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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1054 Press ~~Mis~~

332-334.

Dated 13-4- 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 343—

Irr. Engineer's Office 7th Div.
Ikercara 26th February 1864

From

Lieut.t Colt. Gn. Wm. Walker R.n E.n
Superintending Engineer 7th Div.n

To

Colt. C.n A.n Orr R.n E.n
Secretary to Government P.W.D.
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to submit the papers called for in Government Order No. 3795 of 22nd December 1863 having long in my possession and it is only the want of the accompaniments alluded to in the last para of Captain Beans Report of the 26th June, now forwarded with the other documents, that has kept me from submitting them before—Captain Bean left the District for good, and Lt. Ballard on 2 months leave, without either of them having recorded his opinion as to the means to be adopted for preventing the injurious interference of the Ryots with the Southern Canal—In the absence of the latter, the Acting Sub Collector briefly replied to my enquiry that the Penal Code would reach offending parties; but on my personal enquiries at the Calicut Collectors Cutcherry I found that no reliable information had been got together on the subject—

The action of Government with reference to a line of Tramway from Shoran

Enclosures: 4.
1st Assembly Bungalow
No. 71.

to Purrialputtanam rendering the Canal Improvements a matter of less immediate Consequence, I resolved further to defer submission of these Plans and Estimates till after Mr. Ballard's return, Buck Mr. Superviser Smithers Account in his Inspection List for January, of the Obstructions in the Canal, & the taxes on traffic which they give rise to, induced me urgently to request from the Acting Collector a Statement of what might be done to put down the evil complained of — I append copies both of Mr. Smithers Complaint, & of Mr. Walhouse's letter — I am not sure that the latter has quite realized to what extent the Canals were originally opened for purposes of Irrigation as well as of Navigation — If avowedly for the latter then only can I hope that this proposed mode of Action will be successful —

The Amount of the Estimates herewith submitted Rupees 7,600, being already high enough, and no available agency for extending them being now at my disposal, I have not attempted any thing about the improvements in the Ponany River and in the Backwaters alluded to by the Railway Chief Engineer — I look upon the project as laid aside pending the result of the present treaty with the Tramway Company which I trust will be successful — I have no doubt that the requirements of Cochin will be much better met by a Light Railway and existing 1st Class Navigation, than by the very imperfect Navigation which the Coast Canal will afford after more than double the outlay Estimated for by Capt. Bean — At the same time, the interests of Malabar District must not be allowed to retrograde for want of Junior Improvements to the Coast Canal, and its riddance from Artificial obstructions to traffic —

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obt. Servant

G. Walker Lt. Col. R. E.
Superintending Engineer "D" —

Extract from the Inspection Report of Mr. Superviser S. Smithers for the Month of January 1864

11th "January 1864 Ponany —

In passing up and down the Vellyangode Canal I found no less than four Dams thrown across it for the ostensible purpose of preventing the salt mixing with the fresh water and injuring the Cultivation but in my opinion simply to extort "Black Mail" as no Boat conveying merchandize or native passengers is allowed to pass over the Dams without paying tribute — I was asked to pay one Rupee at each Dam but of course declined compliance — It must be obvious to every one how these obstructions tend to silt up the Canal and so impede traffic, I have written to the Tahsildar of Ponany to ascertain whether

or not the people along the Canal have free
=mission of the Revenue Authorities to Dam
it up—

No. 538. Malabar Collector's Office
Calicut 17th February 1864

From
Wm. J. Walhouse Esqre
Acting Collector of Malabar—

To
Lieut.-Col. G. W. Walker
Superg. Engineer 7th Division
Camp Buntwall Bangalore

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 10th Inst.,
I have the honor to state that I consider the
obstructions reported to exist on the Valiain
=gode Canal, & the advantage taken from them
to levy fees upon passing boats, to be entirely
illegal— The bed & Channel of the Canal in
question belong to Government, & no such obs=
=truction in it, or in any other Canal that is
also public property, ought to be tolerated— I
have issued orders to the Penany Tahsildar to
Remove the dams upon the Canal, & to warn the
adjacent land holders that they will not be
permitted,— and that any such attempts at
obstruction will be dealt with under Section
431 of the Penal Code— The Tahsildar has been
also directed to report from time to time on
that the Canal is free & unobstructed— In the
case of Canals, should there be any, Constructed
by private funds I do not see how free naviga
=tion could be obtained except by purchase of
the right or agreement with the owners— The
Proceedings of Government left with me are here=
=with returned— I have &c
Signed Wm. J. Walhouse
Acting Collector—
True Copy
Lieut. Col. Walker
Superintending Engineer 7th Div.

