(1) Name of Book

(2) Date of receipt

(3) Name of the depositor

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1623-23 Pub Press Dated 11-8-23

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 17th May 1869.

No 391. Read the following letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 26th April 1869, No 258 —

No 1,014, dated 24th March 1869, Public Works Department

With reference to Proceedings of Government noted in the margin, I have the honour to forward, for submission to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners held at this Office, on the 21st instant, to consider the proposal of the Supreme Government on the subject of the Madras Water-Supply Project

---

Minutes of the Proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras held at their Office premises, No 22, Ennah Bauloo Chetty, Street in the Black Town of Madras, on Wednesday the 21st day of April 1869, pursuant to Section 19 of the Madras Municipal Act of 1867

PRESENT

Colonel C A DENISON, *President*

Commissioners

Captain W H Edgcome,
Colonel A C Silver,
Dr W H Paterson,
Dr J Miller,
C Pardasardy Naidoo, Esq,
V Kristnamah Charry, Esq,
M Vencatasawmy Naidoo, Esq,
F Narasimmooloo Chetty, Esq,
A Alwar Chetty, Esq,
F Dodcrett, Esq,
C Grant, Esq,
J G Coleman, Esq,
J C Lyster, Esq,
A MacKenzie, Esq,
J Grose, Esq

SUBJECT —Proposed loan to the Municipality of Madras on account of the Madras Water-Supply Project

PROCEEDINGS of the Madras Government in its Public Works Department, dated 24th March 1869, No. 1,014, was taken as read, the same having been in circulation among the Commissioners

The PRESIDENT read his Minute as follows —

GENTLEMEN,—My object in calling you together at a Special Meeting to-day is, as you are aware, to consider the Proceedings of the Supreme Government, and Order thereon, on the subject of the Madras Water-Distribution Project These Proceedings have been in circulation among the Commissioners for the last fortnight, and I shall be glad to hear presently your views on this all-important subject

There can be no doubt as to the proposition of the Supreme Government being on an enlarged and liberal basis, and it will be for you to decide whether we can accept the terms offered in their integrity, or whether we can propose others better suited to our means and the interests of the rate-payers whom we represent

It is stated in the Proceedings that, in the opinion of the Right Honourable the Governor General, "Madras may certainly ask for terms not less favourable than those granted to Calcutta, "and, indeed, considering the real moderation and economy of Madras, some greater advantages "might perhaps be conceded to that city".

Before, however, determining on what Madras should ask for, it is necessary to examine the terms proposed in the Proceedings of the Supreme Government, which are as follow —

"That the whole additional supply of water stored is 100,000,000 cubic yards, of this 53,000,000 are to be used by the Government, and 32,000,000 by the Municipality, besides 15,000,000 which are of no use, in all the Municipality has 47,000,000 stored for its purposes. If, therefore, the cost (eight lacs) be divided in the proportion of 53 to 47, it gives four-and-a-quarter lacs for Government, and three-and-three-quarters for the Municipality it is then proposed that the Municipality shall be considered as Joint Proprietors of the reservoirs, and be allowed to pay the interest on the above capital, plus a proportional share of maintenance charge," and what that may be we have no means of judging

The object of this proposal is having due regard to the purposes to which the water is to be applied—not to treat the Municipality as customers from whom the Government would take a profit

This no doubt evinces a liberal spirit on the part of the Supreme Government, and we could not expect to be dealt with more liberally, but the plan by which this has to be worked out is attended with certain disadvantages, in which no doubt the Commissioners will be of the same opinion as myself

