M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 68A — Press ~~Mis.~~

13 & 14. 132C

Dated 12—1—~~19~~ 1864

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 12th January 1864.

Read the following papers :—

No. 132A. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 6th January 1864, No. 41.

Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. BEADLE, R. E., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (General), to the Secretary to the Government of Fort Saint George in the Public Works Department, dated Fort William, 21st December 1863, No. 5,314.

SIR,

1. With reference to your letter No. 1,035, dated the 27th April 1863, to the address of the Secretary in this Department with the late Governor General, forwarding a Statement of the sums chargeable to Public Works in the General Budget, in addition to the amount entered in the regular Departmental Budget, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to state that the Financial Department will be addressed in regard to the grant of an extra allotment of Rupees 40,679 for charges on account of Travellers' Bungalows in the Madras Presidency during 1863-64. For the future, however, this charge will be provided for from Local Funds; *vide* Public Works Department Circulars Nos. 59 and 60, dated respectively the 26th November, and 14th December 1863.

2. In regard to the charges on account of Establishment for Cochrane's Canal, I am to state that the amount required for the purpose, may be met by a transfer from the Reserve at the disposal of the Madras Government. Proper provision should be made for this charge in the Budget Estimate for 1864-65.

3. Instructions will hereafter be given on the subject of advances for working expenses of the Dowlaishweram Workshops. The other items entered in your letter do not call for remark.

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1. Orders will be passed on paragraph 1 of the foregoing letter on the receipt of a reply to the reference made to the Revenue Department in G. O. No. 3,064, dated 11th December 1863.

2. In regard to paragraph 2 it will be ascertained from the Revenue Department whether the Establishment for Cochrane's Canal is properly chargeable to the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

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

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No. 132B. From J. L. LUSHINGTON, Esq., Acting Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Fort Saint George, 9th January 1864, No. 318.

SIR,

With reference to the 64th paragraph of the Proceedings of Government, No. 2,378, dated the 24th ultimo, I have the honor to remark that, under orders of the Government of India in the Public Works Department, No. 1,374, dated 13th July* 1863, the Establishment of Cochrane's Canal should be included in the Public Works Budget. The sum of Rupees 3,000 passed by Government cannot therefore be included in the Section "E. Works of Internal Improvement and Public Convenience" now under preparation in this Office.

* Financial Department, Memorandum, dated Fort William, 31st October 1863, No. 4,900.

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No. 132C. ORDER THEREON, 12th January 1864, No. 68A.

1. Under the orders quoted by the Acting Accountant General the charge for the Collecting Establishment on Cochrane's Canal must of course be entered in the Public Works Budget, pending a reference to the Supreme Government.

2. The Establishment being employed specially and exclusively for collecting the tolls levied on the Canal, the Governor in Council considers the present system of debiting it to the Public Works grant, wrong in principle.

3. The proper functions of the Department Public Works are the construction, repair and maintenance of works. With the collection of the revenue produced by those works they properly have nothing to do. Occasionally it is economical and convenient that they should collect the revenues of a work they have constructed; but these cases are rare and exceptional, and the present is certainly not one of them. On any other principle the extension of Public Works Establishments would be unlimited, for no sooner would an anicut, a canal, a tank or any other work be completed, than it would be necessary to attach a Revenue Collecting Office to the Department, and the result would be that the time of the professional Engineer would be diverted from duties for which he has been carefully and specially trained to others for which he has not been trained at all, and to perform which the Government have other trained and experienced Officers. If the principle laid down by the Supreme Government be correct, then, the entire irrigated revenue of the Presidency should be collected and accounted for by the Department Public Works. Clearly the correct and most economical arrangement in the present case is for the Department of Public Works to maintain, improve and repair the Canal, and for the Collector to realize and account for the tolls. Each Officer will thus be engaged on the duty which he understands and can best perform.

4. The plan of charging this item to the Public Works grant seems of doubtful propriety in another respect. The Public Works Department is charged with the expense of collecting these tolls, but is not allowed to appropriate the proceeds. Every work of the kind therefore instead of increasing, diminishes the resources of the Department, and the larger and more remunerative the work, the greater the diminution. The Governor in Council is clearly of opinion that if the grant for Public Works is charged with the expense of collecting the tolls, the proceeds should, *per contra*, be added to it. As the matter stands, the Supreme Government nominally make a certain grant for Public Works and practically reduce it by saddling it with extraneous charges.

5. But the correct plan, in the opinion of Government, is to bring this item into the Revenue Budget altogether, to credit the tolls as Miscellaneous Revenue, and to debit the charges of collecting to B. IV Miscellaneous, the specific minor heads in both cases being "Cochrane's Canal." The Public Works Department would of course continue to provide for deepening the Canal, maintaining towing-paths and all similar engineering work, which is all properly debitable to the grant annually made for "Public Works."

6. The heading in the Budget "Works of Internal Improvement and Public Convenience" is sufficiently comprehensive to include every Public Work, but there is no reason for including under it canals any more than roads or the like which are not now entered under it.

7. On the principle advocated by this Government, the Department of Public Works on completing a reproductive Public Work would hand it over to the Revenue Officers, who would thereafter realize the returns, at the charge of the Revenue Department as they do the other revenues of the State, and the entire grant made specially for Public Works would in fact as well as theory be expended on them.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" Accountant General.
" Civil Paymaster.
" Department Public Works.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue Department

No. 68-A.

