M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 420 Press Mis.

394-395

Dated 27-2-1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 27th February 1863.

No. 394. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Deparment, dated 21st February 1863, No. 460: —

Referring for orders letter from the District Engineer of Madura, requesting that immediate steps may be adopted for the settlement of the claims for compensation for lands taken up for the Madura town water project. (Vide Public Works Proceedings, 21st February 1863, Nos. 390, 391.)

No. 395. ORDER THEREON, 27th February 1863, No. 420.

Resolved that the Board of Revenue be requested to draw the early attention of the Collector of Madura to paragraph 2 of the Order in the Public Works Department above recorded.

(Signed.) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. OUCHTERLONY, R. E., Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 31st January 1863, No. 180:—

SIR,

1 Letter from District Engineer, No. 1,134, dated 8th December 1862.
1 Comparative Statement.
1 Abstract Estimate.

1. I have the honor to submit herewith an estimate, accompanied by a comparative statement, to cover an additional outlay which has been found unavoidable in completing the work called "the Madura Town water supply project," amounting to Rupees 6,000, which sum, together with the amount of the original estimate (Rupees 23,000) will bring the total expenditure on this scheme up to Rupees 29,000.

2. The chief cause of this discrepancy between anticipated outlay and estimate appears to be the omission in this latter document of an item for turfing the slopes and summits of the main embankment, which is represented as composed of such loose friable soil that, while unprotected by turf, it crumbles away under the action of rain, and will, if left to itself, soon become dangerously weakened. The other items are for some small masonry works which appear to have been overlooked in framing the original, such as an aqueduct for the channel to allow space below for the conveyance of an idol to some place of favorite resort, to cost Rupees 650; an under-sluice for the irrigation of some land near the town of Madura, Rupees 240; and a road tunnel, Rupees 100.

3. All that appears to be required is the sanction of Government for the increased outlay, and for the entry of the amount (Rupees 6,000) in the Local Fund Budget for Madura for 1863-64, which I beg to recommend being granted in order that this long protracted work may at last be brought to a close.

From Captain G. M. PAYNE, Acting District Engineer, Madura, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. OUCHTERLONY, R. E., Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle, dated Madura, 8th December 1862, No. 1,134.

SIR,

1. A short while ago the Collector of this District informed the Officer then in charge of the Department, that two masonry works, for which no provision had been made in the original or revised estimates for the "Madura Town water project" were still required to enable, in the first place a plot of rice land to be irrigated, and secondly to avoid interference as respects "right of way" with a procession connected with some religious festival.

2. On submitting the revised estimate of Rupees 23,030 sanctioned by Government in their Order No. 641 of 1st April 1862, the Officer* then in charge of the District omitted to allow therein for turfing the tops and outer slopes of the earthern embankment, and on my assuming charge from Mr. Harington, that Officer informed me that he had authorized the prosecution of this extra work (seeing its necessity, of which there cannot be a doubt) in the expectation that the cost thereof might be defrayed from an anticipated saving in the earthwork.

* Captain Ryves.

3. It seemed to me very desirable that the probable cost of the work in question should be clearly ascertained, and I accordingly requested Mr. Harington to prepare and submit an estimate of the same; in complying with which that Officer states:—"The most expensive addition however is turfing the outer side slopes of the embankment, as well as the horizontal parts of the "bank lying between the inner and outer slopes. I conceive that this important item must not be "omitted, as the natural soil is of a white sandy description, which to my knowledge quitters away "very considerably on the occasion of even a smart shower; the ravages caused by the late heavy "rains and by the present monsoon are sufficiently apparent, I trust, to warrant the course I pursued "when in charge of the District of ordering the turf work to be done. I should state however "that the order was given on the supposition that the saving in the estimate of Rupees 23,000 "would partly cover the cost, the Overseer in charge of the work having informed me to that "effect. On a careful calculation however, I find that though a saving on the estimate may with "some confidence be looked for, it will not be nearly sufficient to cover the cost of extra turfing "as well as extra masonry works. I have therefore no alternative but to submit a supplemental "estimate, feeling as I do how unwise it would be to complete so important a work in other than "an efficient and workman-like manner, and convinced as I am that the bank would sooner or "later be breached by heavy rains or rushes of water were turfing omitted. You will observe "that the estimate of 23,000 only provides for turfing the small inner slopes of the channel "embankment."

4. I have the honor to state that fully concurring with Mr. Harington's views, I forwarded the supplemental estimate above alluded to for the Collector's approval; and as Government are apparently anxious that the project, which it is believed will prove of great benefit to the Town of Madura should be brought to a successful termination, I have the honor to state that I have carefully weighed the further requirements that seem essentially necessary, to ensure on completion, a fair start to the scheme, and believe that nothing has now been omitted from the estimate that is necessary to secure so desirable a result.

