

(1) Number of pages 11

(2) Date of repair 12/1/37

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 790

Press
Mis.

409-10

Dated 16. 3

1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers:—

No. 409. From the Superintending Engineer in temporary charge of the 8th Division, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Palamcottah, 23rd February 1871, No. 3,026.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for approval, the following sketch of proposed operations in the Tambrapoorney Irrigation Range.

Up to date the Sub-Engineer in charge has done—

1. About 21 miles of channel levelled with cross sections and survey.

Four tanks contoured.

9½ miles of check levels.

2. Levelling for the extension of the Singumputty Peroonkal, and laying out the line for the work under the Sub-Collector, and preparing plans of anicuts across the Tambrapoorney and Korayaur and of a head sluice.

Mr. Wiffen is now engaged on the Peroonkal, which will occupy him till the middle of next month; the next work on which I propose to employ him will be the levels of the Cannadien channel, with cross sections, register of all sluices, calingulahs, etc., on the channel, and collecting all other needful information for the preparation of a design (with detailed estimates) for the enlargement and improvement of this the most important channel in the district, with a view to carrying it across the Pachayar to convey flood water to the Ponnangudi tank and others beyond and below it in the Nanganeri Talook, which at present are dependent on local rainfall drainage for their supply.

3. This would occupy the Sub-Engineer till the middle of June, and he would then be ready to commence the surveys and levels for the Papanassum reservoir as soon as the hill tracts are considered free from fever miasma, which, in an ordinary season, would be about the end of June. A Surveyor and six lascars would be placed under Mr. Wiffen's orders for this service, and a sufficient sum of money (say, 2,000 Rupees) should be at his disposal for clearing jungle, opening up paths, sinking trial-pits, etc.

4. I propose that the Sub-Collector's Singumputty Peroonkal project, and the improvement and extension of the Cannadien channel, be submitted separately for sanction, as soon as the estimates, drawings, etc., are ready.

5. Mr. Rundall will, I believe, arrive early in next month to take charge of the Tambrapoorney Range. His first duty will be to obtain from the 1st and 2nd Ranges all records connected with the new Irrigation Range; to construct a Tambrapoorney Irrigation Register, and to make himself acquainted with all the principal river channels and anicuts.

6. At the close of the current year the executive charge of all works through or into which Tambrapoorney water flows should be transferred to the Executive Engineer. I am not quite clear that this is the intention of Government, I therefore request instructions on this point. In my opinion it is essential that the Irrigation Range Officer should *at once* take executive charge. Two additional Overseers will be required for the Range; this addition will make the number of Upper Subordi-

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16th March 1871.*

nates in this division equal to that shown in the statement of Distribution of Establishment for 1871-72.

7. Having thus taken charge of his Range, Mr. Randall would, first, see that the ordinary repairs for the current season are duly provided for, and then, taking each of the channels separately, would, by careful examination, determine (1) what is required to put each into thorough good order, and (2) to what extent its usefulness can be extended by increasing its capacity for conveying flood water to tanks which, at present, either do not get any Tambrapoorney water, or receive but a scanty and precarious supply.

8. The establishment of the Range will be—

Mr. Randall, Executive Engineer	...	...	1st Class Office Establishment.
Lieut. Shepherd, R.E., Executive Engineer	...	...	3rd Class do. do.
Mr. Hughes, Assistant Engineer	...	...	1 Writer and Lacars.
Mr. Wiffen, Sub-Engineer	...	...	Do.
Two Overseers	...	...	Do.
Special Survey establishment	...	...	Do.

No. 409A.

No. 59.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

In their Order No. 3,737, of the 1st December 1868, Government sanctioned certain arrangements for the purpose of ensuring greater attention being paid to the irrigation works of the Ambasamudrum, Tinnevelly, and Tenkurray Talooks,

but, as will be seen from Captain Prendergast's letter of the 24th October 1868, it was then contemplated that the Irrigation Range Officer should confine his attention to the investigation of improvements which were, however, after a report had been made, to be carried out under his superintendence, together with the ordinary minor works of repair. The then Superintending Engineer showed that the absence of a sufficient staff was the reason which made him consider it better not to give the Irrigation Officer regular executive charge.

