M.R.O. 1—32-6-0C—22-11-37

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

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

Dated [illegible] 18[illegible].

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 3rd March 1857.

No. 22. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Acting Superintending Engineer, Northern Circle, in charge of the Central office of Public Works, dated 6th February 1857, No. 10099.

Read the following Journal of the Proceedings of Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle on Circuit, 26th January 1857.

Trichinopoly District.

Proceeded up the Ponairy channel to Thuttoor, and back to Pulloor 30 miles.

27th. Sholawadavy 4 miles, Shatia Tope 22 miles, Total 26 miles.

South Arcot District.

28th. Vellaur annicut.

This work now stands complete, and has suffered no injury from the monsoon freshes, but the state of the river bed has not received that attention which it required, and I do not hesitate to record my opinion that if measures are not taken for its improvement the annicut will again be destroyed. My advice to Lieutenant Foord, has been almost entirely disregarded, but I have now pointed out to Captain Paxton, what should be done to ensure the safety of the weir.

It is also necessary that the long intended re-construction of the Rajah Voikol Head Sluice, on a better site, should be carried into effect in the working season of 1858, and for this also Captain Paxton, will forward estimates.

The annicut Cotars (Lascars) are not sufficiently paid at 3½ Rupees each per month, while those at the locks receive 4 Rupees, and I recommend an exchange of situations among these people, all of whom should be able bodied men, and they should reside at the annicut, which conditions, are not now enforced.

Proposed Monomooteenuddee Annicut.

The project for an annicut, above Verdachellum, brought forward by Lieutenant Wilkeison, was referred to Lieutenant Foord, for report early in 1856, but up to the present time no information has been afforded to the Central office on the subject, I find however, that the District Engineer has instituted investigations on the construction of an annicut across the same river, at Kumanoor, some miles lower done, and this would apparently imply that the project of his predecessor has been set aside, which I think is to be regretted, for primâ facie, it seems that the higher up the river the annicut is built, the better, and at any rate Lieutenant Foord, should not drop the matter referred to him, without making a report.

Tanjore District

29th. Lower Coleroon annicut 22 miles
Myaveram ... ... 18 do.

Total.....40 do.

The construction of the bridge across the North branch of the annicut has been resumed, and though not now proceeding very rapidly, owing to a deficiency of labour, yet promises to be safely, and satisfactorily completed. A separate report on this work will be submitted.

30th. Halted at Myaveram.

31st. Myaveram to Trimulvassel and Tranquebar 32 miles.

Inspected that part of the Coast Canal which extends from Trimulvassel to Tranquebar, 14 miles in length, on the improvement of which an estimate of Rupees 22,300, has been partially expended during the past season, under the immediate directions of the Sub Collector Mr. Cadell. The work performed has consisted, of deepening the Canal, raising, and strengthening the banks, and preparing materials for three Calingulahs. The expenditure has amounted to about 14,000, Rupees. The state of the Canal was very good, during the greater part of the season, and it was much used for Navigation until the storm of the 21st November breached it seriously; and after being repaired, it again suffered severe injury, from the more

violent gale of the 9th December last, owing to the above injuries, the Canal has for the present, ceased to be Navigable, and will remain so unless until the additional Calingulahs, are built, but the effect of the work in protecting the low lands from inundation by the Sea, and saving the crops during the two storms has been very decided, and most beneficial. The western, or land dike of the Canal has been extensively breached by the floods which poured down on it, but the Sea dike, protected as it was by the Canal on the land side, has for the most part stood remarkably well, and as a defence only, has amply repaid its cost.

The repairs of the Canal with its Calingulahs, and Sea dike, I have estimated at 250 Rupees a mile for 14 miles, or 3,500 Rupees for the entire length, and these should be executed, as soon as the coolies are available. I have placed Lieutenant Moore on this work, with a view to his preparing a complete section, and Superintending the remaining masonry works, as well as the repairs. He will also undertake the preparation of a proper estimate, for completing the Northern Section of the Canal, up to the Colcroon.

Tanjore District Tranquebar, 2nd February 1857.

(Signed) T. LAWFORD,
Superintending Engineer Southern Circle.

Resolved to forward to Government, for information, and early orders, copy of the foregoing Journal of the Proceedings, of the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle on Circuit, in the month of January 1857.

(Signed) C. C. JOHNSTON, Captain,
Acting Superintending Engineer Northern Circle.

No. 23. ORDER THEREON, No. 377; dated 27th February 1857.

The points requiring notice in Major Lawford's Journal received with the Proceeding above recorded are, 1st. The alleged disregard on the part of Lieutenant Foord of the advice given by the Superintending Engineer to improve the bed of the Vellaur for the safety of the annicut, 2ndly. The proposed exchange of situations between the lascars of the annicut and those at the locks, 3rdly. The delay on the part of Lieutenant Foord to report upon the project of Lieutenant Wilkeison for building an annicut across the Monomooteenuddee above Verdachellum and 4thly. The necessity of repairing the Coast Canal from Trimulvassel to Tranquebar at an outlay of Rupees 3,500.

2. Before passing any orders on the 1st and 3rd points, the Government wish to have before them full explanation from Lieutenant Foord in regard to the neglect and delay attributed to him. The Officer in charge of the Central office will be good enough to obtain and submit the same as early as possible. The transfer of lascars from the locks to the annicut on Vellaur and vice versa can be carried out unless deemed objectionable in any way, and the proposed expenditure of Rupees (3,500) three thousand, and five hundred, for the repair of the Trimulvassel Canal is sanctioned.

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

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Public Works Dept.

No. 377

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 27th February 1857.
Read the following
Extract from the Proceedings
of the Chief Engineer.

Have entered 6th February 1857
No. 1099

The points requiring notice in Major Lawford's Journal received with the Proceeding above recorded are
1st The alleged disregard
on the part of Lieutenant
Foord of the advice given
by the Superintending
Engineer to improve the
bed of the Vellaur
for

for the safety of the Annicut.

2nd. The proposed exchange of situations between the Lowcard of the Annicut and those at the Locks.

3rd. The delay on the part of Lieutenant Foord to report upon the project of Lieutenant Wilkerson for building an Annicut across the Nonnoottenaddee above Verdapettum and of the necessity of repairing the Coast Canal from Trimulivassel to Tranquebar at an outlay of Rupees 3500.—

1. Before passing any orders on the 1st and 3rd points the Govt wish to have before them full explanation from

from Lieutenant Foord in regard to the neglect and delay attributed to him. The Chief Engineer will be good enough to obtain and submit the same as early as possible. The transfer of Lowcard from the locks, to the Annicut in Villaur and vice versa can be carried out unless deemed objectionable in any way and the proposed expenditure of Rupees (3500) Three thousand and five hundred for the repair of the Trimulivassel Canal is sanctioned.

J. Copies to the Chief Engr. Dist. 28
Accts. General.

Public Works 1857 Dep't
Dº to Cors 3d March

№ 377.

Extract Mins. Cons.
D 27 February 57

Pointing out certain
points requiring rectification
Major Lawford's Journals,
and sanctioning the proposed
expenditure of £3,500 for the
repair of the Trimulgherry
Canal, Tanjore District.

Extract from the Proc. of the
Chief Engineer 27 Augt 57
№ 1778 and 8 Sept

1st Feby 1823