M.R.O. 1—77,006—8-6-37.

(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. 419, 420, 421,	2 7 7 H	Press / Mis.
Dated	26 11	1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following:—

No. 419. Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 25th October 1872, No. 1,487.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th August 1872, No. 1,572:

Read the following letters:

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 6th July 1872, No. 265.

REFERRING to Proceedings of Government, No. 1,447, dated 12th June 1872, I have the honour to point out an error which appears in the Memorandum by the Chief Engineer.

2. He states "Rupees 10,000, last year's Provincial grant for roads in Jeypore, was spent in opening a trace laid out by the Surveyor, etc."

I have the honour to point out that the bulk of the Provincial grant of Rupees 10,000, which was allotted not only for "Jeypore roads" but also for "Jungle clearing," was spent as shown in Statements D., E., F., which accompany my report on Hill tracts recorded in Government Proceedings, No. 36, dated 19th June 1872. The salary of the Surveyor employed in the Tadivalsa Ghaut was paid out of the Rupees 10,000, but the Maharajah's money only was spent on the construction and laying out of the ghaut.

3. Referring to paragraph 4 of the same Memorandum I would point out that Overseer Fletcher's services were merely required to lay out the trace. When that was done he was of no further use to the Assistant Agent, as he proved himself, owing to want of tact, to be unable to get on with the coolies and the neighbouring landholders, whose tenants they are.

4. I gather from the Superintending Engineer's letter recorded in the above Proceedings that Mr. Turner, of the Department, Public Works, wishes to retain Mr. Fletcher's services. From verbal communication with Mr. Turner I retain the impression that all that he requires is a Goomastah who is also a Draughtsman, and I should imagine that a competent person for this work could be found at a far lower salary than that drawn by Mr. Fletcher, whose pay was fixed at a higher rate in consideration of the temporary nature of his engagement.

To the Secretary to the Board of Revenue with reference to Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 4,565, of 25th ultimo.

From R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 24th July 1872, No. 830.

I HAVE the honour to forward a letter from the Assistant Agent, Jeypore, which gives the explanation called for in G. O.,* No. 1,447, dated 12th June 1872. Other matters are touched on, some of which it is of great importance to have settled.

* Board's Miscellaneous Proceedings, No. 4,565, dated 28th June 1872.

2. Mr. Turner remarks justly that things have greatly changed since the first proposal for the construction of a ghaut was approved of. The Rajah of Jeypore had then placed at Mr. Turner's disposal a sum which if expended with great economy might prove sufficient to construct a passable cart-road from the plains to the Jeypore plateau. Professional aid was asked, and obtained, for the purpose of laying out the trace of the proposed line. Subsequently, when Mr. Turner, of the Department of Public Works, was employed in laying out and constructing the road from Salur to Tadivalsa, it occurred to Mr. Thornhill on the Assistant Agent's suggestion that Mr. Turner might with advantage give his namesake, the Assistant Agent, the benefit of his professional advice and assistance when required. Later on came the Government Order on Mr. Thornhill's report on this district, in which Government expressed themselves willing to supplement the Rajah's grant and their desire that the work should be prosecuted to completion. From this time the position of affairs was changed. Plans and estimates were called for by the Department of Public Works, which Mr. G. T. Turner was called on to prepare, and from this time Mr. G. T. Turner has apparently* considered himself responsible for the work in every respect, and has looked on Mr. H. G. Turner as under his orders as far as regards the construction of the road. I quite agree with the Assistant Agent in thinking that he can hardly be expected to work under the orders of Mr. G. T. Turner, and I think that if the whole system and plan of the work is to be changed it had better be transferred altogether to the Department of Public Works. I have no doubt that the Assistant Agent would afford them every assistance in his power in obtaining a supply of coolies, which is the main difficulty.

