M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-31.

(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. 10 Press Mis.

18-19

Dated 5 1 1892.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1894

No. 18. Read the following letter from the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tanjore, 2nd December 1871, No. 753:—

SINCE my letter of the 10th ultimo, No. 695, reporting damage done by the storm of the 7th ultimo, was written, I have had an opportunity of seeing the part of this district most affected, and have now the honour to report further on the damage done to public works and buildings.

2. If a line were drawn from Torriore in the Museri Talook, Trichinopoly, to Triviar, a little north of Tanjore, and prolonged till it met the coast line, it would very nearly give the southern limit of the storm; at least to the south of this line no serious damage was done. The force of the wind appears to have been greatest a little to the north of Tranquebar, and generally to have been more felt on the coast than inland, while the rainfall was greater the farther the distance from the coast, ranging from 7 or 8 inches in the 24 hours on the coast to 11·8 inches at Combaconum and 12·65 inches at Perambalore.

3. I have received a report that fifty-nine tanks have breached in Perambalore Talook. The estimates for the repair of these works have not yet reached me, as the Range Officer and his subordinates have been fully occupied in closing breaches to save cultivation and opening roads to traffic, but I fear the allotment at my disposal for Agricultural Repairs will not suffice to meet this increased demand on it, and I beg that, if possible, an additional grant of Rupees 10,000 may be made for the Trichinopoly District for the current year. A few of the masonry works on roads Nos. 9 and 10 have been injured, and the road itself breached in many places.

4. In the Wodiarpoliem Talook about forty breaches to tanks are reported; but the principal damage was done at the Ponairy channel and Coleroon bank above the lower anicut. There are a hundred and eight-two breaches in the Ponairy channel bank and thirty-four in the Coleroon bank on which road No. 13 runs. No masonry works, however, were carried away. The water rose 2 feet in the shed used as a Range office at Vuppur, and damaged the building and some of the records; several old planks belonging to the head-sluice were washed away. Estimates for closing these breaches have been prepared, and work will be carried out as early as possible; but I think the money already allotted for repairs in this range will cover the expenditure to be incurred on breaches in this year, as repair estimates for some large tanks may be cancelled for the present.

5. The works in Combaconum Talook have suffered little; one or two breaches in river banks are already closed, and buildings are not much injured. Almost all large trees on the road between Combaconum and Myaveram have been blown down, and the roads, of course, are considerably injured.

6. In the Myaveram and Sheally Talooks the storm was most severely felt. Buildings at Myaveram have suffered more than at Combaconum. The Tahsildar's Cutcherry was damaged to some extent; the shed in the enclosure on pillars came down, and all the buildings will require retiling. They leaked a great deal when I saw them. All large trees are blown down from this to Tranquebar, and here the

force of the wind must have been tremendous. As reported before the roof of the Range office was blown off completely, and some of the records were damaged by rain. Many windows and ventilators in the Court-house were broken, and leaks appeared in several parts of the terrace. The upper storey of the public bungalow was blown away entirely, walls as well as roof, and the lower part leaks so much I was unable to remain in it. The buildings in the Jail have their roofs more or less damaged; in some cases even the reapers having been blown away. Parts of the walls of both Cemeteries are blown down; the Sea Custom-house roof is damaged, and the Salt Cutcherry is very much injured. There were twenty-two breaches in about the last two miles of the Nandalur; these have all been temporarily closed and the road towards Karical made passable after much trouble.

7. The Civil and Sessions Judge has requested me not to repair the Range office till he has received a reply to a reference made by him to Government on the subject of removing the building from the roof of the Court-house. I quite agree with him in considering a thatched building in that position unsightly, though I think the roof might, with safety, be again put on; but a building in such an exposed situation is unsuitable for the custody of Government records, and I would propose that a building should be rented for the office, and that the ruins of the old building on the Court-house should be removed; at present I have rented the lower part of a house, in which there is ample accommodation, for Rupees 10 per mensem, and I have to request the sanction of Government to this arrangement.

8. The Jail buildings have been temporarily repaired by the convicts. I have addressed the Inspector-General of Jails on the subject of certain alterations he proposed to the Jail, and await his reply before preparing estimates for the repair of the buildings; the cost will be considerable.

9. Estimate for repair of public bungalow will be prepared and repairs put in hand as early as possible. Emergent repairs to all buildings are put in hand, and as far as I have yet seen the cost of repairs may be met from the allotment for the district.

10. The groynes have stood pretty well with the exception of the northern groyne, which has been scattered apparently in all directions. A heavy sea at the time of my visit to Tranquebar prevented my seeing much of the remains of the groyne; but I directed that as much stone as possible should be recovered and the groyne repaired as soon as the weather permitted. The wall of the King's bastion to the north of this groyne has been greatly injured; a large piece of it has been washed in at a place where the wall was cracked before, and a mass at the northern angle has fallen outwards towards the sea. It will be necessary to bring down a considerable quantity of stone both to repair the old groyne and also to construct one or two smaller ones to protect the bastion wall; but before preparing any estimate for this purpose, I wish to examine the groyne in calmer weather.

