

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Publications

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3189	Press
B.P. No.		Mis. _____
Dated	28 - 11	C876
		195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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(1)

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1876. No. 3,189.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 506. Report of J. C. JOHNSTON, Esq., Assistant Engineer, on Special Duty, Cumbum Tank Works, for the week ended 14th October 1876.

I was engaged five days out of the six in surveying and plotting the principal streets of the town. I have finished $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, while the Surveyor has completed most of the levels with the surveys of some of the principal lanes. These latter are being plotted in. I hope to finish the whole survey this week.

2. The Overseer has been ill the whole week of fever. As he lives in Cumbum, I have ordered him on my own responsibility to build himself a hut at Candlapooram, as also same for the writers and draughtsman. The whole four huts will cost about Rupees 300. I have taken Mr. Farmer's opinion on the subject, and he thinks that considering the feverishness of Cumbum, and that a week's illness means a week's work lost, Government will approve of my erecting sheds for the staff. It is left to Government of course to decide what rent should be paid, both in my case and in that of my subordinates.

3. Three of my lascars were suddenly taken ill with diarrhoea, due, according to Dr. Harrison's opinion, to some bad food eaten by them. Two of them were sent to the hospital for treatment, while the least serious case was treated and cured by me. This sudden illness among the lascars stopped my surveying for one day; it was afterwards continued with hired coolies.

4. I have been trying to induce other Wuddahs to work on the Gundlacamma channel, but on inspection of the work they have refused. Blasting has been resorted to, and the Overseer has been ordered to put on daily coolies. If these men do not work satisfactorily I shall be obliged to raise the rate for the stone. About 280 cubic yards have been quarried in all.

5. Owing to a gathering at my father's house at Nundial of the scattered members of the family from all parts of India, I have applied for ten days' leave of absence, if Government grant me this leave I shall not of course leave my post till I have supplied my subordinates with sufficient work to occupy them till my return. I am very averse to taking leave just now, but it is at the urgent request of my friends that I make the application, and because I have not yet received any orders as to what scheme is to be carried out.

CANDLAPPOORAM,
17th October 1876.

(Signed) J. C. JOHNSTON,
Assistant Engineer, on Special Duty.

No. 506-A. Report from the same Officer, in charge of Cumbum Tank Works, for the week ended 21st October 1876.

The clearing of jungle on the Chinna Cumbum channel was recommenced this week, at least for the first 4,000 feet by the Revenue Department. The Overseer has completed the revised estimate, taking length by length and giving an average depth, and this gives the same result approximately as the former estimate gave, as seen below:—

Former estimate, 30,360 square yards.

Revised do. 29,130 do.

Mr. Farmer requires, before he can complete the clearing beyond the 4,000 feet, a sketch plotted to a scale showing the channel, with jungle to be cleared on each side. As the Overseer has nothing very particular to do till the jungle is cleared, I have ordered him to make the sketch.

(3)

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1876. No. 3,189.*

2. It is now a month since I pointed out to Mr. Farmer what jungle I wanted cleared, and the whole work of clearing could easily have been done in a week or less. I should like the next time I have any clearing to make on these channels to do it myself. I think there would be less time wasted in unnecessary correspondence and useless sketches.

3. Before commencing the ring-bunds in front of the sluices, I wrote to Mr. Farmer stating what I wanted to do, and asking whether *any* shutting off of water would damage the crops in any way. His reply was opposed to my attempting in any way to shut off the water till the crops were reaped, which will be in about two months.

4. I have been obliged at last to raise the rate for the rock-cutting in the Gundlacamma river channel from Rs. 0-5-4 to 0-8-0. The deeper the Wuddahs went the harder became the rock, and this fact goes to prove that in excavating at all we are going *below* the old bed of the river. It is not simple boulders we are blasting, but through ridges of hard rock which extend right across the valley. I must therefore record it as my opinion that in excavating this channel we are going *below* the sound bed of the river. I am afraid that when the cut through the road is reached, we shall find it necessary to blast further into the river. I may find I am wrong, and that I am draining a deep hole, but to make sure I will order borings to be made if there is such a thing as a boring apparatus to be obtained in the Range stores. When I first framed the estimate for the channel I thought from inquiries that simple boulders of rock deposited by the action of the water, and silted up all round, would have to be removed. I now find that there are no boulders, but continuous ridges of hard rock, very slightly disintegrated on the surface. It is a peculiar fact that a pool of water close to the river and full before the latter was drained, is still as full as before. 382 cubic yards of rock have been quarried up to date.

