1. Number of pages 12
2. Date of repair. 2/1-7-3
3. Initials of Repairer.

M.R.O. 1—30 409—22-11-50

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public (Misc.) DEPARTMENT.

E— 2 7-57

G.O. No. 1412 Press Mis.

19-20
Dated 2-3-7— 185 7.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Public Works Consultation of 28th July 1857.

No. 19. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 4th July 1857, No. 1779.

Journal of Major E. Lawford, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, from the 14th to the 20th June 1857.

14th Sunday.

15th, 16th, 17th } Halt at Bangalore.

18th Dawked to Oodunhully 36 miles.

Salem District.

1. The Tahsildar of Ossoor brought to my notice the state of his Cutcherry which I inspected, and found as he represented, utterly unsuited to the requirements of the public service. There is no room for the Tahsildar, none for the records, and the Prison is a black hole of the worst description. A new and enlarged Cutcherry is urgently required.

2. The Tahsildar also represented the great advantage likely to arise from the construction of an annicut across the Ponyaur river near Shamunhully in this Talook.

3. The same Officer reported that great delay has taken place in the execution of certain tank repairs which he applied for as emergent two months ago, but which have not been commenced, viz., Commasamoodrum tank, 200 Rupees, Goondepully tank, 10 Rupees.

4. These delays are very prejudicial and the Revenue Officers should under such circumstances proceed with the works themselves, as the Tahsildar tells me he has done in one instance.

5. Choultries and wells are required at Shoolagherry on Trunk road No. 1 and Oodunhully on the Salem and Bangalore road.

19th. Marched to Ryacottah, 9 miles.

1. The state of the road from Bangalore to this place is unsatisfactory considering the excellence of the soil.

Ossoor new stables.

2. I inspected the new stables under construction at the Remount Depôt near Ossoor. No one but the Maistry was present to give me information, but I have since met the Acting Assistant Engineer who tells me the estimate is Rupees 7,680. The work was commenced in January and is now about half finished, being at present delayed for want of timber.

3. Except thinness of the tiles I did not notice any defect of materials or workmanship, and this I am told is unavoidable.

Ryacottah.

4. The lower fort of Ryacottah is occupied by some Civil inhabitants and a detachment of Invalid Sepoys whose huts however are not yet built. There is a grievous want of water in the place which is supplied mainly by a large bhowry under the west face of the hill, where I saw people draining water from a hole about 50 feet deep containing perhaps two cubic yards of filthy green fluid quite unfit for human use.

5. Formerly this bhowry was influenced by a tank which received the drainage of the rock and fed the springs below it, but for many years past the Mootahdar has given the bed of the tank up for cultivation and the water runs off, since which period the bhowry has failed, to the great distress of the people.* The value of the land so misappropriated is about eight Rupees per annum, and I strongly recommend the deduction of this amount from the kist and the

* Translation of a petition is herewith returned.

resumption of the tank which should then be cleared out and repaired for its original purpose which will cost 200 Rupees.

6. It would also be greatly conducive to the healthiness of this little garrison if the mass of prickly pear growing about it were removed.

7. A cook-room and privy have just been built for the Hospital here, but the want of Sepoy lines is much felt; and causes the men to be scattered.

20th. Utchalum and back 19 miles. Palcode 17 miles. Total 36 miles.

Camp Admancottah, Salem District,
22nd June 1857.

Translation of a Mohazernamah from the Pensioned and Invalided Sepoys and other Inhabitants of Ryacottah in the Talook of Kistnagherry; to Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, dated 20th June 1857.

We the undersigned most humbly and respectfully beg leave to represent that in order to enable the Pensioned and Invalided Sepoys and other Inhabitants of this village to get the supply of water for our house-holduse, one named Iyasawmy Moodelleyar extended and built up with stones a ruined pond at the expence of about 5,000 Rupees; and from the time of Sultan there were 2 tanks built in the eastern and western directions of this pond for the purpose of supplying it with water by swampness; that the aforesaid person also built stone steps and stone works to the borders on both sides of the pond to prevent the swamp water from falling into the pond, and by this means the pond was constantly full of water and the people were thereby comfortable; but the present Mettadar of this place caused the flood (which come from the Hill direction to the above tanks) to take its course into other directions and permitted 2 persons named Cassim Saib and Govindiah to cultivate the land under these tanks for Rupees 8-7-3, that since the water in the above tanks had been appropriated for irrigation, no water is preserved in the tank and consequently the pond gets dry.

