M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1016 Press Mis.

306-307

Dated 14 th April 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th April 1869.

No. 306. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department:—

Requesting of the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division to report on the alleged defective construction of the Talook Cutcherry at Ongole, Nellore District. } (Here enter 7th April 1869, No. 1,135.)

No. 307. ORDER THEREON, 14th April 1869, No. 1,016.

Miscellaneous. ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. Ft. 1869 Collection.

REVENUE.

From

Date 1 April, 1869.

Read

G. O., 11th April 1869, No. 1,016.

APRIL.

Nos. 303-307.

Talook Cutcherry at Ongole, Nellore District.—Order calling for a report on its defective construction, recorded.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 7th April 1869.

No. 181. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th March 1869, No. 1,773:—

Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Ongole, 20th January 1869, No. 207.

1. I have the honour to bring to the notice of the Board the disgraceful state of the new Talook Cutcherry here, and submit for consideration whether it is not desirable that a special provision should be made for the superintendence of the Cutcherries now being built in Kanigiri, Udayagiri, Atmakur, and Rapur. We have got proper plans for these buildings, it would be economy to secure proper supervision.

2. I have not the figures in camp with me, but the Ongole Cutcherry has cost, if I am not mistaken, upwards of 14,000 Rupees. I inspected it this morning. The floor had been made as you make a road, and then a thin coating of chunam laid over all. The result the Board can readily understand; the building has been used for about a year and a half; the whole of the chunam is worn away; and when there is any wind, those who have to write are in much the same position as if called on to do work under similar circumstances at the side of the Mount Road.

3. The roof leaks, which is to be anticipated with a terraced roof, though scarcely in the first year it is put up; and the verandah leaks, which is not as it should be with a sloping roof.

4. The pillars which support the Cutcherry inside are all more or less in bad order; two have given way altogether and have been shored up, the others are cracking.

5. In looking through the cells, I found in the corner cells that the gratings which separate them from the recess in the tower have not been carried up to the roof, and with the aid of the cross bars a man might easily get over. Once in the tower, if a friend passed a stick to him through the loop-hole, he would have little difficulty in making the loop-hole larger, to judge from the appearance of the chunam, and so make his escape. In another cell I found the thin wood-work into which the iron gratings are let so badly jointed that any ordinary man, if he have a quarter of an hour to himself, could with little difficulty shake the whole concern to pieces.

6. The Range Officer, whose conduct I brought to the notice of the Board as regards the Kottapatnam road, is not the officer who built this Cutcherry.

7. He is, however, the officer who is at present engaged in collecting materials for the construction of the Cutcherry at Kanigiri. From his Progress Report to the 30th of November, which I have just received, I find 7,500 Rupees have been entrusted to him for expenditure under this head, and that materials are now being collected. The state of the Kottapatnam road will enable the Board to form as clear an idea as I can on the spot of what is likely to be the result if the building is left in the hands of this man, so utterly unfit to be entrusted with repair of the commonest work, of a man who has been three times, if I mistake not, recommended for dismissal by the officer best qualified to form an opinion of the character of his subordinate.

8. The Cutcherries at Udayagiri, Atmakur, and Rapur, at present are in better hands than the Cutcherry at Kanigiri, but there is no security how long this may be the case; and I beg to recommend most strongly that the matter receive the immediate attention of the Board.

9. A copy of this letter shall be furnished to the Superintending Engineer, who is now here at Addanki, and I will also send a copy to the Special Executive Engineer Mr. R. Smith, and ask him, should the Government think fit to comply with my recommendation, whether he could superintend the erection of the new Cutcherries in addition to the special duties he now discharges as regards irrigation works.

THE Board resolve to submit the above report for the orders of Government.

2. The subject is one of great importance. Mr. Dykes' report, in which mention is made of the Kottapatnam road, was submitted to Government with the Board's Proceedings, dated 13th March 1869, No. 1,706.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
23rd March 1869.

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

No. 182. ORDER THEREON, 7th April 1869, No. 1,135.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 28.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division, who will, after personally inspecting the Ongole Cutcherry, report on its alleged defective construction, and state the name of the officer under whose superintendence the work was carried out.

2. Colonel Moberly will also submit such remarks as he may have to offer on paragraphs 7 to 9 of Mr. Dykes' letter.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

Rev & Dept.
No. 1103

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER.

2nd Division.

&c, &c. &c.

Dated April, 7th.

Read—6—9

G. O., 7th April 1869, No 1,[illegible]

APRIL.

Nos. 181-182

Talook Cutcherry at Ongole.—The Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division requested to report on the alleged defective construction of the Talook Cutcherry at Ongole, Nellore District, and state the name of the officer under whose superintendence the work was carried out.

No 116.

RECORDED.