M.R.O. 1—[illegible]—15-10-56.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

[illegible] DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. [illegible] Press Mis.

Dated [illegible] 19[illegible]

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers.

No. 63. Report from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 6th November 1857, No. 2188. 5926.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council and for transmission to the Government of India, the Progress Report of Public Works for the Official year 1856-57, prepared in accordance with the forms laid down for my guidance.

2. This report is accompanied by the following Supplemental Statements, namely:—

1. Synopsis of expenditure on Public Works under the different branches.
2. Tabular view of expenditure in more detailed classification of subjects.
3. Abstract of classified expenditure.
4. Statement shewing the results of certain remunerative works.
5. Statistics of expenditure on the great works of the country.
6. List of Officers who most distinguished themselves during the past year.

3. The entire expenditure of the year under all heads is Rupees 68,74,202, subdivided as follows:—

		Rs.
Civil—	New works	...26,89,116
	Repairs	...18,38,422
Military—New works	... .	... 8.72,499
	Repairs	... 97,545
		54,97,582
Establishments	... ...	...13,76,620
	Total.....	68,74,202

4. The expenditure upon Civil new works embraces the following particulars:—

	Rs.
Irrigation...	... 8,46,751
Roads and Communications	...13,75,611
Buildings—General	... 1,61,285
„ Political	... 29,645
„ Revenue	... 80,417
„ Judicial	... 89,559
„ Ecclesiastical	... 13,078
„ Educational	... 132
„ Marine...	... 92,638
Total.....	26,89,116

5. The principal irrigation works executed are in the Districts of Rajahmundry, Masulipatam, Guntoor and North Arcot, being in development of the Projects for the large annicuts on the rivers Godavery, Kistnah, and Palaur. Owing to the financial restriction imposed by the Government of India, no new works of any magnitude except those necessary to carry out an already sanctioned scheme, have been undertaken, and a detailed account of these and of the progress made, will be found in the appropriate columns of the Report herewith transmitted.

See also the Adminstration Report for the past year.

6. Under the head of Roads and Communications, the expenditure has been as follows:—

	Rs.
On Trunk roads	... 2,61,511
Secondary roads	... 4,24,606
Ferries and bridges	... 4,35,234
Dâk Bungalows	... 10,320
Navigable Canals	... 2,43,940
Total....	13,75,611

The principal Trunk road in progress during the year is No. 6 passing through the Northern Districts of the Presidency. In Bellary also a large expenditure has been incurred in improving the main lines of that till lately almost roadless District. Among the Secondary communications, those of North Arcot and Canara deserve mention as having been under extensive prosecution during the year. A detailed account of every improvement in the above and other Districts, will be found in the report already referred to.

7. Some most useful and important bridges have been completed, or nearly completed, during the past year. Among these may be mentioned the Aska and Injelly bridges in Ganjam and the 2 bridges across the Coleroon at Anacaren Choultry and the lower annicut, though the latter has been opened for general use since the expiration of the year. The large bridges in course of construction across the Palaur in North Arcot, the Ponyeaur in South Arcot, the Hindree in Kurnool and the Ambravutty inthe Dindigul Division of Madura have also made considerable progress towards completion during the period under review.

8. The largest expenditure in projects of Navigation has occurred in the Rajahmundry and Tanjore Districts and some progress has taken place on the Eastern Coast Canal Project. In the former District, the widening of the old Tooliabagah channel to Cocanada in the Eastern Delta some process to and the prolongation of the Palcole channel to Nursapore in the Western Delta and the prosecution of the Cocanada and Samulcottah junction Canal were the principal works executed during the year; in the latter, the improvement of the Canal from Tranquebar to Trimulvassul and the Coleroon and Vellaur, with the construction of ferry boats formed the principal items of Navigation expenditure. The Sadras section of the Eastern Coast Canal has been opened for traffic to the distance of 35 miles, and it constitutes the most prominent undertaking accomplished during the past year on the great, but still interrupted and incomplete line of inland water communication intended eventually for the entire Eastern Coast of the Madras Presidency.

