M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50

(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. 2173-F Press

~~B.P. No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

525 526

Dated 29 · 8 · 1873 · ~~105~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 525. Read the following endorsement of the Financial Department, dated 22nd August 1873 :—

From J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Honourable W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 19th August 1873, No. 185.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, copies of letters which have passed between the Executive Engineer, No. 2 Range, Chingleput District, and myself, since the 17th June last, on the subject of increasing, if possible, the quantity of water available in the Red Hills Lake for the supply of the town of Madras.

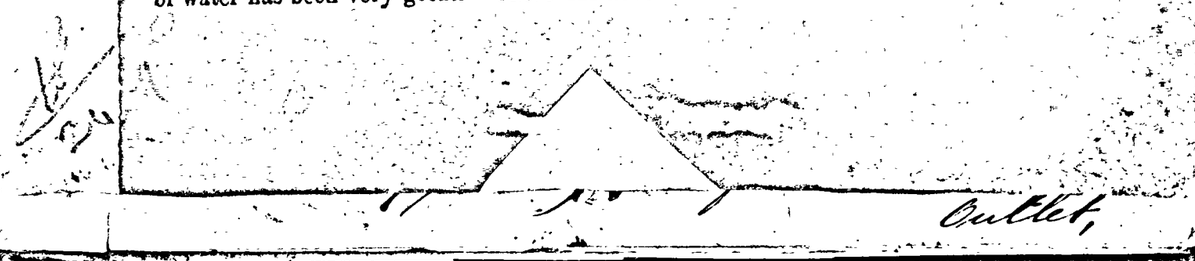
2. When I first drew the attention of that Officer to the matter in my letter, No. 444, of the 17th June, I did so from a feeling that it was only right and prudent that nothing should be left undone which could add to the available supply of water in the Red Hills Lake, and not from any fear that, so far as Madras was concerned, there was a chance of this running short.

3. As time passed on, however, the Executive Engineer of the Municipality began to feel apprehensive that, unless some check was put upon the apparently excessive supply allowed for irrigation purposes, and all the water coming down the Cortilliar passed into the lakes, such failure might actually occur, and I, therefore, once more addressed Colonel Moberly on the subject, asking him, in my last letter, in consideration of the urgency of the case, to submit our correspondence to the Secretary to Government in the Department of Public Works, in order that he might receive early instructions for his guidance.

4. Colonel Moberly having informed me that he would prefer that the correspondence should be forwarded by me, I have now the honour to submit it for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, with a request that instructions may be given to him and the other officers concerned to use their utmost endeavours to put a stop to waste in supplying water for irrigation, and that Colonel Moberly shall be directed to take steps to satisfy himself that all the water coming down the river is really passed into the lakes, and that no portion of it is allowed to run to waste.

5. If these measures are at once adopted and strictly observed, I am in hopes that there will be a sufficiency of water for the supply of Madras until the setting in of the north-east monsoon rains. In the meantime every effort is being made by the Municipal authorities to economise the use of the water in the town. The water required for flushing the town drains, for watering streets and avenue trees, is being taken from wells as formerly, and wastage at the public fountains prevented as much as possible.

6. Since writing the above I have received an official reply to my last letter to the District Engineer, Chingleput Range, of which he had previously only sent a demi-official acknowledgment; copy of his letter has been added to the other correspondence. I do not quite understand Colonel Moberly's object in making the statement with reference to the lavish use of water in the town which is contained in the last paragraph of his letter, unless he wishes this waste to be considered as some justification of that complained of by me. In point of fact he, in common with the newspapers, is altogether mistaken in supposing that the waste of water has been very great. There has never been much waste in the use of the



water, and at no time has it been lavish. The people drawing water from the fountains are in the habit of rinsing their chatties out before filling them, and again before carrying them off, sprinkle over the outsides with a little water in order to get a firm hold of them. This practice, no doubt, makes a mess and small puddles round the fountains, and not unnaturally leads passers by to imagine that the water is being wasted, but I do not suppose that as much water is lost in this manner in the course of a month in the town as is at present wasted in the course of twenty-four hours in supplying the cultivators outside Municipal limits.

