No. 53. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 10th November 1857, No. 5099.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 1895, dated 8th October 1857, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Collector of Madras, in explanation of the nature and necessity of the works partly of emergency, and partly otherwise, recommended by Mr. Cunliffe in connection with the Salt Department.

2. In the order above quoted, I regret to observe a charge of neglect on my part in the submission of the original papers, the justice of which I cannot admit. The works connected with the Madras Collectorate are not placed under my control, as those of the provinces have been; and the Collector is still so entirely responsible for them, that in matters affecting the revenue, such as those relating to Salt, I could not venture to declare what is or what is not emergent, and in fact the Collector did not await my decision on the question.

3. I have already brought this subject to the notice of Government, and hope that ere long the Madras works may be placed on the same footing as all others in this presidency.

4. The explanations afforded by the Collector of the necessity of the works proposed for entry in the Budget of 1858-59, appear satisfactory, though for want of the estimates I cannot report more fully than I have already done; and the expediency of raising the Platform No. 3 to the level of No. 2, seems unquestionable, but the estimate is not prepared and I am unwilling to delay the Collectors report.

Letter from B. CUNLIFFE, Esq., Collector of Madras; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated 3rd November 1857, No. 59.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward the explanation called for in your Resolution dated 22nd Ultimo, No. 4640, conveying Extract Minutes of Consultation under date 8th Idem, No. 1895, requiring further information as to the necessity of the works proposed in the correspondence noted marginally.

From Collector of Madras to Board of Revenue, 30th June 1857, No. 94.
Extract Proceedings Board of Revenue 26th August No. 2865
From Supervisor to Collector of Madras 13th May 1857.
Chief Engineer to Government 16th September 1857 No 3760.

2. I must first explain, that the 5 works mentioned in para. 2 of the Minutes of Consultation, were considered emergent, as the Peon's sheds were required to guard the large quantity of Salt on the new Platform at the Madras Cotaurs; and the other works were necessary for the accommodation of the Government servants during the season of Salt manufacture.

3. The new Platform holds six lacs of Indian Maunds of Salt, and it was thought preferable to construct the Peon's sheds in a durable manner, than in form requiring constant repairs, consequent on the exposed nature of the locality.

4. The Supervisors letter recommending them is dated 13th May 1857, and mine on my return from leave on the 23rd is under date 30th June to the Board, and the works were commenced on the 1st July, therefore previous to the receipt of the orders 17th July restraining expenditure.

5. The Voyaloor and Vulloor Cutcherry sheds had then been finished, but the further construction of the Peon's shed was immediately stopped, after an expenditure upon them of 1,339 Rupees. They have been covered in with thatched roofs. The Attiput Cutcherry had not been commenced.

6. The ditch round Platform No. 1 (The Dunghill) I consider necessary to preserve the Salt stored upon it from the depredations of the concourse encamped on ground adjoining it, which is the general place of resort for carts arriving from the interior.

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7. I also think the widening of the ditch round the new Platform requisite, in order to secure the store in that direction.

8. Under the impetus which will be given to our Salt sales, by the operations of the Railway, (some 80,000 Rupees) worth of Salt having been carried away by these means during the last year we shall have some 17 or 18 lacs of Indian Maunds stored on our Cotaurs, representing as many Rupees at retail price.

9. It is politic therefore to render this valuable property secure by all available means, the past outlay on these Cotaurs in comparison with the Revenue derived has been very trifling.

10. It was proposed to enter the new ditches &c., in the Budget for 1858-59, but I have now to bring to notice circumstances which render it in my opinion necessary, that the ditch round Platform No. 1 and the widening of the ditch round Platform No. 3, should be taken in hand at once.

11. The last heavy floods have swept away six lacs of Indian Maunds of Salt from Platform No. 3. This is some 4 feet lower than Platform No. 2; the Salt on which was also injured but in the small degree.

12. To guard against the recurrence of such loss (happening it is true but rarely, but we know not when it may occur again, if matters continue as they are,) I think it will be advisable to raise Platform No. 3 to the level of No. 2.

13. Material in that locality is very scarce, which was the reason indeed why the full height provided for in the estimate was not given to the Platform, and may be obtained, as far as it will serve; from the excavations proposed.

14. As the raising of Platform No. 3 is urgently necessary let the material come from what distance it may, I would ask permission to commence the excavation of the one ditch and the widening of the other, removing the soil to Platform No. 3 and thus make the one work assist in the performance of the other.

