M R O 1—77,006—8 6-37.

(1) Number of pages 1

(2) Date of repair 1 2 3

(3) Initials of the Reference

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2326 Press —Mis.

201-202

Dated 13—9— 18 71.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 13th September 1871.

No. 201. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th August 1871, No. 3,367 —

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th June 1871, No. 1,226.

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Public Works executed in this district during the past official year 1870-71.

2. The following statement exhibits the expenditure incurred during the year as compared with that during the year preceding:—

Particulars of Works.	Expenditure in 1869-70.	Expenditure in 1870-71	Difference	
			Increase.	Decrease
New Works.	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs
1 Communications	36,694	2,695	.	33,999
2 Irrigation	66,349	71,104	7,755	. .
3 Buildings	7,273	12,917	5,644	...
Total .	1,10,316	89,716	...	20,600
Repairs				
1 Communications	29,723	42,620	12,898	...
2 Irrigation	24,085	50,087	26,002	...
3 Buildings	1,085	1,506	421	.
Total ..	54,892	94,213	39,321	...
Grand Total .	1,65,208	1,83,929	18,721	...

3. From this it will be observed that the aggregate expenditure was larger than in the year preceding. Every item shows an increase of outlay except Communications, Original, for which the Budget made no provision, and the few works afterwards recommended as being of indispensable necessity and executed were carried out on special sanction.

4. The Budget grant for the year was as follows.—

	—	Expenditure	—
ORIGINAL WORKS	Rs.	Rs	
Civil Buildings			
Police Huts	1,800	12,917	On subsequent sanctions
Agricultural	3,60,000	74,104	Budget allotment curtailed
Communications	...	2,695	On subsequent sanctions.
Extraordinary...	3,61,800	89,716	
REPAIRS			
Civil Buildings including Educational ...	2,500	1,506	
Agricultural	63,000	50,087	
Communications	44,000	42,620	
Total ..	1,09,500	94,213	
	4,71,300		

		Expenditure	
Tools and Plants	RS 2,900	RS. 1,83,929	Total Expenditure.
Add subsequent sanctions	4,74,200 32,238		
Deduct—	5,06,438		
Transferred to other districts	10 684		
Surrendered	3,00,000		
	3,10,684		
Balance of grant available	1,95,754		

5 We had apparently a large grant to commence with, but in the re-casting of the Budget, owing to financial and other difficulties, our resources were cut down to 1,95,754 Rupees. The entire expenditure incurred against the above actual grant was Rupees 1,83,929, so that nearly 11,000 Rupees were not utilized for reasons that will be explained under each head.

6. COMMUNICATIONS—*Original Works*—The expenditure under this head amounted to Rupees 2,695, or Rupees 33,999 below that of the previous year. It was composed of 225 Rupees for salt, and Rupees 2,470 for other roads. The largest portion of this sum, namely, 1,585 Rupees, which is nearly two thirds of the entire expenditure, was paid in arrears for work executed in 1869-70, and the balance, namely, Rupees 885-6 0, which represents the value of the work actually executed this year, was spent on the works noted below :—

	RS	A.	P.
Construction of an irrigation tunnel on the approach to the Kalinganadi on the northern road .	129	10	6
Parapet walls on the Great Northern Road over Jaffer Saib's channel	267	5	0
Completing Trunk Road No. 6.	488	6	6

7. There were only three Imperial communications in the district, besides salt roads, namely :—

(1)—The Trunk Road No. 6 which traverses the entire length of the district for 156 miles.

(2)—The road from Kistnapatam, *via* Nellore, to Dornal pass, 44 miles.

(3)—The Kottapatam and Cumbum roads, 72 miles.

No progress was made on the latter two roads, while the work done to the first was, as above shown, but trifling.

8. COMMUNICATIONS—*Repairs.*—Under the head Repairs Rupees 42,620, or Rupees 12,898 more than in the preceding year were expended. Of this expenditure 3,190 Rupees belonged to the repairs and maintenance of the salt roads, and the rest, namely, Rupees 38,837, was the outlay on the repairs of the general Imperial roads as below :—

	RS.
On Trunk Road No. 6	24,561
Kistnapatam to Dornal	7,056
Kottapatam to Cumbum...	7,220
Total	38,837

9 Besides this a sum of Rupees 523 was spent on the repairs of the Sulurpet, Singarayakonda, and Tangatur Travellers' bungalows, and Rupees 70 for the repairs of the iron ferry boat on the Manneru river.

10. The trunk roads are in fair order as far as they have been ever completed, which is the case with none of them. Under the new system I hope to be able to push them on, especially the Dornal pass road into Cuddapah, which has been languishing for some ten years past on inadequate or, as in last year, no annual Imperial allotments, and which I consider to be a very important line of communication. One may drive one's carriage to the top of the pass on the Cuddapah side. Many bridges are required on the Great Northern road for which, I fear, there never will be funds, but an effort must be made to complete those at Kalinganadi and Sulurpet, and Colonel Moberly has already mooted a project for facilitating traffic over the wide bed of the Suvarnamuky near Naidupet to which I shall give attention.

