

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	2238	Press
		Mis.
Dated	17 4	18 7

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

No. 294. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th August 1870, No. 5,387 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tanjore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Tritrapundy, 16th June 1870, No. 195.

I HAVE the honour to report on the operations of the Department of Public Works during the official year 1869-70.

2. The usual statement of expenditure under the main heads, as compared with 1868-69, is annexed :—

Works.	Expendi- ture of 1868-69.	Expendi- ture of 1869-70.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
<i>New Works.</i>	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Civil Buildings	40,193	73,139	32,946	...
Agricultural	92,986	14,537	...	78,449
Communications... ..	27,810	30,251	2,441	...
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	...	...	...	...
Total...	1,60,989	1,17,927	35,387	78,449
Net...	...	...	...	43,062
<i>Repairs.</i>				
Civil Buildings	1,323	4,514	3,191	...
Agricultural	1,10,187	1,15,860	5,673	...
Communications... ..	36,076	29,282	...	6,794
Miscellaneous Public Improvements	469	1,908	1,439	...
Total...	1,48,055	1,51,564	10,303	6,794
Net...	...	...	3,509	...
Grand Total...	3,09,044	2,69,491	...	39,553
<i>Allotments.</i>				
New Works	1,58,458			
Repairs	1,56,056	3,14,514	...	...
Difference...	...	45,023	...	...

3. It will be seen from the foregoing table that the expenditure during the past year was less than the allotment by Rupees 45,023. It was also less than the expenditure of 1868-69 by Rupees 39,553. This is the result of a gross decrease of Rupees 85,243, counterbalanced by an increase of Rupees 45,690. The largest increase, namely, Rupees 32,946, occurs in Civil Buildings under New Works, which is owing to the sums laid out in the construction of new Talook Cutcherries and Sub-Jails in the earlier part of the year, and which were subsequently stopped. The decrease occurs chiefly in Agricultural under New Works, and partly under Repairs of Communication. As to Agricultural the bulk of the expenditure on regulating works at the heads of the principal branches of the Cauvery was incurred

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

in 1868-69, and with regard to Repairs of Communication it is the effect of two successive reductions at ten and twelve per cent. on the original allotment ordered in the Government Orders, dated 8th October and 30th November 1869, Nos. 3,217 and 3,783, respectively, (Public Works Department).

4. Of the New Works executed in 1869-70 the three following call for notice:—

Names of Works.	Amount of Estimate.	Expenditure up to the end of the preceding year.			Expenditure during the year.			Total.		
		RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
1. Constructing Court-house at Tanjore ...	56,440	0	0		25,365	15	5	45,519	7	10
2. Regulating works for the improvement of the River Cauvery ...	1,37,790	0	0		88,179	12	2	1,29,686	6	11
3. Opening the Canal between Negapatam and Vedarniem ...	1,08,192	0	0		89,262	15	8	1,19,511	5	1

5. The Superintending Engineer says that the Court-house at Tanjore might have been completed in 1869-70, but for the stoppage of the work. A sum of Rupees 45,519 was spent up to 31st March last.

6. Of the regulating works in the Cauvery the dams at the heads of Arasalar and Veerasholen have been completed, with the exception of plastering in the former. The works at the head of Codamurty are in a fair state of progress.

7. The deepening and widening of the canal throughout was carried out last year, and the agency of the Revenue Department was largely availed of. In the heavy rains that fell during the last monsoon the west bank of the canal breached in four places, and this the Superintending Engineer attributes to the subsidiary channels to the syphon sluices to convey the drainage across the canal not having been completed owing to the stoppage of the work. Captain Oakes states that it is difficult to remove accumulations from the canal, and that it is very desirable that a small dredge should be provided for its maintenance.

8. I cannot omit remarking that the Talook Cutcherries and Sub-Jails, which were commenced in 1868-69, have all been left incomplete for want of funds, and that both the works and the materials already collected are deteriorating, and the amount spent on them must eventually end in loss, if they are left in the same state for any length of time.

9. The number of irrigation and other works repaired during the past year is shown below:—

Irrigation Canals	128	Drainages	2
Tanks	8	Navigable Channels	6
Dykes	415	Civil Buildings	11

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

10. Annexed is a statement of roads maintained from Imperial Funds under the Government Order, dated 18th November 1863, No. 2,831.

