M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 32

(2) Date of repair 6-3-48

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 4014, Press Mis.
1406-1408
Dated 20-12-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th December 1866.

Read the following letters :—

No. 406. From the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Tanjore, 8th November 1866, No. 945.

1. With reference to G. O. No. 3,408, dated 25th October, ordering the transfer of the maintenance of all irrigation works in the Tanjore District to the Revenue Department from the 1st April, I have the honor to inform you that I have discussed the subject with the Collector, and we have agreed that in a district like Tanjore, in which the roads often run along the river banks, and in which the roads and irrigation works are so much intermingled as they are in the delta, it would be impossible for two departments to work side by side, and possibly under different systems, it is necessary, therefore, that the maintenance of both irrigation works and roads should be undertaken by one and the same department, and this, I presume, is intended, as the Collector has informed me that an Act has been passed authorizing the levy of a cess on the land for the purpose of providing a fund for the repair, &c., of roads. This cess is likely to amount to the large sum of Rupees 2,85,543, or more than four times as much as is now allotted for the maintenance of roads in the district, and no allotment from Imperial Funds will, I presume, be made in future for the repair of roads, and as the cess is carried to the head of Local Funds, and works under that head are now executed by the Revenue Department, I presume that the maintenance both of irrigation works and roads will be entrusted to the Revenue Department. Should this be the case, it is not for me to raise objections to the arrangement, though I cannot but regret that the control over the rivers, for the improvement and regulation of which so much has been done of late years, should be taken from this department just at present, or until the execution of the project now under preparation by Captain Mead, whereby the supply to the larger streams will be regulated by masonry works, and the quantity of water which will pass into the delta during floods will be so limited as to prevent injury to the banks, &c., in the rivers and channels in the delta, if the most ordinary care or attention is bestowed upon them.

Allotment in 1866-67 was Rupees 59,917.

2. The Collector agrees with me that the following works should still remain under the control and supervision of this department :—

The Upper Anicut and Cavery Dam.
The head of the Seringham Island.
The 150 yards Calingulah.
The Vennar and Cavery Dams.
The grand and Attee Anais.
The Vaduvagudi Sluices.
The Cutchamungalum Anicut.
The Lower Anicut.
The S. Raja Voikal and Kucunki Munnyaur heads.
The Munnyaur Upper and Lower Locks;
And the Coleroon river bank.

3. The last work is included, because the effect of the scheme now under preparation by Captain Mead will be to throw a larger volume of water into the Coleroon during floods than it now receives, and the river which at all times requires great care and attention will require scientific management even more than it now does.

4. The above-mentioned works might be undertaken by this Department, for or under the Revenue Department, as it were, the accounts, &c., being adjusted as those for the execution of repairs by the Revenue Department are adjusted.

5. I would further suggest that the "Minor New" works of irrigation, which cost less than Rupees 500 each, should be undertaken by the Revenue Department, as these works will be scattered over the delta, and will be far more easily executed by the Revenue Department than by the Public Works Department, the establishment of which, I presume, will be somewhat reduced.

6. I would propose that all large new works, whether sums are provided for them from Imperial or Local Funds, should be undertaken by the Public Works Department.

7. With regard to changes in the establishment, &c., it is premature to make suggestions until I am fully informed of the nature of the supervision this department may have to exercise over the works executed by the Revenue Department, and of the extent of work to be undertaken by that Department, *i. e.*, whether it is to be confined to Agricultural repairs, or is to include repairs to Roads and Civil Buildings, Minor New Works, and all new works provided for from Local Funds.

