

532
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT

RO. No.	FILE
DATE	FILE

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 15th September 1857.

No. 30. Read the following letter from Colonel W. E. BAKER, Secretary to the Government of India; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George, dated Fort William, the 7th August 1857, No. 3898.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your communications No. 1439 of the 25th Ultimo, and No. 1473 of the 30th Idem, and to reply as follows:—

2nd. The Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council has observed with much satisfaction the heartiness and promptitude with which the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council of Madras has met the wishes of the Government of India for the reduction of expenditure in the Public Works Department. From the 1st Instant Establishment, the aggregate cost of which amounts to the sum of Company's Rupees two lacs and ninety-one thousand per annum has been dispensed with, leaving a further reduction of but Company's Rupees fifty-three thousand which would be required to bring up the saving to $\frac{1}{2}$ the previous expenditure, the limit specified.

3rd. In regard to the 4th para. of the letter No. 1439, I am to observe that the completion to a state of efficiency of *new* Military Roads whether in progress or not yet commenced cannot, in most instances, be an *immediate* result of expenditure, for stopping which the necessity is immediate and pressing: and it is for this reason, that no exception was made in favor of such Roads. It was however fully intended that roads already formed should be maintained, but should there be any individual cases of the former class requiring special exemption, the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council will be happy to consider them.

4th. To complete the reduction of the expenditure on Public Works, the Chief Engineer has prepared a supplementary list of the Establishment that he proposes to dispense with, which, if carried out, would effect a saving rather in excess of the proportion laid down and, in submitting it, has represented to the Government of Madras, that, if enforced, the Department will be wholly crippled for even the ordinary and absolutely necessary repairs, (for the execution of which, he doubts its ability, as already reduced,) and has expressed his apprehensions that the revenues which are (in Madras especially) so largely dependent on the efficiency of Public Works, will suffer to a far greater extent than can be compensated for by any reduction of Establishment.

5th. The Government of Fort Saint George has endorsed the opinion of its Chief Engineer, and in your No. 1473 has given so lucid an exposition of the ill effects, both fiscally and politically, which are likely to result from any further reduction, that the Right Hon'ble the Governor General in Council is not disposed to insist upon it, preferring to leave it to the discretion of the Government of Madras which has so fully appreciated the urgent and deplorable necessity for the restriction which has been imposed.

6th. In limiting the expenditure on repairs to the lowest possible amount consistent with the security of the various works or buildings, it was not intended to prevent the execution of such repairs as might be necessary for their maintenance in a condition of complete efficiency, and I am therefore instructed to state that the clearances of Irrigation Chamels and repairs having a similar effect, should most certainly be proceeded with, so that if there be no increase, there may not at least be any falling off from past years in the aid afforded by irrigation works maintaining the general resources of the Madras Presidency.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, No. 1732; dated 10th September 1857.

Ordered to be communicated to the Chief Engineer with reference to his Proceedings of 29th July 1857, No. 2506. Under the permission given by the Government of India, the Government will not insist upon any further reduction in the Public Works Establishment. The Government observe that provision has already been made for repairs to the existing works, and on fresh orders appear necessary on that subject.

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

No. 3898.

From, Colonel W. C. Baker,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.
To, H. Forbes Esquire,
Acting Secretary to Government
of Port Saint George.
Dated 26th August 1857.

Public Works Dept.
Public

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge
the receipt of your communications No. 1439
of the 25th Ultimo and No. 1473 of 5th August
and to reply as follows:—

2nd The Right Honble the Govern-
General in Council has observed with
much satisfaction the heartiness and
promptitude with which the Right
Honble the Governor in Council of Madras
has met the wishes of the Government
of India for the reduction of expenditure
in the Public Works Department. From
the 1st Instant Establishment, the
aggregate cost of which amounts to the
sum of Company's Rupees five lakhs
nearly one thousand per annum has been
disbursed with, leaving a further reduction
of

Rs. 291,000

of that Company's Rupees Fifty three thousand Rs 53,000 which would be required to bring up the saving to $\frac{1}{4}$ the previous expenditure, the limit specified.

