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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2742 Press ~~Mis.~~

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Dated 10 — 10 — 1866.

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th October 1866.

No. 256. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue :—

Submitting, for information, letter from Acting Collector of Nellore, reporting on expenditure of Public Works during 1865-66. } (Here enter 26th September 1866, No. 6,899.)

No. 257. ORDER THEREON, 10th October 1866, No. 2,742.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 6,899.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 26th September 1866.

Read the following letter from T. A. N. CHASE, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 30th August 1866, No. 282 :—

1. I have the bonor to report on the Expenditure on Public Works in this District during the year 1865-66.

2. The abstract in the subjoined statement shows that the expenditure in the year under review fell short of that of the preceding year by Rupees 30,968, which is the net result of an increase of Rupees 3,066 under the head of "Buildings," and of a decrease of Rupees 18,310 under "Irrigation," and Rupees 15,724 under "Communications" :—

WORKS.	Expenditure of 1864-65.	Expenditure of 1865-66.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
New Works.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
1. Communications...	57,044	*45,742	.....	11,302
2. Irrigation	34,842	†17,548	.....	17,294
3. Buildings	6,260	7,960	1,700	.....
Total...	98,146	† 71,250	.....	26,896
Repairs.				
1. Communications....	43,425	39,003	.....	4,422
2. Irrigation	26,261	25,245	.....	1,016
3. Buildings	1,402	2,768	1,366	.....
Total...	71,088	67,016	.....	4,072
Grand Total...	1,69,234	†1,38,266	.....	30,968

3. The total expenditure during the year was Rupees 1,38,266, which includes a sum of Rupees 4,293 from Income Tax grants. And of this total the bulk, * as in 1864-65, was devoted to the improvement and repair of the roads, to which I will first refer.

	Rupees.
* New Works...	45,742
Repairs	39,003
	84,745

* Under the head of "Communications," New Works, is included a sum of Rupees 4,293, laid out in the Centre Range on Trunk Road No. 6, and the Dorenal road from the Income Tax grants for the year.

† From these items a sum of Rupees 189-13-7 is excluded, being expenditure incurred for experiments made by the Nellore Range officer to ascertain the exact quantity of water per acre required to bring a rice crop to maturity.

4. The chief item of expenditure under the head of Roads was on Trunk Road No. 6, the amount being Rupees 31,407, of which nearly a half (Rupees 15,544) was for improving and building the requisite masonry works on the portion of the road north of the Pennair, or from the 115th to the 185th mile; Rupees 10,815 were laid out in making the road across the Musunuru valley, to which Mr. Pennington refers in paragraph 6 of his Report herewith forwarded, and Rupees 8,047 for the new line in the 88th mile across the Kandleru valley. This new line* has been completed and has stood well, and all this money may be considered to have been laid out to much advantage.

* Paragraph 4 of Collector's letter, No. 195, dated 19th August 1865, recorded in Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd October 1865, No. 6,706.

5. On the Kottapatnam and Ongole road to Cumbum the expenditure was Rupees 5,867, of which the major portion, viz., Rupees 4,994, was laid out on the portion between Ongole and the port of Kottapatnam, which it is satisfactory to find is approaching completion, and the remainder was spent in building certain masonry works on the line between five and six miles westward of Ongole, where there was an awkward break before, and necessitated* the traffic leaving the road and making a wide detour to find its way across the heavy cotton soil thereabouts, to the great inconvenience of bandies, especially after rain.

* Collector's letter to Superintending Engineer, No. 127, dated 20th June 1865.

6. Rupees 3,212 were laid out on the road from the Dorenall pass, viâ Nellore, to the beach at Krishnapatnam, and with an expenditure, by the Professional Department, of Rupees 2,255 on the minor roads from the great trunk lines for the development of the Salt revenue, and the improvement of the means of access to the salt stations noted below, completes an expenditure of Rupees 45,742 under the head of "Communications," New Works:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Branch from Koppolu, on the Ongole and Kottapatnam road, to the Vinayakuni Platform, at Biramgunta	1,008	0	9
Branch from the Guduru and Dugarazupatnam road to the Salt Kotaur of Dugarazupatnam...	899	6	1
Branch from Trunk Road No. 6 to the Ramapuram Salt Kotaur...	347	13	2
Total...	2,255	4	0

7. Under the head of "Repairs to Communications," the expenditure was Rupees 39,003, and with the exception of Rupees 649 for metalling the roadway on the Pennair Annicut, consists entirely of the annual grants allowed by Government at a certain rate per mile for the maintenance of the imperial lines of road.

