1. Number of pages 10
2. Date of repair 20.7.37
3. Initials of Asst.

M.R.O. 1—82,409—28-11-30.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 21.7.37

G.O. No. 1370 Press Mis.

Dated 17—7— 18 37

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 19. Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, dated 17th July 1857, No. 1370.

Para. 1. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council proceeds to pass orders on the letter in this Department from the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated 22nd April 1857, No. 3.

Paras. 10 to 21. Honorable Court admit the necessity of having the disbursements for the maintenance of roads already made, and for the construction of those still required regulated on a comprehensive system, and not decided on isolated representations from local Officers without reference to the exigencies of the country. Notice the several arrangements proposed by this Government for that object, consider the sum of 25 lacs of Rupees, (in addition to the proceeds from Tolls,) fixed by Government as the standard to be annually devoted to road repairs, to be moderate; but observe that this allotment must be entirely subordinate to the financial exegencies of the State, and to the demands of India generally for Public Works; and further that the amount allotted to this Presidency in the Budget, should not only not be exceeded, but within that amount the construction and repair of roads should also be provided.

Desire care to be taken that Tolls are established at places where the Toll Collectors can be watched; consider it desirable that the points connected with the subject and mooted by this Government, viz., "standard widths to be fixed for roads of all classes," "the survey and laying out of roads," and "the establishment for the custody of roads," should be determined on system. Finally, Honorable Court approve and sanction the whole of the proposals of this Government subject to the cautions prescribed by the Government of India. Desire that when the various reports which have been called for from the Chief Engineer are received, they should be submitted for the observations of the Government of India and communicated afterwards to the Honorable Court without delay.

2. A copy of these paras, and of the correspondence with the Government of India to which allusion is therein made, will be furnished to the Chief Engineer for his information and guidance, with reference to the correspondence noted below.* The Chief Engineer's particular attention is directed to the observations of the Honorable Court in paras. 15, 17 and 19, more especially those relating to the annual outlay for the construction and repair of roads, and to the establishment of Tolls.

3. As regards the construction and maintenance of roads in Zemindaries, which is referred to at the close of para. 18, it will be explained to the Honorable Court, that in a Draft Act "to facilitate the construction and repair of Public Works in this Presidency" about to be forwarded to the Legislative Council, provision has been made for enforcing the construction and repair of such roads by land owners.

* Extract Minutes Consultation, 27th May 1856, No. 785.
From Chief Engineer 20th June 1856, No. 4223.
Extract Minutes Consultation, 14th January 1857, No. 6.
From the Officer in charge Central office 19th February 1857, No. 10384.
Extract Minutes Consultation 28th March 1857, No. 568.

23. Honorable Court remark, that although certain letters of this Government profess to transmit the Proceedings of the Central office of the Public Works Department for each month from its first organization to October 1856, none of these Proceedings have been received; observe that a series of letters should not have been written professing to forward them, when they were not really forwarded.

4. With reference to the observations in this para. it will be explained to the Honorable Court that letters to the address of the Secretary at the India House, are prepared after the receipt in the Government office of the Proceedings which they are intended to cover, and that the communications noticed by the Honorable Court were so prepared. A list will be forwarded at the same time, shewing the dates on which the Proceedings of the Central office of Public Works were despatched, and the vessels on which they were shipped, which will satisfy the Honorable Court, that as far as regards the non-receipt of these Proceedings, no blame attaches to the Government office. It appears however to the Government, that the Honorable Court labor under some misapprehension in the matter, as they observe that the Public Works Proceedings for the month of August 1855, were sent on the 14th February 1856, in the same case with the Collections to the General letters in the Revenue Department, dated 28th and 30th January 1856, Nos. 1 and 2; and that similarly, the Public Works Proceedings for September 1855, were sent on the 28th February 1856, with the Collections to the Revenue letters, dated 15th 18th, and 23rd February 1856, Nos. 3, 4 and 5, and that the Honorable Court have acknowledged the receipt of these Revenue Collections in their Revenue Dispatch No. 15 of 1856, dated 19th November 1856, when they must have necessarily received the Proceedings of the Public Works Department forwarded at the same time.

we that the allotment ... be

below

24. Advert to the authority granted to the Chief Engineer to keep his Proceedings on Current and unimportant subjects in abstract the correspondence on the more important matters being entered in full. Rely on the Chief Engineer adhering to the letter and spirit of the last injunction.

25. Trust the arrears of the Proceedings of the late Board of Public Works will be brought up by the extra establishment within the period for which it was sanctioned by the Government of India; and that under the present organization of the office of Public Works, no arrears will be allowed to accumulate.

5. A copy of these paras. will be furnished to the Chief Engineer, and he will be requested to report, with reference to the correspondence noted in the margin,* the progress that may have been made in bringing up the arrears of the office of the late Board of Public Works. His attention is directed to the hope expressed by the Honorable Court at the close of each of these paras. in regard to the correspondence of the Central office under the present organization of the Public Works Department.

*From Chief Engineer 28th January 1856, No. 572.
From Government of India 31st March 1856, No. 1289.
From Chief Engineer 15th May 1856, No. 3234.

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

No 1370

P.W.D.
3

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 17th July 1857

P.T. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council proceeds to pass orders on the letter in this Department from the Honble the Court of Directors, Dated 22d April 1857, No 3.

