M.R.O. 1—77,603—6-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

[illegible] DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1167	Press / Mis.
1307 A-1B2	
Dated [illegible]	18 [illegible]

61

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 139-A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th July 1874, No. 4565 (Miscellaneous):—

Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., President of the Local Fund Board, Nilgiris, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 11th June 1874, No. 10:—

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, two resolutions passed by the Nilgiri Local Fund Board—one referring to grants made for roads without consulting their body, and the other concurring with the Board of Revenue that providing sums for roads in part in a Provincial Budget and in part by a Provincial grant is inconvenient.

EXTRACT from Proceedings of a Meeting of the Nilgiri Local Fund Board held at Ootacamund on Monday the 27th April 1874.

PRESENT.

T. Stanes, Esq., in the Chair.
F. Groves, Esq.
E. J. C. Brace, Esq.
A. H. Streeton, Esq.
Gool Mahomed Sait.
Pada Gounden.
H. B. Grigg, Esq., Honorary Secretary.

* * *

Read Board's Proceedings, dated 1st April 1874, No. 756, Local Fund Budget of the Nilgiri Circle for 1874-75 reviewed and submitted to Government for approval as modified by the Board. Read also G.Os., dated 2nd March 1874, No. 539, and 20th February 1874, No. 426.

The Board referring to G.Os., No. 426, dated 20th February 1874, No. 539, dated 2nd March, and Proceedings of Board of Revenue, No. 756, dated 1st April 1874, giving Proceedings of Government, dated 4th March 1874, No. 351, are compelled reluctantly to infer that it is the purpose of Government to take certain lines of road, hitherto under their control, virtually out of their hands, for such manifestly must be the consequence if allotments are made without reference to the Board, or if allotments made even on the recommendation of the Board are excluded from the Local Fund Budget.

2. The Board cannot but regard such action as calculated to reflect upon their judgment as to the requirements of this district, in regard to which they conceive that Government, by constituting them a Board for the various purposes of the Act, recognise them as their best means for carrying out its provisions. In any case so long as the Act remains in force in this district, the Board fail to see how legally they can be otherwise regarded. Any deviation from such a course, in their opinion, cannot be for the public good, of which, within certain prescribed limits, they are the legitimate guardians, and can only derogate from their position as such, and virtually render them of no service either to Government or to the public, for it invalidates their responsibility. It is true that the funds administered by the Board are mainly drawn from the Provincial grant, but seeing that it has been the policy of Government to create the Board, it follows that it is the most fitting channel through which expenditure on objects defined in the Act should be made, irrespective of the source from which the money may be derived, and the Board doubt if any deviation from this policy can be expedient. To bear out this assertion the Board would, among others, draw the especial attention of Government to the grants under their Orders, Nos. 426 and 539, of the 20th February and 2nd March, respectively. Under the former Order 6,000 Rupees is allotted for metalling the Coonoor and Ootacamund Road twelve miles long, *i.e.*, from St. Stephen's Church to Bridge Coonoor. Under the latter Section 5, Government are pleased to grant a mileage of Rupees

440 for seven miles of road (all of which the Board would observe are within municipal limits, though mainly hitherto under their control as district roads), viz., "The road from Elk Hill Cutting by Charing Cross to the Church and Whitmore Cottage and that from Charing Cross by Zion Chapel and the Willow Bund to Loch End altogether four miles in length," and "the upper and lower roads south of the western portion of the lake and also Hadfields road aggregating three miles in length." The Order proceeds: "Of the seven miles thus provided for under this order with maintenance allowance of Rupees 440, one mile may be considered as already put in perfect order, and a grant of Rupees 15,840, being at the rate of Rupees 2,640 a-mile * * * * shall be made for the thorough reformation of the remaining six miles." Now the Board would observe the remaining six miles, supposing the distances given by the Chief Engineer are correct, consist of four miles mentioned in the first paragraph quoted, and two miles in the latter, viz., Hadfields road and the roads south of West Lake. Now for the "thorough reformation of this six miles Government grant Rupees 15,840, but the Board would emphatically state that, in their opinion, at least three miles (viz., road from Elk Hill Cutting to Charing Cross, from St. Stephen's Church to Whitmore Cottage, from Charing Cross to the Willow Bund, and a considerable portion of the road from the Willow Bund to Loch End) of the six miles are already in very fair order, and any improvement needed could probably be met out of the liberal repair allotment. If their opinion is questioned, they beg the Inspecting Engineer for roads may be ordered to report thereon. Further, they would observe that, of the grant under Order of the 20th February, Rupees 1,000, viz., two miles at Rupees 500 per mile, would appear to be for the section of road from Elk Hill to the Church which overlaps the section provided for in the Order of the 2nd March. It thus follows that, for these two miles of road, half a-mile of which only is in bad repair, Government under the two Orders quoted have granted Rupees 6,280, irrespective of Rupees 880 for repairs, or, in other words, Government have granted Rupees 16,840 for the reformation of six miles of road about half only of which requires such exceptional treatment. Had the Board's opinion been asked, they venture to think this would not have happened.