8. Under the head of New Works of Irrigation there has been an expenditure of Rupees 17,548, or only about half the expenditure of 1864-65. In regard to the direction to which this expenditure has been devoted, the same satisfactory progress, noticed by Mr. Dykes in his Reports for 1863-64 and 1864-65, continues. Many of the tanks are being provided with proper escapes and weirs, and masonry sluices are taking the place of the former vamus or cuts in the banks which exposed the tanks to breaches at the risk of the cultivation under them.

9. Rupees 6,992 were laid out on the distributing channels and regulating works under the annicut in the delta; Rupees 1,339 was the sum expended on the embankment along the south bank of the Pennair, referred to in paragraph 9 of Mr. Dykes's Report for 1864-65, and the remainder, Rupees 9,218, was laid out for masonry works to tanks, as explained in the preceding paragraph.

10. The expenditure for "Repairs" to Irrigation Works was Rupees 25,245, or Rupees 1,016 less than in 1864-65; and annexed is a similar statement to that usually given by Mr. Dykes, showing the aggregate expenditure both for New Works and Repairs on works of irrigation, compared with the revenue.

Statement showing Irrigation expenditure talukwar, the area irrigated in 1865-66, the revenue and per-centage of expenditure compared with revenue.

Names of Taluks.	Area irrigated and the assessment as adjusted for 1865-66.		Expenditure under the Public Works Department during 1865-66, on works of irrigation.		Total.	Comparison of expenditure with Revenue.	
	Area.	Assessment.	New Works.	Repairs.		On Repairs.	Total.
	Acres.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees	Per cent.	Per cent.
Guduru	31,023	1,69,491	1,353	6,320	7,673	4	5
Rapuru	3,519	20,687	...	2,363	2,863	11	11
Nellore	59,250	2,91,502	3,693	10,153	13,846	3	5
Atmakuru	16,353	74,944	290	826	1,116	1	1
Kavali	12,505	68,101	1,933	355	2,288	1	3
Udayagiri	1,207	6,800	...	...	...	...	...
Kandukuru	8,602	52,297	1,446	1,760	3,206	3	6
Ongole	1,812	11,453	502	71	574	1	5
Kanigiri	628	3,987	...	148	148	4	4
Total... ...	1,34,929	6,99,262	9,218	21,996	31,214	3	4
Expenditure on the Pennair annicut distributed over two taluks	...	...	..	3,249	3,249	...	...
Do. do. Jaffer Saib Channel	...	...	4,495	...	4,495	...	...
Do. Sarvapalli new cut from Jaffer Saib Channel	...	...	1,497	...	1,497	...	...
Do. Krishnapatnam Canal	...	...	1,000	...	1,000	...	...
Pennair embankments ...	...	...	1,339	...	1,339	...	...
Total... ...	...	...	8,331	3,249	11,580	...	...
Grand Total ...	1,34,929	6,99,262	17,549	25,245	42,794	3½	6

11. In the 16th and following paragraphs of his Report last year, Mr. Dykes drew the Board's attention forcibly to the inadequacy of the allotment for irrigation works in comparison with the revenue involved and the risks incurred. The expenditure then was 4 per cent. on repairs and 9 per cent. on the aggregate under both heads, New Works and Repairs. This year, the Board will observe the expenditure is still less than in 1864-65, being 3½ per cent. on Repairs and 6 per cent. on the total, and it is obviously unnecessary for me to add any thing to Mr. Dykes's opinion as to the insufficiency of this per-centage to maintain the many fine tanks in this district in anything like proper order, quite independently of improving them or increasing their means of storage and supply, &c.

