

(1) Number of pages 1-12

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	3596	Press
		~~Mis.~~
658-659		
Dated	28. 11.	1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1865.

No. 658. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madura, 17th November 1865, No. 1,699 :—

I have the honor to enclose copy of Sir J. L. (then Captain) Caldwell's report on the Perryaur, called for in G. O.

No. 3,334, dated 6th instant. Captain Payne agrees with me that it can be no other than that again proposed by Captain Ryves, but as Sir J. Caldwell has not given the levels which induced him to condemn the project, he urges the advisability of at least procuring these, in which I beg to concur.

Extract of Mr. Hodgson's Report, 28th March 1868, about Dindigul District.

29. "The Collector of Ramnad had about the same time transmitted to the Board of Revenue a project of a different nature from that investigated by Mr. Parish, for increasing the waters of the river Shooruliur. The Board had transmitted the communication of the Ramnad Collector to Captain Caldwell, for his investigation whenever his professional duties might carry him to the neighbourhood.

30. "I have inserted extracts of that gentleman's Diary, containing the result of his very laborious explainment of the source of the Shooruliur, and the proposed projects of increasing the supply of its waters :—

"Mr. Parish, the Collector of Madura and Dindigul, has furnished me with much interesting information upon the subject of the suggested project for the augmentation of the waters of the Vigar or Madura river, by opening a communication through Anamallay mountains with the Terkoo-periar. This gentleman *indeed* by an enterprising zeal, I find, visited the spot in the month of June last, being the first European who ever ventured so far into the mountains, and nearly sacrificed his life in the undertaking, having in consequence sustained attack of the hill fever, the due effects of which still remain by him. From the particulars of the information with which he has furnished me, supported by opinions he has himself formed from local observations, there is much reason to conclude the proposed undertaking altogether impracticable ; at the same time as no inspection or research decidedly professional has been made upon the spot, I shall proceed to the source of the river, and take the necessary levels for enabling me to form a conclusive opinion upon the subject.

"The suggested project is situated in the heart of the western mountains, dividing the Travancore country from Dindigul, and by *route* is about 85 miles distant from Madura ; I shall therefore move up the banks of the river by easy stages, for the purpose of examining the nature of its course, and the prevailing system of supply practised from its present waters, with a view towards ascertaining its capacity, and such other particulars as may be necessary for determining its capability in its actual state of receiving any great additional body of water, without the risk of injurious inundation or other detrimental consequences."

"From Wootumpallam I have made my first expedition into the mountains, for the purpose of inspecting a river or stream which is situated about five miles in the hills, distant about twelve from Wootumpollam ; its waters take a western

This is probably the Rajakolam any, west of Cambum. direction from the Anamallay range, and possibly become tributary to some river of greater importance, which falls into the sea through the Malabar coast ; the object required is to divert the waters of the Casshary to the Madura river by opening a course for them through the Eastern Division of the mountainous range. For the elucidation of the subject I have subjoined the accompanying sketch plan, No. 1 upon which

Not forthcoming in the record.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1865.*

exhibited Casshary, part of the Madura river, and the *intervening* mountains, through which it has been proposed to convey the waters of the former by taking advantage of the course of the revenue (ravine ?), and by connecting its head (*sic.*) with the extensive valley, which is represented to have

NOTE.—A sketch of the mountains and of the rivers accompanied the Diary, but not to be found now.

an eastern, descent this mountain drain extends about one mile and half from A to the Casshary, falling from the hills in various directions over a bed of rock, and with a descent so abrupt that its general course may be termed a rapid, in many parts a cataract, before it attains the larger stream. Under the circumstances I felt little hesitation in forming my opinions of the impracticability of the proposed undertaking upon simple inspection. As much sanguine expectation had, however, been excited in the Eastern Districts, dependant upon the Madura river, and various opinions formed by the Natives, I judged it advisable to place the question at rest by taking necessary levels with my instruments. I therefore commenced a series from the surface of the water in the Casshary of the rocky bed of the *ravenny* (ravine ?); my first sight afforded a rise of twenty feet, and before I had proceeded two hundred yards, the results furnished ample justification for determining the pursuit altogether unworthy of any further regard.

"It is to be observed that the above detailed research does not allude to the subject brought before the Board by Mr. Kinlock, the Collector of Ramnad, for diverting the course of Terkoo-periar, which I find the inhabitants of this part of the country deem impracticable; and under this pursuation (persuasion ?) have brought forward the Casshary project, as promising a more favorable prospect of success, and which I therefore judged it my duty to inspect. The Terkoo-periar is situated about twenty miles further south, and in that part of the range which constituted the head of the valley; it is my intention now to proceed upon the investigation.

"This scheme for the improvement of Madura and Ramnad Districts is, I find, of very ancient date, and has been handed down from father to son, through many generations; its situation in the heart of the mountains is such, remote from any habitable spot, infested with numerous wild beasts, and to an extreme degree insalubrious, that few of the inhabitants of the lower country have ventured to visit it; hence, many false and mistaken ideas have obtained with regard to its feasibility, and much amplification been practised in the expressions and statements respecting the benefits expected to result from its accomplishment; this direction from a faithful, unexaggerated detail has induced Collector of Ramnad to view the subject in a far more favorable light than it merits, and to surmise, in his address to the Board, a facility in execution, and public results from the adoption to the project, which I am sorry to find are not confirmed by local investigation.

