1. Number of pages. 10
2. Date of repair. 9-7-37
3. Initials of Reference. [illegible]

M.R.O. 1—22,000—22-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con: 16 6 5 7

G.O. No. 1136 Press Mis.

57 55

Dated 12-6 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 57. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 18th May 1857, No. 436.

SIR,

In Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 2008 dated 30th October 1856, my attention was called to a letter from General Cullen the Resident of Travancore and Cochin in which is discussed a proposition made by Lieutenant Roberts that the water of a natural reservoir called "*Oorney Cut*," and situated among the hills westward of Tinnevelly should be carried, by means of a new channel, into the latter District.

2. Lieutenant Roberts was of opinion that this reservoir was situated near the source of the Perreyaur, which is the most important of the Travancore rivers, and drains a considerable area of hilly country to the westward of the Thencarray Talook of the Madura District. The reservoir itself he believed would receive the drainage of about 4 square miles of a hilly country, the rain fall upon which averaged 95 inches.

3. General Cullen, questioned whether so much rain fell in that locality, he thought the reservoir was situated in the Travancore country and that the quantity of water supply of the reservoir was but trifling.

4. The subject has since been carefully considered by Lieutenant Oakes, the Acting District Engineer, aided by Lieutenant Payne, and the report contained in the letter No. 31 dated 26th March from the latter Officer shews that the hilly and wooded character of the basin emptying itself into the reservoir so completely misled Lieutenant Roberts that he estimated its area at 84 times its actual extent, as ascertained by a survey made by Lieutenant Oakes. Lieutenant Roberts' estimate being 4 square miles while Lieutenant Oakes' survey has proved it to be only $\frac{1}{21}$ of a square mile.

5. This single fact was sufficient to shew that the project should be abandoned Lieutenant Oakes has however dealt with the question in some of its other bearings. He has discussed the question raised by General Cullen as to the correctness of Lieutenant Roberts' estimate of the rain fall, and has also considered the sufficiency of Lieutenant Roberts' estimate for excavating the channel through which the water was to be led into the Tinnevelly District.

6. He considers that Lieutenant Roberts has somewhat over-estimated the rain fall and that he has considerably under-estimated the cost of excavating the necessary irrigation channel.

Lieutenant Roberts' estimate amounted to Rupees..... 6,470
whilst that of Lieutenant Oakes reaches ,, ... 20,000

7. As neither estimate provides for the construction of a dam for retaining the water in the reservoir, until the freshes of the Tinnevelly rivers are over and the water is actually required for irrigation, and as the additional revenue expected is only Rupees 460 per annum, I have no hesitation in recommending that the subject be struck out of the unanswered reference list, or in expressing my regret that so much time and trouble have been expended on so fruitless an investigation.

No. 58. ORDER THEREON, No. 1136; dated 12th June 1857.

Under the circumstances represented by the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council considers that no good results are likely to accrue from the Project of the Oorney Cut proposed by Lieutenant Roberts, and alluded to in the letter from the Resident of Travancore and Cochin, dated 3rd October 1856; and accordingly directs that the project be abandoned.

2. Ordered that the above be communicated to the Political Department with reference to the Extract from the Minutes Consultation in that Department, dated 14th October 1856, No. 354.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Gent 18 Mrt 57 No 436

Verd. Rapk 15 Mrt 57.

1831/57

1770/57

Coll. 1856 D
R. No 498.
10/11/57
P.V. 2317/56

1876/58

Sketch of the Corneykett or Water shed

Path to Chapel

Granulous

E. Peak

Mount of the Stream

W. Peak

Sloping down

Saddle

E

S

N

W 12ft depth

Pool of Water

300 ft

Inlet

Outlet

Stream

Precipitous

Precipitously inclined

Corneykett — 22 Sep. 1858

Barometer 25·100

water boils (Fahr) 203·3

Alt. about 5200 ft. above sea

W. Bellers
Lieut.

25

Read the Letter from the Chief Engineer

Central Office of P.W.D.
Fort St. George 18 May 1857

No. 436.

From

The Chief Engineer of P.W.D.