11. The following statement exhibits the entire length of roads in the district made and kept up.—

	Miles.
(1)—Imperial Road	265
(2).—Salt Road . ..	40
	305
(3)—Local Road . . .	247
Total .	552

Regarding the cost and condition of the salt and local roads separate reports have been made.

12. (2) IRRIGATION WORKS—*(a) Original*—The provision under this head in the original Budget was Rupees 63,000 for ordinary irrigation channels and tanks, and Rupees 3,60,000 for extraordinary original works, which included for the Sarvapalli project Rupees 1,00,000, and for the Singam or Northern Delta Irrigation project Rupees 2,60,000 In the re-casting of the Budget to meet financial difficulties the ordinary grant was reduced to Rupees 54,000 and the amount for the extraordinary works to 67,000 Rupees. It was reported by the Superintending Engineer that owing to water in certain tanks and channels, and to scarcity of labour, a larger sum could not be spent The entire amount of the Budget for the Pennair Northern Delta project was surrendered, as there was no probability of its being sanctioned in time For the repair of the Pennair anicut sanction for Rupees 54,630 was received late in the year when the heavy floods damaged it seriously.

13. The aggregate expenditure on agricultural works was Rupees 74,104 on original works, namely, Rupees 66,980 on the Sarvapalli project, and 7,124 Rupees on ordinary new works. and this latter sum was spent chiefly on the construction of sluices to 18 tanks and of 17 irrigation sluices to certain channels in the delta. A branch channel from Kondayapalem for the irrigation of the lands of Padarupalli shotriem was excavated, and two rain gauges were also constructed.

14. (2) IRRIGATION—*(b) Repairs.*—The expenditure on repairs and minor new works amounted to Rupees 50,087.

The number of works repaired was as follows :—

Works.	No.
Tanks	122
Main canals	1
Branch channels	27
Sluices	19
Calingulahs	11
Anicuts	1
Embankments	2

The irrigation repairs in the Pennair Delta amounted to 23,012 Rupees, including the outlay of Rupees 13,219 for the repairs of the damages sustained by the Pennair anicut during the unusually heavy freshes of October, for which Rupees 54,630 were sanctioned by Government in Government Order, No. 544, dated 24th February 1871.

15. Of the expenditure on repairs the proportion which fell to the several revenues of the divisions was as follows :—

	Expenditure. RS
Sub-division	1343
Head Assistant's division ...	5,759
Naidupet division	1,436
Collector's division	41,549
Total .	50,087

16. It may be remarked that the system under which the appropriations for repairs appear to have been hitherto made in the district has been the old objectionable one. Estimates for works were prepared and submitted without any previous understanding with the Revenue officers, and they were usually sent up to the Collector for approval so late after the commencement of the year that he had no choice but to countersign them at once indiscriminately in order to avoid delay, which would have rendered their execution impossible and entailed the lapsing of the grant, and the saddling of the responsibility for the same on him. The Sub-Collector and the General Deputy Collector complain of works having been executed promiscuously without due weight being attached to their importance and emergency in a revenue point of view. I shall endeavour to have the obviously correct system laid down in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st January 1871, No. 470, brought into effect in future. It would be easy to do so if there was a District Engineer, but with a non-resident Superintending Engineer all business requiring concerted action is necessarily difficult. The anticipated speedy completion of the Irrigation registers will, it is hoped, facilitate matters materially

17. An extract from the Naidupet Deputy Collector's letter, paragraph 7, is given below—

"I beg to request your attention to my letter, No. 106, of the 30th May 1870. "With this letter I forwarded to your office a list of irrigation works requiring "repair, arranging them in the order of their importance and urgency, and "requested that the repair might be taken up in the order in which they were "entered. The list was very carefully prepared at the Jummahbundy in consideration of the revenue we are annually sacrificing for want of water. Of the "65 tanks that were in need of repair in this talook I entered in the above list 25

"From the enclosed extract of the annual Progress Report, furnished to me by the "Range officer, you will observe that out of the number entered in my list the "repairs of only three tanks (Nos 5, 6, and 12) have been taken up, and that "of one alone nearly completed. As regards Items 10 and 11 the Range officer "states that the works were not commenced for want of labour. These works do "not belong to the number given in my list. The amount of estimates for these "works is Rupees 699, and this sum, instead of being surrendered, might have "been used on any of the works contained in the above-mentioned list."

18 The list referred to was sent to the Superintending Engineer by Mr. Master with his letter, No 2,371, dated 10th September 1870—rather late in the year certainly—and the result was that the repairs of not more than three of the tanks in the list were taken up, and those of only one completed In this view the progress under agricultural repairs cannot be considered favourable, and I may add that the allotments for agricultural repairs in this current year are altogether insufficient to meet the heavy anicut repairs and the other numerous requirements of the district. The result must be a considerable loss of revenue under the head of Remissions which cannot in justice be denied.