9. In the class of Civil buildings, no work has been executed in the provinces deserving special mention, in the present epitome of the year's operations. The main expenditure has taken place in the City of Madras where 12,469 Rupees have been spent on Hospitals, 78,033 Rupees in Municipal improvements, 27,230 Rupees in sea defences, 27,329 Rupees on Government offices, Rupees 38,712 on improvements to the Custom House, Rupees 4,816 in the Salt Department, Rupees 33,617 in the Police and Jail Departments, and Rupees 5,542 on Marine buildings. Under the last head there is an expenditure of Rupees 76,207 in Rajahmundry which refers chiefly to the improvements which have proved so successful to the Coringa and Cocanada Harbours.

10. In the Military Department, Rupees 2,724 were spent in Nellore on Military and Ordnance buildings, Rupees 7,217 in Bellary, and Rupees 22,848 in Madras. For providing accommodation for Troops, no less than 7,20,207 Rupees have been laid out in the course of the year, comprising Rupees 20,797 in Bellary chiefly on account of the external verandahs sanctioned for the new European Barracks, Rupees 3,14,469 in Coimbatore on account of the buildings for the accommodation of an European Regiment at Jackatallah on the Neilgherries; Rupees 2,82,729 at Secunderabad on similar works in that Cantonment, and Rupees 69,771 in Mysore for the Dragoon Barracks at Bangalore. On Stud and Commissariat buildings, the entire expenditure is Rupees 6,558, and Rupees 24,588 have been expended on Cantonment roads at Saint Thomas' Mount, Ootacamund and Madras.

11. The total expenditure on repairs in the Civil Department is Rupees 18,38,422; and in the Military Department Rupees 97,545. The former item is to be classified thus:—

	Rs.
Repairs to Irrigation works...	..11,95,244
Roads and Communications	... 5,41,195
Buildings—Public	46,011
„ Political	0
„ Revenue	18,116
„ Judicial	23,150
„ Ecclesiastical	6,816
„ Educational	3,648
„ Marine	1,212
Total.....	18,38,422

12. The expenditure on establishments in the present year forms a striking contrast to that of the preceding year; the latter being Rupees 7,68,419 whilst for the establishments of the period now under review the aggregate outlay is given at Rupees 13,76,620 including contingencies. This increase is partly owing to the augmentation and the re-organization of the Department which took effect from 1st January 1857, but the great bulk of the increase, is mainly to be attributed, I think, to some difference in the principal of computation adopted by the Civil and Military Auditors and the Accountant General. Thus, whilst the former Officers reported the charge on account of establishments in last year to be Rupees 7,68,419, the statement for the very same charge furnished by the latter (which was received after the despatch of the Progress Report) made it, Rupees 12,95,841, shewing a discrepancy of Rupees 5,27,422. The amount for the present year was furnished by the Accountant General, and should therefore properly be contrasted with Rupees 12,95,841 instead of Rupees 7,68,419.

13. The Statement shewing the financial results of remunerative works has been prepared in the same manner as it was last year, namely from the returns furnished by the local Officers; but it is apprehended that the nature of this Statement is not correctly understood, and it may be advisable to solicit the instructions of the Government of India on the subject. Every Irrigation work in the Madras Presidency is a remunerative work, but it seems obvious that the Government of India do not require a list of the whole of these. Upon what principle then is a selection to be made? If the statement is to comprise works in progress it is clear that a return of profit cannot be expected from them, as the incomplete works have not been brought into operation; on the other hand, if it is to include finished works only, then some rule of limitation is necessary as to the nature and class of works to be included. An examination of the Statement now submitted will shew both the justness and the necessity of these observations. Turning to the District of North Arcot, it is found that the construction of a Calingulah to the Thayanoor tank is alleged to have caused an increase of Revenue of Rupees 108, or of 15·1 per cent. on the expenditure. This is inadmissible without further explanation, so also in the case of the Valeethageepooram Chittairy, an expenditure of 41 Rupees is shewn to have produced an increase of 390 Rupees in the Revenue, which also seems in the highest degree improbable. With such examples, it is to be feared that the Statement is not to be absolutely relied upon, and that its nature has either not been sufficiently explained, or else it has been misunderstood by the local Officers. The Government of India possibly only require a list of such works as Cochrane's Canal, from which a direct return is received in the shape of Tolls, but if this supposition be correct, then it is obvious that the list for this Presidency will be very small indeed.