Names of Imperial Roads.	Number of miles.	Number of miles of new road.	Number of miles still under construction.	Number of miles not yet commenced upon.	Remarks.
<i>Main lines of communication.</i>					
II. (1). Branch of the great southern road from Madras to Travancore frontier near Cape Comorin from Tindevanam to Negapatam, via Pondicherry, Cuddalore, Sheally, and Tranquebar, (a portion lying in this district between Anikaren Choultry and Negapatam) ...					
(2.) Another do. of do. from Vikravandy to Combaconum, via the Vettar Anicut, (portion lying in this district between the Lower Coleroon Anicut and Combaconum) ...	32	2	...	...	The length of that portion of the road which lies in the French Territory of Karikal is not included in this mileage.
XI. Sheally in the Tanjore District to Salem, via the Grand Anicut, Trichinopoly, Musery, and Namcul, (a portion lying in this district between Sheally and Grand Anicut) ...	13	4	...	...	
<i>Salt Roads.</i>	82	4	...	...	
17. Vadarniem to Manargudy ...	34	0	...	...	Of this mileage only ten have been reformed.
18. Adrampatam to Kandracotta ...	32	0	...	...	
19. Pattucottaito Tanjore	40	0	...	...	
20. Kuttumavady to Arandanghy ...	20	0	...	...	

11. Of the 253 miles of road 243 were kept in pretty good order. The Salt Deputy Collector complains of the road from Kuttumavady to Arandanghy being in an indifferent state; but the Superintending Engineer writes that there is no probability of obtaining funds for it, and therefore recommends its transfer to the head "Local." I do not consider that the final classification of roads so recently made should be disturbed, and would, therefore, suggest that an adequate sum be allotted for it from the Imperial Budget.

12. I enclose a report (to be returned) from the Head Assistant Collector on the Public Works in his division. The channel called Vikramanaur, the inefficiency of which Mr. Burrows brought to notice last year, as also another, Palan-

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

cavery, were cleared by the villagers at their own cost in May last, and the value of the work done is estimated at Rupees 9,200. The deepening of these channels has resulted in an increase of cultivation, and in no remissions being necessary for waste or withered crops.

13. In paragraph 3 of his report Mr. Burrows writes that the clearing of channels executed by Government is so insignificant, compared with that done by the villagers, that it would be advisable for Government altogether to decline to do any. I concur with Mr. Burrows in this view, and think it would be better for Government to clear no channels at all than to go on clearing the very small number they do now, for then the Mirassidars would know exactly what to expect.

14. The other points referred to in paragraphs 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 of the Head Assistant Collector's report have been brought to the notice of the Superintending Engineer.

15. With reference to paragraph 9 of his report, I beg to state that steps are being taken for planting avenue trees during the current year in his as also in the other divisions of the district.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Tanjore, dated Tranquebar, 21st May 1870, No. 106.

I HAVE the honour to submit the usual Annual Report on the state of Public Works in my division.

1. CIVIL BUILDINGS.—The Subsidiary Jail at Mayaveram, consisting of six wards with a Police guard-room, has been very nearly completed; so nearly in fact that arrangements have lately been made for keeping the prisoners there. As it only requires an expenditure of some Rupees 200, or Rupees 300 to complete it, it is greatly to be hoped that the funds will be forthcoming this year. At Sheally a site was bought for, and the foundations laid of, a new Talook Cutcherry and has been so frequently described that it seems almost unnecessary to say anything about it. It is very inadequate to the purpose for which it is required. The prisoners are still confined in a rented bazaar for want of better accommodation. The state of the work, when orders were received for stopping it, was fortunately such that there has been no positive loss from damage owing to stoppage. At Porayaur part of the site for a new Police Lock-up and Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry had been purchased, and arrangements were being made for taking up the adjoining piece under the Act when the work was stopped. I observe from the Range Officer's last Progress Report that Rupees 5,682-7-9 has been expended in materials, etc., up to the end of the year out of Rupees 8,350, the estimated amount sanctioned. The state of the public bungalows forms the subject of a separate report.