I am not an Engineer, and therefore cannot give an opinion as to the professional part of the work, but I had an opportunity the other day, in company with Colonel Silver, Captain Edgcome, and Mr Lee, of inspecting the works in progress as far as the head-sluice at the outlet of the Cholaverum tank, and was forcibly struck with the magnitude of the work already performed, and of the immense amount still to be executed, and beyond this again, which we had not time to see, is the amount in the Cortelliar and Delivery Channel, from that river to the Cholaverum tank If, therefore, we were to accept the terms offered, *viz*, of being Joint Proprietors of the reservoirs and supply-works, and bear also our proportionate share of the maintenance works, we should, I think, be committing ourselves to a project over which we have not had, and cannot expect to have, any control, and for all we know the expense of the works may be eight, ten, or twelve lacs, which would make a sensible difference in our proportionate share of the expenditure, then again the maintenance of these vast works at such a distance from Municipal limits would probably be a fertile source of disagreement between the Municipality and Government, for, while the cost of maintenance might be on a scale which would be a mere flea bite to Government, it would probably not at all come within the bounds of that economy and moderation for which we have received the commendation of the Supreme Government, and it appears, therefore, to me that we might render ourselves liable to all the evils which share-holders of a Joint Stock Company are subject, without the advantages of limited liability

There appears also to be some difference in the Proceedings of the Supreme Government, if we look at paragraph 14, as regards the sum payable to Government by the Municipality as it is there stated, we should pay *permanently* 32,000 Rupees yearly, besides six per cent on the sum borrowed for the distribution-works, whereas this Government in their Proceedings of the 30th October 1868, No 3,409, based on our proposal, record that we should pay at the rate of 7 Rupees per 7,000 cubic yards, the Government recognizing a prior claim on the part of the Municipality to 32,000,000 of cubic yards per annum

Under this ruling of the local Government we should not have to pay for more water than we actually use, and therefore these terms are more favourable to the Municipality than those contained in paragraph 14 of the Proceedings of the Supreme Government

I purpose, after hearing what the Commissioners have to say on the subject, submitting a resolution for your consideration

Colonel Silver then said as follows —

I quite agree with all that the President has said I am decidedly of opinion that it is better for us to confine ourselves to the cost of construction and maintenance of our own works

I have been lately over the works at Cholaverum and the Red Hills, in company with the President and Captain Edgcome, and I confess I would rather have seen the Government works

further advanced before we broke ground However, the Government have promised us a certain quantity of water delivered at a certain level, and I have no doubt that promise will be fulfilled, and the sooner we begin our works, the better With regard to our becoming co-partners with the Government in these works, it appears to me simply to resolve itself into a question of whether our share of cost of maintenance, *plus* share of cost of construction of Government works, say about five lacs, or paying at prime cost for the water supplied, would be the most favourable to the Municipality Cost of maintenance of these Government works we cannot estimate It might come to a great deal, as accidents might occur rendering another large outlay of capital necessary, and I do not think we should incur these risks Becoming responsible for ordinary maintenance involves extraordinary charges, and I think it better we should not involve ourselves with works over which we shall have no controlling authority, besides, I always cling to the hope that Government will ultimately relieve us from payment for water consumed

I think our best plan is decidedly to accept the Government offer of the water we consume at prime cost, and confine ourselves to our own works

Captain Edgcome said as follows —

That, while fully concurring in all that had fallen from the President and Colonel Silver regarding the inexpediency of the Municipality becoming Joint Proprietors with the Government in the reservoirs and other works connected with the project for the supply of water to Madras, there was one point that had not been noticed, *viz*, their share of the cost of construction of such works This, considering the extent to which the original estimate of eight lacs will probably be exceeded, will not fall short of five lacs, so that, in my opinion, the subject resolved itself into this form whether is it more to the interests of the Municipality to pay six per cent on eighteen lacs (cost of distribution and share of construction) for twenty-six years, being the time it would take to pay off the loan by contributions to a Sinking Fund, in accordance with the proposals of the Government, and in addition to this, one-third of the cost of the maintenance of the works in perpetuity, and get their water free, or to pay six per cent on the thirteen lacs loan for the distribution work for twenty-six years, and in addition to pay, at cost-price, for all the water consumed