11. As it has been stated that this storm was only a strong gale from the west and not a cyclone, I may mention that I inspected the damages done to the Judge's house at Tranquebar, and learned that the first windows blown in were on the north side of the house, after this all the doors and windows on the west side were blown in, and last of all the doors on the south side gave away.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 5th January 1872.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, 5th January 1872, No. 10.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 5.

THE Government have received with regret this report of damages caused by the storm which recently visited the Tanjore and Trichinopoly Districts.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council is unable at present to supplement the Agricultural Repair grant for the 6th Division, but he will be prepared to do so as soon as savings are ascertained to be available in other divisions.

3. The orders of Government in the Judicial Department, No. 1,589, dated 27th November 1871, regarding the temporary building on the roof of the Tranquebar Court-house have been communicated to the Superintending Engineer, and the arrangement reported in paragraph 7 for providing accommodation for the Range Office is approved.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Judicial do.
,, Editor's Table.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

No 753.

From Supdg Engrs Office 6th Division
Tanjore 2nd December 71.

From,

Captain J. C. Haxted. R.E.
off. Supdg Engineer 6th D. P. W.

To,

Colonel J. Carpendale R.E.
Secretary to Govt D. P. Wks
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

Since my letter of the 10th ultimo reporting damage done by the storm of the 7th Ultimo, was written, I have had an opportunity of seeing the part of this district most affected & have now the honor to report further on the damage done to Public works and Buildings.—

2 ——— If a line were drawn from Porrione in the Musseri Taluq Trichinopoly to Trivian, a little north of Tanjore and prolonged till it met the Coast line, it would very nearly give the Southern limit of the Storm, at least to the South of this line no serious damage was done. The force of the wind appears to have been greatest

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3.— I have received a report that 59 tanks have breached in Perambalur Taluq. The Estimates for the repair of these works have not yet reached me as the Range officer & his Subordinates have been fully occupied in closing breaches to save cultivation and opening Roads to traffic, but I fear the Allotment at my disposal for Agricultural Repairs will not suffice to meet this increased demand on it & I beg that if possible an additional grant of Rs 10,000 may be made for the Trichinopoly district for the Currnt year. A few of the masonry works on Roads Nos 9 & 10 have been injured, and the Road itself breached in many places.—

4 —— In the Wodiarpolium Taluq about 40 breaches to tanks are reported but the principal damage was done at the Ponairy Channel and Colleroon bank above

above the Lower Anicut. There are 182 breaches in the Ponairy Channel bank & 34 in the Colleroon bank on which Road No. 13 runs. No Masonry works however were carried away. The water rose 2 feet in the shed used as a Range office at Vuppun & damaged the Buildings, and some of the Records; several old Plans & belonging to the head Sheristadar were washed away. Estimates for closing these breaches have been prepared and work will be carried out as early as possible, but I think the Money already allotted for Repairs in this Range will cover the Expenditure to be incurred on breaches in this year, as repair Estimates for some large tanks may be cancelled for the present.—

5 —— The works in Combaconum Taluq have suffered little, one or two breaches in river banks are already closed & Buildings are not much injured Almost all large trees on the road between Combaconum and Mayaveram have been blown down and the roads of course are considerably injured.—

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7 — The Civil and Sessions Judge has requested me not to repair the Range office, till he has received a reply to a reference made by him to Government on the Subject of removing the building from the roof of the Court House. I quite agree with him in considering a thatched building in that position unsightly, though I think the roof might with safety be again put on but a building in such an exposed situation is unsuitable for the Custody of Government records and I would propose that a building should be rented for the office and that the ruins of the old building on the Court House should be removed. at present I have rented the lower part of a house in which there is ample accommodation, for Rs. 10 per mensem & I have to request the Sanction of Government to this arrangement. —

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Estimate

9 ——— Estimate for repair of Public Bungalows will be prepared and repairs put in hand as early as possible. Emergent repairs to all buildings are put in hand and as far as I have yet seen the cost of Repairs may be met from the Allotment for the District.—

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I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obd^t Serv^t

Submitted. Captain R.E.
Off^g Supg Engineer 6th Div^n

Mad.

P. W. 1871 Depart.

From Offg Supt Engineer

No 5785.

Offg Supt Engineer

Sirella Division.

To The Secretary to Govt

P. W. D.

Fort Saint George.

No 753

Dated 2nd }
Rec'd 6th } December 71.

Reports further on the damages done by the late Storm.

No 18

No 10 - 5 Jany 72

6 13 Dec 71 R. 16

[illegible] the Jubilee Dept.
[illegible] 1589 dd 27 Nov 1891
regarding the temporary
building on the roof of the
Tranquebar Court house
have been communicated
to the Supg Engr, & the
arrangements reported in
Para 7 for providing ac.
communication for the
Range Office is approved.

H. S. M.

66/

To
6 Asst Engrs & Drs
5 Controllers & Depts 6/1/92
21 Rev Depts
11 Jute Depots
7 Subdivl Offices

Bridge No. 165

No. 5785

Govt of {1871} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engr
6th Division

Dated

Recd.

G. O 5th January 1872 No. 10.

Nos. 1819

Public Works. Forwarding
on the letter from the Supdg
Engr Mtcb. 4th Circle
further on the damages
by the late storm
measured to Public
Works in the Tanjore
& Trichinopoly Dists.