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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Relations DEPARTMENT.

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Dated	18 . .

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th April 1865.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 62. Proceedings of the Board Revenue, dated 21st February 1865, No. 1,048.

Read the following letter from W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vellum, 9th February 1865, No. 39.

SIR,

With reference to Extract from the Proceedings of the Board, under date the 12th January last, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter to my address, received from the Assistant Engineer, Mr. Roberts, in charge of Range No. 4. I would beg to direct the special attention of the Board to the concluding part of Mr. Roberts's letter, and would also take leave to observe that experience has amply shown in this District, that the keeping open of a navigable communication, which receives in its course the whole drainage of the surrounding country, must always be attended with some difficulty and expense, and when these channels of discharge are admitted to be in a very unsatisfactory state, it seems to me very questionable whether this line of navigation under existing circumstances, and with the present limited amount of expenditure can at all be relied on for bringing in the Vedarniem salt to supplement the store at Negapatam.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. ROBERTS, Esq., Assistant Engineer, in charge of No. 4 Range, Tanjore, to W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, dated Karungunny, 3rd February 1865, No. 314 of 1864-65.

SIR,

1. Referring to your letter No. 11 of the 25th ultimo, I have the honor to enclose copy of my reply to a similar question put to me by the Superintending Engineer; I beg to state, in addition, that the junction canal has been excavated to the specified depth throughout nearly its whole length; the masonry works at its southern extremity, consisting of a bridge of 45 feet span, carrying the Tritapoondy road (No. 26), an under tunnel passing the Chundrandy below the canal, together with two small tunnels for irrigating channels still remains to be completed, and the necessary deviations of road and channels to be made. The foundations of these works (with the exception of the last named) have been brought up to the level of the sole of the canal, and I anticipate the completion of the whole before the close of this working season.

2. A head sluice, a small aqueduct, and two drainage culverts have also to be constructed, if my proposal recommending their abandonment be not accepted.

3. With regard to the closing portion of your letter, I have to explain that the purpose of the junction canal is to provide the connecting link between two existing water-courses, and thereby render the whole navigable, but it is evident to me, that some portions of their length will not be navigable *throughout the year*; that nothing was wanting to make them so on the 14th October 1862 is proved by the fact of Captain Mullins and Mr. Fraser having travelled over them on that date, and I have no doubt that in the rainy season lightly laden boats will be able to ply between Negapatam and Vedarniem; but as I have not yet examined the entire line of proposed communication, I am unable to say when it will be available for *general traffic throughout the year*. I would observe, however, that since Captain Mullins in his report to Government on the subject, estimated the total outlay required on the project at one lac of Rupees, of which only

Vedarniem canal..	Rs. 13,000
Junction canal ..	22,565
Total ..	35,565

Rupees 35,565 have as yet been sanctioned, there remains a considerable sum still to be spent, and a proportionate time will be required for doing so. I have more than once drawn

attention to the unsatisfactory state of these old channels which have been silting up for years back, but other duties have prevented me from proposing, at the same time, measures for their improvement in detail.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. M. CADELL, Collector.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th April 1865.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From H. ROBERTS, Esq., Assistant Engineer, D. P. W., to the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, dated Negapatam, 21st January 1865, No. 297 of 1864-65.

SIR,
1. With reference to your endorsement No. 2,406, dated 20th January, on Government Order No. 145, dated 16th January 1865, I have the honor to report that provided the necessary funds be granted, the junction canal will probably be completed before the end of July next.

2. Funds to the extent just applied for, viz., Rupees 5,000 will, I think, be required for outlay in the current official year; there will then remain a balance on the sanctioned estimate (excluding Rupees 1,715-10-6 on account of compensation for lands) of about Rupees 4,000 to be worked out in the months of May and June.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. ROBERTS,
Assistant Engineer, D. P. W.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. M. CADELL, Collector.

1. Resolved that the above letter be submitted for the consideration of Government, through the Secretary in the Department Public Works.

2. The Board regret to receive such comparatively unfavorable report of the progress made in the Vedarniem Canal. Attention is solicited to the Assistant Engineer's remarks to which the Collector refers. It is clear that if the other portions of the line are not navigable, the completion of the canal will be of little use.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary.

No. 63. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department:—
Requesting that the attention of the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, may be drawn to the early completion of the Vedarniem Canal, and desiring to be furnished with a sketch showing the line of water communication between Negapatam and Vedarniem, and the portions completed and remaining to be finished.

(Here enter 30th March 1865, No. 699.)

No. 64.

ORDER THEREON, 5th April 1865, No. 919.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 13.

