Dept

Pros Gen. Off. Ltr Dept
Ltr 3408

Ltr 25
Ltr 29 } Oct 66

No 415.

Sanctioning the transfer
to the charge of the Rev.
Dept from April next,
of all the Irrigation Wks
in the Sanjon, Cuadra,
North Arc & Mellow

Dto -
2d November 66 D. 403-

11412