M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(1) Number of pages. 23

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 504 Press / Mis.

250-51

Dated 12 2 1820.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 250. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th December 1869, No. 9,365 :—

Read the following letter from the Commissioner of the Neilgherries, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 25th November 1869, No. 168.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the Public Works carried out in this district during the year 1868-69. The report should have gone in long ago, but escaped attention.

2. The following statement shows the Budget provision for the works and the expenditure thereon :—

—	Provision in Budget.	Expense in 1867-68.	Expense in 1868-69.	Difference.	
				Increase.	Decrease.
New Works.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I. Agricultural	13,050	500	13,050	12,550	...
II. Communications	1,02,265	89,913	1,02,267	12,354	...
III. Buildings, Military	2,16,663	1,34,936	2,16,710	81,774	...
Do. Civil	46,868	63,724	48,348	...	15,376
IV. Miscellaneous Public Improvements...	17,500	...	17,499	17,499	...
Repairs.					
V. Agricultural	...	...	...	...	...
VI. Communications	19,190	15,555	19,263	3,710	...
VII. Buildings, Military... ...	7,001	5,885	7,096	1,211	...
Do. Civil	3,286	3,282	3,285	3	...
VIII. Miscellaneous Public Improvements...	464	400	464	64	...

3. Of No. I., 13,000 rupees appertain to the bund Mr. McIvor is constructing on a tributary of the Bhowany. The state and prospects of the work on the 20th May 1869 were fully reported on by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, and will be found in Proceedings of Government, Public Works Department, 28th June 1869, No. 203. The Acting Chief Engineer draws two conclusions from the work done up to the period of his inspection ; the first of which is—

"That the silting process affords a very rapid and economical means of con-
"structing earthen bunds or embankments where suitable soil and water on a proper
"level are obtainable."

The conclusion seems to me somewhat premature ; the silting process can hardly be called an economical mode of raising embankments ; if, as seems to be the opinion of many, it has still to be determined whether a silted embankment will stand the pressure of the water against it, I myself, however, feel sanguine that it will.

4. Under Item II., Communications, Rupees 1,02,267 have been expended on the following:—

		RS.
1.	Coonoor Ghaut new road	37,000
2.	Goodaloor Ghaut new road...	20,000
3.	New line of road from head of Coonoor Ghaut to Kotagherry, viâ Wellington	15,000
4.	New line of road from Ootacamund to head of Goodaloor Ghaut at Neddiwuttum	14,299
5.	Re-constructing Segoor bridge	7,417
6.	Bridle-path to connect Avalanche bungalow with new road to Koondahs	500
7.	Trace beyond Yeddacaudoo to Koondah plantation ...	2,000
8.	Road from Ootacamund to site of Mr. McIvor's bund ...	2,500
9.	Road from Kotagherry to Kodanaud	3,148
10.	Compensation for land taken for Karteri road	400

At the close of the official year 13¼ miles of the new Coonoor Ghaut were opened for wheeled traffic, and 6 miles of the Goodaloor new ghaut. The gradients of these ghaut roads and the execution of the work in all respects do the officers of the Public Works Department great credit.

5. Of Item III., Buildings, Rupees 1,98,082 were expended on the Lawrence Asylum, of which, as mentioned in paragraph 16 of my Administration Report, the west wing is finished and occupied by the boys of the Asylum; the dormitories of the north wing are roofed in, and the brick-work of the rest of the building is nearly completed. The construction of the new Church at Ootacamund was stopped on the 1st March for want of funds. About Rupees 50,000 have been spent upon the building, of which Rupees 19,541 represent private subscriptions. The brick-work and roofing have been completed, and 5 or 6,000 rupees should finish it. The Quinologist's Laboratory and Ootacamund Subsidiary Jail remained incomplete at the end of the year under report. The Subsidiary Jails at Coonoor and Wellington were to be given on contract, but subsequently it was found that no funds were available.

