M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 8

(2) Date of repair 10.10.38

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.
Con 30/11/57

G.O. No. 2795 — Press/Mis.

183.84

Dated 30—11—1857

Not to be folded or roughly handled

7

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, for the month of November 1859.

No. 183. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. BELL, Chief Engineer; to J. D. BOURDILLON, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated 15th November 1859, No. 7243.

1 Letter, dated 31st October 1859, No. 2566.
1 Progress report, dated 31st October 1859.

I have the honor to submit for the information of Government, an original letter from the District Engineer of Nellore, reporting upon the present state of the Pennair anicut works, the prosecution of which has now been suspended for this season of the year, as will be seen from the accompanying Progress report for the week ending 29th October 1859.

2. Captain Mullins states that the breach in the rough stone apron was closed on the 28th ultimo; on which night and the day following, a change in the weather came on attended by heavy falls of rain, and which rendered it necessary to make preparations for securing the rails. As, however, the river did not rise on this occasion, the work of strengthening the weak part of the apron was resumed, and several trucks of stone were run down for this purpose. While arrangements were being made for continuing this work the day following also, (Sunday), an express from Sungum brought the intelligence at midnight that a fresh was coming down the river, and immediately all the rails were secured by the time the river had risen above the apron. On Sunday the 30th at 8½ A. M. the water stood at 2 feet, and on the following morning at 6¼ feet on the floor of the under sluices.

3. While apprehension is entertained only for the safety of the last 50 yards of apron, which are stated to be not sufficiently broad to ensure its remaining uninjured, it is hoped that the damage to this portion will not be extensive; the bed in rear of the new apron is well strengthened with rough stone, but not so the section at the south end, and but for this there could be little cause of fear for the stability of the year's work.

4. The small supply of labour to the increasing demand for it on these works has been very much felt from time to time, and particularly so during the fortnight previous to the date of the report made by Captain Mullins, who observes that the higher rates of pay, which more than satisfy their wants, have made the workmen more unmanageable than before, and any requisition for increased exertions from them at times of importance is steadily met by refusal. The least fall of rain is also said to be made an excuse for their absence from work. Had the supply of labour been more abundant, he further observes, the works essentially necessary for the safety of the anicut would have been completed, but much must now depend upon the nature of the expected freshes.

5. It appears to me that the progress made in these works up to the period under review, has been on the whole satisfactory, notwithstanding the difficulties which had to be encountered in the short supply of labour, and in the frequent rains and freshes. Every arrangement, which present circumstances permit, has been made by the District Engineer for the security of the works during the monsoon, and I have good reason for hoping that no material injury will be sustained.

No. 184. ORDER THEREON, 30th November 1859, No. 2795.

The Government accept the assurance of the Chief Engineer that every thing has been done which the circumstances permitted, to secure the Pennair anicut; and they trust that no material damage will be caused by the monsoon.

2. The Governor in Council relies on Colonel Bell to make all necessary arrangements for prosecuting the work with vigour as soon as the state of the season shall permit; so as to complete both the anicut and the channel improvement during the coming year 1860.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

No. 2332.

To
The Secretary to Government
Depart. of Public Works.

Sir

Enclosures 5.

1. Letter from the Civil Architect with
2. Enclosures.
1. Plan.
1. Estimate

I have the honor to report for the information
of Government that I have this day authorized the Civil
Architect to advance to Mr. Faulkner Civil Engineer such
Sums as he may consider necessary from time to time upon
an Estimate of Rups. 17091 for constructing an Aqueduct
and Cutting a small channel from the Canal through the
Black Town Wall near the Elephant Gate for the
purpose of flushing part of the Black Town drains
The sole responsibility of the design and estimate for the
above Works rests with Coll. Arthur Cotton Commandant of
Engineers, who has it appears obtained direct permission from
the Honorable the Governor for the execution of the Works, as
well as for the immediate construction of one of the small
steamers lately received from England.

I have &ca.

1st July 1859. (Signed) J. H. Bell Lieut. Col.
Chief Engineer.

years work.

4 The small supply of labour to the increasing demand for it on these works has been very much felt from time to time and particularly so during the fortnight previous to the date of the report made by Captain Mullins, who observes that the higher rates of pay, which more than satisfy their wants, have made the workmen more unmanageable than before, and any requisition for increased exertions from them at times of importance is steadily met by refusal. The least fall of rain is also said to be made an excuse for their absence from work. Had the supply of labour been more abundant, he further observes, the works essentially necessary for the safety of the Anicut would have been Completed, but much must now depend upon the nature of the expected freshes.

5 It appears to me that the Progress made in these works up to the period under

review

review has been on the whole satisfactory, notwithstanding the difficulties which had to be encountered in the short supply of labour, and in the frequent rains and freshes. Every arrangement, which present Circumstances permit, has been made by the District Engineer for the security of the works during the monsoon, and I have good reason for hoping that no material injury will be sustained.-

Central Office of P.W.
Fort St. George,
15th November 1859.-

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obt. Servant
[illegible] Lieut. Col.
Chief Engineer

[illegible]
Chief Engr. Clerk.

4th Gray

From Chief Engr of
19th Jany/60 C No 172

No 183 & 184.

c 21st Novr Regd

.P.W. 1859 Departt.
Pro: of Govt. 30 Novr.
No 2968.

From
The Chief Engineer
D.P.W.

To The Secretary to Govt.
P.W.D.

Dated 15 } November/59
Recd 15 }

Encls 2 Returned 19.3.60 No 7243

Reports upon the present state of the Pennair Anicut Works, now that operations have been suspended for this season of the year.-

With an Order
No 2795. 30th November

No 2795.

The Government accept the assurance of the Chief Engineer that every thing has been done which the circumstances permitted, to secure the Pennair Anicut; and they trust that no material damage will be caused by the monsoon.

2 The Governor in Council relies on Colonel Bell to make all necessary arrangements for prosecuting the work with vigour as soon as the state of the season shall permit; so as to complete both the anicut & the channel improvement during the coming year 1860-

W.M.

Fort St George }
30th Novr/59 }

10 Copies to the Ch. En.
Dispd