12. Under the head of "New Buildings," the expenditure has been Rupees 7,960; the chief items of which are Rupees 4,884 for the new Taluk Cutcherry at Ongole, the walls of which are reported to have been raised to their full height, the timber work for the roofing is being made up, it appears, at the Public Works Shop at Bezvada, and is now reported to be ready there, and has been partly carted to the site of the premises, the completion of which it is hoped may be speedily looked for.

13. A further sum of Rupees 394 was expended on the ward for the Police at the Civil Dispensary, Nellore, and Rupees 753 for the Police Hospital at Ongole, referred to in paragraph 11 of the Report for 1864-65. Both these works have been completed, as also the new Travellers' Bungalow at Guduru, the expenditure on which, in the year under report, was Rupees 607; and Rupees 844 for the construction of two Police Station Houses, at Tangella, in the Kandukuru taluk, and Dasuru in the Rapuru taluk, together with Rupees 477 for making sundry alterations and improvements to the Huzuru Cutcherry at Nellore, completes the list of works under "New Buildings."

14. The repairs to "Buildings" amounted to Rupees 2,768, and calls for no remarks. It was chiefly repairs to the Jail, Court House, Collector's Cutcherry, and Engineer's Workshop in Nellore, sundry repairs to certain* of the taluk and Sub-Magistrates' Cutcherries, to the Salt Cutcherries of Isakapalli and Dugarazupatnam, and to one or two travellers' bungalows.

* Atmakuru. Kavali. Rapuru. Venkatagiri. Nayadupett.

15. The Reports, received from the Sub-Collector and Acting Head Assistant, of the progress of the Public Works in their respective ranges, during the year under report, are herewith transmitted with reference to Board's Standing Circular, No. LXXXI, (Board No. 7,134,) dated 7th November 1865.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Honorable J. C. ST. CLAIR, Sub-Collector of Nellore, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Ramapatam, 16th June 1866, No. 63.

1. With reference to your letter, No. 12, dated 25th November 1865, I have the honor to report on the Public Works Expenditure in the Sub-Division during the year 1865-66.

2. Having no accounts of the expenditure in previous years, I am unable to furnish any comparative statements, or to explain the cause of any increase or decrease which there may have been in the expenditure of the year under review.

New Works.	Rs.
Communications...	12,826
Irrigation	1,949
Buildings...	6,003
Total...	20,778

Repairs.	Rs.
Communications...	10,463
Irrigation...	1,982
Buildings...	93
Total...	12,538
Grand Total...	33,316

3. The total expenditure of Imperial Funds was Rupees 33,316-15-5, of which the distribution was as shown in the margin. In addition to this, Rupees 11,370-7-9, from the District Road and Port Funds, were expended on the construction of the road from Kanigiri to the sea coast.

4. *Communications.*—Under the head of Communications, a sum of Rupees 6,194-1-11 has been expended on the construction of the road from Ongole to the sea coast near Kottapatam. Judging from the progress made, the cost of this road will greatly exceed the estimate. Its maintenance will also be heavy, for although only yet completed as far as the eighth mile, Rupees 1,200 have been expended during the year on its repair.

On Trunk Road No. 6, Rupees 5,981-6-6 have been expended for construction, and Rupees 3,683-2-2 for repairs. This road is interrupted for some distance in two places, near Oolavapaliam, in the Kandukur taluk, and a little north of Tangootoor. Between the latter place and Ongole it is not generally in good order.

Trunk Road No. 7 has been repaired at a cost of Rupees 2,271-5-8. Parts of this road also are in a very indifferent state.

Rupees 872-11-11 have been expended on masonry works on the road from Ongole to Cumbum, and Rupees 3,308-12-3 on the repair of the same road. Except in a few places near the Cheemakoorti hill, it is in good order.

4

5. *Irrigation.*—The expenditure on works of Irrigation was far less than in 1864-65, although no new works were undertaken in the latter year. The chief expenditure was, of course, in the Kandukur taluk. The original works consist entirely of calingulahs, flush escapes, and sluices to tanks. The chief expenditure in repairs was on the Machavaram and Pokoor tanks. This description of expenditure is perhaps that which is most difficult to check. I have been along the bund of the Machavaram and other tanks without the least suspicion that they had recently been repaired.