22 Dec. 1863 Nos 559-560

P.P. 1864 Dated Wenlock
Prog. of Sanct. for April
From No. 1008
The Sup.g. Engr. 7th Div.n
To
The Secretary to Govt
D. P. W.
No. 343 Madras

Dated 26th February/64
Receivd 5 March.

By Returns & Mem. of Lt & Cash
" Deed & Mem. of
" 10-10/65

Forwarding Papers
connected with the
improvements of the
Pounny & Chungleah
line of Canal—

No. 1054-13th April/64.

Opr. 332

c. 14th March/64 O.R. 22nd

Calicut 11th March 1864

From
L. A. Ballard Esqr
Collector of Malabar

To
Lt Coll G. W. Walker
Superintending Engineer
7th Division
Coimbatore

Sir

Your letter of the 10th Ultimo to the Acting Collector has been brought to my notice—

2. Some particulars of information which I long ago and several times since called for have not reached me, and I wished to have them before addressing you, but as you state your report and Estimates are solely delayed for want of my opinion, I can only briefly say that I think means must be adopted for preventing damage by the influx of salt water to the extensive cultivation in the vicinity of the Canal, but it seems to me a question for settlement by the Professional Department how this can best be managed—

3. I think Mr Walhouse misapprehended the state of affairs when he wrote to

to you on the 17th Ultimo -

2. It has invariably been customary for 2 or 3 dams to be erected by the cultivators to prevent damage to their cultivation, and I consider that if Government now steps in and interdicts their doing so, it will be incumbent on Government to stop the influx of salt water by other means or allow the cultivators damages - These would be heavy, and there would be a considerable loss of revenue also -

4. I have therefore materially modified Mr Walhouse's orders -

I have ordered the Tahsildar not to remove any of the dams that have been built in accordance with immemorial custom; and that the circumstances of the place absolutely require: but I have directed him to inform the cultivators that as the dams are principally allowed for their benefit they are bound not only not to levy toll, but to give every assistance, free, to the passage of boats - strict attention will be exacted to these orders.

as

5. As above said the suggestion of such permanent measures as will aid the passage of traffic, whilst securing cultivation from damage, must be suggested by you -

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obed[t] Servant,

Ca Ballard
Collector -

Submitted to the Secretary to Government D. P. W. with reference to the Supg. Engrs letter No. 343 of 20th Feb. 1864.

Coimbatore
17th March 1864

W Walker Lt Colonel
Supg Engr. 7th Dn

Ex[d] D.S.

P.W.D.

Cuttack

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 1st March 1864.

Read the following letter

From the Supt. Engineer J. Bn
Forwarding Papers Connected
with the improvements to the
Canany and Chowghaut
line of Canal.-

Here enter 26 February 1864.
No 343.

G.O. 257.

On the 29th January 1863.
the Govt. in reviewing Mr.
Kennedy's report upon the
water communication
between Beypoor & Cochin,
called upon the Distrct
Engineer for an estimate
of the cost of carrying out
the improvements suggested
by Mr. Kennedy, and for
a report to be prepared in
communication with
the Collector, on the means
to be adopted for preventing
the injurious interference
of cultivators with the
Channels.

The above letter is
in reply to that requisition,
and with it the following
estimates are submitted,
amounting in all to
Rs. Pds 41,600:-

Mr Madeley wrote

Read 1st April 1864 P.W.D.

From Supt. Engr. Cuttack
Dated 26th Feb. 1864
No. 256
To the Secy. to Govt.
in the Pub. Wks. Dept.
Madras

Dated 12th April 1864
Rec'd 21 "

Executive Collector
with a/c and Comms.
Ex Encl 2
Pds 105-4-13 5th April 64

Pub. 30th

	Rs.
Widening the old Canal between the Kovaing and Valiangode Rivers ---	14,095-
Compensation for land -	625-
4 locks ———	34,400
4 Surplus Calingulas -	5,500
20 surplus dams - -	4,500
24 wooden bridges --	12,480
	71,600-

Colonel Walker, while stating that neither the Collector nor the late District Engineer had recorded their opinion as to the means to be adopted for preventing the cultivators from improperly interfering with the Canals, refrains from giving his own opinion on the subject. He encloses a copy of a letter from the late Collector, in which that gentleman states that he has issued orders for the immediate removal of all the dams upon the Canal, and that any such attempts to obstruct the Communication

If however, the effect of this is to admit salt water and thus to damage the crops we shall be securing Navigation but more than we want - and both would be as well to retain whether by a permanent Dam and Lock or simple sluice we might not secure the irrigation as well as the Navigation - State at what season the dry season a Spring Tide might altogether overwhelm the Freshwater and do a good deal of damage

without prejudice to their employment for irrigation, Parkland and Wynaad

To The Supt. Engineer & Do.
" Collector of Malabar.