3. In regard to the 11th para. of the letter No 1139, I am to observe that the completion to a state of efficiency of new Military Roads whether in progress or not yet commenced cannot, in most instances, be an immediate result of expenditure, for stopping which the necessity is immediate and pressing. And it is for this reason, that no exception was made in favor of such Roads. It was however fully intended that roads already found should be maintained, but should there be any individual cases of the former class requiring special exemption, the Right Honble the Governor General in Council will be happy to consider them.

4. To complete the reduction of the expenditure on public Works, the Chief Engineer has prepared a supplementary list of the Establishment that he proposes to dispense with, which, if carried out, would effect a saving rather in excess of the proportion laid down and, in submitting it

it, has represented to the Government of Madras, that, if enforced, the Department will be wholly crippled for even the ordinary and absolutely necessary repairs, (for the execution of which, he doubts its ability, as already reduced), and has expressed his apprehensions that the revenues which are (in Madras especially) so largely dependant on the efficiency of public Works, will suffer to a far greater extent than can be compensated for by any reduction of Establishment.

5. The Government of Fort Saint George has endorsed the opinion of its Chief Engineer, and in your No 1173 has given to Lord an exposition of the ill effects, both fiscally and politically, which are likely to result from any further reduction, that the Right Honble the Governor General in Council is not disposed to insist upon it, preferring to leave it to the discretion of the Government of Madras which has so fully appreciated the urgent and deplorable necessity for the restriction which has been imposed.

6. In limiting the Expenditure on repairs to the lowest possible amount

Conditent

consistent with the security of the various
works or buildings, it was not intended
to prevent the execution of such repairs
as might be necessary for their maintenance
in a condition of complete efficiency, and
I am therefore instructed to state that
the clearances of Irrigation Channels
and repairs having a similar effect, should
most certainly be proceeded with, so that
if there be no increase, there may not
at least be any falling off from past
years in the aid afforded by irrigation
works in maintaining the general resources
of the Madras Presidency.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servant

Lord William

The 7th August 1857

P. W. M. Clerk
Secretary to the Govt. of India

Public Works Dept.

No. 1732
Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 10th September 1857.

Read the following
letter from the Secretary
to the Government of
India.

Here enters 7. August 1857
1858/8

Ordered to be
communicated to the
Chief Engineer with
reference to his Pro-
ceedings of 29 July/57 No 2506
Under the permission
given by the Govt of
India the Government
will not insist upon
any further reduction
in

A
T
M

From 28th Aug 57. 25. 70
As Aug 57. 18. 19

Public Works 1857 2. 1. 11
No 1541 1857

No 1725

From Secretary to the
Government of India.

Read 7th August 1857
Recd 31st

SE No 1732. 10th Sept 57

Informing that the
letter from the Govt of India
involving the expenditure of
the Public Works and other
as to the necessity of
such repair, among other
necessary for their maintenance
in view of the condition of
the Public Works, and that
the clearance of the
channels, and other works
must be carried out
with.

By A. H. Campbell
1857/57

No 30.

1857/57

in the Public Works
Establishments. The
Government observe
that provision has
already been made
for repairs to the
existing works, and
no fresh orders appear
~~therefor~~ necessary on
that subject.

B.S.

4 Copies to the Chief Secy
Chf. Secy

Com 20 July 1931
4 Sept 1931

Public Works 1931 Report
As to Com 1931 Report

No 1932

Contract of Com
dated 10th Sept 31

Com 20 July 1931
As to 1931-1932
From 1st Aug 31 to 31st Dec 31
1932

Communicating to the
Chief Engt with reference to
the Proceedings of 27th July
last, that the clearance
of navigation channels and
dock repairs to buildings
as may be necessary for
their maintenance in a
complete efficiency, shall
most certainly be proceeded
with.

1930-1931