

12

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th January 1864.*

No. 77. Read the following letter from the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 15th December 1863 :—

SIR,

1. In compliance with the request made at paragraph 2 of the Order of Government, dated 6th ultimo, No. 3,233, we directed our Civil Engineer to close the mouth of the Cooum at once, but owing to the velocity of the stream the work was not accomplished until the 19th idem.

2. We enclose copy of a Memorandum by our Civil Engineer detailing the progress and completion of the work, accompanied by a statement of its cost amounting to Rupees 1,453-6-6, which we request may be passed for payment.

3. As the Superintending Engineer of the Division has doubtless reported the circumstances under which he was compelled to re-open the mouth of the river on the morning of the 30th ultimo, we need only say that it still continues open and that we await the further orders of Government before we take any fresh steps to reclose it.

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, 6th January 1864, No. 36.

1. The Governor in Council sanctions the disbursement to the Municipal Commissioners of the sum of Rupees 1,453-6-6, being the expense incurred in closing the mouth of the Cooum river agreeably to the orders marginally noted. The charge will be met from the sum of Rupees 25,000 which the Government of India have authorized to be transferred, from the head of "Reserve" to that of "Repairs."

2. The Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, will arrange for the amount being drawn and made over to the Municipal Commissioners as early as practicable.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, with Bill.

- „ Municipal Commissioners.
- „ Controller and Auditor of Public Works Accounts.
- „ Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

570

Memorandum

The Civil Engineer has the honor to submit a statement showing the expense, amounting to Rupees 1458-6-6, incurred in closing the Leosum Bar agreeably to the orders of Government of date 6th November 1863.

Immediately after the receipt of Government order, preparations were made for closing the bar, but owing to the velocity of the stream, very little progress was made up to the 13th Nov^r, work was then discontinued for a few days, and on the 18th arrangements were again made for closing the bar on the following day. On the morning of the 19th a large body of coolies (about 800) were set to work about 6.30, and by 11 O'clock the bar was closed, at low tide. Large parties had to be employed for several days in widening and strengthening the dam, as it was contemplated to make it, as the communication to the South Beach, during the construction of the permanent works, at the mouth of the river, proposed by H. E. the Governor; by this arrangement it was thought that a considerable saving would be effected, but Colonel Poileau, after inspecting the dam and bar, being of opinion that the permanent arrangements referred to could not be carried out in the course of next year directed

directed the old line of road to be metalled and the dam to be strengthened still more.

Small parties were employed on the dam up to the 30th November, and on that date preparations were made for metalling the old bar. On Tuesday rain fell, and on Wednesday (2nd Dec^r) the foam began to rise, when it was found necessary to continue strengthening the Bank. On Saturday morning (the 5th) the height of water on the gauge being 41.9" the Superintending Engineer ordered the dam to be cut. He deferred giving orders to this effect, as long as he could, but the rain falling heavier, and river rising faster every moment, he had no alternative but to open the bar. Had he not done so, the Town would have been under water in less than one hour more.

At 8 O'clock

The amount of expenditure is higher than the average, but this could not be avoided, the work having been so ordered and executed when the river was running deep and rapid.

Civil Engineer's Office } (signed) D. Morgan
Madras 11th Dec^r 1863. } Civil Engineer

To The Municipal Commissioners
Madras
(A true Copy)

Mason
1st Municipal Commissioner
For the Town of Madras

To The Secretary to Government
P. W. D.
Fort Saint George

89/8760 Clch

Municipal Commissioners' Office
Madras 15th December 1863

To
Colonel G. A. C. R. E.
Secretary to Government
P. W. D.

- Sir,
1. In compliance with the request made at para 2 of the order of Government dated 6th Ultimo, N^o 3233, we directed our Civil Engineer to close the mouth of the Groom at once, but owing to the velocity of the stream the work was not accomplished until the 19th idem.
 2. We enclose copy of a Memo by our Civil Engineer detailing the progress and completion of the work, accompanied by a statement of its cost amounting to Rupees 1458-6-6, which we request may be passed for payment.
 3. As the Superintending Engineer of the Division has doubtless reported the circumstances under which he was compelled to reopen the mouth of the river

river on the morning of the 30th Ultimo,
we need only say that it still continues
open, and that we await the further
orders of Government before we take
any fresh steps to reclose it. -

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedient servants

Narciso
S. S. S. S.

Municipal Commissioners
for the Town of Madras

A Division will arrange for the
Amount being drawn and made
over to the Municipal Commissioners
as early as practicable. -

W. B. S.
The dupg. Eng. to the Secy. to the Bill.
Municipal Commissioners
Controller & Auditor of P. M. C. S.
Accountant General.

Recd. 7th Jan 1876.