M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-8-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2177 Press ~~Mis.~~

348.349

Dated 29-11-1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 348. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madura, 2nd November 1864, No. 1,665 :—

1 Abstract Estimate.
1 Sketch.

SIR,

1. In reply to G. O. 3,062, 25th ultimo, I have the honor to report that from the river to the town of Madura there is a total fall of 19½ feet, for a distance of 3,600 feet the water is carried below the level of the ground, at the second mile stone from Madura it passes under the Dindigul road, and is conveyed on an earthern embankment, which at the end nearest the town will be 19 feet high.

2. According to the original intention this bank would have ended at the west side of the west Vellea Street, which is crossed by a masonry aqueduct on three arches—see accompany-section—the two side-arches of this work have been long since finished, and the centre one would have been built, but that its level is too low for the roadway, which must be hereafter cut down. East of this point again the water is conveyed on a solid masonry wall 141½ feet long (finished with the exception of the parapets) to the Marrett Street, here is to be another three-arched aque-duct, the piers of which are partly finished, and then another length of 133½ feet of solid wall ; at this point commences the tunnel under a part of the town to the reservoir in the Haymarket. I imagine that the Government are not aware of the existence of all this last work, built in 1858-59.

3. If it had not been for this, I should have proposed to commence the under-tunnel at the point where we now find a difficulty in procuring earth.

4. I am not clear as to the method in which the Government proposed to lay the iron pipes, but Captain Payne estimated for them, as also for a trough of wood or iron, to be laid on piers ; and came to the conclusion that masonry was cheapest.

5. As regards the embankment now in progress, I regret to have to report that new diffi-culties have more lately arisen. Early in the year the owners of the land adjoining gave us permission to cut their ground down half to one yard below the surface; but, owing to the removal of the convicts, so much delay took place, that they have now enclosed and cultivated these plots, and I fear will not consent next year to the removal of the earth.

6. I beg the consideration of Government to the Collector's letter ; the arguments which he adduces against the employment of convicts are precisely those given by coolies as reasons for not working. I am at a loss to know on what Mr. Levinge grounds his idea that cooly labor was more economical than convict, for we have of late had very little of the former, and only procured them by paying more than the usual market rate, even then the numbers were very small and uncertain.

7. Captain Payne pointed out to me some time ago that the convicts found it hard to walk up the bank with chains, and I desired him to prepare a lift, this has been finished, but it is not in my opinion sufficiently strong, this can be rectified in a few days, and every means will be taken by laying rails, &c., to turn the labor procurable to the best account, but as far as my information goes it is most difficult to get it in Madura or its neighbourhood.

8. The Collector in his No. 428 of 14th July 1863, reports that this Department is the only one that complains of difficulty in procuring labor. I know not who else requires any except in small quantities, but I may call attention to the fact that, as Trustee of the Civil Dispensary funds, the Collector is building a house, of which I am to be tenant. Some eight months have passed beyond the date on which its completion was expected ; and the reason given frequently is the utter insufficiency of labor.

Referred to the Revenue Department, with reference to the Orders in that Department, No. 1,923, dated 20th October 1864.

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

CHEPAUK,
7th November 1864.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th November 1864.

No. 349. ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1864, No. 2,177.

Miscellaneous.

1. Under the circumstances stated in paragraph 2 of this letter, the Government grant authority for the construction of the proposed masonry aqueduct in connection with the Madura Town Water Project, and sanction the supplemental estimate submitted for the purpose, amounting to Rupees 6,500, which will be met out of the Local Fund Budget for the current year.

2. The Government wish to be definitely informed whether the grant now sanctioned will complete the project, and if not, what further sum will be required.

3. The question of employing Convicts on this work will be referred to the Judicial Department for consideration, with reference to paragraph 5 of the Order in that Department, 10th November 1864, No. 1,620.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Department Public Works.
„ the Judicial Department.
„ the Collector of Madura.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Note.

In G.O. 20th ult. the Govt
Engr was desired to report
on the advisability of substi-
tituting an Iron Pipe for
the Masonry Aqueduct pro-
posed by him - Under the
circumstances stated in
para 2 of this letter Govt
hope the Aqueduct will
be sanctioned -

The question of Emp-
loying Convicts on this work
has been referred to the Judl
Dept

I cannot make out whether
the grant now sought will complete
the works - & hesitate to ask them.

I & S.

Nr. 2177.

Under the circumstances stated in para 2 of this letter, the Govt grant authority for the construction of the proposed Masonry Aqueduct in connection with the Madura Town Water Project, and sanction the supplemental Estimate submitted for the purpose, amounting to Rs 6,500 which will be met out of the Local Fund Budget for the current year.

The Government wish to be definitely informed whether the grant now sanctioned will complete the Project and if not, what further sum will be required.

The question of employing convicts on this work will be referred to the Judicial Depth for consideration with reference to para 5 of the order in that Depth 10th Nov 1864 No 1620.

4 To the Jud. Dept. Copy
2 " The Dist. Judge
1 " " Collr of Madura
1 " " Bd of Revenue

29th Novr 1864

54

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

R 20 Oct. /64 Nos 219-220
P 25 " " " 48 & 49

Referred to the Revenue Dept with reference to the orders in that Dept. No 1923 of 20 Oct/64

Under Sec. Col R C
Sec. to Govt W.D.

Revenue Dept
7 Nov. /64.
X 87

From Supdg Engr & Surveyor
of 14 Dec. /64 Cur. 3293.

No 348 & 349.

18 Nov /64 1220
27 Nov /64 87

~~Rec. 2 1864 Depy~~
~~Secy to Govt for Public Works~~ No 1665.
No 2917.
~~No 1820~~

From

The Supg Engineer
8th Division

To

The Secretary to Govt
D.P.W.

Dated 23
Recd 28th November 1864

No 1665

~~With a~~ Report on the State of the Madura Town Water Project with all the particulars required by Government.

No 2177-29 Nov
W. thereon

Exd. S. T. Augustin.