M.R.O. 1—27,004—3-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 2 4

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	Press / Mis.
	194-145
Dated	18 .

11/12

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Local Funds—Roads.

Read the following papers:—

No. 194. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th September 1874, No. 2788:—

Read the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting President of the Local Fund Boards, Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pattupore, 29th July 1874, S. No. 497.

I have the honor to enclose copy of a Resolution passed by the Local Fund Board of the Chetterpore Circle at their last meeting held on the 20th instant, and in which, owing to the unsatisfactory way in which the roads in the Circle are repaired by the Department Public Works, they have resolved to adopt two measures which they believe will have the effect of relieving that department of a portion of the work which it is apparently unable to accomplish in an efficient manner with its present staff, and at the same time will enable them to exercise a more direct control and more stringent supervision over the working of the road department, an arrangement which they are sanguine will prove most beneficial to the interests of the Circle.

2. The measures which the Board have decided upon adopting, and which I have now the honor to submit for the approval and orders of the Board and of Government, are:—

(1.) To employ one or more skilled Overseers to be under the immediate control of the Local Fund Board, to assist in superintending the execution of sanctioned works, &c.

(2.) To invite Zemindars who may be so disposed to undertake the up-keep of the roads passing through their estates, receiving the amount of maintenance grant for the purpose.

3. Experience has taught the Local Fund Board the desirability of adopting both measures, and lest the Board should think that my own opinion ought not to count for much, owing to the comparatively short time I have been in the district on the present occasion, I may mention that since joining I have made it a point minutely to inspect the state of nearly all the roads in the Circle, extending from the Bengal frontier to within a very short distance of the Chicacole circle limits, and have repeatedly found it my duty to point out officially to Major Smalley glaring instances of the defective nature of the work under execution by his department.

4. One of the worst cases which attracted my attention was near Rumbah, where the road was disgracefully out of repair, and where enormous holes over a foot deep by measurement in the Grand Trunk Road were being filled with sandy soil alone, dug from the way-side ditches. One part of the road seemed to have been rendered nearly impracticable for bandies by this primitive method of repair, for they had taken to the sideway, and a crop of grass was actually growing in the middle of the public road. Mr. Minchin and I, as Members of the Local Fund Board, made an official inspection of the locality before bringing the matter officially to the notice of the District Engineer. This, as the Board are aware, is the road over which we hope to send a large traffic in salt to Orissa.

5. I am free to admit that, viewed under favorable circumstances, the roads may present for a short time after repair a superficial appearance of excellence, but when a practical test is applied, they fail in consequence of their being little more than a shadow, without substance of solidity in their repair.

6. I am not aware what beneficial effect, if any, these representations may have had on Major Smalley, but I may mention that a proposition was made by Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, to entertain an extra Writer and Peon for each uncertificated and, I may say, incompetent Overseer.

7. The Local Fund Board declined to sanction the measure which they thought it premature on Mr. Leggatt's part to recommend, as he had only been a few days in the district at the time, and as the measure, if complied with, would have permanently added a sum of upwards of Rupees 500 per annum to the already heavy burden which the Local Fund Board have to bear for Department Public Works Establishment, without securing what the Board considered a corresponding advantage; and in replying to this communication from the Local Fund Board, Major Smalley wrote to me, remarking among other things, as follows :—"I might say that you yourself have only recently joined the district, and that you certainly have not lost time in advancing your opinions," (regarding the unsatisfactory manner in which the Road Department did its work.)

8. The Members of the Local Fund Board in general take a very lively interest in the condition of the Circle communications, and having a fair insight into the way in which matters are conducted by the Road Department, they were not greatly surprised at what would otherwise have been a startling announcement which Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, considered it his duty to make at the last meeting of the Board, to the effect that the Department Public Works instead of paying for the material actually deposited at the place of utilization, paid for it as delivered at the pit-site, and by so doing, lost by fraud or otherwise about one-half of the material for which they paid. This, he stated, was the result of his personal inquiry and experience.

