

(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.	850	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	31. 3.	18. 76.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st March 1876.*

No. 576. Read the following letter from Lieut.-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 15th March 1876, No. 4,680 :—

In forwarding, for the information of the Government, the accompanying copy of a report just received from Major Law, I have the honor to state that, under the authority contained in G.O. of the 21st February 1876, No. 467, I have instructed the Range Officer, Dindigul Range, to place Rupees 1,000 at Major Law's disposal from any savings from Local Funds in his hands, as it is too late in the year to obtain Imperial Funds.

2. I take this opportunity also to report, for the information of the Government, that great distress may prevail in this district this season: the rains of October last were most abundant, as already reported to the Chief Engineer, for Irrigation, every tank almost received a full supply, but little or no rain has fallen since; the tanks of the district, as so often brought to notice, are so shallow that they do not hold water enough to mature a crop with, and if no rain falls to replenish them, as has just occurred, the crops are lost, and from the immense numbers of the population in the district now, very great distress, if not famine, may take place.

3. The value of securing the water from the larger rivers of the district to tanks is well illustrated just now, whilst every tank has lost more or less of the crop under it; the Pulni tank has supplied water for a full crop and had three months' water left in it on the first instant afterwards, having had its supply-channel well cleared out lately. Very heavy freshes occurred in the Shunmooganuddy river this year so that if the works I had projected for this valley had been put in hand and ready, there is no reason why the great loss which the people and the Government may have to suffer should not have been entirely averted; but under existing orders and instructions half a lakh of Rupees a-year or more are being spent on the irrigation works of this district which it is quite evident are not worth preserving, and every endeavour to secure better means for the fertilization of the soil rejected, without any thought or consideration of the altered circumstances of the country and the people or the physical features or phenomena of the district in which we are engineering.

From Major G. V. LAW, Special Executive Engineer, Pulni Hills, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Madura, dated Pulni Hills, 13th March 1876, No. 109.

I HAVE the honor to report that, owing to the want of rain and great drought in the Perea-colum taluq, coolies have flocked to my works, and the allotments for the year have been fully spent much earlier than I could have anticipated.

2. I am obliged to pay once a fortnight, and on settling accounts last Saturday, 11th March, I had, in addition to the balance of the allotments, to advance Rupees 144 of private funds to settle all demands.

3. I have little doubt that I can spend 1,000 Rupees more in current month unless heavy rain falls, and if no funds can be transferred from Imperial or Local Funds, will carry on the work with advances from private funds.

4. If Imperial Funds can be transferred, I can settle in current year for widening from Kodikanel to Neutral Saddle, and if Local Funds for bridle path from Neutral Saddle towards Pulni, both of which works are now being worked out.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
31st March 1876.

5. Regarding the latter work I may remark that the Dindigul Local Fund Board in Proceedings No 4 of 1876, vide 2nd Supplement, Madura District Gazette, 4th March 1876, have requested you to state from what source funds can be transferred if you require an allotment.

No. 577.

ORDER THEREON, 31st March 1876, No. 850.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 42.

THE District Engineer has apparently misapprehended the order which he quotes, which only relates to excesses of 5 per cent. over sanctioned estimates.

2. The Rupees 1,000 required by Major Law have been already allotted from Provincial Funds by transfer.

3. Lieutenant-Colonel Fischer's remarks in the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs of his letter will be communicated to the Revenue Department and to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, for such notice as they may require.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,

Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Madura.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department.

No. 109.

Kodikanel Pulni Hills
13 March 1876.

From,

Major. G. V. Law
Special Executive Engineer
Pulni Hills

To,

The District Engineer
Madura.

Sir,

I have the honor to report, that, owing to the want of rain and great drought in the Peracolum Talug, Coolies have flocked to my works, and the allotments for the year have been fully spent much earlier than I could have anticipated.

2. I am obliged to pay once a fortnight, and on settling accounts last Saturday 11th March, I had in addition to the balance of the allotments to advance Rs. 14.4 of private funds, to settle all demands.

3. I have little doubt that I can spend 1,000 Rupees more in current month, unless heavy rain falls and if no funds can be transferred from Imperial or Local Funds will carry out the work with advances from private funds.

