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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3473	Press Mis.
35—32	
Dated 23-7-41	18 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
2nd November 1866.

Read the following papers :—

No. 30. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department.

Communicating letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly, reporting the damages caused in his District by the late heavy rains. (Here enter 24th October 1866, No. 2,873.)

No. 31. Do. do. do.

Communicating letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly, relative to the damages caused by floods in his District, and suggesting that the Great Southern of India Railway Company be urged to open their line as far as Caroor as speedily as possible. (Here enter 26th October 1866, No. 2,894.)

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1866, No. 3,493.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 9.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 6th Division.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, with a Plan.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 559. Read the following letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George; dated Trichinopoly, 20th October 1866, No. 49 :—

1. I have the honor to report, for the information of Government, that the late heavy rains and consequent unusually high freshes have done serious damage in the Trichinopoly and Moosery Talooks of this District. On Monday night the Ayyar, which rises in the Kolimalai Hills on the confines of Salem, and flows into the Cavery just above the upper anicut, came down with unusual volume* and velocity; its waters unduly increased by the bursting of several tanks pressed against the crown of the arches, and even parapet walls of the six-arch bridge connecting the Salem road; a scour doubtless commenced through the then insufficient water-way, which the foundations were unable to stand, and five out of the six arches were totally destroyed. This is the third time the bridge at this point has been washed away, and it would appear that a girder rather than a masonry bridge is what is required for this river. I have made arrangement with boats, so that traffic may be impeded as little as possible.

* Three feet higher than highest fresh on record.

2. Government may remember that the head of the Paravallay Channel is situated a short distance from the Ayyar bridge, and receives its supply both from the Ayyar and Cavery as the freshes permit. Between the bridge and the head sluice there is a strong embankment, which prevents the waters of Ayyar or Cavery encroaching upon the large extent of cultivation to the north of the Trichinopoly road, and turns the stream into the Paravallay head sluice. This embankment had been lately strengthened, but on Monday night it was unable to bear the immense strain of both Ayyar and Cavery waters then simultaneously in flood, and a large breach was the result.

3. I went to the spot and endeavoured to have the gap stopped, as the body of water flowing through has converted the whole tract of country skirting the north of the road from the anicut to Trichinopoly, and even a large portion of the Lalgudi* Division itself, into one sheet of water, amongst which the villages stand out like islands, huts have been destroyed extensively. It was a sad sight to see the water pouring through this breach 100 feet long and 12 feet deep (including height of original bund), and flowing over crops ready to be reaped, but now submerged, and I fear the losses incurred will be very extensive. At present the Engineers on the spot say it is impracticable to close this breach, but I am having all the necessary materials prepared, and immediate advantage will be taken of any fall in the rivers to avert further damage.

* Cusbah Lalgudi is twenty miles from the spot where the breach occurred. There are minor breaches caused by this major breakage, but if we can stop the latter, the former are rendered harmless.

4. The Tahsildar remains to give all aid, but at present both Ayyar and Cavery† are in full flood, and running with great velocity. As a set off against these mishaps, we may consider that if this breach had not occurred, and thus greatly diminished the strain upon the anicut, that structure might have suffered

† Now 11½ feet deep.

considerably. If we can, moreover, manage to close the breach within a reasonable time, the damage may be greatly palliated, as fortunately paddy, and especially car paddy, stands a deal of submersion. These ample rains too must have conferred immense benefits upon our upland tracts, ever ready to receive a larger down pour than they usually obtain. In Lalgudi and in Moosery floods and breaches have occurred, and near Moosery the Salem road has been greatly injured.

5. The extent of damage to cultivation in Lalgudi cannot be as yet known, but in some portions of that Division the minor rivers which flow into the Coleroon are owing to its present high floods converted into streams, *from* instead of drainage streams *to* the Coleroon, and thus cause extensive inundation. My chief attention is directed to the Ayyar breach, upon which all available resources should be brought to bear. I return there to-morrow, and hope before long to be able to report more favorably.

No. 560. ORDER THEREON, 24th October 1866, No. 2,873.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Department Public Works and Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

J. Brunton

Actg. Under Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Trichinopoly.
,, the Editors' Table.

