M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2830 Press / Mis.

M.S. 1230

Dated 5 - 9 - 1836

Not to be folded or roughly handled

14.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th September 1866.

Read the following letters:—

No. 118. From the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madras, 29th August 1866, No. 1,537.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G. O. of the 22nd instant, No. 2,642, from which I learn that my papers for supplying the existing reservoirs of Bellary Cantonment with water have been again returned to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, for revision, on the ground that the plans and estimates are so incomplete, it would not be justifiable to spend public money on them, notwithstanding that this Officer has permitted two years to elapse since Sir Hope Grant told him if he would send those very papers to Madras he would support the project in Council, and at that time Major Moberly does not appear to have discovered that these deficiencies existed in them, but now simply alleges Colonel Hemery had told him so when making over charge of the Division; up to this time, not one of these alleged deficiencies have been pointed out or established, and whilst my papers were in Madras I offered to give every assistance in explaining the project, or in showing how any deficiencies might be remedied, I was then told this was unnecessary, and that the scheme had been accepted and approved of, and would be executed.

2. I deny that Mr. Porter's project has any advantages over the one proposed by me, and if mine is incomplete, in what state must his be when not a day's surveying has yet been done even in investigating it, and to support it recourse is obliged to be had to the vulgar artifice of mis-representing me in order to confute my statements, and I am deprived of the use of my papers so that these ideas may, if possible be taken up. I should like to know on what grounds Mr. Porter takes upon himself to say he does not consider the project as prepared by me to be the best which could be designed? As one of my subordinates I have always borne willing testimony to his usefulness; but I must confess I was not prepared to hear him talk in the strain of his present report, or to find him called in to criticise my plans by one whose duty it was to do this himself, if considered necessary.

3. Mr. Porter's project proposes to abandon at once more than half the drainage area available for supplying water to the Cantonment, and this half of the valley it is well known to every one at all acquainted with the country is by far the better supplied with rain-fall; from this extent of country he proposes bringing a larger quantity of water than I had calculated upon to be furnished in a shorter time, notwithstanding that its waters already belong to an existing tank which they fail to supply oftener than two years in five, and he assumes his rain-fall to be eighteen inches in all years to get his supply. Now, Major Moberly shows in his letter, paragraph 4, this was only eleven inches in 1865, and in the preceding year I believe it was not so much, and in 1863 it was barely six inches; yet in the face of these facts it is deliberately proposed to give up the better half of the available water-supply, construct a high reservoir on a nullah which, on the average of seasons, cannot supply sufficient water for 200 acres of land, and this is, moreover, to be done by a channel conveying 20,000 or 30,000 cubic yards per hour to a tank to contain four million cubic yards, but in how many hours it is not shown, whilst

there are already in the station many reservoirs which only require to be filled with water by an ordinary channel to afford the necessary supply.

4. As regards the assumption of eighteen inches being the average available rain-fall for that part of the country on my authority, I beg to observe it is wholly incorrect; this average had been taken as the results obtained from the observations from all the Talooks, and, as far as I remember, I clearly showed it could not apply to Bellary station, either in this report or in one sent in immediately before on the irrigation works of the District. I further showed that the variations in the revenue obtained from the Kollegal tank, were due entirely to the character of this rain-fall; in years of good fall all the lands were cultivated, clearly proving the efficiency of the means for supplying this tank with water, which Mr. Porter now pretends to impugn, notwithstanding that he himself had been employed by me in preparing surveys and estimates for extending the bund of this small tank entirely across the nullah, and to discharge the surplus over calingulahs, so as to secure it if possible a full supply in all seasons, and this project had to be given up because the ryots would not agree to take up any more lands, the supply of water in that locality from rain-fall being so very precarious yet now this same nullah is to furnish all or nearly all the water required for a large Military Cantonment, as well as the small tank it frequently fails to supply. Mr. Porter makes an increase of 45 per cent. in my rates for the dam works, but he considers there is no occasion to make any alterations for the reservoir, because Sappers are to be employed on this and paid for in the Military Department, but these men can only do the excavation of the earth for this work, all the stone-work, masonry for sluices and calingulahs, tamping, &c., are wholly unprovided for except by guess, and this scheme is put forward and printed, whilst all my papers are suppressed or sent back for revision when not a single deficiency had been established against them.

