M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages 18

(2) Date of repair [illegible]

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 162 Press ~~Mis.~~

333 – 334

Dated 12 — 1 — 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 12th January 1866.

No. 333. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works dated Coimbatore, 18th December 1865, No. 216:—

1 Estimate with abstract for road.
4 Estimates for bridges and tunnels.
1 Specification.
2 Plans of bridges and tunnels.
1 Survey in three sheets.
1 Printed map.

1. I have the honor herewith to submit a survey of the new road and ghát, under construction, from Chellumpollium near Andyoor, in the Bhowany Táluq of Coimbatore District, over the Burghoor hills, to the southern boundary of the Collegal Táluq and junction with the old track to Marthully, Annoor, and the town of Collegal. The whole length of road and ghát shown in the survey has been traced to gradients not exceeding 1 in 16, and opened to bridle-path as far as practicable without blasting; many miles continuously being passable on horseback. I have myself in three visits to the line given instructions as to its general treatment, fixing the main points through which it should run, and on my last visit in July 1865, inspected the bridle-path and trace to within three miles of the foot of the southern ghát, and satisfied myself as to the correctness of the whole.

2. The survey being the work of a young Overseer fresh from the Engineering College, and incompetent to delineate the features of the ground, gives little but an idea of the exceeding straightness of the new line, such as could hardly have been anticipated in crossing a tract of hill country. Engineering objections to an ascent and descent of some 2,000 feet each way, are met first by a saving in distance which I estimate at 15 miles over the old route by Cauverypooram, most of it only a bad cattle track; but more forcibly by the healthier nature of the ground traversed. From three seasons' experience of the Burghoor hills, these seem to enjoy a remarkable exemption from the feverish climate of the rest of the Coimbatore hill range, westwards to the Moyaur valley. The workmen on the new line, and those superintending them, have not suffered from sickness; and the cultivators of the Burghoor plateau, Canarese-speaking Lingaites, originally from the Mysore country, are healthy in appearance, and do not complain of any liability to fever. Scarcity of water (owing to want of wells and reservoirs), and the depredations of wild animals, seem to be their chief troubles.

3. All that has been done hitherto has been effected with portions of the annual maintenance allowance for the old road, which have been transferred for the purpose by permission of Government. I regret to say that such amounts have not been made the most of, owing to defective superintendence, and to the work being strange both to the workmen and those in executive charge. Mr. Nordmann's removal to Wynad, a twelve month ago, was very detrimental to the work, as he was fully instructed by me, personally, on the ground, as to every detail, and took most intelligent interest in its progress; and it is only since I was able to place Lieutenant Morris in charge in July last, that I have been again satisfied with its management.

4. That Officer has supplied me with the accompanying estimates, amounting to Rupees 72,100, for widening the line from the foot of the southern ghát to that of the northern ghát, to a minimum width of 12 feet on hill sides, and 21

feet on flat land. No bridges or tunnels will be required on either of the ghâts, *i. e.*, south of Tamarakerra, the head of the southern ghât, or north of Thattakerra, the head of the northern ghât; all the water crossing those ghâts being capable of discharge by open pavements. But on the plateau, which is eight miles across, between those two villages, with Burghoor itself about midway between, 1 small bridge and 24 covered drains are required, for which detailed plans and estimates are submitted. If a deduction of Rupees 2,100 from the gross amount of estimate is made, that sum will about represent the amount spent up to 30th April 1866, in carrying out work provided for in the present estimate, leaving Rupees 70,000 to be supplied in future years, whereof it is requested that Rupees 20,000 may be allotted in 1866-67.

5. The maintenance allowance of the entire line, hitherto laid out in great measure on the new trace through the Burghoor hills, will henceforth be devoted to the gradual improvement of the old road north of the new section. And in connection therewith I propose to have investigated a project for a large reservoir at the junction of the old and new sections, to be formed by damming the river where they meet, instead of bridging it. I am sanguine that the levels of the valley, which I have requested Lieutenant Morris to take, will admit of the storage of much water in a locality that cannot otherwise be occupied to any advantage; and any one may judge of the extent of drainage area from the printed map accompanying,* on which I have shown the entire road from Bhowany to Collegal in red colour. Whereof I would note that from Bhowany to the foot of the southern ghât at one end, and from Collegal to Annoor at the other, cart traffic is already possible; and its extension from Annoor to the site of the proposed dam neither difficult nor costly, except so far as the bad climate of the valley may interfere to cause slow progress and expense.

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* To be returned.

No. 334. ORDER THEREON, 12th January 1866, No. 162.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 58.

Papers recorded in G. O. 28th September 1863, No. 2,813.
Do. 2nd August 1864, No. 2,202.