* *Vide* his letter enclosed.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. G. TURNER, Esq., to the Agent to the Governor of Fort St. George in Vizagapatam, dated Waltair, 22nd July 1872, No. 85.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of G. O., 12th June 1872, No. 1,447, in which you call my attention to the extravagant proportion of superintendence to labour in my estimate for earth-work. The Chief Engineer has, I observe, assumed that the peons are employed in superintending coolies at work. This is not the case; their principal duty is to collect coolies from the surrounding country. The villages are small, and the village heads are with great difficulty persuaded to let their labourers come to the work. There is no such thing above the ghauts as a floating cooly population; in fact, some part of the money which appears as "peons' pay" in the estimate is in reality paid to the hereditary Curnam of the Pauchipenta Estate, who has agreed to furnish a stated number of men. I trust that this explanation is satisfactory. I would point out that, as I am in some degree pledged to get the work done as cheaply as possible, it is not likely that I would permit an unnecessary expenditure. As the Chief Engineer has sundry statements in his letter which are erroneous, and which have nevertheless been passed over by Government, I think it will tend to a satisfactory settlement of the whole question if I briefly recount the history of the work up to the present time.

2. In G. O., 28th February 1871, No. 215, the offer of the Maharajah of Jeypore to construct a road at a cost of Rupees 15,000, provided he were allowed to establish a toll thereon, was accepted by Government, and the Department of Public Works were directed to place a native

subordinate of that Department at my disposal. This native subordinate was to be employed for a short time and his salary was to be paid out of the funds provided by the Maharajah.

The Department of Public Works were unable to send a native subordinate, but on the 29th July 1871 Government passed an Order, No. 1,993, authorizing the Superintending Engineer to engage the services of Mr. Fletcher for employment under the Assistant Agent.

The salary of this employé was to be paid by Government out of the usual annual allotment of Rupees 10,000 for roads and jungle clearing in Jeypore. It will be observed that Mr. Fletcher did not belong to the Department of Public Works.

3. Mr. Fletcher arrived in October 1871 and I set him to work to lay out a trace through the line of country that I had fixed on for the road.

I inspected Mr. Fletcher's work on several occasions during the latter part of 1871 and considered it to be satisfactory.

In March 1872 I was again at Potingi, and it then appeared to me that Mr. Fletcher was not making such progress as I expected and that much bad feeling had arisen between him and the neighbouring land-owners. The work was falling behind, and he experienced great difficulty in getting coolies. He had now been employed on the trace for four months at a considerable expense, and I was of opinion that he could be of no further assistance to me. Moreover, he fell sick and left the works with uncalled-for abruptness, occasioned, as I believe, by the offer of Mr. G. Turner, of the Department of Public Works, to superintend his work. I had, as the Chief Engineer remarks, every right to dismiss him, and he is unwise in grumbling at the reason I placed on record for doing so, namely, that the trace had been executed.

He has been liberally dealt with in the matter of his salary, as I allowed him subsistence allowance at Waltair for a month after his services had been dispensed with because he had to stay there pending receipt of his salary.

4. Up to this point the whole expense of the tracing had been borne by the Maharajah with the exception of a few months' pay drawn by Mr. Fletcher from the allotment for roads in this division, and since that time the work has been continued out of the Maharajah's funds and Government have not paid anything at all.

5. We now enter on the second chapter of the history. This began by a letter from Mr. Thornhill to me asking for details about the ghaut road. I replied pointing out that the trace was not altogether approved of, and I mentioned that Mr. G. Turner, who was employed on neighbouring works, had offered to retrace the ghaut, recommending that the offer should be accepted. On this Mr. Thornhill wrote on the 11th March 1872 to Mr. G. Turner requesting him to execute his offer as soon as possible.

6. Accordingly I met Mr. G. Turner on the 26th March at Potingi, and I then agreed with him that he should undertake the retracing of the lower half of the ghaut and should superintend the blasting operations, for which, on his recommendation, I applied for 5,000 lbs. of powder. I regret that no record was made of this agreement; but I then finally decided on the trace so far as regarded the upper portion of the ghaut, and I did not contemplate asking for the assistance of Mr. G Turner on this part of the work. I pushed on the work on the upper portion, and I have completed two miles of earth-work.

7. Mr. Turner was detained on duty elsewhere and was unable to visit the ghaut until the first week in July, when I met him there again.

8. During this interval matters had changed considerably. Mr. Thornhill had written a report on the district, and Government, in their Order thereon of the 17th April 1872, No. 621, paragraphs 5 and 6, desired that the ghaut work should be prosecuted with vigour to completion, and they stated that they were prepared to supplement the Jeypore Rajah's grants by contributions from Provincial Funds. Further, in the Government Order that has given rise to this letter, Mr. G. Turner is directed to undertake the duty of superintending the retracing and to report on its height, gradients, and other details, and estimate for its total cost.