9. I believe the Board of Revenue will recognize the fact that, under existing arrangements, the Local Fund Board can in reality exercise no effectual check over the expenditure of their funds by the Department Public Works; but they hope to remedy this defect to some extent by the employment of skilled Overseers, who will be under the immediate control of the Local Fund Board, and whose services will be employed in furthering generally the best interests of the Circle.

10. The necessity for the measures resolved upon is, moreover, sufficiently evinced by the unanimity with which the resolution was voted by all the members present, including the professional member; Mr. Goodrich alone dissenting on the minor question relating to the up-keep of Zemindari roads.

11. I have been requested by the Local Fund Board to obtain the views of Government as to the conditions on which the experiment of handing over the up-keep of the Zemindari roads to approved Zemindars might be tried, and I may therefore state that the primary object which the Local Fund Board have in view in recommending this measure is to afford a certain amount of relief to the Department of Public Works, but they are also of opinion that by the adoption of the measure, the roads will be better preserved than they are at present.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
20th April 1875.

12. The Local Fund Board at their last meeting sanctioned an estimate of over Rupees 50,000 for constructing a very important road through the Mandasa Zemindari.

13. The Zemindar has most liberally furnished land for the purpose free of charge. He is an enlightened, publicspirited Member of our Board, and he has expressed his readiness to undertake the up-keep of the road in question when finished, provided he is furnished with a copy of the estimate and of the accounts of actual expenditure, in order that he may satisfy himself that the road has been done complete justice to in the matter of construction, and that it is handed over to him in a thoroughly finished and satisfactory state.

14. The Local Fund Board think the precaution a very practical and reasonable one, and that the hint given is worthy of general adoption.

15. I may here mention that one of my objects in making my present tour is to inspect what is known as the Digupudy road, extending from near Aska, through the Seeghur, Pedda and Chinna Kimedy, and Chikati Zemindaries, to meet the road leading direct to the Itchapore Salt Pans, and which was lately reported to the Local Fund Board by the Department of Public Works as completed, with the exception of bridges.

16. It would be idle to disguise the fact that I am disappointed at the state in which I have found it, exhibiting as it does, in my humble opinion, a want of skilled supervision in its construction. I have reported the state of the road to Major Smalley.

17. The Local Fund Board are of opinion that the up-keep of the Mandasa road when completed may, with perfect safety, and very great advantage, be entrusted to the Mandasa Zemindar, whose vouchers may, they think, be accepted by the Controller of Public Works Accounts, as a sufficient guarantee for the expenditure incurred in repair. As a matter of course, the road which will be $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length will be under the general supervision of Department of Public Works, but the repairs executed will be considered as having been made under "Other Agency" of the Local Fund Board.

18. I know of no measure better calculated than that now proposed to induce Zemindars to take a lively interest in the welfare of their estates, and it may also have the effect of stimulating the Department of Public Works who may not care to have their work unfavorably compared with that of the Zemindars.

19. I take this opportunity of informing the Board that the Members of this Board have learned with concern that it is in contemplation to transfer Mr. Leggatt's services to Purlah Kimedy.

20. They regret this, as since Mr. Leggatt's arrival in the district he has evinced a very great interest in his department, and has introduced several measures which have the Board's entire approval, and which are calculated to improve upon the hitherto unsatisfactory state of affairs. I trust, therefore, I may be permitted to express the hope that the Board of Revenue will see fit to recommend that his services be continued to the Chetterpore Circle.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Board.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Chetterpore Local Fund Board (the District Engineer voting with the majority) have resolved that the supervising staff at the disposal of the Public Works Department in the Circle is too weak to be able to watch closely the expenditure on works spread over so large an area, and that one or more Overseers at Rupees 100 a-month should be entertained, and be employed under the immediate control of the Local Fund Board to assist in superintending the execution of sanctioned works.

3. Under the circumstances, the Revenue Board think that the entertainment of one or more Overseers, as may be found necessary, should be sanctioned; but that they should be paid out of the 25 per cent. on expenditure by the Public Works Department which is paid by the Local Fund Board to Government, and entitles them to as much supervision as they really want.