3. In conclusion, the Board observe that grants in question were made on the report of the District Engineer on the requisition of the Chief Engineer, and further, as regards the latter grant, it is ordered that "the District Engineer will submit for sanction formal estimates for carrying out this work under instructions which shall be given him by the Chief Engineer." They would note that this procedure is at variance with Rule XXX., Clause 10, and Rule XXXII. of the Local Fund Rules, and beg that the estimates may be submitted to Government in the usual course, unless Government are pleased to exclude the roads by notification under Section 8 of the Act, or formally to transfer to the Municipality such portions as are now under the Board's control.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. R. COCKERELL,
President, Nilgiri Local Fund Board.

EXTRACT from Proceedings of a Meeting of the Nilgiri Local Fund Board held at Ootacamund on Monday the 25th May 1874.

PRESENT:

F. Groves, Esq., in the Chair
A. H. Streeton, Esq.
T. Stanes, Esq.
E. J. C. Brace, Esq.
Captain Morant.
H. B. Grigg, Esq.

* * *

Read Board's Proceedings, 21st April 1874, No. 939, submitting to Government letter from the Nilgiri Commissioner, requesting definite instructions regarding construction of Lady Canning's Seat Road and Tiger Hill Road.

Referring to Section 2 of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, the Board observe that the expenditure upon this road has been provided in the Provincial Budget. Such is also the case with the grants for the Kotagiri and Coonoor Ghauts (*vide* paragraph 15 of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st April 1874, No. 756). Part of the expenditure on all these lines of road has been provided for out of the funds at the disposal of the Board. The Board not only endorse the opinion of the Board of Revenue "that this method of providing part of the cost of roads in the circle by a Provincial grant of the circle, and part in a Provincial Budget not passed till near the end of the year, is inconvenient;" but would repeat their opinion expressed in the resolution passed at the last meeting that it virtually takes the roads in question out of their control, and obviously has a tendency to produce confusion and delay.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. R. COCKERELL,
President, Nilgiri Local Fund Board.

The resolutions will be submitted to Government accordingly.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 139-B ORDER THEREON, 16th July 1874, No. 1167.

Recorded with reference to G.O., dated 1st May 1874, No. 752, and G.O., dated 15th May 1874, No. 840, which do not appear to have been before the Local Fund Board when the resolutions were passed.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of Madras

FINANCIAL.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated July, 16th.

Read.

G.O., 16th July 1874, No. 1167.

JULY.

Nos. 139-A—139-B

Nilgiri Circle.—Proceedings, Board of Revenue, submitting resolution passed by the Nilgiri Local Fund Board regarding provision of funds for certain roads in the Circle, recorded with reference to G.O., dated 1st May 1874, No. 752, and G.O., dated 15th May 1874, No. 840.

MISCELLANEOUS No. 4565

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 8th July 1874.

Read the following

No. 10.

From J. D. Cockerell Esquire

To President Nilgiri L. F. Board

SIR,

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

I have the honor to forward for submission to Government two resolutions passed by the Nilgiri Local Fund Board. One referring to grants made for roads without consulting their body and the other concurring with the Board of Revenue that providing sums for roads in part in a Provincial Budget and in part by a Provincial

Provincial Grant in connexion

Kilgin L. S. Board
Office Ootacamund
11th June 1874

Shaw & Co
s/d J. R. Cockerell
President
Kilgin L. S. Board.

The Resolutions will be
submitted to Government accor
=dingly.

True Copy & Attest.

J Grose
Secretary.

To
The Chief Secretary to Government.
Financial Department
with 2 Original Enclosures.

C. Murphy
Asst to V. Murphy the Deputy

C13/7 R15/7

Fwd 1874 Dept.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
OF REVENUE.

Fwd. L 4565

No 1425

Dated 8th July 1874

Despatched 8th July

Rec'd on 9th

SUBJECT.

Submitting G.Govt. Resolution passed by Nilgiri Local Fund Board regarding Provision of Funds for certain roads in Terr. &c.

With enclr.

Recommended with reference to G. O. No 752 and S. O. No 1174 dated 15th May 1874 by which applicant has been informed that Local Fund Roads should be maintained from Local Funds -

The Board of Revenue accordingly &c

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial

To

The Board of Revenue.

G. O. July 15. , 1874, No. 1167.

Nos. 139A 139B.

Nilgiri Circle. Proc. Board of Revenue Submitting Resolution passed by the Nilgiri L. F. Bd. regarding provision of funds for certain roads in the Circle recorded with ref. to G. O. of 1st May 1874 No. 752 & G. O. of 15th May 1874 No. 840.