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 (3) Initials of the Referencer (LWV)

# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

P.W. DEPARTMENT

|          |           |        |
|----------|-----------|--------|
| G.O. No. | 1256 W    | Press. |
| B.P. No. |           | Mis.   |
| Dated    | 11.3.1878 | 197.   |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

2.2

1250

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

11th March 1878, No. 1,256 W.

General-  
Establishment.

Read the following papers:—

No. 150. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 31st January 1878,  
No. 254.

From A. McC. WEBSTER, Esq., Acting Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to H. E.  
STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund,  
18th December 1877, No. 130.

I HAVE the honor to report on the public works of the Nilgiri District for the year  
1876-77.

2. The expenditure on New Works and Repairs in comparison with grants is  
exhibited below:—

|                  | Grants.  |    |    | Expenditure. |    |    |
|------------------|----------|----|----|--------------|----|----|
|                  | RS.      | A. | P. | RS.          | A. | P. |
| New Works ... .. | 2,11,460 | 0  | 0  | 2,27,554     | 3  | 2  |
| Repairs ... ..   | 49,681   | 0  | 0  | 50,203       | 10 | 4  |
| Total ...        | 2,61,141 | 0  | 0  | 2,77,757     | 13 | 6  |

The expenditure has thus exceeded the grants by a sum of Rupees 16,616 or by  
somewhat less than  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

3. The money was distributed under the following heads:—

| <i>New Works.</i>                        |     |     |     |     |     |     | RS.      | A. | P. |
|------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|----|----|
| Military ... ..                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 90,274   | 2  | 9  |
| Civil Buildings ... ..                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,07,162 | 4  | 2  |
| Communications ... ..                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26,462   | 2  | 9  |
| Miscellaneous Public Improvements ... .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,002    | 15 | 2  |
| Establishment ... ..                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25,851   | 15 | 10 |
| Tools and Plant ... ..                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,652    | 10 | 4  |
| <i>Repairs.</i>                          |     |     |     |     |     |     | RS.      | A. | P. |
| Military ... ..                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,302    | 11 | 0  |
| Civil Buildings ... ..                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3,246    | 7  | 9  |
| Communications ... ..                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39,454   | 7  | 7  |
| Tools and Plant ... ..                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,593    | 10 | 11 |

4. NEW WORKS—*Military.*—Ten new military works at Wellington were  
carried out during the year by the Public Works Department, the two most important  
being the completion of No. 4 block of barracks which has been under construction  
for three years and the provision of lightning conductors to the barracks. The former  
structure cost altogether Rupees 1,48,502-9-3, of which Rupees 71,743-11-0 were  
expended during the year under report.

It is an upper-storied building consisting of four barrack rooms 130 × 21 feet  
each, eight Serjeants' rooms 24 × 10 feet each, four cook-rooms 21 × 12 feet each,  
four night latrines 12 × 9½ feet each, two store-rooms 21 × 8 feet each, and two

verandahs 350 x 12 feet each. The building is very substantial, being of burnt brick in mortar plastered within and without. The timber used is Teak. This block is calculated to accommodate 152 unmarried soldiers.

Rupees 6,299-14-8 were spent in providing lightning conductors for the fifteen large barracks. The work consists of 7,000 running feet of half inch copper wire rope provided with eighty copper points and 960 gun-metal holdfasts. The ground ends of the copper wire are secured to chains extending from the base of the buildings. The chains are buried 6 feet deep in charcoal and forge refuse.

**NEW WORKS—Civil Buildings.**—Five works were carried out which cost Rupees 1,07,162-4-2; of these the railing with two gates round St. Thomas' Church cost Rupees 3,150. The style of the railing is gothic; it is 600 yards long, and the material is Australian blue gum wood.

The internal ornamental iron roofing of the verandahs and the glazing of the Stonehouse Council Chamber were completed during the year, and cost Rupees 12,046-11-6. The Council Chamber and luncheon-room are both protected by verandahs of conservatory glass supported on ornamental cast-iron pillars. The flooring is of granite. The external decorations are of an elaborate kind and have had great attention bestowed upon them. The ceilings are of polished Teakwood in ribs. The cornices and walls are of polished shell lime. Those of the luncheon-room are papered. The windows are provided with large panes of plate glass. Rs. 79,574-2-8 were expended before the close of the year upon the new Government House at Norwood and the stabling. This work was in an unfinished state on the 31st March 1877.

