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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

P W DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>4076-77</u>	Press
<u>534-35</u>	~~Mrs.~~
Dated <u>22-12</u> 18 <u>66</u> .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 534. Read the following letter from the Officiating Commissioner for Coorg, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Madras, dated Bangalore, 6th November 1866, No. 384-3 :—

1. In acknowledging receipt of your letter No. 137, of the 5th ultimo, I have the honor to state that it appears to be highly desirable that the views of the Planters of North-East Wynaad, in regard to the advantages to be gained by the proposed construction of a road from Veerajenderpett to the frontiers of Coorg, to be prolonged from thence to join the Manantoddy and Bawhully road, should, if practicable, be ascertained, and their wishes on the subject consulted before it is finally decided that funds for the project should be provided in the respective Budgets of the ensuing official year of Mysore and Coorg.

2. The attention of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State appears to have been drawn to this line, mainly in consequence of the prominence given to it in Mr. Bowring's letter, No. 442-23, dated 15th November 1865, copy of which was forwarded for the information of His Excellency the Right Honorable the then Governor in Council, by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, No. 36 C, dated the 13th January 1866.

3. It appears, however, that opinions are by no means unanimous as to the value of the proposed road to Coorg, and to the planting interests of that Province, as compared with other projects for improving and developing the communications therein, and it is a question of much importance whether a portion of the limited funds available for Coorg should be diverted from projects, the immediate necessity for which is undoubted, to be expended upon one which is not of so pressing a character, and which is not viewed with favor by the European Coffee Planters of Coorg.

4. In corroboration of the above, I have deemed it right to annex for the information of His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, extracts from the letters marginally quoted, and with reference to the views therein detailed would beg to add that it has, during the enquiries which I have made on the subject, been brought to my notice, that although the Wynaad Planters are anxious that their communication through Coorg with the labor and grain markets of Mysore should be improved and developed, they do not feel any very great interest in obtaining any more direct communication with Mercara, via Kiggutnaad and Veerajenderpett, than that which is at present available.

5. If the above should be borne out by the enquiries which His Excellency the Governor in Council may be disposed to institute in Wynaad, I would beg to suggest that the work may, in furtherance of the views expressed by the Members of the Coorg Planters' Association, and with the concurrence of the Government of India, be allowed to lie over until a later period, when funds can be more readily and advantageously made available for the purpose in the Public Works Budget of Coorg.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
22nd December 1866.

Extract from a letter dated 6th June 1866, from the President of the Coorg Planters' Association, to the Superintendent of Coorg.

"The Association desires to point out that the most important requirements of this Province in the way of Public Works are—

- 1st. The thorough perfection and completion of all its main lines of communication.
- 2nd. The opening of new roads to all those parts of the country not at present in communication with the main lines; *with the exception of Veerajenderpett to Wynaad, which will be no service whatever to Coorg, and that from Seedapoor to Fraserpett, which is of no importance.*

Extract from a letter No. 3113, dated the 12th October 1863, from the Secretary to the Commissioner of Coorg, to the Chief Engineer of Mysore.

Para. 2. "As, however, the line of communication between Siddapoor and Periapatam is one which is manifestly more desired by the European Planters of Coorg than any other local improvement, and in their estimation greatly takes precedence of the road from Wynaad to Veerajenderpett, the formation of which was strongly advocated by Mr. Bowring and approved of by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, the Officiating Commissioner would urge that the ensuing Budget should, if possible, make provision for the construction of a pack-bullock road from Periapatam to Siddapoor, the cost being shared proportionately by Mysore and Coorg."

Extract from a letter No. 3114, dated 19th October 1866, from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner for the Affairs of Coorg.

Para. 11. But in regard to this work, upon which so much stress has been laid by Mr. Bowring, and in the Secretary of State's Despatch, it certainly appears as mentioned in your communication No. 3113, of the 12th instant, that considerable difference of opinion exists, and with reference to this the Commissioner may probably see fit to institute such enquiries as may allow the Government of India coming to a definite conclusion.

12. From the information I was myself enabled to procure in Coorg, I certainly concluded that the opening of the Kiggutnaad Taluq was a matter of very great, though not possibly of absolutely primary importance, and that the best mode of meeting the object in view was to connect Kiggutnaad on one side with Wynaad by a road to Bawhully, on the other with Mysore by a line to Tittamutty; and lastly with Mercara by a line to Veerajenderpett.

13. While of direct use to at least a considerable number of Planters, as also to Government for administrative purposes, and for working the valuable forests in this portion of Coorg, it appears from the opinion of the Superintendent, based on that of the great majority of planters, that the road to Wynaad does not, in his opinion, "confer any benefit on Coorg."