That under these circumstances we are much distressed by getting the supply of water from a distance of about one or two miles and therefore we beg that your honor being humane and benevolent will be graciously pleased to restore us to happiness by preventing the irrigation of land under the aforesaid 2 tanks [which were built for the sole purpose of supplying water to the pond in question] being carried on in the bed of the tanks in order that water may be preserved in the tanks and the pond supplied with water according to the long existing mamool or usage and ordering the necessary repairs to be executed to the pond.

(Signed) Ryacottah Vencatadassiah,
(,,) Nulloor Naranapah,
(,,) Narna Char Soobiah,
(,,) Raganendre Ram,
(,,) Nunjoondiah,
(,,) Soobarag Joeshloo,
(,,) Venketramiah,
(,,) Burdanghee Soobaram,
(Signed) Mooncsamiah,
(,,) Sreeneevassiah,
(,,) Govind Ram, Deputy Post Mr.
(,,) Pensioned Sepoy Ramah,
(,,) do. Mooncapah,
(,,) do. Naig Shaik Emam,
(,,) do. do. Pylaman Sing,

(Signed) Pensioned Sepoy Abdoolkader,
(,,) do. do. Shaik Ablean,
(,,) do. Naig Baupiah,
(,,) Venketram Bhutt,
(,,) Pensioned Sepoy Bungaroo,
(,,) Invalid do. Armaghum,
(,,) do. Shaik Oossain,
(,,) do. Mohd. Cassim,
(Signed) Invalid Shaik Ally,
(,,) do. Shaik Emam,
(,,) do. Veera Naick,
(,,) do. Laula Meah,
(,,) do. Pensioned Havaldar, Vencatasawmy,
(,,) do. Subadar Vahid Khan,
(,,) do. Naig Venketsawmy,
(,,) do. Cheekennah,

and several other Merchants, Sepoys, &c. in all total 65 persons.

Resolved that a copy of the foregoing Journal of the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, be forwarded for the information and orders of Government; with the Chief Engineer's recommendation that the water supply at Royacottah be replaced on its former footing.

2. Resolved also that paras. 3 and 4 be forwarded for the information and explanation of the District Engineer of Salem.

(True Extract.)

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

No. 20. ORDER THEREON, No. 1413; dated 23rd July 1857.

Resolved that the foregoing paper and its enclosures be communicated to the Board of Revenue, with the request that, with reference to para. 5 of Major Lawford's journal, they will instruct the Collector of Salem to endeavor to arrange with the Mootahdar of Royacottah, to give up the tank alluded to for the public use, on the condition of receiving a remission in his annual peishcush, equivalent to the sum he will lose by withdrawing the tank from cultivation. This sum it is stated, amounts to about 8 Rupees.

2. The mass of prickly pear growing about the Fort of Royacottah must be immediately removed.

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

No 1779

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer in the Department of Public Works Fort St. Geo. Under date the 4 June 1857.

Journal of Major P. Sawyer, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, from the 14th to the 20th June 1857.

14th Sunday.
15th
16th } Palliat Bangalore
17th }
18th Reached to Coolumbully 36 Miles.

Salem District

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1. The Tahsildar of Cossoor brought to my notice the state of his Cutcherry which I inspected, and found as he represented, utterly unsuited to the requirements of the public Service. There is no room for the Tahsildar, none for the Records, and the Prison is a black hole of the worst description. A new and enlarged Cutcherry is urgently required.

2. The Tahsildar also represented the great inconvenience likely to arise from

the

the construction of an Aniccut across the Ponyaur River near Shanmukhdy in the Salem Dt.—

3. The same Officer reported that great delay has taken place in the execution of certain Tank Repairs which he applied for as emergent five months ago, but which have not been commenced viz Commarasamy drum Tank 200 Rupees, Soondepully Tank 10 Rs.

