1. Number of pages 18
2. Date of repair 21-6-
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—82 400—22-11-60

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 21 4 57

G.O. No. 663 Press Mis.

18-19

Dated 27 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1—

N.° 11286.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works.

Under dated the 25th March 1857

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar.

(Here Enter February 25th 1857 N.° 512.)

Resolved, under all the circumstances stated, that Copy of the foregoing letter be forwarded to the District Engineer Malabar, with a request that he will adopt the preliminary measures for thoroughly examining the Annamulley river and its capabilities for irrigation, in order that the project for a Dam across it at the most eligible site be professionally scrutinized and reported on.

Endorse

2. The Chief Engineer regrets to observe the very long time that this subject has engaged attention, to little if any purpose. There is not the least doubt that a work of this kind would produce considerable advantage to the Ryots and the State, and that large pecuniary returns may be calculated on; but the apparently imperfect manner in which the local Officers have looked into it, compels him to refer the whole matter for the orders of Government.

3. In a letter from this Office dated 27th May

6

may last, the papers connected with the project were forwarded for the examination and report of Captain Ouchterlony, who after a lapse of four months, recommended the abandonment of the undertaking (on the ground that the increase to be expected to the Revenue did not warrant its prosecution) without even suggesting any measures by which the want of such a work could be otherwise met.

4. In a subsequent letter of the 15th October last Captain Ouchterlony states that the Revenue returns anticipated from the operation of the proposed Anicut were received from the Collector himself, and that the project could not be entertained, as the financial and economic results were considered unpromising and inadequate. As a professional Officer the District Engineer in charge should have pointed out, that although the site selected was not the most advantageous, yet that much more eligible places could be found on other points of the river, which therefore might be usefully examined.

5. This omission has now been supplied in the letter from Mr. Robinson, and with the view of obtaining final instructions on the subject, the Chief Engineer resolves to submit Copy of the same to Government with a recommendation (in reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation

3rd

para 3. 3d October № 1806) that as the work projected by Assistant Surveyor Martin is apparently unsuitable authority may be granted for carrying out the suggestion made by Mr. Robinson for examining the river, and constructing the Dam on a more eligible site.

(True Extract)

W. Taylor Colonel

Chief Engineer.

To

The Secretary to Government

Public Works Department.

Ed Maclaghan

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

No. 18. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 25th March 1857, No. 11286.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Malabar.

(Here enter February 25th 1857, No. 512.)

Resolved, under all the circumstances stated, that copy of the foregoing letter be forwarded to the District Engineer Malabar, with a request that he will adopt the preliminary measures for thoroughly examining the Anamulay River and its capabilities for irrigation, in order that the project for a dam across it at the most eligible site be professionally scrutinized and reported on.

2. The Chief Engineer regrets to observe the very long time that this subject has engaged attention, to little if any purpose. There is not the least doubt that a work of this kind would produce considerable advantage to the Ryots and the state, and that large pecuniary returns may be calculated on; but the apparently imperfect manner in which the local Officers have looked into it, compels him to refer the whole matter for the orders of Government.

3. In a letter from this office dated 27th May last, No. 3561 the papers connected with the project were forwarded for the examination and report of Captain Ouchterlony, who after a lapse of four months, recommended the abandonment of the undertaking (on the ground that the increase to be expected to the Revenue did not warrant its prosecution) without even suggesting any measures by which the want of such a work could be otherwise met.

4. In a subsequent letter of the 15th October last Captain Ouchterlony states that the Revenue returns anticipated from the operation of the proposed annicut were received from the Collector, himself, and that the project could not be entertained, as the Financial and economic results were considered unpromising and inadequate. As a professional Officer the District Engineer in charge should have pointed out, that although the site selected was not the most advantageous, yet that much more eligible places could be found on other points of the river, which therefore might be usefully examined.