"The benefit will be entirely on the side of Wynaad which will give us nothing, but will drain us of our grain and labor." In some qualification of this direct statement, Captain Cole adds, while admitting the general importance of such a road, "I would contend that there are many other lines and more immediate benefit to this Province."

14. In this latter statement of the value of the line, I should be disposed, on viewing all the circumstances of Coorg, to agree with the Superintendent, as with even two lakhs it appears to me that we can do comparatively little; and that all projects not of absolutely emergent importance should, for the present, be rigidly excluded.

(True Extracts.)

(Signed) C. SAUNDERS,
Officiating Commissioner.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT SAINT GEORGE,
22nd December 1866.

No. 536.

No. 4,077.

To

THE OFFICIATING COMMISSIONER FOR COORG.

SIR,

CIVIL WORKS, No. 103.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th November 1866, No. 384-3, in

which you suggest the desirability of the views of the Planters of North-East Wynaad being obtained regarding the construction of the road which, it has been urged from more than one quarter, should be made in continuation of the Manantoddy and Bawhully road between the latter place and the Coorg frontier towards Veerajenderpett in Coorg.

2. In reply, I am directed to state that, though it would appear from your letter and its enclosure that the construction of this road is distasteful to the Planters of Coorg, under an apprehension which they entertain that the improvement of this line of communication would have the effect of withdrawing labor and grain from Coorg to Wynaad to their detriment, this Government, from personal communication which His Lordship the President has lately had with the Planters at Manantoddy, and from the attention of Her Majesty's Government having been directed to the road in question by persons acting in the interests of those Planters, are satisfied that the completion of the road will be for the general benefit of the people of Coorg as well as of the Planters of Wynaad, inasmuch as a new market will be opened for the labor and productions of the former, and an additional source of supply will be brought within the reach of the latter.

3. It is not anticipated that arguments brought forward in the exclusive interests of the Planters of Coorg, for shutting out that Province from participating in the advantages of easy communication with a neighbouring District, will be seriously urged, and this Government have resolved upon the construction of the road, so far as it lies within Wynaad, and, without questioning the propriety of any decision you may arrive at as to the expediency of deferring the construction of the continuation of the road through Coorg, while objects of more pressing importance engage your attention, His Lordship in Council would still urgently recommend to your attention the expediency of the prolongation of the road being undertaken at as early a period as possible consistently with the means at your disposal.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

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

Exd. S. T. Angustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd December 1866.

No. 535. ORDER THEREON, 22nd December 1866, No. 4,076.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 107.

Ordered that the following letter
be sent:—

(Here enter No. 4,077, dated 22nd December 1866.)

(True Extract.)

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

Extract from a letter dated 6th June 1866 from the
President of the Coorg Planters Association to the Super-
intendent of Coorg.

The Association desires to point out that
the most important requirements of this Province
in the way of Public Works are—

1st The thorough perfection and completion of
all its main lines of Communication.

2nd The opening of new roads to all those
parts of the country not at present in
Communication with the main Lines,
with the exception of Veerajenderpett to
Tynaad, which will be no service
whatever to Coorg, and that from Sidda-
poor to Fraserpett, which is of no importance.

Extract from a letter No. ³¹³/₂₈ dated the 12th October 1866
from the Secretary to the Commissioner of Coorg to the
Chief Engineer of Mysore.

Para. 2. As however the line of Communication
between Siddapoor and Periapatan is one which
is manifestly more desired by the European
Planters of Coorg than any other Local improve-
ment, and in their estimation greatly takes
precedence of the road from Tynaad to
Veerajenderpett, the formation of which was
strongly advocated by Mr. Bowring and

approved

approved of by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, the Officiating Commissioner would urge that the ensuing Budget should if possible make provision for the construction of a pack bullock road from Periapattam to Chodafoot, the cost being shared proportionately by Mysore and Coorg.

Extract from a letter No. $\frac{3244}{428}$ dated 19th October 1866 from the Chief Engineer of Mysore to the Secretary to the Commissioner for the Affairs of Coorg.

Para: 11. But in regard to this work, upon which so much stress has been laid by Mr. Bowring, and in the Secretary of State's despatch, it certainly appears as mentioned in your communication No. $\frac{313}{28}$ of the 12th instant that considerable difference of opinion exists, and with reference to this the Commissioner may probably see fit to institute such enquiries as may allow the Government of India coming to a definite conclusion.