5. The Surveyor has surveyed and plotted very nearly all the lanes of the town. The work is one of great detail and is very troublesome. The survey of the channels made with the Gunter's chain I am now plotting to a scale of $\frac{1}{1000}$ to suit the longitudinal sections. I found a slight difficulty at first in plotting, but very soon overcame it by making a scale to suit the purpose.

6. The health of the staff during the week has been good.

CANDLAPOORAM,
23rd October 1876.

(Signed) J. C. JOHNSTON,
Assistant Engineer.

No. 506-B. Report from the same Officer on Special Duty, Cumbum Tank Works, for the week ended the 28th October 1876.

I WENT to the Chinna Cumbum channel early in the week, and inspected the cutting of brushwood being done by Mr Farmer. He had only attempted the first 4,000 feet and did not wish to continue till I had approved of what had been already done. The Revenue Inspector was on the bank, and I pointed out to him that simply *cutting* the brushwood was not *clearing* it, and explained what further I required done. He appeared to understand perfectly, and I hope that now the work will be continued without any further delay. It must be noted that my estimate provided for rooting out the jungle, especially on the tow-path, and that Mr Farmer, to effect a saving, is allowed to leave the stumps of trees provided they are not above 3 feet in height, that is, below the usual height of a levelling instrument. I fully expect when I have the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
28th November 1876. No. 3,189.*

construction of this channel to commence, I shall have to do some clearing again. The present clearing will enable me to have the levels run, and I must be satisfied with that. The Overseer has completed the sketch of jungle to be cleared, and the same was forwarded to Mr. Farmer on Friday last.

2. The first three days of the week I devoted myself to inking in the Survey Plan of the town. Since that I have been suffering severely from tooth-ache and neuralgia and could not sit down to much office work.

3. The Surveyor has attended my office daily to put a few more details into both the general and the town survey. In a few days he will commence the survey of the Chinna Cumbum channel and the country south of the Gundlacamma.

4. The Overseer is at present encamped on the Chinna Cumbum channel, to complete the longitudinal and cross sections. He wishes after this is done to take ten days' casual leave to proceed to Koilgoontla and return with his family.

5. After deducting 15 per cent. from the measurements of stone quarried from the Gundlacamma river channel and *stacked*, I find that the total quantity done amounts to 432 cubic yards. I do not see the utility of the work, as already explained in my last report.

6. The health of the staff has been on the whole good.

CANDLAPOOR,
30th October 1876.

(Signed) J. C. JOHNSTON,
Asst. Engineer, on Special Duty.

No. 507.

ORDER THEREON, 28th November 1876, No. 3,189.

IRRIGATION, No. 42-A.

THE construction of huts at Candlapooram for the Overseer and office establishment is approved; the Assistant

Engineer should forward an estimate for sanction. The cost will be charged to the improvement of the irrigation under the Cumbum tank.

2. Mr. Johnston will for the future arrange for carrying out under his own orders all clearances of jungle on the Cumbum tank channels required for survey and levelling operations or for the execution of work under his supervision.

3. With regard to the depth to which the channel joining the Gundlacamma above and below the Seekrail anicut should be cut, the Assistant Engineer should determine this from the general levels of the river. There is no reason why any room for doubt should be left as to the proper level of this channel, which will at least for a time be a part of the general bed of the river.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Special Engineer, Cumbum.
" District Engineer, Kurnool.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Examiner of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

Report of Mr J. C. Johnston ⁽⁵⁾ Assistant
Engineer on special duty, Kumlung-Tank
works, for the week ended 14th October 1876

I was engaged 5 days out of the 6 in surveying
• plotting the principal streets of the Town.
I have finished $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, while the surveyor
has completed most of the blocks with the
surveys of some of the principal lanes. These
latter are being plotted in. I hope to finish
the whole survey this week.

2. The Overseer has been ill the whole week
of fever. As he lives in Kumlung. I have
ordered him on my own responsibility to
build himself a hut at Gangapoom
as also some for the writers and draughtsmen.
The whole 4 huts will cost about Rs 300. I
have taken Mr Starnes opinion on the
subject and he thinks that considering
the generosity of Kumlung, and that a
week's illness means a week's work lost,
Government will approve of my erecting sheds
for the staff. It is left to Government officers
to decide what rent should be paid, both
in my case and in that of my subordinate.