13

will in future be dealt with under Section 431 of the Penal Code.

We Govt are anxious to have the opinions of the Collector & of the Supt. Engineer upon this important subject - both as to the right of the Govt to construct the dams & as to the best means of securing suitable - united communication along the Canals. Col. Walker will request Lt. Bellard to favour him with his opinion upon these points, which he will submit, with his own, to Govt.

We Estimates received with the above letter will lie over until it be decided whether the Indian Tramway Company are to undertake the connection of Calicut with the Railway, by the construction of a tramway from the Shoranoor station to Kuttyadi Pattanam. HBB

1000

Canals

( )

Proceedings of

Forwarding papers connected with the improvements to the Ponany and Shoranoor line of Canals

Malabar Collectors letter about damming up Canal

G.O. 257

Public Work Departt

Madras Govt Secrt

Under date the 13th March/64

Read the following letters from the Superintg Engr

No. 1054

dated 26th February 1864 — No. 345

dated 17th March/64

1. Vide the 29th January 1863 the Govt. directg Lt. Kennedy reviewing his report upon the water communication between Beypoor & Cochin, called for an estimate of the cost of carrying out the improvements suggested by Lt. Kennedy, and for a report, (to be prepared in communication with the Collector,) on the means to be adopted for preventing the injurious interference of the cultivators with the channels.

2. The above letter is in reply to that requisition, and with it the following estimates are submitted, amounting in all to Rs. 71,600 :—

e. Lr. March 1864. No. 22nd

3 Widening the old channel between the Beach and Veliangode rivers — Rs. 14,095
~~Locks~~ — — — —
Compensation for land — 625
4 locks — — — — — 34,400
4 Surplus Calingulas — 5,500
4 Surplus dams — — — 4,500
20 Surplus dams — — — 4,500
24 wooden bridges — — — 12,480.
71,600.

These estimates will lie over until it be decided whether the Indian Tramway Company are to undertake the Connection of Cochin with the Railway, by the Construction of a Tramway from the Shoranoor station to Kurrepatnam.

4 The Revenue Authorities in the District differ in opinion as to the means to be adopted for preventing the Cultivators from injuriously interfering with the Canals. The Collector, Mr Walhouse, who has been acting as Collector during Mr Ballard's absence, considers that no obstruction to the traffic should be tolerated. He accordingly issued orders for the immediate removal of all the dams upon the Canal, stating that in future any such attempts to obstruct the Communication would be dealt with under Section 431 of the Penal Code.

5 Mr Ballard, on the other hand, ~~is of opinion~~ is of opinion that the Cultivators have a right, derived from immemorial usage, to erect certain dams; and considers that if Govt were now to interdict them from doing so, it would be necessary either to stop the influx of salt water by other means, or to allow heavy damages, ~~to be claimed~~ also accompanied by a considerable loss of Revenue. Mr Ballard has accordingly ordered that some of the dams are to be removed, but that every possible assistance is to be given to the passage of boats over them, without the levy of any toll.

6. The Sup.t Engineer has not expressed any opinion upon the subject.

7. The Govt agree with Mr Ballard. They are of opinion that if the effect of Mr Walhouse's order is to admit salt water, and thus to damage

3.

the crops, more will be lost than gained in securing navigation. We, both to know whether by some means more simple & inexpensive than the works provided for in the Estimates before them, the irrigation as well as the navigation might not be secured - The Sup.ng Engineer speaks of the artificial obstructions & the effect on the land being got rid of by means of minor improvements. The Govr desires that the opinion of Colonel Walker will report fully upon this point, stating his opinion as to the best & least costly mode of improving the navigation along the canals, without prejudice & their employment for purposes of irrigation.

8. The sketch plan of the Canal, which accompanied the estimates, will be returned to the Sup.g Engineer, in order that the position of the dams in question may be marked upon it.

A.B.

2nd April 1864 Ch. Sec.

(2)

Received Sept.r 1st with Collector's letter, dated 30th ult.o

35

To The Sup.g Engineer, Y. D. Dist.
with sketch plan of Canal
Collector of Customs.
Dept.t 14th April

• 3-6-12

13-11/54

C.M. 4139/65

4139

Y. P. W. 1864 Depto

Pus: of Govt. for Apls

D.° 1854

Pus: of the Ulgaio

D/15th April/64

Papers on the Subject the improvement of the Ulster Communication between Derry, Portadown & Lochinn, Malahide Dustrict.

Y.° 832 @ 334