12. From the information I was myself enabled to procure in Coorg, I certainly concluded that the opening of the Kiggubud Salook was a matter of very great, though not possibly of absolutely primary importance, and that the best mode of meeting the object in view was to connect Kiggubud on one side with Wynad by a road to Bawully, on the other with Mysore

by a line to Pittamutti, and lastly with Merkara by a line to Veerajendrapeth.

13. While of direct use to at least a considerable number of planters, as also to Government for administrative purposes, and for working the valuable forests in this portion of Coorg, it appears from the opinion of the Superintendent, based on that of the great majority of planters, that the road to Wynad does not in his opinion "Confer any benefit on Coorg".

Para: 70 of Coorg Administration Report for 1865/66. } which will give us nothing, but will drain us of our grain and labor." In some qualification of this direct statement, Captain Cole adds, while admitting the general importance of such a road, "I would contend that there are many other lines and more immediate benefit to this Province".

14. In this latter statement of the value of the line, I should be disposed, on viewing all the circumstances of Coorg, to agree with the Superintendent, as with even 2 Lakhs it appears to me that we can do comparatively little; and that all projects not of absolutely emergent importance should for the present be rigidly excluded.

/True Extracts/

Chamr Saunders

Off^r Commissioner.

General No 384 } 1866-67
P.W. - 3

Coorg Commissioners Office

From

The Officiating Commissioner
for Coorg

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department

Madras

Dated Bangalore 6th November 1866

Sir,

In acknowledging receipt of your letter No 137 of the 5th Ultimo, I have the honor to state that it appears to be highly desirable that the views of the Planters of North East Mysnad in regard to the advantages to be gained by the proposed construction of a road from Veerajenderpett to the frontiers of Coorg to be prolonged from thence to join the Manantoddy and Bawhully should if practicable be ascertained and their wishes on the subject consulted before it is finally decided that funds for the project, should be provided in the respective Budgets of the ensuing official year of Mysore and Coorg.

The attention of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State appears to have been drawn to this line mainly in consequence of the prominence given

from more than one
copy

1866
No 1

Enclosed in a letter from
the Officiating Commissioner
of Coorg to the Secretary to
Government Public Works
Dept. Madras No 384
dated 6th Nov 1866

BB 43552/18

Extracts of correspondence
regarding the Commission
relations in Coorg.

given to it in Mr. Bowring's letter No. 442 dated 15th November 1865 copy of which was forwarded for the information of His Excellency the Right Honorable the then Governor in Council by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department No. 36C dated the 13th January 1866.

3. It appears however that opinions are by no means unanimous as to the value of the proposed Road to Coorg and the Planting interests of that Province, as compared with other projects for improving & developing the communications therein, and it is a question of much importance whether a portion of the limited funds available for Coorg should be diverted from projects, the immediate necessity for which is undoubted, to be expended upon one which is not of so pressing a character, and which is not viewed with favor by the European Coffee Planters of Coorg.

4. In corroboration of the above I have deemed it right to annex for the information of His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor in Council extracts from the letters marginally quoted and with reference to the views therein in detailed would beg to add that it has, during the enquiries

Extract from letter from the President Coorg Planters Association to the Supt^g of Coorg without No. dated 6th June 1866.

Para 2 from letter of the Secy: to Chief Engineer Genl. No. 313 dated 12th Oct 1866 P.W.D. 28.

Paras 11-14 inclusive from Chief Engineer's letter to Secy: No. 3244 dated 19th Oct 1866 428

which

13
which I have made on the subject been brought to my notice, that although the Mysnad Planters are anxious that their communication through Coorg with the labor and grain markets of Mysore should be improved and developed, they do not feel any very great interest in obtaining any more direct communication with Merhara via Higgut-naad and Veerajenderpett than that which is at present available.

5. If the above should be borne out by the enquiries which His Excellency the Governor in Council may be disposed to institute in Mysnad, I would beg to suggest that the work may in furtherance of the views expressed by the members of the Coorg Planters Association and with the concurrence of the Government of India be allowed to lie over until a later period, when funds can be more readily and advantageously made available for the purpose, in the Public Works Budget of Coorg.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant
Charles Munro
Officiating Commissioner.

CCy

from more than one
enquiry

The projected road entering Merantoddy
 and back beyond with Coorg is very
 urgently needed by the Planters of that
 district as I can testify from recent
 personal knowledge when I visited
 the country. It has also been urged
 on the attention of H. M. Govt. by persons
 acting in the interests of the Planters
 in London. It has been approved by
 H. M. Govt. and has been directed to be
 executed in a check form for Imperial
 funds. That road would however be
 quite sufficient unless it be
 extended far round in the Coorg Territory.
 It has been suggested, as I understand,
 that the Coorg planters may be
 hostile to the project but by the improvement
 of the line of communication produce and
 labour should be drawn from Coorg to the

Conservation

which, it is

from view

Circulated for the
orders of Government

Wm. A. H. H.

