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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th December 1864.*

No. 92. Read the following Endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 15th November 1864, No. 145.

Read the following letter from Colonel H. C. COTTON, R. E., Chief Engineer, Irrigation and Canal Company, to F. H. HENSLOWE, Esq., Agent and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Kurnool, 2nd November 1864, No. 988:—

Sir,

No. 3,071.

1. The Government Order 25th October, repeats their decision that my reports *laid before them*, of the progress made by the Reservoir Survey Establishment, are meagre and unsatisfactory. I can only repeat what I stated in my former letter, that all information respecting these operations, both general and detail, have been transmitted to you, and it appears to me that every thing has been *laid before the Government*, except incomplete surveys and designs. The monsoon prevents surveys being carried on during more than four months of the year. Fever has broken up our Survey parties and reduced them often to almost nothing, but this is all clearly detailed in my reports, whether laid before the Government or not. With the utmost deference and respect to the Government and a most earnest and anxious desire to make clear to them all that is done under my directions, I regret to say that it is impossible I can more clearly report on any of the operations than I have reported on the operations for the formation of Reservoirs.

2. It is a fact that "nothing is known to Government as to the prospect of the early submission of the plans and estimates for any one Reservoir." Sites were examined on the Huggry and the Hindry some years ago, just so far as to show that they, roughly estimated, were not promising sites, and they were abandoned. The papers connected with them would afford only negative information and the operations were not those of "the Reservoir's Survey" but casual work of the Establishments of the Bellary and Hindry Divisions. The surveys on the Toonga and the Buddra have never been completed, but in the monthly reports the progress, small as it has been, is clearly shown. The plan of the Luckavally Reservoirs are not complete. Designs for the Dam there have been sent to England for the scrutiny of European Engineers, and until I receive instructions as to the character of those works, I cannot submit plans for the sanction of the Government.

3. With respect to the importance and urgency of those Reservoirs, I differ entirely from the Consulting Engineer. I could not advise the construction of one while the Government withholds sanction to the Nellore channels. I consider navigation admissible into the scheme as a profitable work only if carried on complete to the sea coast, and it would not pay to construct Reservoirs for second crop irrigation. At this moment, therefore, the very moment when the surveys must be resumed, I feel that there is a question whether the Board of Directors would wish them to be carried on or not. The "Gundicotta Survey," now transferred to a locality on the Chittravutty, necessarily stands in the same position, and when complete I will furnish a full report on it; but in the meantime I can only, as heretofore, report the actual detail work carried on. The expression in my letter "*as well as those proposed in Bellary*," is misunderstood. There are no Reservoirs proposed in Bellary, and the Reservoirs sought for above are for the general purposes of the Company, the entire Toombuddra project if ever carried out. My words were, I believe, as quoted, "the exploration and survey for Reservoirs to afford a dry weather supply of water for the canal below Kurnool as well as those proposed in Bellary" exhibit the object of the Reservoirs being the supply, when necessary, of the channels proposed for the Bellary District as well as those below Kurnool. The attention of the establishment is not turned to the investigation of sites for Reservoirs for the Walavapoor and Bellary canal, except in as far as that part of the scheme has the same need of a dry weather supply as any other part, and is equally held in view.

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4. The conclusion of the 4th paragraph of the Consulting Engineer's letter, bears out the hope that the whole scheme will be carried out. If the interests of the Company and the Government are identical it certainly will, whereas in its present state the scheme is such as was never anticipated.

5. It is not the scheme, to carry out which the Capitalists in England proposed to expend two million sterling. In its present mutilated shape (a monster all head) without limbs, a vast expenditure has been incurred in vain and it needs the utmost caution on the part of the Directors in confining the operations, as far as possible, to the paying portions of the undertaking. Navigation is out of the question and Reservoirs also, if the Nellore works are abandoned a second time. I have instructions to stop the navigation works, but I will proceed with the Reservoir surveys if God will, till I am ordered to abandon them. They cannot be proceeded with in the rains, and unhappily have been fearfully impeded by the climate.

6. With respect to the Maury Convey proposed Dam. All that has been done since the plans were laid before the Government (not for sanction, but with reference to the desire of the Chief Engineer in Mysore to substitute a low Dam forming an incomplete Reservoir), is a continuation of the survey of the Basin for the determination of its capacity. The project is claimed by the Mysore Government, and I believe the subject is at this moment under consideration by the Supreme Government. I can do no more with that project, at all events, till I receive further instructions.

7. With respect to the 6th paragraph of Captain Mullins' letter, I regret that I have been unable to furnish a report on the operations of the month of August from excessive pressure. But I do not and cannot admit that my former reports have been deficient. I consider this paragraph unfairly expressed. It represents that when I found it necessary to discontinue lithographing the monthly Divisional Reports and sending a copy (unasked from the beginning), to the Consulting Engineer, I reluctantly (intimated by the word ultimately), agreed to furnish copies of my own report. The fact is that I immediately undertook to writing monthly reports in a new form and more full, expressly that all the same information might reach the Government. My former monthly reports were chiefly comments on the Divisions' reports, they are now comprehensive and give all the information I gather from them and which I myself possess. The certificates of work sent monthly from the Divisions were always intended for the Government, and it is only lately that I find they were held back to be embodied with other information in a form established, I believe, by Colonel Rundall. Those certificates with my reports contain, I believe, everything that can be required, but I am most willing to add at any time any information which may have been overlooked.

8. On the 7th paragraph I need only remark that although I have referred, through the Board of Directors, to their Consulting Engineer and the Profession in England various plans for high dams in such gorges as we have to deal with, I have no instructions or intentions to defer in the same way the submission to the Government of completed plans and estimates for any of the Company's works.

No. 1,782

Forwarded to the Consulting Engineer for communication to Government.

MADRAS,
12th November 1864.

(Signed) F. H. HENSLOWE,
Agent and Manager.

Submitted to Government for information, with reference to their Order No. 3,071, dated 25th October 1864.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Captain, R. E.,
Cons. Engr. for I. and C. Company.

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5th December 1864.*

No. 93. ORDER THEREON, 5th December 1864, No. 3,478.

1. From the foregoing letter, it is evident that the survey operations carried on by the Irrigation Company have hitherto been unsuccessful; but the Government are aware that it is not easy to find valleys, conveniently situated, and capable of storing large bodies of water.

2. With regard to paragraph 5 of the Chief Engineer's letter, that Officer should be reminded that the Nellore works have not been abandoned. The Government acting on a late Despatch* from the Secretary of State, and being of opinion that the guaranteed capital of

* Dated 8th August 1864, No. 24.

the Company would not suffice for the completion of the works above Somaishweram, decided upon postponing the construction of the works below Somaishweram until it became evident that additional capital would be raised in support of the guaranteed sum of one million. The Chief Engineer should be informed that Government are willing to receive estimates for any works which provide for carrying on the Company's scheme in an unbroken chain, up to the total amount of their subscribed capital.

3. There is no information before the Government regarding the instructions which the Chief Engineer states that he has received to stop so essential a part of the Company's undertaking as the navigation works.

(True Extract)

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

To the Consulting Engineer, Irrigation and Canal Company.
„ Manager for do. do.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

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J. H. P.

The Agent
J. H. C.
The Remonding
H. A. C.

Oct 12. 1892

Thomson's Book
Organizer's Letter to
the Community on
Dinner for Commem-
oration to Govt.

of storing large bodies
of water

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+ dated 8th Aug /64,
No 24

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The General
Manager - - of

Copy in a Letter to Eng. Land
of 10 January No. 2 of 1865.

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407 North Duke

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