2. The Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, now applies, with reference to the recent appointment of Mr. J. W. Randall to the Tambrapoorney or Irrigation Range in Tinnevelly, for instructions as to whether this officer is to be placed in executive charge of the whole of the works through or into which the river water flows. I have myself always contemplated Mr. Randall's taking executive charge, though the question, whether the Striviguntum Ancient works should be placed at present, and before their completion, under the Executive Engineer of the Irrigation Range has, pending the appointment of an officer, not come under consideration.

3. I have no doubt that it will be advantageous to give Mr. Randall the charge of the whole of the irrigation under the Tambrapoorney. He is an officer of considerable experience, and it will be better for Lieutenant Shepherd, as well as for the works, that this experience should be applied to them.

4. It appears to me that it will be advisable also to constitute, in a permanent manner, the Irrigation Range in Tinnevelly; it would not be worthwhile to have a separate Range to the south of the irrigation under the Tambrapoorney, as there

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is only one talook, and I would recommend therefore that the irrigation Range should consist of the following talooks, and that it be made into three subdivisions:—

Southern Sub-division	...	...	Nanganeri Talook.
Palamecottah do.	...	...	{ Tenkurray do.
			{ Tinnevelly do.
Western do.	...	...	{ Ambasamudrum do.
			{ Tenkasi do.

The rest of the district will form a second Executive Range of four talooks, whenever the Government may desire to so constitute it.

5. The engineering staff available for the Irrigation Range at present is ample. It consists of—

Mr. J. W. Randall,	Executive Engineer.
Lieutenant Shepherd,	
Mr. Hughes,	Assistants.
„ Grant,	
Sub-Engineer Wiffen,	

When the Striviguntum works approach completion, one Assistant can, without inconvenience, be withdrawn for work elsewhere.

Captain Ryves asks for two additional Overseers. I would allot one to Nanganeri, three to Tenkurray and Tinnevelly, and two to Ambasamudrum and Tenkasi, and the number of Overseers at present available would seem to be sufficient to allow of the six required being posted to this Range.

6. With regard to temporary establishments it will be advisable, I think, to employ two Surveyors at least, and perhaps three, during those months in which survey operations can be carried on, and probably, if Local Fund requirements be taken into account, these Surveyors could be usefully employed throughout the year, until all the investigations have been completed. The Superintending Engineer should, therefore, prepare a statement of the proposed cost of temporary establishments for the year 1871-72, and, in communication with the Collector, determine for how many months the charge is to be borne by Imperial, and for how many by Local, Funds.

7. So far as I can judge, the order in which Captain Ryves proposes to take up the work is judicious. It is important that, pending the introduction of radical improvements, the existing irrigation works should be kept in as efficient a state as may be practicable, and the Executive Engineer, in arranging for this, will readily ascertain what their real wants are, and how far these can be met from repair allotments and from funds for Minor New Works or from the Reserve; while he should be careful not to bring forward alterations which may shortly be superseded by more general improvements. I would, however, point out that head sluices for all river channels, not now capable of regulation, should be estimated for as soon as possible. As on a former occasion noticed by me, these sluices can be designed so as not to need alteration hereafter, and the risk of damage while the heads of the channels are left open, is so great, that no time

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16th March 1871.*

ought to be lost in providing an efficient remedy; the one existing head sluice, I may mention, needs raising, as it was stopped by the last heavy flood.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
 28th February 1871.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Major, R.E.,
 Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 410. ORDER THEREON, 16th March 1871, No. 790.

IRRIGATION, No. 33.

IRRIGATION, No. 33.

