M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair 5-6-40.

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 885	Press Mis.
211-212.	211-212
Dated 26-5-	1874.

5/6

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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No. 211. Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Nilgiris, to the Hon. D. F. CARMICHAEL, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 28th February 1874, No. 14 :—

With my letter, No. 11, of 23rd February, I submitted for the favourable consideration of Government the following resolution, and now beg to make certain remarks thereon:—

"*Arrangements proposed for the repairs of the roads in* 1874-75.—The Commissioners resolve to solicit the sanction of Government, through the President, for transferring the charge of the roads during the coming year, the repair of which rests with the Municipal Commissioners, to the District Engineer, the Commissioners paying a mileage to be fixed upon hereafter, subject to the conditions that the District Engineer shall submit a monthly progress report, in the same way as is now submitted to the Local Fund Board, of expenditure on the several roads, and that he should be under the direction of the Commissioners in regard to work done, in the same manner as he is subject to the general control of the Local Fund Board. The Commissioners further resolve to request that Government may be pleased to order that the District Engineer shall carry out any new works on roads on sanctioned estimate."

2. Under the operation of G. O., Public Department, 28th November 1866, No. 1224, and G. O., Financial Department, 18th October 1873, No. 1522, that portion of the road from Coonoor to Pykara which lies within the limits of the Ootacamund Municipality is kept in repair at the cost of Government by the District Engineer, and this officer receives, besides, from the Government 2,000 Rupees a-year, which he has been in the habit of laying out at his discretion mainly on the roads south of the lake, a mileage for the Devi Sholah Road, the Seegur and the Avalanche Roads.

3. As Captain Morant has already so much to do with municipal roads, there seems no objection in principle to his receiving charge of all the roads. Under the present system, competition occurs for labour between the Public Works Department and the Municipality in the very limited labour market provided by Ootacamund, and this must be detrimental to the interests of Government. Ootacamund is already treated by Government as occupying an exceptional position, and this distinction would not be made more prominent by the change now suggested.

4. The change would be advantageous to Government in another respect. It would secure the municipal funds spent on roads being well applied. The Municipality have not sufficient funds to enable them to employ an officer with the skill required to carry out municipal works. The salary they can afford to give an Inspector has been demonstrated not to be sufficient to secure the services of a properly qualified man.

5. The enclosed is a map of the Ootacamund roads. The Lake Road is not coloured because the orders of Government regarding it have not been received. The Commissioners propose the District Engineer should receive a mileage from them on the following scale, and should, as the resolution now submitted details, work under the Commissioners as respects municipal roads in the same way as he

works under the Local Fund Board regarding district roads. By this arrangement the Commissioners will retain some control over their own roads, and this they consider very desirable.

Shown in the Map.	Mileage.	Rate.			
Black line.—1st-class roads, covered with blue granite	5¾	385	= 2,213	12	0
Dotted black.—2nd-class roads, covered with common granite...	8½	302½	= 2,571	4	0
Red.—3rd-class roads, covered with laterite	4½	220	= 990	0	0
Maroon.—4th-class roads, unmetalled	9	110	= 990	0	0
Dotted red.—5th-class, bridle paths	32¼	27½	= 886	14	0
Miles...	60		7,651	14	0

6. A sum of 3,831 Rupees in the coming year will be required from the Municipality to carry out the scheme suggested, as the contribution of the Local Fund Board to the district roads traversing the station is Rupees 3,820. This sum the Municipality will be in a position to pay Captain Morant every year between July and the end of October. The Commissioners propose that the Local Fund Board contribution should be treated as a lump sum and applied by them with their own contribution according to the above scale. By this treatment of the money the present scale of mileage on the roads now under Captain Morant would be abrogated.

No. 212. ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1874, No. 885.

Recorded with reference to G.O., dated 4th May 1874, No. 765.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

Govt. of {1874} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

Dated May, 26th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 26th May 1874, *No.* 885.

MAY.
Nos. 211-212.

Ootacamund Municipality.—Letter from the President submitting certain remarks in connexion with the proposal to entrust the repair of the station roads to the District Engineer, recorded with reference to G.O., 4th instant, No. 765.

C. Jud 418.
Hind 9/13 Oct/73. Reg 160-161-06
Pub. 928 Nov/66 — 175-176. with Blue.

Filed 885 1874 Dept.

No. 14

Date— 28 February 1874

Rec'd 2/3

Commissioner's Office
Ootacamund.

Map sent to the P.W. Dept. 18-6-74

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government

No 478 Dated 26th

Enclosures.

Ootac. 26 May 1874 No. 885

SUBJECT.

Submitting certain remarks on the Resolution of the Ootacamund Municipal Commissioners forwarded with letter No 478 of the 23rd Inst.

Recorded with reference G.O. 2/4 May 1874 No 765.

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Govt. of {1874} Madras.

Financial.

G. O. May 26 , 1874, No. 885.

Nos. 211. 212.

Colacamund Munsy. Letter from the Presdt. Submitting certain remarks in connection with the proposal to entrust the repair of the Station roads to the Dr. Engr. recorded with Ref. to G.O. 4th inst. No. 765.