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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	755	(2)	Press
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	18-3-	1875	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

3-1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th March 1875.*

Read the following papers —

No. 450 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th January 1875,
No. 87.

From W. McQUHAE, Esq, Collector of Madura, to J GROSE, Esq, Secretary
to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st December 1874, No 410.

I HAVE the honor to report that the District Engineer has made a proposal which may prove of great benefit to the irrigation of this district, if the large Perryaur Project now before Government is not carried out. It is to have a reservoir on the Vygay river, and to supplement its water by a supply channel from the Perryaur.

2 Colonel Fischer writes as follows —

“As far as I can ascertain at present, there is always upwards of 100,000 cubic yards per hour of water flowing in the Vygay from June to September *in its rocky bed*, but as soon as the water passes this into the wide, sandy bed below the Chittanai anicut, it is all absorbed and carried down to the sea under-ground; I have known rises of 3 or 4 feet in the rocky bed which never came down lower than Sholavundan and then only just to wet the sand, now when the river has this quantity of water flowing in it, the discharge cannot be much less than half million cubic yards per hour, and such freshes are said to occur two or three times a month from June to September, from October to December the heavier freshes of the river prevail.”

“As regards the Perryaur, the flow is said to be perennial, but I have been able to find registers for two years only, in a Statement marked H, and which I believe accompanied one of Mr. Smith's reports to Government, but from these it is quite evident we can obtain a good supply for storage on the Vygay; if then this proposal is taken up for investigation, many of the difficulties connected with the original Perryaur Project can be avoided I believe; instead of a dam 220 feet high on this river, an anicut of moderate height will probably answer all purposes; then there will be no need of cutting any water-shed to un-water the Perryaur to construct a dam on this, it will not, I think, be necessary to have a tunnel, and the head maintained on this to get water through it can be utilized in passing a supply channel through the water shed with much less cutting, there is nothing to show as far as I can find that the Perryaur has a sufficient supply of water in it to fill a reservoir to the proper height in the early part of the season to maintain a full head at the tunnel, whereas it would always be able to afford at least 100,000 cubic yards per hour of water by a supply channel to a reservoir on the Vygay, and by having this principal work on this river, all difficulties in regard to labor, supply of food for work-people, &c, can be more readily met and overcome, under all these circumstances, I am induced to bring the subject forward for consideration at once, though in a very incomplete form, but it appears to me we have the opportunity of establishing a very useful project in this district if the means are afforded to make the investigations, with the rain-fall said to prevail at Combay from June to September, I feel sure the people are not wrong in what they allege regarding the flow of water in the Vygay during these months I gauged the river once in last July, and then there was over 100,000 cubic yards per hour flowing

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down, and to my certain knowledge a fresh which passed Madura at the end of June and beginning of July and two other which never reached below Sholavundan occurred during this month, if these waters were supplemented from the Perryaur, we should probably be able to distribute some 250,000 cubic yards per hour during the early months of the season of any year and store all the later floods for use during the hot weather."

3 Colonel Fischer estimates the total cost of the establishment required for making the necessary preliminary investigations at Rupees 1,800 only, and if his scheme be practicable, it will undoubtedly be of immense benefit in the event of Government declining to undertake the large and more expensive project already before them.

4 Colonel Fischer requests me to recommend the proposal for the consideration of the Board of Revenue, but the questions raised are so entirely questions of engineering, that I presume instructions on the subject can only be issued by Government in the Department Public Works. Colonel Fischer informs me that he has already addressed the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government

2 The District Engineer is of opinion that if a reservoir is constructed on the Vygay, it may be supplemented from the Perryaur by means of works of moderate difficulty, and the Collector thinks this project should be taken into consideration if the greater project now before Government is abandoned.

3 The Board do not understand how Colonel Fischer proposes to get water from the Perryaur over the saddle which separates it from the valley of the Vygay by means of an anicut "of moderate height," but this is a matter for professional opinion.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
25th January 1875.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government, R.D.

No. 187.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL FISCHER has already been informed, in reply to communications on this subject addressed to the undersigned, that on his showing what amount of water in the Vygay remains at present unutilized, proposals for turning the surplus to account will be considered.

2. So far as this officer's remarks on the way in which the Perryaur supply could be made use of, without any costly works upon that river, are intelligible, they would appear to be based upon a want of knowledge of the circumstances. It is believed that the Perryaur has been very completely examined, and that it is altogether impracticable to transfer its waters from its own valley into the Madura District without a great dam of some kind.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th March 1875.*

3 Pending the issue of final orders on the Perryaur Project, the District Engineer cannot do better than devote his attention to making the existing irrigation works of the district safe and efficient

CAMP AT RAJOOPOLLIEM, (Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
15th February 1875. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 452.

ORDER THEREON, 18th March 1875, No. 755.

IRRIGATION, No. 29

THE Government have read with interest Colonel Fischer's observations of a general character on the augmentation of the water-supply of the Vygay.

2. They are not prepared to give any opinion on the subject until they have disposed of the large question—the Perryaur Project. But they hope that in the meantime Colonel Fischer will have made himself more fully acquainted with the matter and be able to submit more definite proposals.

(True Extract)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation
District Engineer, Madura

Exd W J Lewis.

Spare Copies

No. 187. 3
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Engineer cannot do better than devote
his attention to making the existing
irrigation works of the District safe
and efficient.

Camp at
Payopolliem

15 February
1875

subscribed

Lieut Col Rb.

Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To The Secretary to Government
P.W.D.

P. W. 1875 Sept.
No. 107.
No. 1127

From

The Chief Engineer
In Irrigation

To

The Secy to Govt.
P. W. Dept.