4. These delays are very prejudicial and the Revenue Officers should under such circumstances proceed with the works themselves, as the Tahsildar tells me he has done in one instance.—

5. Choultries and Wells are required at Shoolagerry on Trunk Road No 1 and at Soolukully on the Salem and Bangalore Road.—

9 Marched to Rayacottah 9 Miles

1. The state of the road from Bangalore to this place is execrable. So stony as rendering the exercise of the Soil.—

Osoor new stables.

2. Inspected the new stables.

under construction at the Remount Depôt near Osoor. No one but the Ministry would present to give me information, but I have since met the Acting Assistant Engineer who tells me the estimate is Rs 7080. The work was commenced in January and is now about half finished, being at present delayed for want of timber.—

3. Except the thinness of the tiles I did not notice any defect of materials or workmanship, and this same told is unavoidable.—

Rayacottah

The lower Fort of Rayacottah is occupied by some Civil inhabitants and a detachment of Invalid Sepoys whose lines however are not yet built. There is a grievous want of water in the place which is supplied mainly by a large bhowry under the west face of the hill, where I saw people drawing water from a hole about 30 feet deep containing perhaps five cubic yards of filthy green fluid quite unfit for human use.—

5. Formerly this bhowry was influenced by a tank which flowed the

the drainage of the Rock and feed the Springs below it, but for many years past the Mootahdars have ~~since~~ cut the bed of the Tank up for Cultivation and the water flows off, since which period the Scheme has failed, to the great distress of the people. The value of the land so misappropriated is about eight Rupees per annum, and I strongly recommend the deduction of this amount from the Rent and the restruction of the Tank which should then be cleared out and repaired for its original purpose which will cost 200 Rupees.

To Provincial Statement of deduction in Revenue Returns.

6. It would also be greatly conducive to the healthiness of this little Garrison if the Nuggoo generally grow around it were removed.

7. A Cook Room and privy have just been built for the Hospital here, but the want of a Supply of water is much felt, and Causes the Room to be scattered.

20. Uttahalum and back 19 Miles. Palacode 17 Miles.

Post

Palacode 22nd June 1837

From Assistant to the Collector Salem

To Maj. G. Lawford Supg Engr. Southern Circle

Enclosure 1 Translation

Received that a Copy of the foregoing Journal of the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, be forwarded for the information and orders of Government, with the Chief Engineer's recommendation that the water supply of Palacode be restored on the former plan at the Tank

for the 2

Received also that para 3 should be forwarded for the information and explanation of the Superintending Engineer of Salem.

True Extract

A. D. Carter C.C.

Chief Secy

To The Secy: to Govt P.W.D.

Compd

Public Works Dept

No 1413

Extract from the Minutes of Commissioners
Dated the 11th July 1857.

Read the Letter
of Capt Simon the Resident Engineer
of the Chief Engineer.

Ordered that Tenders be invited
for the Supply of Materials
required to form 3 of Magazines
at Salem Coimbatore & Erode
Namely Powder Lead Shot
Percussion Caps Port fires
Signals Rockets Portfires Tube Cases
Cartridge Paper Cartridge Pouches
Slow Matches Friction Tubes
Flints Cannon Sponges
Rammers Worms & Ladles
Copies of Specifications to be
furnished to the Tenderers
on their applying for them
at the Office of the Chief Engineer
Tenders to be sent in by the
11th August 1857

Public Works 1857 Dept
Dated 28th July
Extract from the Proceedings
Chief Engineer dated
28 July 1857
Read

Date 4th
Rec'd 5th July 1857

Enclosures Returned No 1779.
S.E. No 1415-23 July

Forwarded for the
information of Govt Journal
& the Supg Dept Sth Circle
from the 16th to 30th June 57
and recommended that the
tenders submitted by Capt Rose
contained be restricted to
former portions.

Copy to the Bd with
Public Works
No 1414
23 July 57.

No 19.

11th July 1857

Public Works 1857 Dep.tt
Do to Cons: 28th July.

No 1st Ult.o

Extract Mins: of Cons:
Dated 23d July 57.

From the Coll.r of Salem 22d Sept.r 57
& 2866 in Cons:

Requesting the Board of Revenue to instruct the Collector of Salem to endeavour to arrange with the Tirookaldar of Ponacottah to give up the Canal herein alluded to for the public use, on the condition of receiving a remission in his Annual Peishcush equivalent to the sum he will lose by withdrawing the tank from cultivation.

Ent.d July 1857