The Civil Buildings like the Military are of a substantial character.

**NEW WORKS—Communication.**—Six distinct works were undertaken during the year which cost Rupees 26,462-2-9.

The most important of works were the metalling of the road through Kandel bazaar in Ootacamund which cost Rupees 4,171-4-8. The road is three-fourths of a mile long and has been drained, raised, and levelled. The opening out for traffic of two miles of the Kartary and Pilloor road at a cost of Rupees 13,901-10-8 and the completion of the new approach to Ootacamund from Kotagherry *via* Kodapamund which cost Rupees 510.

**Miscellaneous Public Improvements.**—The reclamation of the swampy bed of the Ootacamund lake is charged for under this head. The expenditure was Rs. 1,002-15-2.

5. **REPAIRS—Military.**—The usual repairs were carried out at Wellington at a cost of Rupees 5,685-5-6. The barracks and out-buildings were inspected by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and by the General Commanding the Division during the year.

**Civil Buildings.**—Repairs to Civil Buildings cost Rupees 2,674-1-0. The roof of St. Thomas' Church at Ootacamund was thoroughly overhauled and made water-tight. No leakage has since been apparent.

**Communications.**—Two hundred and eight-four miles of Provincial, Local, and Municipal roads have been kept in a state of repair by the District Engineer during 1876-77 at a cost of Rupees 39,454-7-7; seventy-eight miles of these roads are macadamized, forty-four are ghauts, and fifty-two are bridle-paths.

The Kotagherry ghaut, the Coonoor ghaut, and the road from Ootacamund to Coonoor were in good order, but have since been seriously damaged by heavy grain traffic during the rains. The road from Coonoor to Ootacamund was not metalled while it was under construction, and in consequence the annual maintenance allowance is not sufficient to keep it in good order for heavy monsoon traffic. The Segur ghaut is not in such good order. This ghaut is steep and requires metalling, and with the portion of the road between Segur and the Mysore frontier requires more repairs than the limited allotment available can afford. The road is practically useless at present owing to the dangerous state of the Tippacadeo bridge, traffic over which has been stopped.

The road from Ootacamund to Gudalur *via* Pykara and Neddivuttum is not in good order and during the rains is almost impassable. This road which is the main

line of communication with South-east Wynaad, annexed to the Nilgiris at the close of the official year under report, has never been metalled except here and there where the metal used is large. This road should receive the special attention of the Local Fund Board who acknowledge its importance, but are unable to improve it from want of funds. The minor roads of the district have already received detailed notice in the annual report of the Local Fund Boards. They may, with some exceptions, be said to be in fairly good order.

6. The District Engineer has also had under his care the Cantonment roads of Wellington which are in very good order.

7. The condition of the Ootacamund main Municipal roads is far from satisfactory; but the Municipality have not been in a position to make adequate allotments for their up-keep; but for the money devoted to the purpose, the roads are in fairly good order. To sum up, the Imperial and Provincial works executed during the year are, I think, most satisfactory. With local works the case is unfortunately very different. I believe that what money has been expended has been utilized with the best ability, but the amount available has been quite insufficient. The roads are rapidly deteriorating, and unless Government can come to the rescue either by a grant from Provincial Funds or by taking over some of the roads as suggested in their Proceedings of 13th September last, No. 2,301, or by a large increase in the schedule of tolls sanctioned by Act IV of 1871 (Local Fund Act), the roads will go from bad to worse. Even if Government resolve to take over the road from Kullar at the foot of the Coonoor ghaut to the Malabar frontier on the Carkoor ghaut, the Local Fund Board will not be in a position to keep the other roads in the district in good order, and certainly can never open new ones, without a considerable increase in the rates of tolls. In Ceylon, I believe, the toll on a laden bandy is about 1s. 6d. for every ten miles, and if tolls could be levied in this district at anything like that rate there would be some chance of getting our roads in better order.

8. In conclusion, I beg to bring to the notice of the Government that the greater portion of the District Engineer's time is taken up with Imperial and Provincial works, while the salary of the Public Works Department establishment is principally paid from Local Funds, and that the Local Fund Board do not consequently get a proper share of the District Engineer's time. As a matter of fact the District Engineer is overworked, and considering that a large proportion of the pay is borne by the Local Funds, I respectfully venture to think that Government should give some help by the appointment of an Assistant Engineer, especially now that South-east Wynaad is attached to this district, and so provide for more constant supervision and inspection than the Local Fund roads now receive.