5. I must crave of the Government to permit me very respectfully to deprecate the course now adopted, when the hasty, crude designs of one of my subordinates is accepted on equal terms with my own, my papers sent away, and I am deprived of the use of them, and notwithstanding that not one day has yet been spent in investigating Mr. Porter's project, it is taken up only with a view, I suppose, to set aside if possible the one I had prepared and had spent many months in carefully going over the whole ground, collecting all the information I could regarding rain-fall, revenue realised under existing tanks in the same locality, &c. To the best of my ability I have endeavoured to serve the Government as honestly and faithfully as I could, and the results now exhibited as derived from the irrigation works in Bellary, as contrasted with what these were when I took charge of the District in 1856, clearly show I could not have been neglectful of my duty; after eight years' experience of the District, and constant attention to its irrigation works, I had prepared and submitted a project for this locality, with a view to improving the water-supply to all existing reservoirs; and that this was not done without due consideration, is supported by the unwilling testimony of Major Moberly in regard to the channel to the Fort Ditch—see G. O. of the 18th June 1866, No. 1,902. The reservoir I proposed to construct below the grass-cutters' well has nothing whatever to do with the project for furnishing a supply of water to these tanks, but was brought forward with a view to show that a site existed where

a quantity of water might be stored in the event of the supply from the drainage area proving more favorable than was expected, to improve the irrigation of the land in that neighbourhood, and so make the scheme more remunerative; but this has nothing whatever to do with the supplying of water to the barracks, for which I had designed another project to obtain the supply from the well near the Race Course by a syphon tunnel, but this also has had nothing done for it. Mr. Porter now urges, though he must have been well aware of my proposals as he had all my papers, that this reservoir will be useless for the purpose of supplying the barracks except at great expense. But one would have supposed that in a place like Bellary, where water is such a need, it would have been more advantageous in these times to get it in almost any way, than to bring forward projects which have had no more time or thought bestowed on them than just to write out a report, and which yet require to be carefully surveyed, estimated, and fair drawn out! And as Major Moberly, who has had my project before him for nearly two years, has apparently never gone over the ground, or investigated any of the matters connected with the rain-fall, records regarding which exist in all the Hospitals of the station and at the Cutcherry, I am at a loss to understand on what grounds he can have submitted Mr. Porter's scheme at all. As to the reason that he did not consider the design strong enough, I would simply ask is he not capable of improving them after having had them so long in his possession? provided he can show the necessity for so doing. In conclusion I must beg my papers may be returned to me, as the Government have declined to print them though every prominence has been given to anything put forward in opposition to my proposals; and as I feel I have done my duty fully in urging this scheme on the Government, I wish to have the means at hand to substantiate all I have said in this report, and which I respectfully submit should not have been denied to me before.

No. 119. From the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 4th September 1866, No. 1,607.

1. In explanation of the project for supplying Bellary European Barracks with water by a syphon tunnel from the well near the Race Course, referred to in paragraph 5 of my letter to your address, No 1,537, dated 29th ultimo, I have the honor to observe, I determined to bring this forward, as it was the only source in the neighbourhood whence a *permanent* supply of water could be obtained for the European Soldiers; the seasons in Bellary are so very variable, the rain-fall so small and so very uncertain, that I came to the conclusion it would be far better for us to secure from the available drainage area all the water we could for the existing reservoirs in the Cantonment, and supply the Barracks from the well which had never failed to contain an abundant supply of water in the worst seasons, and as this conviction was the result of many years' experience, during which I had to contend with the difficulty of supplying water to the troops in Bellary, I respectfully submit it was not becoming of those now in charge to set aside my proposals in the manner in which this has been done, and for no reason except a vague allegation that the designs did not appear to be strong enough.

2. I would also add, my chief reason for extending the supply channel as far as the tenth mile stone on the Courtinny road, so as to include all the nullahs, was, I had often observed the nullahs out there had water in them when those between the Chuttrum and Bellary were perfectly dry, and this fact I had often pointed out to Mr. Porter, and this also is very well known to all residents in that place.