To

The Secretary to Govt. P.W.D.

Sir,

Revenue
Irrigation

In Ref. from the Mines of Cones No. 2008 dated 30th October 1856 my attention was called to a letter from General Cullen the Resident of Travancore and Cochin in which is discussed a proposition made by Lieut. Roberts that the water of a natural Reservoir called Oorney Ch. and situated among the hills Westward of Tinnevelly should be carried, by means of a new Channel into the latter District.

Sec 5

1 Letter with plan & Sketch from the P.W. Engr. for Sanction.

1 Do. P. 31 from the Ag. Chief Engr. minutely on the Relative Sections Heads of Trigonometrical Survey.

2. Lieutenant Roberts was of opinion that this Reservoir was situated near the Source of the Perreyaur, which is the most important of the Travancore Rivers, and drains a considerable area of hilly Country to the westward of the Shencotta

Talook

Taluk of the Madura District. The Reservoir itself is believed would receive the drainage of about 4 Square miles of a hilly Country, the rain fall upon which averages 25 inches.

3. General Cullen questioned whether so much rain fell in that locality, he thought the Reservoir was situated in the Travancore Country and that the quantity of water supply of the Reservoir was uncertain.-

4. The subject has since been carefully considered by Lieuts Oakes the Acting Dt Engineer aided by Lieut Payne, and the report contained in the letter No 31 dated 26th March from the latter Officer shews that the hilly and wooded Character of the basin supplying directly into the Reservoir is completely misled Lieut Roberts that he estimates the area at 84 times its actual Extent as ascertained by a survey made by Lieuts Oakes Lieut Robert's estimate being 4 Sq Miles while Lieut Oakes Survey has proved it to be only 1/21 of a Square Mile.

5. The single fact was sufficient to shew that the project should be abandoned. Lieut Oakes has however dealt with the question in some of its other bearings. He has discussed the question raised by General Cullen as to the correctness of Lieut Roberts' Estimate of the rain fall and has also considered the sufficiency of Lieut Roberts' Estimate for excavating the Channel through which the water was to be led into the Tinnevelly District.-

6. He considers that Lieut Roberts has somewhat over estimated the rain fall and that he has considerably under estimated the Cost of excavating the necessary irrigation Channel.

Lt Roberts estimate amounted to Rs 6470—
whilst that of Lt Oakes reaches 20000—

7. He neither Estimate provides for the construction of a dam for retaining the water in the Reservoir, until the freshes of the Tinnevelly Rivers are over and the water is actually required for irrigation, and as the additional Revenue is stated to only

only Rs 460 per annum. I have no hesitation in recommending that the subject be struck out of the unanswered Reference list, or in expressing any regret that so much time and trouble have been expended on so profitless an investigation.—

M
Lt Col Genl
18th Jan 1855

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obt Servt
Alex Tulloch Colonel
Chief Engr

To
The Secy to Govt
Public Dept

Dft Cons. 4th November 56 No 2027

No 57 & 58.

be a

be abandoned and struck out of the unanswered list of references.

6th June R 10th

Public Works 1857 Despatch
Cons 16th March No 104
From The Chief Engineer
To The Secy to Govt PWD

Dated 18th May 1857
Rec'd 19th "
5 Encls
Ret'd
Rept Statch Returned

Report with Despatch from Govt PWD No 2008 of the 30th Octr on the result of investigation made by Lieut Roberts & Parker of the Travancore project in the Tinnevelly District and with reference to the small amount of Revenue likely to be derived therefrom recommend that the subject be

With an order
No 1136 - 12th June

No 1136

Under the circumstances represented by the Chief Engineer, the Right Honble the Governor in Council considers that no good results are likely to accrue from the Project of the Canal cut proposed by Lieutenant Roberts and alluded to in the letter from the Resident of Travancore and Cochin, dated 3d October 1856; and accordingly directs that the Project be abandoned.

Ordered that the above be communicated to the Revenue Department with reference to the Extract from the Minutes in that Dept dated 16th October 1856 No 354.

Fort St George
12th June 1857

Copied