From the same Officer, dated Ootacamund, 2nd February 1878, No. 16.

I HAVE the honor to submit herewith two statements showing the expenditure on account of public works in this district during the past official year 1876-77, the same being enclosures to the Public Works Report for that year. I regret the delay in the submission of these statements, but I did not receive correct returns from the District Engineer until the 18th ultimo.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The funds allotted to the district were fully utilized, and the progress made with Imperial and Provincial works is stated to have been most satisfactory. Local works have suffered from the insufficiency of the funds available; the question of the best mode of affording relief is now under the consideration of Government with

reference to the report called for in G.O., dated 13th September 1877, No. 2,301. It is observed that the restoration of the Tippacadeo bridge with the utmost despatch was directed in G.O., dated 8th August 1877, No. 2,082.

3. The complaint that, considering the proportion of the cost of the Public Works Department establishment borne by Local Funds, local works do not receive a sufficient share of attention owing to the District Engineer's time being chiefly occupied with Imperial and Provincial works, appears well-founded as shown below :—

|                | Expenditure from Imperial and Provincial Funds. | * Expenditure from Local Funds by D. P. W. | Total cost of D. P. W. Establishment. | † Charged to Local Funds. | Percentage. |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
|                | RS.                                             | RS.                                        | RS.                                   | RS.                       |             |
| 1874-75 ... .. | 81,170                                          | 51,873                                     | 25,148                                | 12,616                    | 50.16       |
| 1875-76 ... .. | 1,34,918                                        | 49,295                                     | 26,177                                | 13,637                    | 52.09       |
| 1876-77 ... .. | Not distinguished in the report for this year.  |                                            | 25,852                                | 12,756                    | 49.34       |

\* According to Collector's report on public works.

† According to Local Fund accounts.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON  
Sub-Secretary.

No. 150-A. Note by the Chief Engineer <sup>PWD</sup> ~~for Engrg. Division~~, dated 26th February 1878.

No. 151. ORDER THEREON, 11th March 1878, No. 1,256 W.

To be recorded. The Government observe that a radical change of system on the Nilgiris is about to be carried out.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,  
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Nilgiris.  
" Revenue Department.  
" Financial "

Exd. E. C. Shunker.  
Spare Copies



CENTRAL  
ESTABLISHMENT

Govt. of (1878) Mysore.

PUBLIC WORKS.

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,  
MYSORE.

to, to, to.

Dated March 1st.

Received

By

By

G. O. 19th March 1878. No. 1,250 W.

MARCH

No. 150-151.

Public Works in the Mysore District.  
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, regarding  
report from the Commissioner on 10th  
18/4/77, received with remarks.

12/5/78

Note

The Chief Engineer  
is of opinion that if the  
roads had proper allotments  
for their repairs they would  
be kept in very good order.  
Roads such as the Koudalur  
- Botacomund road cannot  
do otherwise than fall into  
a very wretched state without  
good maintenance grants;  
but will any amount of  
attention from the District  
Engineer prevent this.

E. A. M. S. C. M.  
Chief Engineer M.D.

25th Feb 1878

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 31st January 1878.

Read the following letters:—

From A. M. C. WEBSTER, Esq., Acting Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 18th December 1877, No. 130.

I have the honor to report on the public works of the Nilgiri District for the year 1876-77.

2. The expenditure on New Works and Repairs in comparison with grants is exhibited below:—

|                  | Grants   |    |    | Expenditure |    |    |
|------------------|----------|----|----|-------------|----|----|
|                  | Rs.      | A. | P. | Rs.         | A. | P. |
| New Works ... .. | 21,430   | 0  | 0  | 2,27,551    | 3  | 2  |
| Repairs ... ..   | 48,681   | 0  | 0  | 50,203      | 10 | 4  |
| Total ... ..     | 2,61,141 | 0  | 0  | 2,77,757    | 13 | 6  |

The expenditure has thus exceeded the grants by a sum of Rupees 16,616 or by somewhat less than 6½ per cent.

