M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 3025 Press

~~B.P.—No.~~ ~~Mis.~~

240-241

Dated 16-12-1873 ~~195~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 16th December 1873.

No. 270. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th October 1873, No. 2,141 :—

Read the following letter from F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Salem, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 30th August 1873, No. 253.

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the operations of the Department of Public Works in this district during the official year 1872-73, and to, as usual, enclose a copy of the Acting Sub-Collector's letter on the subject as connected with his division.

2. The annexed abstract statement shows the cost of new works and repairs under the several heads, as compared with the preceding year :—

Description of Works.	Expenditure for 1871-72.	Expenditure for 1872-73.	Comparison. Increase.	Comparison. Decrease.
New Works.	R. A. P.	RS.	RS. AS. P.	RS. A. P.
Irrigation	1,753 2 8	3,236	.....	517 2 8
Buildings	22,439 2 10	45,446	25,006 13 2	.....
Total...	24,192 5 6	48,682	25,006 13 2	517 2 8
Repairs.				
Irrigation	34,469 3 3	79,869	45,399 12 9	.....
Buildings	4,658 2 1	4,189	....	469 2 1
Total ..	39,127 5 4	84,058	45,399 12 9	469 2 1
Grand Total...	63,319 10 10	1,2[illegible]504	70,406 9 11	986 4 9

3. *Irrigation.*—The expenditure upon "new works" under this item amounted to Rupees 3,236, which was less by Rupees 517 than the outlay incurred in 1871-72. The grant on this account for the year under report was Rs. 9,589. In the Oossoor and Tirupatur Ranges the allotments were very fairly worked up, but in the Salem Ranges this was not the case. Rupees 5,050, granted for the construction of the Valamadevi tank in the Ahtur Taluq, were left untouched; the reason assigned for this being that the grant had been surrendered, as the estimate was to be revised. I have not as yet seen or heard of any revised estimate. A further sum of Rupees 5,050 was assigned for the re-construction of sluices and calingulahs of tanks in the Trichengode and Salem Taluqs, and the reason given in every case for the non-execution of the estimates was that there was water in the irrigation-works until the rainy season had set in. Deducting the amounts above alluded to, there was a small unexpended balance occasioned by savings in the execution of works. Of the works carried out, all were, with one exception, of minor importance and were really repairs, as they consisted in the construction of sluices and calingulahs to supply the places of others which had

J. G. S.

become useless. The exception referred to was the construction of a tank at Chinna Kristnapuram, in the Ahtur Taluq, upon which Rupees 1,386-7-1, out of a grant of Rupees 1,420, were expended. This work has now cost Rupees 6,369-14-9, and it is to be hoped that this year will see it completed. It has been in hand nearly five years.

Under the head of "repairs" the allotment was Rupees 86,000, of which Rupees 79,869 were expended. The works re[illegible] for this sum were eighty tanks five calingulahs, nine anicuts, and six channe[illegible]. The District Engineer, in his Administration Report, assigns, as the causes [illegible] not working up the whole allotment, the following reasons;—

"The short expenditure is due, in the *Salem Range*, to the Range [illegible]cer having retained a percentage of the amou[illegible] due on works he cannot measure on account of water in the tanks; in the *Oossoor Range*, to the unfavourable nature of the season and to the late sanction accorded to estimates (*vide* my letter, No. 37, of 13th March 1873, on the detention of estimates by the Revenue Department). In the *Tripatur Range*, the short expenditure is due to many of the tanks having retained water throughout the year and to the extreme prevalence of fever during the last two months."

Rupees 67,358-7-6.

Rupees 8,385-10-8.

Rupees 4,125-2-2.

