M.R.O. 1—28-6-23—21-11-23

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 652 Press Mis.

Dated 7 1927

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

No. 53. Read the following letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Officiating Chief Engineer; to the Secretary to Government, dated 11th August 1858, No. 2708.

SIR,

With reference to the order marginally* quoted, I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government, an original Report† by Lieut. Tennant of the completion of his Trace of a new line for the Tambracherry-Ghaut together with original letters‖ from the District Engineer, Lieut. Bean, on the same subject.

* Ex. Mins. Cons. No. 1300, dated 7th July 1857.

‡ Dated 23rd April 1858.

‖ Nos. 112 and 90 of the 20th May and 26th April 1858.

2. I should here observe that Lieutenant Tennant's active and, I believe, able operations have been carried on by means of the Local Funds, and my present earnest request is that they may be followed up on the termination of the present monsoon, by an outlay of the sum set apart in the Budget¶ for this purpose viz., Rupees 10,000.

¶ No. 469 Statement No. 2.

3. I need not now inform the Government of the urgent necessity that exists for opening this great road to the Wynaud Province, where European Energy and Capital are struggling for success, but I may add to all previous arguments the fact of the Planters having lately subscribed the sum of Rupees 5,000 to be spent with Rupees 2,000 added from Local Funds in forming the road from Calicut to the foot of the Tambracherry-Pass.

4. The construction of a good Cart-road up to the Ghaut will, I have no doubt, cost 1½ Lac of Rupees, and the mere formation of a permanent trace will require the full amount of 10,000 Rupees already provided.

5. If the present season be lost, an entire year will be thrown away, and seeing the very important interests involved in the opening of Wynaud, I hope the restriction on expenditure will be removed from No. 469 of the Current Budget and the work permitted to be recommenced in September next, from which time till February only are the jungles free from Malaria.

Statement No 2.

From Lieutenant T. E. TENNANT, Assistant Engineer, Malabar; to Lieutenant J. BEAN, District Engineer of Malabar, dated Calicut 23rd April 1858, No. 47.

SIR,

I have the honor to report the completion on the 20th instant of the new Tambercherry Trace, and a road 5 feet wide will probably be opened by the Wudder Contractors within 10 days from this time.

2. The termini of the Trace are Luckaddy above, and the foot of the Poonoo-Mullay Hill below the Ghauts.

3. After your inspection of the Trace, I found it necessary to slightly increase the gradient (of that part of the Trace which I had completed) for a distance of nearly ½ a mile to enable me to descend 50 feet below the big rock, to which point the Trace had been cut at the time of your personal inspection, by so doing I obtained a lower elevation and better working ground, having proceeded about 10 chains I found it advisable to turn with a zigzag and continued in the same direction for 50 to 60 chains, when I deemed it necessary to turn the Trace to avoid crossing a wide rocky river called the Ingapey river, from this point the Trace works round the spur with a gradient of 1 in 20 and 1 in 22 for nearly one mile, when it passes between two Hills through which it will be necessary to make a cutting 10 feet deep: the Trace continues for some distance in the same direction until I found it better to turn and descend working round 2 spurs with gradients of 1 in 18, 1 in 20, 1 in 25 and 1 in 28, until I arrived in the low country.

4. I consider the lower part of the Trace very favorable as regards the gradient, the paucity of rock, and the few bridges that will be required.

5. As regards the upper part where as you are aware the chief difficulties exist and the greater portion of the rock abounds, the Trace rises by a series of zigzags with an average gra-

dient of 1 in 20 worked up between 2 masses of sheet-rock which appear to run from the top of the Hills to 500 or 600 feet below. The spurs on which the trace rises are very rocky and steep and it appears to me that the principal difficulty will consist in constructing a road at the corners of the zigzag to allow wheel carriages to turn, I calculated in one place that to obtain a road 8 yards wide 40 to 50 feet depth of cutting will be required and double this width of road must be obtained at the angles.

6. I have no doubt however that the present Trace will be found susceptible of great improvement when the jungle is filled and the nature of the ground more minutely and carefully examined, in the mean time the difficulties are great and the masses of rock which must be blasted and reveted over are not such as can delight an Engineer's heart.