From J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to W. S. HARINGTON, Esq., Executive Engineer, No. 2 Range, Chingleput District, dated Madras, 17th June 1873, No. 444.

I HAVE the honour to draw your attention to the low level of water in the Red Hills Lake, and to suggest the advisability of letting into it from the upper reservoir the 4½ feet of water at present above the floor of the head-sluice in the Cholaveram Tank.

2. In my opinion, no time should be lost in doing this, as the reduction in the water level, owing to the demand on the Cholaveram Tank for irrigation, would soon be so rapid (unless supplemented by heavy rains) as to fall below the outlet, whereas if the water above the floor of the head-sluice be at once allowed to flow into the Red Hills Lake, there would still be sufficient water in the Cholaveram Tank for cultivation, and an additional supply for Madras.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., for Executive Engineer, No. 2, Mount Range, Chingleput District, to J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Mount Road, 21rd June 1873, No. 422.

IN reply to your No. 444, dated 17th instant, I have the honour to observe that until work below water level in the Red Hills Tank is completed, I cannot let water into it from Cholaveram; of this I shall be able to judge by the end of the week when I shall have inspected it.

From J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., for Executive Engineer, Mount Range, dated Madras, 10th July 1873, No. 622.

REFERRING to your letter, No. 422, of the 23rd ultimo, I have the honour to bring to your notice that when the level in the Red Hills Tank is reduced 4 feet below that shown in your return, dated 23rd June 1873, the town of Madras will be without any water from that source of supply.

2. It being most undesirable that this should happen, I have to request the favour of your reconsidering the question of letting water into the lake from the Cholaveram Tank, at least to a small extent, unless indeed you are quite satisfied that a good supply may be looked for within a month or two from the present time.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., for Executive Engineer, No. 2, Mount Range, Chingleput District, to J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Mount Road, 11th July 1873, No. 489.

I HAVE the honour to observe that you appear to be labouring under some mistake as to my No. 422 of the 23rd ultimo. I ordered the opening of the supply channel sluice on the 30th ultimo, and have this day sent a reminder to the Officer in charge.

From J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Executive Engineer, No. 2, or Mount Range, dated Madras, 7th August 1873, No. 820.

AT the instance of the Executive Engineer of the Municipality, I am led to address you again on the subject of the supply of water available in the Red Hills Lake, there being apparently some ground for apprehension that the water may fall below the level at which it is drawn off for the supply of the town.

2. When on the 17th June last in my No. 444 I asked you to consider the advisability of filling the lake as much as possible from the upper reservoir, the level of water in each was 5·61 and 4·62 feet respectively.

3. From the last return to hand, dated the 23rd ultimo, it appears the water in the Red Hills Lake was only 3·80 feet above our tapping point, while the Cholaveram Lake had still 2½ feet of water available for raising its level

4. Judging from this information I am led to believe that if the head-sluice between the lakes had been fully opened in June, it would not have occupied about thirty-three days to discharge only 3 feet of water, which is all the effect produced up to this time.

5. I would, therefore, suggest the propriety of immediate steps being taken to raise the level of the water in the Red Hills Lake by every available means.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., for Executive Engineer, Mount Range, to J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, dated 9th August 1873, No. 539.

IN reply to your No 820, of 7th instant, I have the honour to inform you that every drop of water which I can pass from Cholaveram has been discharged to the Red Hills Tank. I should be glad to lower the former still more if I could, as its repairs are much impeded by the existing water.

From J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Executive Engineer, No. 2 Range, dated Madras, 5th August 1873, No 799.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will be so good as to inform me whether the regulation of the water taken for irrigation from the Cholaveram and Red Hills Lake is vested in your department, and, if so, by what rules the party entrusted with the work is guided.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., for Executive Engineer, Mount Range, to J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Tanampett, 6th August 1873, No. 586.

