M.R O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1881	Press Mis.
112-13	
Dated 8-8.	186 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 112. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th July 1865, No. 4,291.

Read again letter from Collector of Madras, dated 3rd February 1865, in Board's Proceedings, 24th April 1865, No. 2,076.

Read also the following letter from E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 15th June 1865, No. 163 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,076 of 24th April 1865, I have the honor to state that previous to Board's Proceedings of the 8th November 1864, no correspondence appears to have passed in this Office regarding the system of tolls or license on the Southern Canal. Mr. Fraser, the Special Executive Engineer in charge of the Canal, tells me that in his Office also there are no papers except those quoted in the Government Order, No. 2,353 of 23rd December 1861, which appears to have formed an enclosure to their Proceedings of 1st September 1864, No. 2,525.

2. The yearly collections of the Southern Canal, from the date it was opened for traffic, is given in the margin. I beg also to submit a rough sketch of the Canal as far south as the Lattice Bridge, which latter is generally the landing place of passengers. Cargo is landed at the point A. where the Canal meets the Adyar.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1861-62...	762	15	2
1862-63...	2,060	4	4
1863-64...	804	12	4
1864-65...	1,244	13	2

3. I request early orders that the new system of toll collection may commence with the Fusly.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Plan.

---

1. Resolved that the foregoing letters be submitted to Government with reference to their Order under date 1st September 1864, No. 2,525.

2. The Government will observe that the Collector of Madras is prepared to undertake the management of the Southern Canal, and, if desired, to introduce the system of taking toll now in force on the Northern Canal. He estimates that by this plan the cost of the collection of tolls will be about 13 per cent. on the receipts, but expects the receipts to increase from the supervision which will be exercised. Mr. Fane is, however, in favor of renting the collection of tolls on certain conditions.

3. On a re-consideration of the matter, the Board doubt whether it will be expedient to adopt the same system of tolls on the two Canals. The absence of a lock on the Southern Canal creates a difficulty, and the establishment to be entertained would be large compared with the receipts.

4. Under the system at present in force passenger boats pay a consolidated tax of Rupees 10 per annum, and cargo boats pay a toll of two Annas per ton. The Board are of opinion that the simplest arrangement will be to levy the toll entirely in the shape of an annual boat license. They would propose that all boats, whether cargo or otherwise, should be required to take out a license in accordance with

their tonnage, and that the license fee should be fixed at Rupees 2 per ton per annum. Mr. Fane reports that there are eighty-one passenger boats of five tons each, which also occasionally carry cargo, and twenty-three cargo boats varying from ten to twenty-five tons each, so that the receipts for the licenses may be estimated at about Rupees 1,500 per annum.

Referred to the Revenue Department, with a view to the questions of (1) relieving the Engineer Department of the duty of collecting the toll or collection on the Southern Canal; and (2) of adopting the system advocated in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, being considered in that Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
1st August 1865.

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

To the Revenue Department, with copies of G. O. No. 1,123, dated 18th June 1861.
" " 1,609, " 17th July "
" " 2,053, " 21st Dec. "
" " 2,525, " 1st Sept. 1864.

No. 113. ORDER THEREON, 8th August 1865, No. 1,831.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government approve the Board's proposal to tax the traffic on the South Coast Canal by an annual license fee of Rupees 2 per ton of boat measurement. The absence of the means of check afforded by the Lock Establishment on the Northern Coast Canal renders the system there in force unsuited to the South Coast Canal. The boats should be numbered and registered.

2. The Collector could probably manage the arrangement more conveniently than can the Department of Public Works, and there appears to be no objection to the transfer of the work.

(True Extract.)

Signed A. J. ARBUTHNOT,
Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Public Works Department.

Ext. S. T. Augustin.

No. 201. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, Deputy Chief Engineer, in charge of Central Office of Public Works, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, dated Chepauk, 31st May 1861, No. 1,056:—

SIR,

1. In a letter dated 12th February last, No. 1,440, which I did myself the honor of laying before Government with mine of the 31st instant, No. 1,055, the District Engineer of Madras supports a proposition made by Mr. Kennedy, First Assistant District Engineer, for levying a uniform rate of toll at 1 Rupee per mensem upon each boat plying on the Southern Canal.

2. An establishment is now engaged to register the traffic on the Canal and road, and Mr. Kennedy considers that the Gumáshta at present employed, could without difficulty collect the toll from the boat-owners, which the District Engineer proposes should be paid over periodically to the Collector, and as every boat will be registered, Captain Moberly conceives there will be no means of practising fraud.