A Sub-Overseer is now engaged in measuring the Ghaut and a survey will be prepared and forwarded to your office as soon as the work is completed by the Wudder Contractors.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 7th May 1858, No. 132.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant J. BEAN, District Engineer, Malabar; to Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle, in charge of the Central Office P. W., dated Chetwye 26th April 1858, No. 90.

SIR,

I have the satisfaction to forward for your information a copy of a letter* from Lieutenant T. E. Tennant reporting the circumstances of his having completed a Trace for the Tambracherry new Ghaut.

* No. 47 dated 23rd April 1858.

2. On the date* of my last report, we had not induced either Wudders or Talook coolies to continue the work, but subsequently I saw two gangs of Wudders, and after much persuasion and by the influence of a head man employed on the Calicut Bazar Canal three sets carried on the trace at top and bottom, after Lieutenant Tennant had with great difficulty marked it out.

* 23rd March 1858, No 66.

3. The Trace for the lower part will be very favorable, and two or more zigzags are upwards of a mile in length. The expense also will be less than I anticipated with the exception of the upper portion where great labour and money must be bestowed on the Ghaut to make it practicable for wheel-carriage.

4. I am convinced that a more favorable line cannot be obtained in this neighbourhood, and as I pointed out in my former letter, our working ground for the upper 500 feet of elevation is confined between two spurs of solid rock, where we must rise upwards by short zigzags through very difficult ground.

Resolved with reference to the foregoing letter No. 90 dated 26th April 1858, to request the District Engineer of Malabar to send up the Survey and Estimate of the new Tambracherry-Ghaut with as little delay as possible.

(Signed) E. LAWFORD, Major,
Superintending Engineer, Southern Circle.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Chief Engineer, dated 28th May 1858, No. 651.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant J. BEAN, District Engineer, Malabar; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Calicut, 20th May 1858, No. 112.

SIR,

In your Extract of Proceedings No. 132 dated 7th Instant, you directed me to send in a Survey of the Tambracherry New trace and an Estimate for making the Ghaut with as little delay as possible.

As the Monsoon has already set in with considerable violence, I have the honor to request authority for postponing the preparation of the Plan and Estimate until the end of the rains, as this weather does not admit of Survey operations being carried on in the Jungles.

I inspected the trace also with Captain Francis on the 17th instant and he concurs in my views, especially as one or two alterations must be made in the line, and certain portions are only pegged and not even cut by the Wudders. Captain Francis is also of opinion that the line must be opened out and widened before the correct nature of the cuttings can be ascertained so as to enable us to make an Estimate, and this work I am afraid I cannot get done by the Wudders during the Monsoon.

We have had in Malabar an unusual season, for rains commenced as early as the 20th of last month, and for the last ten days the Monsoon has fairly set in, giving me but a short working season and hindering my Masonry works.

Resolved with reference to the foregoing letter No. 112 dated 20th May 1858, to authorize the postponement of the Plan and Estimate of the Tambercherry-Ghaut until the weather admits of their easy preparation.

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

No. 54. ORDER THEREON, No. 1862; dated 10th September 1858.

The Officiating Chief Engineer reports in the above letter that Lieutenant Tennant, (until very recently an Officer of the Public Works Department,) has completed the trace of a new line for the Tambracherry Ghaut in the Malabar District; and explaining that the cost of the operations has been hitherto defrayed from local funds, he requests that the item of 10,000 Rupees entered in the Budget of 1858-59 for the purpose, may be set free to follow out those operations, remarking that the full amount of 10,000 Rupees will be required for the "mere formation of a permanent trace." The Government understand by this, that the 10,000 Rupees now asked for, is required to render permanent what Lieutenant Tennant has already effected out of small means, viz., that his cuttings should be so widened as to prevent obliteration of the Trace.

