M.R. O. 1—89,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1688 — Press / Mis. —

320 – 321

Dated 12 th. June ~~19~~ 1889

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
12th June 1869.

No. 320. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department :—

Passing orders on papers relative to the condition, etc., of the Kottapatam road in the Nellore District. } (Here enter 5th June 1869, No. 1,837.)

No. 321. ORDER THEREON, 12th June 1869, No. 1,688.

Miscellaneous. COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 1,837.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 5th June 1869.

No. 104. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th April 1869 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Camp at Kistnapatam, 17th March 1869, No. 595.

In continuation of my letter of the 10th ultimo, No. 328, I regret to be obliged to forward to you a letter from Colonel Moberly, of the 3rd instant, from which it would appear that any further information as to the present state of the Kottapatam road is to be obtained from the Public Works Officer in charge, who, Colonel Moberly thinks, "will afford every facility towards ascertaining" the truth of the matter.

2. When Colonel Moberly writes of what I saw after the monsoon, he forgets what had been written regarding this road and the Sub-division roads generally before the monsoon; and when he talks, in the 2nd paragraph, of having sent Mr. Sayce my charge regarding the non-employment of coolies, which he, Colonel Moberly, does not believe, he equally forgets that I am the Magistrate as well as the Collector of the District, and when I make a charge the course to be pursued is prescribed in the Code of Criminal Procedure.

3. A copy of this letter shall be forwarded to the Superintending Engineer for his information.

From the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Camp at Paroll, 3rd March 1869, No 152.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt, yesterday, of your No. 327, 10th February, which I could have better answered if it had reached me before I left the 4th Range, Nellore District.

2. I have sent Mr. Sayce your charge regarding the non-employment of the two, three, or four coolies per month entered in his Station book. I do not believe the charge, and must decline to press it against an Officer in Mr. Sayce's position, but I have no doubt he will afford you every facility to satisfy yourself as to the truth of the matter.

3. Of course Mr. Sayce is responsible, as is every Officer entrusted with money for the due outlay of it. I do not understand your request for my opinion on a simple matter of fact; the accounts are sent in to the Controller of Public Works Accounts, and I doubt not but that Officer will let you have the bills if you wish for more detail than the Progress Reports afford.

4. As I never saw the road before January, I cannot pretend to give any opinion as to the amount of work done since 1st April last. The Range Officer has stated the quantity of material supplied and labour employed, and I see no reason to doubt the correctness of his assertions. Metal was carted from Pelluru and Ongole. I am not prepared to say whether there is any other quarry.

5. I have now answered all your inquiries; but I must protest against your procedure towards my Range Officer and myself, and take the opportunity of remarking that, in my opinion, your description to the Revenue Board of the state of the Kottapatam road is not a fair one; when you drove the late Governor over it, I imagine it was quite new and had never been used, and your late visit was after the monsoon, after it had been severely tried by considerable traffic and the failure of the showers which serve to bind together the material put down for repairs.

The Board resolve to submit this correspondence to Government, in continuation of the subject of their Proceedings dated 17th March 1869, No. 1,811.

2. They do not see how they could dispose of the matter even if they had before them the evidence to which Mr. Dykes alludes in letter dated 10th February. Mr. Sayce is not subordinate to them, and they have no control over either Magistrates or Superintending Engineers.

3. Mr. Dykes' reference to the Superintending Engineer was made, they presume, under Section 167 of the Criminal Procedure Code, and if this assumption is correct, the refusal of the Superintending Engineer to press the charge is fatal to its further prosecution.

4. It seems to the Board, however, that the Superintending Engineer was bound to make enquiries into the matter, and not throw the onus on the Collector, who clearly did no more than his duty in bringing the matter to his notice. The condition of a road is not a matter needing professional knowledge, and any traveller over it can form a satisfactory opinion on its state.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, with reference to paragraph 2 of G. O., 14th April 1869, No. 1,007, Revenue Department.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
15th April 1869.

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

No. 105. ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1869, No. 1,837.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 21.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division.

2. The Government observe that the Collector of Nellore affirms in his letter of the 10th February 1869, that work was paid for on the Kootapatam road that never was done. As it does not appear that this charge has been thoroughly inquired into, His Excellency the Governor in Council considers it necessary that Lieutenant-Colonel Moberly should obtain from the Controller the accounts of all expenditure on the road during the last official year with their accompanying vouchers, and, after comparing them with the work performed as far as it can now be judged of, should report in full and minute detail his opinion as to how far the money alleged to have been laid out on the road has been faithfully and advantageously applied.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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No. 1892.

Govt. of [1869] Madras.

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PUBLIC WORKS.

From

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated June, 5th.

Recd. 8th. —

G. O., 5th June 1869, No. 1,827.

JUNE.

Nos. 104-105

Roads.—Passing orders on papers relative to the condition, &c., of the Kottapatam road in the Nellore District.

Write Octr

No. 1688 of 12 dated July