5. This omission has now been supplied in the letter from Mr. Robinson, and with the view of obtaining final instructions on the subject, the Chief Engineer resolves to submit copy of the same to Government with a recommendation (in reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation 3rd October No. 1806) that as the work projected by Assistant Surveyor Martin is apparently unsuitable, authority may be granted for carrying out the suggestion made by Mr. Robinson for examining the river, and constructing the Dam on a more eligible site.

Para. 3.

(Signed) C. E. FABER, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, No. 663; dated 8th April 1857.

Although the erection of a Dam across the Anamalay river was first proposed in 1854, there is no prospect of an early commencement of the work. The Government must express regret at this delay, as well as at Captain Ouchterlony's hurried abandonment of a plan which does not appear to have been sufficiently considered.

2. Under the opinion expressed by the Acting Collector in his letter† to the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council sanctions the thorough examination of the river and its capabilities for irrigation by an Overseer to be employed for the purpose on a monthly salary of Rupees (100) one hundred which Mr. Robinson reports, that the Ryots are willing to contribute. The examination must however be conducted under the directions of the District Engineer.

† 25th February 1857, No. 512.

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

G. 31 Bundle 824 4

"Unanswered reference"

Nº 512/1856.

Calicut 25th February 1857.

From

W. Robinson Esqre
Acting Collector of Malabar

To

Colonel C. E. Faber
Chief Engineer D. P. W.
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Assistants' Letter dated 10th Instant, and in submitting a copy of a communication of mine to the Sub Collector under date the 13th October last on the subject of the Tattamangalom Dam, to state that that Officer has not yet replied, and has as yet been unable to examine the project for want of professional assistance.

2. Mr Martin's plan consists of a Plan and Estimate of the Dam accompanied by a Sketch &ca of the ground between the site of the proposed Dam, and the spot where the water will come to the surface, no cross levels have been taken, the line the water would follow

when

when taken with a proper and regulated fall along the higher levels has not been indicated, nor the ground generally surveyed, nor has the quantity of water which would be available, been calculated. It is needless to add that the irrigation project is not in a condition to be made over to a Native Revenue Officer (unless himself a Surveyor and competent to follow out the project) to ascertain the width of land that may be expected to be watered, but so it has been. The Tahsildar reports generally under date the 14th August last of the work without any accurate or apparently very intelligent idea that the single crop land which would bear two crops would produce a sum of 700 odd Rupees. I do not believe the Tahsildar (of a District where there are no irrigation works) understood much of the matter.

3 Neither Mr Morris nor myself (I am well acquainted with the Country) consider this information satisfactory. There is not a doubt that the greatest advantage and a large pecuniary return may be looked for from irrigation Drain- 2.
works in the Eastern Talooks of the District

and

and the Ryots are most eager to do whatever is necessary to secure a steady supply of water. Still we both think that the spot chosen is by no means the most advantageous one for the purpose of irrigation, and much more eligible sites for irrigation works are pointed out at several other points on this river, which ought to be properly examined.

4. The Ryots are alive to the importance of such works, and most anxious for irrigation, and they are prepared to pay whatever is required. The only difficulty is to obtain assistance in testing and maturing projects. Principal people have now come forward, and have offered to pay 100 Rupees a month for a Surveyor to take the necessary sections and levels for irrigation projects on that river.

5. I therefore recommend that the project under reference be returned to the District Engineer, and that a Surveyor be placed at the disposal of Lieutenant Bean and Mr Morris, to prepare the preliminaries for a thorough examination of the River, and its capabilities for irrigation. Captain Bean will visit that Division in April

Cabinet 13th October 1856

No 3119

To

G. L Morris Esquire
Sub Collector
Paulghaut

Sir,

I have the honor with reference to the enclosed copy of an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation No 1806 dated 3d Instant, to state that I am not aware of the exact spot in the Amamalla River at which it is proposed to place this Annicut, but it is scarcely possible that a sum of 784 Rupees only should be returned by such a work, which would be the value of water even at the low rate of 1¼ Rupee per acre of only 627/8 Acres. I am willing. Kindly therefore give this matter your best attention. I presume that lines of cross levels have been taken, and that the area of land to which water will flow may be ascertained with a considerable degree of precision. Likewise you will kindly inform me of the basis on which Revenue Returns are calculated, and forward copies of communications in Vernacular or English with the Resident or Engineer Officer. You will observe that this information is required at our earliest convenience, but I earnestly

April or May, by which time it might be possible to prepare a good many lines of levels, and the Ryots will pay him 100 Rupees per month.