"The Shooruliar, pointed out by Mr. Kinlock as the stream to be united with the Vigay, is already a part of the river, which for the first thirty miles of its course downwards bears that name, taking its rise in a mountain termed shortly Matty (Mally, the mountain ?), the object required is connection with this river and Terkoo-periar, which is situated about five miles south of Shoorley, in the heart of the same alpine region, the intermediate space being a succession of hill and dale, which is not to be passed over but with a considerable degree of difficulty and labor.

"Upon visiting the Terkoo-periar, attended by the most intelligent and best informed inhabitants who reside nearest to the spot, they pointed out to me a stream or mountain drain, termed Yerllat Moolly* falling into the large river, the course of this ravine they state to be the means of communication, which some hundred years past it was proposed to take advantage of for the attainment of the required objects.

"Upon inspecting the course of the Yerllat Moolly for several miles upwards from its confluence with the Terkoo-periar, I find its descent so abrupt upon a continued bed of rock that, in all parts, it must be classed a rapid, admitting of no exception; but with reference to those spots where cataracts prevail, exhibiting one of nature's works, any attempt at the counteraction of

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1865.*

which by human efforts could only excite astonishment and ridicule, with a mind possessing but a very moderate share of judgment and discernment, this opinion without hesitation obtained with one upon simple inspection. At the same time as a persuasion of the practicability of the undertaking had long been fostered by the inhabitants of the Eastern Districts, and the benefits expected to result held out of a description and extent involving the important consideration of a great future prosperity, I judged it advisable to place the question at rest by taking the necessary levels with my instruments. I therefore commenced a series from the bed of the Terkoo-periar up the course of the Yerllat Moolly, and before I had proceeded four hundred yards attained a rise upon my staves over a tract of rock which affords ample justification for condemning the project as decidedly chimerical, and unworthy of any further regard."

The copy in the record is very badly made. I have corrected errors in spelling, and others which were obviously clerical, and suggested others, otherwise it is a true extract.
(Signed) F. J. MOBERLY, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1865, No. 3,596.
No. 659. CIVIL WORKS, No. 94.
Ordered to lie over, pending the receipt of Captain Payne's report on the Perryaur project.

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

15

Extract of
Mr Hodgson's Report 28th March 1808 about
Dindigul District

29. The Collector of Ramnad had about the same time transmitted to the Board of Revenue a project of a different nature from that investigated by Mr Parish for increasing the waters of the river Shoorahar. The Board had transmitted the Communication of the Ramnad Collector to Captain Caldwell for his investigation whenever his professional duties might carry him to the neighbourhood.

30. I have inserted extracts of that Gentleman's Diary containing the result of his very laborious explanation of the source of the Shoorahar and the proposed projects of increasing the supply of its waters.

Mr Parish. The Collector of Madurai and Dindigul has furnished me with much interesting information upon the subject of the suggested project for the augmentation of the waters of the Veigar or Madirbi river by opening a communication through Anamallay mountains with the Tereor periar. This Gentleman indeed by an enterprising zeal I find visited the spot in the month of June last, being the first European who ever ventured so far into the mountains, and nearly sacrificed his life in the undertaking, having in consequence sustained attack of the Malaria Fever. The due effects of which still remain by him. From the particulars of the information with which he has furnished me, supported by opinions he has himself formed from local observations, there is much reason

to

to conclude the proposed undertaking altogether impracticable at the same time as no inspection or research decidedly professional has been made upon the spot. I shall proceed to the source of the River, and take the necessary Levels for enabling me to form a conclusive opinion upon the subject.

The suggested project is situated in the heart of the Western mountains dividing the Travancore Country from Gundyal, and the route is about 80 miles distant from Madras. I shall therefore move up the Banks of the River by easy stages for the purpose of examining the nature of its course, and the prevailing system of supply practised from its present waters, with a view towards ascertaining its capacity, and such other particulars as may be necessary for determining its capability in its actual state of receiving any great additional body of water, without the risk of injurious inundation or other detrimental consequences.

From Kootumpallam I have made my first expedition into the mountains for the purpose of inspecting a River or stream which is situated about five miles in the Hills distant about twelve from Kootumpallam, its waters take a western direction from the Annamalai Range and possibly become tributary to some river of greater importance to the Rajastan which falls into the sea thro' the Malabar Coast. The best of object required is to direct the waters of the Cozhary, to the Madrasa River by opening a course for them thro' the eastern Division of the Annamalai Range. For the elucidation of the subject I have subjoined the accompanying sketch Plan. Not upon which is exhibited Kootumpallam part of the Madrasa river and the intervening mountains through which it has been

Ravine?

Note
Sketch of the mountains and of the rivers accompanied the Diary. It is to be found now.

