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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2282	Press Mis.
147-48	
Dated 6. 8	1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th August 1867.*

No. 147. Read the following letter from the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Sharmadavy, 25th July 1867, No. 828 :—

1. With reference to G. O. No. 2,018, of the 6th July 1867, I have the honor to report that the expenditure on irrigation works in the Meyloor talook has been small in comparison with that in other talooks; in the past official year there was less spent on this talook than any other in the Madura District, excepting the Dindigul talook. These are both particularly dry talooks, and there is not cultivation from wells in Meyloor to the same extent as in other parts.

2. There is much that may be done to improve the Meyloor talook, and if more had been done hitherto the late bad season would doubtless not have been so severely felt; but when there are works demanding attention in all parts of the district, and the funds available are sufficient to admit of only a few works out of the many being taken in hand, it is certain that parts of the district must be neglected. The first consideration is to maintain the present ordinary revenue, the next to improve it; the larger tanks and those that receive the best supply of water naturally are the most looked after; the breaching of a large tank involves the loss of extensive crops, heavy remissions, and may cause other tanks below to breach, with the same result; hence it is absolutely necessary that a considerable portion of irrigation funds should be devoted to the more favoured tracts of a district, and only the most pressing wants in the other parts be attended to. The Meyloor talook is chiefly on a high level, beyond the reach of the present supply of water in the Vigay river, and the tanks, mostly small ones, are rain-fed, and under the influence of a small annual rain-fall, hence the other more promising talooks have received more attention.

3. The fall of rain in the past year was less than usual, there were one or two heavy bursts of monsoon that came on suddenly and lasted but a short time there was thus no replenishing of the tanks at intervals, and a great failure of crops ensued. In the present year, however, it cannot be said that the interests of the Meyloor talook have been overlooked. Early in April I made a special application for a grant of Rupees 2,400, under the head Minor New Works, Agricultural, based on the great want of sluices and calingulabs in the small tanks, which led to the villagers cutting the bunds to let out the water for cultivation, and leaving them in danger of being breached by a sudden influx from heavy rain. The funds were given me in G. O. No. 1,437, of the 11th May 1867, and I have made an appropriation of Rupees 2,580 up to date for Minor New Works; estimates for repairs were forwarded to the Range Officer for execution at the commencement of the year, to the amount of Rupees 4,977; a further sum of Rupees 1,895 was sanctioned during the present month, and I find I have also a batch of estimates, amounting to Rupees 2,413, which will be sent out for the works being put in hand. There is thus a sum of Rupees 11,865 devoted to the Meyloor talook out of the amount at my disposal, Rupees 45,200, for Minor New Works and Repairs in the six talooks of the district. This is all that I can do at present, but if later on in the year the Government are enabled to assign me a further grant, I shall be prepared to utilize the money.

4. Under present conditions the Meyloor talook, though capable of improvement as to its irrigation works, must always be liable to scarcity unless the

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
6th August 1867.

Perryaur project is carried out. A command of water can be obtained from one of the anicuts on the Vigay river, which will irrigate a considerable portion of the talook, and if the unfailing supply of water which is now running to waste through the Travancore country be successfully diverted into the Vigay river, there is every prospect of both the Meyloor talook and other dry tracts of the Madura District yielding annually a double crop, and being protected from future drought and famine.

No. 148. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1867, No. 2,382.
IRRIGATION, No. 3.

1. Communicated to the Revenue Department, with reference to the Order in that Department of the 2nd July 1867, No. 1,463.
2. The Superintending Engineers of the 1st and 6th Divisions are requested to report whether, in their opinion, the whole of the Agricultural *Repair* allotments for the Vizagapatam* and Tanjore† Districts respectively is likely to be expended, and, if not, how much can be surrendered for appropriation to other districts requiring additional funds.

