1. Number of cover 22.
2. Date of [illegible] 22.7.57
3. Initials of Re[illegible]

M.R.O. 1—82,400—28-11-30.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 7-7-57

G.O. No: 1295 Press Mis.

41-42

Dated 6 — 7 — 1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 41. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 13th May 1857, No. 277.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for submission to Government, the accompanying report*, made by Captain Collyer, the Superintending Engineer of the Central Circle, upon the state of the Toongabuddra channels, in the District of Bellary.

* Dated 5th February 1857, No. 16.

2. This report would have been submitted at an earlier date, but that from Mr. Pelly's accompanying Memorandum, pointing out Captain Collyer's erroneous statement of Revenue, I considered it more satisfactory to return the papers to the Collector for his correction, and they were only returned, thus revised, on the 28th Ultimo.

Dated 10 th February 1857.

3. As the Superintending Engineer lately on Circuit, has reported on each channel, I shall, to avoid repetition, merely observe, that his proposition for their improvement involves an expenditure of an ordinary description, or perhaps more properly speaking in this instance of an "emergent" character, of Rupees (18,749) eighteen thousand, seven hundred, and forty-nine, to be sanctioned from the ordinary funds of the District, in addition to the sums available for ordinary annual maintenance, as sanctioned by Government on the 22nd December 1855, and in addition to this sum, Captain Collyer strongly recommends, that several works be executed as occasional after being sanctioned in the Budget of 1858-59, and which therefore will be separately reported upon.

4. The Superintending Engineer represents in his letter No. 16, dated 15th February 1857, that the channels are in so lamentable a state of disrepair, that the annual sanction is quite inadequate for their thorough restoration, and he considers, that to effect any lasting amendment, a larger sum on permanent and efficient works must be sanctioned. Captain Collyer further states, that in addition to the sums now proposed to be expended on actual repairs, an extra sum on ordinary estimate beyond the annual sum for 1858-59 will be required, whilst eventually he is fully of opinion, that the channels will be kept in order, for a less sum than the present annual grant.

5. The superintending Engineer Central Circle brings to notice, the complaints made by the Superintendent of channels, Sub Engineer Chedumbrum Moodeliar, of the depredations of the Ryots, and of their refusal to execute mamool work even to the clearing of their minor distribution channels, and it is to be expected, that the closer the investigation of the details of our works of irrigation, the greater will be the disclosure of these, and other similar abuses.

6. The annual sum of (16,000) sixteen thousand Rupees, was granted for a period of three years, as being the average annual amount expended upon the Toombuddra channels from the year 1823, to 1855, during this period of 35 years, no less an outlay than Rupees (5,47,778) five lacs, forty-seven thousand, seven hundred and seventy-eight, has been made for their repair, and maintenance yet, notwithstanding so large and liberal an expenditure, there are with but few exceptions, no permanent works upon them, for regulating and economizing the available water supply.

7. With channels in the condition reported by Captain Collyer; it is quite impossible to regulate the efflux of water, and I fully agree with him, and the Collector, in the expediency of putting the channels into an efficient state and for this reason, I have sanctioned the sum of Rupees 18,749 for immediate execution, out of the Fund in Statement 3 of the Budget for 1857-58.

8. The works proposed by Captain Collyer, are detailed in Statement 13 (16,995) 57, and are for building sluices, on the plan of those figured in Lieutenant Colonel Baird Smith's works on Italian irrigation, improving the banks, removing obstacles, closing orifices, in the banks, building Head sluices to branch channels, and others of a cognate character to render the irrigation details complete.

9. The Collector it will be observed states, that in consequence of the Fusil jastee on sugar cane cultivation having been remitted by order of the Board of Revenue, and of a general

reduction of Assessment having been sanctioned by Government, the increase as stated by Captain Collyer must undergo a corresponding reduction; and Mr. Pelly adds, that when all the improvements are carried out, the final net increase to Government will propably be (12,500) twelve thousand, and five hundred Rupees, of additional Revenue.

10. This increase however cannot be taken as due to the above outlay alone, but must be referred to the benefit to be derived from the further outlay of Rupees (15,272) fifteen thousand two hundred and seventy-two, on Head sluices, and under-sluices, which are required for the thorough control and management of the apportionment of the water, together with (32,000) thirty-two thousand, Rupees, for two of the annual grants proposed by Captain Walker, and already sanctioned 22nd December 1856, thus making in fact, a total expenditure of (66,021) sixty-six thousand, and twenty-one Rupees, and a ℔ centage of 18 per cent.

