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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1534 Press
~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~
1140-141

Dated 10—6— 1873.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1d

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 10th June 1873.

No. 140. Read the following letter from Messrs. STANES and ROUSE, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore, 26th May 1873 :—

We have the honour to address you with reference to a proposed road to the Ponachy Valley on the Annamallay Hills.

1. Some years ago the Government sanctioned Rupees 3,000 for this road, and, although we have frequently brought the matter before the Coimbatore Local Funds Board, we have been unable to obtain any grant on the plea of "no funds available."

2. These hills are likely to become in time a large coffee growing district, possessing as they do such a vast and fine extent of forest. We already hold 1,400 acres of land, 120 of which are planted, and we are anxious to extend, if Government will assist in making the hills more accessible. There is also one other estate of importance on these hills, consisting of about 600 acres, with 100 planted.

3. The present way up to these hills is impracticable for bullocks; we are, therefore, labouring under great disadvantages in having to carry all our supplies and produce upon coolies' heads.

4. We have now determined to make an effort to open out a bullock-road up to the Ponachy Valley as soon as possible, and solicit the help of Government to accomplish this important undertaking from Provincial Funds, as we have been informed by the Collector of Coimbatore we may expect nothing from Local Funds.

5. We need scarcely remind you of the advantage accruing to the Forest Department through opening out this part of the country where so much valuable timber is available, and would humbly suggest that this department should also assist.

6. We are ready, on behalf of the two coffee estates on these hills, to guarantee the sum of Rupees 3,000, say three thousand rupees, towards this work, or half the cost should it amount to less than Rupees 6,000. We have already arranged to commence a portion of the work next month, as we are most anxious to complete the whole before next December, and should therefore feel obliged if you would lay this letter before Government as early as practicable.

7. We are willing to undertake the whole of the work ourselves if Government will give a money grant, but would much prefer that the road be made by the Department of Public Works, feeling sure that the work will be better and more speedily completed, and we are ready on our part to hand to you our subscription of Rupees 3,000.

Begging you will give this letter your careful consideration and support.

No. 141. ORDER THEREON, 10th June 1873, No. 1,534.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 6A.

THE propriety of making the Annamallay Hills accessible to carts, in the interest of the public and for encouragement of private enterprize, has already been several times affirmed; and the exact method in which the work should be carried out having been discussed and fully reported on, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to al[illegible]

equivalent to the sum offered by Messrs. Stanes and Rouse, viz., Rupees 3,000, by transfer from the allotment of Rupees 50,000 for extension of the East Coast Canal in Nellore, No. 113 of the Provincial Budget, for the purpose of opening a bridle-path or bullock-track on good gradients up to the Ponachy saddle in the first instance.

2. The Inspecting Engineer for Communications will adopt measures for insuring that the work is laid out scientifically, and commenced as quickly as possible, so that little may be lost of the healthiest time of the year now coming on. He will call on the District Engineers of Coimbatore and Neilgherries to spare such subordinate superintendence accustomed to similar work as they may have available, and place them under the orders of the Acting Coimbatore Range Officer, whose services will probably be available for this special duty alone on return of Mr. Roberts from England. Lieutenant-Colonel Farewell will therefore afford such special instruction to Mr. Johnston as will qualify him for permanent superintendence of the work.

3. While admitting the propriety of devoting general funds to the purpose of opening the Ponachy Ghaut itself, His Excellency the Governor in Council is decidedly of opinion that Local Funds should contribute to the formation of the road from its foot to Annamallay village on the ground taken by G. O., No. 210, of 14th December 1870, viz., the material local advantage of the work; and he trusts that the District Board will find the means of co-operating in it at an early date.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Inspecting Engineer for Ports and Communications.
" District Engineer, Coimbatore.
" " Neilgherries.
" Financial Department.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant General.

Fwd. S. T. Austin.
pare Copies.

Coimbatore
May 26 — 1873.

Col. J. H. Walker. C.B. —
Secretary to Government
Public Works Department —
Ootacamund

Sir

We have the honor to address you with reference to a proposed road to the Ponachy Valley on the Annamallay Hills —

1. Some years ago the Government sanctioned Rs 3000 for this road and altho we have frequently brought the matter before the Coimbatore Local Funds Board we have been unable to obtain any grant on the plea of no funds available.