As regards the Salem and Tripatur Range[illegible] I can say nothing, as I took charge of the district within a very few da[illegible] of the close of the official year. The Acting Head Assistant Collector, h[illegible]ever, in a letter to me on the subject seems to consider that a little more [illegible]y in the Tripatur Range would have produced better results. With respe[illegible] to the Oossoor Range, I can only say that, having moved about it a good de[illegible] during the year, I do not consider that the season was at all unfavourable to [illegible]ork. It was not nearly so wet a one as many that preceded it, and the cyclon[illegible] of May 1872 was the only really h[illegible]y rain that we had. I am much more [illegible]clined to attribute the shortcoming [illegible] the was of repairs to the carelessness [illegible]d idleness of the Taluq Overseer of [illegible]ssoor, who has since been dismissed under [illegible] the orders of Government, and to t[illegible] severe illness from small-pox, in the beginning [illegible] of January last, of the Range O[illegible]r, Mr. Paynter, who, from that time until he left [illegible]or England, was physicall[illegible]fit for duty, and could not bear any real exposure [illegible] moving about. I would observe, with reference to these remarks, that there [illegible] not a single estimate sanctioned in this range after December 1872; whereas [illegible] in the Salem Range and a few in Tripatur were passed in January 187[illegible]d subsequent months. The subject of the alleged delays occasioned by the Collector having to countersign estimate before they can be taken in hand having been already disposed of in the Proceed[illegible] of Government marginally noted, I do not revert to it. The largest item under "repairs" was the repair of the embankmen[illegible] of the Kaveri near Velur, in the Namkal Taluq, which cost Rupees 9,041-15-3, and which necessitated, in the opinion of the District Engineer, by neglect of con[illegible]ancy of the river-banks on the Coimbatore side. The damage caused by t[illegible]yclone of May 1872 called for the expenditure (with the object of saving revenue) of large sums on the repair of several considerable works, chiefly in the Namkal and Trichengode Talaq[illegible]

Dated 19th April 1873, No. 1,135.

which were either breached or seriously injured by it. The principal of these are noted in the margin. Of the repairs mentioned in the Acting Sub-Collector's report, Nos. 1 and 3 were alluded to by me last year, and No. 2 was required owing to the Morasur tank having breached during the cyclone in consequence of the bursting of other tanks in the Mysore territory above it.

1. Yadapady tank.
2. Andapuram ,,
3. Purthipulli ,,
4. Chendaraputty ,,
5. Womalore anicut.
6. Konniar ,,
7. Lathivady ,,
8. Edumbancolam tank.
9. Mangalam ,,
10. Mullasamoodrum ,,
11. Kotapolliéd[illegible]
12. Elipili anicut.
13. Agaram ,,

4. *Communications.*—In accordance with the remark made in paragraph 9 of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 2,041, dated 21st October 1872, no allusion is made to this subject.

5. *Buildings.*—The sum expended under this head during the year 1872-73 was Rupees 45,446 as against Rupees 20,439-2-10 in 1871-72. This increase was mainly attributable to additions to the Central Jail at Salem (Rupees [illegible]0,328), the construction of taluq cutcherries at Namkal and Ahtur (Rupees 8,335 and 3,307), the completion of the range of stabling for the Remount Depôt at Oossoor (Rupees 7,641), alterations to the Collector's Cutcherry (Rupees 2,628), and the building from the Surplus Pagoda Funds of chuttrums at Sooramungalem and Jolarpet (Rupees 9,288 and 3,918). The works at the Salem jail are still in progress. There is every probability of their being completed by the close of the current year. The Ahtur cutcherry is nearly finished. I saw it in February last, and it was then ready for occupation, with the exception of the flooring of the verandah. The District Engineer promised on the 11th April last, that we should have it handed over to us in two months' time; but though I have since sent him a reminder, the Revenue Department has not yet had charge made over to us. The present Tahsildar's office is a den, in which it is hopeless to attempt to make things straight and neat. I consider, from the inspections which I made of the new building, that its design is faulty in the matter of the jail; the verandah to which is very short and high, and which faces west. The consequence of this is that the afternoon sun shines straight into some of the wards, and that in wet weather, when there is any wind from the westward or south-westward, the rain will beat into the jail and render the place extremely damp. This defect might of course, be remedied by putting up pandals, but these, in the first place, would render, what is at present a [illegible] that they would be likely to give harbour to snakes there is the further objection [illegible] of their requiring renewal from time to time. and noxious insects, to say nothing

The Namkal cutcherry has been very recently made over to us. The General Charge Deputy-Collector reports favorably of the work, but strongly recommends the addition of verandahs, which he considers are much required as a protection from the weather for persons coming to the office on business. The stables at the Remount Depôt are to have been well constructed, and are fine buildings of their kind; but I think that they might have been cheaper, and that the use of teak [illegible] from Madras, was totally unnecessary when timber equally durable could have been procured from the Forest depôt at Denkenicottah, only 12 miles distant.