8. The Collector expresses his ability to undertake the repairs to works of irrigation and to roads, provided this Department has not to check the work done, or, as he expresses it, provided the works are examined and checked only by Officers of the grades of Executive or Assistant Engineers, and to this effect he appears to have reported when the subject of the transfer, now ordered, was mooted in 1863. I do not feel that I am called upon to make any comment upon this point at present, but I would only observe that so strong is this feeling with regard to the undesirability of check or control by this Department over works under execution by the Revenue Department, that on my recently reporting* unfavorably on three works which were being executed from Local Funds, and which I had myself seen, and on suggesting† that this Department should check the works under execution by the Revenue Department, the Collector declined any interference on the part of this Department by way of check, lest it should lead to ill-feeling and disputes.

* No. 598, 28th August.

† No. 625, 3rd September 1866.

No. 335, 28th September 1866.

9. As the Revenue Department will probably entrust the repairs to rivers and roads to the villagers through whose lands the rivers and roads run, dividing the work amongst the villagers, as was formerly done, while this Department, as a rule, entrusted each work to a single villager, or sometimes to a contractor unconnected with the village in which he worked, it will not be possible or at least advisable that a work commenced by this Department should be completed by by the Revenue Department, the early part of the working season of 1867 will therefore be in a measure lost, and about Rupees 10,000 may probably be transferred to the Trichinopoly District to aid in restoring the damage done by the recent floods, as reported in letter No. 936, dated 7th instant.

10. I would suggest that the execution of repairs to irrigation works in the Trichinopoly District should be handed over to the Revenue Department. With the exception of the works in and near Trichinopoly, the irrigation repairs are of the simplest nature, and consist chiefly in the conservation of small tanks, the assessment under which has recently been so much reduced that the estimates for the repair of the tanks will, as a rule, far exceed the limit of the Collector's sanctions, and many of the tanks will, I believe, be abandoned. On my representation the Collector is in communication with the Revenue Board on this subject.

11. The cess fund for roads in the Trichinopoly District will, I believe, be small, and may be spent with advantage in making cross-roads for some years. The maintenance of the Trunk Roads must still be provided from Imperial Funds, and may be supervised by this department, for these roads, as a rule, run through a thinly populated portion of the district, more or less remote from irrigation work, and the Revenue and Public Works Departments in undertaking the irrigation and road repairs respectively, would not be likely to be bidding against each other for labor as they would do, under similar circumstances, in Tanjore.

12. I have not been able to consult with the Collector of Trichinopoly on the subject of the transfer of irrigation works to the Revenue Department.

No. 407. From the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Camp, Sooloorpett, 3rd December 1866, No. 70.

1. With reference to G. O. No. 3,458, dated 31st October 1866, directing the transfer of the control of the Nellore Irrigational Conservancy Establishment to the Civil authority, I have the honor to request information as to whether the Delta Conservancy Establishment is to be included.

2. It would appear from G. O. No. 3,408, dated 25th October, that the order is issued only with regard to petty irrigation works, and I think that when the immense importance of the Nellore Anicut is considered, it is evident that the establishment for working the under-sluices and regulating the quantity of water flowing into the channels, demand professional superintendence, for a little mismanagement might lead to very disastrous results.

3. Should Government agree with me in these views, I would request that the G. O., No. 3,458, may be modified to meet the case in question.

No. 408. ORDER THEREON, 20th December 1866, No. 4,014.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 82.

As it is necessary that, before passing orders on the questions referred to in these letters, the Government should have before them the opinions of the Collectors concerned, and of the Board

of Revenue, on the manner in which the arrangements ordered to be carried out in Proceedings Nos. 3,408 and 3,458, dated 25th and 31st October 1866, respectively, can best be effected, His Excellency in Council resolves to call upon the Collectors of the Districts noted in the margin to report fully in communication with the respective Superintending Engineers, and through the Board of Revenue, their views upon the subject. The reports should show for each district the classes of works which are proposed to be transferred to the Revenue authorities and those which are to remain under the Officers of the Department Public Works, as also in what manner the examination of, and check on, works of the former class will be conducted by the Department Public Works Officers.

Nellore.
North Arcot.
Madras.
Tanjore.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Revenue Department.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Collector of Nellore.
,, do. North Arcot.
,, do. Madras.
,, do. Tanjore.
,, Superintending Engineers, 2nd, 4th, and 6th Divisions.