2. The circumstances which gave rise to the project of opening up the Wynaad country, by forming a cart road from the Sea port of Calicut, viâ, the Tambracherry Ghaut, through Central Wynaad, and into the Mysore Territory, are reviewed in Extract Minutes Consultation 7th July 1857, No. 1300, being chiefly connected with the planting interests of Wynaad. The correspondence resulted in an avowedly imperfect estimate of 48,000 Rupees being laid before Government; but this they rejected, preferring that the Ghaut and country should be first examined by a competent Officer, and a survey and detailed estimate prepared for a first class road, before undertaking a work of uncertain expenditure. With that view, Government sanctioned the sum of 10,000 Rupees for immediate expenditure; sanction for the amount being given out of the one lac fund, set apart in the previous Budget of 1857-58 for projects of an isolated character. This amount was calculated to cover the pay of 300 Coolies, to be employed on regular monthly pay, at 4½ Rupees each, in cutting the Trace over the Ghaut; and in further aid of the work, application was made through the Military Department for a detachment of 50 Sappers then working at Cannanore, and for an intelligent, active Officer, to command the Sappers and organize the Coolies, under the directions of the District Engineer of Malabar. Subsequently however, when the Military Department placed the services of this detachment of Sappers at the disposal of the Public Works Department, Government conceived that the Tambracherry Trace could not be proceeded with under the restrictive orders of the Government of India, and accordingly declared* that the party of Sappers would not be required for employment as previously desired. The sanction for the 10,000 Rupees above referred to was therefore held in abeyance; but an item of that amount was brought forward in Budget Statement No. 2 of 1858-59, to provide for the work.

* Extract Minutes Consultation 1st August 1857, No. 1485.

3. In submitting Captain Francis' report of his proceedings after relinquishing charge of Coimbatore to Mr. Fraser, one of which was to inspect this very trace, Major Lawford in his letter of the 16th June 1858, No. 1193, hoped soon to submit a report on what had been done, and added that, as it was evident the amount required to make a permanent Trace would be more

than the local funds could afford, he would ask permission for expending a part at least of the 10,000 Rupees entered in the Budget for the work; and in Extract Minutes Consultation 9th July 1858, No. 1326, Government observed that they would await receipt of the promised communication, before deciding whether, or not, the work might be exempted from the operation of the restrictive order.

4. As Major Lawford's present letter conveys the intelligence that the Trace has been already opened, and only requires a further expenditure to render it both a permanent and useful work, and it is observed that the sum originally sanctioned for the Trace was ordered to be taken out of the one lac fund provided in the Budget of 1857-58, a fund which by its very nature was specially exempted from the operation of the restrictive orders, the Government are pleased to place that sum of 10,000 Rupees at the disposal of the District Engineer of Malabar, to be employed in perfecting the Tambracherry Trace. Government are not aware whether the services of any Sappers are required on the work at present, as Major Lawford states nothing in his letter on that point; but if such aid is needed, early information should be submitted to Government, in order that the necessary application might be duly made to the Commander-in-Chief, through the Military Department.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St George
11 August 1858.

No. 2708

From

The Offg Chief Engineer

To

The Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

Public.

Lr to Govt No 1300 of 17th July 1857

With reference to the order marginally quoted, I have the honor to forward, for submission to Government,

* dated 23d April 58. an original Report by Lieutenant Tennant of the completion of his Trace of a new line for the Tambracherry Ghaut together with original letters

⊗ Nos 1124 & 90 of the 28th May and 26th Apl 58. from the District Engineer, Lieut. Bean, on the same subject.

† See letters 3. * 2 & 10 Letters with 1 enclosure 2. I should here observe that Lieut. Tennant's active and, I believe, able operations have been carried on by means of the local funds, and my present earnest request is that they may be followed up

on

on the termination of the present monsoon, by an outlay of the sum set apart in the Budget for this purpose viz Rupees 10,000.-

x No 469 Enclosure No 2.-

3 I need not now inform the Government of the urgent necessity that exists for opening this great road to the Wynaad Province where European energy and Capital are struggling for success, but I may add to all previous arguments the fact of the Planters having lately subscribed the sum of Rupees 5,000 to be spent with Rupees 2000 added from Local Funds in forming the Road from Calicut to the foot of the Tambracherry Pass.-

4. The construction of a good Cart Road up to the Ghaut will, I have no doubt, cost 1½ Lac of Rupees, and the mere formation of a permanent Trace will require the full amount of 10,000 Rupees already

already provided.-

5. If the present Season be lost, an entire year will be thrown away, and seeing the very important interests involved in the opening of Wynaad, I hope the restriction on expenditure will be removed from No 469 of the Current Budget and the work permitted to be recommenced in September next from which time till February only are the Jungles free from Malaria.- Enclosure No 2

Fort St George
11 August 1858.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obt Servt
A Lawford Major
Offg Chief Engr

To
The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.

Memo:

Piece of a new line via the Tambrachorry Thank in Madras.

