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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 399, HCO, HOI	1557	Press Mis.
Dated	24 6 18	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following letters :—

No. 399. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Officiating Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 6th May 1872, No 485.

ADVERTING to paragraph 4 of the Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department, No. 621, dated 17th April 1872, communicated with G. O. in the Public Works Department, No. 254 of the 25th idem, and to paragraph 21 of Mr. Thornhill's report therein embodied, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I have already urged on the Acting Collector of Vizagapatam the advisability of doing a portion of the Kondakerla Ava project at once, and furnished him with the estimate for this, as the water-supply, about which very grave doubts existed, has been almost entirely got over. Mr. Laskey, the Supervisor in charge of the Golcondah range, has also been ordered to attend to the Pengole river improvements, from which some good results are anticipated, but I have no establishment available to prepare a project with.

2. With reference to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Order in the Revenue Department, I respectfully beg to invite the attention of Government to my letter No. 342 of the 24th ultimo, in which I reported the dismissal of Mr. Fletcher after the completion of his survey of the Ghaut trace, and which, I must now add, will certainly create very great delay in carrying out this work. No other reason has been alleged for this proceeding, and it is a matter of regret, as the man's place cannot be supplied by any other subordinate from this department.

3. As the information connected with the proportionate expenditure of grants for relief works will have to be obtained from Range Officers, I shall again address Government on the receipt of the necessary particulars.

4. Since writing the above I have again heard from Captain Beatty regarding Mr. Fletcher's dismissal. He says no other reason is given for this proceeding except that he had finished the trace of the ghaut. Captain Beatty further adds, the Assistant Engineer, Mr. Turner, who has been placed in charge of this work by Mr. Thornhill, reports that Mr. Fletcher has done his work "very well indeed," and he is most anxious to keep him on. Under these circumstances I would earnestly solicit the Government to comply with the request contained in paragraph 5 of my letter No. 342 of the 24th ultimo. Had I had the least intimation given to me that any one would be treated in the manner this man has been, I would certainly never have had anything to do with persuading him to go up there at the risk of his life, and throwing up his prospects of getting employment elsewhere; as to the pay which the man gets, as far as I understand, every one in Jeypore gets the pay of the higher grade in the service in which he happens to be, and Mr. Fletcher got no more, and as the Government made no objection to the arrangement, and the man has not failed in his work or duties, I cannot think any importance can be attached to this objection.

5. Mr. Minchin, the late Collector of Vizagapatam, urged the importance of opening this ghaut to let the produce of Jeypore, where the rain-fall is far more abundant, and all agricultural operations more certain, have free means of communications to the markets of the coast districts when the corps. are liable to

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
27th June 1872.*

suffer from failure of the rains. Mr. Thornhill seeing the importance of the work has placed a well qualified officer in charge, but by himself, with many other works to attend to, he will not be able to do more than exercise a general supervision over the ghaut works, and as the locality is notoriously unhealthy, he may be obliged to leave the work from illness at any time, and it is therefore determined to dismiss the only other man who is practically acquainted with the work and has successfully traced out the line of road, and so render the completion of this most important work as doubtful as possible.

No. 400. From the same Officer, dated Dowlaishweram, 22nd May 1872, No. 696.

ADVERTING to G. O. of the 14th May 1872, No. 111, I have the honour to observe that I have already replied to G. O. of the 25th April last, No. 254, in my letter No. 485, dated the 6th instant, and have only to add, that as regards the Vizagapatam District so much of the land is Zemindary it is quite impossible to recommend irrigation projects for the improvement of the land as matters now stand, as there is absolutely no means of ascertaining if there will be any returns at all; doubtless a great deal might be done with the numerous streams of the district, but Revenue Officers when urging this matter on the Government ought to show how they can be made to pay. Whenever I have advised the utilizing of the waters of these rivers, I have always been met with the objection that the Zemindars are not likely to pay anything.

2. As regards the Goodahallow River, I have already laid my views on this subject before the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, having all along maintained, since the Rooshkoolia scheme was brought under my consideration, the advisability of beginning with a reservoir on this river, and I have repeatedly urged this to Captain Beckley. I see no reason for changing my opinions; on the contrary, the more I have thought about the project, the more convinced I am it is of very little or no use trying to irrigate in the upper parts of the district, where the works must be very costly, the area of land available is small, the population is sparse, and the means of communications very imperfect.

3. I have only to add, I think it is much to be regretted so much and such exclusive attention has been paid to the Rooshkoolia River when there are two other large rivers in the district which ought certainly to be able to afford means of irrigation on a very extensive scale—the supply of water in these cannot certainly be much less, if at all, than in the Rooshkoolia.

No. 401. ORDER THEREON, 27th June 1872, No. 1,557.

IRRIGATION, No. 20.

In their Order No. 254 of 25th April, communicated to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and Superintending Engineer

of the 1st Division, Government desired to be informed what projects had been matured and at what cost for special establishments since the appointment of Captain Beckley five years ago for investigation of the irrigational capabilities of the rivers of Ganjam and Vizagapatam. And in their Order No. 111 of 14th May, Government requested an opinion on the Goodahalli River project.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
27th June 1872.*

2. The Superintending Engineer has treated the subjects far too superficially in his letters above recorded; and the Government cannot but arrive at the conclusion that his time is too much taken up in supervising the executive work of his division to enable him to devote a sufficient portion of it to scrutiny of projects. They resolve therefore that Captain Beckley shall be placed in direct and sole communication with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject of the Irrigation projects of Ganjam and Vizagapatam, and desire these officers conjointly to supply the information already called for in full detail.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

“ Captain T. Beckley, Executive Engineer, Chatterpore, Ganjam District.

1557 P.W.D. 5
 Proceedings of the Madras Govt.
 Read the following
 From

The Super Engineer } (H.E. No 485 of 6 May 1922)
 " " " " }
 " " " " } (H.E. No 696 of 22 " " " ")

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 cost for special Establish-
 ments since the appoint-
 ment of Captain Beckley
 5 years ago for investigation

for
 A/A
 L.H.

Circulate.

I rather doubt the
 expediency of issuing
 this order under
 present circumstances
 in as much as
 none has been issued

of the Irrigational ^{facilities} ~~capacities~~ of the Rivers of Ganjam and Vizagapatam. And in their Order No. 111 of 14 May, 1904, the Government requested an opinion on the Goodahall River Project.

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4

6 Super Engineer 1.00 ✓
5 Chief Engr. for bridge ✓
3 Capt. J. Beckley ✓
Ex: Engr. Abner H. Brown, Graham St. ✓ Despr. 3/7/72.

Apr 26 1883

To the Superintendent
1st Division

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. 029 June 1879, No. 1557.

No. 379 C401

Migration Reports of
in & Virginia.

Being Capt. Beckley
used in direct
communication
to the West Virginia
Commission on the subject
of Migration Reports
Gauguin & Signe.

66 Oct 11 1883
55 June 1883