The chuttrum at Sooramungalam I have seen. It is pretty well advanced, and the work seems to be good. I think, though, that more hands might be employed upon it than there are at present. The Jollarapet chuttrum is—so the Acting Head Assistant Collector informs me—not progressing in a satisfactory manner. The reason assigned for the short expenditure was the unfavourable nature of the past season and the difficulty in procuring materials.

The alterations to my cutcherry are going on very slowly. I have not heard officially as to the plan finally decided upon, but I have been told by the Assistant Engineer, Mr. Turner, that it has been determined that no new building can be placed upon the present structure, and that the additions must be made by altering the Collector's room and building on to it. The press-room, which is very much needed, is in progress. Of the amount entered under the head of repairs (Rupees 4,189), Rupees 582 were paid as house-rent to Military subordinates, and the remainder was expended in small sums upon repairs to the various courts and cutcherries of the district. Repairs to the roof of the District Court-house alone cost Rupees 300. It appears to me to be a very indifferent building. The roof of the late Principal Sadr Amin's Court, which, whilst the alterations to my own cutcherry are going on, is being used as an office, leaks like a sieve whenever it rains. The latrine of the Subsidiary Jail at Oossoor was being repaired when I last saw it. The hospital was in a different order. The plan is, to my mind, faulty: the roof has a very sharp pitch, and does not appear to be sufficiently supported at the outer edge; consequence is that the tiles slip, and must always do so.

The District Engineer issued instructions to the Range Officer to prepare an estimate for the purpose of remedying the defects which I, in my last report, pointed out in the Denkenicottah Jail. That my remarks upon this subject were well founded has been shown by the fact that *a woman* got out of the jail under the nose of the sentry, and in the very manner that I had told the Executive Engineer was possible, and escaped clear of the cutcherry building. The estimate has not yet reached me. There has been ample time to allow of one being prepared a dozen times over.

6. I now turn to the requirements of my district.

7. *Irrigation.*—On the subject of new works under this head, it appears to me to be a waste of time to write further. All the projects, which have been from time to time brought forward, seem to have come to a standstill, and nothing satisfactory can, in my opinion, be done unless some qualified officer is specially employed to look into and work them out.

As regards repairs to irrigation works, they are still much needed everywhere, and are likely to be so for some years to come. That more are not sanctioned and carried out is, in my opinion, in a great measure due to the exceedingly high estimates for repairs to extremely petty works, which are put in by the Department of Public Works. I would beg to draw attention to paragraph 11 of my letter as Sub-Collector to the Collector, No. 428, dated July 19th, 1872. I have no desire to be in any way obstructive; but as I have to countersign estimates for repairs to irrigation works, and Government has decided that I have a right to remark upon them when sent to me by the District Engineer, I consider it my duty to express my views on the subject. I do not think that any man in his senses would put down a marble floor in a falling house, and why, therefore, should the Department of Public Works build a costly stone and chunam calingulah, with an expensive retaining wall in brick and chunam, to a tank which has got on very well for the better part of a century with one of "scratched stone," and which is now more than half silted up? The point which I would respectfully urge is that different kinds of Irrigation works require different classes of repairs, and that though expensive and durable masonry work may be in some cases most desirable, and in the long run economical, it would be in others a sheer waste of money. This district is, as the Board is aware, strewn with very numerous irrigation works, few of which are really of any size or individual importance. A large proportion is in need of repairs. The Department of Public Works will only estimate for one kind of work, which provides for stone and chunam or brick and chunam, and I as a Revenue Officer, am obliged to say that the repairs will not pay, as they far exceed the average income of five years. The consequence is that very many works which require repairs are not put in order, and that they are left to deteriorate, simply because the Department of Public Works will not provide for work which though not calculated to last for the next hundred years, would probably outlive the tank's period of usefulness, and would be sufficiently cheap to allow of its being carried out without loss to Government and with much profit to the ryots.