14. The Statement of Statistics of expenditure on the great works of the country has been prepared as in last year, and calls for no particular remark.

15. The list of Officers who have distinguished themselves has been prepared from the reports of the District Engineers, and contains the names of those who have been conspicuous for their executive ability. The orders of Government do not require the names of other Officers to be mentioned, but if I am at liberty to do so, I will venture to add to the list, those of my own "stated advisers" the Superintending Engineers, and also the District Engineers generally, for their able discharge of the administrative functions of their several Offices during the year under review.

No. 64. Letter from G. L. PRENDERGAST, Esq., Accountant General; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 13th November 1857, No. 238.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the Statement shewing the expenditure on account of Public Works in this Presidency for the official year 1855-56, was dispatched to your office for transmission to the Government of India on the 15th October 1856, but I am unable to submit, as yet, a similar Return for the past official year 1856-57, in consequence of the Journals of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works (from which alone it can be prepared) not having been received from January to April 1857. I have received the Journals only up to December 1856, and it is not likely that the others will be sent by the Chief Engineer for some-time* yet. The Statement for 1855-56 was prepared from the Returns obtained from the Collectors, but as all the detailed accounts for the Public Works expenditure have been kept by the District Engineers from 1st May 1856, and rendered to the Chief Engineer under the new system of accounts, the Collectors have *now* no means of furnishing such Returns. I have therefore thought it proper to state the circumstance for the information of Government. As soon as the Journals from the Chief Engineer, up to April 1857 shall have been received, I will lose no time in preparing and submitting to Government the Statement required by the Government of India.

* The cause of which he has explained to this office.

No. 65. ORDER THEREON, No. 2269; dated 7th December 1857.

Para. 1. With his letter of the 6th November, the Chief Engineer forwards reports shewing the progress made in the execution of the works enumerated in the Budget of this Presidency for the year 1856-57, prepared in conformity with the instructions of the Government of India communicated in Colonel Baker's letters of the 18th May 1855, No. 285, and 30th May 1856, No. 2431. The Chief Engineer has made no reference to these dates, an omission which he will be pleased to avoid in future.

2. By the former of these orders the Progress Reports are required to be submittted three months after the close of each official year, or on the 1st August; and in a later letter from Colonel Baker, dated 15th November 1856, No. 5326, special reference was made to the great delay in the submission of the progress reports of this Presidency. Those now received are dated 6th November 1857, or three months after the time appointed for their transmission; the Chief Engineer has partly accounted for this delay in his letter of the 29th September last, No. 4050, but the Government of India will scarcely receive his explanation as satisfactory, considering the importance attached by them to these statements and to their early transmission. The Government request that the Chief Engineer will make an effort to obtain the Reports from the provinces in future in sufficient time to enable him to compile and submit his Report with more regularity for transmission to the Government of India.

3. The late date at which these Reports have been laid before Government, does not enable the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to scrutinize their details or to comment upon them;

he will therefore confine himself to a few remarks which a general view of the statements shews to be necessary.

	Total estimated cost.	Expenditure during the year.	Total Expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Works in No. 1 of the Budget of 1856-57	60,13,682	5,40,743	7,45,585
Works in No 2 do.	88,76,807	21,49,042	55,61,467
Additional works not included in the Budget	34,40,825	8,71,830	30,29,634
	183,31,314	35,61,615	93,36,686
Repairs		19,35,967	
		54.97,582	
Establishment and Contingencies		13,76,620	
Grand Total		68,74,202	

4. The total expenditure is shewn to have been Rupees 68,74,202, of which Rupees 13,76,620 was on account of establishments and Contingencies, leaving Rupees 54,97,582 as the real expenditure on Public Works. Of this latter sum Rupees 19,35,967 were laid out on Repairs, the remainder Rupees 35,61,615 being the expenditure on new works, viz.

