M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

[illegible] DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. [illegible] Press
Mis.—

Dated [illegible] 18[illegible].

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th September 1866.

No. 357. Read the following Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, (Public Works,) to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, Fort Saint George, dated India Office, London, 31st July 1866, No. 15:—

1. In the Despatch of my predecessor, in the Public Department, dated June 16th (No. 22),1866, you were apprised of his decision that the operations at the Stanley Chinchona plantation in the Koondah hills should be continued.

2. These operations will necessitate the construction of a road from Ootacamund to the plantation, and I observe, from your Despatch in the Revenue Department, dated March 13th (No. 6), 1866, that it is your intention to have a good road made to the Koondahs as speedily as possible. This road will be useful to the private individuals who may open plantations on the Koondah hills, as well as to the Government. I would suggest that your attention should also be directed to the question of making an inexpensive bullock track from some point near the Stanley plantation to the low country, which might have the effect of bringing up supplies of provisions and labor from the Bowany valley and the Malabar Districts in the direction of Manar. Such a means of communication would apparently have the effect of cheapening and facilitating all planting operations in the Koondah hills. Colonel Ouchterlony, in his Survey Report, speaks of these hills as likely hereafter to form one of the most valuable and important Districts in the Madras Presidency.

3. It appears from your Proceedings in this Department that a new carriage road up the Coonoor Ghaut is in course of construction, at an estimated cost of upwards of two lacs of Rupees, including the expense of preliminary surveys and of making the trace; as well as a road down the Goodaloor Ghaut, and a new road over the Neilgherry plateau, from Ootacamund to Neddiwuttum.

4. The new Coonoor Ghaut road is undoubtedly a work of great importance, and it may be worthy of consideration whether a cheap bullock track continued from the first zigzag of the Coonoor Ghaut up the valley for a few miles, in the direction of Kartery, would not facilitate the formation of a bazaar, where it is much needed, in the immediate neighbourhood of numerous Coffee and Chinchona plantations. If so, the original cost of the line might be recovered in a short time, by the levy of moderate tolls.

5. I notice, with pleasure, the skill and energy which have been displayed by Captain Law in conducting the works on the Coonoor Ghaut, and also the success he has met with in introducing a system of contracts by piece-work so generally.

6. The new roads which have been sanctioned by your Government from Ootacamund to Neddiwuttum, and thence through the Chinchona plantations to Goodaloor in Wynaad, also appear to be important, and to be lines which will give rise to a traffic fully justifying the original outlay.

7. I shall be glad to be placed in possession of your opinions on the suggestions thus thrown out, and to be kept informed respecting the progress of the new roads on the Neilgherry and Koondah hills.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th September 1866.

No. 358. ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1866, No. 2,942.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 68.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division, who will expedite the submission of the estimate called for in G. O. No. 3,339, dated the 7th November 1865, for completing the road from Ootacamund to the Koondahs, referred to in paragraph 50 of Mr. McIvor's Report on the Government Chinchona Plantations, &c., on the Neilgherries for 1864-65.

2. Colonel Walker will report on the suggestions made in paragraphs 2 and 4 regarding the formation of inexpensive bullock tracks from the Stanley plantation to the low country, and from the first zigzag of the Coonoor Ghaut towards Kartery. He will also submit estimates of the probable cost of these works.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Public Works Dept.

No. 2942

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 14th September 1866
Read the following

From the Right Honble the
Secretary of State for India

Received 15th - 31st July 1866

Communicated to the
Superintending Engineer of
the 7th Division, who will
expedite the submission of
the estimate called for in
G. O. No. 3339, dated the
7th November 1865, for com-
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referred to in para 50 of
Mr. McIvor's report on the
Govt. Chinchona Plantations &
on the Neilgherries for 1864/65.

Colonel Walker will
report on the suggestions
made in paras 2 and
4 regarding the formation
of inexpensive bullock
tracks from the Stanley

Plantation to the Low Country, and from the first 3 3/3 of the former Grant towards Kaiteig He will also submit estimates of the probable cost of these works —

W. B.

In the Surveyor's Office
Dec. 7th 1846

Recorded
Dec. 15th 1846

P.M. 1866 Dep.

Pro: of Govt for September

(8)

No 2942

Pro: of the Madras Govt

Dy 14 September 66

Passing orders on a letter from the Secretary of State offering certain suggestions relative to the coordination of Roads on the Neilgherry and Hosendah Hills and requesting to be kept informed of their progress &c &c

No 354. 358.

ex 7th Septr 1866. Pl. 10th