4. The Local Fund Board also wish to invite Zemindars to undertake the maintenance of roads passing through their estates, the maintenance allowance being paid to them.

5. The Board think there can be no objection to trying this experiment, the work done by the Zemindars being of course under the same rules as work done by Officers of the Revenue Department styled "Other Agency." These rules require that if the maintenance allowance is more than Rupees 50 a mile, the bills sent for audit to the Controller shall be accompanied by completion certificates signed by Public Works Officers. From paragraph 17 it appears that in the case of a road now being made through the Mandasa Zemindari, which the Zemindar offers hereafter to keep in repair, the maintenance allowance being paid to him, the Local Fund Board think that completion certificates signed by Public Works Officers may be dispensed with.

6. The Revenue Board have no doubt that in the particular case of repairs actually supervised by the Zemindar himself, the certificates might be *safely* dispensed with, but they do not think an exception should be allowed to the system which provides a most important safeguard.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

No. 194-A. MEMORANDUM.

The resolution arrived at by the Local Board that, "the supervising staff at the disposal of the Public Works Department *being insufficient* to watch closely the outlay on works spread over so large an area" it should be increased, is perfectly intelligible and reasonable; not so is the further resolution, that such additional competent staff shall work under their own immediate orders. It would apparently only be fair that the District Engineer should be allowed to show what he can do with a proper staff. Whatever may be present short-comings, they are fully accounted for by the Board.

2. I am unfortunately unacquainted with the Vizagapatam and Ganjam Districts. But it has struck me forcibly, since I have held my present appointment, that the strength of the Range and Subordinate Staff is disproportioned to that of non-Zemindari Districts. There is only one Overseer of the Imperial List to each taluq of a district; and in Ganjam there are but three taluqs, in Vizagapatam only two taluqs. Hence the necessity for greater proportional strength of Local Fund Overseers than in the Ryotwari Districts.

3. It would be a happy deliverance for the Officers of the Public Works Department in certain districts if the entire management of Local Fund Works were taken out of their hands. But I am not of opinion that it would be for the benefit of the country. Where the present system fails, it is partly (as admitted in this case) owing to inadequacy of the executive staff. But partly also to defective power of organization, and want of tact and method and common sense, on the part of District Engineers and Range Officers; as well as to peculiarities of Local Boards. Those who know the personnel of the Chingleput and Salem Districts, and of the Dindigul Sub-division, must clearly see that failures are attributable to individuals, not inherent in the system. The change of a District Engineer has already made a difference in South Arcot; and on the whole things work much better than they did two years ago.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
7th Nov. 1874.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Govt., P.W.D.

No. 195. ORDER THEREON, 20th April 1875, No. 881.

The Government consider that the necessity of increasing the Public Works Establishment of the Circle has been clearly shown by the Local Board, and they resolve accordingly to sanction the entertainment of an additional Local Fund Overseer on the highest sanctioned rate of pay, *viz.*, Rupees 60 per mensem with horse allowance of Rupees 15.

2. Under G.O., dated 21st January 1875, No. 98, no additional charge will be made to the Local Fund on account of this increased establishment, and until a decision has been come to on the general question of the organization of a separate Local Fund Public Works Establishment, the new Overseer will be under the orders of Public Works Officers of the District in the same way as other Local Fund Overseers.

3. The Government willingly sanction the proposed experiment of inviting Zemindars to undertake the maintenance of roads passing through their Estates, the maintenance allowance being paid to them, but they agree with the Board of Revenue that no exception should be made to the ordinary audit rules.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue, with an enclosure returned.
,, Public Works Department.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Accountant-General.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

No. 2,788.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th September 1874.