Considering the magnitude of the works to be maintained and the attendant risk, I have no hesitation in recommending the latter of these proposals

The cost-price of the water had been estimated at 10 Annas per 1,000 cubic yards, and was thus arrived at taking 100,000,000 cubic yards as the extra storage in the reservoirs, of which amount 32,000,000 cubic yards would be required by the Municipality, that is, about one-third of the whole, the cost of the water supplied to them would be four lacs (assuming the whole supply-works to cost twelve lacs) the interest on which, at five per cent per annum, would be 20,000 Rupees, and this gives us exactly 1,000 cubic yards for 10 Annas

The President thereupon proposed as follows —

RESOLUTION —The Municipal Commissioners having had under consideration the proposition of the Supreme Government with regard to the Madras Water-Distribution Project, while thanking Government for the liberal terms they offer, are nevertheless of opinion that, looking to the interests of the rate-payers, it is not desirable that they should become Joint Proprietors of the reservoirs with Government, and also bear their proportionate share of the maintenance of these and all other works connected therewith, but considering the very limited means at the disposal of the Municipality, and the probability of further calls upon them for works of an equally important nature, such as drainage, they are of opinion that, as the Supreme Government have been pleased to express themselves to the effect that they do not desire to make a profit in the water supplied to the Municipality, they prefer accepting this offer, and to pay, at prime cost, for the water consumed by them, which proposition was seconded by Mr. Venkatasawmy Naidoo and carried unanimously.

The Meeting then terminated

(Signed) C A DENISON, Colonel,
President, Municipal Commission.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th May 1869.

No. 392. ORDER THEREON, 17th May 1869, No 1,622.

IRRIGATION, No 23

ORDERED that these papers be laid before the Government of India, with reference to their Proceedings, dated 11th March last, No. 55 A.—I.

(Here enter, No 1,623, dated 17th May 1869)

(True Extract)

Colonel, R E,
Secretary to Government

To the Municipal Commissioners, Madras
,, Public Department
,, Superintending Engineer, 4th Division
,, Chief Engineer for Irrigation
,, Revenue Department

Exd F. R. Bantleman.

Gazette {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS,

MADRAS

&c, &c, &c

Dated May, 17th

Read

G. O., 17th May 1869, No. 1,022

MAY.

Nos. 301-302

Madras Water-Supply Project.—Passing orders on the letter from the President of the Municipal Commission, forwarding the Proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Commissioners held to consider the proposal of the Government of India on the subject of the Madras Water-Supply Project.

p i

G. O. No. 258

Municipal Commissioners' Office.
Madras, 26th April 1869.

From

Colonel C A Gibson
President Municipal Commission
Madras

To

The Honble R S Ellis C B
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir

With reference to the proceedings of Government noted in the margin, I have the honor to forward for submission to the Right Honble The Governor in Council, the Proceedings of a Special Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners held at the Office on the 21st Inst, to consider the proposals of the Supreme Government on the subject of the Madras Water Supply Project.

No 1014 dated 24th March 1869 P.W. Dept.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

Charles Dennis
President Municipal Commission

Minutes of the Proceed[ings]

Meeting of the Municipal Comm[issioners] Town of Madras held at their O[ffice] Errah Baulo Chetty Street in [the Town] of Madras on Wednesday the 2[...] 1869 pursuant to Section 19 of t[he] Act of 1867.

Present

Colonel C. A. Denison

Commissioners

Captain W. H. Edgcome
Colonel A. C. Silver
Dr. W. H. Paterson
Dr. J. Miller
C. Vardasawmy Naidoo Esqr.
V. Krishnamah Charry Esqr.
M. Vencatasawmy Naidoo Esqr.
G. Narasimmooloo Chetty Esqr.

Subject.
[...] loan to

Proceedings of the

been inquiries for the last fortnight and
glad to have personally your opinions on this
subject.

