

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2681	Press Mis.
Dated 15-7-1864	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th September 1864.*

No. 317. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th August 1864, No. 5,366.

Read the following letter from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Cuddalore, 5th August 1864, No. 146:—

1. I have the honor to submit my report on the operations of the Public Works Department in this District during the past official year 1863-64.

2. A reference to the following table will show that there was a decrease of Rupees 17,447 in the expenditure of last year as compared with that of the year previous, being Rupees 10 under the head of New Works, and Rupees 17,437 under the head of Repairs. The large decrease in the outlay on Irrigation works, original and repairs, is very marked, no less than Rupees 8,460 in the former, and Rupees 15,332 in the latter. In the Budget for the official year under notice, I find that the sums allotted for Irrigation works amounted in the aggregate to

Rupees 61,237,* of which only Rupees 50,498 have been expended, leaving a balance of Rupees 10,739 unappropriated at the close of the year, although there are Tanks and Channels in all directions in the District, for the repairs and improvements of which this money might have been usefully devoted. I will here merely refer the Board to the Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department with their orders, No. 1,877, dated 28th June last, passed on a report of mine of the 10th idem, and in which I have brought prominently to notice the very great neglect of all irrigation works in two of the ranges of my District, the 3rd and 4th, during the greater part of the past twelve months, and I therefore withhold any further comment in my present report.

* Original works	Rs. 1,800
Repairs	59,437
	61,237

ITEMS.	Expenditure of 1862-63.	Expenditure of 1863-64.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
NEW WORKS.				
Irrigation	16,983	8,523	...	8,460
Communications	23,651	23,192	...	459
Buildings	65,644	15,473	8,909	...
Total...	47,198	47,188	8,909	8,919
REPAIRS.				
Irrigation	57,307	41,975	...	15,332
Communications	64,086	66,641	2,555	...
Buildings	5,920	1,260	...	4,660
Total...	1,27,313	1,09,876	2,555	19,992
Grand Total...	1,74,511	1,57,064	11,464	28,911
Net Decrease...	...	...	...	17,447

New Irrigation Works.

3. The only new Irrigation works of importance executed in the year under review, and for which provision had been made in the Budget, is the Goveraput Channel in the Talook of Chellumbrum. This work was sanctioned in January 1857, at an estimated cost of Rupees 19,000; the sum expended in the past year was Rupees 1,432-13-7, and the total expenditure has been Rupees 12,735.

4. Minor new works of irrigation cost Rupees 7,090-6-2, viz., Rupees 3,618-4-3 on Channels, and Rupees 3,472-1-11 on Tanks. A further sum of Rupees 11,487-7-8 was laid out on

2 *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
15th September 1864.

the Anicut across the Guddelum river at Vanamadavy in the Cuddalore Talook, but the funds for this work were taken from the Income Tax grant. An Estimate amounting to Rupees 45,000 has been sanctioned by Government under date the 21st July last, No. 2,103, for the construction of a main Channel and a series of branch Channels in order to extend the advantages of the Trivanellore Anicut to villages situated on the north of the Pooniar river, but unfortunately the state of the Reserve Fund, and the absence of any other source available, have precluded the immediate commencement of this important work, as recommended by me, and accordingly its entry in the Budget of 1865-66 has been the only alternative, and till then nothing can be done. The early construction of these Channels has been frequently urged by me, and specially in my letters of the 19th December and 11th January last, and the importance of the project has been fully recognized both by the Board and Government, so that this delay in commencing is much to be regretted although it is, of course, unavoidable.

Irrigation Repairs.

5. Irrigation repairs, with which is included Rupees 1,921 spent on salt pans, cost Rupees 41,974-11-3; the largest items of expenditure under this head are, the

Vellaur Anicut Apron	Rs.	A.	P.
Chunder Voikal from the Veeranum Tank Sluice.	4,383	3	7
Repairing Oothamangalum	1,007	14	4
Mullataur and Rajhaviy Channels	930	8	3
The total number of Tanks repaired is 102, Anicuts 19, and Channels 72.	899	13	7

New Communications.