Read the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Ganjam, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Pattupore, 29th July 1874, S. No. 497:—

I HAVE the honor to enclose copy of a Resolution passed by the Local Fund Board of the Chetterpore Circle at their last meeting, held on the 20th instant, and in which, owing to the unsatisfactory way in which the roads in the Circle are repaired by the Department Public Works, they have resolved to adopt two measures which they believe will have the effect of relieving that department of a portion of the work which it is apparently unable to accomplish in an efficient manner with its present staff, and at the same time will enable them to exercise a more direct control and more stringent supervision over the working of the Road Department, an arrangement which they are sanguine will prove most beneficial to the interests of the Circle.

2. The measures which the Board have decided upon adopting, and which I have now the honor to submit for the approval and orders of the Board and of Government, are :—

(1.) To employ one or more skilled Overseers to be under the immediate control of the Local Fund Board, to assist in superintending the execution of sanctioned works, etc.

(2.) To invite Zemindars who may be so disposed to undertake the up-keep of the roads passing through their Estates, receiving the amount of maintenance grant for the purpose.

3. Experience has taught the Local Fund Board the desirability of adopting both measures, and lest the Board should think that my own opinion ought not to count for much, owing to the comparatively short time I have been in the district on the present occasion, I may mention that since joining I have made it a point minutely to inspect the state of nearly all the roads in the Circle, extending from the Bengal frontier to within a very short distance of the Chicacole Circle limits, and have repeatedly found it my duty to point out officially to Major Smalley glaring instances of the defective nature of the work under execution by his department.

4. One of the worst cases which attracted my attention was near Rumbah, where the road was disgracefully out of repair, and where enormous holes over a foot deep by measurement in the Grand Trunk Road were being filled with sandy soil alone, dug from the way side ditches. One part of the road seemed to have been rendered nearly impracticable for bandies by this primitive method of repair, for they had taken to the sideway, and a crop of grass was actually growing in the middle of the public road. Mr. Minchin and I, as Members of the Local Fund Board, made an official inspection of the locality before bringing the matter officially to the notice of the District Engineer. This, as the Board are aware, is the road over which we hope to send a large traffic in salt to Orissa.

5. I am free to admit that, viewed under favorable circumstances, the roads may present for a short time after repair a superficial appearance of excellence, but when a practical test is applied, they fail in consequence of their being little more than a shadow, without substance of solidity in their repair.

6. I am not aware what beneficial effect, if any, these representations may have had on Major Smalley, but I may mention that a proposition was made by Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, to entertain an extra Writer and Peon for each uncertificated and, I may say, incompetent Overseer.

7. The Local Fund Board declined to sanction the measure which they thought it premature on Mr. Leggatt's part to recommend, as he had only been a few days in the district at the time, and as the measure, if complied with, would have permanently added a sum of upwards of Rupees 500 per annum to the already heavy burden which the Local Fund Board have to bear for Department Public Works establishment, without securing what the Board considered a corresponding advantage; and in replying to this communication from the Local Fund Board, Major Smalley wrote to me remarking among other things as follows :—"I might say that you yourself have only

recently joined the district, and that you certainly have not lost time in advancing your opinions," (regarding the unsatisfactory manner in which the Road Department did its work).

8. The Members of the Local Fund Board in general, take a very lively interest in the condition of the Circle communications, and having a fair insight into the way in which matters are conducted by the Road Department, they were not greatly surprised at what would otherwise have been a startling announcement, which Mr. Leggatt, the Range Officer, considered it his duty to make at the last meeting of the Board, to the effect that the Department Public Works instead of paying for the material actually deposited at the place of utilization, paid for it as delivered at the pit-side, and by so doing, lost by fraud or otherwise about one-half of the material for which they paid. This, he stated, was the result of his personal inquiry and experience.

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17. The Local Fund Board are of opinion that the up-keep of the Mandasa road when completed may with perfect safety, and very great advantage, be entrusted to the Mandasa Zemindar, whose vouchers may, they think, be accepted by the Controller of Public Works Accounts as a sufficient guarantee for the expenditure incurred in repair. As a matter of course, the road which will be 14½ miles in length will be under the general supervision of Department of Public Works, but the repairs executed will be considered as having been made under "Other Agency" of the Local Fund Board.