Taluks.	Expenditure. 1865-66. New Works.	Repair.	Total.	1864-65. Total.
Kandukur	1,446	1,763	3,209	8,102
Ongole	503	71	574	339
Kanigiri	...	148	148	2,049
	1,949	1,982	3,931	10,490

6. *Buildings.*—The most important of the works under the head of Buildings is the Taluk Cutcherry in course of erection at Ongole, upon which Rupees 4,884-5-9 have been expended. The progress of this building has been very slow, and I do not consider the work to be so satisfactory as in others of the same description I have seen built for much less than the estimate. The Police Hospital at Ongole has been completed, and some progress has been made in the erection of a recently sanctioned station house at Tangella. The repairs under this head are very trifling, and call for no remark.

7. The only expenditure on Public Works of Local Funds has been the construction of the road from Kanigiri to the sea coast near Oolapaliam. This has been carried as far as Ponnaloor, but from the absence of masonry works, it is not open for traffic throughout that distance. The road, when completed, will prove useful to those who have occasion to go to Kanigiri, which is at present difficult of access; and its construction at least affords employment to labor.

8. I regret that I have been unable personally to inspect the whole of the works upon which money has been expended, owing to my not having been informed what works were in progress, or had been completed until after the expiration of the official year. Had it been otherwise, I might have taken advantage of being in the vicinity of some of the minor works to satisfy myself personally as to the amount and quality of the work actually done, as well as of its necessity.

9. The Progress Report for April 1866, forwarded with your docket, No. 54, dated 10th ultimo, is herewith returned.

(True Copy.) (Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector of Nellore, to the Collector of Nellore, dated 20th July 1866, No. 161.

1. As directed in your letter of the 25th November 1865, No. 138, I have the honor to submit the following Report on the Public Works Expenditure during 1865 and 1866, in the taluks under my charge.

2. In the Udayagiri taluk, it seems from the Progress Report, submitted by the Overseer in charge of the Western Range, that the only money laid out is 1,040 Rupees on the Dorenal road. As to this, there can be no doubt that good work has been done in the Ghaut over the Yerra Gondlas, and it can only be regretted that money was not available to make some sort of a road at the bottom across the cultivated land by Maripod.

3. I have not had an opportunity of inspecting the whole length of the road through the Udayagiri taluk; but if a road is to be judged by its weakest part, I should say nothing would be much more disgraceful than the state of the Ghaut itself. It is simply frightful to have to ride over it. You can only walk for miles on each side of the top, and as far as I could judge, the Cuddapah and Nellore sides only present a choice of evils; the difference being that on that side it looks as if there had been a road once, and on this as if there might be one some time: the jungle is cleared, but then the work seems to have stopped. And yet it seemed to me that no very great amount of engineering was needed to improve it; and even if the stones had been removed and the track (it is absurd to call it a road) kept clear, it would have made it fairly passable at any rate.

4. Perhaps, however, the above remarks are uncalled for, since on the Udayagiri taluk, as a taluk, there has been no expenditure at all except 5 Rupees from savings in repairing the road from Nandavaram to Udayagiri, and my inspection was not sufficiently minute to enable me to say whether that sum has been laid out to advantage or not.

5. In the Kavali taluk it is satisfactory to observe that a great many irrigation works have been completed. I am, however, unable to give any opinion as to the merit of these works, and it only remains to notice the expenditure on Trunk Road No. 6. Speaking generally, the road is in good order, with the exception of course of that portion which is incomplete between Musumur and Gavaravaram.

6. As to the road across the Musumur valley, it seems that the whole of the allotment for this year has been expended, and certainly some progress has been made where a road is urgently needed. In the course of a few years now we may surely hope there will be at least *one* road complete on the north of the river.

7. I regret the delay in submitting this report, which is owing to the non-receipt of the Progress Report of the Centre Range for the fourth quarter till the 19th instant.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) T. A. N. CHASE,
Acting Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.
(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" to the Acting Collector of Nellore.

Exd. J. Wright.

Rec'd 27th Nov. 1866.

Dated 26th September 1866.

No. 6,899.

Submitting for information letter from Acting Collector of Nellore reporting on expenditure of Public Works during 1865-66.

RECORDED.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No. 3 1110.

Rec'd 1866. Department.