1. Number of pages. 1-8
2. Date of repair. 21.6.37
3. Initials of Reference

M.R.O. 1—32,400—28-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Cons. 21-4-57

G.O. No.	694	Press Mis.
16-81		
Dated	16-4-	1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

21.6.37

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

No. 80. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 1st April 1857, No. 11452.

Read the following Journal of the Proceedings of Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, from 15th to 21st March 1857, dated Camp Ootacamund, 23rd March 1857.

15th Sunday

16th
17th
18th
19th
} Employed in inspecting the European Barracks at Jackatalla, with their several dependent works, examining accounts &c.

21st. Inspected the proposed line, of water course for the supply of certain houses at Coonoor, my report on which was ordered by Government and will be furnished hereafter. Proceeded from Jackatalla to Ootacamund. The new road lately under execution, by Lieutenant Stewart, on the trace of Captain Francis, is a work of the very first class and both design, and execution are most satisfactory. Leaving the old line with all its irregularities through the Kaity vally, the new one follows the side of the hills, at a regular and easy slope, and is carried under heights where the whole road, had to be formed by blasting the most impracticable rocks. Two heavy cuttings one of about 100 feet, and the other 50 feet in depth occur, and the vast improvement effected on the entire road, is only appreciable by actual comparison, with the old line. But the road though open is not yet completed, and Lieutenant Stewart in his able report to the District Engineer, expresses an opinion that 5,000 Rupees, over and above the Estimate will be required to finish it, properly, of which there can be no doubt, and I think the sum should be larger, in addition to which I most strongly recommend, the whole road from Ootacamund to Coonoor to be metalled, as the soil is such as to become extremely slippery and dangerous in wet weather.

Further, the road must be connected with the Cantonment of Jackatalla, by being taken across the ravine, skirting it between that place and Coonoor. This is intended to be done eventually by a bund being thrown across a little below the present hollow called Waterloo brickfield, which will thus be formed into a reservoir, but no such change can take place until the Barracks are completed, or four years hence, I recommend therefore that another embankment be placed lower down the ravine, at a spot where the Commissariat and Police buildings are to be erected, on one side and the Bazars on the other; the bund thus forming not only a road from the Cantonment to Ootacamund, but a means of communication between the several branches of that important Department, and above all serving to dam up, and reserve another large body of water so essential, for the increasing population.

I look upon this last, as a measure of pressing importance, and earnestly hope no time may be lost in promoting it. The upper springs which now give out the only supply of water for the Cantonment, are insufficient, and the channels are polluted in their passage through the lands, and unless a pond or tank, for watering cattle, and for the ablutions of Natives be soon constructed on the abundant, though inconvenient main stream, the worst consequences may ensue.

As a sanitary, and absolutely necessrry work, therefore, the formation of a bund across the Jackatalla ravine near the Cantonment bazars, is most strongly recommended for the favorable consideration of Government, and Captain Francis has been requested to prepare plans and estimates accordingly.

Resolved, that the foregoing report from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, be submitted for the favorable cosideration, and early orders of Government.

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

Cuttings

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

No. 81. ORDER THEREON, No. 694; dated 16th April 1857.

The Chief Engineer forwards a proposal from the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle for the formation of a bund across the Jackatalla ravine near the Cantonment bazar, favorably recommends the plan and requests the early orders of Government.

2. Colonel Faber ought to be aware that the Government can pass no orders on a proposal for a work for which they have received neither plan nor estimate.

Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 1452 32

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works Fort St George
Under date the 1st April 1857.

Read the following

Journal of the Proceedings of Major E. Sanford Superintending Engineer Southern Circle from 15th to 21st March 1857.

15th Sunday

16th } Employed in inspecting the European
17th } Barracks at Jackatalla with their
18th } several dependent works examining &c.
19th } Drawing &c.

21st Inspected the proposed line of water Course for the supply of Certain houses at Connoor, my report on which was ordered by Government and will be furnished hereafter. Proceeded from Jackatalla to Ootacamund. The new road lately under execution by Lieutenant Stewart, on the trace of Captain Francis, is a work of the very first class and both design and execution are most satisfactory. Leaving the old line with all its irregularities through the Hilly valley, the new one follows the side of the hills at a regular and easy slope, and is carried under heights where the whole road had to be formed by blasting the most impracticable rocks. Two heavy

Cuttings

cuttings are of about 100 feet, and the other 50 feet in depth occur, and the work in progress is effected on the entire road, is only appreciable by actual comparison with the old line. But the road though open is not yet completed, and Lieutenant Stewart in his able report to the Executive Engineer, expresses an opinion that 5,000 Rupees, over and above the Estimate will be required to finish it properly, of which there can be no doubt, and I think the sum should be larger, in addition to which

I most strongly recommend, the whole road from Ootacamund, to Coonoor to be metalled, as the soil in such situations is extremely slippery and dangerous in wet weather.

Further, the road must be connected with the Cantonment of Jackatalla, by being taken across the Marine, the ravine in between that place and Coonoor. This is intended to be done eventually, by a bund being thrown across a little below the junction of the hollow called Thuteree bridge, which will then be formed into a reservoir, for no such change can take place until the barracks are completed, in four years time. I recommend therefore that the embankment be placed at lower down the Marine, at a spot where the Commissariat

and Police buildings are to be erected, on one side and the Bazaar on the other; the bund thus forming not only a road from the Cantonment to Ootacamund, but a means of communication between the several branches of that important department, and above all serving to dam up, and preserve another large body of water so essential, for the increasing population.

Should upon this basis, as a measure of such importance, and earnestly hope no time may be lost in promoting it. The upper springs which now give out the only supply of water for the Cantonment, are insufficient, and the channels are polluted in their passage through the lands, and unfit for drinking or bathing, for watering cattle, and for the ablutions of natives &c. A well constructed on the abundant, though inconvenient main stream, the worst consequences may ensue.-

As a Sanitary, and absolutely necessary work, therefore, the formation of a bund across the Jackatalla Ravine near the Cantonment Bazaar, is most strongly recommended for the favorable consideration of Government, and

Captain Francis has been requested to

5D

to prepare plans and estimates accordingly.

Camp Ostocamund } S. Lawson
23d March 1857 } Supg. Engr. S. Circle

Resolved, that the foregoing Report from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, be submitted for the favorable Consideration, and early orders of Government.

[illegible]

[illegible]
Chief Engr.

[illegible]

Public Works 1857 Depart
Ry. to Cons: 21st April 668
a letter from the Acting
Engineer
To
Thackery & Cavenagh
Fort

Dated 1st April 57
Received 2d do

№ 11452

Submitting for the favorable consideration and early orders of Govt copy of a Report from the Asst Engr Southern Circle from 15th to 21st March 1857.

№ 80481

Withdrawn order
No 694 16th April

№ 694

The Chief Engineer forwards a proposal from the Superintending Engineer of the Southern Circle for the formation of a bund across the Sastra Colla ravine near the Cantonment Bazar, favorably recommends the plan and requests the early orders of Government.

2d Colonel Taber ought to be aware that the Govt can pass no orders on a proposal for accounts for which they have received neither plan nor Estimate

Fort St George
16th April 1857

By Chief Engr Civil Engr Cir: 17