3. Both cargo and passengers are now conveyed by the ordinary top-boats, and it is therefore proposed to make the rate of toll uniform for the present, an increase thereof being dependent on the introduction on the Canal of a larger description of boats.

4. I quite agree in the expediency of levying the toll proposed, and recommend that sanction may be granted for carrying the same into effect.

No. 202. ORDER THEREON, 18th June 1861, No. 1,123.

1. The Officiating Chief Engineer proposes the levy of a toll or license fee of 1 Rupee monthly on every boat plying on the Southern Canal. The Government approve of this arrangement which, it is observed, involves no extra charge for collection, and desire that it be carried out at once.

2. The Officiating Chief Engineer will consider whether, in order to save the trouble of monthly collections, licenses for the whole year may not be granted for 10 Rupees payable in advance.

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

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 27th July 1861.

No. 385. Read the following Endorsement of the Deputy Chief Engineer, in charge of Central Office of Public Works, dated Chepauk, 17th July 1861, No. 2,814:—

Read the following letter from Captain A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Madras, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. BOILEAU, Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, dated Guindy, 26th June 1861, No. 369.

SIR,

With reference to Memorandum, No. 1,863, of the 22nd instant, forwarding Proceedings of Government, No. 1,123 of the 18th idem, and directing me to report on the point noticed in paragraph 2 in communication with the Collector, I have the honor to inform you that it is our opinion that the proposal of Government, that licenses should be granted for the whole year on the payment of Rupees 10 in advance will save a great deal of trouble, and I have therefore, as the idea originated with Government, considered this proposition as authorized, and have this day requested Mr. Kennedy to grant yearly licenses on the toll of Rupees 10 being paid in advance. I have also directed him to calculate the year from the 1st proximo, and hope that my instructions will meet with approval.

Submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 2 of their Proceedings, No. 1,123, dated 18th ultimo, and with a recommendation that the Proceedings of the District Engineer may receive the confirmation of Government.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Lieut.-Colonel,
Deputy Chief Engineer in charge of Central Office of Public Works.

No. 386. ORDER THEREON, 27th July 1861, No. 1,400.

Approved.

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

No. 284. Read the following Endorsement of the Chief Engineer, dated Chepauk, 30th November 1861, No. 7,790:—

Read the following letter from R. KENNEDY, Esq., 1st Assistant District Engineer, to Captain A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Madras, dated Adyar, 16th November 1861, No. 73.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to request the orders of Government regarding the amount of toll to be taken from Masoolah and other large boats which make one or two trips on the Canal while it is flooded by the monsoon rains. They bring fruit from the south. One for instance arrived this morning with about five tons of fruit, its first trip, and I took it upon me to levy a toll of 2 Annas per ton per trip pending the orders of Government. This the owners paid very willingly.

2. An old cargo boat marked 26 tons has also begun to ply, carrying firewood, &c. It will probably be able to carry only about 15 tons or 16 tons, I would propose that this boat should pay 2 Rupees per trip as a temporary arrangement.

3. As ordered by Government the passenger boats, which are all reckoned one ton each, pay the License fee of Rupees 10 per annum, but this rate is insufficient for boats so much larger.

4. It is probable that in the course of next year, the traffic will be increased enormously by the opening of the Palar extension line and the transport of Salt at Homes' Gardens, when the introduction of a suitable scheme for the whole traffic will be rendered necessary.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) A. S. MOBERLY, Captain,
District Engineer Madras.

From Captain A. S. MOBERLY, District Engineer of Madras, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. M. BOILEAU, Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, dated Guindy, 18th November 1861, No. 1,250.

SIR,

1. In forwarding for the orders of Government the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. Kennedy, I have the honor to inform you that I am given to understand that the Masoolah boats hereinmentioned come from the south of the Palar river, and after coasting along the sea shore enter the Canal by the bar of the Sadras river when it is open.

2. The usual toll levied on the Northern Canal is 4 Annas per ton, but on the southern, agreeably to the Orders of Government No. 1,400 of the 27th July 1861, only 10 Rupees per annum is levied as a License fee, as the boats were mostly passengers boats, which on the Northern Canal pay 4 Annas per trip.

3. The rate proposed by Mr. Kennedy, in paragraphs 1 and 2, is 2 Annas per ton, and this is only a temporary arrangement; as at present no toll establishment is authorized, and as the traffic on the southern portion is not yet developed, I would recommend that Mr. Kennedy's scheme be sanctioned until such time as the Canal is fully opened to the Palar river.

