

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th November 1864.*

No. 85. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st October 1864,
No. 6,951 :—

Read the following letter from C. O. OLDHAM, Esq., Deputy Superintendent Geological Survey of India, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th October 1864, No. 84c :—

1. I have only just received on my arrival in Madras, the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,380, dated September 29th, 1864, with two enclosures. First, an abstract forwarded by the Collector of Bellary, of localities in that District in which the want of water has been most felt; and second, a Memorandum from the Executive Engineer on the subject of the water supply of the District.

2. The long list of localities abundantly shows how generally throughout the District the want of water has been felt, and how very desirable any additional or more permanent supply would be.

3. From want of personal acquaintance with the District, and in the present defective state of our information regarding its geological conditions, I feel that I can add but little if any practical value to the observations in the Memorandum of the Executive Engineer.

(a) With reference to the first locality in which Captain Fischer proposes a deep boring, viz., in the open plain above the Darogah tank, the comparatively abundant rain-fall, the rapid flow of the water down the steep hill sides and subsequent absorption in the valley, from which, as described, the outfall, at least the surface outfall is comparatively insignificant, seem to indicate a probability of water being found: and if the porous subsoil of sand gravel boulders, &c., should prove to be continuous under the more retentive surface soils, and there is, as it appears, no natural outlet for the water which must percolate into and circulate through this subsoil, there would seem to be a high degree of probability, sufficient to justify the experiment being made, specially as it appears that it would not be needful to incur any great expense.

(b) The second locality indicated by Captain Fischer seems also to present features rendering a successful boring probable. In this case however, judging from the data given, I think the available store is over estimated at 180,000,000 cubic yards. One third of this amount, or 60,000,000 appears to be as much as could be relied on. This, however, would be a most valuable reservoir, if it exists and can be reached.

4. But I would point out, that as far as we are acquainted with the character of the rocks underlying the subsoil, there is much to check over-sanguine anticipations, as the numerous joints and fissures, in all probability occurring there, as elsewhere in similar rocks, are so many hidden causes, or possible causes of failure.

5. Considering, however, the immense importance of an increased or more constant supply of water, and the urgent want of it, and that the expense of the proposed operations would not be great, while, if successful, the result would be of incalculable advantage, I think there is ample ground to justify the experiment being made in one at least of the localities proposed.

6. As Captain Fischer has well suggested, the experiment, even if unsuccessful in procuring the desired supply of water, might be of great value, "if only as a means of adding to our knowledge," and supplying more definite grounds upon which to form an opinion in similar cases. With a view to this most important result being attained, as effectually as possible, I would suggest that means be adopted to have a careful and detailed record kept of the nature of the soils, subsoils, and other strata passed through in the boring, if carried out; the depth to which each extends; the thickness, variations, and mineral character of each successive layer or deposit, with any other remarks of interest, which might suggest themselves to the officer superintending the boring; and specimens of the rocks met with, and I should be much obliged by being favored with a copy of such detailed record, from which perhaps some more definite conclusions might be drawn as regards the probabilities and causes of success or failure in this and similar cases.

7. I may remark that any artesian effect is highly improbable.

8. I return the original enclosure No. 1.

20/9/82
1/11/82

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
7th November 1864.*

1. Ordered that the foregoing letter be submitted to Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings quoted by Mr. Oldham, and with the Board's renewed recommendation that the proposed borings be sanctioned. The Board also request that instructions may be given for recording all the ascertained facts, as proposed by Mr. Oldham, and communicating them to that gentleman with a complete series of specimens of the soils passed through by the boring.

2. Copy of Mr. Oldham's letter will also be furnished to the Collector of Bellary for his information and for communication to Captain Fischer.

3. The Board are much obliged to Mr. Oldham for this letter.

No. 86. ORDER THEREON, 7th November 1864, No. 2,047.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be communicated to the Public Works Department in continuation of the Proceedings dated 14th October 1864, No. 1,895. Instructions will be issued from that Department to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, to adopt the suggestions made in paragraph 6 of Mr. Oldham's letter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, Public Works Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th November 1864.*

No. 230. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department:—

Communicating Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting letter from Mr. Oldham, Deputy Superintendent Geological Survey of India, on the subject of the water supply of the Bellary District. } (Here enter 7th November 1864, No. 2,047.)