	Rs.
Irrigation	8,46,751
Trunk and Secondary roads, Ferries, Canals, Bridges, &c.	13,75,611
Buildings	4,66,754
Total Civil	26,89,116
Military buildings, accommodations for Troops	8,72,499
Total expenditure	35,61,615

5. The expenditure on account of the works in Statement No. 1 of the Budget, was very limited having been only Rupees 5,40,743, or about 9 per cent. of the aggregate amount of their estimates, which is accounted for, partly by many estimates involving large outlay and consequent reference to the Honorable Court of Directors not having been sanctioned during the year, but chiefly by the restriction imposed by the Government of India, which prevented new works of magnitude being taken up for execution. The outlay on works in Statement No. 2 was somewhat larger having been Rupees 21,49,042, or about a fourth of the aggregate of their estimates. On additional works executed on emergent or supplemental estimates, or on estimates appertaining to the Budget of years previous to that reported upon, Rupees 8,71,830 are shewn to have been expended. The total amount of estimates for all works, including those for which sanction had not been received, was Rupees 183,31,314, the expenditure to the close of the past official year Rupees 93,36,686, leaving a balance of Rupees 89,94,628 to be worked upon in future years.

6. The amount laid out in repairs was Rupees 19,35,967, or above that expended on the same account in the past year by a little more than a lac* of Rupees. The cost of the establishment and contingencies was high being about 20 per cent. of the outlay on Public Works, which is in some measure attributed to the limited operations carried on during the year; a larger expenditure would have shewn a more favorable percentage.

	Rs.
* 1855-56	18,27,887
1856-57	19,35,967
Total	1,08,080

7. In para. 13, the Chief Engineer solicits instructions as to the principle on which the Statement (No. 4) shewing the financial results of remunerative works is to be prepared. Colonel Faber apprehends that the nature of this statement is not correctly understood, every irrigation work in the Madras Presidency, he says, is a remunerative work, and as it is obvious that a list of the whole of these cannot be required, he enquires upon what principle the selection is to be made, whether works in progress are to be included in the statement, or if it should comprize only completed works, and in this case, the nature and class of works to be included. The Governor in Council observes that under the instructions of the Government of India, communicated in the papers noted in the margin, the statement of remunerative works is to include only works that have cost 10,000 Rupees and upwards; works the cost of each of which falls below that amount being altogether excluded from the return. This Statement has heretofore been prepared by the Accountant General, but as the detailed accounts of expenditure in the Public

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Do. letter 17th May " " 1800

Works Department have been transferred from the Collectors to the District Engineers, that Officer is no longer enabled to comply with this requisition. The Government resolve therefore in communicating the instructions of the Government of India referred to above, to the Chief Engineer to request him to prepare the statement in future, in the form laid down in those papers and to supply it in substitution for that now accompanying the Progress Reports. Colonel Faber will at once circulate the form to all the District Engineers, and instruct them to prepare and forward the Statement for 1856-57, obtaining the necessary information from the Collectors regarding the returns of revenue upon such of the works as may be included in the Statement.

8. The details communicated in the list numbered 6 in the Chief Engineer's letter, do not, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, meet the requirements of the Government of India. That list was intended to furnish information respecting those Officers who had, in the operations of the year, "distinguished themselves by skill and accuracy in design, or by vigour and economy "in execution." It occurs to the Governor in Council that the characteristics of "active" "hard-working," "intelligent," and the like assigned to most of the persons mentioned in the list, do not come within the above category; they are the ordinary requirements of the service, and are applicable to the department generally. The Governor in Council requests that Colonel Faber will confine his reports in future to those instances of conspicuous merit, distinguishable from the ordinary performance of duty, which require to be specially noticed, and that, in bringing forward the names of the Officers of his department, he will be careful to specify the particulars and the nature of the service that in his opinion call for commendation.

9. The Government learn from the Accountant General's letter of the 13th November that he is unable to supply the Financial Statement required by the Government of India, to shew the whole expenditure on account of the Public Works of this Presidency, in consequence of the Journals of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works not having been furnished to him since January last. They resolve to call on the Chief Engineer to explain the cause of this great delay, and to request that he will expedite his Journals so as to enable the Accountant General to complete his Statement for transmission to the Government of India on an early date.