8. The subject of communications is, with reference to paragraph 4 of this letter, omitted from consideration.

9. *Buildings.*—The Deputy-Tahsildar's cutcherry at Pennagaram, which is very much required, is in course of completion, and will, I trust, be ready for occupation by the beginning of the next official year.

The taluq cutcherry at Dharampoory is very insecure, and I consider that a new one should be taken in hand as soon as possible. The work of building and the estimates and plans for the same is a Deputy-Tahsildar's site has been selected. The next most requisite building is a Deputy-Tahsildar's preparation or prepared. The present office is a native bazaar, and totally unfit cutcherry at Womalore, for the purpose to which it has been devoted. It is better than that at Pennagaram, but that is all that can be said of it. No estimate for this cutcherry has yet been sent in. The District Engineer has been called upon to prepare one.

The taluq cutcherry at Kistnagherry is exceedingly small and inconvenient, and it is, moreover, very old. One side is occupied by the records and a small room, which was formerly the sub-jail, which is now used as the Tahsildar's office. Another side of the three available rooms is occupied by the Police, store-rooms and the treasure-chest (the latter is now a treasury), and all the Gumastahs and the Sheristadars have to work in the verandah. The building might either be improved by extensions and repairs, or an entirely new one might be constructed. I am in favour of the latter course, as the cutcherry is in the heart of the town, and there is an excellent site for it outside Dowlatabad (new Kistnagherry) and half-way between it and the old town.

I would submit for consideration the question as to whether it would not be advisable to purchase for Government the Sub-Collector's office at Oossoor and the residence and outlying bungalows attached to it. The rental paid for the former alone amounts to Rupees 540 per annum in addition to making repairs, which certainly amount, on an average, to quite Rupees 60 a year more. This, at 10 per cent would represent a capital of Rupees 6,000. The house itself is rented for Rupees 100 a month, about one-third of which sum goes annually in repairs. This rental would be equivalent, at the rate above included, to a capital of Rs. 12,000, or Rupees 18,000 for the house and office. Mr. [illegible] asks Rupees 10,000 for the whole. I would not hesitate to strongly recommend the purchase of the property, did I not feel inclined to fear that the house is not safe. It has been said to have been falling for the last six or seven years, and though during the time that I lived in it, it was examined by several engineers, no one could come to a decided opinion regarding it. The general verdict was that it did not look safe, but that as it was built of excellent material and had hung together for so long, it might last for many years to come, or fall within twelve months. If upon a careful survey, it was pronounced safe, the investment would be a good one. The cost of the rental and of repairs to the present office would be entirely saved, as it would be more than covered by the rent of the house.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. WALLACE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Salem, dated Oossoor, 15th July 1873, No. 307.

WITH reference to your docket, No. 482, dated 19th ultimo, I have the honour to submit my report on the operations of the Department Public Works during the official year 1872-73.

2. The annexed abstract statement shows the cost of new works and repairs as compared with the preceding year:—

Description.	Expenditure in 1871-72.	Expenditure in 1872-73.	DIFFERENCE	
			Increase.	Decrease.
New Works.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Irrigation	2 14 0	1,053 4 5	82 6 5	.....
Communications	1 0 0	11,574 13 4	11,446 13 4	.....
Buildings	5,1[illegible] 3	572 2 11	.....	4,539 8 4
Total...	6,210 [illegible] 3	13,200 4 8	6,989 11 5	.....
Repairs.				
Irrigation	9,779 [illegible] 4	8,385 10 8	.....	1,393 5 8
Communications	22,92[illegible] 0	24,717 3 4	1,715 8 0	.....
Buildings	1,[illegible]61 3	1,[illegible] 3 4	789 3 2	.....
Total...	33,[illegible]97 [illegible] 8	3[illegible] 8 [illegible] 0	431 4 10	.....
Grand Total...	40,207 12 11	48,018 10 8	821 2 4	.....
		[illegible] 0	7,810 13 9	.....