IN reply to your No. 799, dated 5th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the regulation of the water in the Cholaveram and Red Hills Tanks is theoretically under this department, but no establishment has yet been sanctioned, and we have not yet received the returns of cultivated area from the Collector.

From J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, dated Madras, 11th August 1873, No. 882.

THE extreme importance of the question to the inhabitants of Madras must be my excuse for so soon addressing you again on the subject of adopting every possible measure to add to the supply of water in the Red Hills Lake.

2. I am informed that if no addition can be made to this within the next few days, or steps taken to diminish the present lavish use of the water by the ryots, it is probable that the level of the lake will be so much lowered before the end of the month that it will be below the lowest vent of the Municipal Water Tower.

3. The consequences which would in all probability arise from the stoppage of the water supply of the town at this season of the year, to say nothing of the inconvenience which would undoubtedly be caused by it, might be so serious, that I am sure you will concur with me in thinking that nothing should be left undone which can be done in order to prevent its occurrence.

4. I am most reluctant to make suggestions which may bear the appearance of unauthorised interference on my part; but as I observe from some of the last "water supply" returns furnished

to this office that there have been freshes down the Cortilliar which have not been allowed to come into the Cholaveram Lake at all, I would suggest for your consideration whether it might not be possible to let future freshes into that lake and pass them on at once to the Red Hills Lake through the connecting channel, without raising the level of the former, which for the reasons stated in Executive Engineer's (No. 2 Range) No. 599, dated 9th August 1873, you wish to keep down for some time to come.

5. Taking into consideration the urgency of the case, I have to request that you will be good enough to submit our late correspondence on this subject to the Secretary to Government in the Department of Public Works, and request him to let you have early instructions for your guidance.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to J. C. LOCH, Esq., President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, dated Guindy, 18th August 1873, No. 1,232.

In acknowledging receipt of your No. 887, dated 14th August, I have the honour to observe that every means in my power has been used to increase the supply in Red Hills Tank; 1,100 feet in length of Cholaveram Tank was in a highly critical state a few days ago, and the guard bank in front was not finished; the water would not pass freely down the supply channel from the Cholaveram to the Red Hills Lake; contrary to theory, but I fear true to fact, it spread over the smooth surface of the water in the former instead of running down the rough channel to the latter, though tempted by a fall of 3 feet per mile. It clearly requires a head before it can overcome the friction.

2. In anticipation of sanction of an estimate for Rupees 55,120, I have opened the Cholaveram Tank bund, and cannot with any consistency now apply to the Secretary to Government for instructions, and, therefore, must decline to forward the correspondence.

3. I beg to point out that the lavish waste of water in the town was remarked on in the newspapers and noticed by myself.

TRANSFERRED to the Department Public Works.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 526. ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1873, No. 2,173-F.

IRRIGATION, No. 31.

ORDERED that this correspondence be communicated to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for report after personal investigation on the spot; during which he will give such instructions and make such arrangements as shall ensure the minimum of wastage from the Cortilliar River and Cholaveram Tank, and the maximum supply to the Red Hills Reservoir.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" District Engineer, Chingleput.
Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies.

Madras Municipality
No. 444 Madras 17th June 1873.

To,
W. S. Harrington Esqre
Executive Engineer
No. 2 Range.
Chingleput District.

Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to the low level of water in the Red Hills Lake, and to suggest the advisability of letting into it from the upper Reservoir the 4½ feet of water at present above the floor of the Head Sluice in the Cholaveram Tank.

2. In my opinion no time should be lost in doing this, as the reduction in the water level, owing to the demand on the Cholaveram Tank for irrigation, would soon be so rapid, (unless supplemented by heavy rains) as to fall below the outlet,

outlet; whereas if the water above the floor of the Head Sluice be at once allowed to flow into the Red Hills Lake, there would still be sufficient water in the Cholaveram Tank for cultivation, and an additional supply for Madras.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obt Servant.
/Sgd/ John C. Doyle.
President
Municipal Commission
Madras.

