M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 4

(2) Date of repair 26-5-62

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 343 Press Mis.

Dated 3-3-52 18 52.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 3rd March 1862.

No. 20. Read the following Endorsement of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Chepauk, 26th February 1862, No. 10,958.

Read the following letter from Captain T. E. GAHAGAN, District Engineer of Salem, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Salem, 21st February 1862, No. 236:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to reply to your letter, No. 10,640 of the 18th instant, regarding the Coorchee Anicut.

2. The commencement of that work has been delayed for want of funds.

3. Although, as you observe, the work was exempted from the restrictive orders by Extract Minutes Consultation No. 1,185 of the 17th May 1859, it would have been decidedly imprudent in me to commence a work of this kind in the following month, *i.e.*, at the commencement of the rainy season. It was my wish and intention to commence in December 1859, or early in January 1860, when the rains would have ceased, and nearly five months of fair weather might be calculated on; but the close of the rainy season of 1859 found me in want of money for works of much more immediate importance than the Coorchee Anicut. It appeared to me then the safest course to enter the Anicut in the Budget of 1860-61; but the entry was, with several others, struck out in the Central Office. The entry was repeated in the Budget of 1861-62, and then allowed to stand.

4. In the concluding part of your letter under reply you express your opinion that had the Coorchee Anicut been completed under the special sanction of May 1859, "they would have been a saving to Government of the 900 *Rupees* now applied for."

A comparison of the rates of the sanctioned estimate (framed in February 1855) with the rates* current in this District during the latter half of 1859 and the early part of 1860 will, I think, at once disprove this.

* See price lists filed in the Central Office.

5. In truth, not only would the Supplemental Estimate at present under consideration have been as necessary then as it is now, but also there would then have been considerable difficulty in carrying out the work expeditiously, for in 1859 and 1860, owing to the enormous demand for sleepers and rubble stone for the Railway, Wudders could hardly be found in the Ahtoor Táluq to execute repairs of emergency for the preservation of existing revenue.

6. The original estimate framed, as I said before, in 1855 actually proved insufficient in the following year; for while Rupees 694 are allowed in the estimate for the restoration of the *tank*, the amount expended by the Maramut Department on that part of the project was Rupees 752 (or 8¼ per cent. in excess of the sanctioned amount).

1 Original letter No. 236, dated 21st February 1862.

Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of Endorsement No. 10,641, dated 18th February 1862.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel,
Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle.

No. 21. ORDER THEREON, 3rd March 1862, No. 344.

The Government will await the receipt of the further explanation called for in Proceedings No. 300, dated 24th February 1862.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

Southern Circle D. P. W. 3.

District Engineer's office
Salem 21st February 1862

No. 236

From,

Captain T. C. Gahagan
District Engineer of Salem

To,

Colonel J. W. Birdwood
Deputy Chief Engineer
Southern Circle D. P. W.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to reply to your letter, No. 10640 of the 18th Instant (Regarding) the Cooshee Anicut.

2. The commencement of that work has been delayed for want of funds.

3. Although, as you observe, the work was exempted from the restrictive orders by G. M. O. No. 1185 of the 17th May 1859, it would have been decidedly imprudent in me to commence a work of this kind in the following months, i.e. at the commencement of the rainy season. It was my wish and intention to commenced in December '59, or early in Jany '60 when the rains would have ceased, and nearly five months of fair weather might be calculated on. But the close of the rainy season of

of 1859 found me in want of money for works of much more immediate importance than the Coochee Anicut. It appeared to me then the safest course to enter the Anicut in the Budget of 1860-61; but the entry was, with several others, struck out in the Central office. The entry was repeated in the Budget of 1861-62, and then allowed to stand.

4. In the concluding part of your letter under reply you express your opinion that had the Coochee Anicut been completed under the special sanction of May/59, "there would ... have been a saving to Government of the 900Rs now applied for."

A comparison of the rates of the sanctioned Estimate (framed in February 1855) with the rates* current in this District during the latter half of 1859 and the early part of 1860 will, I think, at once disprove this.

* See price lists fixed in the central office

5. In truth, not only would the supplemental Estimate at present under consideration have been as necessary then as it is now; but also there would then have been considerable difficulty in carrying out the work expeditiously, for in 1859 and 1860, owing to the enormous demand for sleepers and rubble alone for the Railway, Masons could hardly be

be found in the Athoor Taluq to execute Repairs of emergency for the preservation of existing Revenue.

6. The original Estimates framed, as I said before, in 1855 actually proved insufficient in the following year; for while Rs 694 are allowed in the Estimate for the restoration of the Tank, the amount expended by the Maramut Department on that part of the project was Rs 7,52 or 8½ per cent in excess of the sanctioned amount.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

T. Cotchrane Capt
District Engineer of
Salem

Written and compared by
P. Coorasoobo Naidoo

No. 10958.

Submitted for the inform-

mation of Government in conn-

nection with endorsement No.

10641, dated 18th February 1862.

Deputy Chief Engrs
Office 16 Feb 1862
Chesapeake 26 Feby/62

J. Lee Lovell Colonel
Deputy Chief Engineer
S. C.

2/0

Lieutenant Colonel W. H. Horsley
Secretary to Government &c &c

C

No. 2236

Chief Engineer's Office
Richmond Virginia
18th February 1862

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith for the information of the Secretary of War a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Lovell Chief Engineer Department of South Carolina Georgia & Florida dated 21st February 1862 with its enclosure.

I am Sir
Very respectfully
Your obedient Servant
J. F. Gilmer
Colonel & Chief Engineer

Hon. L. P. Walker
Secretary of War
Richmond Va.

Respecting the Department
Chief Engineer's letter No 2
of the 18th inst. with
enclosure, the Confederate
Engineering Officers
Lieutenant C.

Public Works 1862 Depts
Ro: for Govt for Cleared.
Trans: No 562
The Sec: of State for War
&c &c &c

The Auditor of the Civil List

Dated 26th Feby 1862
Recd 27th Feby 1862

No 344 - 3 Enclosures
Submits for the
favorable consideration of
Govt the claim of
Engineers of Volunteers
to Forage allowance
Transmitted to the Treasury
for Audit and Payment
Audited and Passed
Recd 27th Feby 1862
Noted for reply

No 344

The Government will await the
receipt of the further explanation
called for in Proceedings No 300
dated 24th Feby 1862.

24th Feby 1862 - 43 Copies
To The Secretary of State for War
The Dy Chief Engr Corps Disposed
24 x 87