3. My projects thus embraced the entire Cantonment, to furnish a supply of water to all existing reservoirs by a channel dependent on the local rain-fall, but so extended as to include the whole available drainage area, whilst the barracks were to be made as independent of this source of supply as possible and have the water conveyed to them from the best well in the place; but all this has been entirely lost sight of, and it is pretended I wished to make every thing dependent on the local rain-fall, whereas all along I had given every evidence I could obtain to show the Government how very badly we were off on this very account.

No. 120. ORDER THEREON, 5th September 1866, No. 2,830.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 23.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division for his information.

2. As all papers connected with Captain Fischer's scheme for collecting and conveying water into Bellary from the neighbouring hills, have been returned to the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division, with a view to the project being at once carried out, as a famine relief work, in such manner as that Officer and the Collector may conjointly, after further local examination and according to circumstances, consider most expedient, the Government see no reason to return the documents to Captain Fischer, or to trouble him for further observations upon them.

3. It is not doubted that Captain Fischer's plans are well suited to effect, in a very complete way, the better supply of Bellary with water, and perhaps to allow of the storage of a surplus for the extension of irrigation near the station, but, as they have not been sufficiently finished to give the means of determining what the cost of carrying them out will probably be, and as a modified plan on a smaller scale has been brought forward to accomplish the same object, and perhaps at a smaller cost, the Government prefer leaving the details of the work to the judgment of the responsible local Officers.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.
To Captain Fischer, R. E.,

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Office of the Controller of P.W. Accounts.
Madras 29th August 1866.

No. 1537.

From. The Controller of P.W. Accounts.

To, The Secretary to Government. D.P.W.
Fort St. George.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of G.O. of the 22nd instant No. 2642 from which I learn that my papers for supplying the existing reservoirs of Bellary Cantonment with water have been again returned to the Superintending Engineer 3rd Division for revision on the ground that the plans and estimates are so incomplete it would not be justifiable to spend public money on them, notwithstanding that this Officer has permitted 2 years to elapse since Sir Hope Grant told him if he would send those very papers to Madras he would support the project in Council and at that time Major Moberly does not appear to have discovered that these deficiencies existed in them, but now simply alleges Colonel Henery had told him so when making over charge of the Division, up to this time not one of these alleged deficiencies have been pointed out or established and whilst my papers were in Madras I offered to give every assistance in explaining the project or in shewing how any deficiencies might be remedied, I was then told this was unnecessary and that the scheme had been accepted and approved of and would be executed.

2. I deny that Mr. Porter's project has any advantages

advantages over those now proposed by me and if
a mail is incomplete in what state must his be
when not a stage surveying has yet been done
to him in investigating it and to support it he was
is obliged to be had to the vulgar artifice of
misrepresenting me in order to confute my
statements and to Jam deprived of the use of
my papers so that these ideas may if possible
be kept down. I should like to know on what grounds
Mr. Porter takes upon himself to say he does
not consider the project as prepared by me to
be the best which could be designed? as one of
my subordinates I have always borne willing
testimony to his usefulness but I must confess
I was not prepared to hear him talk in
the strain of his present report or to find him
called in to criticize my plans by one whose
duty it was to do this if considered necessary.

3. Mr. Porter's project proposes to abandon
at once more than half the drainage area avail-
able for supplying water to the Cantonments,
and this half of the valley it is well known to
every one at all acquainted with the country
is by far the better supplied with rain-fall.
From this extent of country he proposes bringing
a larger quantity of water than I had calculated
upon to be furnished in a shorter time, not-
withstanding that its waters already belong to
our existing Tank which they fail to supply
often more than 2 years in 5. and he assumes
his rain-fall to be 18 inches in all years to
get his supply: now Major Moberly shews in
his letter para: 4 this was only 11 inches in 1865
and in the preceding year I believe it was not
much

so much, and in 1863 it was barely 6 inches
yet in the face of these facts it is deliberately
proposed to give up the better half of the
available water supply, construct a high reser-
voir on a nullah which on the average of 7
seasons cannot supply sufficient water for 200
acres of land and this is moreover to be done
by a channel conveying 20 or 30,000 cubic yards
per hour to a tank to contain 4 million
cubic yards, but in how many hours it is not
shewn, whilst there are already in the station
many reservoirs which only require to be filled
with water by an ordinary channel to afford
the necessary supply