There can be no doubt as to the pro-
of the Supreme Government being on a
and liberal basis and it will be for you
whether you can accept the terms offer
integrity, or whether we can propose other
to the means and the interests of the
s whom we represent.

It is stated in the Proceedings that in
of the Right Honorable the Governor
Madras may certainly ask for terms more
able than those granted to Calcutta, and
sidering the great moderation of necessary
some greater advantages might perhaps
d to Bombay City."

Before proceeding to determine
should ask for it is necessary to examine
proposed in the Proceedings of the Supreme
which are as follows:-

private additional supply of water, stored
three Cubic Yards, of this 53 millions
ired by the Government and 32 millions
municipality besides 15 millions which are
in all the Municipality has 47 millions
its purposes, if therefore the cost of this
in the proportion of 53 to 47 it gives
for Government and 25/11 for the
ity, & it is then proposed that the Municipality
reimbursed of said proportions of the

regard to the purposes to which the Reserve
applied, not to treat the Municipality
from whom the Government are to
This no doubt evinces a liberal
the part of the Supreme Government
not expect to be dealt with more
plan by which this has to be worked
with certain disadvantages in which
Commissioners will be of the same
Name not an Engineer and
give an opinion as to the
work, but should an opportunity
with Colonel Baker, Engr to the
and the fee of inspecting the
for as the Head Sluice of the
Sluice, and was greatly struck
of the work already performed,
amount still to be executed, and
which we had not time to see,
Colaba and Sewery Channel
to the Malabar Hill Reservoir
and as to the

the Municipality and Government
the cost of maintenance might be
be which would be a very fair basis to
it would probably entail all some
the grounds of that necessary precaution
we have received the recommendation
from Government and it appears
to me that we might transfer ourselves
all the rights which Shareholders of
Joint Company are subject with
rights of limited liability.

There appears also to be some difference
privileges of the Supreme
I believe as regards the
to Government by the Municipality,
stated we should pay permanently
yearly besides 1½ per cent on the
for the distribution works, whereas
mentioned in their proceedings of the 30
& 31st Oct. based on our proposal that
should pay at the rate of 1½ dollars per
the yards, the Government keep in
repair on the part of the Municipality to
of double yards per annum.
Under this ruling of the local Government
not have to pay for more water than
by use and charge three times as much
the Municipality have been entitled
proceeded as [illegible]

has said. I am decidedly of opinion that
better for us to confine ourselves to the cost
construction and maintenance of our own
I have been lately over the works
-ernment and the Red Hills in company
President & Chaplain Algoma and I am
would rather have seen the Government
further advanced before we both go home
the Government have promised us a certain
of water delivered at a certain level on
no doubt that promise will be fulfilled
sooner we begin our works the better.
regard to our becoming co-partners with the
Government in these works it appears to me
simply to resolve itself into a question of
our share of cost of maintenance
of cost of construction of Government works
about 5 Lbs or paying at present
water supplied would be the most favourable
the Municipality. Cost of maintenance
these Government Works we cannot estimate
it might come to a great deal as accidents
might occur rendering another large outlay
of Capital necessary and I do not think we
should incur these risks beginning
for ordinary maintenance involves a perpetual
charges and I think it better we should not
involve ourselves with works over which we
shall have no controlling authority besides
always cling to the hope that Government
ultimately relieve us from payment
I think our best plan is decidedly
the Government

Gentlemen Engineers and Officers:

That article fully concurring in all that had fallen from the President and Colonel Edwards regarding the incapability of the Municipality becoming Joint Proprietors with the Government in the Reservoirs and other works connected with the Project for the supply of water to Madras - there was one point that had not been noticed as to the share of the cost of construction of such works. This (considering the extent to which the original Estimate of 8 lacs will probably be exceeded) will not fall short of 5 lacs - so that in my opinion the subject resolves itself into this form - Whether is it more to the interests of the Municipality to pay 6 per cent on 18 lacs (cost of distribution and share of construction) for 26 years - being the time it would take to pay off the loan by contributions to a sinking fund, in accordance with the proposals of Government, and in addition to this ⅓ of the cost of the maintenance of the works in perpetuity - and get their water free - or to pay 6 per cent on the 13 lacs loan for the distribution work for 26 years - and in addition to pay at cost price for all the water consumed.

