1. Number of pages 10
2. Date of repair 12-8-37
3. Folios of References

M.R.O. 1—82,409—28-11-36.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Salt Cess Works DEPARTMENT.

Cess Collection 37

G.O. No. 1822 Press Mis.

Dated 14-10-1937

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 20th October 1857.

No. 44. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 6th October 1857; No. 4250.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for submission to Government, a letter from the District Engineer of Tinnevelly and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, with translation of a Petition from the Merassidar of Vallamuddum, in Streevygoontum Talook of Tinnevelly, reporting the completion of a Tank, for which an occasional estimate of Rupees 895-10 was sanctioned on the 5th January 1855, but was stopped under the recent restrictive order.

2. The District Engineer recommends that the work should be finished at the expense of the Merassidar who should be re-imbursed, after the restriction is removed.

3. The Merassidar proposes to pay Poonjah tax on the land intended to be watered, but the Board of Revenue objecting to both of these measures desire that the sanction of Government should be obtained for completing the works, and in their opinion I fully coincide.

4. I beg therefore that early orders may be given for the completion of the Tank in question before the Monsoon now so near at hand.

5. The amount already expended being Rupees 447-3-1 there remains only a sum of Rupees (448-6-11) four hundred and forty-eight, annas six and pice eleven, to be laid out but if the work is delayed it is probable this will not be sufficient.

Petition from RAMASAMY Naiker, on behalf of SOOBRAMANEA Pillay Merassidar of Vallamuddum subject to the Talook of Streevygoontum; to Mr. R. A. OAKES, Engineer of the District of Tinnevelly, dated 4th August 1857.

Petitioner states that on the 25th January 1852, his Constituent having offered to raise Nunjah cultivation on 20 Seedcottahs of his Poonjah land and pay the average Teerwah of the adjacent Village, provided the Circar would construct a Tank in the said land, the Collector referred the matter to the Engineer Mr. Horsley who directed the Surveyor Mr. Mackneyar to inspect the spot. The Surveyor did so and submitted an estimate of Rupees 737-5 for the mudwork and Rupees 96 for the construction of a sluice. Thereupon an order was received from the Hoozoor for taking a Moochilka from the Petitioner's constituent. A Moochilka was accordingly executed for the cultivation of 20 Seedcottahs; but the same being disapproved by the Hoozoor authorities, the Petitioner's constituent was again required to give a Moochilka for cultivating 26 Seedcottahs, and he did so on the 14th September 1854.

Thereupon the sanction having been obtained for the execution of the estimated work, an advance was made of 200 Rupees for the mudwork and 93 Rupees for the construction of the sluice and the work was completed.

Trusting that the Circar would complete the rest of the work and with a view to fulfil his engagement with the Circar, the Petitioner's constituent put himself to great expense and reclaimed the 26 Seedcottahs of land capable of yielding an annual Beriz of 180 Rupees. But the Overseer Vyapoory Moodelly suspended the completion of the said work, alleging that on the 23rd July 1857, he received an order from the Engineer, to that effect. On making a personal complaint of the matter to the Engineer,—the Petitioner's constituent was informed that the work was put a stop to under the orders of Government.

As the Government and the Petitioner's constituent would equally sustain a serious loss if the said work is to be suspended, especially after it has consumed a large amount of money and labour Petitioner solicits that the work may be carried out, or that the Petitioner's constituent may be required to make good the money already expended by Government, and he be allowed to pay Poonjah Teerwah, pursuant to an order of the Circar directing the leavy of Poonjah Teerwah for Nunjah cultivation, raised on Poonjah land with the assistance of Tanks dug at private expense, or lastly that he may be permitted to complete the work under the Superintendence of the Overseer and receive the amount so laid out.

(A true Abstract.)

(Signed) T. PONUMBALUM.

Govt

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 20th October 1857.

Letter from Lieutenant R. F. OAKES. Acting District Engineer Tinnevelly; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Palamcottah, 25th August 1857, No. 107.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward a Petition from one Soobramania Pillayen Merassidar of Vallamuddum in the Streevygoontum Talook who requests that the work which was put a stop to by me in accordance with the orders contained in your Circular No. LXVI dated 17th July 1855, provides, may be completed under the charge of the Department at his cost and the money in a new Tank for which an occasional estimate of Rupees 895-10-0, sanctioned on 5th January furnished by him be returned to him on the restriction on expenditure on Public Works being removed or that he may be permitted to refund the sum already expended viz Rupees 447-3-1, and to pay Poonjah tax on the land under the Tank in accordance with orders issued by the Board of Revenue about the end of 1854, copy of which was not furnished to this office.

2. The facts stated by the Petitioner appear to be correct and as both the propositions he has made are extremely liberal, I would beg to recommend the sanction of either of them, but particularly the former which was a proposal of my own viz. that the work should be completed as rapidly as possible under the supervision of the Department but at the cost of the Proprietor to whom the amount advanced should be returned as soon as the restriction on the expenditure on Public Works is removed.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th September 1857, No. 3070.