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

No. 66. Ordered in consequence that the following letter be despatched.

From H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George; to the Secretary to the Government of India, D. P. W., dated 7th December 1857, No. 2270.

SIR,

Para. 1. I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, to forward, for submission to the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter, and of Reports, from the Chief Engineer, dated 6th November 1857, shewing the progress made in the execution of the works entered in the Budget of this Presidency for the year 1856-57, prepared in conformity with the instructions communicated in your letters of the 18th May 1855, No. 285 and 30th May 1856, No. 2131.

2. The Reports now forwarded are:

1. Progress of Projects entered in Statement No. 1 of the Budget.
2. Do. of works in Statement No. 2 of the Budget
3. Do. additional works, comprizing works executed on emergency, or on supplemental estimates, works appertaining to Budgets of years previous to that reported upon, and those not included in any Budget.
4. Synopsis of expenditure on Public Works under the different branches.
5. Salaries, establishments and contingencies.
6. Tabular view of expenditure on Public Works in more detailed classification of objects.

7. Abstract of classified expenditure.
8. Statement shewing the financial results of certain remunerative works.
9. Statistics of expenditure on the great works in progress.
10. List shewing the names of Officers who most distinguished themselves in the Department Public Works during the past year.

3. The arrangement in the two first reports is the same as in the Lists Nos. 1 and 2 of the Budget to which they relate, as directed in the instructions communicated to this Government on the 18th May 1855. The works executed on emergent and supplemental estimates, or on estimates appertaining to the Budgets of years previous to that under report, were, as in the previous year, very numerous and occupy a large portion of the Report.

4. These reports exhibit the following expenditure:

	Total estimated cost.	Expenditure during the year.	Total expenditure.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Works entered in Statement No. 1 of the Budget of 1856-57	60,13,682	5,40,743	7,45,585
Works entered in Statement No. 2 of the Budget of 1856-57	88,76,807	21,49,042	55,61,467
Additional works not included in the Budget	34,40,825	8,71,830	30,29,634
	183,31,314	35,61,615	93,36,686
Repairs as shewn in the Synopsis.....	.....	19,35,967	
		54,97,582	
Charges of establishment for the whole Department including contingencies	.....	13,76,620	
Grand Total of expenditure.....	.....	68,74,202	

5. The expenditure of the year may be thus classified:

	New works.	Repairs.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
CIVIL.			
Irrigation.....	8,46,751	11,95,244	20,11,995
Trunk and Secundary roads, ferries, bridges, bungalows, Navigable Canals	13,75,611	5,41,195	19,16,806
Buildings	4,66,754	1,01,983	5,68,737
	26,89,116	18,38,422	45,27,538
MILITARY.			
Accommodation for Troops, Ordnance buildings, Cantonment roads, &c.....	8,72,499	97,545	9,70,044
Total Rupees.....	35,61,615	19,35,967	54,97,582

6. It will be seen that the expenditure on works whose estimates exceed 25,000 Rupees, has been very limited, having been not more than Rupees 5,40,743, or 9 per cent. of the aggregate amount of the estimates comprized in No. 1 Statement of the Budget of 1856-57. This result is accounted for, partly, by the circumstance that several works, involving very heavy expenditure, which had been recommended to the Honorable Court of Directors, had not been sanctioned during the year; but, chiefly by the restriction imposed by the Government of India, which prevented new works of any magnitude being undertaken, except those necessary to carry out a scheme already commenced. The outlay on works comprized in Statement No. 2 was somewhat larger, having been Rupees 21,49,042, or about one-fourth of the amount of their aggregate estimates. Repairs to the amount of Rupees 19,35,967 were also executed, being a little more than a lac of Rupees above the amount expended on the same account in the previous year. The charges of establishment, including contingencies, amounted to

	Rs.
1855-56.....	18,27,887
1856-57.....	19,35,967
Total ..	1,08,080

Rupees 13,76,620; this is high in comparison with the aggregate of expenditure incurred, being in the ratio of 20 per cent., and is partly attributable to the limited extent of work undertaken during the year.