Ravine?

been proposed to convey the waters of the former by taking advantage of the course of the River and by connecting its head with the extensive Valley which is represented to have an Eastern descent. This mountain drain extends about one mile and half from it to the Cozhary falling from the Hills in various directions over a bed of rock, and with a descent so abrupt that its general course may be termed a Rapid, in many parts a Cataract, before it attains the larger stream. Under the circumstances I felt little hesitation in forming my opinion of the impracticability of the proposed undertaking upon simple inspection. As much sanguine expectation had however been excited in the Eastern Districts, dependant upon the Madrasa River, and various opinions formed by the Natives, I judged it advisable to place the question at rest by taking necessary levels with my instruments. I therefore commenced a series from the surface of the water in the Cozhary of the Rocky bed of the Ravine, my first sight afforded a rise of twenty feet and before I had proceeded two hundred yards, the results furnished ample justification for determining the pursuit altogether unworthy of any further regard.

It is to be observed that the above detailed research does not allude to the subject brought before the Board by Mr. Hinlocks the Collector of Ramnad, for diverting the course of Terkooperian, which I find the Inhabitants of this part of the Country deem impracticable, and under this persuasion have brought forward the Cozhary project as promising a more favorable prospect of success, and which I therefore

therefore judged it my duty to inspect. The Terkoo-periar is situated about twenty miles further south, and is that part of the Range which constituted the head of the Valley, it is my intention now to proceed upon the investigation.

This scheme for the improvement of Madura and Ramnad Districts, is I find of very ancient date, and has been handed down from father to son, through many generations; its situation in the heart of the mountains is such, remote from any habitable spot, infested with numerous wild Beasts, and to an extreme degree insalubrious, that few of the inhabitants of the lower Country have ventured to visit it, hence many false and mistaken ideas have obtained with regard to its feasibility, and much simplification been practised in the descriptions and statements respecting the benefits expected to result from its accomplishment in this direction from a faithful unexaggerated detail has induced Collector of Ramnad to view the subject in a far more favorable light than it merits, and to surmise in his address to the Board a facility in execution, and public results from the adoption to the project which I am sorry to find are not confirmed by local investigation.

The Shoorooliar pointed out by Mr. Fenwick, as the stream to be united with the Vegay, is already a part of the River, which for the first 30 miles of its course downwards bears that name, taking its rise in a mountain termed shortly ^{Malay} Malay. The object required is connection with the river and Terkoo-periar which is situated about five miles south of Shorby in the heart of the same alpine region, the intermediate space being a succession of hills and dale, which is not to be passed over but

lylgetta mullya
so called now because
it is rapid for 8
times.

with a considerable degree of difficulty and labor. Upon visiting the Terkoo-periar attended by the most intelligent and best informed Inhabitants who reside nearest to the spot they pointed out to me a stream or Mountain drain termed Gerlat moolly falling into the large river, the course of this ravine they state to be the means of communication which some hundred years past it was proposed to take advantage of for the attainment of the required objects.

Upon inspecting the course of the Gerlat moolly for several miles upwards from its confluence with the Terkoo-periar I find its descent so abrupt upon a continued bed of rock that in all parts it must be classed a Rapid, admitting of no exception, but with reference to those spots where cascades prevail, exhibiting one of a nature's works, any attempt at the counteraction of which by human efforts could only excite astonishment and ridicule with a mind possessing but a very moderate share of judgement and discernment, this opinion without hesitation obtained with one upon simple inspection; at the same time as a persuasion of the practicability of the undertaking had long been fostered by the inhabitants of the Eastern Districts, and the benefits expected to result held out of a description and extent involving the important consideration of a great future prosperity I judged it advisable to place the question at rest by taking the necessary Levels with my instruments. I therefore commenced a series from the bed of the Terkoo-periar up the course of the Gerlat-Moolly and before I had proceeded four hundred yards attained

16 1899
 19th Engineer's Office S. D.
 Madras 17th November 1865

From
 Sir Colonel F. J. Moberly R.E.
 Superintending Engineer S. Division
 Colonel C. A. Aire R.E.
 Secretary to Government S. D.

I have the honor to enclose copy of
 Sir J. L. (then Captain) Caldwell's report
 on the Perryar called for in G.O. N^o 3334 dated
 6th Instant. Captain Payne agrees with
 me that it can be no other than that again
 proposed by Captain Ryves but as Sir J.
 Caldwell has not given the levels which induced
 him to condemn the project he urges the advisa-
 bility of at least procuring these, in which I
 beg to concur.

I have &c

F. Moberly Supt. Engrs.
 Superintending Engineer S. D.

Enclosure in a letter
 from the Chief Engr
 of S. Division dated
 17th November 1865
 No. 1899

28th November
 1865
 3596

Received 1865/11-28-1865

Carroll M. Smith

20035962516

Ordered to be over, paid,

any the receipt of Capital

Capital report on the Foreign

Project.

W. H. S.

March 8th 1865
20035962516

6
To J. S. Smith & Co.
1865

1865

20035962516

20035962516

W. H. S.

March 8th 1865

20035962516

March 8th 1865

20035962516

20035962516