19. The subjoined is a comparative statement showing the aggregate expenditure for new works and repairs under the head of "Irrigation" compared with the revenue :—

Names of Talooks	Area irrigated and the Assessment as adjusted for 1870-71		Expenditure by the Public Works Department during 1870-71 on works of Irrigation		Total.	Comparison of expenditure with Revenue.	
	Area	Assessment	New works	Repairs		On repairs	Total.
	Acres	RS	FS	RS	RS	PER CENT.	PER CENT
Gudur	42,320	2,04,962	2,513	4,337	6,850	2	3¼
Rapur	5,505	29,178	.	1,436	1,436	5	5
Nellore . . .	90,555	3,71,552	4,118	15,011	19,129	4	5
Atmakur	18,833	88,694	77	7,847	7,924	9	9
Kavali	6,825	1,37,065	20	5,759	5,779	4	4
Udayagiri	2,572	12,992	.	66	66	0½	0½
Ongole	3,500	17,428	...	258	258	1½	1½
Kandukur	14,292	75,743	...	912	912	1	1
Kanigiri	538	4,638	.	173	173	3¼	3¼
Total ..	2,44,940	9,42,252	6,728	35,799	42,527	..	...
Expenditure on the Pennair anicut distributed over two Talooks	.	. .	..	13,325	13,325	..	.
Expenditure on improvements to Sarvapalli channel in connection with Nellore anicut . .	...	...	66 980	...	66,980	...	...
Jaffer Saib's channel ..	. .	...	...	..	..	...	...
Kistnapatam canal .	..	.		290	290	..	...
Pennair embankment ..	...	. .	396	673	1,069	...	...
Total...	...		67,376	14,288	81,664	...	...
Grand Total	...	. .	74,104	50,087	1,24,191	5¼	13

20. It will be observed that in several instances the allotments available were not fully utilized. Several sums were surrendered, as owing to the great quantity of rain the tanks were full to a very late period of the year, and the lands under them were not in condition for excavation. This cause was asserted by the Superintending Engineer in his letter to Government, No. 176, dated 15th March 1871—*vide* Government Order, Department Public Works, 22nd March 1871, No. 852—and when making his proposal for surrendering a large portion of the Sarvapalli Project grant the Sub-Collector found that Mr. Sub-Engineer Hall assigned early and excessive rain as the cause for the difference between allotment and expenditure. In some instances sufficient progress was not made for an alleged want of labour.

21. Fair progress seems, however, to have been made on the Sarvapalli Irrigation Project with the funds returned It appears that the Idagali, Ipur, and Pudiparti channels, and the Vallur branch channel, and all works connected with them, were completed and opened for irrigation. The high level channel is nearly completed and will be opened before the south-west monsoon commences. Several branches and regulating works were also completed. The earthwork to the Sarvapalli tank bund seems to have been completed to full section for half a mile, and the remaining part from 1½ to 3′ of its full height.

22. No progress was made on the Singam or Northern Delta Irrigation Project, the whole of the funds allotted having been surrendered owing to the work not having been sanctioned.

23. (3). CIVIL BUILDINGS—*(a) Original*—The expenditure on buildings amounted to Rupees 14,423, namely, 12,917 on original works and 1,506 on repairs.

24. The first sum was laid out in making partial advances on account of the construction and improvement of the following works, or in adjusting payments for materials collected; but none of them has been completed, and scarcely any progress was made on any of them, nearly all having been postponed for want of funds :—

Works.	Expenditure. Rs.	A.	P.
Sub-Jail at Venkatagiri	997	8	0
,, Sulurpet	3,616	14	2
Talook Cutcherry at Rapoor	3,395	8	0
Cutcherry and Jail at Udayagiri	47	6	8
,, Atmakur	1,501	6	4

25. The Rapoor Talook Cutcherry has not yet been commenced and the materials collected are reported to be deteriorating. The expenditure in several instances was chiefly in payment for the materials collected, and this is reported to have been the case in respect to the Darsi, Kandukúr, and Kanigiri Cutcherries. All these works were put off for want of money. Several other similar proposed works have been left untouched, no allotment having been made for them, such as—

Improvements to the Sub Magistrate's Cutcherry at Addanki.
Do. do. do. at Podile.
Do. do. do. at Darsi.
Kanuparti Salt Cutcherry.

26 Ventilators were fitted to the Nellore Tahsildar's Cutcherry and some progress was made in adding four wards and relaying the floor in what the Acting Sub-Collector calls the "infamously built" Talook Cutcherry at Ongole.

27. STATE OF SEASON, PRICES, AND LABOUR.—The season was a most favourable one. The delta floods were exceedingly heavy and caused some damage to dry crops by partial inundation, but the wet crops turned out very well. Almost all the tanks in the talooks received a full supply. The prices of all grains fell considerably during the year.