---

1 Letter from the District Engineer Madras, No. 1,250, dated 18th November 1861, with one enclosure from Mr. Kennedy.

Submitted to Government with the Chief Engineer's recommendation that as a temporary and experimental measure, the suggestions contained in the foregoing letter may receive the sanction of Government.

(Signed) W. H. HORSLEY, Lieut.-Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

No. 285. ORDER THEREON, 23rd December 1861, No. 2,353.

The Government sanction, as a temporary measure, the proposal for the levy of a toll of 2 Annas per ton of goods carried on the Southern Canal.

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

Rec. 2844-2853.

Public Works 1861 &c.

P. 2353

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 23 December 1861

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 1st September 1864.

No. 3. Read the following Endorsement of the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Arnee, 24th August 1864, No. 2,408.

Read the following letter from E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to Colonel A. J. M. BOILEAU, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Saidapet, 9th June 1864, No. 143.

SIR,

1. In forwarding herewith Mr. Howell's application* requesting that the toll levied on his boat be reduced, I have the honor to request that you will forward to this Office a copy of the Order† of Government referred to in the extract of Mr. Fraser's letter therein quoted.

2. I shall also be obliged by your letting me know your opinion on the subject, and whether any indulgence is shown towards those who use only a part of the canal.

* Dated 4th June 1864.

† No. 2,553 of 23rd December 1861.

From J. HOWELL, Esq., Managing Proprietor, Parengudi Estate, to E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, dated Madras, 4th June 1864:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to request that my boats employed for the conveyance of laterite gravel and potting clay may be allowed to run on the canal between the lattice Bridge and "Norton Villa" without hinderance.

2. The usual toll levied on all articles conveyed by the canal is Annas 2 per ton. I beg that the rate may be modified for the reason that I do not use the whole of the Canal, and that the intrinsic value of the material transported is in itself 2 Annas the ton. If to this be added the toll of 2 Annas, there would remain but little as a margin for the outlay of capital, &c.

3. Mr. Fraser, the Covenanted Civil Engineer (to whom the question was referred under a misapprehension), observes in paragraph 2 of his letter No. 31, to me, dated 2nd June instant, as follows:—"I find that as yet no scale of rates has been fixed for the tolls of the "Sadras Canal, but by a Government Order No. 2,553, dated 23rd December 1861, 2 Annas per "ton per trip was fixed as a temporary arrangement and this order is still in force. It appears "to me, however, that at the time this order was passed, the conveyance of any material of less "value than firewood was not considered. I am prepared to recommend that a lower rate than "2 Annas should be levied on such articles as laterite, &c., but on this subject you should "address the Collector."

4. In connection with this matter I may observe that I am in communication with Mr. Fraser, as I was with Mr. Kennedy his predecessor, regarding the excavation of a branch canal to my quarries in Parengudi, but on this subject I shall address you separately.

5. Meanwhile, I beg that pending the disposal of the question now submitted the levy of toll may be suspended as it will be seen that the rate if enforced would be rather a prohibitory measure than otherwise.

From Colonel A. J. M. BOILEAU, R. E, Superintending, Engineer, 4th Division, to E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, dated Madras, 20th July 1864, No. 1,729.

SIR,

1. With reference to your letter No. 143, dated 9th June 1864, I have the honor to inform you that Mr. Fraser has expressed his opinion that 3 Pies per ton should be charged on the laterite gravel brought by Mr. Howell's boats.

2. I have no opportunity of giving my own opinion as I have no schedule of rates imposed upon other goods to guide me in suggesting a tax on the materials in question.

3. Mr. Howell's original letter I herewith return, I also enclose the copy of the Proceedings of Government No. 2,553, dated 23rd December 1861, called for in your letter under acknowledgment, which I would thank you to return when done with as I have no other copy for reference in this Office.

(True Copy)
(Signed) A. J. M. BOILEAU, Colonel, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 1st September 1864.

From W. FRASER, Esq., C. E., Special Executive Engineer, to Colonel A. J. M. BOILEAU, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Monteith's Road, Egmore, 16th July 1864, No. 73.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to inform you that your Memorandum No. 940, dated 14th June 1864, was not delivered until the 7th instant, having been detained in the Post Office at Saint Thomas' Mount and the Táluq Cutcherry at Saidapet.

1 Letter from Mr. Howell, dated 4th June 1864.

2. I have endeavoured to get some information on the subject of tolls on the North and South Canals, but a thorough search through the records of the Canal Office has yielded none.