11. In the meanwhile, as Government will justly hold me responsible for the non-exercise of a power expressly given in the orders of Government of 17th June 1856, and blame me for the loss of an entire working season in the performance of operations clearly of repair; I have now sanctioned for immediate execution as much of Captain Collyer's, estimate of Rupees (18,749) eighteen thousand, seven hundred and forty-nine, as can be done before the 30th April 1858.

12. In fact, with a case so clear of established necessity, as well as of advantage both to Government, and the agricultural community the great space of time consumed by the Collector, in completing the statistics of Revenue &c., is a matter of no slight regret. On the other hand, some inconvenient irregularities will have been avoided, by action being deferred till after the commencement of the new year, and the error will be pointed out of considering that unexpended balances of one years grant can be credited to the operations of future season, whereby the estimate of (18,749) eighteen thousand, seven hundred and-forty nine, has to be annually increased by the unexpended balance of Rupees (7,694) seven thousand, six hundred and ninety-four.

13. Finally, I cannot but feel apprehensive, that the perusal of Captain Collyer's report upon the irrigation under the river Toombuddra in Bellary, will lead Government to the conclusion, that a state of affairs is disclosed as little creditable to the Revenue authorities, under whom such large expenditures have annually taken place, as it is directly discreditable to the late Civil Engineer's Department. It cannot, I think, but suggest the enquiry, why after the services of experienced professional Officers in Bellary, from Major Lawford, to Captain Walker, it should be reserved for the Superintending Engineer Central Circle in the year 1857, to present to Government, a report, the fidelity of which is vouched by the Collector which shows, that the most common principle of irrigation have been neglected, and that in a District liable more than most others to the calamity of drought, large available supplies of water have been practically thrown away, or misused, throughout a long succession of years. It is satisfactory however, that the services of so able a professional Officer as Sub Engineer Chedumbrum Moodeliar, are now being devoted to the systematic renovation of the irrigating channels from the Toombuddra, and it is doubtless to his vigilance and scrutiny, that the Superintending Engineer has found himself in a position to make that full representation, from which eventually the greatest benefits may be expected to the land holders and to Government.

No. 42. ORDER THEREON, No. 1295; dated 6th July 1857.

Para. 1. The Chief Engineer submits a report from Captain Collyer, upon the state of the channels of the Toombudra river, in the Bellary District. These channels are nine in number, and of various lengths; extending in some cases to 20 miles, as the Roya Calvah, and in others to 15 and 11 miles, as the Basvana, the Toort, Cumply, and Seroogoopah Calwahs. They irrigate the lands of 47 Villages; the cultivable area and the extent of land in actual cultivation, at different periods is shewn below.

	Extent. Acres.	Assessment. Rs.	Fussul Jausty. Rs.	Total. Rs.	Collection. Rs.
Cultivable area	10,061	1,61,273			
Highest years cultivation	8,822	1,44,273	30,382	1,74,655	1,26,811
Average of five years...	8,566	1,41,482	31,018	1,72,500	1,23,794
Cultivation of Fusly 1266	8,801	1,40,646	21,336	1,61,982	1,15,115
Waste in Fusly 1266...	1,260	20,627			

The channels also supply Enam lands to a large extent, as shewn below:

	Extent. Acres.	Assessment. Rs.	Collection or quit rent. Rs.
Enam area cultivable	4,652	66,507	
Highest cultivation	4,453	64,846	15,393
Average cultivation of five years...	4,380	64,071	14,369
Cultivation of Fusly 1266	4,452	64,918	15,590
Enam waste in Fusly 1266...	200	1,589	

2. The Superintending Engineer states that the channels are in so lamentable a state of disrepair, that the annual allowance of Rupees 16,000 sanctioned for three years in Extract Minutes Consultation 22nd December 1855, is quite inadequate for their thorough restoration; he has therefore submitted an estimate amounting to Rupees 18,749, for works of an ordinary description to be executed in this year (1857-58), in addition to the annual allowance. Captain Collyer expects that a permanent gain will be effected by this outlay of Rupees 34,749; and with a further expenditure during the next year, which he says is also likely to exceed the annual allowance, together with the construction of occasional works, for which he has submitted a separate estimate of Rupees 15,272, for entry in the Budget of 1858-59, he anticipates that the revenue from the Toongabudra channels will not only be materially increased, but that the channels will be kept in repair, for a sum less than that now allowed by Government for annual repairs.