18. I know of no measure better calculated than that now proposed to induce Zemindars to take a lively interest in the welfare of their Estates, and it may also have the effect of stimulating the Department of Public Works who may not care to have their work unfavorably compared with that of the Zemindars.

19. I take this opportunity of informing the Board that the Members of this Board have learned with concern that it is in contemplation to transfer Mr. Leggatt's services to Purlah Kimedy.

20. They regret this, as since Mr. Leggatt's arrival in the district he has evinced a very great interest in his department, and has introduced several measures which have the Board's entire approval, and which are calculated to improve upon the hitherto unsatisfactory state of affairs. I trust, therefore, I may be permitted to express the hope that the Board of Revenue will see fit to recommend that his services be continued to the Chetterpore Circle.

ENCLOSURE No 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Board.

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. The Chetterpore Local Fund Board (the District Engineer voting with the majority) have resolved that the supervising staff at the disposal of the Public Works Department in the Circle is too weak to be able to watch closely the expenditure on works spread over so large an area, and that one or more Overseers at Rupees 100 a month should be entertained, and be employed under the immediate control of the Local Fund Board to assist in superintending the execution of sanctioned works.

3. Under the circumstances, the Revenue Board think that the entertainment of one or more Overseers, as may be found necessary, should be sanctioned, but that they should be paid out of the 25 per cent. on expenditure by the Public Works Department which is paid by the Local Fund Board to Government, and entitles them to as much supervision as they really want.

4. The Local Fund Board also wish to invite Zemindars to undertake the maintenance of roads passing through their Estates, the maintenance allowance being paid to them.

5. The Board think there can be no objection to trying this experiment, the work done by the Zemindars being of course under the same rules as work done by Officers of the Revenue Department styled "Other Agency." These rules require that if the maintenance allowance is more than Rupees 50 a mile, the bills sent for audit to the Controller shall be accompanied by completion certificates signed by Public Works Officers. From paragraph 17 it appears that in the case of a road now being made through the Mandasa Zemindari, which the Zemindar offers hereafter to keep in repair, the maintenance allowance being paid to him, the Local Fund Board think that completion certificates signed by Public Works Officers may be dispensed with.

6. The Revenue Board have no doubt that in the particular case of repairs actually supervised by the Zemindar himself the certificates might be *safely* dispensed with, but they do not think an exception should be allowed to the system which provides a most important safe-guard.