1911

4. If Imperial funds can be transferred, I can settle in current year for widening from Kodikanel to Neukal saddle, and if Local Funds for bridle path from Neukal saddle, towards Pulni, both of which works are now being worked out.

5. Regarding the latter work I may remark that the Dindigul Local Fund Board in Proceedings No. 4 of 1876, Vide 2 Supplement Madras District Gazette 4 March 1876, have requested you to state from what some funds, can be transferred if you require an allotment.

I have &c

(signed) George V. Law. Major
Supt. Engrs. Madras.

(True copy)

Wm. H. Nicholls. Coll. Rb.

District Engineer Madras

P. H. 1985/76

Copy of
Major's
letter

Enclosure as letter
from the District Engineer
Madura to the Secretary
to Government D. H. D.
No: 4680 of 15th March/76

Pl 31 March 76 PW 576

No 4680 District Engineer's Office
Madura 15 March 1876
From
Lieut Colonel J. F. Fisher R.E.
District Engineer Madura
To
Major General W. Walker R.E.
Secretary to Government D. H. D.

Sir
In forwarding for the
information of the Government
the accompanying copy of a report
just received from Major Vau, I
have the honor to state that
under the authority contained
in L.O. of the 21st February 1876
I have instructed the Range Officer
Dindigul Range to place Rs. 1000
at Major Vau's disposal from
any savings from local funds
in his hands, as it is too late
in the year to obtain Imperial
funds.

I take this opportunity
also to report for the information

of the Government that great distress may prevail in this District this season. the rains of October last were most abundant, as already reported to the Chief Enquiries for Irrigation, every bank almost received a full supply, but little or no rain has fallen since, the banks of the District, as so often brought to notice are so shallow they do not hold water enough to mature a crop with, and if no rain falls to replenish them as has just occurred, the crops are lost, and from the immense numbers of the population in the District now, very great distress if not famine may take place.

3. The value of rearing the water from the larger rivers of the District to banks is well illustrated just now, whilst every bank has lost more or less of the crop under it the Gulm

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bank has supplied water for a full crop and had 3 months water left in it on the 1st instant afterwards, having had its supply channel well cleared out lately. Very heavy freshes occurred in the Shunnoo-gumuddy river this year so that if the works I had projected for this valley had been put in hand and ready there is no reason why the great loss which the people and the Government may have to suffer should not have been entirely averted, but under existing orders and instructions $\frac{1}{2}$ a lac of Rupees a year or more are being spent on the the irrigation works of this District which it is quite evident are not worth preserving and every endeavour to secure better means for the fertilization of the soil rejected, without any thought or consideration of the altered

circumstances of the country
and the people or the physical
features or phenomena of the district
in which we are Engineering.

I have the honor to be
your most obed^t servant
Wm. L. Dickinson
District Engineer

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Jensen

Wm. D. Dickinson
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Enclosure

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P. W. Department

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Proceedings of the
Madras Govt
under date 31 March 176.

From H. Madura

Read the following
(H.L. no 4080 d/15 March/76)
in print with 2 copies

The District Engineer has apparently mis-
-apprehended the order
which he quotes, which
only relates to escapes
of 5 per cent and Sanctioned
Estimates.

2. The Rupees 1000
required by Major Law
have been already allotted
from Provincial Funds
by transfer.

3. Lt. Colonel Fitch's
remarks in the 2nd and
3rd paras. of his letter
will be communicated
to the Pension Department
and to the Chief
Engineer.

Engineer for Irrigation
for such notice as they
may require

CHM

17.3.05

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D. L. Madras
Ch. L. for Dist.
Revenue Dept.

Cr 27-3-76.

Sept-9-4-96

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Gobt. of 1876 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To

The B. Madras

3/4/76

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 31st March 1876, No. 850

No. 546/7

Special Work on the
Palmy Hills. - Passing
orders on letters from the
to Mys Madras sub-
mitting Major Ran's
report on the — and place
at his disposal Rs 1000
for certain work in carrying
out —

25-4-76

Revenue Dept
25-4-76