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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

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Dated 10-7-	1863.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
10th July 1863.*

No. 235. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th June 1863,
No. 3,923:—

Read the following letter from M. J. WALHOUSE, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly,
to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th June 1863.
No. 105.

SIR,

1. I beg to submit my report of the progress of Public Works in this District for the
official year 1862-63.

2. An abstract comparative Statement of expenditure on account of Public Works is
given below:—

Description of works.	Expenditure in 1861-62.			Expenditure in 1862-63.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
<i>New Works.</i>												
Irrigation works ...	27,141	12	0	20,288	7	10				6,853	4	2
Roads... ..	76,876	5	7	21,413	2	9				55,463	2	10
Buildings	4,065	1	4	10,581	14	2	6,516	12	10			
Total...	1,08,083	2	11	52,283	8	9	6,516	12	10	62,316	7	0
<i>Repair.</i>												
Irrigation works ...	62,853	8	9	61,034	7	2				1,819	1	7
Roads... ..	34,683	12	5	45,260	15	5	10,577	3	0			
Buildings	1,808	5	5	761	9	9				1,046	11	8
Total.....	99,345	10	7	1,07,057	0	4	10,577	3	0	2,865	13	3
Grand Total...	2,07,428	13	6	1,59,340	9	1	17,093	15	10	65,182	4	3

3. NEW WORKS.—A sum of Rupees 20,285-7-10 was expended under this head during the
year under review. Of this 15,242 Rupees were spent in re-constructing the under tunnel of the
Ponneri channel, which was carried away by freshes in the last monsoon; 3,495 Rupees for
constructing the head sluice and a regulating dam to, and for deepening the Peruvalai channel,
one of the most important irrigation works; and 1,411 Rupees for works to protect the banks of
the Coleroon.

4. COMMUNICATIONS.—Under this head will be observed a decrease in the expenditure
amounting to Rupees 53,463 as compared with the previous year's outlay. This is owing to a
large amount being spent last year for metalling and improving the Salem and Coimbatore roads.
The remainder of the estimated cost on this account was expended on these roads during the
year under report. The Tanjore road was gravelled at an outlay of Rupees 1,689, and the trunk
roads on the north and south sides of the Fort here were extended at a cost of Rupees 2,542 in
order to serve as Railway feeders; and 5,674 Rupees were spent for completing the Aiyar
bridge.

5. BUILDINGS.—The most important items under this head are the repairing of the Collec-
tor's office, putting up huts for the Police Department, and constructing subsidiary Jails and
solitary cells. The total cost for all these amounts to Rupees 8,302.

6. REPAIR.—The repairs of the irrigation works during the past official year cost a total
sum of Rupees 61,304-7-2. These repairs consisted chiefly in clearing the accumulations and
repairing the banks and sluices of channels. 45,261 Rupees have been spent for the repair of
roads. A small amount of Rupees 761-9-9 was spent on the repairs of buildings.

7. The one per cent. rate of Income tax, amounting to Rupees 30,755, was spent in a very
useful manner. The old road to the frontiers of the Salem District that lay through Toriur
having fallen into disuse from being very narrow and much cut up by jungle streams, a new line
has been marked out instead. Rupees 10,191 out of the estimated cost for this road were spent
during the past official year in laying it out to the boundary of the District, a distance of

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31 miles, six of which are completed; this line will be of great use. The road from Ariyalur, whence cotton is brought to Trichinopoly, has been put in good repair at an outlay of Rupees 10,141, but is still unfinished in some parts. Rupees 8,395 have been expended in metalling the trunk road to Madura, and for constructing tunnels under it.

8. The irrigation works and the banks of our irrigating channels are in good repair. The Trunk road No. 8, and the Salem and Coimbatore roads are in good order.

9. It is not out of place here to say that great credit is due to Captain Palmer for his zealous exertions to keep our several communications, and all the irrigation works in their present improved state.

1. Ordered to be communicated for the information of Government in the Public Works Department.

2. There appears to have been a considerable decrease in the expenditure of the year under review as compared with that of the previous twelve months. It chiefly consisted in a decrease of 55,463 Rupees on new roads, which is explained by the Collector to be owing to the very large sums spent in the previous year in the metalling and improvement of the Salem and Coimbatore roads. On the other hand 10,577 Rupees more was spent on repairing roads in 1862-63 than in 1861-62. The total decrease taking all heads into account was about half a lac of Rupees.

3. The Board are glad to note Mr. Walhouse's testimony to the continued interest taken by Captain Palmer in the welfare of the District.

(A true Copy and Extract.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 236.

ORDER THEREON, 10th July 1863, No. 1,841.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer 6th Division.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

No. 3,923.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 29th June 1863.

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