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M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

Cons. dt 21.4.1857

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| G.O. No. | 659 | Press Mis. |
| 10—11 | | |
| Dated | 8 4 | 1857 |

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

No. 10. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer ; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 18th March 1857, No. 11016.

SIR,

In Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No. 424, dated 4th Instant, Government are pleased to observe in para. 2, that the four suggestions offered by the Superintendent East Coast Canal, as enumerated in para. 3, were considered by me as " sensible and suitable for the occasion." This I respectfully submit was *not* the case, the concluding observation in my letter No. 9430, dated 14th January last, being " I concur generally in the views set forth by Lieute- " nant Sankey, as sensible, and for the most part suitable to the occasion." The extent to which I considered them so, was I am of opinion clearly indicated in the " Notification " proposed to be published in the Gazette.

1st. With reference to 1st and 3rd suggestions. To exempt from all toll not " boats using the Canal for the first 4 or 5 years," but boats of suitable size and shape for a period of 3 years, and the Collector and Superintendent were to be authorized " to receive applications, tenders, " and proposals, for building new boats or placing old ones of approved models on the Canal from " all parties desirous of doing so."

2nd. So far from supporting the 2nd suggestion, the Notification stated that " the encour- " agement thus held out to Merchants, boat builders and others will have effect until the 1st " May 1857, when the Government will be at liberty to terminate the exemption from tollage " and duties of all kinds guaranteed in the preceding para., and to adopt such other measures for " making the Sadras Canal extensively useful for the accommodation of the general community, " as may be deemed necessary with reference to the number of applications that may have been " received before the 1st May next," thus clearly making the attempt solely tentative.

3rd. The fourth suggestion was disposed of by the following remarks in para. 9 of my letter before quoted. " In the event of the result favoring the suggestion that Government should " build boats, it will *then* be time to consider the question of establishing an Agency at Moulmein, " or elsewhere, for the supply of teak timber."

2. In para. 4 of their order Government observe that the line of Canal has not yet been declared open, and express disappointment " to find the head of the Public Works Department " recommending the adoption of a course, the main principle involved in which, is, a deliberate " conviction that unless they are paid for doing so, no one will use the work." In reply to this, I would again respectfully submit, that an extreme view has been taken of what, when carefully scrutinized, will be seen to be my very partial and restricted support of Lieutenant Sankey's suggestions.

3. The following Statement made by Lieutenant Sankey induced me to support in part his proposition for exemption from toll " no attempt having as yet been made by the inhabitants " of the Villages studded along the margins of the Covelong backwater to build boats, it will " need the stimulus of a palpable and direct profit, to induce them to enter into the matter with spirit " their own unaided exertions cannot be relied upon for stocking the Canal with boats, yet, this " is a matter of prime importance, in effecting which, no time should be lost, no exertion spared."

4. I am led to conclude from the general tenor of the orders of Government, that the provision made by the Government of the N. W. P. in the parallel case, of opening the great Ganges Canal have either been overlooked or disapproved. It is a main feature of the arrange- ments made for the Navigation of that noble work, that the Government comes forward as boat builder and stocks the line throughout, offering not only to become a public carrier of goods, parcels and merchandize, but to let out boats on monthly or half monthly hire, either with or without crews at $1\frac{1}{2}$ per diem in the former case and $\frac{1}{2}$ Rupee in the latter.

5. It seems, not an improper occasion to point out, that, the Government has been alto- gether silent on the subject of a Canal Police; yet, unless both the property that may come on the Canal is protected, and unless the works of the Canal, such as the banks and trees, are pre- served from injury, whether wantonly or by cattle . trespass, great discomfort must be felt by

traders, and much probable injury will be sustained by the Government. The powers of Deputy Magistrate, so freely and usefully conferred on the Departmental Officers, in the N. W. P. are still withheld in the Madras Presidency, and admitting that the Superintendant of the E. C. Canal and the Executive Engineers may have but little leisure for Magisterial or Judicial functions the very possession of the powers, however rarely exercised, cannot but be beneficial, and at all events, the Officers of the 2 junction Canals, and of the Ganges Canal, have perhaps, even less professional leisure, than our own employees. Nevertheless under Act VII of 1815, it has been, and still is found, indispensable to confer the powers of a Deputy Magistrate, on all the Departmental Officers, and it might have been supposed that a successful experience of 12 years practical working of this system in the N. W. P. would have afforded abundant guarantee for introducing the same system in Madras.

6. But without further dwelling upon a difference, which, I must admit, has much perplexed me, I beg leave to point out that some Police regulations for the Adyaur and Sadras Canal seem a necessity for protecting the interests of Government, and unless Talliarees or Watchers are entertained for the embankments (or spoil banks which yield no small returns in the Bengal Canals, by sale of grass, thinning plantations &c. &c.) and the young trees, much wilful or wanton mischief is likely to be perpetrated with impunity.

7. The amended Notification to be Published in the Gazette, as called for in para. 8 of the orders of Government, is herewith forwarded.

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No. 11. ORDER THEREON, No. 659; dated 8th April 1857.

In this letter, the Chief Engineer submits that the recommendations made in his letter of the 14th of January No. 9430, were not such as they were represented to be in the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the 4th of March No. 424.

2. The Government have referred to the papers in question, and are unable to see that Colonel Faber has been misrepresented. Colonel Faber complains that, whereas he is supposed to have expressed himself as of opinion that Lieutenant Sankey's recommendations for inducing the public to use the Sadras Canal were "sensible and suitable for the occasion," the opinion he really offered was that they were "sensible and for the most part suitable for the occasion."

3. The Government had no intention to do Colonel Faber injustice, and if he considers that there is a marked difference between the two expressions, they have no objection to accept his exact words.