* Rupees 41,000.
† Rupees 1,25,000.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
„ Superintending Engineers, 1st, 6th, and 8th Divisions

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 828
Superintending Engineers Office
Madras 23rd July 1867
To
Captain M. S. Sreendargast
Officiating Engineer
8th Division
Colonel C. J. O'Brien
Secretary to Government
Madras

With reference to C.O. No. 2018 of the 6th July 1867, I have the honor to report that the expenditure on irrigation works in the Meyloor taluk, has been small in comparison with that in other taluks; in the past Official year, there was less spent on this taluk than in any other in the Madras District, excepting the Pondicherry taluk. There are here particularly dry taluks; and there is not cultivation from wells in Meyloor, to the same extent as in other parts.

2 There is much that may be done to improve the Meyloor taluk, and if more had

had been done hitherto, the funds available
would doubtless not have been so much
felt: but when there are works demanding
attention in all parts of the District, and
the funds available are sufficient to meet
of only a few works, out of the many
taken in hand, it is evident that something
the District must be neglected. If
first consideration is to be given to the
ordinary revenue, then it is evident that
larger tanks, and those that are the most
supply of water, naturally are the most
looked after. The breachage of a tank, or
involves the loss of extensive cultivation,
permission, and may cause other tanks to
be breached, with the same result. It is
is absolutely necessary, that a considerable
portion of the District should be
devoted to the more sacred work of a
District, and only minor works should be
in the other parts be attended to.
The Mysore taluk is chiefly an arid

level beyond the reach of the present supply
of water. The Mysore river and the
tanks, mostly small ones, are run full; and
under the influence of a small annual
rain fall, hence the other more promising
tanks have received more cultivation.
3. The fall of rain in the past year was
less than usual. There were one or two heavy
bursts of rain, which came over suddenly,
and lasted but a short time; there was
much replenishing of the tanks at intervals,
and a good amount of rain fell. But
the past year, however, it cannot be said
that the interests of the Mysore taluk have
been overlooked. Early in April, I made a
special application for a grant of Rs 2,400
to the Local Minor & New Works, Agri-
-Cultural, based on the great want of water
and irregularity in the small tanks, which
led to the villagers cutting the bunds to
let out the water for cultivation, and
leaving them in danger of being breached
by

by a sudden inflow from heavy rain.
The funds were given me, in O. O. S.
1437 of the 11th May 1867, and I have
made an appropriation of Rupees 2680
up to date, for Minor & Major Works and
materials for repairs were forwarded to the District
Officer for execution at the commencement
of the year, to the amount of Rs 4977, a
further sum of Rupees 1895 was
sanctioned during the present month, and
I find I have also a batch of bills, etc.,
amounting to Rupees 2413, which will be
sent out, for the works being put in hand.
There is thus a sum of Rupees 11,865
devoted to the Meyloor taluq, out of the
amount at my disposal, Rupees 45,200
for Minor & Major Works and Repairs in
the taluqs of the District. There is
all that I can do, at present, but of inter-
est in the year, the Government have enabled
to assign me a further grant. I shall be
prepared to utilize the money.

4. Under present conditions, the Meyloor
talua, though capable of improvement as
to the irrigation works, must always be
liable to scarcity, unless the Barrage
project is carried out. At command of
water can be obtained from one of the canals
on the Vignay river, which will irrigate
a considerable portion of the taluq, and
if the unfailing supply of water which
is now running to waste through the
canals, is successfully diverted into the
Vignay river there is every prospect of
best the Meyloor taluq, and other dry
tracts of the Madurai District, yielding
annually a double crop, and being pro-
tected from future drought and famine.

Shavehae

Commandant - Captain R. E.

Off. Superintending Engineer S. D.

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Dr. J. A. (1844)

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Pepper's ^x allotments for the Virginia

28-17-12-5000 - Town and Township districts note

things in order to be understood, and

if not, how much can be gotten
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Articles requiring additional funds.

2. New Bore? 1
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J. A. S. 1893

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e. 2105 June 1867. (A. 2nd ed.)