3. Taking into account the nature of the material and the purposes for which it is intended, I am of opinion that laterite gravel should be charged at a rate not exceeding 3 Pies per ton.

From E. G. R. FANE, Esq , Collector of Madras, to Colonel A. J. M. BOILEAU, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Saidapet, 29th July 1864, No. 198.

SIR,

With reference to your letter dated the 20th instant No. 1,759, I have the honor to state that as the Southern Canal is under the Department of Public Works, the rate in question raised by Mr. J. Howell on boats plying between the lattice Bridge and Norton's Villa can only be determined by you in communication with the Secretary to Government in that Department, where alone the rate of 2 Annas a ton upon each boat was originally settled.

---

1 Letter from Mr. J. Howell, dated 4th June 1864.
1 Do. from Collector of Madras, No. 143, dated 9th June 1864.
1 Do. from Mr. Fraser, dated 16th July 1864, No. 73.
1 Copy of Superintending Engineer's letter, dated 20th July 1864, No. 1,729.
1 Letter from Collector of Madras, No. 198, dated 29th July 1864.

1. Submitted to Government with a recommendation that the subject should be referred to the Board of Revenue, and that this Department should be entirely relieved of all duty connected with the determining and taking of tolls on the South Canal.

2. The suggestions contained in Captain A. S. Moberly's letter to the Deputy Chief Engineer, Central Circle, No. 1,250, dated 18th November 1861, were put forward for adoption only "until such time as the canal might be fully opened to the Palar river," and they were sanctioned in Proceedings of Government Public Works Department, No. 2,353, dated 23rd December 1861, only as a "*temporary measure.*" The time would now appear to have arrived for re-considering the whole question, in connection with the reduction of the toll on certain articles, as applied for by Mr. Howell.

(Signed) A. J. M. BOILEAU, Colonel, R. E.,
Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

No. 4.

ORDER THEREON, 1st September 1864, No. 2,325.

Referred to the Board of Revenue for report.

(True Extract)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue with G. O. No. 1,123, dated 18th June 1864.
" " 1,100, " 27th July. "
" " 2,353, " 23rd December "
" Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 2,076.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th April 1865.

Read the following letter from E. G. R. FANE, Esq., Collector of Madras, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Saydapet, 3rd February 1865, No. 39:—

1. I am directed by Revenue Board's Proceedings, dated 8th November 1864, No. 7,315, to report whether I see any objection to taking over the Southern Canal; and if I do not, to propose an Establishment for it, comparing the arrangement under which it is at present managed, with the system in practice on Cochrane's Canal.

2. I see no objection to taking over the Southern Canal.

3. The Establishment for collecting the tolls on it, consists at present of one Peon deputed from the Superintending Engineer's Office for the purpose. This functionary keeps no account whatever. He pays in his collections to the Engineer's Office once a month.

4. The administration of Cochrane's Canal is of recent device. An Establishment was proposed by Mr. Ellis, and his views in general were accepted by the Government in their Order, dated 27th November 1863, No. 2,130.

5. The Establishment consists as per margin. Part of it is at a Lock situated at a distance of twelve miles from the head of the Canal. The remainder is at the Basin at Madras.

	RS.
1 Superintendent...	100
1 Clerk...	30
1 Shroff...	10
4 Peons at 7 Rupees	28
1 Sweeper	5
1 Lock Conicopillay	20
1 Assistant do.	12
1 Head Lascar	8
4 Lascars at 7 Rupees...	28
Rupees...	241

6. The Establishment at the Lock gives Memoranda of the cargoes of in-coming boats to the boatmen, who deliver up the documents to the Establishment at Madras, paying them the toll due.

7. Out-going boats receive a clearance from the Superintendent at the Basin, which is delivered up at the Lock. This document is not accompanied by a charge. Tolls are only levied on cargoes brought to Madras. They constitute an octroi. No charge is made on boats clearing outwards, loaded or unloaded.

8. The traffic on the Canal beyond the Lock is unimpeded by any charges whatever. Boats might bring cargoes from any part of the Canal, and land them at a spot before they reach the lock without being subjected to any tolls. There are no means of exercising supervision beyond the Lock whatever.

9. On the Southern Canal there is no lock. In this respect the Canals differ. It is difficult therefore to devise any mode of checking the Establishment deputed to collect the tolls, wherever that Establishment may be located.

10. If the Board propose that the Southern Canal should be managed in the same way as the other Canal, a small establishment consisting of a Gumastah and a Peon, the former on 12 Rupees, and the latter on 6 Rupees, might be stationed at the Lattice Bridge, where the Canal boats congregate, and make collections as following.