6. On New Communications Rs. 23,191-14-0 were laid out, and the following are the lines of Road and the Bridges on which this sum has been expended:—

Metalling the road from the Mercanum Salt Pans to Tindevanum...	Rs.	A.	P.
Re-constructing the roads from Chengumah to the Salem frontier...	10,600	0	0
Metalling Trunk Road No. 9, from Papanaput to the Coleroon...	1,522	0	0
Bridges on the road from Cuddalore to the Salem frontier	4,999	8	8
Do. on the road from Oolundoorpett to Kullacoorchy	3,457	3	5
	2,613	1	11
	23,191	14	0

The entire allotment in the Budget for the Mercanum road has been spent, making a total outlay of Rupees 17,624-7-0 on this work since its commencement. There is still a balance available of Rupees 5,175-8-1 out of the sanctioned estimate,* and I am sanguine that, when fully completed, this line of road will have a perceptible influence on the Salt trade and Salt revenue at Mercanum. I do not see that sanction for the Budget Estimate submitted by me in December last, of works necessary for the development of the Salt Revenue for 1864-65 has been received. Ere this I hoped to have had the necessary funds at my disposal for the execution of these salt approaches, for revenue from this source depends a great deal on the facility with which the salt can be reached.

7. I have it in contemplation, in the coming year, to propose a work of some magnitude in connection with the Salt revenue. It is, that a metalled road be made between Pondicherry and Mercanum. The cost will, no doubt, be great, and until now I had withheld recommendation of the project because I had viewed the results as incommensurate with the estimated outlay; but on conferring with Mr. Clarke, lately deputed as Salt Commissioner, verbally, and by letter, that Officer has expressed himself favorable to the measure; and I contemplate to introduce it into the Public Works Budget for the ensuing official year, though I am not prepared to press it as an emergent work, or as one which may not for a time, reasonably give place to other projects more useful and more urgent in their character.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 3
15th September 1864.

Repairs to Communications.

8. The outlay on repairs of Roads, Bridges, &c., amounted to Rupees 66,640-13-11.

New Buildings.

9. On new buildings, Rupees 15,474-6-2 were laid out, and the largest item of expenditure

under this head is the Court House, on which Rupees 1,017-5-5 were spent during the past year, which was provided for in the Supplemental Budget. The building is, I believe, expected to be finished in the next official year; and when completed, it will provide accommodation for the Civil and Session Court, for the Cuddalore District Munsiff's Court, for the Small Cause; and, if re-opened, for the Court of a Principal Sudder Ameen. Rupees 5,357-0-9 were spent on Police Huts, Station Houses, and Subsidiary Jails, the outlay on which latter buildings amounted to Rupees 1,000.

Repairs to Buildings.

10. Repairs to public buildings cost Rupees 1,260-9-5, and call for no remark.

11. In taking a retrospect of the past official year, the fact is unavoidably forced on one's attention, that the charges lately introduced in the organization of the Public Works Department, have not realized the expectations of those with whom they originated. This may not, perhaps, be the proper place to comment on the new system of executive management; and therefore I will merely venture to observe that the efficiency of any department must inevitably suffer where there is no recognized head on the spot to guide and control an extensive machinery worked by a number of subordinate officers having the independent execution of important works, and whose action in their several spheres is left almost entirely to themselves.

12. The Superintending Engineer of the Division (the 5th) has visited this District for about six or eight weeks during the past twelve months, but his duties, while here, confined him wholly, I may say, to Cuddalore; and with the general wants and requirements elsewhere he must have had no sort of personal knowledge.

13. Under the previous régime there was always a resident responsible Head of the Department in every District with whom the Collector was in frequent intercourse, and to whom the various Range Officers looked as the authority to whom they were immediately and personally answerable; and it will readily be understood that the vigilant and active supervision thus exercised, by an Officer who necessarily had acquaintance with every work in progress, could not all at once cease without results correspondingly detrimental to local interests; and it is no reflection on the subordinate Officers of the Department, who have been working without such a Head, to state that, throughout this District, there may be found visible traces of these results; and I cannot but think that so long as a District is left without any controlling authority at the Head of a Department so practically important, the effects must more or less manifest themselves, and this without in any way calling in question the individual efficiency and energy of the subordinate Range Officers.

14. I simply deal with facts, and these it would seem my duty to note. For myself I can see no remedy for the present unsatisfactory state of things unless by a return to so much of the old system as permitted the appointment of District Engineers, or at all events unless there be some recognized Head of the Department in each District so as to check all and to stimulate all; and experience has, I think, amply set its seal to the vast benefits which the Government and all other interests derived by this single provision under the old system.