3. The works, for which Captain Collyer has forwarded an occasional estimate, are mainly for Head and Under sluices, designed for the "thorough control and management of the distribution of the water," and are to be separately reported upon by the Chief Engineer. The one now more immediately in question is the estimate for ordinary works, which the Chief Engineer has, under the authority vested in him by Extract Minutes Consultation 17th June 1856, authorized under the emergency of the case, upon his own responsibility. This estimate provides for the clearing of the main channels, the closing of useless branch channels, re-building of sluices, and other masonry works. There are however a few new masonry works of a minor character; but with this exception, the whole estimate may be regarded as for "ordinary repairs;" and as such, the Government approve of the Chief Engineer's proceeding under the circumstances stated.

4. In regard to the error which seems still to prevail in the Department, of considering the unexpended balances of one year's grant, to be available for the succeeding years operations, the Government think that the rule in this respect, as declared in para. 4 Extract Minutes Consultation 20th May 1856, No. 741, should be distinctly laid down in a Circular Order, and communicated to all the Officers in the Department of Public Works, if this has not been already done.

Para. 12.

5. The other points requiring notice, are those referred to in para. 5 of the Chief Engineer's letter, viz. the waste by the Ryots in the distribution of the water conveyed by these channels, and their refusal to contribute their labor in clearing the minor channels. On these subjects, the Chief Engineer will be pleased to communicate with the local revenue Officers, and report the result to Government in a separate letter, for their consideration and orders.

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

Bellary District

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George 13 May 1857

No. 277

From

The Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government
P.W. Department

"Irrigation"

Sir,

1.— I have the honor to forward for submission to Government the accompanying report, made by Captain Collyer the Superintending Engineer of the Central Circle upon the state of the Toongabuddra Channels in the District of Bellary.

2.— This report would have been submitted at an earlier date, but that from Mr Pelly's accompanying Memorandum pointing out Captain Collyer's erroneous Statement of Revenue, I considered it more satisfactory to return the papers to the Collector for this correction, and they were only returned, thus revised, on the 28th Ultimo.

3.— As the Superintending Engineer has on Circuit, has reported on each Channel, I shall to avoid repetition merely observe, that his proposition for their improvement involves an expenditure of an ordinary description or perhaps more properly speaking in this instance of an Emergent Character of Rupees (8749) Eighteen thousand seven hundred and forty nine to be sanctioned from the ordinary funds of the District in addition

* dated 5 February 1857 No. 16.

dated 10 February 1857.

Enclosures 23

Letter from Captn Collyer No 16 dated 5 Feby/57 with 13 Enclosures

1 Ltr 5th from the Collector Bellary dated 10th Feby 1857

1 Letter from Do. dated 21 April/57 No 30 with 2 Enclosures.

3 Plans.

addition to the sums available for ordinary annual maintenance as sanctioned by Government on the 22d December 1835. and in addition to this sum, Captain Collyer strongly recommends that several works be executed as occasional after being sanctioned in the Budget of 1858/59, and which therefore will be separately reported upon.-

4.- The Superintending Engineer represents in his letter No 16. dated 15th February 1857, that the Channels are in so lamentable a state of disrepair, that the annual sanction is quite inadequate for their thorough restoration, and he considers, that to effect any lasting amendment, a larger sum on permanent and efficient Works must be sanctioned.- Captain Collyer further states, that in addition to the sums now proposed to be expended on actual repairs an extra sum on ordinary Estimate beyond the annual sum for 1858/59 will be required, whilst eventually he is fully of opinion, that the Channels will be kept in order, for a less sum than the present annual grant.-

5.- The Superintending Engineer Central Circle brings to notice the complaints made by the Superintendent of Channels, Sub Engineer Chedumbrum Moodeliar of the depredations of the Ryots and of their refusal to execute manool work even to the clearing of their minor distribution Channels, and it is to be expected, that the closer the investigation of the details of our works of irrigation, the greater will be the disclosure of these, and other similar abuses.-

6.- The annual sum of (15,000) fifteen thousand Rupees, was granted for a period of three years, as being the average annual amount expended upon the Toombudra Channels from the year 1823 to 1855, During this period of 35 years, no less an outlay than Rupees (547778) Five Lac, forty seven thousand seven hundred and seventy eight, has been made for their repair, and maintenance yet, notwithstanding so large and liberal an expenditure, there are with but few exceptions, no permanent works upon them for regulating and economizing the available water supply.-

7.- With Channels in the condition reported by Captain Collyer, it is quite impossible to regulate the efflux of water, and I fully agree with him and the Collector in the expediency of putting the Channels into an efficient state and for this reason I have sanctioned the sum of Rupees 18749 for immediate execution, out of the sum of Rs. Statement 3 of the Budget for 1857/58.