The circumstances which gave rise to the necessity of opening a cart road from the Madras Coast (at Calicut) via the Tambrachorry Thank, are detailed in Extract from Minute of Council dated 7th July 1857 No 57452 — 13th July 1858 — No 64465.

Copy in a letter to England dated 31st October No 100 of 1862.

Cons: 7th July 57 No 57452
— 13th — 58 — 64465.

Copy in a letter to England dated 31st October No 100 of 1862.

P.W.D: Works 1858 & 61 Journ
Pub Cons 14th Septr 1863 p. 1810
From
The Offg: Chief Engr
To
The Secy: to Govt P.W.D

Cadre II)
Recd 12th Augt 1858.

No 2708

Encls=3 Returned 2-10-58
S.E. No 1862 —
10 Septr 58

Submits with observations reports on the completion of a piece of a new line for the Tambrachorry Thank in the Malabar District and solicits that the restriction on expenditure be removed from

No 2.

19 Augt No 23 C 28 17 Sept

From No 469 of Current Busch & the work permitted to be recommenced in September next.

Cannanore, and for an intelligent, active, officer to command the Sappers and organize the Coolies, under the directions of the District Engineer of Malabar. Subsequently, however, when the Military Board placed the services of this detachment of Sappers at my disposal, a short Govt in P. W. C. dated 1st Augt 57, No 1485, observed that, as under the recent restrictive orders from the Govt of India, the work of the Tambracherry trace could not now be commenced, the party of Sappers would not be required for employment there at present." Looking at the papers, this order appears to be the only cause which put a stop to advantage being taken of the sanction for ~~expenditure~~ ordered to be taken out of the one lac 10,000 Rs, ~~entered in this~~ fund provided in the budget of 1857/58; and we accordingly find the item in No 2 Statement of the following budget of 1858/59. This appears to have been a mistake; for the amount having been sanctioned out of the one lac fund, was free to be expended in working the trace; and that this is the correct view, will be apparent on referring to the Annual Review by Govt of the Projects brought forward for entry in the Budget of 1858/59, see para 64 of G. M. C. 18th January 1858, No 93, where it is stated-

"Of the projects included in Statement No 2, the military buildings, the prosecution of which has been specially ordered, and the works sanctioned in emergency, or out of the one lac fund, and those which have been or may specially be exempted by Govt from the operation of the restrictive orders, shall alone be undertaken; the rest being kept in abeyance" Govt Gen.

Major Lawford now reports that Lieut Tennant (entirely lately an Officer of the P. W. D.) has completed his trace of a new line for the Tambracherry Ghaut; and explaining that the cost of the operations has been hitherto defrayed from the local funds, he asks that the item of 10,000 Rs brought forward in the last budget (1858/59) may be set free to follow out those operations, remarking that the full amount of 10,000 Rs will be required for the "more formation of a permanent trace." Thus, when Major Lawford reports that Lieut Tennant has completed his trace for the new Tambracherry line, he must perhaps be understood in a qualified sense, that is, that Lieut Tennant has determined the route of the trace by slight cuttings; so that it is now necessary to widen

the trace or cutting, to prevent its obliteration.

In previously submitting Capt Rains's Report of his proceedings after relinquishing charge of Coimbatore to Mr. Rose, and one of which was to inspect this trace, Major Lawford in his letter of the 16 June/58, No 1693, hoped soon to submit a report on what had been done; and, as it was evident that the amount required to make a permanent trace, would be more than the Local funds could afford, he said he would ask permission for expending a part at least of the 10,000 Rs entered in the Budget for the work, and in E. M. C. 9 July/58, No 1326, Govt observed that they would await receipt of the promised communications, before deciding whether or not the work may be exempted from the operation of the restrictive order.

Major Lawford's present letter must no doubt be accepted as the promised communications; and under the circumstances abovestated, it remains for the members of Govt to say whether they will dispense from restriction, a provision which it would appear needs not in the first instance have been pettered. It will be seen that it is now thought that the cost of the work will amount to a lac & a half of rupees.

that the money is available & it may be carried to the credit of the work. JP
10/8/58

certainly
WM 6

No. 1862 P.W.D. 15.

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 10th ~~August~~ Sept. 1858.