3. *Irrigation.*—The expenditure on "new works" under this head during the year under report was Rupees 1,053-4-5, being Rupees 82-6-5 in excess of that incurred during the year preceding. From the Progress Report of the Department Public Works I find that the works on which this amount was spent were pretty ones, such as the construction of calingulahs to certain tanks; the estimate in no case exceeding Rupees 400. The expenditure on "repairs" amounts to Rupees 8,385-10-8, which is less by Rupees 1,393-5-8 than the amount spent in 1871-72. The principal works on which a greater part of this amount was laid out are those mentioned in the margin.

1. Repairing Nadupatti anicut-channel, Rupees 6[illegible].
2. Do. and strengthening bund, closing breach, and constructing two sluices to the Morasur tank, Rupees 1,688.
3. Do. the bund of Adamankottah tank, Rupees 1,870.
4. Do. the bund and re-constructing the channel of Malayandapalle tank, Rupees 767.

4. *Communications.*—The outlay on "new works" under this head was Rupees 11,574-13-4. This may be considered satisfactory, seeing that the expenditure in 1871-72 under the same head was no more than Rupees 128. The expenditure was partly incurred on cross local roads newly projected and sanctioned by Government, and partly on the bridges noted in the margin. The amount of expenditure on "repairs" was also slightly in excess of that of past year, and was incurred chiefly on the imperial lines transferred to the Department Public Works in the last year's Local Fund Budget.

1. Re-constructing the Malapadi bridge in the Kistnagherry Taluq, Rupees 3,300.
2. Completing the approaches of the bridge across the Pennaur, Rupees 730.
3. Constructing a skew-bridge on the road from Palcode to Adamankottah, Rupees 2,500.

5. *Buildings.*—There has been a decrease of Rupees 4,539-8-4 under "new works," and an increase of Rupees 134-4-10 under "repairs" compared with similar items of the year 1871-72. The principal work under the former head appears to be "the improvements to the old District Munsif's Court at Kistnagherry to adapt it for a subsidiary jail." This work has been completed at a cost of Rupees 2,536. The other items both under this head and under that of "repairs" were of a petty nature, and need no remark.

6. With regard to the requirements of the Division, I am not, having only recently joined the district, yet in a position to speak much has been done so; much almost as to leave comparatively little to be done for roads.

7. While continuing to attach to these the importance they deserve, I purpose to give my best consideration to the improvement of the existing works of irrigation.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) T. PRITCHARD,
Deputy Collector,
for *Acting Collector.*

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The past year was on the whole one of more activity than that which preceded it; but it was found necessary to surrender Rupees 6,353 out of an allotment of Rupees 9,589 for new works of irrigation!

3. Under the head of repairs the expenditure was not very much below the allotted sum.

4. Under buildings the sum expended largely exceeded that spent during the previous year.

5. The Central Jail, the Tahsildar's cutcherries at Namkal and Ahtur, and the stables at Oossoor, and the chuttrums at Sooramungalam and Pullempet, all absorbed large sums.

6. The Collector's remarks [illegible] protection to the wards of Ahtur [illegible] from the westerly sun and rain [illegible] the attention of the Department [illegible] Works.

Paragraph 5.

7. Similar protection would seem [illegible] to the cutcherry at Namkal.

8. The [illegible] Department [illegible] sub-jail should also be remedied.

9. Mr. Price's remarks on the difficulties in getting minor repairs executed in an economical manner suited to the circumstances of different works and localities are, the Board think, worthy of attention. The general rule of the department, which insists on all masonry work being executed in the most substantial way, often results in the neglect of smaller works which will not bear such expensive treatment.

Paragraph 7.

10. The want of cutcherry accommodation at Dharampoory, Kistnagherry, and Wonlore, should, if possible, be supplied next year.

Paragraph 9.

11. The Board think that the proposed purchase of the house and buildings at Oossoor deserves consideration, and suggest that they should be examined and reported on by an experienced engineer officer.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 211.