Rd. S. T. Augustin.

Supt Engr Officiating
Camp Sooloorpetta
3d December 1866

From

Lieut Col G. T. Wilson R.E.
Supt Engineer 2nd Div

To

Colonel C. A. Orr R.E.
Secretary to Government
Fort St George

With reference to G. O.
No 3458 dated 31st October 1866, directing
the transfer of the Control of the Nellore
Irrigational Conservancy Establishment
to the Civil Authority, I have the honor
to request information as to whether
the Delta Conservancy Establishment
is to be included.

2 It would appear from G. O.
No 3408 of 25th October, that the order is issued
only with regard to Petty Irrigation works.
and I think that when the immense
importance of the Nellore Anicut
is considered, it is evident that the
Establishment for working the Undersluices
and

and regulating the quantity of water
flowing into the Channels, demand
professional superintendence, for
a little mismanagement might lead
to very disastrous results.

3 Should Government agree with
me in these views, I would request
that the G. O. No 3458 may be
modified to meet the case in question.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obt Servt
[illegible]
Superintending Engineer

Supdg Engs' Office 6th Div.
Tanjore 8th November/66.

No 9465

From,

Captain R. F. Baker. R.E.
Superintending Engineer 6th Div.

To,

Colonel C. A. Orr. R.E.
Secretary to Government P.W.D.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No 3408 dated 25th October ordering the transfer of the maintenance of all Irrigation Works in the Tanjore District to the Revenue Department from the 1st April, I have the honor to inform you that I have discussed the subject with the Collector and we have agreed that in a district like Tanjore in which the Roads often run along the River banks and in which the Roads and irrigation Works are so much intermingled as they are in the Delta

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Rd 8 Nov 66
Ans 10 Dec 66

1866 Nov 8 Rd
No 9465 Ans 10 Dec 66
Submitted for the orders of
the Secretary Government
Public Works Department
Camp Madura 8th Nov 1866
Superintending Engineer
6th Circle
Tanjore
Requesting to be informed
whether Roads Causeway
Channels &c in the inclosed
Statement is the intended
to be transferred to the
Revenue Department
Collector
Tanjore
Captain

Delta, it would be impossible for 2 Departments to work side by side & possibly under different systems, it is necessary therefore that the Maintenance of both Irrigation Works & Roads should be undertaken by one & the same Department & this I presume is intended, as the Collector has informed me, that an Act has been passed authorizing the levy of a Cess on the Land for the purpose of providing a fund for the repairs &c of Roads. This Cess is likely to Amount to the large sum of Rs 2,85,543 or more than 4 times as much as is now allotted for the Maintenance of Roads in the District & no allotment from Imperial Funds will, I presume, be made in future for the repair of Roads & as the Cess is carried

to

to the Head of Local Funds & works under that Head are now executed by the Revenue Department, I presume that the Maintenance both of Irrigation Works & Roads will be entrusted to the Revenue Department. Should this be the case it is not for me to raise objections to the arrangement, though I cannot but regret that the Control over the Rivers for the improvement & regulation of which so much has been done of late years should be taken from this Department just at present or until the execution of the project now under preparation by Captain Mead, whereby the supply to the larger streams will be regulated by Masonry works & the quantity of water which will pass into the Delta during floods will be so limited as to prevent injury to the

the banks &c in the Rivers and Channels in the Delta if the most ordinary care & attention is bestowed upon them—

2— The Collector agrees with me that the following works should still remain under the control & supervision of this Department—

The Upper Anicut & Canery Dams—
The head of the Seringham Island—
The 150 Yard Cutingula—
The Vennar & Canery Dams—
The Grand and Attre Anicut—
The Vadamagudi Sluices—
The Cutchamungalum Anicut—
The Lower Anicut—
The Roja Vokal & Kunnikidunnyanar head
The Munniyan Upper & Lower Locks—
& The Coleroon River Bank—

3— The last work is included because the effect of the scheme now under preparation by Captain Mead will be to throw a larger volume

volume of water into the Coleroon during floods than it now receives & the Rivers which at all times require great care & attention will require scientific management even more than it now does.—

4— The above mentioned works might be undertaken by this Department for or under the Revenue Department, as it were, the accounts being adjusted as those for the Execution & Repairs by the Revenue Department are adjusted—

Why under-mentioned and similar large works have not been kept under P.W.D?