Paras 10 & 21 Honorable Court admit the necessity of having the disbursements for the maintenance of roads already made, and for the construction of those still required, regulated on a comprehensive system, and not decided on isolated representations from local officers without reference to the exigencies of the country. Notice the several arrangements proposed by this Government for that object; & Consider the sum of 25 Lacs of rupees in addition to the proceeds from Tolls fixed by Government as the standard to be annually devoted to road repairs, to be moderate; but observe that this allotment must be

2. A copy of these paras, and of the Correspondence with the Government of India to which allusion is therein made, will be furnished to the Chief Engineer for his information and guidance, with reference to the Correspondence noted below /

below. The Chief Engineer's particular attention is directed to the observations of the Honorable Court in paras 15. 17 and 19, more especially those relating to the annual outlay for the Construction & repair of roads and to the establishment of Tolls.

9. As regards the Construction and Maintenance of roads in Zemindaries, which is referred to at the close of para 18, it will be explained to the Honorable Court that in a draft act "to facilitate the Construction and repair of Public Works in this Presidency" ~~county~~ about to be forwarded to the Legislative Council provision has been made for enforcing the Construction & repair of such roads by Land owners.

Encl: to Ex: dd: 27th May 1856 No. 785.
From Chief Engr 20th June " — 4223.
Ex: dd: 14th January 1857 " 6.
From the Officer in charge Con: Office 19th Feby 1857 No. 1038
Ex: No: 28th March 1857 No. 568.

be entirely subordinate to the financial exegencies of the State, and to the demands of India in generally for public Works, and further that the amount allotted to this Presidency in the Budget should not be exceeded, but within that amount the construction and repair of roads should also be provided.

Care to be taken that Tolls are established at places where the Toll collectors can be watched, consider it desirable that the points connected with the subject and mooted by this Government, viz: "Standard width to be fixed for roads of all classes" "the Survey and laying out of roads" and "the Establishment for the custody of roads" should be determined on system. Finally Honorable Court approve and sanction the whole of the proposals of this Government subject to the conditions prescribed by the Government of India. Desire that when the various reports which have been called for from the Chief Engineer are received, they should be submitted for the observations of the Government of India and communicated afterwards to the Honorable Court without delay.

Honorable

Honorable Court remark, that with the certain Letters of this Government profess to transmit the Proceedings of the Central offices of the Public Works Department for each months from its first organization to October 1856, none of these Proceedings have been received, observe that a series of letters should not have been written professing to forward them, when they were not really forwarded.

4. With reference to the observations in this para, it will be explained to the Honorable Court that letters to the address of the Secretary at the India House are prepared after the receipt in the Government offices of the Proceedings which they are intended to cover, and that the communications noticed by the Honorable Court were so prepared: A list will be forwarded at the same time, showing the dates on which the Proceedings of the Central offices of Public Works were despatched, and the Vessels on which they were shipped, which will satisfy the

Honorable

Honorable Court, that, as far as regards the non-receipt of these Proceedings, no blame attaches to the Government Offices. It appears however to the Government, that the Honorable Court labor under some misapprehension in the matter, as they observe that the Public Works Proceedings for the Months of August & Sept. sent on the 14th February 1855 in the same case with the Collections to the General Letter in the Revenue department dated 28th and 30th January 1855 Nos. 1 and 2; and that similarly the Public Works Proceedings for September 1855, were sent on the 28th February 1856 with the Collections to the Revenue letters dated 15th, 18th and 23rd February 1856 Nos. 3-4 &

and that the Honorable Court have acknowledged the receipt of these Revenue Collections in their Revenue dispatches No. 15 of 1856 dated 19th November 1856, when they must have necessarily received the Proceedings of the Public Works Department forwarded at the same time.

24 Reference to the Authority granted to the Chief Engineer to keep his proceedings on record and important subjects in which the correspondence on the more important matter being entered in full. Note on the Ship Channel adhering to the letter and spirit of the last injunction.

25 Ensure the arrears of the Proceedings of the Sale Board of Public Works will be brought up by the extra establishment till the period for which it was sanctioned by the Government of India and that under the present organization of the office of Public Works, no arrears will be allowed to accumulate.

5. A copy of these proceedings will be furnished to the Chief Engineer, and he will be requested to report, with reference to the correspondence noted in the

the margin, the progress en
that may have been made
in bringing up the arrears
of the Office of the Inter-Board
of Public Works. His attention
is directed to the hope ex-
pressed by the Honorable
Court at the close of each
of these years, in regard
to the correspondence of the
Central Office under the
present organization of the
Public Works Department.

From Ch: Engr 28th January 1856 No 572.
From Govt of India 31st March " " 1289.
From Ch: Engr 15th May " " 3234.

Chief
P 1-2-3 of the Rep with
25 P 10 & 21-24 & 25 of the
Cir: & Correspondence
P 2 of the Rep to
the Chief Engr Cir No 15

Recd 6th Augt 1857 No 11.

Public Works 1857 Depart.
Dft to Cons 21st July.

No 1370.

Extract Mins: of Cons.
Dated 17th July 57.

No 19.

Passing Orders on the proposals for the Establt. of a Systematic supervision for the construction and maintenance of roads.—

Cd 2nd July 57