ORDER THEREON, 16th December 1873, No. 3,025.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 23.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, Salem.

in Council cannot but regard the expenditure of only Rupees 3,256 on ... Rupees 9,589 on new works of irrigation ... on again drawing the attention of the ... to the instructions ... of G. O., of 18th January 1873, No. ... ps as will prevent the non-utilization ... o made available. The shortcoming ... of the need for additional ... anding and experience. ... executive staff of the ... quartering Captain ... completes the trace ... to the District Engineer to make such other ... he may consider advisable. The ... held responsible that he makes himself ... the district and sees that it is properly ... regarding the difficulty in getting ... reference to the Chief Engineer for ... are under building largely ... means ... noticed in G. ... under this head during the ... subject having however been ... 1873, and No. 2,975, dated 9th Dec. Ru...

paratively so small a grant as ... unsatisfactory; and he resolved ... neer for Irrigation to the subject, ... veyed to him in paragraph ... that he will take such steps ... extent to which they may ... be to a certain extent palliated ... officers, and there is no doubt ... district of an officer of some ... in Council proposes to supply ... relieved of his district charge and ... charge of the Oossoor Range, leaving ... distribution of the agency at his ... District Engineer will himself however ... personally acquainted with the ... carried out.

2. The remarks of the Board ... minor repairs carried out economically ... Irrigation for such notice as the ... 207 | 1 | 8 | 207 | 1 | 11

3. The Board remark that ... that of the previous year ... The subject having however ... 1873, and No. 2,975, dated 9th Dec. Ru...

sary at present. The District Engineer will give his early attention to paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings. It is believed that as regards the wards of the Ahtoor sub-jail honey-comb work between the pillars of the existing verandah, where found to be required from the particular aspect of the building, would be the best remedy. The protection needed to the Namkal cutcherry will be provided by the addition of verandahs. Orders have recently been issued for altering the standard design accordingly.

4. His Excellency in Council observes that the attention of the District Engineer having been drawn to the insecure condition of the Denkenicottah sub-jail in Government Order of 18th January last, the works required for its repair should have been provided for ere this. The District Engineer will report what action has been taken in the matter.

5. Adverting to paragraph 10 it is presumed that the Collector and District Engineer have agreed as to the Civil Buildings which should be included in the Budget of 1874-75, and the submission of the necessary plans and estimates should be expedited.