5 I would further suggest that the Minor New Works of Irrigation which each less than Rs 500 each should be undertaken by the Revenue Department as these Works will be scattered over the Delta & will be far more easily executed by the Revenue Department than by the Public Works Department the Establishment of which I presume will

will be somewhat reduced.—

6— I would propose that all Large New Works with them sums are provided for them from Imperial or Local Funds should be undertaken by the Public Works Department.—

7— With regard to Changes in the Establishment as it is premature to make suggestions until I am fully informed of the nature of the supervision this Department may have to Exercise over the Works executed by the Revenue Department & of the Extent of work to be undertaken by that Department, i.e whether it is to be confined to Agricultural Repairs or is to include repairs to Roads and Civil Buildings, Minor New Works & all New Works provided for from Local Funds.—

8— The Collector expresses his

ability

ability to undertake the repairs to Works of Irrigation & to Roads provided this Department has not to check the work done, or, as he expresses it, provided the works are examined & checked only by Officers of the Irrigation & Executive or Assistant Engineers & to this effect he appears to have reported when the subject of the transfer, now ordered, was mooted in 1863— I do not feel that I am called upon to make any Comment upon this point at present, but I would observe that so strong is this feeling with regard to the undesirability of Check or Control by this Department over works under Execution by the Revenue Department that on my recently reporting unfavorably on 3 Works which were being Executed from Local funds and which I had myself seen and

and

and on suggesting that this Department should check the works under Execution by the Revenue Department, the Collector declined any interference on the part of this Department by way of check lest it should lead to ill-feeling & disputes.—

9— As the Revenue Department will probably entrust the repairs to Rivers & Roads to the Villagers through whose lands the Rivers & Roads run, dividing the work amongst the Villagers as was formerly done, while this Department, as a rule, entrusted Each work to a single Villager or sometimes to a Contractor unconnected with the Village in which he worked, it will not be possible or at least advisable that a work Commenced by this Department should be Completed by

the Revenue Department, the Early part of the working Season will therefore be in a measure lost and about Rs 10,000 may probably be transferred to the Trichinopoly District to aid in restoring the damage done by the recent floods as reported in letter No 936, dated 7th instant.

10— I would suggest that the Execution of repairs to Irrigation works in the Trichinopoly District should be handed over to the Revenue Department — With the Exception of the works in and near Trichinopoly, the irrigation Repairs are of the simplest nature, & consist chiefly in the Conservation of small tanks the assessment under which has recently been so much reduced that the Estimates for the repair of the tanks will as a rule scarcely exceed the limit

F.

& the Collectors sanctions and many of the tanks will, I believe, be abandoned – By my representation the Collector is in communication with the Revenue Board on this subject.–

II – The Cess fund for Roads in the Trichinopoly District will, I believe, be small & may be spent with advantage in making Cross Roads for some Years.–

The Maintenance of the Trunk Roads must still be provided from Imperial Funds & I may be superseded by this Department for these Roads, as a rule, run through a thinly populated portion of the District more or less remote from Irrigation Works & the Revenue & Public Works Departments in undertaking the Irrigation & Road repairs respectively would not be likely to be bidding against each other for Coolies as they would do, under similar Circumstances, in Tanjore –

I.st – I have not been able to consult with the Collector of Trichinopoly on the subject of the transfer of Irrigation Works to the Revenue Department.–

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obed.t Serv.t

H. F. Blake Captain R.E.

Supt. Engineer 6.th Div.n

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the Decr 1866.