15. If the ditch is cut, the bridge will be necessary to connect the Esplanade with the Cotaurs but it has been proposed to run a causeway through the cross ditches, instead of closing them which will cause less expenditure.

No. 54. ORDER THEREON, No. 2264; dated 5th December 1857.

With his letter of the 16th September last, the Chief Engineer submitted two estimates for certain works in connection with the Salt Department of the Madras Collectorate; the first, amounting to Rupees 2,795, being for five works which, it was stated, had been commenced in anticipation of sanction; and the second, amounting to Rupees 11,380, for works proposed for entry in the Budget of 1858-59.

2. The Government had these estimates under consideration in Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the 8th October last, No. 1895 and, after observing that the Collector had no authority to order the execution of the five works included in the first estimate, passed orders disposing of four of them, and called for certain information respecting the fifth, viz., the construction of six Peon's Watching Sheds, at an aggregate cost of Rupees 2,340. They also requested that full explanation might be furnished regarding the necessity of the works provided for in the second estimate, and proposed for entry in the Budget.

3. In reply to this requisition, the Chief Engineer submits a letter from the Collector of Madras, explaining the circumstances under which he had authorized the commencement of the works comprised in the first estimate, and stating that they had been so authorized by him, prior to the receipt of the orders of the 17th July last, No. 1372, restricting expenditure on Public Works.

4. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council observes that the orders of the 17th July, relate to the suspension of works which had already been sanctioned. The non receipt therefore of those orders by the Collector prior to the date on which he had authorized the execution of works which were never sanctioned, affords no justification of his proceeding, which was irregular and unauthorized. It now appears that Rupees 1,339, have already been expended in the construction of the six sheds, which have been covered in with thatched roofs; and as it is explained that they are required for Peons who have to guard six lacs of Indian Maunds of Salt, and that the exposed locality renders it desirable that they should be constructed in a durable manner, the Governor in Council sanctions the entry of the work in the Budget of 1858-59, in the Government Office at the estimated cost of Rupees (2,340) two thousand, three hundred and forty.

5. With regard to the works included in the second estimate, and previously proposed for entry in the Budget, the Collector now recommends that two of them, viz., the ditch round the Dunghill platform, and the widening the ditch round the new platform, should be commenced at once; and further that platform No. 3 should immediately be raised to the level of No. 2, with the excavations obtained from the other two ditches. The grounds urged in favor of the immediate commencement of the first two works now recommended are, that they are required to preserve the Salt from the depredations of the cartmen encamped in the vicinity of the platforms. There is nothing to shew that this work is more needful now than it has been heretofore, and it cannot be sanctioned as emergent; the items for these works as well as for the others included in the second estimate* will be entered in the Budget, in the Government office; and in the meantime the Collector will exact an active performance of their duty from the Salt Peons.

	Rs.
* Excavating a ditch round the Dunghill Platform.	6,150
Widening the ditch round the new Platform.....	2,380
Closing cross ditches...	580
Constructing a bridge of one arch across the new ditch..	2,270
Total.....	11,380

6. With regard to platform No. 3, it is stated that it is four feet lower than No. 2, and that six lacs of Indian Maunds of Salt were swept away from it during the late heavy rains. The necessity of raising it therefore to the level of No. 2, being urgent, the Government desire that an estimate of the cost may immediately b submitted for sanction.

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

No. 59.

Madras
3d. November 1857

From

D. Cunliffe Esqre.,
Collector of Madras.

To

Colonel C C Haber,
Chief Engineer.

Sir

1 I have the honor to forward the explanation called for in your Resolution dated 22d. Ultimo, No. 4640, conveying Extract Minutes of Consultation under date 8th. Idem, No. 1895, requiring further information as to the necessity of the works proposed in the Correspondence noted marginally.—

From Collector of Madras to Board of Revenue, 30th. June 1857 No. 96.—
Extract Proceedings Board of Revenue 24th. August No. 2865
From Superintendent to Collector of Madras 13th. May 1857
Chief Engineer to Government 16th. September 1857 No. 3760.—

2 I must first explain, that the 5 works mentioned in Para 2 of the Minutes of Consultation, were considered emergent, as the Peons sheds were required to guard the large quantity of salt on the New Platform at the Madras Godowns, and the other works were necessary for the accommodation of the Government Servants during the season of Salt manufacture.—

3 The New Platform holds six lacs of Indian Maunds of salt, and it was thought preferable to construct the Peons sheds in as durable

durable manner, Khan in's farm requiring constant repairs, consequent on the exposed nature of the locality.