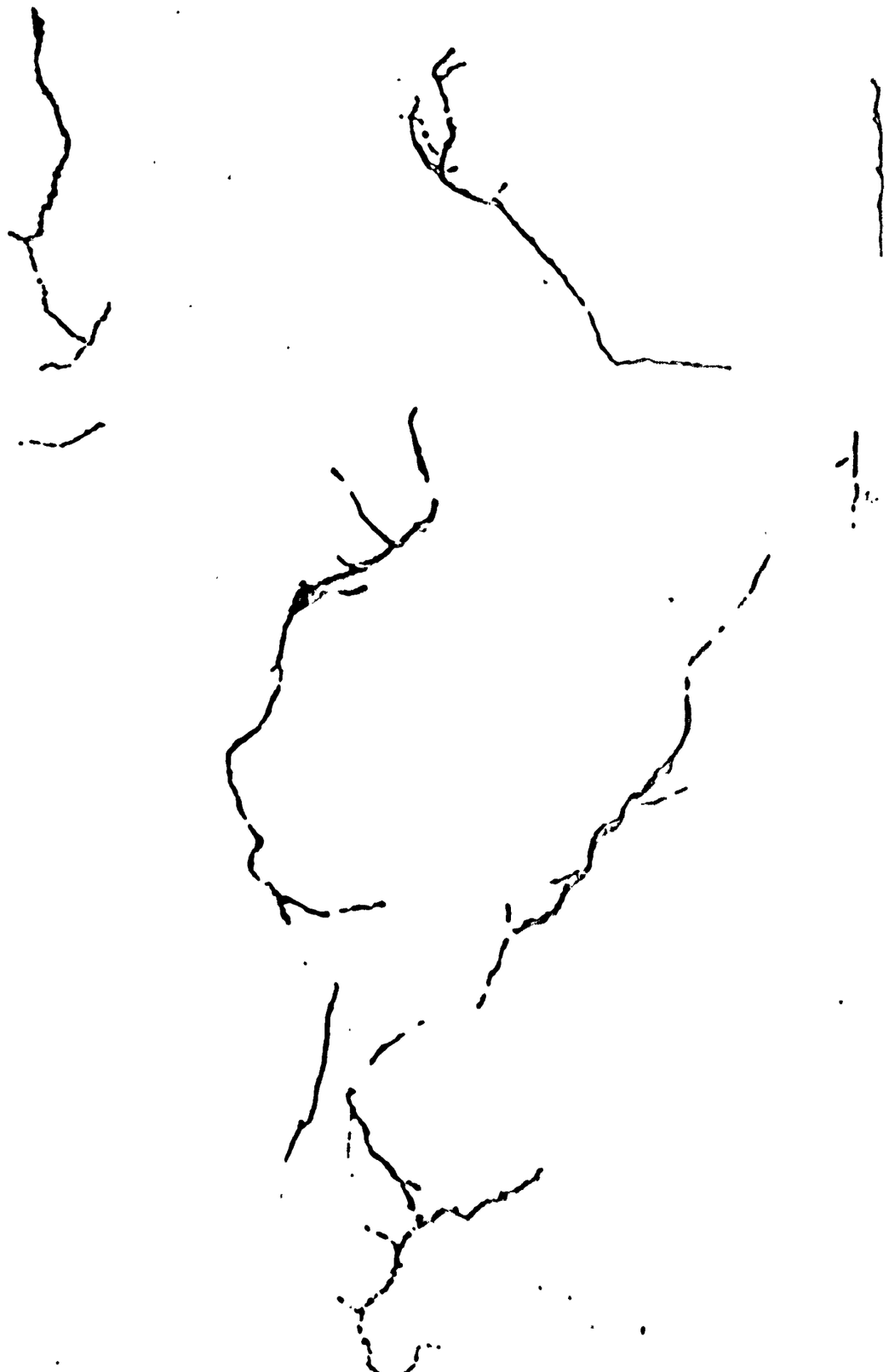
6. The Inspecting Engineer for Buildings will take the first opportunity of examining the buildings occupied by the Sub-Collector at Oossoor, and reporting on the advisability of effecting the purchase advocated by the Collector.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Board of Revenue.
" Inspecting Engineer for Buildings.
" District Engineer, Salem.
" District Engineer, Malabar.
" Judicial Department.

Fxd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies



The following transfers are proposed — viz
Wm. O'Ratigan, from Madisonville Station, Tallahatchie to Vicksburg Levee Section, vice Wm. J. M. Hill, who exchanges —

The former complains of bad health, & wants a change; The latter must be removed from South Mississippi, in consequence of his insubordinate behaviour to the Dist. Insp.

Captain N. Bailey will be soon after entering on the duties of S.S. as District Engineer of Madison, claiming what at one time it is proposed that L. D. Boyles shall take up Levee Range from Capt. Bailey — A two fold object will be gained

in the removal of Capt. Hanley
from Madison where it is evi-
dent that Capt. Ware
needs the command there -
Read in Providence Salem with
an efficient Officer in the
place of the Resigned, from which of
whom the Dist. Insp. is at pre-
sent debarred from taking
any Privilege Leave -
The Aspen Range Officer, Mr.
Imputer, who soe keeps in April,
to be relieved by Mr. Superviser
West, from the Providence, who
in Capt. Bailey's removal
take up the vacancy, place of
Asst. (Asst.) Inspector in the
Salem District. Or else take up the
the Mouse? Inst. Division
Richmond Dist. -

These seem the best arrangements
that can be made. —

W.C.

Selected

3025 Mrd

15

Pro: of the Madras Govt.