No. 231. ORDER THEREON, 12th November 1864, No. 3,242.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, with reference to the orders noted in the margin.

No. 3,045, dated 24th October 1864.

2. The Superintending Engineer will be requested to adopt the suggestions contained in paragraph 6 of Mr. Oldham's letter.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

8-1-90
8-1-90

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th January 1865.*

No. 288. Read the following letter from Captain A. S. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Cuddapah, 12th December 1864, No. 156:—

SIR,

1. In reply to the Order of Government, No. 3,045 of the 24th October 1864, I have the honor to inform you that the probable cost of boring the two wells, referred to by Captain Fischer in his Memorandum attached to the above Order, will be about Rupees 2,000, which will include the cost of powder, &c., and working batta for the Sappers.

2. I would beg to state that this sum can be provided from the amount allotted for a School room on the Ramandroog, Rupees 2,154, sanctioned in G. O. No. 1,371 of 12th May 1864.

No. 289. ORDER THEREON, 14th January 1865, No. 138.

1. As little, if any, advantage is likely to be derived from the "deep borings" which it has been proposed to make in search of water at certain places in the District of Bellary unless, what is in the highest degree improbable, artesian springs be found, the Government are not prepared to sanction any outlay on the experiment, and they cannot allow the diversion to it of any part of the limited funds at their disposal in the Public Works Department, while many works of the most necessary and most promising character are held in abeyance for want of money.

2. If the whole of the allotment for the School room on the Ramandroog cannot be properly expended during the current year, the Superintending Engineer will report* what part of it can be spared for transfer and appropriation to other works.

* In the Statements called for in Proceedings No. 5, dated 3rd December 1864.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

20/9/82
8-1-90

[Handwritten mark]



CURRENT No. 1164.
No. 192

FROM

THE SUPERINTENDENT,
Geological Survey of India,

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Dated Calcutta, *May 31st* 1881.

SIR,

With reference to a notice now in course of preparations, under orders of Government, relating to operations for artesian wells in India, I would solicit information as to whether the work specified in Government order of 14th October 1864, No. 1895 was ever carried out and with what result.

*I have the honor to be
Sir,*

Your most obdt. Servant,

W. V. Meadmont
Superintendent, Geological Survey of India.
W. V. Meadmont

[Handwritten notes]

Remburs No 2047 of 7/7/64
28/10/64 No 2020
14/10/64 No 1875
24/10/64 3045
12-11-64-3242

No 1000

Transferred to the
Public Works Dept.
for disposal with
a file relating
to the subject.

Quarster
Offg. Chief
Secretary.

9/6/87

Not recommended
10 June 1887

Q.C. No 3045 of 24 Oct/64
" " 3242 of 12 Nov/64
" " 138 of 11 Jan/65

Public Works Dept.
Chitwan Hills
P.W.C. No 3561

Recd. 15 June
with 1 file of 40%

Trans
Supt.
Geological Survey
of India

No. 192

of May 31 / 81
of June 6 / 81

CURRENT No. 1164

looked up at Madras

R.S.
13/6

RC

15/6

P.W.D.

587 W of 24th June 1881

Geological Survey of India

Sir

With reference to your
letter No 192 dated 31st
May 1881, I am directed
to forward a copy of
the Proc. of this Govt. No
138 dated 14 January
1865, from which you
will observe that the
surveys referred to in
Proc. Rev. Dept No 1895 of
14 Oct 1864 were not
carried out from
want of funds.

Ca

Plt

20/6/81

3561

To Supt. Genl. Records

Please complete
the file.

P.W. Secretariat
15.6.81

Mo. Upshon

Record Supt

RC

To S.A.W.

Herewith the file
sent by the Genl.
Record Dept.

18/6

Lu

B

P.W.D.

No. 1587 W of 24th June 81.

To the Supt. Geological Survey of India

Sir

With reference to your
letter no 192 dated 31st
May 1881, I am directed
to forward a copy of
the Pros. of this Govt. no
138 dated 14 January
1865, from which you
will observe that the
hearings referred to in
Pros. Rev. Dept no 1895 of
14 Octr 1864 were not
carried out from
want of funds.

Cu

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20/6/81

Desks
24 6/81

1861

P. W. D.

7/6/

B. N. 1587W 924 June 1881

Issue

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