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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue - DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

564

Press

Mis.

Dated

18-5-1867

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
18th May 1867.*

No. 123. Read the following Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 11th May 1867, No. 1429.

Sanctioning an increased grant of Rupees 9058 per annum, towards the maintenance of the roads leading from the Fort to the Mount and Poona-malee, thus raising the yearly grant to the Municipality to Rupees 35,000. } (Vide Proceedings, Public Works Department, dated 11th May 1867, Nos. 277 and 278).

No. 124. ORDER THEREON, 18th May 1867, No. 564.

To be recorded.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 277. Read the following letter from the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 9th April 1867 :—

1. We have the honour to request you will bring to the notice of Government the very inadequate amount of their contribution towards the cost of maintaining the roads at the Presidency, and to solicit a re-consideration of the subject, in the hope that Government will see cause to render us more extensive support than they do at present.

2. During the past year thirty-one streets, mostly in Black Town, were formed for the first time with metal, and we are constantly receiving applications to make similar improvements in this and other localities within the Municipal limits, but are unable to comply therewith for want of funds.

3. The following is a comparative statement of road-work executed during the past three years :—

1864.	1865.	1866.
Cubic feet. 16,81,575	Cubic feet. 17,05,381	Cubic feet. 17,39,903

which shows a steady annual increase, although not to the extent expected of us by the public.

4. The total length of metalled roads is now 146 miles, and the average expenditure for maintenance, during the past three years, is Rupees 1,12,169, exclusive of charges for establishment and supervision.

5. Two of the principal and most costly roads are those leading to the large Military Stations at Saint Thomas' Mount and Poonamallee, which were, until within the year 1852, maintained solely by Government, together with the South Beach Road and that leading to the Powder Mills, and when they were transferred to the Justices in Sessions, Government promised to contribute the yearly sum of Rupees 8,000 towards their maintenance ; but, by Orders of Public Works Department, dated 1st February and 28th April 1866, Nos. 405 and 1,347, this was withdrawn, together with the following items :—

Road from Marshall's road to Saint Andrew's bridge... Rupees 850

Road east and north of the Railway Terminus... „ 2,000

although the former was made by Government, and the latter is within the Esplanades.

6. On the 29th May 1865, the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division proposed the transfer, to our charge, of certain roads within the limits of the Esplanades and in Government compounds, and recommended that an annual allowance of Rupees 1,995-3-8 should be made to us for their maintenance, but Government, on 12th June 1865, No. 1,609, struck off Rupees 1,099-15-2 from the amount, on the plea that the walks around the Band Stand and the road on the east bank of the canal, between the Hospital and Elephant Gates, are of a local

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11th May 1867.*

character, although they are actually within the limits of the Government Esplanade; this sum, added to that mentioned at paragraph 4, makes a total of Rupees 11,950, which we contend should, in all fairness, be borne by Government, and not by the Municipality; in support of which argument we would observe that gun-carriages, Ordnance carts or wagons, horses, ponies, or mules, belonging to Government, Troops, Military stores, and equipages, pay neither taxes nor tolls, although they do considerably more damage to our roads than spring vehicles and horses, the property of private individuals. We may also cite the views of Government respecting their liability to maintain all roads within the limits of the Esplanades, as expressed in paragraph 2 of their Orders of 28th April 1866, No. 1,347, Public Works Department.

7. We further submit that, considering the peculiar characteristics of the town of Madras, it might be expected that Government would not limit its annual grant to a bare maintenance allowance for roads, which are strictly their own property.

8. The city of Madras is the seat of Government, of a numerous body of functionaries connected with the Civil and Military administration of the whole country, and of a variety of public establishments of an Imperial character. The town has grown up on a scale commensurate rather to national than municipal requirements, and it is traversed in all directions by communications planned on dimensions which are conducive to the beauty and convenience of the capital, but which would not be justified by mere local or commercial wants, and which would never have been sanctioned for the latter alone. The interests of the citizens and the interests of the general Government are inseparably interwoven in the welfare of a metropolis which has expanded by their common exertions in conformity with their respective necessities; we do not venture to affirm what would be an equitable contribution on the part of Government to the Municipality, which is charged with a branch of administration in which both are equally concerned. We leave the question with confidence to the benevolent and liberal appreciation of Government.

Transferred to the Department of Public Works.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
25th April 1867.

(Signed) A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

No. 278. ORDER THEREON, 11th May 1867, No. 1,429.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 33.

1. On a re-consideration of the subject, the Government are disposed to think that, as great Military lines of communication, the roads leading from the Fort towards the Mount and Poonamallee should be maintained at the expense of the State, and they accordingly resolve to make an allowance of Rupees 9,058 for their conservancy and repair. This will raise the Government contribution for the maintenance of roads within Municipal limits to an aggregate of Rupees 35,000 per annum, or about one-fourth of the total amount expended on roads within the limits of the Municipality.

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11th May 1867.*

2. The grant now sanctioned, not being entered in the Budget of the current official year, will be allotted from the Reserve under "Communications," subject to the approval of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)



Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

e Municipal Commissioners
Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
Public Department.
Accountant General.
Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

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1871

Public 1887 1890
Nov. 10 1891

Nov. 10 1891
10/14/29

10/11/29
10/14/29

10/14/29

Sanctuary are increased
Grant of \$9000 for annual
to the Bureau of Personal
the road leading from the
the Bureau of Personal
the Bureau of Personal
to the Bureau of Personal
18th Nov 1891 10/14/29
Revised