8.- The works proposed by Captain Collyer are detailed in Statement 13/16995/57, and are for building sluices on the plan of those figured in Lieut Colonel Baird Smith's works on Italian irrigation, improving the banks removing obstacles closing orifices in

in the banks, building Head Sluices to branch Channels, and others of a cognate character to render the irrigation details complete.-

9.- The Collector it will be observed states, that in consequence of the Fiscal pastes on sugar Canes Cultivation having been remitted by Order of the Board of Revenue, and of a general reduction of assessment having been sanctioned by Government, the increase as stated by Captain Collyer must undergo a corresponding reduction, and Mr Pelly holds, that when all the improvements are carried out, the final net increase to Government will probably be (12,500) Twelve thousand, and five hundred Rupees, of additional Revenue.-

10.- This increase however cannot be taken as due to the above outlay alone, but must be referred to the benefit also derived from the further outlay of Rupees (15,272) Fifteen thousand, two hundred and seventy two, on Head Sluices, and under Sluices, which are required for the thorough control and management of the apportionment of the water, together with (32,000) Thirty two thousand Rupees, for two of the annual grants proposed by Captain Walker, and already sanctioned 22d Dec.r/56,

thus

thus making in fact, a total expenditure of (66,921) Sixty six thousand, and twenty one Rupees and a Centage of 18%.-

11.- In the meanwhile as Government will justly hold me responsible for the non-exercise of a power expressly given in the Orders of Government of 17 June 1856, and blame me for the loss of an entire working season in the performances of operations clearly of repair, I have now sanctioned for immediate execution as much of Captain Colliers Estimate of Rupees (18,749) Eighteen thousand, seven hundred and forty nine, as can be done before the 30 April 1858.-

12.- In fact, with a case as clear of established necessity as well as of advantage both to Government and the agricultural community, the great spirit of time consumed by the Collector, in completing the statistics of Revenue &c.a is a matter of no slight regret.- On the other hand some inconvenient irregularities will have been avoided by action being deferred till after the commencement of the new Year, and the error will be pointed out of considering that unexpended balances of One Years grant can be credited to the operations of a future season, whereby the Estimate of (18,749) Eight thousand, seven hundred and forty nine, has to be annually increased by the unexpended balances of Rupees (7,694) Seven thousand, six hundred and ninety four.-

13.- Finally, I cannot but feel apprehensive that

that the perusal of Captain Collyer's Report upon the irrigation under the river Tombudra in Bellary will lead Government to the conclusion, that a state of affairs is disclosed as little creditable to the Revenue authorities, under whom such large expenditures have annually taken place, as it is directly discreditable to the late Civil Engineer's Department. It cannot, I think, but suggest the inquiry, why after the services of experienced professional Officers in Bellary, from Major Lawford to Captain Walker, it should be reserved for the Superintending Engineer Central Circle in the year 1857, to present to Government a Report, the fidelity of which is vouched by the Collector, which shows, that the most common principle of irrigation have been neglected, and that in a District liable more than most others to the calamity of drought, large available supplies of water have been practically thrown away, or misused throughout a long succession of years. It is satisfactory however, that the services of so able a professional Officer as Sub Engineer Chedambrum Mordeliar are now being devoted to the systematic renovation of the irrigating Channels from the Tombudra, and it is doubtless to his vigilance and

scrutiny

scrutiny, that the Superintending Engineer has forbid himself in a position to make that full representation, from which eventually the greatest benefits may be expected to the land holders and to Government.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obed.t Servant

W. Slater Colonel

Chief Engineer

Central Office S.P.W.

Fort St. George 13 May 1857

G.W.D.

No. 1295

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 6th July 1857.

Read the following
letter from the Chief Engineer.

(Here enter 13th May 1857. No. 277)

P.1. The Chief Engineer
submits a report from Captain
Collyer, upon the State of the
channels of the Toombudra
river, in the Bellary District.
These channels are nine in
number, and of various lengths,
extending in some cases to
20 Miles, as the Koya Calwah,
and in others to 15, and 11 Miles as
the Dasvana, the Toort, Cum-
fly, and Seroogoo prah
Calwahs. They irrigate the
lands of 47 Villages; the cultivable
area

Copy of Report dated 13th May 1857.
from the Chief Engineer
to the Secretary to Government
P.W.D. with enclosure

Dated 13th May 1857.