2. IRRIGATION WORKS.—The amount expended under this head, as shown in the Range Officer's Progress Report, is as follows:—

Original Works	...	...	...	Rs.	A.	P.
Repairs	...	...	...	262	10	9
	...	...	...	10,277	11	6
Total...				10,540	6	3

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

3. Almost all the repairs appear to be strengthening banks, planting nanul, etc. The items for repairing masonry works amount to a very small sum in proportion. Notwithstanding all the expense in preserving the banks several breaches occurred during the month of November when the heaviest freshes came down the rivers. In Mayaveram Talook the Cauvery, Veerasholen, and Manja Voikal, and in Sheally the Poothoomannayaur and Mannykarnigayaur broke their banks. By the Poothoomannayaur breach serious damage was caused. Five mahs and six goolies of land (nearly 2 acres) were destroyed by a sand-bank being thrown over it, and about 250 acres of crop were submerged and about half of it destroyed, and the rest considerably damaged. The other breaches were less serious. On the whole the banks are in good repair, and considering the quantity of water received down the rivers last year it is satisfactory that there was not more loss by inundation. In my report last year I had to speak of the unsatisfactory state of the Vikramanar and Palancavery Channels. I am happy to be able to communicate a much better state of things this year. Only one or two villages, namely, Ponmasanellore and Melamarudandananellore, situated at the extremity of the Vikramanar Channel, have received a short supply of water. In May last the channels were cleared by the Mirassidars under the superintendence of the Mayaveram Tashildar, who estimates the value of the work thus performed at Rupees 9,200. It is very rarely that channels are cleared at the expense of the Government; a glance at the Range Progress Reports will show that only three small channels were cleared last year at an expense to Government of Rupees 1,048. So small and insignificant is the amount of clearing done by Government compared with that which the Mirassidars do for themselves, that I have no hesitation in saying that it would be advisable for Government altogether to decline to do any. The present mode of clearing a small channel here or there is only productive of discontent to the great majority of Mirassidars who have to do their own clearing, and induces a belief that the spending of Government money for this purpose is dependent solely on the caprice of the Range officer. The whole of the Corukkay Mahanam, as well as parts of Teruvilandoor, are watered by the Vikramanar. The monthly account for Corukkay for October will show that great benefit was derived from the deepening of the channel. It must be borne in mind that, up to the middle of October, there was nothing special about the season, and that the bulk of the water came in the latter part of October and November, so that whatever improvement was effected in the cultivation of the Mahanam up to the end of October is due almost entirely to the improved state of the channel.

Corukkay Mahanam.

	Fusly 1278.	Fusly 1279.	Increase.	Teerwa.
	V. M. G.	V. M. G.	V. M. G.	RS. A. P.
Government Nunjah	622 4 41	1,083 3 19	460 18 78	11,971 4 1

There have been no remissions under the Palancavery this year; last year there was a considerable loss of revenue under this channel.

4. The irrigation of the eastern part of the Mayaveram Talook is very precarious. Seventy years ago it was reported to be bad, and perhaps it has not been much improved up to the present time. During my Jummahbundy tour the Mirassidars of some of the eastern villages entreated that the Cauvery bed might be deepened this year in Kudimaramut. I told them that it was a very arduous undertaking, and that the best authorities doubted whether it was any use, but it was no use trying to argue with them about it. They, the interested parties at all events, seem fully convinced of the utility of cutting the Cauvery. Either this must be done periodically, or a larger proportion of water must be sent down the bed of the Cauvery. If it be true (as Major Mullins, in his Minute attached to the report of the Public Works Commission, remarked,) that the quantity of water received every year down the rivers varies from five to eight times as much as is required for the irrigation of the whole district, surely a larger proportion might be allowed to pass down the main channel. A journey from the Coleroon bridge at Anikaren Chuttrum to Negapatam during the season when the rivers are down will not fail to show an observant traveller that the bulk of the drainage finds its way to the sea between Tranquebar and Negapatam. Rarely does the water of the main bed of the Cauvery ever reach the sea; usually it is all taken up for irrigation and does not suffice for that.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

5. I have prepared a statement showing the loss for the last ten years in a few of the worst villages in the Mayaveram Talook. Of these eight are under the Vikramanar, and the remainder are situated in the eastern part of the talook. In these few villages year after year the greatest part of the loss by remissions occurs. I am hopeful that the clearing of the Vikramanar will have the effect of permanently improving the irrigation of those villages which depend on it for water, and I feel sure that the eastern part of the talook, including the Mahanam of Teruvengad in Sheally, might be much benefited were a larger proportion of water allowed to the main channel of the Cauvery, and means provided for distributing that water in just proportions.

6. With the exception of the Teruvengad Mahanam the irrigation of the Sheally Talook is excellent, and the works are all in good repair.