4. It was to the general principle involved in the Chief Engineer's recommendation to which the Government objected, and as he advocated exemption from toll for three years to all who would use the Canal, reserving to the Government the right of adopting other measures for making the work more extensively useful if the former measure failed, they do not consider that his views were misrepresented when it was said that the principle they involved was the payment of the public to make use of the Canal.

5. The Chief Engineer in the 4th paragraph of his present letter represents that the Government of the North Western Provinces, on the opening of the Ganges Canal, had offered to become a public carrier, or to build boats and let them out for hire, but, without at present discussing the expediency of such measures, the Government remark that they formed no part of the recommendations of Lieutenant Sankey which the Chief Engineer thought "sensible and for the most part suitable for the occasion." It was proposed to exempt from toll, to offer rewards for the production of boats, or, that Government should build and work boats at thier own expense, offering still higher rewards for their imitation, and these measures, which all involve expense and offer no prospect of direct return, are manifestly very different from the plans said by the Chief Engineer to have been adopted in the Ganges Canal.

6. In the 5th paragraph of his letter Colonel Faber refers to the necessity for a Police establishment on the Canal, and again recommends that the Superintendant shall be granted Magisterial powers: this latter question was disposed of by Government in the 7th paragraph of the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation of the 1st of November 1856, No. 2026.

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 21st April 1857.

7. As regards the General question of Police, it is not clear to the Government that there is any greater necessity for a special force on the Canal than on the Trunk road, the former, equally with the latter, passes through the boundaries of the several villages on its line and the village Police is as much bound to preserve the banks of the Canal, and their plantations, from wilful injury, as to prevent wanton damage to the road and its avenues.

8. The attention of the Collector of Chingleput will be attracted to the subject, and he will be requested to issue orders impressing on the Talook and village Police the necessity of attending to the Canal.

9. The notification submitted by the Chief Engineer, will, with a slight modification be now published in twelve successive issues of the Gazette, and 3,000 copies will be separately printed for distribution, in the following proportions.

Collector of Madras.
500 Tamil.
500 Teloogoo.
Collector of Chingleput.
600 Tamil.
Collector of Cuddalore.
600 Tamil.
Superintendent of East Coast Canal.
400 Tamil.
400 Teloogoo.

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

P.W. Deptt.

No. 659

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 8th April ~~March~~ 1857.

Read the following letter from the Chief Engineer

(Here enter 18th March/57 No. 11016)

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In this letter the Chief Engineer submits that the recommendations made in his letter of the 14th of January No. 9430 were not such as they were represented to be in the Ex. from the Min. of Con.

of

of the 4th. of March
No. 424-

2 The Govt. have referred to the Papers in question, and are unable to see that Colonel Faber has been misre=presented. Colonel Faber complains that, whereas he is supposed to have expressed him=self as of opinion that Lieut. Lankey's recom=mendations for inducing the public to use the Madras Canal were "sensible and suitable for the occasion", the opinion he really offered was



was that they were "sensible and for the most part suitable for the occasion".

3 The Govt. had no intention to do Coll. Faber injustice, and if he considers that there is a marked difference between the two expres=sions, they have no ob=jection to accept his exact words.

4 It was to the general principle in=volved in the Chief Engineer's recommenda=tion to which the Govt. objected, and as he

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Ganges Canal.

In the 5th Paragraph of this letter Colr. Faber refers to the necessity for a Police Establishment on the Canal, and again recommends that the Superintendent should be granted Magisterial powers. this latter question is also disposed of by Govt. in the 7th Paragraph of the Ex. from the Mins. of Govr. of the 1st of November 1856 No 2026.

As regards the general question of Police, it is not clear to

to the Govt: that there is any greater necessity for a special force on the Canal than on the Trunk road, the former, equally with the latter, passes thro' the boundaries of the several Villages on its line, and the Village Police is as much bound to preserve the banks of the Canal, and their plantations, from wilful injury, or to prevent wanton damage to the road and its avenues.

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15

2. The attention of the Collector of Chingleput will be attracted to the subject, and he will be requested to issue orders impressing on the Taluk and Village Police the necessity of attending to the Canal.

3. The notification submitted by the Chief Engineer, with a slight modification be now published in twelve successive issues of the Gazette, and 3,000 Copies will be separately printed for distribution, in

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Superintendent of

East Coast Canal

400 Tamil

400 Teloogoo.

Copies to the Ch. Engr.

Dep. Sy

1 — Coll. of Chingleput

PM
Cons: 18th March/57 Nos 47 & 48

Copying in Ly. L. to E.
dy 24th October 1857. No 17.
Paras 2 to 11.

Public Works 1857 Dept.
Dr to Cons: 21st April
No. 659.
Extract Mins of Cons.
Dy 8th April/57.

Observing that Govt are unable to see that Col. Jebb has been misrepresented in the order of the 5th March last, and intimating that the Collr of Chingleput will be requested to issue orders impressing on the Taloor and Village Police, the necessity of attending to the Madras Canal, and that the Notification submitted by the Chief Engr will with a slight modification be now published in 12 successive issues of the Gazette and 3,000 copies will be separately printed for distribution in the Collectorates of Madras, Chingleput, & Cuddalore.

No 1011.

C 28 March & 2 April

Public Works 1857 Department
Dr to Cons 21st April
No. 550

From, The Chief Engineer.
To, The Secy to Govt P.W.D.

Dated 18th March 1857.
Received 19th

No. 1016
No. 659. 8th April
Enclosure 1 [illegible]

Forwards replies to certain observations of Government contained in Exc: Mins: Cons: No. 424 dated 4th March 1857.