Of 15th Feby. 1875 }
Ry. 19th ——— }

Note on the proposal
of the Dist. Engr. Madura
for the irrigation of the
Dist. in the event of
the Perryann Project
not being sanctioned.

S.O. No. 755. 18.2.75

The Government are
not prepared to sanction
any further investigations
for turning the water supply
of the upper part of the
Perryann into the Madura
District. This subject
has been very fully en-
quired into, and it is
more than improbable
that any further in-
formation of value could
be obtained by fresh
examinations, and Lieut.
Colonel Fischer is evidently
unaware

unaware of the extent to which the investigations up to date have been carried.

2. Proposals for the utilization of any part of the water supply of the Vygay can be made when Lieut. Col. Fischer shall have ascertained what the surplus is, where more water is most required, and how it can best be made use of. The time has not yet arrived for the employment of field establishments, and a clear preliminary report must be submitted before any expenditure on such can be sanctioned.

To The Dist. Insp. Madras
" - Chief Insp. for Irrigation
" - Revenue Depto -

Proceedings of the Uadras Government
Read the following.
Proceedings of the Bd of Rev: H.E. N. 87 - 27/16th Jan'y/74.
Vote by Chief Insp. for H.E. N. 137 - 27/15th Feb'y/75.

I am brought to that I do not think Col. Fischer's ideas are intelligible as they are far too vague to the Revenue Bd. and the Bd. of Rev. are not in fact interested about anything of the kind. The sort of thing I am alluding to is the project now in circulation. But I do not know. But I consider Col. Fischer's proposals ideas to be sufficiently defined in his own mind to warrant his being authorized to enter on a survey party to try to make investigations.

project. But they need ideas, which in the meantime would warrant Mr. Fischer with having made himself more fully acquainted with

unaware of the extent to
which the investigations
up to 1 + 1

carried out the scope of which he is
apparently unable to
define with precision.
He has hazarded such
wild statements with
reference to the Gondal
District. He has in such a
careless manner
with the country that
it is evident he knows
far less about the loca-
lity than is patent to
those who have studied
the papers connected
with the Perryas Project.
Such further investigations
as may be necessary can
be managed to be carried
out under instructions
from the Chief Engineer
for Dargatwad, where the
can be

Proceedings of the Uadras & Government
Read the following.
Proceedings of the B. & P. No. 87- of 16th Jan'y /74.
Vote by Chief Eng. for No. 137- of 15th Feb'y /75.
75 4

Perryas papers shall
have been disposed of -
An alternative draft
to that effect is proposed.
L. M. M. Col.
20.2.75
It is by no means a new
thing to find 2nd Lt. Diche's
papers & very short time
after joining of District
to which previously he
was a perfect stranger, 2nd Lt.
Diche's papers with
proposals for the im-
provement of it, in
sation, based on no
thing more than a
study of maps and
a few cross-sections
rides - This was notably
left.

- Revenue Depto

major project. But they
hope that in the meantime
Col. Diche will have made
himself more fully acquainted
with the new ideas, which
would warrant
his being so.

unaware of the extent to
which the investigations
up to date have been

carried

2

utilizing

of the

Vygo

Lieut

have

the

water

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be

The case when he relieved
me of charge of the Hel-
sary District in 1856.

Before he had been six
weeks in it he had sent
down to Colonel Dabbe
a vast project for the re-
gulation of the waters of
the Tumbuddon, Per-
mian, and Shuggy Rivers, which
however, before 3 months
were over, he had found
reason to withhold his
ing unhesitatingly com-
mitted Col. Dabbe, with Govt.
as a supporter of his able
scheme! Colonel Mullins
and myself desire ven-
phatically to protest a-
gainst any speculative
action or crude ideas.

Good

- Revenue Dept

Proceedings of the
Proceedings of the B. & P.
Note by Chief Secy for
Dir Gen -

I will alter the
Draft as proposed
by the Division
J. P. 3/3

I would say:-

The Govt. have
read with interest Col.
Disher's observations of an
general character on the
augmentation of the water
supply of the Vygo.

They are not
prepared to give any
opinion on the subject
until they have disposed
of the large question - the
Perman project. But they
hope that in the meantime
Col. Discher will have made
himself more fully acquainted

Madras Revenue
Read the following.
H.S. N. 87- of 16th Jan'y /74.
H.S. N. 187- of 15th Feb'y /75.
75

H. P. The Govt.
does not consider,
from the Madras
District Engineer's
letter to the Col-
lector, taken in
connection with
his letter to Govt.
concerning the
Govd. Govt. should
disposed of in
G.O. N. of 2nd Feb.
Discher has sta-
ried the subject
of diverting the
waters of the Per-
mian into the Ma-
dason District
sufficiently to
have formed
very well defi-
ned ideas, wh-
would warrant
his being

pleased with all
Survey Establish-
ment for their
development.

The Perry or Pro-
ject has been
long under the
consideration
of Govt; & when
their decision
relating to it
shall have been
formed, and
communicated
to the Dist. Insp.,
he will be at
liberty to lay
before the Ch.
Insp. for more
definite
proposals for
the subject,
based on the in-
formation al-
ready accumu-
lated, and
which will then
be published.

L. W. W.

23.2.78

with the matter & be able
to submit more definite
proposals.

26/2 MR

To The Chief Insp. for the
District Insp. General

Staff. 22-3-78

1127 523

Govt. of (1875) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Chief Engineer
Irrigation.

Dated

Recd.

Encl

G O. 1875, No.

758
Nos. 250-452.

Irrigation — Madras D.

The D. Eng. informed
that no opinion on the
subject of his proposal for
augmenting the ^{water} supply of
the Vignas can be given
until the Poryann
Project question has been
disposed of.