3. Three of my lascars were suddenly taken ill with diarrhoea due, according to Dr. Harrison's opinion to some bad food eaten by them. Two of them were sent to the Hospital for treatment, while the least serious case was treated and cured by me. This sudden illness among the lascars stopped my surveying for one day, it was afterwards continued with hired coolies.

4. I have been trying to induce other waddars to work on the Gundla comma channel, but on inspection of the work, they have refused. Blasting has been resorted to, and the overseer has been ordered to put on daily coolies. If these men do not work satisfactorily I shall be obliged to raise the rate for the stone. About 280 yards have been quarried in all.

5. Owing to a gathering at my father's house at Ranchial of the scattered members of the family from all parts of India, I have applied for 10 days leave of absence. If Government grant me this leave, I shall not of course leave my post, till I have supplied my subordinates with sufficient

work to occupy them till my return. ⁽⁷⁾ I am very averse to taking leave just now, but it is at the urgent request of my friends that I make the application, and because I have not yet received any orders as to what scheme is to be carried out.

Camp Gundlupoor

John C. Houston

Assistant Engineer in

Special duty
17-10-76

P.W.D.

21 OCT 76

7598

From
The Special Officer
Cumbum
Dated 17th October 1876.

Report on the drainage
works for week ending 14th October
1876.

No 506

Report of Mr J. C. Johnston Assistant
Engineer in charge of Cumbum Tank
works, for the week ended 21st October 1876.

The Clearing of jungle on the Chinn a
Cumbum Channel was recommenced this
week, at least for the first 4000 feet, by
the Revenue Department. The Overseer has
completed the revised estimate, taking length
by length and giving an average depth,
and this gives the same result approximately
as the former estimate gave, as seen below.

Former Estimate 30360 Square yards

Revised — Do — 29130 — Do —

Mr. Farmer requires, before he can complete
the clearing beyond the 4000 feet, a sketch
plotted to a scale showing the channel,
with jungle to be cleared on each side. As
the Overseer has nothing very particular
to do till the jungle is cleared. I have ordered
him to make the sketch.

It is now a month since I pointed out
to Mr. Farmer what jungle I wanted
cleared, and the whole work of clearing
could easily have been done in a week or
less. I should like the next time I have any
clearing to make on these channels to do it myself.
I think there would be less time wasted in

P.W.D.

21 OCT 76

7598

From
The Special Officer
Bumbaru
Dated 17th October 1876.

Report on the drainage
works for week ending 14th October
1876.

No 506

Report of Mr J. B. Johnston Assistant
Engineer in charge of Bumbaru Sanke
works, for the week ended 21st October 1876.

The Clearing of jungle on the Chim a
Bumbaru Channel was recommenced this
week, at least for the first 4000 feet, by
the Revenue Department. The Overseer has
completed the revised estimate, taking length
by length and giving an average depth,
and this gives the same result approximately
as the former estimate gave, as seen below.

Former Estimate 30360 Square yards

Revised — Do — 29130 — Do —

Mr. Farmer requires, before he can complete
the clearing beyond the 4000 feet, a sketch
plotted to a scale showing the channel,
with jungle to be cleared on each side. As
the Overseer has nothing very particular
to do till the jungle is cleared, I have ordered
him to make the sketch.

Q. It is now a month since I pointed out
to Mr. Farmer what jungle I wanted
cleared, and the whole work of clearing
could easily have been done in a week or
less. I should like the next time I have any
clearing to make on these channels to do it myself.
I think there would be less time wasted in

in unnecessary Correspondence and writing
Sketches.

3. Before commencing the piling in front of the sluices. I wrote to Mr. Farmer stating what I wanted to do and asking whether any shutting off of water would damage the crops in any way. His reply was opposed to my attempting in any way to shut off the water till the props were reaped, which will be in about two months.

4. I have been obliged at last to raise the rate for the rock cutting in the Gunda - Cumma River channel from 5-4 to 8-0. The deeper the waddahs went the harder became the rock, and this fact goes to prove that in excavating at all we are going below the old bed of the river. It is not simple boulders we are blasting but through ridges of hard rock which extend right across the valley. I must therefore record it as my opinion that in excavating this channel we are going below the sound bed of the river. I am afraid that when the cut through the road is reached, we shall find it necessary to blast further into the river. I may find I am wrong and that I am draining a deep hole, but to make

(11) 4 5
sure, I will order borings to be made if there is such a thing as a boring apparatus to be obtained in the Range Stores. When I first framed the estimate for the channel I thought from inquiries that simple boulders of rock deposited by the action of the water and washed up all round, would have to be removed. I now find that there are no boulders but continuous ridges of hard rock, very slightly disintegrated on the surface. It is a peculiar fact that a pool of water close to the river and full before the latter was drained, is still as full as before. 382 of rock have been quarried up to date.