No 2. Range Office
110. Mount Road.
23rd June 1873.

No 422.

From
Executive Engineer
No 2. Mount Range.
Chingleput District.

To

The President.
Municipal Commission
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your No 444 dated 17th Instant I have the honour to observe that until work below water level in the Red Hills tank is completed I cannot let water into it from Cholaveram & by the end of the week when I shall have inspected it.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obt Servant
/Signd/ F. J. Moberly. Col. R. E.
for Executive Engineer
Mount Range.

Madras Municipality
Madras. 10th July 1873.

No 622.

To,

The Executive Engineer

No. 2. or Mount Range
Chingleput District.

Sir,

Referring to your letter No. 422 of the 23rd Ultimo I have the honour to bring to your notice that whereas the level in the Red Hills Tank is reduced 4 feet below that shown in your Return dated 23rd June 1873, the Town of Madras will be without any water from that source of supply.

It being most undesirable that this should happen, I have to request the favour of your reconsidering the question of letting water into the Lake from the Cholaveram Tank, at least to a small extent unless indeed you are quite satisfied that a good supply may be looked for within a month or two from the present time.

I have the honours to be,
Sir,
Your most Obt. Servant
(Signed) John B. Locke
President
Municipal Commission
Madras.

No. 2. Range Office
110. Mount Road
No. 489 11th July 1873.

From
The Executive Engineer
No. 2. Mount Range
Chingleput District.

To
The President
Municipal Commission
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honour to observe that you appear to be labouring under some mistake as to my No. 422 of the 23rd Ultimo

Ultimo ordered the opening
of the supply Channel Sluice
on the 30th Ultimo and have
this day sent a reminder to
the Officer in charge.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obt Servant
Signed J.T.J. Moberly. Col. R.E.
for Executive Engineer.

Madras Municipality
Madras 7th August 1873.

No 820.

To The Executive Engineer
No 2. or Mount Range.

Sir,

At the instance of the
Executive Engineer of the Munic-
ipality I am led to address you
again on the subject of the supply
of water available in the Red Hills
Lake, there being apparently
some ground for apprehension
that the water may fall below
the

the level at which it is drawn off
for the purpose of the Town
2. When on the 17th June last in
my No 444 I asked you to consi-
der the advisability of filling the
Lake as much as possible from
the Supply Reservoir the level of
water in each was 5.61 and 4.62
feet respectively.
3. From the last Return to hand
dated the 23rd Ultimo it appears the
water in the Red Hills Lake was
only 3.80 feet above our stopping
point while the Cholavaram Lake
had still 2½ feet of water available
for raising its level.
4. Judging from this information
I am led to believe that if the
Head Sluice between the Lakes
had been fully opened in June
it would not have occupied
about 33 days to discharge only
3 feet of water which is all the
effect produced up to this time.

5. I would therefore suggest the propriety of immediate steps being taken to raise the level of the water in the Red Hills Lake by every available means.

I have &c
/Signed/ John. C. Doch
President M.C.

No. 2. Range Office
9th August 1873.

No. 599.

To
The President M.C.
Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your No. 820 of 7th instant I have the honour to inform you that every drop of water which I can pass from Cholavaram has been discharged to the Red Hills tank. I should be glad to lower the former still more if I could, as its repairs are much impeded by the existing water.

I have &c
/Signed/ J. T. Mowbray Lieut. R.E.
for Ex. Engr.

Madras Municipality

No. 799 Madras 5th August 1873

To
The Executive Engineer
No. 2. Range.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to inform me whether the registration of the water taken for irrigation from the Cholavaram and Red Hills Lake is noted in your Department and if so by what rules the party entrusted with the work is guided.

I have &c
/Signed/ John. C. Doch.
President M.C.

No. 2. Range Office
Jamapett. 6th August 1873.

No. 586.

To
The President M.C.