4. As regards the assumption of 18 inches
being the average available rain-fall for that
part of the country on my authority I beg to
observe it is wholly incorrect. This average had
been taken as the results obtained from the
observations from all the tanks and as far as
I remember I clearly shewed it could not apply
to Bellary station, either in this report or in one
sent in immediately before on the Irrigation
works of the District. I further shewed that
the variations in the Revenue obtained from
the Kolleegul tank were due entirely to the
character of this rain-fall; in years of good
fall all the lands were cultivated clearly
proving the efficiency of the means for supply-
ing this tank with water which Mr. Porter
now pretends to impugn, notwithstanding
that he himself had been employed by me
in preparing surveys and Estimates for

& standing

project it is to take up only with a view to
suppose to set aside if possible the one I had
prepared and had spent many months in care-
fully going over the whole ground collecting
all the information I could regarding rain-
fall revenue realized under existing tanks
in the same locality &c.; to the best of my
ability I have endeavoured to serve the Govern-
ment as honestly and faithfully as I could
and the results now exhibited as derived from
the Irrigation works in Bellary as contrasted
with what these were when I took charge
of the District in 1856 clearly shew I could
not have been neglectful of my duty; after
8 years experience of the District and constant
attention to its Irrigation works I had pre-
pared and submitted a project for this
locality with a view to improving the water-
supply to all existing reservoirs and that this
was not done without due consideration
is supported by the unwilling testimony of
Major Moberly in regard to the channel to
the Fort Ditch see G. O. of the 18th June 1866
No. 1902; the reservoir I proposed to construct
below the grass-cutters well has nothing
whatever to do with the project for furnish-
ing a supply of water to these tanks but was
brought forward with a view to shew that a
site existed where a quantity of water might
be stored in the event of the supply from
the drainage area proving more favorable
than was expected, to improve the irrigation
of the land in that neighbourhood and

P.T.O.

as extending the bund of this small tank Eastwards
-ly across the nullah and to discharge the
surplus over Ledingulahs so as to secure if
possible a full supply in all seasons and this
project had to be given up because the ryots
would not agree to take up any more lands
the supply of water in that locality from
this same nullah is to furnish all or nearly
all the water required for a large Military
Cantonment as well as the small tanks it
frequently fails to supply. Mr. Peterman's
An increase of 45 per cent in my rates
for the Dam work but he considers there
is no occasion to make any alterations for
the reservoir because Sappers are to be employed
on this and paid for in the Military Depart-
ment but these men can only do the excava-
tion of the earth for this work all the stone-
work, masonry for sluices and Ledingulahs,
tamping &c. are wholly unprovided for
except by guess- and this scheme is first
printed and printed whilst all my papers
are suppressed or sent back for decision
when not a single deficiency had been establish-
ed against them.

5. I must crave of the Government to
permit me very respectfully to deprecate the
course now adopted when the hasty crude
designs of one of my subordinates is accepted
on equal terms with my own, my papers
sent away and I am deprived of the use of
them and notwithstanding that not one day
has yet been spent in investigating Mr. Peter's

project

so make the scheme more remunerative, but this has nothing whatever to do with the supplying of water to the Barracks for which I had designed another project to obtain the supply from the well near the race course by an syphon tunnel but this also has had nothing done for it. Mr. Porter now urges, though he must have been well aware of my proposals as he had all my papers, that this reservoir will be useless for the purpose of supplying the Barracks except at great expense but one would have supposed that in a place like Bellary where water is such an need it would have been more advantageous in these times to get it in almost any way than to bring forward projects which have had no more time or thought bestowed on them than just to write out a report and which yet require to be carefully surveyed, estimated and fair drawn out. and as Major Moberly who has had my project before him for nearly 2 years has apparently never gone over the ground or investigated any of the matters connected with the rain-fall, records regarding which exist in all the Hospitals of the station and at — the Coutcherry I am at a loss to understand on what grounds he can have submitted to Mr. Porter's scheme at all: as to the reason that he did not consider the design strong enough I would simply ask if he is not capable of improving them after having had them so long in his possession? provided he can shew

shew the necessity for so doing. In conclusion I must beg my papers may be returned to me as the Government have declined to print them though every prominence has been given to anything put forward in opposition to my proposals and as I feel I have done my duty fully in urging this scheme on the Government I wish to have the means at hand to substantiate all I have said in this report and which I respectfully submit should not have been denied to me before.—

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obed't. servant.