2. These Hills are likely to become in time a large coffee growing district possessing as they do such a vast tract of forest — We already hold 1400 acres of land 120 of which are planted and we are anxious to extend if Govt will assist in making the Hills more accessible

There is also one other Estate of importance on these Hills consisting of about 600 acres with 100 planted —

3. The present way up to these Hills is impracticable for bullocks we are therefore laboring under great disadvantages in having to carry

all our supplies & produce upon Coolies heads.—

5d

4. We have now determined to make an effort to open out a bullock road up to the Poonachy Valley as soon as possible, and solicit the help of Government, to accomplish this important undertaking, from Provincial Funds as we have been informed by the Collector of Coimbatore we may expect nothing from Local Funds.—

5. We need scarcely remind you of the advantage accruing to the forest Deptt. thro opening out this part of the Country where so much valuable timber is available, and would humbly suggest that this Deptt. should also assist.

6. We are ready on behalf of the 2 coffee estates on these Hills to guarantee the sum of Rs 3000, say Three Thousand Rupees, towards this work; or half the cost should it amount to less than Rs 6000.

We have already arranged to commence a portion of the work next month, as we are most anxious to complete the whole before next December, and should therefore feel obliged if you would lay this letter before Govt. as early as practicable.

7. We are willing to undertake the whole of the work ourselves, if Govt. will give a money grant, but would much

much prefer that the road be made by the department of Public Works feeling sure that the work will be better & more speedily completed, and we are ready on our part to hand down our subscription of Rupees three thousand. ——

Begging you will give this letter your careful consideration and support,

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt. servant,

James Rowell

1534
~~No. 3359~~ P.W.D. 98

Pro. of the Madras Govt.
Read the following:
From Messrs Staines & Rouse (H.E. of 26 May/73)

The propriety of making the Anaymullay Hills accessible to carts, in the interest of the public and for encouragement of private enterprize, has already been several times affirmed; and the exact method in which the work should

Not seeing note
I.A.S.

P.W. 1873 Depart.
Pro. of 1 Aug.
No. 3359.
From:
Messrs Staines & Rouse.
Cuttack & ors.
Dat. 26th May 1873.
Rec. of 9th June 1873.

Bringing to notice the desirability of making the Anaymullay Hills accessible to carts.

should be carried out having been discussed and fully reported on, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to allot an Equivalent to the sum offered by Messrs Staines and Rouse, viz Rs 3,000, by transfer from the allotment of Rs 50,000 for extension of the East Coast Canal in Nellore, No 113 of the Provincial Budget, for the purpose of opening a Bridle path or

Would it not be better to say that the Govt will pay half the cost, on the understanding that Messrs Staines & Rouse pay the other half? It wd appear that the work is not likely cost [illegible] as much as Rs 6000 [illegible]

or Bullock track on good gradients up to the Poonachy Saddle in the first instance.

The Inspecting Engineer for Communications will adopt measures for insuring that the work is laid out scientifically, and commenced as quickly as possible so that little may be lost of the healthiest time of the year now coming on. He will call on the District

District Engineers of Coimbatore and Nilgherries to spare such subordinate Superintendence accustomed to similar work as they may have available, and place them under the orders of the acting Coimbatore Range officer, whose services will probably be available for this special duty alone on return of Mr Roberts from England - Lieut Colonel Farewell will therefore afford such special

special instruction to Mr Johnston as will qualify him for permanent superintendence of the work

While admitting the propriety of devoting general funds to the purpose of opening the Poonachy ghaut itself, His Excellency the Governor in Council is decidedly of opinion that Local Funds should contribute to the formation of the road from its foot to Anaymullay village

on

on the ground taken by Gdno. 210 of 14th December 1870, viz the material local advantage of the work; and he trusts that the District Board will find the means of co-operating in it at an early date.

Gnw

44

To
4 The Insp.g Engr. for Ports & Comm.
4 " Dt. Engrs. Coimbatore and
× " " Nilgherries
×11 " Financial Deptt.
×5 " Controller
×4 " Acctt. General.

No. 140-41.

Ind. Dept. 10-8-73 to Insp. Engr. for Ports
S. Cons. 23/6/73 D. D. Comm. for Ports
× Dispa 23/6/73

No. 3359

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Inspecting Engr. for Ports & Communications

Dated

Recd. Encl

G. O. 10th June 1873. No. 1534.

Nos. 140 & 141

Road. Passing orders on letter from Messrs. Stanes & Rouse bringing to notice the propriety of making the Amea-malla Hills accessible to carts.