Sir,

In reply to your No 799
dated 5th Instant I have the
honour to inform you that
the regulation of the water in
the Cholavaram and Red Hills
tanks is theoretically under this
Department, but no establish-
ment has yet been sanctioned
and we have not yet received
the Returns of Cultivation due
from the Collector.

I have &c.

(Signed) F. J. Mobuly Col: R. E.
for Executive Engr.

To
The Chairman
Madras Municipality

Madras 14th August 1873

No 882.

To
Lt Colonel F. J. Mobuly R. E.
District Engineer

Sir,

The extreme importance

of the question to the inhabitants
of Madras must be my excuse
for so soon addressing you
again on the subject of adopting
every possible measure to add
to the supply of water in the
Red Hills Lake.

2.- I am informed that if
no addition can be made to
this within the next few days,
by steps taken to diminish
the present daily use of the
water by the Ryots, it is
probable that the level of the
lake will be so much low-
ered before the end of the
month that it will be
below the lowest vent of the
Municipal Water Tower.

3.- The consequences which would
in all probability arise from
the stoppage of the water supply
of the Town at this season
of the year - I say nothing of

~~this inconvenience which~~
~~would undoubtedly be caused~~
~~by it might be so serious,~~
~~that I am sure~~ you will
concur with me in thinking
that nothing should be left
undone, which can be done
in order to prevent its occurrence.
~~I am~~ most reluctant to make
~~suggestions which may bear~~
~~the appearance of meddle-~~
~~some interference~~ on my part,
but as I observe from ~~your~~ the
last "Water Supply" Returns for-
=warded to this Office that
there have been freshes down
the Kortellix which have not-
been allowed to come into
the Cholaveram Lake at all,
I would suggest for your
consideration whether it
might not be possible to
let future freshes into that
Lake and fill them up at
once

9

once to the Red Hill Lake
through the connecting channel,
without raising the level of the
former, which for the reasons
stated in Executive Engineers'
(No 2. Range) No 599 dated 9th
August 1873 you wish to keep
down for some time to come.

5. Taking into consideration
the urgency of the case I have
to request that you will be
good enough to submit our
late correspondence on this
subject to the Secretary to Go-
=vernment in the Department
of Public Works and request him
to let you have early instruc-
=tions for your guidance.

I have &c

/Signed/ John. b. Loch
President M. C.

Chingleput District Engineer's Office

Georgetown 8th August 1873

No. 1332

From

The District Engineer

Chingleput

To

The President

Municipal Commissioners Madras

Sir

In acknowledging receipt of your No. 882 dated 11th instant, I have the honor to observe, that every means in my power has been used to increase the supply in Red Hill Tank. 1100 feet in length of Cholaveram tank was in a highly critical state a few days ago, and the guard bank in front was not finished; the water would not pass freely down the supply channel from the Cholaveram to the Red Hill lake. — contrary to theory, but I fear true to fact, it spread over the smooth surface of the water in the former instead of running down the rough channel to the latter, though tempted by a fall of 3 feet per mile. It clearly requires a head before it can overcome the friction.

I

G.M.C. 185

Municipal Commissioner's Office
Madras 19th August 1873.

From.

John B. Lock Esqre
President Municipal Commissm.
Madras.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St George

Sir.

I have the honour to forward herewith Copies of letters which have passed between the Executive Engineer S.E. 2 Range Chingleput District and myself since the 17th June last on the subject of increasing if possible the quantity of water available in the Red Hills Lake for the supply of the town of Madras.

2. When I first drew the attention of that Officer to the matter in my letter No. 444 of the 17th June, I did so from a feeling that it was only right and prudent that nothing should be left undone which could add to the available supply of water in the Red Hill Lake and not from any fear that so far as Madras was concerned there was a chance of this running short.

3

Rec 4982/73
R 29-Aug 1873

CE 2 Nov 73.

In anticipation of sanction of an estimate for Rs 2120 I have opened the Cholaveram tank bunds, and cannot with any consistency now apply to the Secretary to Government for instructions and therefore must decline to forward the correspondence.

I beg to point out that the lavish waste of water in the town was remarked on in the newspapers and noticed by myself.