3. The money was distributed under the following heads:—

|                                          | New Works |    |    | Repairs |    |    |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|----|----|---------|----|----|
|                                          | Rs.       | A. | P. | Rs.     | A. | P. |
| Military ... ..                          | 90,274    | 2  | 7  | 6,302   | 11 | 0  |
| Civil Buildings ... ..                   | 1,07,162  | 4  | 2  | 3,243   | 7  | 9  |
| Communications ... ..                    | 26,462    | 2  | 0  | 99,454  | 7  | 7  |
| Miscellaneous Public Improvements ... .. | 1,002     | 15 | 2  | 1,573   | 10 | 11 |
| Establishment ... ..                     | 25,851    | 13 | 10 |         |    |    |
| Tools and Plant ... ..                   | 2,632     | 10 | 4  |         |    |    |

4. New Works—*Military*.—Ten new Military works at Wellington were carried out during the year by the Public Works Department, the two most important being the completion of No. 4 block of barracks which has been under construction for three years and the provision of lightning conductors to the barracks. The former structure cost altogether Rupees 1,43,602-0-0, of which Rupees 71,713-11-0 were expended during the year under report.

It is an upper-staired building consisting of four barrack rooms 130 x 21 feet each, eight Sergeants' rooms 24 x 10 feet each, four cook-rooms 21 x 12 feet each, four night latrine 12 x 9½ feet each, two store-rooms 21 x 8 feet each, and two verandahs 350 x 12 feet each. The building is very substantial, being of burnt brick in mortar plastered within and without. The timber used is Teak. This block is calculated to accommodate 152 unmarried soldiers.

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3. The complaint that, considering the proportion of the cost of the Public Works Department establishment borne by Local Funds, local works do not receive a

sufficient share of attention owing to the District Engineer's time being chiefly occupied with Imperial and Provincial works, appears well-founded as shown below:—

|         | Expenditure from Imperial and Provincial Funds. | *Expenditure from Local Funds by D. P. W. | Total cost of D. P. W. Establishment | † Charged to Local Funds. | Percentage. |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1874-75 | Rs. 81,170                                      | Rs. 51,873                                | Rs. 25,148                           | Rs. 12,616                | 50.16       |
| 1875-76 | 1,34,918                                        | 49,293                                    | 26,177                               | 13,637                    | 52.09       |
| 1876-77 | Not distinguished in the report for this year.  |                                           | 25,852                               | 12,756                    | 49.34       |

\* According to Collector's report on public works.

† According to Local Fund accounts.

(True Copies and Extract.)

*[Signature]*  
Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

with two statements to be returned.

Acting Commissioner of the Nilgiris.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Ed. W. J. Lewis.

Returned to Registrar B. G. R.

Public Works—of Nilgiri District—8th  
submitting to Government report from Comptroller  
same on— for 1876-77

JANUARY.  
No. 254.

Revenue

Dist. 2

Disbursements, 21st January 1878, No. 264.

Comp. 19-1-78

MADRAS.

BOARD OF REVENUE,

1878.

*Leul*  
*1256 W* Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 11<sup>th</sup> March 1878

Read the following:—

Proceedings of the Board of Rev. (H.C. No. 254 dated 31<sup>st</sup> Jan'y/78)  
held by the the Regl. dated 26 Feb'y. 1878

To be recorded. Infr.  
observed that a <sup>50<sup>th</sup> 16/2</sup> 2nd class  
through passenger train on the  
Nilgiris is about to be  
carried out.

*1878 7/3 9/2*  
*[Signature]*

Donnerd 21<sup>st</sup> Jan'y 1878.  
I think.

I observe that after all the  
press made at the Commission  
for the proposed work, the work  
has only 2. 1/2 lbs. beyond the  
allotment. While the H. Expend. was  
about 2. 80000.

D. I. Nilgiri ✓  
Recd. Dept. ✓  
Act. Dept. ✓

Dispf. 25-3-78

This is another  
dist. then the  
Great Found  
on the main support  
the D. and there  
the D. is not  
much will be left  
to look at about  
resources for main  
tenance

I observe too that  
here again the average  
of 5. 2. 4 is the  
the for the support of  
the work 7/3

7. 11. 1878  
To Sir W. Anderson  
The General

Cover

W. 11. 3. 78.

16-2-1878

10/1/35



DEPT. OF 1878, 30 JUNE  
PUBLIC WORKS.

Re D. B. Sturges

11 June 1878 No. 1256W

No. 150-151

Public Works in the Village  
Re Prop Board of Res  
Submitting report from the  
Commissioner on —  
for 1876-77 recorded with  
remark

For P. in 1878