Read the following

from

The Superintending Engineer

of the 2d Division (N.E. No 70 Dated 8th Decr 1866)

The Government are of opinion that the Conservancy Establishments employed at the head works of the various Anicuts should be retained under the Officers of the Public Works Department, and they request the Superintending Engineers of the 2nd 4th and 6th Divisions to submit Statements of such portions of those Establishments as may be required for the care of the Anicuts

N

To

The Superintending Engineer

2nd Division

Trichinopoly

Copy forwarded for information and guidance.

By Order &c

(Signature illegible)

Secretary to Govt

To

The Superintending Engineer

4th Division

Vizagapatam

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

6th Division

Rajahmundry

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Southern Division

Madura

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Northern Division

Madras

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Trichinopoly Division

Trichinopoly

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Coimbatore Division

Coimbatore

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Salem Division

Salem

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Cuddapah Division

Cuddapah

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Bellary Division

Bellary

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Kurnool Division

Kurnool

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Canara Division

Mangalore

Do

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 20th Decr 1866.

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To

The Superintending Engineer

2nd Division

Trichinopoly

Copy forwarded for information and guidance.

By Order &c

(Signature illegible)

Secretary to Govt

To

The Superintending Engineer

4th Division

Vizagapatam

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

6th Division

Rajahmundry

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To

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Southern Division

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Madras

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The Superintending Engineer

Trichinopoly Division

Trichinopoly

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The Superintending Engineer

Coimbatore Division

Coimbatore

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Bellary Division

Bellary

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To

The Superintending Engineer

Kurnool Division

Kurnool

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

Canara Division

Mangalore

Do

C. 33 Recd 24th Decr/66.
R.C. 6 Proceedings/66.
C. 19th June 1866 -

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 20th Decr 1866.

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from

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The Government are of opinion that the Conservancy Establishments employed at the head works of the various Anicuts should be retained under the Officers of the Public Works Department, and they request the Superintending Engineers of the 2nd 4th and 6th Divisions to submit Statements of such portions of those Establishments as may be required for the care of the Anicuts

To

The Superintending Engineer

2nd Division

Trichinopoly

Copy forwarded for information and guidance.

By Order &c

(Signature illegible)

Secretary to Govt

To

The Superintending Engineer

4th Division

Vizagapatam

Do

To

The Superintending Engineer

6th Division

Rajahmundry

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To

The Superintending Engineer

Southern Division

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To

The Superintending Engineer

Canara Division

Mangalore

Do

C. 33 Recd 24th Decr/66.
R.C. 6 Proceedings/66.
C. 19th June 1866 -

Accounts and Record
works within the New Re-
spective Charges, with
a view to provision for
them being made
in the Public Work.
(Budget)

To
The L. Regr 2d 446 5m
" Accot Genl
" Comptr
" Revenue
" Trad Dept

[illegible] is of importance therefore
that the Conservancy of Works

Amounts and Recd
works within thereof, &c
specifying changes, with
a view to provision for
them being made
in the Public Work.
(Budget)

To
The S. Digs 2d 4 4 6 5m
" Neath Canal
" Aberdare
" Rhondda
" Taff Vale

is of importance therefore
that the Conservancy of Both

25

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 186

From

The Superintending Engineer
of the 6th Division

Read the following

(Here enter No. 915 dated 8th Nov. 1866.)

