

(1) Number of pages _____

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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2090	Press
21-23	Mis.
Dated 3-9-	1872 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 21. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Dowlaishweram, 8th August 1872, No. 1,744.

I REGRET having to report a serious breach in the river bank on the Coringa canal, about one mile below the head-sluices on the Dowlaishweram side, near the site where the channel to the Kalapulunka lock takes off; this is the point to which I particularly drew your attention during your late tour of inspection, and which I had provided to avoid in the bank canal estimates for the eastern delta.

2. I was absent from head-quarters with the Assistant Engineer, who is preparing the Unnamoolunkah project, when this accident occurred; but Mr. Martin, the Assistant Engineer in charge at head-quarters, took active measures to make all necessary arrangements for progressing with the work, and he was soon after joined by Captain Mead, and on my return I am glad to be able to report that, notwithstanding the very serious nature of the accident, the measures adopted by these officers promise to be quite successful.

3. The river has been in unusually heavy freshes all through July, and the bank appears to have been thoroughly saturated at this place, where a leak always existed when the river rose to six or seven feet on the anicut. This had been observed for many years, but there was no indication of any sliding in the bank; this season, however, as the river fell to about four feet on the anicut, the whole front slope slipped in at once without any warning, apparently at night time, and it is easy to see the cause now, for the river bank here has strata of sand running right through it; these allowed the river water to percolate into the Coringa canal, but as soon as the freshes subsided and the pressure of water against the river bank was removed, the waters flowed back from the canal into the river taking away the soil with them. To avoid this danger I proposed to alter the line of the bank canal and take it more inland, and as I believe you have recommended this measure to Government for sanction, I would beg to urge its being adopted at once.

4. I enclose a sketch of the breach which will show how extensive it is, for some distance above and below there is nothing to spare in the way of lunkah land, and we are, therefore, liable to have accidents of this kind at any moment. I had examined this very point just before going out into the district and then there was no indication of any slip.

5. To-day the water is 3' 3" on the Dowlaishweram anicut and 3' 6" on the Vejaishweram side; the weather is unsettled, but I am in hopes the freshes will not be down again for a week at least, by then I trust this point will have been secured.

No. 166.

No. 22. *Note by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

IN a telegram dated 17th instant, Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Fischer has reported that the breach has been closed, that a heavy flood has just passed down the river, and that the weather is clearing.

1 Letter No. 1,744, from Superintending Engineer, 1st Division.
1 Enclosure of the above.
1 Telegram dated 17th August 1872.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd September 1872.

2. In paragraph 36 of my Note No. 87, dated 3rd June, I advocated the abandonment of the portion of the Coringa canal in the neighbourhood of the spot at which the breach has occurred, and the Government in their Order No. 1,786, dated 26th July, approved of my suggestions relative to the Coringa and West Bank canals. The estimates for these works should be submitted with the least possible delay.

OOTACAMUND,
21st August 1872.

(Signed) R. F. OAKES, Captain, R.E.,
Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 23.

ORDER THEREON, 3rd September 1872, No. 2,090.

IRRIGATION, No. 1.

ORDERED to be recorded.

2. The Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division will expedite the submission of the estimates alluded to.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Superintending Engineer's Office
No. 1744
Dowlaiswaram 8th August 1872
Group
Lieutenant Col. R. F. Oakes R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer 1st Division
Major R. F. Oakes R.E.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation &
Joint Secretary to Government.

Madras

Enclosure
1 Sketch

I regret having to report a serious breach in the river bank on the Coringa Canal about one mile below the head sluices on the Dowlaiswaram side, near the site where the channel to the Radapulunka Creek takes off. This is the point to which I particularly drew your attention during your late tour of inspection, and which I had provided to avoid in the Bank Canal Estimates for the Eastern Delta.

2. I was absent from Head Quarters with the Assistant Engineer who is preparing the Unnamoolunkah project, when this accident occurred, but Mr. Martin the Assistant

Assistant Engineer in charge at Head Quarters,
took various measures to make all necessary
arrangements for progressing with the work,
and he was soon after joined by Captain
Mead, and on my return, I am glad to
be able to report that, notwithstanding the
very serious nature of the accident, the measures
adopted by these Officers promise to be quite
successful.