5. It may be as well to state here that after the proposed sum has been expended, and the scheme has been matured, an annual grant will be required for the maintenance of the aqueduct, the greater part of which being an embankment, formed of a loose loam, will require constant care and attention, more especially for the first few years until the turf grows spontaneously and can be left to itself.

6. I have the honor now to bring to your notice some points connected with the funds provided for the "Madura Town water project."

7. In Government Order No. 641, dated 1st April 1862, a net sum of Rupees 16,138 is sanctioned out of the revised estimate of Rupees 23,000 for completing the project.

8. In the Local Fund Budget of the current year the sums shown as allotted to the project are as follows:—

		Rs.
Rs. 17,811	Income tax Funds of 1860-61 and 1861-62....	11,561
„ 16,138	Ferry funds, &c...	6,250
„ 1,673 difference.	Total...	17,811

9. The two amounts do not tally as will be seen, but as Government in their Order above quoted have gone so very minutely into the subject, it seems clear that the order in question is the authority under which the work is to be carried on, and that the extra* sum entered in the Local Fund Budget cannot be looked upon as part of the sanctioned expenditure.

* Rupees 1,673.

10. It will be seen, however, that this sum as well as a further amount of Rupees 4,327 in all Rupees 6,000, as per comparative statement and abstract estimate herewith forwarded, are still required to complete the project, and I have the honor to request that the sanction of Government may be solicited at an early date to an entry in the Budget of Local Funds for the ensuing official year (1863-64) of the amount in question, as a further allotment on account of the "Madura Town water project."

Rupees	1,673
„	4,327
Rupees	6,000

11. I have the honor now to inform you with reference to the same subject that the Rupees 3,111, *vide* 8th paragraph of Government Order No. 641 of 1st April 1862, set apart as compensation for land taken up by the aqueduct, do not appear from the following extract of a letter† from the Collector to have been as yet so applied. Mr. Levinge says, "with "reference to your letter No. 1,073, dated 27th November 1862, I have the honor to inform "you that Rupees 7,726-3-8 is the surplus from the amount originally sanctioned for the water "project from the Devastanum funds of which Rupees 3,111 was estimated as compensation for lands "and trees spoiled, and for the price of lands to be taken up for the project, according to the "calculation made by Mr. Clarke, late Collector, but I cannot positively now say that the calcu-"lation then made, will be found correct, as I do not know how much land will be spoiled," and under these circumstances it seems to me very desirable that instructions should be issued to the Revenue Department to allow no further delay to take place in the settlement of the claims of persons who are entitled to compensation, otherwise some further sums may be found wanting to meet the expenses attending the project.

† To the Acting District Engineer Madura No. 677, of 1st December 1862.

12. I have been informed that several land-owners have willingly given up their land and ask for no compensation, so that if this class be numerous, possibly the amount (Rupees 3,111) set apart for compensation, may on being thus applied prove more than enough.

13. In any case, however, it seems most desirable that this point should be definitely settled as soon as practicable.

14. In conclusion I have the honor to state, for the information of Government, that the work is being carried on as expeditiously as possible, and that a qualified Overseer having been placed in charge, the Executive Officer states," that with strenuous exertions on all sides "we may look for the completion of the work by the end of this or the beginning of the next "official year."

ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1863, No. 460.

1. Under the circumstances represented in the foregoing letter the Government authorize the entry in the Local Fund Budget of 1863-64 of the further sum of Rupees 6,000 required for the completion of the Madura Town water project.

2. Adverting to the close of paragraph 11 of the District Engineer's letter, submitted with the one above recorded, orders will be issued in the Revenue Department to the Collector to take immediate steps for the settlement of the claims for compensation for lands taken up for the project.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Chief Engineer, Southern Circle.
„ Chief Engineer.
„ Revenue Department, with District Engineer's letter.

xd. S. T. Augustin.

Pub W-1 April 62 No 611

Revd 1863 Dispatch
Pro: of Govt for Feby
No. 475.

Proceedings of the
Madras Govt in the
Public Works Dept.

Dated 21st Feby
Received 24th " 1863.

No 460.

From the Coll of Madura
22d Sept 1864 Ct 2555

Referring for orders
letter from the District Engineer
of Madura, requesting that
immediate steps may be
adopted for the settlement
of the claims for compensation
for Lands taken up for the
Madura Town water project.

Nos 394 & 395

No 420 27 Feby

With an Order to

No. 420.

Resolved that the
Board of Revenue be requested to
draw the early attention of the
Collector of Madura to para 2 of the
order in the P.W.D. above recorded.

Mint St George
27th Feby 1863

15/2/63

14 Board of Revenue with Rec P.W.D. No 460 Copy &
1 — do P. Works.