1. The proposal for opening a new line of road between Bhowany and Collegal over the Burghoor hills, in the Coimbatore District, was originally submitted by the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division, for consideration in the papers marginally noted, and the value of this communication over the present circuitous route along the Cauvery by Cauverypooram having been recognized, the Government were induced at different periods to make assignments of money for the tracing of the line.

2. In the letter recorded above the Superintending Engineer reports that the entire length of road has now been traced, and opened to bridle-path as far as practicable, the gradients not exceeding 1 in 16. The country traversed is reported to be remarkably healthy, and considering its hilly character the new line is stated to be exceedingly direct.

3. Colonel Walker now submits an estimate of Rupees 72,100 for widening the road in the manner indicated in paragraph 4, and for constructing the necessary masonry works. The Government sanction this estimate, and funds to some extent will be provided for the work in the Budget of 1866-67.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, with ten Enclosures.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin

5A

Abstract Estimate No. 6 of 1865/66.

Public (Roads) —— District Coimbatore — New Works.

Work. Constructing Road from Bhowany to Collegal via Burghoor.

Quantity	Description of Work.	Rate			Amount			Total		
113750 $\frac{41}{54}$	C.yds Earthwork & removing small rocks	-	3	-	21328	4	8			
548 2/27	— Do Cutting side drains	-	2	6	85	10	2			
1320 2/3	— Metalling	1	8	-	1981	-	-			
7157 1/3	— Rough stone work	2	-	-	14314	10	8			
12142 20/27	— Blasting rock	2	-	-	2428$\overset{5}{4}$	7	8			
3	Acres of Land to be purchased	100	-	-	300	-	-	6229$\overset{5}{4}$	1	2
	Sundries @ 2½ per Cent							156$\overset{6}{7}$	14	10
	Total Rupees							63862	-	-
1	Timber Bridge as per Plan & Estimate				1820	-	-			
8	Tunnels of 1 Vent	116	-	-	696	-	-			
12	— Do — of 2 Vents	195	-	-	2340	-	-			
6	— Do — of 3 Vents	272	-	-	1632	-	-			
3500	Carriage of Chunam for a distance of 14 miles —— per Parah	-	8	-	1750	-	-	8238	-	-
	Grand Total Rs							72100	-	-

Erode Range Office
Coimbatore 14th Novr 1865

R. L. Morris Lieutt R.E.
Assistant Engineer

[illegible] Lt. Col.
Suptg Eng.

Checked [illegible]

No. 216.

Superintending Engineers Office
7th Division
Coimbatore 18th December 1885

From
Lieutt Coll G. W. Walker R.E.
Superintending Engineer 7th Dn

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

Enclosures 13
1 Estimate with Abstract for Road
1 Estimates for bridges
& Tunnels.
1 Specification
2 Plans of bridges & Tunnels.
1 Survey in 3 Sheets
Printed Maps

Sir,

I have the honor herewith to submit a Survey of the new Road and Ghauts under construction from Chellumpollium near Andyoor in the Bhowany Talook of Coimbatore District, over the Burghoor Hills, to the Southern boundary of the Collegal Talook and junction with the old track to Marthully, Amdoor, and the Town of Collegal. The whole length of road and Ghaut shown in the Survey has been traced to Gradients not exceeding 1 in 16, and opened to bridlepath as far as practicable without blasting; many miles continuously being passable on Horseback. I have myself in 3 visits to the line given instructions as to its general treatment, fixing the main points through which it should run, and on my last visit in July 1885 inspected the bridlepath and trace to within 3 miles of the Foot of the Southern Ghaut, and satisfied myself as to the correctness of the whole.

2. The Survey, being the work of a young Overseer fresh from the Engineering College, and incompetent to delineate the features of the ground, gives little but an idea of the exceeding straightness of the new line, such as could hardly have been anticipated in crossing a tract of hill country. Engineering objections to an ascent and descent of some 2500 feet each way, are met first by a saving in distance which I estimate at 15 miles over the old route by Cauverypooram, most of it

it only a bad Cattle track; but more forcibly by the healthier nature of the ground traversed. From three seasons experience of the Burghoor Hills, these seem to enjoy a remarkable exemption from the feverish climate of the rest of the Coimbatore Hill Range, westwards to the Moyar Valley. The workmen on the new line, and those superin-tending them, have not suffered from sickness; and the cultivators of the Burghoor Plateau, Canarese-speaking Lingaits originally from the Mysore country, are healthy in appearance and do not complain of any liability to Fever. Scarcity of water, (owing to want of wells and Reservoirs), and the depredations of wild animals, seem to be their chief troubles.

3 All that has been done hitherto has been effected with portions of the Annual Maintenance Al-lowance for the old Road which have been trans-ferred for the purpose by permission of Government. I regret to say that such amounts have not been made the most of, owing to defective Superintend-ence, and to the work being strange both to the workmen and those in executive charge. Mr. Nordmann's removal to Wynaad, a twelve months ago, was very detrimental to the work, as he was fully instructed by me, personally, on the ground as to every detail, and took most intelligent interest in its progress; and it is only since I was able to place Lieut. Morris in charge in July last, that I have been again satis-fied with its management.