9. Armed with this authority Mr. Turner proceeded to the ghaut in thebeginning of July (where he arrived before I did) and assumed charge of the direction of the work. He on his own responsibility stopped work which was being carried on under my directions, and he insisted that all advice that he gave should be implicitly followed. I enclose you an official from him on the subject. Not only does he require that his advice shall be followed in every particular, but he claims to decide whether his advice is, or is not, required, and the advice which he says I have rejected was given when I never asked for it.

10. I submit that if the control of the work is left to me I must be at liberty to determine when I do require help and when I do not, and I would further point out that the result of Mr. G. Turner's scheme will be to place me in the position of an Overseer under his orders, an occupation I am not prepared to enter on.

11. If Mr. Turner had come up when he received Mr. Thornhill's letter in March I would have considered his views on the subject of the upper part of the ghaut. Now that I have decided on this part I have only need for his services on the lower part of the trace and in blasting operations. In these things I shall be guided by his experience as much as possible ; but I would remark that professional advice can only be followed in "every particular" by a professional executive.

12. His request that I should have work carried on only on those parts where he has fixed on the trace sounds well ; but as a matter of fact he had not definitely laid down a single yard of trace up to the time when I left the work, a week ago ; moreover, I do not know when he will do so. He requires that the land shall be surveyed, and to that end has engaged the services of Mr. Fletcher, a man whom I deemed too expensive to be continued on the work.

13. There is another point that I would draw attention to, which is that, if Government give grants for the works, complications in the agreement we have made with Jeypore respecting tolls are likely to arise. It appears to me that if some solution can be given to this question the most satisfactory proceeding would be to hand the whole conduct of the work over to the Department of Public Works. We shall then have a good road, and I shall be relieved of a duty which is sufficiently onerous and for which I am poorly qualified.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From G. T. TURNER, Esq., Assistant Engineer, Department of Public Works, to the Assistant Agent in Jeypore, dated Ralagedda, 12th July 1872.

As I have been directed by the Government, through the Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to continue superintending the retracing of the line of ghaut from Tadivalsa to Potingi and to give you what other professional assistance you may require, and as I have been at the same time informed that I shall be held responsible that the work shall not be such as to bring discredit on the Department to which I belong, I have the honour to inform you that I cannot accept the responsibility of giving you *any* assistance unless I have your assurance that it will be taken in *every* particular.

2. The fact that my advice as to the line and works has been repeatedly rejected makes it necessary that I should have this, more especially that the work that is now being done is such as would not be creditable to me however much it may be so to you.

3. I regret that I have not got the copy of the Government Order referred to as I sent it to Captain Beatty, my immediate superior, to account for my doings ; but, as you will probably receive a copy yourself soon, I do not wish to have an answer to this until you have seen it.

4. But at the same time, as I have been directed to proceed with the trace and estimate and to furnish a report on the work, and have been provided with means of doing so in a proper manner, such as I pointed out to you when I first came on the work, I would request that you will kindly have work carried on only on those parts where I have fixed the trace or where we agree as to the proper line, until you have given me an answer to this letter.

I must inform you that I am instructed that my duties on the ghaut are to be only strictly professional, so that I am exceeding my orders in making any request as to the disposa of your coolies ; but, under the circumstances mentioned above, I think the necessity for this step is sufficiently obvious.

THE Collector with his letter submits the explanation of the Assistant Agent called for in G. O. dated 19th June 1872, No. 78.

2. Mr. H. G. Turner's explanation of the manner in which the peons were employed and his reasons for dispensing with Mr. Fletcher's services are satisfactory.

3. The Government Order of the 12th June, No. 1,447, did not justify Mr. G. J. Turner, C. E., in taking charge of the works on the ghaut nor in addressing the Assistant Agent as he did.

4. There are no doubt difficulties attending the relative positions of the two Officers, and the Board agree with Mr. Melville and Mr. H. G. Turner in their opinion that under the circumstances it will be better that the work should be undertaken entirely by the Department of Public Works.

5. The history of the work is very clearly given by Mr. H. G. Turner in his letter to the Agent dated 2nd July 1872.

6. In February 1871 the Government accepted the offer of the Maharajah of Jeypore to construct a ghaut through Mr. Turner's agency on the condition that he should be permitted to levy a toll on it when completed.