Erd. J. Tulloch.

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Read the following

Trichinopoly Collr's Office
20th October 1866.

No. 49

From

G. Boulbury Esqr
Collector of Trichinopoly

To,

J. D. Sim Esqr
Secretary to Govt Rev: Dept
Fort St George.

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of Govt that the late heavy rains and consequent unusually high freshes have done serious damage in the Trichinopoly and Moosery Taloks of this Dist. On Monday night the Cayar which rises in the Kolimalai Hills on the confines of Salem and falls into the Cauery just above the upper Anicut came down with unusual volume and velocity; its waters unduly increased by the bursting of several Tanks placed against the crown of the Arches and

[7] 3 feet higher than highest fresh on record.

and even parapet walls of the six Arch bridge connecting the Salem Road; on account doubtless commenced through the then insufficient water way which the foundations were unable to stand and five out of the six Arches were totally destroyed; this is the third time the Bridge at this point has been washed away, and it would appear that a girder rather than a masonry bridge is what is required for this river; Plans made arrangements with boats so that traffic may be impeded as little as possible -

2. Government may remember that the head of the Perambakam Channel is situated a short distance from the Ayyar bridge, and receives its supply both from the Ayyar and Cauvery as the freshes permit - Between the bridge and the head sluice there is a strong embankment which prevents the waters of the Ayyar or Cauvery encroaching upon the large extent of cultivation to the North of the Trichinopoly Road, and turns the stream into the Perambakam head-sluice - This embankment had been lately strengthened but on Monday night it was unable to bear the immense strain of both the Ayyar and Cauvery waters then simultaneously in flood and a large breach was the result -

3. I went to the spot and endeavoured to have the gap stopped, as the body of water following through has commenced the whole track of country skirting the north of the Road from the

Arches

Lalgudi is 20 miles from the spot where the breach occured - Here are minor breaches caused by this major breakage but if we can stop the latter the former are rendered harmless

the Amount to Trichinopoly and even a large portion of the Lalgudi Division lively into one sheet of water amongst which the villages stand out like Islands, Tanks have been destroyed extensively. It was a sad sight to see the waters pouring through this breach 100 yards long and 12 yards deep (including height of original bund) and flowing over crops ready to be reaped, but now submerged and I fear the losses incurred will be very extensive. At present the Engineer on the spot says it is impracticable to close this breach but I am having all the necessary materials prepared and immediate advantage will be taken of any fall in the Rivers to avert further damage -

4 The Collector requests to give all aid but at present both Ayyar and Cauvery are in full flood and running with great velocity - As a set off against these misfortunes we may consider that if this breach had not

from 11ft feet deep -

all
cc not accessed and Chir greatly diminished
:k the Stream upon the ensuing Thursday
m, must might have suffered considerably,
to If we can however manage to close the
di breach within a reasonable time, the
po damage may be greatly palliated, as
th fortunately Paddy and especially
m Paddy stands a deal of Rubber
in case Paddy stands a deal of Rubber.
2. sion. These ample Rains too must
he have conferred immense benefits
a upon our upland Tracts every Paddy
:c to receive a larger down pour than
ou they usually obtain. In Lalgudi and
ou in Moodery floods and breaches have
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a 5 The extent of damage to
a cultivation in Lalgudi cannot be
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b Chair Division the minor rivers which
ou flow into the Coleroon are owing
3 to the present high floods converted
to into streams from instead of drainage
m streams to the Coleroon and thus cause
t excessive inundation. My chief

attention

attention is directed to the Ayyan
Breach upon which all available re-
should be brought to bear
sources - I return there tomorrow
and hope before long to be able to
Report more favorably -

Trichinopoly, 3 Dhere &c.
Collr Office, 3 (Signed) Geo. Bambay
20th Octr 1866 3 Collector

Order thereon 24th October 1866 No 2878

Communicated to the Secy
of Public Works and Board of Revenue.

(True Extract)

J. Brandt.
Sy. Under Secretary to Govt

To The Department of Public Works

Bittoll

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 26th October 1866.

No. 600. Read the following letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Secretary to Government of Madras, dated 21st October 1866.