28 The rates of labour and materials are reported to be much the same as in the year before. As far as I can gather they are preposterously high, and it is the Public Works Department that really sets them throughout the district, and keeps them up to a purely fictitious standard. The superior officers are almost powerless, in the face of the confederacy that exists between their subordinates and the contractors, who, if there is any truth in popular rumour, pocket a very large proportion of the public money. The Head Accountants in Range offices should not be allowed to remain too long in the same stations. As a body they are at the bottom of every mischief. Pretty frequent change would somewhat abate the baneful influence they now wield in the department I may mention that a European contractor has lately established himself at Nellore and offers to take works at rates only half as high as the old prevailing ones. He has obtained some, and I shall watch the result with considerable interest. If he can hold his own no better proof could be required than that we have hitherto been paying double what was really necessary.

29. The usual statement of mileage on Imperial roads directed to be furnished in Government Order, No 2,831, dated 11th November 1868, is enclosed. It will be observed that the entries in the statement do not tally with those in the previous year's statement submitted to the Board with this office letter, No. 2,109, dated 16th August last, recorded in Board's Proceedings, No. 5,810, of 20th September 1870. A reference has been made to the Superintending Engineer, and the result will be communicated in due course.

30. The reports of the Sub and Head Assistant and Deputy Collectors are forwarded.

31. With reference to Mr. Hughesdon's concluding remarks, I may add that the administration of the northern range has given as much dissatisfaction to the Superintending Engineer as to the Revenue authorities and the local public, and that similar remarks do not apply to the other ranges. Moreover, Colonel Moberly has informed me that the northern range is to be immediately entrusted to other hands.

32. Mr. Wallace is not fully acquainted with the facts of the case treated of by him in paragraphs 3 to 9 of his report The case is a complicated one, regarding which much correspondence has taken place, and Colonel Moberly and myself have it under consideration.

33. In paragraphs 13 to 21 Mr. Wallace argues that so many trees, being private property, were cut down and sold at Udayagiri to the Department Public Works by the owners to enable bricks to be burnt to build the new Cutcherry that the climate has been affected. I cannot but think that this is a somewhat exaggerated view of the matter, nor do I think it necessary to support Mr. Wallace's proposal to buy up all the remaining trees on behalf of Government.

34. I will take the opportunity when visiting Udayagiri of looking into the subject.

35. The Deputy Collector's remarks on the Rapoor local road have been communicated to the Superintending Engineer.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Acting Sub-Collector, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Ramapatam, 15th May 1871, No 226.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report on Public Works, Imperial, for the past official year.

2 CIVIL BUILDINGS—*Original*—Allotment Rupees 5,229, expenditure Rupees 3,270-5-6. Expenditure was incurred on the Darsi and Kandukur Cutcherries, chiefly in payment for the materials collected for enlargements previously sanctioned but now stopped; on the collection of materials for the new Cutcherry proposed to be built at Kanigiri, on the repair of the infamously built Cutcherry at Ongole (which you have seen and with the state of which you are acquainted), and on the construction of a Police station-house at Tangella. The difference between allotment and expenditure is almost entirely due to the non-commencement of the Ongole Dispensary (estimate Rupees 1,962) before the end of the past official year. I hear that a beginning has now been made with it The chief wants of the Sub-Division are at present a Sub-Collector's Cutcherry at Ongole and a Talook Cutcherry at Kanigiri

3 AGRICULTURAL—*Original.*—Allotment Rupees 30; expenditure *nil*. This small item was for levelling and surveying in connection with what is called the Bhimavaram project, but it was not spent

4 COMMUNICATIONS—*Original*—Allotment Rupees 489; expenditure Rupees 488-6-6. This was on Trunk Road No 6.

5. CIVIL BUILDINGS—*Repairs*—Allotment Rupees 763; expenditure Rupees 396-4-9. This expenditure was on slight repairs to the Podile, Darsi, and Magalloor Cutcherries, and the Sub-Collector's Cutcherry at Ongole

6. COMMUNICATIONS—*Repairs*—Allotment Rupees 11,759; expenditure Rupees 11,727-7-2 The greater part of this expenditure was on the trunk road, and the Cumbum and Kottapatam roads. You saw both of these roads in January during or immediately after heavy rain, when they were in many places almost impassable. For my own part I must say that, knowing the roads as I have done for the last three years, I was surprised to find them in some parts as good as they were. This remark especially applies to the Kottapatam road, over the greater part of which a twelve-month before it was impossible to drive a light cart, and even the bandymen preferred to make their way along the fields at the side. The Singarayaconda and Oollapallem roads on which expenditure has been incurred during the past year is, I believe, in fair order, but I have not seen it since the rains above referred to. The travellers' bungalows at Tungutur and Singarayaconda have been repaired during the past year The new chunam on the former has already crumbled away to a considerable extent The work at the former seemed to me to be good when I saw it while actually in progress. I have not seen it since its completion