Read the following letter from
the Offg. Chief Engineer.
(Here enter 11th August 1858 No 2708)

The Offg. Chief Engr
reports in the above letter that
Lieut Tennant, (until very
recently an officer of the P.W.D.)
has completed the trace of a
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and explaining that the cost
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to follow out those operations, re-
marking that the full amount
of 10,000 Rs will be required for
the "mere formation of a perma-
nent trace." The Govt understand

WM

Cy. Augt 1823 c28 & 27 Sep.

by this, that the 10,000 Rs now asked for, is required to render permanent what Lieut Jervaise has already effected out of small means, viz, that his cuttings should be so widened as to prevent obliteration of the trace.

2 The circumstances which gave rise to the project of opening up the Wynaad country, by forming a cart road from the sea port of Calicut, viâ the Tambracherry Ghaut, through Central Wynaad, and on to the Mysore Territory, are reviewed in Ex: Mins: Cons: 7th July /57, N: 1300, being chiefly connected with the planting interests of Wynaad. The correspondence resulted in an approximate estimate of 48,000 Rs being laid before Govt; but this they rejected, preferring that the Ghaut and country should be first examined by a competent officer, and a survey and detailed estimate prepared for a first class road, before undertaking a work of uncertain expenditure. With that view, Govt sanctioned the sum of 10,000 Rs for immediate expenditure; caution for the amount being given out of the Cooly fund, set apart in the previous budget of 1857/58 for projects of an isolated character. This amount was calculated to cover the pay of 300 coolies, to be employed on regular monthly pay, at 4½ Rs each, in cutting the trace over the Ghaut; and in further aid of the work, application was made thro' the Military Dept for a detachment of 50 Sappers then working at Cannanore, and for an intelligent, active, officer, to command the Sappers & organize the coolies, under the directions of the District Engr of Malabar. Subsequently, however, when the Military Dept placed

the services of this detachment of Sappers at the disposal of the Public Works Dept, Govt conceived that the Jambracherry trace could not be proceeded with under the restrictive orders of the Govt of India, and accordingly declared* that the party of Sappers could not be required for employment as previously desired. The sanction for the 10,000 Rs above referred to was therefore held in abeyance, but an item of that amount was brought forward in Budget Statement No 2 of 1858/59, to provide for the work.

In submitting Capt Kanes' report of his proceedings after relinquishing charge of Com. Cotrve to Mr. Raser, one of which was to inspect this very trace, Major Sandford in his letter of the 16th June/58, No 1193, hoped soon to submit a report on what had been done, and added that, as it was evident the amount required to make a permanent trace would be more than the local funds could afford, he would ask permission for expending a part at least of the 10,000 Rs entered in the budget for the work, and in Ex: Mins: Con: 9th July/58, No 1326, Govt observed that they would await receipt of the promised communication, before deciding whether, or not, the work might be exempted from the operation of the restrictive order.

As Major Sandford's present letter conveys the intelligence that the trace has been already opened, and only requires a further expenditure to render it both a permanent and useful work, and it is observed that the sum originally sanctioned for the trace was ordered to be taken out of the one lac found provided in the Budget of 1857/58, a fund which by its very nature was specially exempted from the operation of the restrictive orders, the

*E. M. C. 1 Aug/57, No. 1485.

Govt are pleased to place that
sum of 1,00,000 Rs at the disp.
sal of the District Engr of Ma.
labar, to be employed in perfect.
ing the Tambracherry, trace.
Govt are not aware whether the
services of any Sappers are requis
on the work at present, as Ma.
jr Crawford states nothing in his letter
on that point; but if such aid
is needed, early information shd
be submitted to Govt, in order
that the necessary application
might be duly made to the
Commander in Chief, thro' the
Military Dept

To Copies to Offg Chief Engr
Capt 11

Copying a letter to England
dated 31st October No. 100 of 1863

Public Works 1858 Dept.
Dto to Govt. 14th Septr.

No. 1862.

Extract Minute of Council
Dated 10th September 1858.

From the Offg. Chief Engr
of 11th Septr 5 Encs. Qtr 2 1/4 3 Govt
5 Encs. 59-60-61
From Dto 26th October 58 No. 258 in Sec
29 to 166-167

From Chief Engr 17 May 60
Govt No. 1225 in Pro.

Sanctioning the
expenditure of 10,000 Rupees
entered in the Budget for
the new Trace of the
Tambraparny Channel in
Malabar in rendering that
less permanent and useful

No. 53854.