Lieut. Colonel Captain R.E.
Controller of C.W. Accounts.

Compd.

No. 1537. S — Office of the Controller of W. Accounts. Madras 4th September 1866.

From, The Controller of C.P.W. Accounts.

To, The Secretary to Government. P.W.D. Fort St. George.

Sir,

In explanation of the Project for supplying Bellary European Barracks with water by an open stone tunnel from Hennelly near the race-course, referred to in yours of even letter No. 1537 dated 29th ultimo, I have the honor to observe, I believe, the only source in this Presidency, or indeed in India, for permanent supply of water could be obtained for the European Barracks at Bellary are so very few, the rain-fall so small and so very variable, that I cannot to the conclusion that the works would be for no better purpose than to secure from the inhabitants of Bellary all the water they could draw from the existing reservoirs in the Country. I must therefore request that the Barracks may be supplied with water from the well which I have ordered to be sunk in the bed of the river Hagari. This connection would be attended with considerable expense during which I shall be convinced that the difficulty of supplying the Barracks with water will become more and more apparent, and I shall be compelled to submit, without further reference, to the Government, the necessity of abandoning the project altogether.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedient Servant, Accountant General.

P.W. 1866 Dept.
From Col. C. Orr Superintending Engineer
The Controller of P.W.
No. Accounts. 3578
Hickey: Adjutant General
of W.
Fort St. George.

Dated 29th
Recd 30th August 1866.

No. 1537.

Requesting to have returned to him all his Designs &c. for supplying the reservoirs of Bellary with water to give explanations as to their alleged incomplete-ness.—

Ans. 2830 - 6th Septr 66

Cir. Nos 25

Public Works Department

No 2830

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT Under date the 5th Septr 1866.

Read the following

From the Secretary to Govt

(Here enter No. 1537 dated 29 Augt 66.

From Do — — 1607 — 4 Sept

Communicating to the Superintending Engineer of the 3d Division for his information & guidance as to all papers connected with Captain Fischer's scheme for collecting and conveying water into Bellary from the neighbouring hills, a copy of which has been returned to the Superintending Engineer of the 3d Division, with a view to the project being

No 3652 Copy of the above Proceedings forwarded to the Secretary to Govt Public Works Department for information & necessary action.

Dated 6th September 1866.

No 1607.

By order of the Governor in Council

Superintending the Surveys

For submitting Estimates

European Barracks

with water.

No 2830 - 5th Septr 1866

at once carried out, as a famine relief work, in such manner as that Officer and the Collector may conjointly, after further local examination and according to circumstances, consider most expedient, the Government see no reason to ~~submit~~ retain the documents to Captain Fisher, or to trouble him for further observations upon them.

It is not doubted that Captain Fisher's plans are well suited to effect, in a very complete way, the better supply of Bellary with water and

and perhaps to allow of the storage of a surplus for the extension of irrigation near the Station, but as they have not been sufficiently finished to give the means of determining what the cost of carrying them out will probably be, and as a modified plan on a smaller scale has been brought forward to accomplish the same object, and perhaps at a smaller cost, the Govt. prefer leaving the details of the work to

to the judgment of the
responsible local offi
cers -

Ptr. 1866. Dept.

Rec'd. 1866. Department.

No. 2830

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 5th September 1866.

To
The S. Engr 3 Dn.
" ~~Dunbarton~~
Capt Fricker No. 5,
18 Dupl. Schiff.

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1/18 @ 120.

20 Jan 1853

J. W. 1856 D. Esq.

Pro: of Gold for Septr

1853

No 2830

Pro: of the Master Cook

D/ 5th September 56.

Passengers &c

on Letters from Captain

Fischer, requesting the

return of the papers re-

lative to the project for

the supply of water for

Troops &c, at Bellary.

No 118 @ 120.