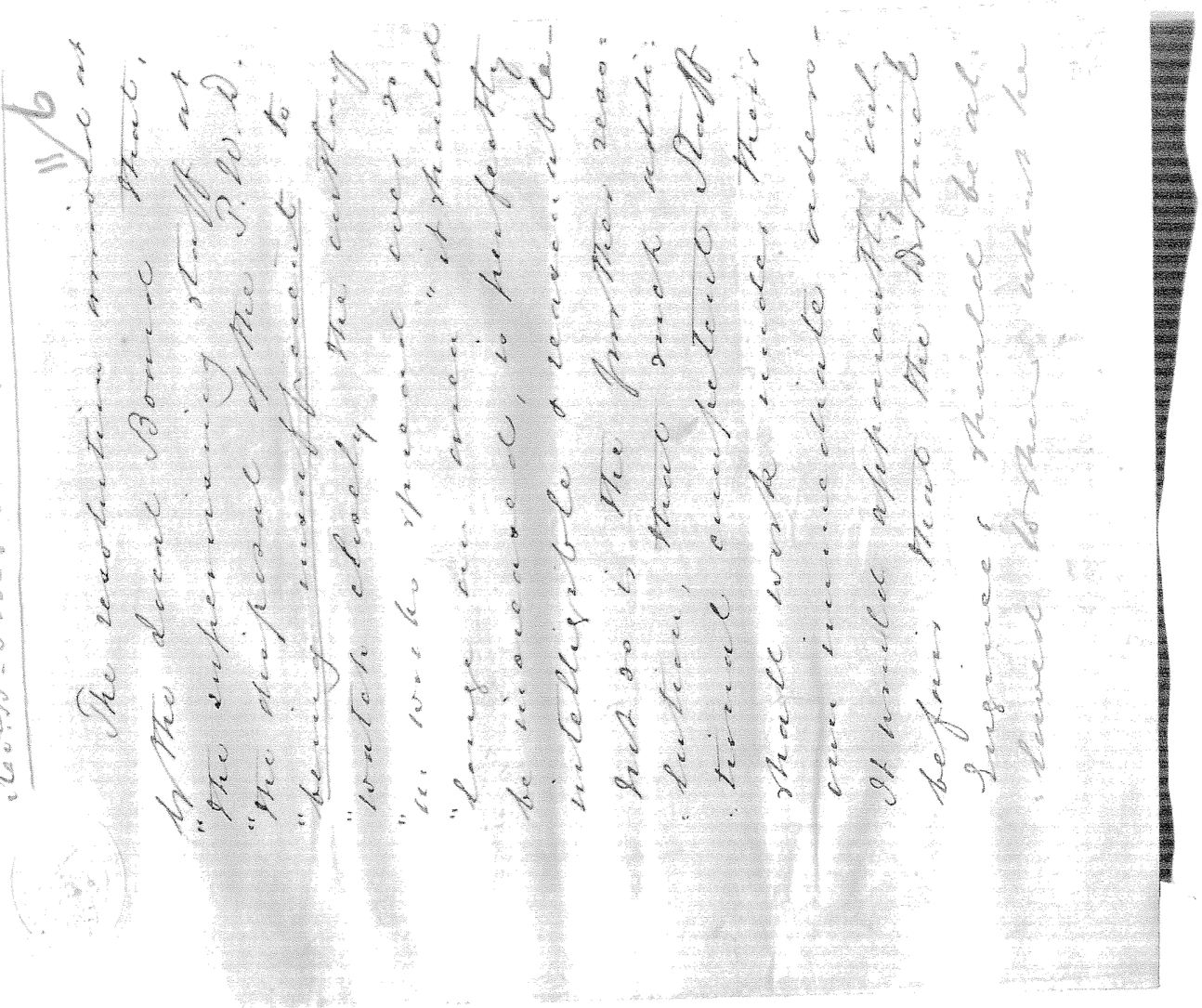
(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with one original enclosure.

,, Acting President, Local Fund Boards, Ganjam District.

Exd. G. A. Turton.



Encl. 1 in Rev. Dept. Letter No. 2780 of 28th Sept.

11/6

The resolution recorded at Page
of the General Board of
the 3rd September 1874 at
Chetterpore Circle Meeting
"Resolved that the Circle Board
"be requested to employ one or more
"Overseers on Rupees 100 a month
"to assist in superintending the
"execution of sanctioned works
"and to invite Zemindars to
"undertake the maintenance of
"roads passing through their
"Estates, the maintenance grants
"being paid to them."
Submitted for orders of Government
with a recommendation that the
resolution be approved.
Forwarded to Government with
the request that the Board may be
favored with an early reply.

Fwd 1874. Septr.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 28TH SEPTEMBER 1874, No. 2,788.

Encl. 1

R-2082

Received

SEPTEMBER.

No. 2,788.

Local Fund Works—in Chetterpore Circle, Ganjam District.—Resolution of Circle Board to employ one or more Overseers at Rupees 100 a month under their immediate control to assist in superintending execution of sanctioned works, and to invite Zemindars to undertake maintenance of roads passing through their Estates, the maintenance grants being paid to them, submitted for orders of Government with remarks in favor of resolution.

can do with a proper
Staff - whatever may
be present Necessity,
they are full, recommend-
ed for the Board -

I am unfortunately, unac-
quainted with the
Organisation of Georgian
Districts - But it has
struck me forcibly, since
I have held my present
Appointment, that the
strength of the Rangé &
Subordinate Staff is dis-
proportioned to that of
Non-Zemindary Districts -
There is only one Overseer,
of the Imperial List to
each Taluk of a District,
and in Georgia there
are but 3 Taluks, in