Considering the magnitude of the Works to be maintained and the attendant risk I have no hesitation in recommending the latter of these proposals.

The cost price of the water Harbour estimated at 10 annas per 1000 cubic Yards and 8 annas thereafter - taking 100 gallons as subjects

Resolutions

as the extra storage in the Reservoirs of which amount 32 million cubic Yards would be required by the Municipality - that is about ⅓ of the whole - the cost of the Water supplied to them would be 4 lacs (assuming the whole supply works to cost 12 lacs) the interest on which at 6 per cent per annum would be 20,000 Rupees - and this gives us exactly 1000 cubic yards for 10 annas.

The President thereupon proposed as follows:-

The Municipal Commissioners having had under consideration the proposition of the Supreme Government with regard to the Madras Water distribution Project while thanking Government for the liberal terms now offered are unanimously of opinion that looking to the interests of the Rate Payers it is not desirable that they should become Joint Proprietors of the Reservoirs with Government and also bear their proportionate Share of the Maintenance of these and all other works connected therewith, but considering the very limited means at the disposal of the Municipality and the probability of further calls upon them for works of an equally important creating such as Drainage they are of opinion that as the Supreme Government have been pleased to express themselves to the effect that they do not desire to make a profit on the water supplied to the Municipality - they prefer accepting the offer and to pay at prime cost for the water consumed by them - which proposition was seconded by Mr Venkatasawmy Naidoo Garu and carried by the meeting then terminated.

Thanks
Chairman

P. W. D.

No 1622

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 17th May 1869

Read the following

From the President Municipal Commissioner Madras } Received 26th Oct 1869

Ordered that these papers be laid before the Govt. of India with reference to their Proceedings dated 11th March last No 55 A.I.

To the Municipal Commissioner Madras
" Public Dept
" Supt. Lt. Dr. Surveys
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation
" Revenue Dept

Dept. 17/5/69

No 1623

The Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Sir,

With reference to the Proceedings of the Govt. of India dated 11th March 1869. No 55 A.I. I am directed to forward a letter from the President & Vice Municipal Commissioner

ab

at Madras into its accom-
paniment, from which
it will be observed that,
while gratefully acknowl-
edging the liberal spirit
which has actuated the
Govt of India in proposing
terms which that Govt
believe to be more favor-
able than those under
which the Municipality
seek to carry out the project
for bringing water from the
Red Hill Lake for the sup-
ply of Madras, the Com-
missioners consider that,
looking to the interests of
the rate payers and to the
comparatively limited
means at the disposal

of

the Municipality, they would
not be warranted in accept-
ing the risks and responsibility
which, as joint proprietors
with the Government, they believe
they would incur in connection
with works over the construc-
tion and maintenance of
which they would have no
control. They accordingly pre-
fer the conditions proposed
in my letter of the 30th October
last, No 3410 namely that
the Municipality should pay
6 per cent per annum on
the loan required for the
construction of the distri-
bution works, and Rs: 7
per 1,000 cubic yards for
the quantity of water they
may appropriate from
the 32 Million cubic
yards

yards to be held at their
disposal.

Recd 2 1857 by Lieut Jones
of Ohio 1122 Cartridges

12-1/17

24 5/19 BII
11/7/29 BIII
13.6.30 BIII

Dec 1771

Cost of 1868 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Municipal Commissioner Madras

17th May 1622+1623

Nos 391-392+393

Madras Water Supply Project

Letter from the President & the Municipal Council regarding the Madras Water Supply Project & forwarding the Report of Sir Alexander Rendel on the same & the Madras Water Supply Project.