7. It is not a little creditable to Mr. H. G. Turner that he not only undertook the work but actually made very considerable progress in it.

8. In February 1872 it was determined, with the concurrence of Mr. Thornhill, to open work on a road from Salur to Tadivalsa, at the foot of Turner's Ghaut, as a means of relief to the population in the neighbourhood.

9. Mr. G. Turner, C. E., who had been appointed to the district specially to superintend relief works, was placed in charge of it, and at the suggestion of the Assistant Agent was requested to aid him in tracing the ghaut.

10. The matter was alluded to in Mr. Thornhill's report on Vizagapatam, and the Government Order quoted was the result.

11. It remains to be determined what is to be done in future.

12. In the first place, the Board think it was very unfortunate that the financial necessities of Government obliged them to accept the offer of the Jeypore Rajah to devote Rupees 15,000 to opening the ghaut, coupled, as it was, with the condition that he should be *allowed to levy tolls on the ghaut* when completed.

13. No restrictions as to the amount of the tolls nor as to the time that they should continue to be levied appears to have been made. The Board think advantage should be taken of the present review of the matter to refund the money and withdraw from the agreement.

14. It is not possible that the roughest permanent cart-road can be constructed up the ghaut for Rupees 15,000. The rise is, the Board believe, between 3,500 and 4,000 feet, the length about twelve miles. But the importance of opening Jeypore to cart traffic can hardly be overestimated and is quite sufficient to warrant the outlay required for a good cart ghaut. During the early months of this year, when scarcity prevailed in Vizagapatam, Jeypore was overflowing with surplus grain,

15. Mr. Turner has already opened a road passable for carts from Potiad to Koraput and Jeypore, sixty miles or so; but the country is destitute of carts. No conveyance has ever yet entered Jeypore (a country equal in extent to a large district) on wheels.

16. If the money cannot be spared out of the ordinary grant it should be provided out of Loan Funds.

17. The Board resolve to urge Government to place the work under the Department of Public Works and press it forward as rapidly as possible. If the condition of affairs which prevailed this year should be reversed in some future year and Jeypore should be the scene of scarcity and Vizagapatam of plenty, every bag of grain for the supply of the people must be carried up by bullock or cooly.

18. It would only be just that Jeypore should pay for its own ghaut; but as this cannot be compelled at present this cost must be met by the State.

Miscellaneous.

THE Governor in Council approves the suggestion that the amount expended from the sum advanced by the Jeypore Rajah be repaid to him with the information that the work proves to be one of greater magnitude than was anticipated and will entail a much larger expenditure than was contemplated when his offer was accepted, and that, under these circumstances, the Government have resolved to adopt the project and to carry it to completion through the Department of Public Works.

2. The Accountant-General will place at the disposal of the Department of Public Works a sum of Rupees 2,500 for their preliminary operations, and further advances will be made, as required, from Provincial Funds. All necessary further orders will be issued in the Department of Public Works.

3. The Assistant Agent, Mr. H. G. Turner, is entitled to the thanks of Government for the attention and labour he has devoted to the work. The attainment of the important object at which he aimed will be effectually secured by the present arrangement. There was nothing in the Order of Government dated 12th June last, No. 1,447, Department of Public Works, which justified Mr. Assistant-Engineer Turner in taking the position of superiority which he appears to have assumed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Under Secretary to Govt.

No. 420. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 26th October 1872, No. 2,651:—

One medical certificate.

IN forwarding, herewith, a medical certificate received from the Civil Surgeon of Vizagapatam regarding the state of health of Mr. G. J. Turner, Assistant Engineer, I have the honour to report that, if approved of by Government,

Mr. Brickwell, Assistant Engineer, will be ordered to the Jeypore Ghaut Works and Mr. Turner retained in the Vizagapatam District to investigate some irrigation projects.

No. 421. ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1872, No. 2,774.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 30.

A MEDICAL certificate having been received of Assistant Engineer Turner's being incapacitated by fever from further employment in connexion with the Jeypore Ghaut his services have been transferred to the Salem District, and he has been instructed to join forthwith. He will draw up, for the information of the Chief Engineer and of his own successor, a Memorandum containing such general notes on the work as may be of practical use, submitting the same through Major Beatty, District Engineer of Vizagapatam.