3. The river has been in unusually
heavy freshes all this July, and the bank
appears to have been thoroughly saturated
at this place, where a leak always existed
when the river rose to 6 or 7 feet on the Anik-
-kut. This had been observed for many
years but there was no indication of any sliding
in the bank, this season. However as the river
fell to about 4 feet on the Anikkut, the whole
front slope slid in at once without any
warning, apparently at night time, and it is
easy to see the cause now, for, the river bank
here has strata of sand running right thro
it, these allowed the river water to percolate
into

into the Coringa Canal, but as soon as the
freshes subsided and the pressure of water
against the river bank was removed, the
waters flowed back from the Canal into
the river taking away the soil with them,
to avoid this danger, I proposed to alter the
line of the Bank Canal and take it more
inland, and as I believe you have recom-
-mended this measure to Government for
sanction, I would beg to urge its being adopted
at once.

4. I enclose a sketch of the breach
which will show how extensive it is, for some
distance ~~down and below~~ there is nothing
to spare in the way of timber land, and
we are therefore liable to have accidents of
this kind at any moment, I had examined
this very point just before going out into the
District and then there was no indication
of any slip.

5. Today the water is 5.3 on the
Dowlaswarum Anikkut and 5.6 on the
Wejaiswarum side, the weather is unsettled
but

but I am in hopes the freshes will not
be down again for a week at least. By then
I trust this point will have been secured.

Yours truly
James H. Bonrue,
Sr.

John Mack Obedt

W. T. Tucker Esq. & Co.

As Information and Engineer

~~1872 Report~~
~~1875-15~~
~~1878~~

From
 The A. G. S. Engineers
 1st Division

To
 The Secretary
 to Government S. H. R.
 Madras.

Dated 8th
 Dec 15th August 1872
 1874
 Enclosures: 1 Plan.

Report on the Occurrence
 of a Breach in the Union
 Bank on the Coringa Canal
 one mile below the Head
 Sluice on Decaturian side.

P. W. 4179/72.

N^o 166

9-

Letter N^o 1744 dated 8th August from Lt. Col.
 J. F. Fischer Super Engineer to the
 Note by the Ag. Chief Engineer for Irrigation

Encls 3

Letter N^o 1744
 from J. F. Fischer
 to the Secy to Govt
 17th Aug 72

In a telegram dated 17th Instant Lt. Col.
 J. F. Fischer has reported that the Breach
 has been closed, that a heavy flood has
 just passed down the River & that the
 weather is clearing.

2. In para 36 of my note N^o 87
 dated 3rd June I advocated the abandonment
 of the portion of the Coringa Canal in the
 neighbourhood of the spot at which the Breach
 has occurred and the Government in their order
 N^o 1786 dated 26th July approved of my
 suggestions relative to the Coringa and
 West Bank Canals. The estimates for these
 works should be submitted with the least
 possible delay.

Colgammud
 21st August 72
 A. F. A. T. Captain R. B.
 Ag. Chief Engineer for Irrigation
 The Secretary to Govt
 P. W. Dept.

29th 1872 Newark:
J. M. 12/4/79

of

the Secretary, & Genl.

W. M. 1871

10/166

Antet 21/6

Antet 22

August 22

Dec 28

Each 13

State in a letter from
the City of New York

reporting on the occurrence
of a breach in the river

bank in the Corners
Canal one mile below

the head sluice, as

the Secretary will

be interested in the
note on the 24th

note on the 24th

No 2090

Ordered to be recorded

The Superintendent Engineer

for the City will see to it that the

submission of the Estimates

alluded to -

W. M. 1871

The Secretary Engineer
in the City of New York

Dec 21/72

2 C/2 3968 4/4 179

Govt. of 1872 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Superintending Eng.

Date

1st Dec 1872

Recd.

Encl. 3

G. O. 3 September 1872. No 2090

Nos. 21 & 22.

Coringa Canal. Note

Expedite the estimate
for certain
works on the Coringa
Canal.

By the Chief Eng. for Madras
an letter from the Superintending
Eng. 1st Dec 1872 relating to the
recurrence of the breach in the dam
of the Coringa Canal,
recorded; the Superintending Eng.