15. In paragraph 15 of my last year's Report, I expressed my intention of submitting a Statement showing the additional revenue accruing from the execution of new and from the repairs of old Works; and accordingly I now subjoin a Talookwar account of the kind promised, from which it will be seen that the extra extent of cultivation during the past year has been C. 451-10-1, assessed at Rupees 3,572-13-2; and add to this the Kassur or additional water charge amounting to Rupees 961-9-10, makes a total of Rupees 4,534-7-0.

16. I believe this may be accepted as an approximately correct return of the additional revenue due to the outlay on public works during the year 1863-64, and I have already quoted it in my Administration Report, paragraph 26.

4 *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
15th September 1864.

17. It must, however, be remembered that on no mere statement of the kind can an estimate be formed of the actual benefit conferred by the operations of the Public Works Department, whose labours are more directed to the maintenance of the existing public revenue than to the construction or repair of works having for their object any positive increase; so that the result here exhibited must be viewed, on the whole, as satisfactory; especially when regard is had to the character of the season, and to the many difficulties and hindrances which have occurred to interrupt the due and efficient carrying out of the various works in two of the most important ranges of my District as already noticed.

Statement showing the amount of additional revenue derived from improving old and from creating new sources of irrigation during the year 1863-64 in the District of South Arcot.

Assessment during the year 1863-64 in the District of South Arcot.										
No.	Talooks.	Particulars of the additional Révenue.								
		Wet.			Extra water cess or Kassur for the conver- sion of Dry lands into Wet.	Total.				
		Extent.	Assessment including se- cond crop assessment.							
		C.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1	Tindevanum ...	0	0	1	368	9	10	307	4	3
2	Trinamalai ...	13	15	0	82	11	10	5	1	3
3	Villapurum ...	30	11	0	845	3	7	151	9	5
4	Cuddalore ...	303	7	1	1,971	9	5	...	...	...
5	Ellavanasur ...	43	7	2	260	8	5	455	5	5
6	Kullacoorchy...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Virdachellum...	4	0	1	44	2	1	42	5	6
8	Chellumbrum...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total...	451	10	1	3,572	13	2	961	9	10
								4,534	7	0

1. Ordered to be

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government. The report calls for little comment from the Board. It is evident that much good work was done, but the Board regret to note that available funds were left unemployed when they could have been most usefully expended on much needed repairs.

2. The Board beg leave to submit for the serious consideration of Government the necessity of so far modifying the existing organization of the Department Public Works, as to regain for it the advantages which all unite in testifying were obtained under the former system from the appointment of District Engineer.

3. The defect in the existing system threatens to ruin the Department throughout the Presidency, and seriously to endanger the revenue.

4. The same complaint reaches the Board from all sides, and they have reason to believe that its truth is admitted by the Officers of the Department Public Works, whose zealous intelligence in the performance of their individual duties cannot compensate for the absence of a supervising head. The Superintending Engineer of Divisions with the very best intentions cannot supply the place of the former District Engineer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, Secretary.

3
Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 5
15th September 1864.

No. 318. ORDER THEREON, 15th September 1864, No. 2,681.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.

2. Since the date of the Collector's letter recorded in Proceedings No. 2,103, dated 21st

July 1864, two Officers* have been appointed to South Arcot,

in succession to Lieutenant Whish and Mr. O'Shaughnessy,

and the Government confidently hope that the works in

that District, especially those of irrigation, on which the revenue so greatly depends, will receive due attention during the current official year.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.

„ Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 5,366.

OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1864.

from C. W. READE, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Cuddalore,
5th August 1864, No. 146 :—

to submit my report on the operations of the Public Works Department for the past official year 1863-64.

The following table will show that there was a decrease of Rupees of last year as compared with that of the year previous, being Rupees Works, and Rupees 17,437 under the head of Repairs. The large Irrigation works, original and repairs, is very marked, no less than 15,332 in the latter. In the Budget for the official year 1863-64, the sums allotted for Irrigation works amounted in the aggregate to Rupees 61,237,* of which only Rupees

50,498 have been expended, leaving a balance of Rupees 10,739 unappropriated at the close of the year, although there are Tanks and in the District, for the repairs and improvements of which this money devoted. I will here merely refer the Board to the Proceedings of the Public Works Department with their orders, No. 1,877, dated 28th June last, of the 10th idem, and in which I have brought prominently to notice all irrigation works in two of the ranges of my District, the 3rd and 4th of the past twelve months, and I therefore withhold any further report.