4 That Officer has supplied me with the accompanying Estimates amounting to Rs 72100 for widening the line from the foot of the Southern Ghaut to that of the Northern Ghaut to a minimum width of 12 feet on Hill sides and 21 feet on flat land. No Bridges or Tunnels will be required on either of the Ghauts, i.e. South of Tamarakerra the head of the Southern Ghaut, or North of Thattakerra the head of the Nor-thern Ghaut; all the water crossing these Ghauts being capable of discharge by open Pavements. But

on

on the Plateau which is 8 miles across between those two villages, with Burghoor itself about mid-way between, one small bridge and 24 Co-vered Drains are required, for which detailed Plans and Estimates are submitted. If a deduction of Rs 2100 from the gross Amount of Estimate is made, that sum will about represent the amount spent up to 30th April 1866 in carrying out work provided for in the present Estimate leaving Rs 70,000 to be supplied in future years, whereof it is requested that Rs 20,000 may be allotted in 1866-67.

5 The Maintenance Allowance of the entire line hitherto laid out in great measure on the new trace through the Burghoor Hills, will henceforth be devoted to the gradual improvement of the old road north of the new Section. And in connection therewith I propose to have investigated a project for a large Reservoir at the junction of the old and new Sections, to be formed by damming the River where they meet, instead of bridging it. I am sanguine that the levels of the Valley, which I have requested Lieutenant Morris to take, will admit of the storage of much water in a locality that cannot otherwise be occupied to any advantage; and any one may judge of the extent of drainage area from the printed map+ accompanying, on which I have shewn the entire road from Bho-wany to Collegal in red colour. Whereof I would note that from Bhowany to the foot of the Southern Ghaut at one end, and from Collegal to Annoor at the other, Cart traffic is already possible; and its extension from Annoor to the site of the proposed Dam neither difficult nor costly, except so far as the bad climate of the valley may interfere to cause slow progress and expense.

+ to be returned

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most Obedt. Servant
C. M. Wilde Lieut Col. M.E.
Superintending Engineer 7th Dn.

Pro. 2d Augt/64 No 443-445.
" 13th Septr " " 239-240
" 28th Novr " " 544-546
" 12th Jany/65 " 192-198

P.W. 1865 Depto
Pro. of Govt for January
Note No. 99

The Supg. Engineer
7th Division

To

The Secretary to Govt
Departt. Pub. Works

Dated 18th December/65
Recd 21 "

2. Plans given to Consulting [illegible]

No. 216.

Enclosure - 13.

Submits Ck Plans & Esti-
-mates for making a new
road & Ghauts & building
bridges and Tunnels in
Burghur Ghaut.

No. 3033.

c. 5th Jany 1866 - No. 84

No 162 - 12th Jany 1866

Civil [illegible] Public Works Department

No. 162

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 12th January 1866.

Read the following

From the Superintending Engineer
of the 7th Division
Submitting Plans and
Estimates for making a new road
and Ghauts and Building bridges
and tunnels in Burghur Ghat

(P.G. 18th December 1865 No. 216)

Papers recorded
G.O. 28 Sept /64 - 2815
do 26 Augt/64 - 2202

The proposal for opening a new line of road between Bhowany & Collegal over the Burghoor hills in the Coimbatore District was originally submitted by the Supg. Engineer of the 7th Dn for consideration in the papers marginally noted, and the value of this communication over the present circuitous route along the Cauvery by Cauverypooram having been recognized, the Government were induced at different periods to make assignments of money for the tracing of the line.

In the letter recorded above the Supdg. Engineer reports that the entire length of road has now been traced, and opened to bridle path as far as practicable, the gradients not exceeding 1 in 16. The Country traversed is reported to be remarkably healthy, & considering its hilly character ~~of the Country~~ the new line is stated to be exceedingly ~~straight~~ direct.

Col. Walker now submits an estimate of Rs. 72,100 for widening the road in the manner indicated in Paras 4 & for constructing the necessary masonry works. The Government sanction this estimate, and funds to some extent will be provided for the work in the Budget of 1866/7.

7/4/3 To The S
" C
" Acct General ✓

No. 4

Enclos: A (+ Abstract
Refer to the

Dated 15th January

P. W. 1866 Ditto
Pro: of Govt. for
Jany

No. 162
Pro: of the M. Govt.
D/ 12 Jany/66.

Further Ro D/ 4th Feby/70 to
340

Road between Bhowany and Collegal over the Burghoor Hills, Coimbatore District. The estimate amounting to Rs. 72,100 for widening &c. Sanctioned.

No. 333. 384