2.1. Enclosure received with
Sec. No. 1295. Dated 6th July
Forwards a report by Capt.
Collyer on the Toombudra Chan-
nels and recommends that
Rupees 18749. be sanctioned for
such works necessary for the efficiency
of the Channels in addition to the
Annual Grant of Rs. 11000 sanc-
tioned on the 22nd December 1853. Also
also that additional number of
Inundation channels will be cut
and repaired as per detailed estimate
with the Annual Report of 1857-58.

Copy of Report dated 13th May 1857.
from the Chief Engineer
to the Secretary to Government
P.W.D. with enclosure

Dated 13th May 1857.

2.1. Enclosure received with
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Annual Grant of Rs. 11000 sanc-
tioned on the 22nd December 1853. Also
also that additional number of
Inundation channels will be cut
and repaired as per detailed estimate
with the Annual Report of 1857-58.

Recd 6th Aug. 1857.

area and the extent of land in actual cultivation, at the different periods is shewn below.

	acres.	assessed Rs.	Fusly Jumma	Total Rs.	Collections Rs.
Cultivable area	10,061	161,273.			
Highest years cultivation	8,822	144,273.	30,382	174,655.	126,811
Averages of five years	8,566	141,482	31,018	172,500	123,794
Cultivation of fusly 1266	8,801	140,646	21,336	161,982	115,115
Waste in fusly 1266	1260	20,627			

The Channels also supply Enam lands to a large extent, as shewn below.

	acres	assessed Rs.	collections or quitrent.
Enam area cultivable	4652	66,507	
Highest cultivation	4453	64,846	15,393
Averages cultivation of five years	4,380	62,071	14,369
Cultivation of fusly 1266	4,452	64,918	15,590
Enam waste in fusly 1266	200	1589.	

2. The Superintending Engineer states that the Channels are in so lamentable a state of disrepair, that the annual allowance of Rupees 16,000 sanctioned for three years in Extract Minutes

Minutes Consultation 22nd Decr 1855 is quite inadequate for their thorough restoration; he has therefore submitted an Estimate amounting to Rs 18,749/1 for works of an ordinary description to be executed in this year (1857/58) in addition to the annual allowance. Captain Collyer expects that a ~~very~~ permanent gain will be effected by this outlay of Rupees 34,749; and with a further expenditure during the next year, which he says is also likely to exceed the annual allowance, together with the construction of accessional works, for which he has submitted a Separate Estimate of Rupees 15,272, for entry in the Budget of 1858/59, he anticipates that the revenue from the Coongabundia Channels will

will not only be materially increased, but that the ~~the~~ channels will be kept in repair, for a sum less than that now allowed by Government for annual repairs.

3 The works, for which Captain Collyer has forwarded an occasional Estimate, are mainly for Heads and Under Sluices designed for the "thorough control and management of the distribution of the waters," and are to be separately reported upon by the Chief Engineer. The one now immediately in question is the Estimate for ordinary works, which the Chief Engineer has under the authority vested in him by

by Extract Minutes Consultation 17 June 1856, authorized under the emergency of the case, upon his own responsibility. This Estimate provides for the clearing of the main channels, the closing of useless branch channels, rebuilding of sluices, and other masonry works. There are however a few new masonry works of a minor character; but with this exception, the whole estimate may be regarded as for "Ordinary Repairs

repairs"; and as such, the Government approve of the Chief Engineers' proceeding under the circumstances stated.

4 In regard to the error which seems still to prevail in the Department, of considering the unexpended balances of one years grant, to be available for the succeeding years operations, the Government think that the Rule in this respect as declared in para 4 Extract Minute Govt 20th May 1856 No 741, should

Paras 12

should be distinctly laid down in a Circular Order, and communicated to all the Officers in the Department of Public Works, if this has not been already done.

5. The other points requiring notice, are those referred to in para 5 of the Chief Engineers letter, viz. the waste by the sluices in the distribution of the water conveyed by these channels, and their removal

to

to contribute their
labor in clearing
the minor channels.
On these subjects,
the Chief Engineer
will be pleased
to communicate
with the local
revenue Officers,
and report the
result to Govern-
-ment in a se-
-parate letter, for
their consideration
and orders.

J. R.

1 Copies to the Chief Engr
with 1st Endorsement.

Cons: 18 December 55 Ds: 1225
123

Public Works 1857 Deptt.
Do to Cons: 7th July
No 1295.

Extract Mins: of Cons:
Dated 6th July 57.

From the Chief Engr: Dated 18 June 57
C. No. 1454 Cons:

Passing orders on a letter from Capt. Collyer reporting upon the state of the Channels of the Loombudra river in the District of Bellary.

No 41842.