I have &c
sd/ F. Mobray Lt Col RE
District Engineer Chingleput.

3. As time passed on, however, the Executive Engineer of the Municipality began to feel apprehensive that unless some check was put upon the apparently excessive supply allowed for irrigation purposes, and all the water coming down the Cortellear passed into the Lakes, such failure might actually occur, and I therefore once more addressed Colonel Moberly on the subject asking him, in my last letter in consideration of the urgency of the case to submit our correspondence to the Secretary to Government in the Department of Public Works, in order that he might receive early instructions for his guidance.

4. Colonel Moberly having informed me that he would prefer that the correspondence should be forwarded by me, I have now the honour to submit it for the consideration of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council with a request that instructions maybe given to him and the other officers concerned, to use their utmost endeavours to put a stop to waste in supplying water for irrigation and that Colonel Moberly shall take steps to satisfy himself that all the water coming down the river is really passed into the lakes, and that no portion

portion of it is allowed to run to waste.

5. If these measures are at once adopted and strictly observed, I am in hopes that there will be a sufficiency of water for the supply of Madras until the setting in of the N.E. Monsoon rains. In the meantime every effort is being made by the Municipal authorities to economise the use of the water in the town. The water required for flushing the town drains, for watering streets and avenue trees, is being taken from wells as formerly, and wastage at the public fountains prevented as much as possible.

6. Since writing the above, I have received an official reply to my last letter to the District Engineer Chingleput Range, of which he had previously only sent a demi-official acknowledgment; Copy of his letter has been added to the other Correspondence. I do not quite understand Colonel Moberly's object in making the statement with reference to the lavish use of water in the town which is contained in the last para of his letter, unless he wishes this waste to be considered as some justification of that complained of by me. In point of fact, he, in common with the News-papers, is altogether mistaken in supposing

Supposing that the waste of water has been very great. There has never been much waste in the use of the water, and at no time had it to be rationed. The people drawing water from the fountains are in the habit of rinsing their chatties out before filling them and again before carrying them off, sprinkle over the outside with a little water in order to get a firm hold of them. This practice, no doubt, makes a mess and small puddle round the fountains, and not unnaturally leads persons up to imagine that the water is being wasted, but I do not suppose that as much water is lost in this manner in the course of a month in the town as is at present wasted in the course of 24 hours in supplying the Cultivators outside Municipal limits.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

W. C. Work.

President

Municipal Commission

Transmitted to Govt. Secy. Madras

27 Aug. 73.

V. Perrett

Collector

Co 1433/73

Financial 1873 Department.

From The President Municipal Commrs Madras

No. 185

Dated 19th August 1873.

Recd. 22nd August

No. 1490

To The Secy to Govt

&c.

Forwards copies of letters which have passed between the Exr. Engr. & 2 Rangr, Chingleput & himself, since the 14th June last, on the subject of increasing if possible the quantity of water available in the Red Hills Lake for the supply of the town of Madras.

Fr. 2173 F - 29 aug 73

No 625

No. 2173 F. Wks. PWD

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the

Read the following

From the President of the Municipal Commrs Madras
thro the Financial Dept.
} F. & No. 1496 of 185 19th August 1873

Ordered that this correspondence be communicated to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for report after personal investigation on the spot, during which he will give such instructions and make such arrangements as shall insure the minimum of wastage from the Cortelliar River and Cholaveram Tank, and the maximum supply to the Red Hills Reservoir.

To The Chief Engr for Irrign
& Secy Engrs Chingleput
& Dupd 16/9/73

To Financial Dept
Sign & Comd 22/9/73

No. 4982

Govt. of [1873] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Chief Engr for Irrigation

Dated

Recd. Encl. /

G.O. 29 Augt. No. 2173.

Nos. 525 526

Water Supply.

Papers on the subject of increasing the quantity of water in the Red Hill Supply of the City of Madras, Con? & the Chief Engr for Irrigation with instruction

h=525.26.