7. AGRICULTURAL—*Repairs*—Allotment Rupees 3,382-8-3, expenditure Rupees 1,342-3-2. There have been sundry repairs to various tanks at a cost commencing at Rupees 10 and going up to Rupees 350. In most cases, however, the allotment has not been nearly expended and the works remain incomplete. "Early and excessive rain" is assigned as a cause for this by the Sub-Engineer in charge of the range Whatever the cause may be the operations of the department seem to me to give equal dissatisfaction to the villagers whose tanks they undertake to repair and those whose tanks are not touched. How far there may be good reason for this I cannot say. The funds at the disposal of the department are limited; still if the Public Works and Revenue officers worked together in the matter, and were careful to do nothing for those villagers who would not guarantee their own hearty assistance and co operation, I believe that the grants could be made to go much further than they do now. The selection of the works to be taken in hand, and their execution are now entirely with the Department of Public Works and

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 13th September 1871.

the result certainly is not satisfactory Proceedings of the Board, No 470, dated 31st January last, contemplate a very different state of things.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G VANSAGNEW,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No 2

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of Nellore, dated 17th May 1871, No 160

I HAVE the honour to report upon the Public Works in this division for the past official year.

UDAYAGIRI.—From the statement annexed it will appear that only Rupees 103-12-9 were expended from Imperial Funds in maintaining works of irrigation

2 Yet there can be no doubt that the urgent wants of the talook for the maintenance of such productive works would incomparably exceed such a sum had due attention been given to their consideration.

Name of Work.	Amount expended in 1870-71 RS.	A	P
IMPERIAL—ORDINARY.			
Original Works—Civil Buildings			
Constructing a Talook Cutcherry, Jail, etc, at Udayagiri ...	47	6	8
Total Civil Buildings ..	47	6	8
Total Original Works	47	6	8
REPAIRS			
Agricultural			
Repairs of Chunchuloor Yerra tank ...	65	13	6
Do. of Gundipallem small tank ...	37	15	3
Total Repairs...	103	12	9
Total Imperial...	151	3	5
LOCAL—ORIGINAL WORKS.			
Communications.			
Road from Kaligiri to Udayagiri ...	4,998	12	6
Surveying road from Duttalore to Bhata, *vid* Nundipaudu ...	1,497	3	5
Do. from Chunchuloor to Somesweram ...	891	0	5
Total Communications .	7,387	0	4
Total Original Works...	7,387	0	4
REPAIRS.			
Communications			
Road from Kaligiri to Udayagiri ...	403	10	2
Do. from Dornal road to Udaygiri ...	1,269	12	0
Total Repairs...	1,673	6	2
Total Local ..	9,060	6	6

3 A very glaring instance of neglect came to my notice at Jummahbundy in the case of the Totalacheruvupalli tank

4 This tank was breached in 1869. The Range officer was apprized of the breach on the 6th January 1870, but nothing was done until the 21st October of that year, when repairs, the ryots informed me, costing Rupees 200 were executed, but the rains setting in the repairs done were swept away.

5 Remission to the extent of Rupees 659-11-5 I find was granted last year, and this year a similar remission is unavoidable from the same cause.

6 It is true the case is in a manner complicated by a ryot or ryots having a puttah, doubtless obtained by fraud, for a portion of the water-spread of the tank.

7 The officer in charge of the range states by way of explanation that "it is under consideration whether it is worthwhile repairing the tank or not, as the Puttahdars, it is believed, do not scruple to breach the bund whenever the water is too high to prevent them cultivating their holdings," *i e*, holdings in the bed of the tank

8 This explanation can hardly be viewed as satisfactory, or else it indicates the existence of very loose notions on the subject of the Criminal law relating to mischief to a work of irrigation on the part of the ryot or ryots referred to

9 The officer in charge of the range reports further that a survey of the tank is in preparation, and that when that is done the extent of the repairs will be decided by the Superintending Engineer.

10. From Local Funds Rupees 4,998-12-6 have been expended in making the road from Kaligiri to Udayagiri, and Rupees 403-10-2 in repairing the portion already made

11. Considerable sums have been expended in surveying a road from Duttalore to Bhata and a road from Chunchuloor to Someswaram, as also in the repairs of the road from the Dornal road to Udayagiri.

12 The last road was in a fair condition in March, but it is in two or three places intersected by channels over which culverts have not been constructed It has been also a good deal cut up by the traffic, and no time should be lost in again repairing it.

13. But I must make some remarks about the large *item* which appears under the head of Imperial expenditure in previous years

14. Taking the necessity for a new Cutcherry for a moment for granted, I must bring to your notice the circumstance that bricks have been purchased for the construction of the building, while stones are to be had hard by in a sufficient quantity to build several Cutcherries.

15. Then again, how were the bricks made? At the cost of the destruction of not a few goodly trees

16. It may be true that these trees were the property of persons who had a right to dispose of them as they pleased, yet the importance of trees in Udayagiri, I venture to think, can hardly be exaggerated, while it has been hitherto overlooked

The bane of this town is, and has been for years, a want of water. We are told that while formerly it could boast of more than 300 wells it can now count but a score, and of these only two or three afford water at this season of the year, and then so scanty that a person wishing to draw water must wait for perhaps an hour before his turn comes round to fill his pitcher.