6. Item IV. refers to the Ootacamund reclamation and water-projects. Rupees 5,999-14-4 belong to the water-projects, whereof, by the end of March, three miles of channel had been opened and Jail and Police Lines erected.

Rupees 11,500-0-7 were expended on the reclamation scheme which had made some progress by the end of the year; a considerable area of the swamp having been filled in. When these works are completed, it is proposed to hand over the water-channels to the Municipality, and to lay out the reclaimed ground as a cricket and pleasure-ground. They will be public improvements of great benefit to the station in a sanitary point of view, and add considerably to the value of property here.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 12th February 1870.

7. Under the head of repairs there is little to call for remark. Rupees 19,265-5-7 were spent upon Communications, of which—

Rs. 3,645 4 0 went in repairs of		Tippacadoo bridge.
„ 3,300 0 0	„ „	road from Ootacamund to Goodaloor, about 24 miles.
„ 2,860 0 0	„ „	road from Ootacamund to Tippacadoo, about 22½ miles.
„ 1,320 0 0	„ „	road from Kotagherry to Ootacamund.
„ 1,319 0 0	„ „	road from Coonoor to Kotagherry.
„ 1,760 0 0	„ „	Ootacamund Station roads.
„ 880 0 0	„ „	Coonoor Station roads.
„ 1,320 0 0	„ „	Wellington Station roads.

8. I take the liberty of extracting the following from my Administration Report, to which I have nothing to add:—

"By reference to the Map the Board will observe four Imperial roads radiating from Ootacamund."

No. I.—Running north to Segoor and the Mysore country in fair order throughout the bridge at "Tippacadoo, having been put into repair."

No. II.—Running west to Neddiwuttum and the Wynaad, the road is opened as far as Neddiwuttum and for six miles down the ghaut, with a gradient no where greater than 1 or 19.

No. III.—Running south to Mailkoondah, a three-foot trace has been cut throughout, and when open to carts will bring the twenty-two villages of the Koondah Division for the first time in connection with Ootacamund.

No. IV.—Running east to Wellington and by the New Coonoor Ghaut to Coimbatore, with a trench from Wellington to Kotagherry, the whole is open to traffic, with the exception of about two miles of ghaut.

"The Rupees 17,449-14-11 spent on Miscellaneous Public Improvement "refers mainly to the Ootacamund swamp, reclamation, and water-projects. The "Board will be glad to learn that the water proposed to be stored for the latter "purpose has been analysed by Mr. Broughton, who pronounces it to be unequalled "in quality by any at present supplied to English or Continental Towns."

9. The completion of the Coonoor and Goodaloor ghauts, of the road to Mailkoondah and of the Ootacamund reclamation and water-projects, may be said to represent the most pressing wants of the district.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. No remarks appear necessary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 12th February 1870.

No. 251. ORDER THEREON, 12th February 1870, No. 504.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 25.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 7th Division.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No. 9,365.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th December 1869.

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Submitted for the information of Government.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

,, to the Commissioner of the Neilgherries.

Exd. T. Cartledge.

R. P. 1870 Dept.
(5) 1869. No 129

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH DECEMBER 1869, No. 9,365.

Dep 11 Jany 1870 Encl.
Received 12 ditto

DECEMBER.
No. 9,365.

Public works—executed in Neilgherry District, during 1868-69,—Commissioner's report on, submitted to Government.

Letter on Orders
No 504 - 12 Feby 1870

C. 15 Jany 1870 Ord. 3 Feby

No 504

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division —

18 Fort St George
12 Feby 1870

To the Supdg Engr 4th Div —

Madras 17/2/70.

Ane 129

Govt. of India. Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
[illegible] Division

Dated

Rec'd

No. 12 Feby 1870, No. 504.

Nos. 250-251

Copy of the Report submitted by the Superintending Engineer of the Coimbatore Division on the Irrigation Works in that District during 1868-69 - Call Block Letter-ed.