7. In para. 13 of his letter, the Chief Engineer solicits further instructions as to the principle on which the statement shewing the financial results of remunerative works is in future to be prepared. Colonel Faber apprehends that the nature of this statement is not correctly understood, every irrigation work in the Madras Presidency, he says, is a remunerative work, and as it is obvious that a list of the whole of these cannot be required, he enquires upon what principle the selection is to be made, whether works in progress are to be included in the statement, or whether it should comprize only completed works, and in this case, the nature and class of works to be included. The Government have informed Colonel Faber that, under the instructions of the Government of India noted in the margin, the statement of remunerative works is to include only works that have cost 10,000 Rupees and upwards; works the cost of each of which falls below that amount being altogether excluded from the Return. This statement has heretofore been prepared by the Accountant General, but as the detailed accounts of expenditure in the Public Works Department, have been transferred from the Collectors to the District Engineers, that Officer is no longer able to comply with the requisition; the Government have therefore directed Colonel Faber to prepare this statement in future, in the form laid down by the Government of India, and to supply it in substitution for that now accompanying the Progress Report.

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8. The details communicated in the List numbered 10 in para. 1 of this letter, do not, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, meet the requirements of the Government of India. That list was intended to furnish information respecting those Officers who had, in the operations of the year, "distinguished themselves by skill and accuracy in design, or by vigour and economy in execution." It occurs to the Governor in Council that the characteristics of active, hard working, intelligent, and the like, assigned to most of the persons mentioned in the list, do not come within the above category; they are the ordinary requirements of the service, and are applicable to the Department in general. The Governor in Council has instructed the Chief Engineer to confine his reports in future to those instances of conspicuous merit, distinguishable from the ordinary performance of duty which require to be specially noticed, and to be careful, in bringing forward the names of the Officers of his Department, to specify particulars, and the nature of the service that, in his opinion, calls for commendation.

9. I have the honor further to forward report and statements from Major A. T. Jenkins, explanatory of the Proceedings of the Madras Railway Company for the year closing with the 30th April 1857, accompanied by remarks made by the Consulting Engineer on the same.

10. The Government are not enabled at present to supply the Financial statement required by the Government of India, to shew the whole expenditure on Public Works in the different branches, as the Accountant General has reported his inability to prepare it, owing to the Journals of the Chief Engineer not having been furnished to his office since January last. The Chief Engineer has been called upon to explain the cause of the delay, and requested to expedite his Journals, so as to enable the Accountant General to comply with the requisition of the Government of India.

11. In conclusion I am directed to express his Lordship's regret at the delay that has occurred in the submission of these reports. It has been owing to the late period at which some of the statements from the provinces were received at the Central Office, and to the necessity afterwards for calling for further information; but, it is to be hoped, now that the Chief Engineer has been urged to make an effort to obtain the District statements with more punctuality that future reports will be laid before the Government of India at the appointed time.

Public Works Dept.

9x

Fort Saint George
No: 238 Accountant Genl's Office
13 November 1857

From

The Accountant General

To

The Acting Secretary
to Government

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the Statement shewing the Expenditure on account of Public Works in this Presidency for the Official year 1855/56, was dispatched to your Office for transmission to the Government of India on the 15th October 1856, but I am unable to submit, as yet, a similar Return for the past Official year 1856/57, in consequence of the Journals of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works (from which alone it can be prepared) not having been received from January to April 1857. I have received the Journals only upto December 1856, and it is not likely that the others will be sent by the Chief Engineer for some time

sometime yet. The Statement for 1855/56 was pre- × The causes of which both are explained to this Office.
pared from the Returns obtained from the
Collectors, but as all the detailed accounts
for the Public Works Expenditure have been
kept by the District Engineers from 1st May
1856, and rendered to the Chief Engineer in
under the new System of Accounts, the Collectors
have now no means of furnishing such Returns.
I have therefore thought it proper to state
the circumstance for the information of Govern-
ment. As soon as the Journals from the
Chief Engineer up to April 1857 shall
have been received, I will lose no time in
preparing and submitting to Government
the Statement required by the Government
of India.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
D. Pringle
Accountant General

Recd. 7th March

P. W. D.

No 2269

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 7th Dec. November, 1857.