4 The Superintendent's letter recommending them is dated 13th May 1859, and mine on my return from Lucknow on the 23d is under date 30th June to the Board, and the works were commenced on the 1st July, therefore previous to the receipt of the orders 17th July restraining expenditure.

5 The Vayalpar and Vellaur Cutcherry which had been finished, but the further construction of the Peons' sheds were immediately stopped, after an expenditure upon them of 1339 Rupees. They have been covered in with thatched roofs. The Adiyut Cutcherry had not been commenced.

6 The ditch round Platform No 1 / The Bunghill / I consider necessary to preserve the Salt stand upon it from the depredations of the concourse encamped on grounds adjoining it, which is the general place of resort for Carts coming from the interior.

7 I also think the widening of the ditch round the New Platforms requisite, in order to secure the store in that direction.

8 Under the impetus which will be given to our Salt sales, by the operations of the Railway, some 80,000 Rupees worth of salt having been carried away by these means during the last year, we shall have some 17 or 18 lacs of Indian Maunds stored on our Golaurs, representing as many Rupees at retail price.

9 It is politic therefore to render this valuable property secure by all available means, the past outlay on these Golaurs in comparison with the Revenue derived has been very trifling.

10 It was proposed to enter the new Ditches &c in the Budget for 1858/59, but I have now to bring to notice circumstances which render it in my opinion necessary, that the ditch round Platform No 1 and the widening of the Ditch round Platform No 3, should be taken in hand at once.

The

-7-

Minutes

11 The last heavy flood has caused a
large out lay of Indian Meanude of salt from
Platform N°3. This is some 6 feet lower than
Platform N°2, the Salt on which was also injured
but in the small degree.

12 To guard against the recurrence of
such loss happening it is true but rarely, but we
know not when it may occur again, if matters
continue as they are, I think it will be advisable
to raise Platform N°3 to the level of N°2.—

13 Material in that locality is
very scarce, which was the reason indeed why
the full height provided for in the Estimate
was not given to the Platforms, and may be
obtained only as far as it will serve from the
excavation as prosecuted.—

14 As the raising of Platform
N°3 is urgently necessary, let the material come
from what distance it may, I would ask
permission to commence the excavation of the
one Ditch and the widening of the other,
removing the soil to Platform N°3, and thus
make the one work consist in the performance
of the other.—

15 If the Ditches on each side the Bridges
will

may be necessary to connect the Esplanade with
the Godowns, but it has been proposed to use a
causeway through the cross ditches, instead of
closing them which will cause less expenditure.—

I have &c—

Madras
3d November 1865.

(Signed) B. Sandiford
Collector

(A True Copy)

A Webster Colonel
Chief Engineer

Encl. B.

Minutes

Central Office of P. Works.
Fort Saint George.
10 November 1857.

No. 5099

From,

The Chief Engineer

To,

The Secretary to Government P. W. D.

Sir,

With reference to Extract from the minutes of Consultation No 1895, dated 8th October 1857, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Collector of Madura, in explanation of the nature and necessity of the works hastily of emergency, and partly otherwise, recommended by Mr. Cunliffe in connection with the Salt Department.

2 In the order above quoted, I regret to observe a charge of neglect on my part in the submission of the original papers, the justice of which I cannot admit. The works connected with the Madura Collectorate are not placed under my control, as those of the Revenue have been, and the Collector is still solely responsible for

Revenue.

Salt Returns.

Enclosure, 1.

Enclosure in a letter from the Chief Engineer
To The Secretary to Government.
P. W. D.

Dated 10th November 57
Received

No. 5099.
P. W. 2217/57

Copy of a letter from the Collector of Madura forwarding explanation as to the necessity of certain works at the Madras Salt Chaurs

for them, that in matters affecting the Revenue, such as those relating to Salt, I could not venture to declare what is or what is not Emergent, and in fact the Collector did not await my decision on the question.

3 I have already brought this subject to the notice of Government, and hope that ere long the Madras works may be placed on the same footing as all others in this Presidency.

4 The explanations afforded by the Collector of the necessity of the works proposed for entry in the Budget of 1858/59, appear satisfactory, though for want of the estimates I cannot report more fully than I have already done; and the expediency of raising the Platform No. 3 to the level of No. 2, seems unquestionable, but the estimate is not prepared and I am unwilling to delay the Collector's Report.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Ob.t Serv.t
A. Cotton Colonel
Chief-Engineer.

Central Office of P.W.
Fort Saint George,
10th November 1857.

To,
The Secretary to Government P.W.D.