7. I would recommend more attention being paid to the maintenance, in an efficient state, of the numerous small masonry works scattered over both talooks.

8. **ROADS.**—The roads generally are in the same state as they were in last year—neither better nor worse. In Sheally Talook a new road has been taken from Sheally to Panangattancoody on the south of the Coleroon. This will be an immense boon when open for traffic. I went over the greater part of it with the Range officer last month. The line of the road is good, on the whole very straight and nicely curved wherever divergences are necessary. All the embankment had been completed, and the road will be opened as soon as the bridges are ready, which will be within the present working season. The No. 2 road is kept much in the same state as it used to be formerly. I would strongly advocate the improvement of the road to Terumulvassel. This road goes from Sheally to Terumulvassel, and is about eight miles in length. The first 6½ miles are very fair, and bandies can easily go along it in all weathers, but the last mile-and-a-half are so bad owing to the loose sand that bandies scarcely ever attempt the journey. Almost all the traffic is carried on by pack bullocks. This piece of the road might be metalled for about Rupees 2,000, and I believe the stimulus that would thus be given to the trade of the port of Terumulvassel would prove the investment sound and economical.

9. In Mayavaram a very important new road has been commenced from near Courtallam to join the No. 13 road at Pooliyoor. The work is being rapidly pushed on. I have to remark in conclusion that the avenues throughout the division are deteriorating, and require a thorough overhaul. I have given the necessary directions to the Tahsildars for this being done, in order that a complete estimate may be submitted next August for inclusion in the Local Fund Budget.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. It will be seen that there remained at the close of the year Rupees 45,000 of the allotment unexpended.

3. The Collector notices specially three new works of importance. The Tanjore Court-house has already cost Rupees 45,519 and is still incomplete. Rupees 1,20,686 were spent in improving certain regulating works on the Cauvery and Rupees 1,19,514 on the Negapatam and Vedarniem Canal.

4. As this canal is said to be difficult to clear of accumulations of silt the Superintending Engineer recommends that a dredge be provided for its maintenance.

5. Mr. Morris points out the serious loss likely to arise from the deterioration of unfinished buildings all over the district. This remark is equally applicable to every district in the country and calls for early attention.

6. In paragraphs 12 and 13 the Collector notices the state of affairs as regards channel clearances. The Head Assistant Collector points out that the clearances formed by Government are so small in comparison with those effected by the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
17th September 1870.*

Mirassidars that it would be better for Government to withdraw entirely from all work of the kind.

7. Mr. Morris fully endorses this view.

8. It appears that two channels were cleared by the people themselves without aid at an estimated cost of Rupees 9,200, and that the result has been increase of cultivation and the absence of all demand for remissions.

9. The Board would, however, recommend that Government should proceed to classify such channels as are to be left in charge of the ryots, and they consider that it would be well if a grant-in-aid of the expense of clearing the channels were made in suitable cases.

10. Of roads the only one, the state of which is complained of, is the salt road from Kuttumavady to Arandanghy.

11. This is not the only district in which the state of the salt roads is complained of. The Board have already had unfavourable reports from Kistna and Ganjam.

12. With the increase in the price of salt it appears to the Board more than ever necessary that salt roads should be kept in good order.

No. 295.

ORDER THEREON, 17th September 1870, No. 2,238.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 27.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending
Engineer of the 6th Division.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Govt. of 1870 India

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER

110

Dated September 17th.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 17th September 1870, No. 2,23

SEPTEMBER.

Nos. 294-295

Erd. J. Tulloch.

Public Works.—Proceedings of
Board of Revenue on the Collector's Ref
on the progress of Public Works in
Tanjore District during 1869-70, commu-
cated to the Superintending Engineer
the 6th Division.

To J. H. P. - 675-1

Con. 17/5/92.

1870 Defunct
No. 3466

1870.

Board of Revenue.

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 26TH AUGUST 1870, No. 5,387.

Received
1-10-90
Each

AUGUST.
No. 5,387.

Public Works—in Tanjore District,—Report from Collector on progress of, during 1869-70 submitted for information of Government.

No 2638-17. Seeley
11 1/20 an order

C/3444

Govt. of India

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Superintending Engr
6th Division

17th Sept 2238

No. 294-295

Public Works. Mr. The
Board of Rev. on the Col-
lectors on the progress of
Public Works in the Mysore
District during 1889-90. Com-
municated to the Engr of
6th Division