17. But this drought has from some causes been more severe during the last two years or so, insomuch that several persons have been compelled for want of water to leave the place Moreover, I was told by the people that this drought in its excessive visitation has been distinctly local, the surrounding villages at a few miles distance receiving a fair average supply of rain, and I think this report of the people was borne out by the appearance of the country west of Udayagiri which came under my view. The trees, chiefly tamarind and mangoe, for the most part in and about the town belonged to a miserable remnant of Mussulmans who eke out a scanty subsistence by menial work. The opportunity afforded them by the brick contractor of selling their trees was too much for their well known thriftlessness, and what was shortly before a moderate sized tope, it was pointed out to me, fell to the axe

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
13th September 1871.

18 I think that the connection between trees and rain-fall is so well established that it may be assumed with perfect safety as a positive truth, and I think that we should set about re-planting the vicinity of Udayagiri upon as large a scale as the present supply of water will admit of, and that we should *purchase those trees* which are the property of private persons, with a view to preserve them as *nuclei* of topes They might be purchased for a very trifling sum owing to the thriftlessness, as I before remarked, of their owners

This course I venture to think imperative if we are to save Udayagiri from becoming a desert, a catastrophe which cannot now fail to suggest itself to the visitor and which every tree cut down tends to precipitate I venture to suggest that we should postpone all buildings that necessitate brick-making until we have covered the country again with forests

If the Government and the people will but forego these unproductive undertakings which carry denudation in their train till then the boon to the country will be incalculable, while a direct consequence of the course so pursued will be a large reduction in the price of materials

19 The results of a contrary course, repelling instead of inviting the visits of the rain clouds, are similar to those which flow from forestalling the resources of the country—produce stationary if not retrogressive—when it ought *cæteris paribus* to be progressive, a state of things to which we have grown so accustomed that we think it to be the normal one and expect nothing else.

20 As to the necessity for the work in question it is one which I venture to think is not so urgent as that it could not be avoided without any appreciable disadvantage for a century to come, and as to the expenditure already made towards it, I think that it has been productive of much evil if of any good whatever

21 And here I must remark that my inquiries about the bricks and about the trees were met by the Tahsildar and the Sheristadar with unsatisfactory replies, and the same is to be said of my inquiries about the repairs of tanks and of roads. They could tell me nothing Whether it were ignorance or reticence the cause was equally culpable and incompatible with faithfulness on their part as servants of the Government

22 KAVALI —In this talook it is satisfactory to find that apparently the work of irrigation has received due attention, 27 of such works having received repairs at an aggregate cost of Rupees 5,739-2-5 from Imperial Funds

23. Rupees 2,301-4-1 from the same source have been expended in the repairs of the high road to the Bengal frontier

24 From Local Funds Rupees 10,971-3-7 have been expended in making the road from Kaligiri to Kavali, and Rupees 699-15-11 in repairing the portion already made.

25 I have not had an opportunity of personally inspecting the works done in this talook yet.

Names of Works.	Amount expended in 1870-71. RS. A P
MINOR NEW WORKS.	
Agricultural	
Improving the revetment of Anemadugu tank	20 0 0
Total New Works ..	20 0 0
Repairing Sayipet tank channel	127 13 2
Do Rudrakota 1st class tank	59 11 2
Do Tummalapenta tank	75 1 6
Do Budamagunta large tank	285 10 7
Do Chinna Annalur Tambalagunta tank	294 10 9
Do Anemadugu tank	320 4 3
Do Maddurupadu tank	70 15 9
Do Gavaravaram large tank	70 1 5
Do. Konnimpalle tank supply channel	424 13 2

Names of Works	Amount expended in 1870-71.
	RS. A P.
Repairing Budamagunta new tank	130 5 0
Do. Kaligiri large tank	439 15 9
Do. Chinna Annalur Naidu tank	313 14 4
Do Maimangidinne tank supply channel	65 6 6
Do Gavaravaram small tank	195 10 10
Do Sluice of Bramanakraka Kokanna tank	119 4 3
Do. Nagalavaram small tank	119 7 6
Do. Apinapi tank	171 8 2
Do Nagalavaram large tank	180 13 8
Do. Manubobepadu tank	209 4 7
Do Zackepalli Guduru large tank calingulah	418 9 1
Do Ta oor small tank supply channel	526 3 10
Do Tummasamudram tank	13 12 0
Do Chamadala small tank	184 12 1
Filling breaches in the supply channel of Kavali Zuturu tank	229 11 7
Repairing the Calingula of Chinakraka large tank	454 10 8
,, Kavali Zuturu or Tallapallem tank	207 4 10
,, Zaladanki tank	210 0 0
	5,759 2 5
Communications	
Great Northern road from Madras to Bengal frontier	2,301 4 1
Total Repairs ...	8,060 6 6
Total Imperials .	8,080 6 6
DISTRICT CONSERVANCY FUND—ORIGINAL WORKS	
Communications.	
Road from Kavali to Kaligiri, *vid* Zaladanki and Chinakraka	10,971 3 7
BUNGALOW FUND	
Converting Mr. Dykes's old Bungalow into Travellers' Bungalow at Kavali ...	800 5 1
Total New Works	11,771 8 8
REPAIRS	
Communications	
Road from Kavali to Kaligiri, *vid* Zaladanki and Chinakraka	699 15 1
Total Local...	12,471 8 7
Grand Total of both Funds...	20,551 15 1

(True Copy)

(Signed) G. VANSAGNEW,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 3

From the Deputy Collector of Naidupet, to the Collector of Nellore, dated 22nd May 1871, No 171.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the state of the Public Works within my DIVISION for the year 1870-71.