Proceedings of the Madras Government under date the 12th January 1864.

Read the following papers.

Proc. of the Madras Govt in the Public Works Dept:—

Communicating a letter from the Supreme Govt in regard to the grant of an extra allotment for charges on account of Travellers' Bungalows in that Residency during 1863/64, & requesting to be informed whether the Establt for Cochrane's Canal is chargeable to the P.W.D.—

(Recorded 6th Jany 1864, No. 41)—

From the Pg Engineer & Secy Bd—

Remarks that the Establt of the Cochrane's Canal should be included in the P.W. Budget as it cannot be included in the Selection of P. Works of National Improvement & public Convenience

(Recd 9th Jany 1864)

Under the orders quoted by the Acting Accountant General the charge for the collecting Establishment on Cochrane's Canal must of course be entered in the Public Works Budget.

Pro. 18th Jany 1864. No. 3 for 1863-64.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt in the P.W. Department.

Dated 12th January 1864.

Read the following papers.

From the Pg Engineer & Secy Bd—

Communicating a letter from the Supreme Govt in regard to the grant of an extra allotment for charges on account of Travellers' Bungalows in the Residency during 1863/64, & requesting to be informed whether the Establt for Cochrane's Canal is chargeable to the P.W.D.—

From the Accountant General—

Under the orders quoted by the Acting Accountant General the charge for the collecting Establishment on Cochrane's Canal must of course be entered in the Public Works Budget.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt in the P.W. Department.

Dated 12th January 1864.

Read the following papers.

From the Pg Engineer & Secy Bd—

Communicating a letter from the Supreme Govt in regard to the grant of an extra allotment for charges on account of Travellers' Bungalows in the Residency during 1863/64, & requesting to be informed whether the Establt for Cochrane's Canal is chargeable to the P.W.D.—

From the Accountant General—

Under the orders quoted by the Acting Accountant General the charge for the collecting Establishment on Cochrane's Canal must of course be entered in the Public Works Budget.

Rg. Jany 1864. No. 57-58.

No. 132A.

Budget - pending reference to the Executive Government - The Governor in Council considers the present system of debiting the charge to the Public Works grant, wrong in principle -

The proper functions of the Department Public Works are the construction - repair and maintenance of works - With the collection of the revenue produced by those works they properly have nothing to do - occasionally it is economical and convenient that they should collect the revenues —

revenues of a work they have constructed but these cases are rare and exceptional - about the present is certainly not one of them - On any other principle the functions of Public Works Establishments would be unlimited - for no sooner would an Assistant - a Canal - a tank or any other work be completed, than it would be necessary to attach a revenue collecting office to the Department - and the result would be that the time of the professional

professional Engineer would be diverted from duties for which he has been carefully and specially trained to others for which he has not been trained at all, and to perform which the Government have other trained and experienced officers. If the principle laid down by the Supreme Government be correct, then, the entire irrigated revenue of the Presidency should be collected and accounted for by the Department Public Works

Works. Clearly the correct and most economical arrangement in the present case is for the Department of Public Works to maintain, improve and repair the Canals and for the Collector to realise and account for the tolls. Each officer will thus be engaged on the duty which he understands and can best perform.

The plan of Charging this Stamp to the P.W. Department seems of doubtful propriety & must seem in another respect. The Public Works

Works Department is charged with the expense of collecting these tolls, but is not allowed to appropriate the proceeds. Every work of the kind therefore, instead of increasing diminishes the resources of the department and the larger and more remunerative the work, the greater the diminution. The Government is clearly of opinion that if the grant for Public Works is charged with the expense of collecting the tolls, the proceeds should, per contra, be added to it. As the matter stands, the Supreme Govt nominally make a certain grant for Public Work and practically reduce it by saddling it with extraneous charges.

But the correct plan, in the opinion of Govt is to bring the item into the Revenue Budget altogether, to credit the tolls as Miscellaneous revenue and to debit the charges of collecting to B.W. Miscellaneous. The specific minor heads in both cases being "Cochrane Canal". The Public Works Department would of course continue to provide for deepening the Canal, maintaining towing paths and all similar engineering work, which is all properly debitable to the grant annually made for "Public Works".

The heading in the Budget "Works of Internal Improvement

Improvement & Public convenience" is sufficiently comprehensive to include every Public Work — but there is no reason for including interest on Canals any more than roads or the like on which are not now interest incurred —

On the principle advocated by the Govt. the Department of Public Works on completion & reproductive public work would hand stores to the Revenue officers who would thereafter realise the returns as they do the other revenues of

of the State — and the entire grant made specially for Public Works would in fact as well, as theory be expended on them —

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Dupl. 15

1 & Copies to Bd of Rev.
3 — Asst Engrs
3 — Asst Engrs
21 — D. P. Works
5 — Financial Dept.

Revenue 1864 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for January.

No. 68A.

Pro: of the Madras Govt.
Dy 12th Jany. 1864

The system of debiting the establishment attached to the Cochrane's Canal to the P.W. & W. considered wrong in principle.

No. 132A 132B & 132C