

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1286

Press
Mis.

246. 247

Dated

12-6-1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th June 1865.*

No. 246. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Works Department:—

Passing orders on a Report from the
Acting Superintending Engineer, 6th
Division, on the progress made with
the re-building of the fallen portion
of the southern section of the Lower
Coleroon Anicut.

(Here enter 6th June 1865, No. 1,544.)

No. 247.

ORDER THEREON, 12th June 1865, No. 1,286.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue, who will
furnish copy to the Collector of Tanjore.
(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 1,544.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
6th June 1865.*

No. 150. Read the following letter from Captain R. F. OAKES, R. E., Acting
Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E.,
Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tanjore,
16th May 1865, No. 132 :—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report upon the Lower Anicut works which I visited
on the 12th and 13th instant.

• Up-stream.

2. The foundations of the front*
and rear retaining walls have been
carried across the breach, the founda-
tions of the former have been carried up to within 1' of the basement level or river
bed and of the latter 30 yards have been raised to within 2', and the rest to within
1' of the same level. There is still a gap of 21 yards in the foundations of the body
of the dam, here the wells have been sunk nearly to their full depth, and 5½' of
solid masonry is to be built over them.

† From north end.

A portion of the foundations of pier†
4 and 5 have also to be raised 5½' to the
level of the river bed. 120' of the foundations of body of the work and of the piers
1, 2, and 3 have been carried up to within
1' of the same level. The flooring under
No. 1 arch has been completed, and that
of 2 and 3 arches has been laid with two layers of bricks.

From north end.

‡ Down-stream.

3. The foundation of the rear‡
retaining wall has been built on boxes
filled with cubes to a depth of 3' with
from 7½' to 12' of solid masonry above; the foundations are therefore from 10½'

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scour, long the faces of both the branches of the anicut where a channel is formed from 1' to 3' deep below the original bed of the river, and from $6\frac{1}{2}$ ' to $8\frac{1}{2}$ ' below its present bed, the stream being from 10 to 12 yards broad.

10. The rear apron of the north branch was covered with water when I visited the work, but I am told it is in good order, I would therefore recommend that the sluices in this branch should be opened during the approaching season as soon as the water rises above the anicut, so that we may derive as much advantage as possible from the scour.

11. Very satisfactory progress has been made in restoring the anicut during the last month, and great credit is due to Lieutenant Livesay and Overseer Doheny for the untiring energy and perseverance they have displayed in pushing on so well with it while laboring under great disadvantages. I should have preferred waiting till the work was completed before asking Government to recognize their services, but as the opportunity of promoting Mr. Doheny to the rank of Supervisor may pass away if he is not included among the seven new Supervisors sanctioned under the order noted marginally* I have the honor to request that this claims may now be considered: he has been 10 $\frac{1}{2}$

* G. O. No. 1,137, 28th April 1865.

years in the Department Public Works, has always been employed in responsible positions, has borne the most excellent character throughout his career, has carried out some very important works and is I will venture to state quite as capable as half the Supervisors in the Department Public Works. I recommended his promotion in the Department Public Works, so far back as 1862 and I regret to find him still in the lowest grade of the Department.

12. I must not forget to mention that Soevagooroo Pillay the Tahsildar of Combaconum has afforded most material assistance in procuring labor for the work and has by his presence and influence tended not a little to its satisfactory and rapid progress.

No. 151.

ORDER THEREON, 6th June 1865, No. 1,544.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 28.

1. In forwarding the usual weekly Statement of the progress made with the rebuilding of the fallen portion of the southern section of the Lower Coleroon anicut, the

Superintending Engineer reports the result of his personal inspection of the work. The report is generally satisfactory, and the Government are glad to learn that, if nothing untoward occur, the work marked out for completion this year to bring the dam into operation during the approaching season will be finished. It is to be hoped that the difficulty stated to be experienced in procuring rough stone or brick cubes for the rough apron, which Colonel Greenaway suggested should be added to the rear cut stone apron, to strengthen the work, may be overcome, and that that apron may be sufficiently made up; for it appears to the Government that Captain Oakes' proposition to prevent water going over the damaged section of the anicut altogether by blocking it up with a masonry wall is quite inadmissible, as such a proceeding would send an over-whelming quantity of water down the remaining section and the northern branch, and thereby endanger those portions of the work.

2. Captain Oakes' objection to an extended rough stone apron would be valid if its thickness be restricted to $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The advantage of a rough stone apron is, that though it may be broken up by the force of the river falling over the anicut, and may sink, it still affords protection to the foundations of the rear retaining wall of the cut stone apron in exact proportion to the quantity of stone thrown in, and its mass may be added to year after year till perfect security be attained. It is not necessary that the rough apron should be laid exactly 30 feet in width by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in

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thickness, as estimated for by Colonel Greenaway. It will probably be better to reduce the width and increase the thickness, and the Government have already, in paragraph 2 of their Order of the 4th April 1865, No. 916, expressed their opinion that Colonel Greenaway had not allowed a sufficiently massive section for this very important addition to the anicut. An extension of the cut-stone apron, as proposed by Captain Oakes, would unquestionably be a very great improvement, and would add greatly to the stability of the dam; but, unlike the rough stone apron, which may be made up and strengthened from year to year, it is a work that must be begun and completed in one season, and at once, and would be expensive.

3. Captain Oakes shows by two sections of the river above the anicut, and by a sketch in the margin of his report, how, by the accumulation of sand above the line of the dam, the river bed has been raised till it has even assumed a reverse slope. If this rise were uniform across the entire channel of the river near the anicut the effect would not be injurious, but, as it has occurred only partially, and formed heavy sand banks which obstruct the flow of the stream towards one portion of the dam, and set it with augmented velocity on the other, they are most objectionable and dangerous. The measures which Captain Oakes proposes to adopt to remove them appear to be judicious, and should be persevered with till they are swept away, but it is to be regretted that the state of the under-sluices in the body of the southern section of the anicut renders their use this season almost impossible. The condition indeed of sluices 2 and 4 is alarming, and, if nothing can be done at once to repair and strengthen them, the Superintending Engineer will take care that they are closely watched throughout the freshes, and that every possible means be taken to protect them.

4. The Government notice with pleasure the favorable testimony borne by Captain Oakes to the exertions of Lieutenant Livesay and Overseer Doheny in pushing on the work under great disadvantages, as also the very favorable mention that is made of the material assistance afforded by Soevagooroo Pillay, the Tahsildar of Combaconum, who, by his presence and influence, has not a little aided the satisfactory progress of operations.

(True Extract.)

Charles A. M.

Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

St. 1286.

*Communicated to the
Board of Revenue who
will furnish copy to
the Collector of Tanjore*

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division,
" Revenue Department.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

with B. G. 6th June 1865

12th June/65