	Expenditure of 1862-63.	Expenditure of 1863-64.	DIFFERENCE.	
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RKS.				
...	RS. 16,983	RS. 8,523	...	RS. 8,460
...	23,651	23,192	...	459
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Total...	47,198	47,188	8,909	8,919
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Works.
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the Police Works Budget for the coming official year, though I am not prepared to give it as an estimate, as it is not yet settled. I am, however, desirous to submit it as a project, and more so, as it is of a character.

Repairs to Communications.

8. The outlay on repairs of Roads, Bridges, &c., amounted to Rupees 10,610-15-11. On new buildings, Rupees 15,474-6-2 were laid out, and the largest item of expenditure was provided for in the Supplemental Budget. The building in, I believe, expected to be finished in the next official year; and when completed, it will provide accommodation for the Civil and Session Court, for the Cuddalore District Munsiff's Court, for the Small Cause; and, if required, for the Court of a Principal Sudder Ameen. Rupees 5,357-0-9 were spent on Police Huts, Station Houses, and Subsidiary Jails, the outlay on which latter buildings amounted to Rupees 1,600.

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16. I believe this may be accepted as an approximately correct return of the additional revenue due to the outlay on public works during the year 1863-64, and I have already quoted it in my Administration Report, paragraph 26.

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Statement showing the amount of additional revenue derived from improving old and from creating new sources of irrigation during the year 1863-64 in the District of South Arcot.

No.	Taluku.	Particulars of the additional Revenue.											
		Wet.						Extra water cess or Kassr for the conver- sion of Dry lands into Wet.	Total.				
		Extent.			Assessment including se- cond crop assessment.								
		C.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
1	Tindevanum			1	368	9	10	307	4	3	675	14	1
2	Trinamalai... ..	13	15	0	82	11	10	5	1	3	87	13	1
3	Villapurum	30	11	0	845	3	7	151	9	5	996	13	0
4	Cuddalore.	303	7	1	1,971	9	5	...	...	...	1,971	9	5
5	Ellavanasur	43	7	2	260	8	5	455	5	5	715	13	10
6	Kullacoorchy... ..							...	...	...	...	...	...
7	Virdachellum... ..	4	0	1	44	2	1	42	5	6	86	7	7
8	Chellumbrum... ..							...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total...	451	10	1	3,572	13	2	961	9	10	4,534	7	0

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2. The Board beg leave to submit for the serious consideration of Government the necessity of so far modifying the existing organization of the Department Public Works, as to regain for it the advantages which all unite in testifying were obtained under the former system from the appointment of District Engineer.

3. The defect in the existing system threatens to ruin the Department throughout the Presidency, and seriously to endanger the revenue.

4. The same complaint reaches the Board from all sides, and they have reason to believe that its truth is admitted by the Officers of the Department Public Works, whose zealous intelligence in the performance of their individual duties cannot compensate for the absence of a super-

No 2681
 I don't see any evidence that the works have not received due attention. If summer has been spent in new work and repairs, but the revenue has increased. It is better to have had and, I think, he and the Board would have acted more wisely had they followed from recommendations as to charges on the works but the Superintendent has no data to decide upon what they have no data to decide upon.
 Communicated to the Superintendent.
 Eng. Engineer 5th Division
 Since the date of the Collector's letter recorded in Proceedings No. 2403 of 21st July 1864, two officers Mr. Thompson and Mr. Stoddard have been appointed to South Arcot, in succession to Lieut. Whitch and Mr. O'Shaughnessy, and the Government confidently hope that the works in that District, and more especially those of irrigation, on which the revenue so greatly depends.

317.38.
depends, will receive
due attention during
the current official
year.

III.
Chepauk
15th Sept/64

To The Supdt. of
" " Board of Revenue
X⁸⁷ 18th Sept.

c. 26th Sept 1864. Or. 24th

(7)
1864. Department
No. 3724
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

Dated 20th August 1864.
22nd Sept
21st "

No. 5,360.

Submitting letter from Collector of South
Arcot, reporting on operations of Public Works
Department in District for 1863-64.

2681-15th Sept/64
With an Order