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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1697 Press / Mis.

1468-1468.

Dated 21-8-1875

7/8

Not to be folded or roughly handled

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

No. 146-A. Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Ootacamund, 16th August 1875, No. 55:—

Having been personally informed by Government that it is contemplated that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales may visit the higher ranges of the Annamallay Hills, I have the honor to bring to notice that a path must be cleared from the top of the new ghaut to Michael's Valley to facilitate and shorten a former foot-path route.

2. Further, a bridle-path must be formed from the ford over the Aliar or Touracadoo River—say quarter mile across some paddy-fields—to the foot of the new Poonachy Ghaut.

3. It will be necessary to set on hand these works at an early period to enable preparations to be made for a standing camp in Michael's Valley, which is the only safe and appropriate resting-place after leaving the plains.

4. I am unable to form an estimate of the required cost as no survey has been made; but, as a practical riding-path was made some years ago that is now closed up by vegetation, it is presumed that the cost will not be excessive. The path to be cleared and improved will be probably some sixteen miles in length—eight miles along the river-bank and eight through forest and open hill-side.

5. The path in the upper Touracadoo Valley on the river-bank may be cleared with the assistance of the Pulliars who reside therein. This work will probably consist of opening the old path by cutting branches and clearing the long grass. I have already taken steps to get an estimate of this work from a local resident.

6. For earth-work a party of Sappers might be detached.

7. From the upper ford of the Touracadoo River, at an elevation of 4000 feet, a natural path, probably made by bison and elephants, which winds up the side of a hill for some two miles or so, must be widened so as to be safe for horses and baggage animals.

8. These, from a recent inspection of the ground up to Michael's Valley in January last, I believe to be the chief requirements.

9. For payment to the available hill tribes, and for carriage and supply of provisions to the working party under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonels Michael and Davies, or other officer, an advance of money will be requisite, the expenditure of which will be supported by detailed vouchers.

10. I have the honor to request that an advance of Rupees 1,000 be made on this account, *i. e.*, "clearing and improving path to the higher ranges of the Annamallays."

Transferred to the Financial Department.

OOTACAMUND,
18*th August* 1875.

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secy. to Govt., R.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
21*st August* 1875.

No. 146-B. ORDER THEREON, 21st August 1875, No. 1697.

The advance of Rupees (1,000) one thousand is sanctioned.

2. The head to which it should be debited will be determined hereafter.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of Coimbatore.
,, Accountant-General.
Revenue Department.
Public Works do.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To The COLLECTOR of COIMBATORE, &c., &c., &c.

Dated August, 21st.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., 21st August 1875, *No.* 1697.

AUGUST.

Nos. 146-A-146-B.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.—An advance of Rupees 1,000 sanctioned for clearing and improving paths to the higher ranges of the Annamallays in anticipation of His Royal Highness' visit.

No 55 Ootacamund.
16th August 1875.

From

A. Wedderburn Esqre.
Collector of Coimbatore

To

The Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Sir,

Having been personally informed by Government that it is contemplated that H.R.H the Prince of Wales may visit the higher ranges of the Anamallah Hills, I have the honor to bring to notice that a path must be cleared from the top of the nead Ghaut to Michaels Valley to facilitate and shorten a former footpath route.

2. Further, a bridle path must be formed from the ford over the

âlitar or Tourcadoo River - say ¼ mile
across some paddy fields - to the
foot of the New Poonacky Ghaut.

3. It will be necessary to set
on hand these works at an early
period, to enable preparations to be
made for a landing Camp in
Michael's Valley, which is the only
safe and appropriate resting
place after leaving the plains.

4. I am unable to form an
Estimate of the Requisite Cost
as no Survey has been made -
but as a practical riding path
was made some Years ago, that
is now closed up by Vegetation,
it is presumed that the cost will
not be excessive. The path to be
cleared and improved, will be
probably some 6 miles in length,
3 miles along the river bank and
3 through forest and open hillside -

5. The path in the upper Tourcadoo
Valley on the river bank may be
cleared

cleared with the assistance of the
Pullears who reside thereon. This
work will probably consist of opening
the old path - by cutting branches
& clearing the long grass - I have
already taken steps to get an
Estimate of this work from the local
residents.

6. For Earthwork, a party of
Sappers might be detached.

7. From the upper ford of the
Tourcadoo river at an Elevation of
4000 feet, a natural path probably
made by bison and Elephants,
which winds up the side of a hill
for some 2 miles or so, must be
widened so as to be safe for horses
and baggage animals.

8. These, from a recent inspection
of the ground upto Michael's valley
in January last, I believe to be
the chief requirements.

9. For payment to the available
hill tribes, and for Carriage and
Supply of provisions to the working
party under the direction of

Lt

Lt: Colonels Michael & Davies, or
other Officer, an advance of Money
will be requisite - the Expenditure
of which will be supported by
detailed Vouchers

10. I have the honor to request
that an advance of Rs: 1,000 be
made on this Account - i.e. "Clearing
& improving path to the Higher Ranges
of the Annamallays".

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most obedient Servant

Alexander
Collector

Recd 1875: Dept
Financial No. 3222
Cro. 55

From.

A. Bleddersburn Esqr.
Collector of Coimbatore

To The Actg. Secretary to Govt.
Revenue Depart.

Dated 16: August 1875

Rec'd 17th
Read 18. W. 1941

Requesting for
an advance of Rs. 1000
for clearing & improving
Paths to the Heights
Ranges of the Annamallay
Hills.

With refce

Abstract forwarded
18: Augt: 1875

Copy & Abstract forwarded to Financial Department —

Path & Roads in Hills

Ord. 21st Augt. 1875. No. 1697.

Rs. advance of Rupees (1000/one thousand is sanctioned.

2. The head to which it shall be debited will be determined hereafter.

(30 Lds

By. the Collector of Coimbatore — Desp. 22/8
" Secretary Financial " —
" Revenue Department " — Desp. 23/8.
" Public Works " —

18/8/75

Gobt. of {1875} Madras.

G.O. 21st August 1875. No. 1697

Nos. 1166a-1166B

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales-

An advance of Rs 1,000 -
Sanctioned for clearing and
improving paths to the higher
ranges of the Anamalays in
anticipation of the H.R.
H's visit