2. The services of Assistant Engineer Brickwell are placed at Major Beatty's disposal for employment in connexion with the Jeypore Ghaut, and will be utilized, in the first instance, exclusively in tracing, surveying, and estimating for the best practicable line for a cart-road with maximum gradient of 1 in 16. The sum of Rupees 2,500 made available in G. O., No. 1,487, of 25th October, will be spent in preliminary clearing for survey and in opening such traces as may be approved to a width of one yard within the level pegs. The Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications will take an early opportunity after Christmas of visiting the locality and seeing that work is being carried on in the right direction. He will also see that proper tracing and survey instruments are supplied. The District Engineer will make timely application for additional funds as required, and an entry of Rupees 25,000 for the work will be made in the Provincial Budget of 1873-74.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications.
" District Engineer of Vizagapatam.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Financial Department.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE, 1ST DIVISION,
DOWLAISHWARUM, 26 October 1872

No. 2657

From

Lieut. Col. J. F. Fischer R.E.
Acting Superintending Engineer
1st Division

To

Colonel J. H. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government D. P. W.
MADRAS

SIR,

In forwarding herewith a Medical Certificate received from the Civil Surgeon of Vizagapatam, regarding the state of health of Mr. J. G. Turner, Assistant Engineer, I have the honor to report that, if approved of by Government, Mr. Brickwell Assistant Engineer will be ordered to the Jeypore Ghaut works, and Mr. Turner retained in the Vizagapatam District to investigate some Irrigation projects.

I have the honor to be
Sir
your most Obdt. Servant

W. Brickwell Capt. R.E.
for A.G. Supdg. Engineer 1st Dn.

P. W. 1872. Pichard
Pm of Govt Jp. 5 Nov
No. 3527.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
First Division.

To

The Secretary to Government
Department Public Works
MADRAS

Dated 26th October 1872
Received. 2nd Novr 72.

2 No. 2657
Enclo. 1.

Subject.

Reports that under the circumstances stated with a view to sanctioned by Government, Mr Bicknell assistant Engr will be ordered to the Jeypore & that works and Mr Turner retained in the Vizagapatam District to investigate some Irrigation projects.

Ans 2774 - 26th Oct 72

Ans 420
18th Nov 72
Sent to Examr & Nov 72

Public Works Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Dated the [illegible]

From

The Secretary to Govt.

To

The Chief Engineer & Secretary to Government

No. [illegible] dated [illegible]

Submitting Estimate for Sewerage of Mount Road.

Chief Engineer's Office

Received [illegible]

Registered [illegible]

P.W. 5327/[illegible]

Enclosed in a letter No. 2057 dated 22 Oct. 87 from the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division to the Secretary to Government P.W.D. Madras.

C/8 Nov.
Sewerage Estimate

C/8 Nov
Chief Engr Line

instructed to join forthwith.
He will draw up for the
information of the Chief
Engineer, and of his
own successor, a Memo-
randum containing
such general notes on
the work as may be of
practical use- submit-
ting the same through
Major Beatty, District
Engineer of Vizagapatam.
The services of
Assistant Engineer
Brickwell are placed
at Major Beatty's dis-
posal for employment
in connection with the
Jeypore Ghauts, and
will be utilized in the
first