2 Annexed is a statement showing the entire expenditure in the year under the different heads of Public Works —

Works and Talooks.	IMPERIAL		LOCAL		TOTAL	
	New Works	Repairs	New Works	Repairs	New Works	Repairs
Rapoor Talook.	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P	RS A P
Civil Buildings	3,395 8 0	..		.	3,395 8 0	.. .
Agricultural		1,435 8 2	18,400 2 0	3,325 11 8	18,400 2 0	1,435 8 2
Communications	.. .	..				3,325 11 8
Total	3,395 8 0	1,435 8 2	18,400 2 0	3,325 11 8	21,795 10 0	4,761 3 10
Venkatagiri Division.						
Civil Buildings	...		..	.	.	..
Agricultural			4,849 11 0	899 15 5	4,849 11 0	899 15 5
Communications	..					
Total	..		4,849 11 0	899 15 5	4,849 11 0	899 15 5
Polur Division						
Civil Buildings ..	.. ..	..	...	. ..	...	...
Agricultural .					.	.. ..
Communications .	.. ..	.				
Total	.	. .		..	\	. ..
Grand Total	3,395 8 0	1,435 8 2	23,249 13 0	4,225 11 1	26,615 5 0	5,661 3 3

3. CIVIL BUILDINGS —The sum spent on Civil Buildings during this year was Rupees 3,395-8-0. The whole of this expenditure was incurred at Rapoor in connection with the new Talook Cutcherry The whole of this expenditure was incurred at Rapoor in connection with the new Talook Cutcherry sanctioned for that talook at an estimate of Rupees 22,000 From the Progress Report received from the Range officer it appears that the total amount expended up to the end of the official year under report was Rupees 12,508. The building, however, has not as yet been commenced, the work having been postponed for want of funds The materials collected are fast deteriorating, and the store-shed in which they are secured is almost in ruins

4 In no other part of this division has any money been spent on Civil Buildings either for repairs or original works

5 AGRICULTURAL —The expenditure under this head was only Rupees 1,435-8-2. This sum was laid out in the *repair* of tanks I have shown below in one view the requirements of the Rapoor Talook in regard to Agricultural repairs and what has been done for it during the year.

Number of Tanks out of repair.	NUMBER REPAIRED			The irrigable area of the Talook	Its Assessment.	Expenditure on Repairs	Percentage of expenditure on the Revenue.
	Completed	Incomplete	Total.				
				ACRES	RS.	RS	
65	1	9	10	5,020	25,558	1,435	5½

6 It will be seen from this abstract that the repair of but one tank was completed in the talook under my charge during the year under report

7 I beg to request your attention to my letter, No 106, of the 30th May 1870. With this letter I forwarded to your office a list of irrigation works requiring repair, arranging them in the order of their importance and urgency, and requested that the repair might be taken up in the order in which they were entered. This list was very carefully prepared at the Jummahbundy in consideration of the revenue we are annually sacrificing for want of water Of the 65 tanks that were in need of repair in this talook I entered in the above list 25. From the enclosed extract of the annual Progress Report, furnished to me by the Range officer, you will observe that out of the number entered in my list the repairs of only three tanks (Nos. 5, 6, 12) have been taken up

and that of one alone nearly completed As regards Items 10 and 11 the Range officer states that the works were not commenced for want of labour These works do not belong to the number given in my list The amount of estimates for these works is Rupees 699, and this sum, instead of being surrendered, might have been used on any of the works contained in the above-mentioned list.

8 COMMUNICATIONS —The only imperial road within my division is the Great Northern Trunk Road that extends the whole length of the district The statement given by me does not include the expenditure on this road The portion that lies within my division is in a fair condition The great hindrances to the traffic on this road are the river beds which are three in number, namely, the *Swarnamookhi* at Naidupet, the *Kalangi Nadhi* near Sooloorpet, and the *Puvangadoo backwater* which forms the southern boundary of the district at the road Bridges have been sanctioned for the two latter and have progressed to a considerable extent—the one at Sooloorpet under the superintendence of the Nellore authorities, and that at the backwater under that of the Chingleput authorities The works were stopped last year for want of funds, and the great inconvenience experienced by the public at these places has been prominently placed before the Board by Mr. Master, the late Officiating Collector, in his letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings, No. 6,096, of the 13th October 1870.

1 Road from Goodoor to Rapoor
2 Do Nellore to Somaswaram, etc, Podalakoor
3 Do from Manooboloo on the Trunk road to Podalakoor
4 Do from Tipparappad on the Rapoor road to Venkataghiri

9. The local roads within my division are four in number, as per margin The total expenditure on these roads, inclusive of the amount spent on the portions beyond the limits of this division, was Rupees 27,475.