1. In continuation of my letter of yesterday's date, I have the honor to report that the Cauvery still continues in full flood; that the water rushes with such violence through the large breach, and along the channel leading to the Paravalay head sluice; that at present any attempt to mend matters would be perfectly useless. Since I arrived this morning, the Agunda Cauvery has risen eleven inches, and there is now four feet of water passing over the anicut. The Ayyar also still brings down a large volume, a portion of which likewise flows through the breach. Until the Agunda Cauvery falls, engineering skill can do positively nothing with the appliances available. We have fascines, horses, and brushwood, all ready to take advantage of any fall in the river; but hitherto we have not had a chance of using them. The damage to the ripe Car crop* ready to be reaped is, I regret to say, serious; the Ryots are cutting it, standing nearly up to their middle in water; but the ears have already begun to sprout, and the outturn will be but insignificant.

* In the neighbourhood of the anicut.

2. As regards Lalgudi, the tract eventually submerged by the breaches; if the Coleroon would fall, there would be a rapid drainage into the river; but now (as I endeavoured to explain yesterday) the would be drainage streams are, owing to the height of the river, unable to perform their task. I am in hopes that much of the Car crop in this Division has been already harvested, and if the Sambah plants are yet young they may survive it.

3. I enclose a rough sketch of the locality made by Colonel Greenaway which will, I trust, with the aid of the District map, enable Government to understand clearly the state of affairs. The "Konakaray" or bank of the supplying source to the Paravalay head was a remarkably strong and well constructed dyke. On Monday night the water actually overtopped it, washed away the earth in the rear, thus weakened the defence and caused the breaches. As stated yesterday, gap No. 1 is the most serious, and is doing the most harm. Our efforts are now being directed to closing the mouth of the supplying channel, thus at once averting all further mischief simultaneously. As the water will then be entirely excluded from all the breaches, they can be closed with comparative ease. At present, however, the stream at the point to be closed is ten feet deep, eighty broad, and running seven miles an hour.

4. In the Moosery Talook seventeen tanks have burst, involving much loss of wet cultivation, and augmenting the floods in the Ayyar. Grain, sheep, picottahs, and even cattle have been carried away in the stream of the thus swollen river.

5. No damage whatever has happened to the cultivation under the Iyen, and Nát channels which flow from the upper anicut; and as to the Waycondan channel, about which fears were lately entertained regarding its dreadful deficiency, it has received such a bountiful supply that the cultivators dependant thereon will now reap abundant harvests.

6. Now that so much injury has been done to the Salem road, and that traffic will be seriously impeded by the loss of the Ayyar bridge, I would respect-

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th October 1866.

fully suggest that the Great Southern Railway Company be urged to open their line as far as Caroor as speedily as possible. The Transit Company and the Postmaster General would doubtless make arrangements for travellers and tappal to be conveyed speedily over the unfinished portion of the line between Caroor and Errode, and thus expedite both passengers and post.

No. 601. ORDER THEREON, 26th October 1866, No. 2,894.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Public Works and Railway Departments and Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, Collector of Trichinopoly.

Lxd. T. Cartledge.

Public Works Dept

13

Public Works Dept

15

No 8193

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 2nd November 1866

Read the following

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

in the Revenue Dept

Rec'd 24th October 1866 No 2853

No 1615 Dated 20 Oct 1866 No 2874

Communicated

to the Superintending

Engineer of the 8th

Dist.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

in the Revenue Dept

Dated 8th Oct 1866

Read the following

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

in the Revenue Dept

Rec'd 26th October 1866 No 2897

No 1615 Dated 20 Oct 1866

Rec'd 26th Octr 1866

No 2874

Enc: one.

Communicating

letter from the Collr

of Trichinopoly relative

to the damages caused

by floods in his Distt

& suggesting that the

G.S. of India Railway

Co. be urged to open

their Sluices as soon

& as speedily as

possible—

No. 3193 - 2nd Nov. 1866.

No 31

Communicated

to the Superintending

Engineer of the 8th

Dist.

Copied

Entered

Pro-s- dept 22 Novr 1866

P.O.

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Ao 1793.

Bo: af Theodosia Ernst

D: 2den November 1795.

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