In December 1868 the Government approved of certain alterations in the Ranges of the Tinnevely District, with a view to the formation of an Irrigation Range. The Tinnevely, Tenkurray, and Nanganeri Talooks were formed into the 1st Range, and the Ambasamudrum and Tenkasi Talooks into the 2nd Range, while the more important irrigation works in all the Talooks, except Naganeri, of these two Ranges were to constitute an Irrigation or 5th Range, the executive charge of which however was not at first to be given to the officer appointed to it. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation now proposes to make the five Talooks of the 1st and 2nd Ranges into one executive charge under Mr. Randall, and to consolidate the 1st, 2nd, and 5th Ranges of the District. The Chief Engineer shows that the existing staff available is ample, and that under present circumstances it is possible to make the experience of Mr. Randall available for the management of the whole of the tract of country through which the Tambrapoorny flows, with a view to the execution of the Nanganeri Talook, in the extreme south, a separate charge.

2. His Excellency the Governor will approve of the arrangements suggested by the Chief Engineer, and the same will be communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division, with a view to these arrangements being carried out from the date of Mr. Randall's arrival, who will assume executive charge also of the five southern Talooks of the 3rd Range, including the Striviguntum Ancient works.

3. The Superintending Engineer will, after Mr. Randall has joined, report what temporary establishments for survey &c. will be needed in 1871-72.

4. Early attention should be given to the provision of suitable head sluices for all the Tambrapoorny river channels.

5. The Superintending Engineer will at once propose such a redistribution of the existing Range office establishments as will enable the instructions contained in this order to be properly and efficiently carried out.

(True Extract.)

To the Superintendent Engineer, 8th Division
 " Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
 " Controller of Public Works Accounts
 Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Colonel, R.F.
Secretary to Government.

Ms. A. 9.2.6

Palancottah

23 February 189

1000

10. *Captain of the Ship*

superintendency, Cong. ad.
 in York sh. of 82nd

To the Honorable

Major John Williams, U.S.
 Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Madras

1000

I have the honor to submit for app[roval]

The following sketch of proposed operation

Up to date the Sub Engineer in charge

has done.

about 20 angles of incidence
without aid survey

Sider Natchis confusoides

about 9 1/2 miles of checkerboarded
country by the extension of the 3

fully. Herons, kill and laying out the

with under the Sub. collector and prepare

of Amiens across the Sound
and of a Lead Sluice.

Mr. Kiffin is now engaged on the

next month; the next week in which

to employ him well for the service of the Co.

channel with cross sections, regular spacing
cylindrical in the channel and collected

other needful information for the prep

of a design / with detailed estimates /
 placement and improvement of the

most important channel in the Distr

at view. To carrying it across the Tachan
in flood water to the Ponnasquidi tank

others beyond and below it in the Kang

"Talook" which at present are dependent on

rainfall drainage for their supply.
This would occupy the Sub Engineer
till the middle of June - and he would then
be ready to commence the surveys and level
for the Papanassum. As soon as the
Hill tracks are considered free from fever miasma
which in ordinary season would be about the
end of June. A Surveyor and six Lascars would
be placed under Mr. Wiffen's orders for this service
and a sufficient sum of money say £2000 should
be at his disposal for clearing jungle
opening up paths, sinking trial pits, &c.
I propose that the Sub Engineer's
general project and the improvement
and extension of the Lumbaden channel be
submitted separately for sanction as soon as
the estimates, drawings &c. are ready.

Mr. Rundall will I believe arrive early
in next month to take charge of the Tambora
poorney Range. His first duty will be to obtain
from the 1st and 2nd Ranges all records connected
with the new Irrigation Ranges to construct a
Tambora poorney Irrigation Register and to make
himself acquainted with all the principal river
channels and canals.

At the close of the current year, the Executive
charge of all works through or into which Tambora
poorney water flows should be transferred to
the Executive Engineer.

I am not quite clear that this is the
intention of Government. I therefore request
instructions on this point. In my opinion it is
essential that the Irrigation Range Officer should
at once take executive charge.

Two additional persons will be required
for the Range, this addition will make the number
of upper subordinates in this Division equal to
that shown in the statement of distribution of
establishment for 1871-72.

Having thus taken charge of his Range
Mr. Rundall would first see that the ordinary

repairs for the current season are duly provided
for - and then taking each of the channels separately
would by careful examination determine
(1) - What is required to put each into thorough
good order and (2) - to what extent its usefulness
can be extended by increasing its capacity
for conveying flood water to tanks which at
present either do not get any Tambora poorney
water or receive but a scanty and precarious supply.

