

(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. 2007	Press Mis-
1-2	
Dated 1-8	187/.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st August 1871.*

No. 1. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Masulipatam, 3rd July 1871, No. 38:—

I HAVE the honour, in reply to G. O., No. 185, 31st May 1871, to observe that I have consulted the Executive Engineers and that they agree with me that there are no works in the district on which we could utilize a detachment of the Corps of Sappers and Miners.

2. We have no want of fairly experienced Superintendents; our difficulty regards labour; food is abundant, and facilities for growing it have been largely increased in the last few years; many of those who formerly worked regularly for hire have now taken up plots of land, and consider it beneath the dignity of a ryot to labour for wages.

3. As yet therefore the works have served rather to encourage idleness than to induce the people to undertake other employment. They do not appreciate the value of roads, and we can only procure a small portion of the population during the dry weather, most of whom leave us directly the prospects of cultivation are open. Similarly the supply of carts for carriage of materials almost ceases when the cattle are taken to the plough.

4. My Range Officer's reports have been fully confirmed by personal enquiry. I have travelled on horseback and by easy marches over every part of the district, making a point of conversing with the inhabitants of all villages on my road.

5. They have not yet seen a good road and are quite satisfied with the village tracks, which they use only in fine weather. I hope that when they have learned the advantages of travelling on bridged and metalled roads they may aid us more largely.

6. My ideas also on this point are strengthened by the fact that on the road from Amaravatty to Guntur, which the Collector has resumed the charge of, nothing has been done since November 1870, although the Revenue Officers, contrary to our practice, make advances of money, and acknowledge that their measurements are far more liberal than ours.

7. I propose, therefore, endeavouring to enlist a small number of labourers, 100 or 200 to begin with, with their wives and able-bodied children, on monthly pay, with the idea that, when they are fairly accustomed to systematic work, we may increase their numbers and use detachments as centres on which to collect gangs for special work and for short periods.

8. The matter is under discussion with my officers, and I have as yet no knowledge as to our probability of obtaining even these few men; but I take the opportunity of submitting the idea to Government, and trust that my proposal may be approved. I see no prospect of obtaining labour from other districts where public works are also in progress, and where I understand officers meet with the same difficulty as we do.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st August 1871.

No. 2. ORDER THEREON, 1st August 1871, No. 2,007.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 1.

As under present arrangements the charge of roads devolves on Local Fund Boards, the Superintending Engineer will confer with the Collector on the proposition made in this letter.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,

Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.
Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No. 38
Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division
Camp, Masulipatam
1st July 1871
From: Colonel J. J. Doherty R.E.
Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division
Colonel J. Campbell R.E.
Secretary to Government
Department Public Works
Sir,
I have the honor, in reply to G.O. No 185. 31st May 1871, to observe that I have consulted the Executive Engineer and that they agree with me that there are no works in the District on which we could utilize a detachment of the Corps of Sappers and Minors.
2. We have no want of fairly experienced Superintendents, our difficulty regards labour. Food is abundant and facilities for growing it have been largely increased in the last few years. Many of those who formerly worked regularly for hire, have now taken up plots of land and consider it beneath the dignity of a ryot to labour for wages.
3. As yet therefore the works have seemed rather to encourage idleness than to induce the people to undertake other employments. They do not appreciate the value of roads and we can only procure a small portion of the population

during the dry weather, most of whom leave us directly the prospects of cultivation are open. Similarly, the supply of carts for carriages of materials almost ceases when the cattle are taken to the plough.

4. My range officers reports have been fully confirmed by personal enquiry. I have travelled on horseback and by easy marches over every part of the District, making a point of conversing with the inhabitants of all villages on my roads.

5. They have not yet seen a good road, and are quite satisfied with the village tracks which they use only in fine weather. I hope that when they have learned the advantages of travelling on bridges and metalled roads, that they may aid us more largely.

6. My ideas also on this point are strengthened by the fact that on the road from Amravati to Juntur, which the Collector has resumed the charge of, nothing has been done since November 1870. Although the Revenue Officers contrary to our practice make advances of money, and acknowledge that their measurements are far more liberal than ours.

7. I propose therefore endeavouring to enlist a small number of labourers 100 or 200 to begin with, with their wives and able bodied children on monthly pay. with the idea that they are fairly accustomed to systematic work we may increase

their numbers & use detachments as centres on which to collect gangs for special work and for short periods.

8. The matter is under discussion with my officers and I have as yet no knowledge as to our probability of obtaining even three for now, but I take the opportunity of submitting the idea to Government and trust that my proposal may be approved. I see no prospect of obtaining labour from other districts where public works are also in progress and where I understand officers meet with the same difficulty.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedt. Servant

H. Nicholsy Colonel R.E.
Superintending Engineer &c. &c.

No. 200 P. O. D.
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Read the following

on
 The Super Engineer } (K. E. No. 388 3rd July 1871)
 2nd Secy

As under present
 arrangements the charge
 of roads devolves on
 Local Fund Boards,
 the Super Engineer will
 confer with the Collector
 on the proposition made
 in this letter.

[Signature]

The Super Engineer 2nd Secy
 Rev. Dept

Depd 2/8/71

Public Works 1871 Department
 Mr. J. J. J. J. J.
 28.3.21.5
 From the Super Engineer
 to the Secy

Mr. J. J. J. J. J.
 28.3.21.5
 28.3.21.5

Advances that have been
 worked in the district on
 which he could utilize a
 detachment of engineers and
 surveyors under the circumstances
 mentioned in the report.

No. 2007-1st August 71

1871

619 July 1702.2202

2.10.

Summerville
gives a list of the

of the

(1887-88, 1888-89, 1889-90)

the

the

the

the

P. W. Department
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date 24 July '91

Read the following-

From The Superintendant 24 July 1891. / H. C. No 38 of 34 July 1891

N.

It is a
subject on which
the Superintendant
expresses his
with advantage
have been that the
(M. S.)

A. P.

Yes. As far as

as to the use of
under the J. F. Board

and

If the Government
understand the propo-
sition in this letter right
they see no objection to the
experiment being made
on any road for which
there is a maintenance
allowance or a repair
estimate to be worked
out of entertaining a
body of Coolies with their
wives and children
that are capable of
working on monthly
rates

Wm. H. R. R.

10. 11. 1952

[Faint, illegible handwriting]

So.
The Safe Engr. 2^d on $\frac{7}{8}$

R. 2. 24 July 1871, A. 2. 25ⁿ
 619 July 71, B. 2. 22ⁿ

C. No. 3265.

Govt. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the *Superintending Engineer*
2nd Division

Dated

Recd.

G. O. 1st August 1871. No. 2007.

Nos. 112

Roads. Superintending
Engineer requested to confer
with the Collector on the
proposition of entertaining
a body of Coolies with their
wives and children on
monthly sales of pay to work
on the Roads.