6. I do not anticipate the damage to the works pointed out by Captain Ouchterlony. The River has lost its character of a mountain torrent long before reaching the spot.

7. I greatly regret the delay that has taken place, but I was unwilling to place conjectural matters before you, and more so to dismiss summarily a subject so important to the Eastern Talooks of the District, as the irrigation from the Tattamangalom River. I regret that I am not now able to write satisfactorily, but you are well acquainted with the condition of the Department of Public Works in this District. There is not one Surveyor in it, and a Resident Engineer has only just joined.

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) W. Robinson.
Acting Collector.

(True Copy)
Asst Adjt General
Chief Engineer.

earnestly suggest that a scheme of this kind, and so beneficial as such are every where proved to become will not be lightly treated or dropped.

I take the liberty at the same time of suggesting a careful examination of the entire bearing of this subject on the interests of your division, there are many spots where such works could not fail to be great blessing to the country, especially about the upper part of the Hanady River.

I have &c.

/signed/ W. Robinson

Acting Collector.

/A true copy/

/S/ W. Robinson

A/S Coll.

/True copy/

Asst. Adjt. Colonel

Chief Engineer.

Encl. 2 Diary.

Public Works Dept.

No. 663

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

Read the following
Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer

Here enter 25th March 1857
No 11,2861

Although the erection of a
Dam across the Annamalay
river was first proposed
in 1854 ~~and~~ there is no
prospect ~~of~~ ~~are~~ early
~~close of its being finally~~
~~commenced~~ ~~& started for some time~~
the work. ~~made~~. The Government
must express regret at
this delay as well as at
Captain

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

Read the following
Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer
Public Works Dept

Letter No 257 dated March 1857
Rec'd 11th April

P. Works 7/123/57.

Copies of correspondence
from the Superintendent of
Malabar, regarding the
Tattamangalam dam, and rec-
commending that a surveyor
be placed at the disposal of
Lt Bean and Mr Harris before
they take the preliminaries for
a thorough examination of
the River.

(c.3) Transmitted

Captain Dutchterlony's hurried abandonment of a plan which does not appear to have been sufficiently considered.

2. Under the opinion expressed by the Acting Collector in his letter to the Chief Engineer, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council sanctions the thorough examination of the river and its capabilities for irrigation by an Overseer ~~solely~~ to be employed for the purpose on a monthly ~~pay~~ salary of Rupees 100, one hundred, ~~at the rate of the Rs Scale as proposed~~ which by Mr Robinson ~~with~~ ~~this~~

* 24th Feb 1857 No 582

2 Copies to the Chief Engr.
Disp. 9
1 — Asst. Engr.
1 — Asst. Auditor.

reports that the Ryots are willing to contribute ~~this consent~~. The examination must however be conducted under the directions of the District Engineer.

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Public Works 1857 Dept.
Do to Cons 21st April

No. 663.

Extract Mins of Cons.
Dy 8th April 57.

Ex Chief Engr. 4th Sumd 57-6
No 1153 in 6 y June

Extract from the Mins of Cons
Political Dept. 15 July 57 No. 1508
in 8 Sep

Expressing regret at the delay in the erection of a Dam across the Anamalay river, and sanctioning the thorough examination of the river and its capabilities for irrigation, by an Overseer employed for the purpose, on a monthly salary of Rupees 100, which, as reported, the Ryots are willing to contribute.

No. 1819.

C 31 Thumb 824 4/11/8