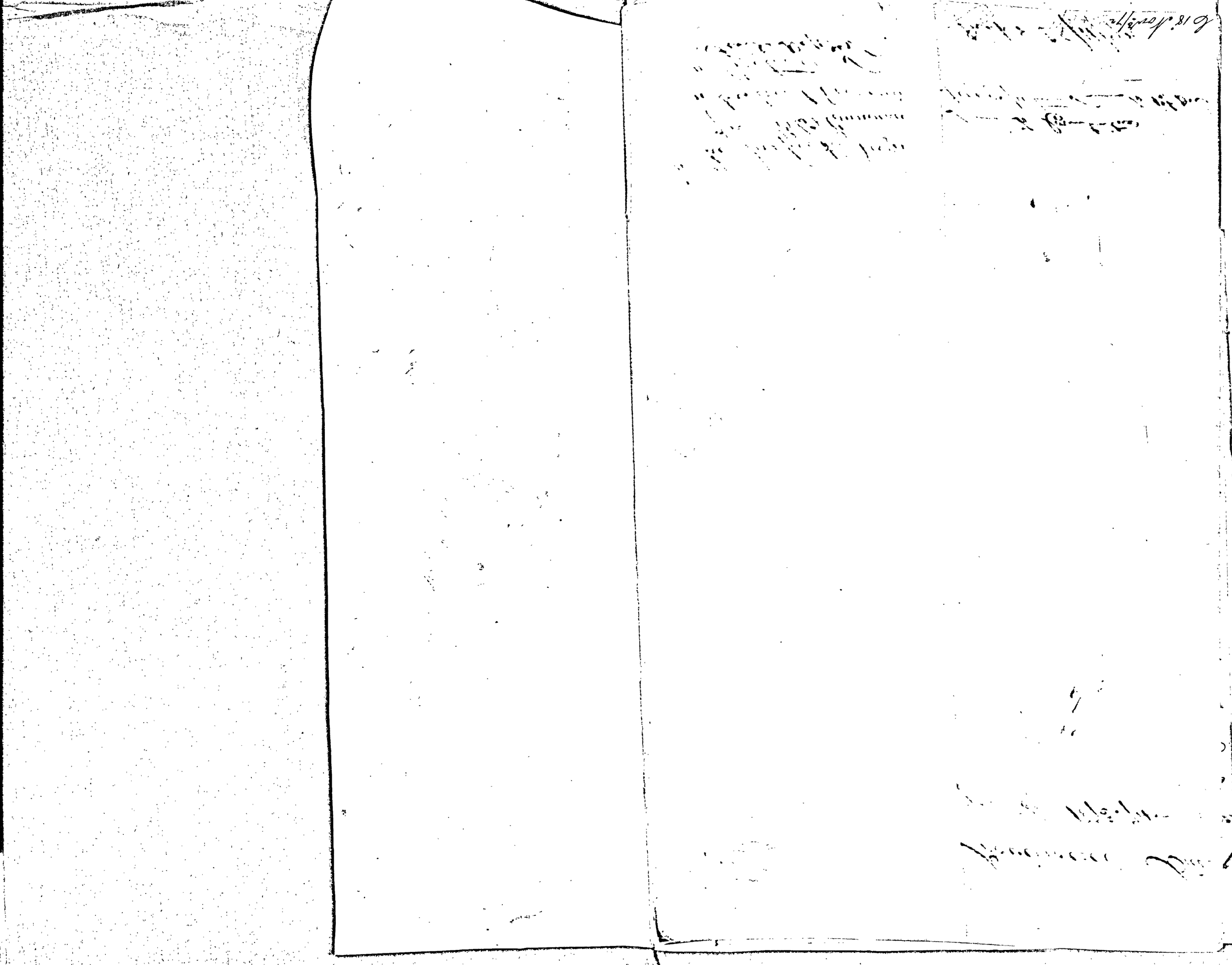
first instance exclusive-
ly in Tracing, Survey-
ing, and estimating
for the best practicable
line for a Cart Road
with maximum
gradient of 1 in 16-
The sum of Rs 2,500
made available in
G.O No 1487 of 25th
October will be spent
in preliminary clear-
ing for survey, and
in opening such
traces as may be ap-
proved to a width
of five yards with
the level kept. The
Inspecting Engineer
for

for Ports and Communi-
-cations will take an
early opportunity, after
Christmas, of visiting
the locality, and see-
-ing that work is being
carried on the right
direction. He will also
see that proper Tracing
and Survey Instruments
are supplied. The Dis-
-trict Engineer will
make timely appli-
-cation for additional
-al funds as requi-
-red, and an entry
of Rupees 20,000
for the work will
be made in the Provincial

Provincial Bud-
-get of 1873-74.-
GWW

To The Inspecting Engineer
for Ports & Communications — to Coimbatore
" District Engineer of Vizagapatam — to Ootacamund
" Controller
" Trade Depot

Dated 28/11/72



Nos. 5319 & 5327

Govt. of 1872 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Inspector-General for Post and Communications.

Voted.

Read. Encl. 1

G. O. 26 May 1872, No. 2794.

Nos. 419 & 421

Seyhose Plant Works.

Issuing instructions relative to the carrying on of the Seyhose plant works, & for their inspection by the Superintending Engr. for Ports & Communications. Provided Rs. 25,000 for the same in 1873/74.