The Establishment of the Range will be -
Mr. Rundall Executive Engineer in charge - 1st class Office Establishment
Lieut. Shepherd A.E. Executive Engineer - 3rd class - Do -
Mr. Hughes Assistant Engineer - 1st class - Do -
Mr. Wiffen Sub Engineer -
Two pursuers -
Special survey establishment -

I have &c

W.R. Captain A.E.
Superintending Engineer
in Temp. ch. of S.D.

1859

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation

In their order, N^o 3737 of the 7th Decem-
ber 1868, Government sanctioned certain ar-
rangements for the purpose of securing greater
attention being paid to the irrigation works of
the Chumbasamudram, Tinnivelly & Tondiar
Talugs, but, as will be seen from Captain
Pringle's letter of the 24th October 1868, it was then
contemplated that the Irrigation Range Officer
should confine his attention to the investigation
of improvements which were, however, after a report
had been made, to be carried out under his
superintendence, together with the ordinary minor
works of repair. The then Superintending Engi-
neer showed that the absence of a sufficient staff
was the reason which made him consider it
better not to give the Irrigation officer regular
executive charge.
The Superintending Engineer & Division
Engineer applies with reference to the recent appoint-
ment of Mr. J. W. Randall to the Tondiar

cl^o 2

M. G. N. 3418
20 October

3006

From

The Chief Engineer
in the N^o 1 of 8000

The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

Calcutta 22nd May 1871

1871/5/11

Submitted for approval
a sketch of proposed
alterations in the
Tondiar Range
Irrigation Range

or Irrigation Range in a Timorelly instructions
 as to whether this officer is to be placed in Executive
 charge of the whole of the works through which
 the river water flows. I have myself always con-
 templated Mr. Rundall taking Executive
 charge, though the question, whether the Stringy-
 gum Cement works should be placed at present,
 and before their completion, under the Executive
 Engineer of this Irrigation Range has, pending
 the appointment of an officer, not come under con-
 sideration.

3. I have no doubt that it will be ad-
 vantageous to give Mr. Rundall the charge of
 the whole of the Irrigation under these circumstances.
 The Government officer of considerable experience, such as
 will be better for the Government as well as
 for the river, that this experience should be applied
 to them.

4. It appears to me that it will be ad-
 vantageous to constitute a permanent Irrigation
 Range in a Timorelly manner. It would not be
 worthwhile to have a separate Range like the South
 of the Irrigation under the Timorelly, as there
 is only one Taluk, and I would recommend that
 for that the Irrigation Range should consist
 of the following Taluks, and that it be made
 into

into 3 subdivisions
 Southern Sub division
 Palamcottah do
 Western do
 Nanguneri Taluk
 Tenkaran
 Timorelly
 Ambasamudrum
 Tenkari

The rest of the District will form a second Ex-
 ecutive Range of 4 Taluks, wherever the Govern-
 ment may desire to so constitute it.

5. The Engineering staff available for the
 Irrigation Range at present is ample. It
 consists of
 Mr. J. W. Rundall, Executive Engineer
 Mr. W. B. Shepherd
 Mr. A. B. Hughes
 Mr. Grant
 Mr. J. W. Mifflin
 Sub Engineer Mifflin

When the Stringy-gum works approach completion, one
 Assistant can, without inconvenience, be withdrawn
 for work elsewhere.

Captain Ryrie asks for 2 additional overseers. I
 would allot one to Nanguneri, three to Tenkaran
 & Timorelly, and two to Ambasamudrum and
 Tenkari, and the number of overseers at present
 available would seem to be sufficient to allow of
 the six required being posted to this Range.