10 (1) *The Rapoor road* —The road from Goodoor to Rapoor is, I believe, supposed to extend to the foot of the ghauts; but beyond Rapoor I did not find the traces of any made road when I went that side for about four miles at the end of July last. It, however, appears that this part is now in the course of formation, but it is not yet fit for traffic. The part between Rapoor and Sydapuram, though passable, is not in a good condition The gravel is simply spread on the road and made to harden by the passing and repassing of carts, and the cartmen are obliged to drive the bullocks in the beaten track of the wheels I am not aware if there is any provision in the annual maintenance allowance for the road for *tamping*, if not provision should be made for it

11 At the place where the Sydapuram river crosses this road it is rendered impassable by the road being much cut up by the river The carts going along this road quit it at the distance of about a mile from the river on either side, and take a round of about three miles through the fields to go from one side of it to the other. When any bandyman not knowing the state of the road at the river goes along the road in the dark, the bandy capsizes Such accidents frequently happen at this river I would, therefore, recommend the formation of a causeway at present across the bed of this river.

12 (2). *Someshweram road* —This road skirts the northern boundary of the Rapoor Talook, and is more connected with the Nellore talook than Rapoor It is now in progress. Of the portion which lies within the Rapoor Talook the part from Marpoor to Yetoor has been finished and is used by the public. The part beyond that is now being formed

13. (3). *Road from Manooboloo to Podalakoor.*—About 8 or 9 miles of this road lie within the Rapoor Talook; 3½ miles from Podalakoor to Biradavoloo have been finished, and this part is in a good condition. The rest is in the course of construction.

14 (4). *Road from Tepparapad on the Rapoor road to Venkatagherry.*—I have had no opportunity of personally inspecting this road From the extract of the Range Officer's Progress Report it appears that the road has been completed and that the 5th to the 9th and the 21th miles have been metalled, and jelly and gravel collected for the 14th, 15th, 16th, 22nd and 23rd miles. The metalling of this road will in all probability be completed in the course of this year

15 This is the only road in the Venkatagherry Zemindary which forms a part of my division, and the Rapoor Talook also is sadly wanting in roads This division on the whole appears to have been hitherto neglected as regards roads, but I shall address you separately on the subject.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) G. VANS AGNEW,
Collector.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 13th September 1871.

ENCLOSURE No 4 —Statement showing the mileage of Imperial roads in Nellore District, 1870-71.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. Although the expenditure during the year exceeded that of the previous year, it fell short of the allotment by Rupees 11,000, the actual sum expended being Rupees 1,83,929 and the grant Rupees 1,95,754.

3. It would appear from paragraph 3 of the report that no provision was made for new communications in the Budget, although in paragraph 6 it is stated that Rupees 1,585 were paid in arrears for work done in 1869-70, Rupees 2,695 having been subsequently sanctioned. Only Rupees 885 have thus been expended on new works under this head.

4. The trunk roads, so far as they are completed, are reported to be in good order.

5. The Board would request the special attention of Government to paragraphs 16, 17, and 18 of the report, wherein the Collector comments on the unsatisfactory manner in which estimates for repairs to agricultural works are passed, and shows how difficult it is, under the existing system, for officers of the Public Works and Revenue Departments to arrange in concert for the expenditure to the best advantage of the funds available for repairs.

6. It is satisfactory to learn from paragraph 21 that fair progress has been made with the Sarvapalli Irrigation Project. The state of affairs reported in paragraph 28, regarding the exorbitant rates charged for labour and materials and the manner in which the subordinates of the Public Works Department and the contractors are reported to assist each other in keeping up their high rates, appears to the Board to call for the attention of Government.

7. The Board would, in conclusion, acknowledge the completeness of the reports both of the Collector and Sub-Collector.

No. 202. ORDER THEREON, 13th September 1871, No. 2,326.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 28.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division whose special attention will be directed to the remarks contained in the portions of the report quoted by the Board in paragraphs 5 and 6 of their Proceedings, and Colonel Moberly will submit such observations thereon as he may have to offer.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 2526. R.P.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt

Read the following.-

Pro: of the Board of Revenue } (M. E. No 3367 of 10th Augt /71)

Communicated to the Supg Engineer of the 2d. Division whose special attention will be directed to the remarks contained in the portions of the report quoted by the Board in paragraphs 5 and 6 of their Proceedings, and Colonel Mobery will submit such observations thereon as he may have

to

To Gen:

2nd

[illegible]

To the Ships Engrs of the
" Board of Admiralty
" Marine Depot

Up. 3926

Govt of 1871 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
2nd Division

Dated

Read

from 13 Aug. 1872 2326.

Nos. 2018202

Civil Works. Proposal
for Minutes Revised Estimate
Public Works in the
Salem Dist. for 1870/71, Encl.
Two Abstracts & Plans
with Instructions.