Read the following

Papers.

Report from the Chief Engineer

Letter from the Accountant General

/Here enter 6th November 1857, No 2188/

/Here enter 13th November 1857 No 938/

With his letter of the 6th Nov. the Chief Engineer forwards reports shewing the progress made in the execution of the works recommended in the Budget of this Presidency for the year 1856/57 prepared in conformity with the instructions of the Government of India communicated in Colonel Baker's letters of the 18th May 1855 No 285, and 30th May 1856 No 2131. The Chief Engineer has made no reference to these dates, an omission which he will be pleased to avoid in future.

Chief Engineer's Report No 2269.

Accountant General's Letter No 938.

Colonel Baker's Letter No 285 dated 18th May 1855.

Colonel Baker's Letter No 2131 dated 30th May 1856.

Colonel Baker's Letter No 2188 dated 6th November 1857.

future.

2 By the former of these orders the progress reports are required to be submitted three months after the close of each official year, or on the 1st August, and in a later letter from Col. Baker, dated 15th November 1856. — N° 5326, special reference was made to the great delay in the submission of the progress reports of this Presidency. Those now received are dated 6th November 1857, or three months after the time appointed for their transmission; the Chief Engineer has partly accounted for this delay in his letter of the 29th Sept. last, N° 1650, but the Government of India will scarcely receive his explanation as satisfactory, considering the importance attached by them to these Statements and to their early transmission. The Government request that the Chief Engineer will make an effort to obtain the Reports — in future — from the provinces in sufficient time to enable him to compile and submit his report with more regularity to the Government of India.

3 The late date at which these Reports have been laid before Government, does not enable the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to sanction their details or to comment upon them; he will therefore confine himself to a few remarks, which a general view of the Statements he shews to be necessary.

	Total estimated cost	Expenditure during the Year	Total expenditure
Works in N° 1 of the Budget of 1856-57	60,13,682	5,40,743	7,45,585
Works in N° 2 of do	83,46,807	21,49,042	55,61,467
Additional works not included in the Budget	34,40,825	8,71,830	30,29,634
	1,33,31,314	35,61,615	93,36,686
Repairs		19,35,967	
		54,97,582	
Establishments & Contingencies		13,76,620	

1 The total expenditure to date is shewn to have been Rs 68,74,202, of which Rs 13,76,620 was on account

account of establishments and contingencies, leaving Rupees 54,97,382 as the real expenditure on public works. Of this latter sum Rupees 19,35,967 were laid out on Repairs, the remainder Rs. 35,61,615 being the expenditure on new works, Viz.t

Irrigation	Rs.	8,46,751
Trunk and Secondary Roads, Ferries, Canals Bridges &c.		13,75,611
Buildings		1,66,754
Total Civil	Rs.	26,89,116
Military buildings, accommodation for Troops		8,72,499
Total expenditure		35,61,615

The

5 The expenditures on account of the works in Statement No.1 of the Budget, were very limited, having been only Rupees 5,40,743, or about 9 per cent of the aggregate amount of their Estimates, which is accounted for, partly by many Estimates involving large outlay and consequent reference to the Honorable Court of Directors not having been sanctioned during the year, but chiefly by the restriction imposed by the Government of India, which prevented new works of Magnitude being taken up for execution. The outlay on works in Statement No.2 was somewhat longer, having been Rupees 21,49,042, or about a fourth of the aggregate of their estimates

Estimates. On completed
and works executed on
Emergent or Supplemental
Estimates, or on Estimates
appertaining to the Budg-
-et of years previous to
that reported upon, Rupees
87,830 are shewn to have
been expended. The total
amount of Estimated
for all works, includ-
-ing those for which
Sanction had not
been received, was
Rupees —— 183,21,314.
the expenditures
to the close of the
first Official year
Rupees. —— 93,26,686.
leaving a balance
of Rupees— 89,94,628 to
be

* 1855/56— 18,27,887
1856/57— 19,35,067
1,08,083

be worked upon in
future years.