1. The Government are surprised to observe that, in the papers now read, difficulties are stated to exist in making the Canal between Negapatam and Toputorai, and doubts are raised of the feasibility of keeping it open for navigation, as in all the reports that have hitherto been submitted the work has been spoken of as easy of execution, and as certain to be of the greatest value for the transport of Salt. Now it is differently described, and Mr. Roberts* even goes so far as to state that the completion of the Canal was originally estimated by Captain Mullins to cost a lac of Rupees.

2. The Government can find no record of this estimate, and they are unable to reconcile the statement with the tenor of all Captain Mullins' communications on the subject of the Canal. The papers will, therefore, be referred for the consideration and report of the Superintending Engineer, who will call upon Mr. Roberts to quote the date and number of the letter from Captain Mullins in which the cost of the project is given at the sum stated by him.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th April 1865.*

3. The Superintending Engineer will arrange for visiting the work, and he will report fully on the points on which information is called for in paragraph 2 of the Proceedings of the Revenue Department recorded above. He will also furnish the required sketch of the line of water communication between Negapatam and Vedarniem, showing thereon the portions completed and remaining to be completed.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

„ Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

6 Jan'y 1865: No 143

W. Wright
Acting Secretary.

(True Copies and Extract.)

To Colonel C. A. Orr, R. E., Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
„ J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, D.

Copy to W. M. Cadell, Esq., Collector of Tanjore.

Ed. J. Wright.

Feb 2

e. 17th March 1865: No 24

1865 Department
Proc. of Govt. for April
No. 760

No.
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 21st February 1865.

Dep 28
and 2 Church

No 1,048.

Submitting for consideration letter from the
Collector of Tanjore forwarding letter from the
Assistant Engineer, Mr Roberts, reporting on
the state of the Vedarniem Canal.

no. 919 - 5th April 1865

Civil Works

Public Works Dept

No 919

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 5th March 1865

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Submitting for consideration
letter from the Collector of Tanjore
forwarding letter from the Assistant
Engineer, Mr. Roberts, reporting
on the state of the Udumalpet Canal.
Prof of for the Road Dept.

(Here enter 21st February 1865
No 1048)

I think Mr. Roberts report is
a very loose & unsatisfactory
production - It seems he decided
to proceed down the Canal
during the present dry season
and send in a proper report
of the width & depth of the
Canal from one end to the
other. of the cause which
may have operated at places
to deepen the depth - the mode
of procuring them - The Govt
ought not to be troubled with
loose statements of this nature
The Collector should at once
refer them to the Asst Engr
through whom only reports
are to be submitted. The Govt
should be submitted.

The Government are dis-
posed to observe that, in the
papers now read, difficulties are
stated to exist in making the
Canal between Nagapattinam and
Tanjore, and doubts are raised
of the feasibility of keeping it
open for navigation, as in all
the reports that have hitherto been
submitted the work has been
spoken of as easy of execution &
as certain to be of the greatest
value for the transport of salt.
Now, however, it is differently
described, & Mr. Roberts even
goes so far as to state that the

Mr. Roberts letter to Collector
Capt. Oakes 24th Feb 1865. No 314

as he joins the Division
and report to us at
once how matters
really stand.
JP

Completion of the Canal was
originally estimated by Capt
Mullins to cost a Lac of Rupees.

The Govt. can find no
records of this estimate, & they
are unable to reconcile the statement
with the honor of all Capt Mullins'
communications on the subject of
the Canal. The papers will therefore
be referred for the consideration
and report of the Supg Engineer, who
will call upon Mr Roberts to quote
the date & contents of the letter from
Capt Mullins in which the cost
of the project is given, at the
sum stated by him.

I do not understand
Mr Roberts' report tho'
I know the country
& have words to refer
to Captain Dabbs' report.
Will be preferable
if he can persuade
him to do what is
desired.
WJ

The Supg Engineer will arrange for visiting the
work, & he will report fully on the points on which information
is called for in Para 2 of the Pro of the Res Dept needed above.
He will also furnish the required sketch of the line of water Com-
munications between Egypt & Nubia, showing thereon
the positions completed & remaining to be completed.

and
I am
very
truly
yours
J.

The Secy of Revenue
Supg Engr to Govt
Cairo
Res Dept

Sept 8th April

to Viso Depart
to Secy of Govt for April

No 919
Pres. of the M. H. S.
D. 5 April 66

Prob 3572/85

The Supy Council
of Dⁿ requested
to furnish a Sketch
of the line of Water
Communication between
Vegapataun and Vadar
micon, and to report
upon certain points
in Connection into
that Works.

No 62 R. 63. & 64