Virapatnam and 2 Taluks -
Hence the necessity for
greater preponderance
strength of Local Armed
Men in the
Coorgian
Regiments
District -

It would be a happy
deliverance for the Offi-
cers of the P.W. Dept. in
certain Districts if the
entire management of
Local Armed Works were
taken out of their hands.
But I am not of opinion
that it would be for the
benefit of the country -
Where the present system
fails, it is partly (as
admitted in this case)
owing to inadequacy of
the Executive Staff - But

Home for orders

Boards Proceedings 5th & 6th Sept 1874
No 2766

The papers connected with this case have been received in the office since the Board's last meeting and as a change has been made in the arrangements for the charge of Canal Board for P.W. establishment since the papers first went into circulation the following order is prepared :-

20th April 75. No 881.

The Govt. consider that ~~change has been made~~ the receipt of an ~~order~~ clearing the proposed establishment of the Circle has been clearly shown & the Canal Board and they refer accordingly to sanction

Read Proc. Board of Revenue
9/28 Sept. 1874. No 2788.

Memo. by Chief Engineer.
27 Nov. 1874

Rec

10/4

frontly, also to defective posi-
:ss of organization, & wants
of tact and method and
common sense, &c. The
head of District Engineer
and Range Officers; as
well as to peculiarities
of Local Boards — Those
who have the permanent
of the Chingleput & Salem
Districts, and of the Divi-
:sional Sub Division, must
clearly see that [illegible]
ence attributable to indi-
:viduals, and in some of
the systems — The change
of a District Engineer, in-
stead of, would make a differ-
:ence in South Arcot, &
so the whole thing work
much better, than they did
2 years ago —

Land
7.11.74

the entertainment of an additional Local Fund Overseer on the highest sanctioned rate of pay viz Rs 60 per mensem with time allowance of Rs 15.

Under G.O. dated 2nd Jan 1875 by which no additional charge will be made to Local Funds on account of this increased establishment and until a decision has been come to on the general question of the organization of a separate Local Fund P.W. establishment the new Overseer will be under the orders of P.W. officers of the District in the same way as other Local Fund Overseers.

The Govt. willingly sanction the proposed appointment of inviting Municipalities to undertake the maintenance of roads passing through their Estates the maintenance

Board of Rev. with enclosure
Public Works Dept.
Revenue Dept.
Accountant General

Memo

Annexure being paid to them but they agree with the terms of sanction that no expense should be made to the ordinary annual rates.

31/3

Instrument for Collector in forwarding the order of the Govt.

Fmk Department. 19

No. 2082.

From Post of the Bearing Rocs

Dated 28th Feb 1924.

FOR ORDERS.

I would allow the L. F. Hunt
to buy Hair & Karin etc.
Major Smalley should be
requested to select two
remarks in lieu.

Sgd W. Douglas Haig

Sgd W. Douglas Haig

for more supervision in Lanyon is always
made out — And the additional est. then
sanctioned — But I never earnestly desire
place the est. under their Control the regular
professional Subordination — as I believe
that nothing but confusion can result from
such a measure — If the L.F.D. do not get
their dues at the hands of D.P.W. officers
it is the duty of Dept. to remedy this
most coming & making their Subordinates
of the D.P.W. do their duty by L.F.D. — But
Remedy does not lie in giving way & set
them aside as incorrigible & spend
up a new source of extravagance by
allowing L.F.D. to constitute a new
& independant service

1871

D Robertson

Chisholm has come
back home — I scarcely
know why I see no
reason to change my
views yrs
26/12

Chetwynd

(26)

C 29/10-

Govt. of Madras. 1875

Copied

Sent

to

G. O. 20 Apr. 1875, No. 881.

Nos. 194-195.

Local Funds - Roads.

Sanction accorded to the entertainment of an addl. Overseer for the Chittoor Circle, Cuddapah &c, & to the proposed experiment of inviting Zemindars to undertake the maintenance of roads passing through their estates, the maintenance allowance being paid to them.