11. All boats would be numbered. The number of an in-coming laden boat would be entered in a book, as per accompanying form, its tonnage, and the amount of toll. The end of the form would be torn off, and constitute a receipt for the toll.

12. It would be necessary that such an Establishment as I have sketched, should be supervised. I would nominate the Salt Superintendent at Homes' Garden to this duty, and give him 20 Rupees a month for his trouble.

13. There are 104 boats on the Canal, eighty-one of these are passenger boats of five tons, and pay a consolidated tax yearly of 10 Rupees each. The boatmen are privileged to carry any freight they like, and may pay the tax in one sum. The other boats, which are of 10 to 25 tons, pay a toll of two Annas per ton.

14. Now the tonnage on Cochrane's Canal is four Annas, and passenger boats there, however large, bringing passengers only, are charged for such a freight merely a fee of four Annas.

15. I do not see why a difference should exist between the Southern and the Northern Canal, and would suggest that the rates on the former be raised to four Annas, and that the distinctive passenger license now taken on it should be abolished, and four Annas for a passenger freight be levied as on Cochrane's Canal.

16. The collections on the Southern and Cochrane's Canal are shown in the margin. It will be seen that the establishment I propose would constitute a change of 13 per cent. on the average returns. This appears high; but I imagine a stricter mode of collection will realize a much larger revenue than has hitherto been taken. Before, however, the Board decide that I should manage the Canal with an establishment, I would suggest to them whether, considering that there is no lock as on the Canal, and that the guarantee against fraud in the collections therefore depends entirely on supervision, the gain to Government would not be as great as it now is, if the Canal were farmed out to the highest bidder. The farmer would be bound to levy no more than I propose should be levied by me, viz., four Annas for every ton of in-coming cargo, and four Annas for every passenger boat, and would be placed in the position of an Arrack Renter, or any other contractor under Government.

Cochrane's Canal.	Rs.	Southern Canal.	Rs.
Collections.....	30,000	Expected collections.	3,300
Establishment..... ...	2,893	Proposed Establishment..... ..	436
Per centage	10	Per centage	14
Annual Contingencies	40	Annual Contingencies	20

Enclosure No. 1.

Boat Register.

Register Boat No.	When registered.	Village to which the boat belongs.	Boat owner's name.	Ton.	Amount of toll.	Remarks.	Received from boatmen.

(Signed) E. G. R. FANE,
Collector.

---

1. The Collector is requested to quote the dates of any previous correspondence regarding the system of tolls or licenses on the Southern Canal, and to give the actual collections during the last five years if he can obtain them.

2. Mr. Fane will also be good enough to submit a rough sketch of the Canal as far south as the Lattice Bridge, showing the points at which passengers and cargo are usually landed.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary.

To E. G. R. Fane, Esq., Collector of Madras.

Exd. J. Wright,

Enclosure to Board's Proc. of
Revd. to the Secy to Govt. Genl
Dept. Dated 24 July 1865 No 291

1865. Department

No.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 24th April 1865.

Rev = 2120/65 -

No 2,076.

Requesting to quote the dates of any previous correspondence regarding the system of tolls or licenses on the Southern Canal, to give the actual collections for the last five years, and to submit a rough sketch of the Canal.

Revenue Department.

No. 1831.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 8th augt. — 1866.

Read the following

Bo: of the Bd of Revenue -

Submitting, with enclosures, letters from Collr of Madras & Superintg Engr introducing a new system of toll collection on the Southern Canal -

(Here enter 24th July 1866, No 4,291) -

The Govt approve the Board's proposal to save the traffic on the South Coast Canal by an annual license fee of Rs 2 per Ton of boat measurement - The absence of the means of check afforded by the Lock establishment on the Northern Coast Canal renders the system there in force unsuited to the South Coast Canal - The Boats should be numbered & registered -

The Collector

to locally manage the
arrangement more conve-
niently than can the Chief of
Public Works, & there appears
to be no objection to the transa-
ction of the work-

U. S. Engrs Office Buffalo N.Y. Sept 9 1867
21- A.M. Dept C.E.

Recorded 1805 Dec 16

Registered August

A.D. 1801

Registered August

A.D. 1805

Pro of the Boards of Rev 17 Octobr

16 - £2975 -

Pro of Gen Pub Works Dept

2 November 16 - £3128 -

A

Affirming the Boards

Surveyed & Laid out

Traffic on San Roque

Canal by an annual

License fee of $1.2 for

Ann -

Act 112 & 113