Read Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works, under date the 4th September 1857.

(Here enter No. 3474.)

The Board would recommend that the Chief Engineer should apply specially to Government for permission to complete this work (which will only cost 450 Rupees) rather than have recourse to either of the expedients noticed in the above communication.

2. The Board cannot but think that the adoption of either of the courses suggested in Lieutenant Oake's letter and the Petition would lead to very erroneous and undesirable notions of the resources of Government.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Acting Secretary.

No. 45.

ORDER THEREON, No. 1948; dated 16th October 1857.

With this letter, the Chief Engineer submits certain correspondence, and recommends that early orders may be given for completing the tank in the limits of Vallamuddum in Streevygoontum Talook of the Tinnevelly District, which was stopped under the restrictive orders recently received. The Government observe that the work was sanctioned on the 5th January 1855, and not 1857, as erroneously stated by Colonel Faber; and it is much to be regretted that so trifling a work, estimated to cost only 896 Rupees, should be still incomplete.

2. The work above alluded to is altogether a new one, and the preservation of existing revenue cannot be therefore urged as any ground for sanctioning its completion. The mere circumstance of its being desirable might be urged in the case of all the irrigation works in the country, and the principle of the order of the Government of India which has restricted public expenditure is wholly opposed to the sanction now sought by the Chief Engineer.

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

3

Revenue
Irrigation

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George
6th October 1857.

No. 4250.

From
The Chief Engineer
To
The Secretary to Government P.W.

Sir

I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, a letter from the District Engineer of Tinnevelly and Proceedings of the Board of Revenue with translation of a Petition from the Merassidar of Vallamuddum, in Streevigoondum Talook of Tinnevelly, reporting the Completion of a Tank, for which an occasional Estimate of Rupees 895-10 was sanctioned on the 5th January 1855 but was stopped under the recent restrictive order.

2. The District Engineer recommends that the work should be finished at the expense of the Merassidar who should be to

Govt

be reimbursed after the restriction is removed.-

3. The Merasidar proposes to pay poonjah tax on the land intended to be watered, but the Board of Revenue objecting to both of these measures desire that the sanction of Government should be obtained for completing the works and in their opinion I fully coincide.-

4. I beg therefore that early orders may be given for the completion of the Tank in question before the Freshes now so near at hand.-

5. The amount already expended being Rupees 447-3-1 - there remains only a sum of Rupees 448-6-11 four hundred and forty eight Annas Six and Pies eleven to be laid out but if the work is delayed it is probable this will not be sufficient.-

Fort St. George
6th Octr/57

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obt Servt

S

A. Cotton Colonel
Chief Engineer

L.d.
S.P.S. Circle

Encd 8

N° 7948

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 16th October 1857

Read the following
letter from the Chief
Engineer.

(Were entered 6 Oct/57 N°. 4250)

With this letter
the Chief Engineer submits
certain correspondence,
and recommends that
early orders may be given
for completing the Tank
in the limits of Vallamund
-dum in Sheevyponttum
Taloot of the Tinnevelly
District, which was stopped
under the restrictive orders
recently received. The
Govt

B. of A. Army & Navy Dept.

Extract Proceedings of Govt. Dept. dated 20th October 1857
From R. Clerk Esqr.
Chief Secretary to Govt.
To W. Pedler Esqr.
Chief Engineer &c &c &c

Public Dept.
Rec'd 6th October 1857

No. 4250

Guindy 3rd Oct.
No. 1948. 16th Oct.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose
herewith for the information
of Government the accompanying
Memorandum of Mr Pettitt
in which he brings to notice
the necessity of completing
the Tank in the limits of
Vallamundum in Sheevyponttum
Taloot of the Tinnevelly District
that early orders may be issued
for the purpose.

I have &c
(Signed) W. Pedler
Chief Engr.

1844.

6

C/13 "Pettitt" No. 1

Government observe that the work was sanctioned on the 5th January 1855, and not 1857, as erroneously stated by Colonel Faber, and it is much to be regretted, that so trifling a work, estimated to cost, only 896 Rupees, should be still incomplete.

2. The work above alluded to is altogether a new one, and the prevention of existing revenue cannot be therefore urged as any ground for sanctioning its completion. The mere circumstance of its being desirable might be urged in the case of all the irrigation works in the Country

Country, and the principle of the order of the Government of India which has restricted public expenditure as much as possible, opposed to the sanction now sought by the Chief Engineer.

J.G.

Copies to the Chief Engr. Dispatch
With 3 Orig. Enc

Public Works 1857 Dept.
Dft to Comrs 20th October.

No 1948.

Extract Minis of Comrs.
Dt 16th October 1857.

Declining for reasons
stated, to sanction the completion
of the Bank in the limits of
the Commeddunes in Streevy-
gountuns Palook, Simmerlly.

No 44 + 45.

C13 Coll 115 Nt