In this letter the Superintending Engineer of the 6th Division reports that having discussed with the Collector of Tanjore the question of the proposed transfer of the maintenance of the Irrigation works in that District to the Revenue Department, he is of opinion that, in a District where the roads are so much blended with the works of Irrigation as they are in the Delta, it will be practically impossible for two distinct Departments to work side by side, and that it is of importance therefore that the Conservancy of both

roads and Irrigation works should be undertaken by one and the same Deptt. With out entirely concurring with this opinion, the Government still think it desirable that in places where large local funds will shortly be available, as in Tanjore, for the Construction and maintenance of District roads, the charge of most lines of communication in Tanjore may very properly be transferred to the Revenue authorities. If the Collector is prepared for this change, Capt'n Oakes will, in consultation with him, prepare a list of roads now under the charge of the Public Works Deptt. and maintained from provision in the P.W. Budget, which they would jointly recommend to be placed under the Civil Deptt.

This item to be dealt with under the head Civil Works - Irrigation - Tanjore.

The first question to be considered is the supervision of Capt'n Oakes,

I do not understand from the Chief Engineer's Budget & the appropriation thereto that any provision for Irrigation works is made in the Civil Budget.

The Collector is not likely to work with sufficient regularity to accept any thing beyond a nominal control over the Irrigation works except from the Chief Engineer

As the irrigation works mentioned by Capt'n Oakes in Para 2, as necessary to be left in the charge of the Public Works Deptt are such as clearly require professional management, the establishment necessary for them will be retained under the orders of the Officers of the P.W. Deptt, but the original expenditure or their repair will be controlled and met by the Civil Deptt.

The check which should be exercised by the P.W. Deptt over works carried out under the Revenue Deptt should consist entirely of inspections, which should be undertaken whenever possible at the requisition of the Collector or when official communications occur for officers examining works either in the [illegible] Engineer should be otherwise

progress or Completed.

Adverting to the suggestion in Para 5, Capt. Cake will be informed that as the transfer of ~~the charge of~~ fully Irrigation works to the Revenue Authorities is purely tentative, the question of handing over to that Department the Construction of minor new works of Irrigation must lie over for Consideration until the result of the experiment has been ascertained.

Under the circumstances stated in Para 9, the Government sanction the transfer of Rs 10,000 from the Repair allotment of the Tanjore Dist for appropriation to the Repair of damages done to P. Works in the Trichinopoly District.

The question of transferring to the Revenue Department fully Irrigation works in Trichinopoly and other Districts will be considered when the result of the measure in those to which it has been ordered to be applied has been ascertained.

To
The S. Engr & Dy
All other Engrs
Rev Dept.
Bd of Revenue.

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 20th Decr 186

Read the following

from The Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division (R.C No 945 dated 8th Nov. 186

do do of the 2d Divn (— " — 70 — " — 3d Decr —

As it is necessary that, before passing orders on the questions referred to in these letters the Government should have before them the opinions of the Collectors concerned, and of the Board of Revenue on the manner in which the arrangements ordered to be carried out in the Proceedings Nos 3408 & 3458 dated 25th and 31st October

Received 5th Nov 1866
Recd 19th Nov 1866.

1866 Resolved, can
best be effected. His
Excellency in Council
resolves to call upon
the Collectors of the
Districts noted in
the margin to report
in communication
with the respective
Superintending Engineers
and this the Board
of Revenue, their views
upon the subject -

62
10

Vellore
Salt Agent
Madras.
Tanjore -

The Reports thereon sh

The Revd Deputy
Bd of Revy
Collr of Nellore
" Arcot
" Madras
" Tanjore
Engrs 2d Lt and 6 Engrs

on [illegible] Reports
[illegible] Revenue
authority and
[illegible] Officers of
[illegible] 2d Grade
to examine
[illegible] check on
[illegible] with
conducted by [illegible] Officers -

Dated 21st December

P. D. V. 1866 Depth

Proc. of Govt for Decr

No 4014

Proc. of the Madras Govt

Dt. 20th Decr 66.

Report called
for relative to the manner
in which the arrangements
connected with the transfer
to the Revenue Dept of the
maintenance of Irrigation
Works in the Nellore,
North Arcot, Madras
and Tanjore Districts,
can be best effected.

No 406 @ 408

Proc. Dec. 1866 R. 18th