Colonel. R. S.

George D. Smith

South George
8th December 1866

By rail to the prejudice of the Coffee Planters in Coorg who would
 then to pay higher prices for their food & their Cattle. I don't know
 whether that such arguments will be seriously urged. It is for
 the general benefit of the People of Coorg that a new market
 should be opened for their Cattle & their produce. The Coorg
 should be in contact with great advantage to the Planters
 of the road & it is my intention to advocate its construction
 on the Mysore side on a greater scale than that contemplated by Mr.
 200. If the Govt. of Coorg are really under the influence of the
 following the work with a view to more perfect unity it is not
 not to question the wisdom of their decision but I think that the
 construction of this road is the
 most important and urgent of the
 in Coorg.

In reply to his letter
 No 137 of the 5th ultimo:
 submits copies of extracts
 of Correspondence and
 concise observations on
 the communications
 of the Coorg.

1866-67.
 General No 384
 P. N. No 3.

Enclosures No. 1
 Dated 6th Nov.
 Despatched
 Received D. No. 1866.

From The Off^r Commissioner of Coorg
 To The Secretary to Govt.
 P. N. Dep^t to
 Madras.

N^o 4076-4077-22nd Decr/66
 C. 100 Decr 1866 A. 13th

N^o 4076
 Public Works Department
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Under date the 22nd Decr 1866.
 Read the following
 From The Off^r Commissioner of Coorg - (N^o 384 dated 5th Nov. 1866.)
 Ordered that the
 following letter be sent
 To The Off^r Commissioner
 for Coorg
 Sir I have the honor to
 acknowledge the receipt
 of your letter of the 6th
 November 1866. No 384
 in which you suggest the
 desirability of the views
 of the Planters of
 North East Mysore being
 obtained regarding the
 construction of the road
 which, it has been urged
 from more than one

Quarter should be made
in continuation of the
Mamantoddy and
Bawhully road between
the latter place and
the Coorg frontier towards
Veeragen der sett in Coorg
2. In reply, I am
directed to state that,
though it would appear
from your letter and
its enclosure that the
construction of this road
is distasteful to the
Planters of Coorg under
an apprehension which
they entertain that the
improvement of this line
of communication would
have the effect of
withdrawing labor and
grain from Coorg to
Wundach.

19
to their detriment, the
Government, from the
personal communication
which His Lordship the
President has lately had
with the Planters at
Mamantoddy and from
the attention of Her Ma-
jesty's Govt. having
been directed to the road
in question by persons
acting in the interests
of those Planters, are
satisfied that the com-
pletion of the road will
be for the general bene-
fit of the people of
Coorg as well as of
the Planters of Wundach,
inasmuch as a new mar-
ket will be opened for
the labor and productions
of the former, and an
additional source of
supply.

supply will be brought within
the reach of the latter.

3 It is not anticipated that arguments
brought forward in the
exclusive interests of the
Hunters of the Prov^{ce}, for
shutting out that Province
from participating in
the advantages of easy
communication with a
neighbouring District, will
be seriously urged, and
this Gov^t have resolved
upon the construction of
the road, so far as it
lies within Nyanad,
~~with all possible expedition;~~
and without questioning
the propriety of any
decision you may arrive
at

1 ~~Engage your attention~~

~~Recommend to your
attention~~

~~Depreciating~~

Fort St. George
22^d Dec^r 1863

Dec^r 24th December

at as to the expediency
of deferring the con-
struction of the conti-
nuation of the road
tho' Gov^t, while objects
of more pressing impor-
tance ~~absorb all the funds~~
~~at your disposal~~, His Lord
ship in Council would
still urgently press upon
your attention the ~~necessi-~~
~~ty~~ of the prolongation
of the road being under-
taken at as early a
period as possible —
consistent with the means
at your disposal —

AB

P W 10th Decr

Pro. of Govt for Deer

No 4076 & 4077

Pro. of the Marine Govt

Of 22nd Decr 84.

Paying orders on a
letter from the Offg. Comr
of Coorg, forwarding ac-
count from letters from
the President of the Coorg
Hunters Association
on the subject of road from
Bawhully to the Coorg
frontier.

No 534. 535 & 536

17th Decr 1866 @ 215