Public Works (1890) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 1878 Ry.

DATED 25th November

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Minute of His Excellency the Governor — Proceedings, Public Department, Communicating Copy of —, dated 26th October 1890, recorded

Indexed.

[F. W. Ry. 200—8-5-00.]

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MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

I WOULD record the following brief observations with reference to my recent tour.

In the first place I should like a report to be made from time to time, to the Secretary to Government, as to the progress of the survey of the Nilgiri Railway, which I understand has been completed up to the Toll-bar on the Ghaut road.

I asked Colonel Pickance to meet me at Mettapollium. He was able to give me a reassuring report as to the state of the jail; but I should like enquiries to be made of the French Government, as to the results of the experiments they have made, if any, with Salol, as a remedy for cholera.

At Tanjore I made a suggestion to Mr. Thomson, for the conservancy of a portion of the jungle, belonging to the Ranees' estate, through which the Vallam road passes. The matter can be disposed of when Mr. Thomson's proposals come up, but reference might perhaps now be made to the Board of Revenue on the subject, as I do not wish any time to be lost, being of opinion that the proposal would be very beneficial to the people of Tanjore and particularly to the poorer classes.

The Tanjore jail, which I inspected, is admirably managed, and I think the Inspector-General might be advised to take measures for the introduction into other district jails, so far as the rules on the subject allow, of industries similiar to those which Mr. McCready's enterprise has instituted at Tanjore.

I also inspected the Raja Mirasidar Hospital. Though good reasons doubtless existed for closing the midwifery school, I suggest that our regret thereat should be communicated to the medical and local authorities, lest it be imagined that we are indifferent to the discontinuance of so useful an institution.

The ultimate ownership of the valuable library in the Tanjore Palace is a matter which should not be allowed to remain in doubt. I have heard that a claim may possibly be preferred on behalf of the last surviving Ranee on the ground that the library is part of the personal property of the family of the last Raja. Such a claim should be resisted, and if any doubt exists upon the matter I should be glad to find, that we are in a position to affirm now, that the library will eventually lapse to Government, together with the palace.

I am anxious that the question of the extension of the Muttupet line to Adirampatam should not be overlooked.

I have nothing to say as regards the settlement of Tanjore till we see Mr. Clerk's report, and presume that there is no necessity to call the attention of the Board of Revenue to the caution enjoined by the Government of India, not to raise too greatly the revenues of lands, which have long been subject to lenient assessment.

I halted at Chingleput to inspect the Reformatory, and at once wrote to the Director of Public Instruction to inform him, of the unprepared condition of that institution to cope with such a calamity as fire, owing to the custom of locking the boys up at night, in separate cubicles, which are contained, within a large ward, which again is securely locked at night. These cubicles are made of wood, which is smeared with tar. Other materials, which are not of an inflammable character should immediately be substituted. This matter will soon come officially to notice. The District Magistrate should, I think, be on the Controlling Board.

At Conjeeveram I received an address from the Sanscrit School, and [illegible] reference in my answer to the Oriental School of Learning, which is to be started in connection with the Imperial Institute, suggests an enquiry as to what has been done, in regard to the Technical School, which was to be our own permanent memorial of Her Majesty's Jubilee.

At Conjeeveram I heard of the discontent of the Chingleput people, occasioned by the raising of the house tax. I am in favor of advancing slowly in this direction. This particular trouble was satisfactorily settled by Mr. Hammick.

Mr. Kough met me at Dhone, and he complained that the condition of the roads in his district was steadily deteriorating. I believe that this is the case elsewhere; and possibly we shall in the end have to make Provincial allotments in aid of Local Funds. Something at any rate must be done to improve our roads which in many districts are rapidly going from bad to worse.

An address I received at Guntur asked that the police force might be strengthened. This request should receive consideration from the Police authorities.

In regard to the proposed Railway extension to Masulipatam, I have already communicated with my Honorable Colleagues.

The extension of the Bellary-Kistna line up to the river bank, which resulted from my last visit to Bezwada, was only completed the day before my arrival, and had not then been passed by the Consulting Engineer. A reference should be made to the Government of Bombay if, as is possible, the line has not yet been opened for traffic.

With regard to the Kistna bridge, I thought it would be advantageous, that Mr. Spring should have as free a hand as possible. He is anxious to be placed in independent charge. I have great confidence in this officer, and believe that the more independent he is, the more quickly the work will be completed. We have made a recommendation in this behalf to the Government of India.

We have also communicated with the Government of India, advising the immediate construction of the Godavery bridge, to which I referred in my speech at Bezwada. I attach the greatest possible importance to this matter.

A petition I received at Cumbum has been transferred to the Public Works Department; possibly the permanent repair of the dam referred to therein may be unobjectionable. It was demolished for sanitary reasons; but I gathered from the intelligent Deputy Collector, Mr. K. Subba Rao, that its permanent repair at the present time would not be fraught with any results disastrous to the public health.

MADRAS,
October 26th, 1890.

CONNEMARA.

Public Department.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

READ the following ~~paper~~:—

Minute by the Right Honorable Lord Connemara, Governor of Madras, dated, Madras, 26th October 1890.

Order 5 November 1890 No. 755

His Excellency's Minute will be communicated to the departments of the Secretariat in which action is necessary for early attention

(True Extract)

H. Nicholson
Chief Secretary

To
The Public Works Department (Railway Branch) with &c of Minute
" Public Works Department (Irrigation Branch)
" Revenue Department
" Judicial Department
" Educational Department
" Political Department
" Local and Municipal Department.

Ex. H.S.

P. W. Department.

Read the following:—

Minute by H.E. 26th October 1890

FOR ORDERS.

The Belgaum Railway Company have been asked by the Consulting Engineer to send in progress reports on the 1st of each month—

2. The Agent of the South Mahratta Railway has been asked by the Consulting Engineer to submit plans and estimates for extending the Gadag to Hubli branch to Belgaum bazaar—

3. It has been ascertained that the extension of the Bellary Railway to the new bank of the Bagwada was opened for goods traffic on 27th October—

15/11/90

[61]

Govt. of {18 } Madras.

B.

No 1878 R d 26 November 1890

To

The Secretary
P.W. Branch

Recorded. The
Consulting Engineer for Railways
has taken the necessary action.

Ry.
Ms: R

Proceedings, dated 8—12 18 90
No. 755

Subject.

Copy Minute of H.E.
the Governor to the
Departments of the
Secretariat for necessary
action being taken

B.
No 1878 R d/26 Nov'90.