Read the following

Pro: of the Bd of Rev. (H.L. No. 2141 of 18 Oct 13)

Communicated to
the District Engineer, Salem.
His Excellency the
Governor in Council can-
-not but regard the exc-
-penditure of Rs 3,236 out
of comparatively so small
a grant as Rs 9,589 on new
works of Irrigation as most
unsatisfactory; and he re-
-solves on again drawing
the attention of the Chief
Engineer for Irrigation to the
subject, with reference to the
instructions already conveyed
to him in Para 4 of G.O. of

January 1873 Do. 173. in the
hope that he will take
such steps as will prevent
the non utilization of grants
to the extent to which they
may be made available.
It is observed however that
this disproportionately small
outlay would reflect more
discredit on the manage-
ment of the District were
it not been for exceptional
reasons which in some
measure account for the
shortcomings noticed by
the Collector and Revenue
Board. During the year
the operations of which
are under review, there
were frequent changes of
officers which could not
but be prejudicial to the
efficient working of the

Public Works Department
of the District. The District
charge devolved alternately
on three officers Colonel
Foord (as Supt Engineer)
and Majors Vertue and
Hunter as District Eng-
-ineers. Mr. Lawford who
had charge of the Salem
Range was transferred.
Mr Paynter, who was in
charge of the Coimbatore Range
was, as stated by the Collector
incapacitated by serious
illness from exercising the
control which would have
ensured more satisfactory
results, and which were
marred by the carelessness
of an overseer who has since
been dismissed. The Tripatore
Range was in charge of a
Supervisor. I. Appavoo who ably

who had rendered good service, but had latterly become effete, and has since been pensioned. The Range charges are now held by Mr. Turner, Sub Conductor Treat, and Mr. Hiscox, who all bear a good reputation, and it is hoped that under their management the Governor in Council will be able to notice a marked improvement in the operations of this year. It is clear however that notwithstanding this change in the Executive Agency of the District the need for an officer of some standing and experience is felt; and this want his Excellency in Council proposes to supply by transferring Capt. Bailey, as soon as he may be relieved of his District charge, and completes the trace of the Kotiaky Chaut to the charge of the Lower Range, leaving it to the District Engineer to make such other distribution of the Agency at his disposal as he may consider advisable.

The D.E. will himself however be held responsible that he makes himself personally acquainted with the work of the District and sees that it is properly carried out.

The remarks of the Board in Para 9 regarding the difficulty in getting minor Repairs carried out economically will be referred to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation for such notice as the subject may demand.

The Board remark that the expenditure under Buildings largely exceeded that of the previous year; but it was by no means commensurate with the grant.

The subject having however been specially noticed in Ddo. 1626 of 21st June 1873 and Do. 2975 dated 9th Dect/73 no further comment seems necessary at present. The District Engineer will give his early attention to Para 6 of the Board's Proceedings. It is believed that as regards the wards of the Ahtoor Sub Jail honey Comb work between the pillars of the existing Verandah where found to be required from the particular aspect of the building, the best remedy. The protection needed to the Central Gutter-ery will be provided by the addition of Verandahs. Orders have recently been issued for altering the standard design accordingly.

His Excellency in Council observes that the attention

of the District Engineer has been drawn to the insecure condition of the Dist Kutcherry at Sub Jail in G.O. of 18th January last, the works required for its repair should have been provided for ere this. The District Engineer will report what action has been taken in the matter.

Adverting to Para 10 it is presumed that the Collector and District Engineer have agreed as to the Civil Buildings which should be included in the Budget of 1874-5, and the submission of the necessary plans and estimates should be expedited.

The Inspecting Engineer for Buildings will take the first opportunity

of examining the buildings occupied by the Sub. Collector at Dofoor and reporting on the advisability of effecting the purchase advocated by the Collector.

Gen.

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2/12/73

To the Chief Engr for Inf:
13 " Ld of Revt
4 " Ld Revt for Ld Govt
5 " Offrs Residences Athalabad
11 " Jail Dofoor

Desp. 19/12/73 Mills & C

h: 270.71

Gir 18 Kurj 73 12 24

Cmc 5909

Govt. of [1873] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Collr of Chingleput for Irrigation

Dated

Recd. Encl

G. O. 16th Decr 73. No. 3025.

Nos. 2411 & 2711

Public Works in the Salem District

Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue on Collector's report on Public Works in the Salem District during 1872-73

No 5645