With regard to temporary establishments
 it will be advisable, I think, to employ 2 Surveys
 at

at least, and perhaps three, during three months in
which Survey operations can be carried on, and perhaps
a Local Fund requirements be taken into account
these surveys could be usefully employed throughout
the year, until all the investigations have been com-
pleted. The Superintending Engineer should there-
fore prepare a statement of the proposed cost of
a temporary establishment for the year 1871-72, and
in communication with the Collector, determine for
how many months the charge is to be borne by Imperial
and for how many by Local Funds.
So far as I can judge, the order in which
Captain Cypri proposes to take up the work is
judicious. It is important that, pending the intro-
duction of radical improvements, the existing irri-
gation works should be kept in as efficient a
state as may be practicable, and the Executive
Engineer in arranging for this will readily ascertain
what the real wants are, and how far these
can be met from repair allotments, and
from funds for minor new works, or from the
Reserve; while he should be careful not to
bring forward alterations, which may
shortly be superseded by more general im-
provements. I would however point out that heads
of sluices for all river channels are not now capable

of regulation should be estimated for as soon as possible. As on a former occasion noticed by me, these
sluices can be designed so as not to need alteration
hereafter, and the risk of damage while the
heads of the channels are left open, is so great,
that no time ought to be lost in providing an
efficient remedy; the one existing head sluice, I
may mention, needs raising, as it was topped
by the last heavy flood.

St. George's
28th July 1871
Wendellius Major
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

The Secretary to
Government M. S.

19th March 1870

Chlor

Note suggesting arrange-
ments for the formation
of an irrigation range
in the Annamalai
District.
Septo-10. 1868

Letter to Mr. J. H. M.
Septo-2. 1868

For Secretary
Government Mad

For Mr. J. H. M.
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation

P W Dept.
Sept 9. 1868
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 16th March 1868
Read the following

from the Chief Eng. for Irrigation H. E. No 59 of 28 February 68

In December 1868
the Government approved
of certain alterations in
the Range of the Annamalai
District, with a view to
the formation of an irri-
gation Range. The Tin-
nively, Senturay, and
Tranganeri Taluqs were
formed into the first
Range, and the Annam-
alai, Madurai and Tan-
javur Taluqs into the
second Range, while the
more important irri-
gation works in all the
Taluqs

N

Salugg, except hanganeri, of
these two Ranges were to
constitute an irrigation
or 5th Range, the executive
charge of which however
was not at first to be
given to the officer appointed
to it. The Chief Engineer
for irrigation now proposes
to make the 5 Salugg of the
1st and 2nd Ranges into one
executive charge under
Mr. Rundall, and to
consider it an irrigation
Range. This alteration
will really consolidate
into one charge the 1st
2nd and 5th Ranges of the
District. The Chief Engineer
thinks that the engineering
staff available is ample

and that under present
circumstances it is desirable
to make the experience
of Mr. Rundall available
for the management of
the whole of the tract of
country through which the
Sambra-poorny flows, while
it is not advisable to
make the hanganeri
Salugg, in the extreme south,
a separate executive charge.
His Excellency
the Governor in Council
approves of the arrangements
suggested by the
Chief Engineer, and
his note will be commu-
-nicated to the Super-
-intending Engineer of
the 8th Division, with a
view to those arrangements
being

being carried out from the
date of Mr. J. S. Randall's
arrival, who will assume
Executive Charge also of the
Southern Saltpetre from the
1st April next, inclusive
of the Strickland's ancient
works.

3. The Sup^r Engineer
will, after Mr. Randall
has joined, report what
temporary establishments
for survey duties, will be
needed in 1871-72.

4. Early attention should
be given to the provision
of suitable head sluices
for all the Tambraparny
river channels.

5. The Sup^r Engineer
will at once propose

such a redistribution of
the existing Engineer's office
establishments, as will
enable the instructions
contained in this order
to be properly and ef-
-ficiently carried out.

W. 6/3/71

W

27

To

The Sup^r Engr. & Co.

Chief Engr. for S. Engr.

Controller P. W. Acc't.

Resd 17/3/71.

1876
Govt. of Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS. //

The Superintending Engrs
8th Division

Urgent

Dated

Recd.

Vol. 2

G. O., 18th March 1876, No. 790.

Nos. 409-440

Irrigation Range. Paper
Orders in the subject of the
formation of an Irrigation
Range in the Tenkasi
District.

No 30 October / 1871 652062
1st Dec. 1-2.

Further No 1 1872 2/21-8 71