No. 2264

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 5th ~~December~~ 1857.

Read the following
letter from the Chief Engineer.

/Rec'd 10th November 1857 No 5099/

With his letter of
the 16th September last, the Chief
Engineer submitted two estimates
for certain works in connection
with the Salt Dept. of the
Madras Collectorate; the first
amounting to Rupees 2795, being
for five works which, it was
stated, had been commenced
in anticipation of sanction,
and the second, amounting to
Rupees 11380, for works proposed
for entry in the Budget of 1858/59.

2 The Government had
these estimates under consider-
ation in Extract from the
Minutes

Encl 13 to Govt Order No 9-10

P.W.D. Madras 1857 Department
From The Chief Engineer
No 2217
To The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.
Dated 16 November 1857
Received 11th Do

Subject

Enclosures
Nos 1 & 2 2264 of 1857
Estimates with reservations a
letter from the Collector of
Madras furnishing explanations
as to the necessity of certain
of the Madras Salt Chauns
referred to in G. O. No 1895
of the 8th ultimo.

No 53

Dated 24th Novr 1857

Minutes of Consultation of the 8th October last, and after observing that the Collector had no authority to order the execution of the five works included in the first estimate, passed orders disposing of four of them, and called for certain information respecting the fifth, Viz. the construction of six peons watching sheds, at an aggregate cost of Rupees 2340. They also requested that full explanation might be furnished regarding the necessity of the works provided for in the Second estimate, and proposed for entry in the Budget.

In reply to this requisition, the Chief Engineer submits a letter from the Collector of Madras, explaining the circumstances under which he had authorized the

× N° 1895.

× N° 7372.

the commencement of the works comprised in the first estimate, and stating that they had been so authorized by him, prior to the receipt of the orders of the 17th × July last, restricting expenditure on public works.

2. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council observes that the orders of the 17th July relate to the suspension of works which had already been non sanctioned. The receipt therefore of those orders by the Collector ~~subsequent~~ prior to the date on which he had authorized the execution of works which were never sanctioned, affords no justification of his proceeding, which was ~~but~~ irregular and unauthorized. It now appears that Rupees 1339 have already been expended

expended in the construction of the six sheds, which have been covered in with thatched roofs; and as it is explained that they are required for Peons who have to guard six lacs of Indian Mounds of salt, and that the exposed locality renders it desirable that they should be constructed in a durable manner, the Governor in Council sanctions the entry of the work in the Budget of 1858/59, in the Government Office at the estimated cost of Rupees (2340) Two thousand three hundred and forty.

With regard to the works included in the second estimate, and previously proposed for entry in the Budget, the Collector now recommends that two of them, Viz. the ditch round the Dunghill platform, and the widening the ditch round the new platform, should be commenced at once; and further that platform N 3 should immediately be raised to the level of N 2, with the excavations obtained from the other two ditches. The grounds urged in favor of the immediate commencement of the first two works now recommended, are that they are required to preserve the salt from the depredations of the cattmen encamped in the vicinity of the platforms. There is nothing to shew that this work is more needful now than it has been heretofore, and it cannot be sanctioned as emergent — the items for these works as well as for the others included in the second Estimate will be entered in the budget, in the Govt. Office, and in the meantime the Collector will exact an active performance of their duty from

† Excavating a ditch round the Dunghill Platform — Rs. 6150.
Widening the ditch round the new Platform — 2380.
Closing Cross ditches — 580.
Constructing a bridge of one arch across the new Ditch — 2270.
Total Rs. 11389.

from the salt pans.

With regard to platform N°3, it is stated that it is four feet lower than N°2, and that six lacs of Indian Maunds of salt were swept away from it during the late heavy rains. The necessity of raising it therefore to the level of N°2 being urgent, the Government desire that an estimate of the cost may immediately be submitted for sanction

D R

J. Copies to the Chief Engr.
Asst. Engr.

Cons: 13th Oct 57 No 9410.

Public Wor Rs 1857 Dep.t.
Dr to Cons: 8th Dec.

No 2264.

Extract Mins of Cons.

Dy 5th December 1857.

From the Chief Engr to Govt
Feby 11/58 C No 354 inclo: 12 Nos
Nos 109-110.
From Dr - 22d Nov 58 No 2220 inclo
14 Dec
16-17

Directing that an Estimate of the cost of raising Platform No 3 to the level of Platform No 2, at the Madras Salt Cotaurs, may immediately be submitted for sanction. -

No 53 & 54.

C24 Nov 1230