6 The Amount laid
out in repairs was
Rupees 19,35,967, or above
that expended on the
same account in the
first year by a little
more than a lac of
Rupees. The cost of
the Establishment and
Contingencies was
high, being
about 20 per Cent of
the outlay on public
works, which is in
some measure
attributed to the
limited operations

Carried

carried on during the year; a larger expenditure would have shewn a more favorable percentage.

7 In para 12 the Chief Engineer solicits further instructions as to the principle on which the Statement showing the financial results of remunerative works is to be prepared. Colonel Faber appears that the nature of this statement is not correctly understood

No 4.

Why will this be the case? It will

Financial Cons. 4th February 1855 No 929.
Financial Letter 17th May 1800.

understood, every irrigation work in the Madras Presidency, he says, is a remunerative work, and as it is obvious that a list of the whole of these cannot be required, he enquires upon what principle the selection is to be made, whether works in progress are to be included in the Statement, or if it should comprize only completed works, and in this case, the nature and class of works to be included. The Governor in Council observes that under the instructions of the Government of India, communicated in the papers noted in the margin, the Statement of remunerative works is to include only works that have cost 10000 Rupees and upwards; works the cost of each of which falls below that amount

amount being altogether excluded from the return. This Statement has heretofore been prepared by the Accountant General, but as the detailed accounts of expenditure in the Public Works Department have been transferred from the Collectors to the District Engineers, that officer is no longer enabled to comply with this requisition. The Government resolve therefore, in communicating the instructions of the Government of India referred to above, to the Chief Engineer, to request him to prepare this Statement in future, in the form laid down in those papers, and to supply it in substitution for that now accompanying the progress reports. Colt. Faber will at once circulate the form to all the District Engineers and instruct them to prepare and forward the Statement for 1856/57, obtaining the necessary information from the Collectors regarding the returns of revenue upon such of the works as may be included in the Statement.

8 The details communicated in the List numbered 6 in the Chief Engineer's letter, do not, in the opinion of the Governor in Council meet the requirements of the Government of India. That List was intended to furnish information respecting those officers who had, in the operations of the year, "distinguished themselves by "skill and accuracy in "design, or by vigour and economy

"economy in execution." It occurs to the Governor in Council that the characteristics of "active", "hardworking", "intelligent", and the like assigned to most of the persons mentioned in the list, do not come within the above category; they are the ordinary requirements of the Service, and are applicable to the department generally. The Governor in Council requests that Colonel Faber will confine his reports in future to those instances of conspicuous merit, distinguishable from the ordinary performance of duty, which require to be specially noticed, and that, in bringing forward the names of the officers of his department, he will be careful to specify the particulars and

and the nature of the service that in his opinion call for commendation.

The Government learn from the Accountant General's letter of the 13th November that he is unable to supply the Financial Statement required by the Government of India, to shew the whole expenditure on account of the Public Works of this Presidency, in consequence of the Journals of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works not having been furnished to him since January last. They resolve to call on the Chief Engineer to explain the cause of this great delay, and to request that he will expedite his Journals so as to enable the

Accountant

Accountant General to complete
his Statement for transmission
to the Government of India
on an early date.

DS

9 Copies to the Chief Engr
with the printed Disp.s
referred to in Disp.h
D 7 —

1 — to Accts. Genl.

6 — to Govt. of India

Copy in a Letter to E.
of 17th July 1858: No 15.

Com: 2d Dec/56 No 15 to 18

Public Works
Dt to Com: 8th Dec
No 2269.

Extract Mins of Com:
Dt 7th December 1857.

From Chief Engr 17th Dec/57 No 124 Encl
26 Jan/58

1857

From the Chief Engr dated 9 Sept
1858 C & D 2112 for Com: 25 Oct

Reviewing the Progress Reports of
Works enumerated in the Budget of the
Presidency for the official year 1856-57.

No 63 to 65

c 24 Nov 1230