5. The Surveyor has surveyed and plotted very nearly all the lanes of the town. The work is one of great detail and is very troublesome. The survey of the channels made with the Gunter's chain I am now plotting to a scale of 1/1000, to suit the longitudinal sections. I found a slight difficulty at first in plotting, but very soon overcame it, by making a scale to suit the purpose.

6. The health of the staff during the week has been good.

Comd. S. P. Room
23- October 1873
J. C. Johnston
Assistant Engineer

P.W.D.
27 OCT 76
No. 7754

From
The Special Officer Bumbura

Dated 25th October 1876.

Report on the drainage
Works for week ending 25th October 1876

Ms 506a

(13) 5
Report of Mr J. C. Johnson Assistant
Engineer On Special duty, Barotsi District
Works for the week ending the 25th October 1876

I went to the Chama barotsi channel
early in the week, and inspected the cutting
of brushwood being done by Mr Farmer.
He had only attempted the first 4000 feet
and did not wish to continue till I had
approved of what had been already done.

The Revenue Inspector was on the bank
and I pointed out to him that simply
cutting the brushwood was not clearing it,
and explained what further I required
done. He appeared to understand perfectly,
and I hope that now the work will be
continued without any further delay. It
must be noted that my estimate provides
for rooting out the jungle, especially on the
low path, and that Mr Farmer, to effect
a saving, is allowed to leave the stumps
of trees provided they are not above 3 feet
in height, that is, below the usual height
of a helling instrument. I fully expect
when the construction of this channel
to commence, I shall have to do some
clearing again. The present clearing will

Enable me to have the levels run, and I must be satisfied with that. The Overseer has completed the sketch of jungle to be cleared, and the same was forwarded to Mr. Farmer on Friday last. 2. The first 3 days of the week I devoted myself to inking in the survey plan of the Town, since that I have been suffering severely from tooth-ache & neuralgia and could not sit down to much office work.

3 The Surveyor has attended my office daily to put a few more details into both the General and the Town Survey. In a few days he will commence the survey of the Chinnam Chinnam channel and the country south of the Gundlachamma.

4. The Overseer is at present encamped on the Chinnam Chinnam channel. to complete the longitudinal and cross sections. He wishes after this is done to take 10 days casual leave to proceed to Kailashnagar and return with his family.

5. After deducting 75% from the measurements of stone quarried from the Gundlachamma River Channel and

shaded. I find that the total quantity done amounts to 432 cubic yards. I do not see the utility of the work, as already explained in my last report. 6. The health of the staff has been on the whole good.

John C. Shustow

Assistant Engineer
on special duty

Bandapoor
30 October 1903

№ 3189

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

Read the following:—

Mr. Johnston's reports for
week ended 11th October 1896

" _____ . _____ 21st _____ da _____ do _____
 " _____ . _____ 28th _____ do _____ do _____

The construction of huts at Landlapooram for the Oversee and Office establishment is approved. The Assistant Engineer should forward an estimate for sanction. The cost will be charged to the improvement of the irrigation under the Sundarum Tank.

12 Mr. Johnston will
for the future arrange
for carrying out under

from the Special Officer
Cunningham

Dated 30th October 1876

Report on the drainage
works for week ending 28th October
1876.

50613

his own orders all clearances of jungle on the Gumbum Tank channels required for survey and levelling operations or for the execution of work under his supervision.

3. With regard to the depth to which the channel joining the Gumbacamma above and below the Seakrail ament should be cut, the Assistant Engineer should determine this from the general levels of the river. There is no reason why any room for doubt should be left as to the proper level of this channel, which will at least for a time be a part

8
(19) of the general bed of the river.

24/11
C.M.

Special Engineer, Cumbum 2
S. S. Karmal 5
C. S. for Brig 5
S. S. Karmal
Public Works, 17

Drpd - 8-12-74

1898/1899/1894

Gobi. of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The Special Eng^r Commr.

11/6/12

Dated

Isued

Recd

Encl.

G. O. 1876, No. 372

Hcs.

For the
Commissioner of Public
Works to the
Commissioner of the
District of
14-2/1898-99