M.R.O. 1—39,060—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1833 Press Mis.

610-64

Dated 2. 1a. June 19 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th June 1869.

No. 610. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st June 1869, No. 3,899 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kistnapatnam, 5th May 1869, No. 864.

I HAVE the honor to submit the information called for in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings of the 11th January last, in respect to the Someswaram road.

2. In his letter of the 7th January 1868, No. 27, paragraph 3, the Acting Collector of this district brought to the notice of the Board that the Nellore and Someswaram road would be a useful line of communication with the Cuddapah District and the Railway, and it was very important that the Officials of that district should co-operate in its construction. In their Proceedings of the 7th February, the Board stated that the attention of the Collector of Cuddapah would be drawn to the subject.

3. In his letter of the 20th August 1868, paragraph 3, the Acting Collector brought to the notice of the Board that it was doubtful whether the Someswaram line ought to be made a second-class road, as there was already one line of communication between Nellore and Cuddapah, and the cost of making the Someswaram ghaut might be too great to make it worthwhile to undertake the work. The Board in their Proceedings of the 7th October 1868, observed that there was no opinion from the Superintending Engineer on the subject. The Government in their Order of the 14th November requested the Board would submit his opinion.

4. On the 23rd of October 1868, the late Superintending Engineer addressed the Board with reference to the Proceedings of the 7th idem, and gave it as his opinion that the Someswaram line ought not to be abandoned as a second-class road.

5. And the Board in their Proceedings of the 11th January having requested me to confer with the Superintending Engineer on the proposals made in the same letter of the 23rd October, to connect the Someswaram road with the Dorenal Pass, and, if necessary, allow the branch from Podalakur to Nellore to remain a fair-weather road for the present, the information I have to submit will be found in detail in the enclosed copies of a letter from myself to the present Superintending Engineer under date the 11th March last, and his reply of the 27th idem.

6. A mistake was made by the Acting Collector when he wrote to the Board in January last year, and described the Someswaram road as a proposed line of communication with the Cuddapah District and the Railway. The road was begun by myself with reference to the Someswaram anicut, as stated in the enclosed copy of my letter to the Superintending Engineer of the 11th March. It was never intended to be a line of communication with Cuddapah ; for the Pass could only be made practicable for wheeled traffic at an expenditure that, compared with the results, would be enormous. The line was meant to open out a portion of the district in which there were no roads, facilitate the carriage of plant to the anicut, and in due course bring down, it was hoped, the rice-crops to be grown by means of the anicut.

7. Though the objects of the road as regards the anicut are now a remote contingency, the Board will observe that, both the late and the present Superintending Engineers are of opinion that it has proved a very valuable outlet for local traffic, and would be equally useful as a through line of traffic, if placed in com-

munication with the Dorenal Pass, by making a road through the Chunchulur Valley, and in these opinions I fully agree.

8. The present Superintending Engineer in the 3rd paragraph of his letter of the 23rd March observes that the road to Someswaram should be given up, and the line carried more directly for the Chunchulur Valley; and if this course met my views, he would have a survey made as soon as the survey of the Dorenal Pass, which he has ordered, is completed.

9. I will request the Superintending Engineer to have this survey made at an early date. The portion of the Someswaram road, which will lie beyond the turn off to the Chunchulur Valley, will be only a few miles, and had better be retained as a fair-weather road. It passes through Kaluvayi and Kullur, two important villages, the former comprising the cultivation under one of the largest tanks in the district, and the total distance being some ten miles, should the line turn off, as it probably will, in the neighbourhood of Topegunta.

10. As regards the Dorenal Pass, and the survey which has now been ordered by the Superintending Engineer, I fear little more can be done, besides making a survey, as it is an Imperial line.

11. And as regards leaving the branch from Nellore to Podalakur as a fair-weather road, on which point the present Superintending Engineer does not give his opinion, I have the honor to state that I have not made a second reference, as much of the road has now been metalled. As regards the local traffic it is an important line.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From the Collector of Nellore, to the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, dated 11th March 1869, No. 550.

WITH reference to Proceedings of the Board of the 11th January last, I have the honor to request that you will be so good as to favor me with your opinion as to the propriety of keeping the Someswaram road in abeyance.

2. Mr. Boswell was misinformed as to the object for which the Someswaram road was made. I commenced it, when the Madras Irrigation Company commenced building the Someswaram anicut, to open out the country south of the Pennair, and form a line of communication for the Company, and for the carriage of their stores in the first instance, and, subsequently, of the additional rice-crops I hoped we should soon see growing.

3. Although one of the objects for which Someswaram road was formed has now become a remote contingency, I myself do not think it would be at all advisable that the road should be kept in abeyance. It has proved a very valuable outlet to a large tract of country. And when I was last at Udayagiri, Mr. Plumer suggested to me that a branch from the Someswaram road should be carried across the river and up the Chunchulur Valley to Kaddanenipalli on the Dorenal road. Such an extension would, I think, be judicious; and I request that I may be favored with your opinion on this subject also.

From the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Masulipatam, 27th March 1869, No. 160A.

IN reply to your No. 550 of 11th March, I have the honor to observe that, in my opinion, the thorough construction of the Dorenal Pass is one of the most important works of communication required in the district.

2. From it I think it would be well to make our local roads diverge south to meet the road from Podalakur to Someswaram, and north-east to meet the Udayagiri road at Nandypaud, with,

an extension to Duttaloor, cutting off the two sides of a triangle, of which Udayagiri is

The Somasilla Pass would be very expensive, and I think, under present circumstances, any rming it should be deferred. It appears to me, therefore, that the road as to Someswaram ould be given up, and the line carried more directly up the Chunchulur Valley, crossing a little lower down. I have no survey of this, but if it meets your views, will have one soon as the survey of the Dorenal Pass, which I lately ordered, is completed.

BMITTED to Government, with reference to Government Order, 14th November 8, No. 2,864.

The Superintending Engineer of the 2nd Division thinks that the part of neswaram road between Nellore and Podalakur might be kept up as a fair- road, but that the rest of it is of great importance, and should be vigorously ted, though it might be made to turn off some miles short of Someswaram, up the Chunchulur Valley to meet the Dorenal road.

The Collector considers the whole road of much importance. He says ch of the part between Nellore and Podalakur has been metalled already, the continuation beyond Topegunta, the point where the Superintending er thinks it should turn off to cross the river, is only about ten miles long, ses through two important villages.

The average cost of the road per mile, the Board observe, is Rupees 1,473. authorising the continuation of the road past Topegunta, the Board wish to rther particulars before them so as to be able to judge whether it will be he expense. The rest of the road should certainly be proceeded with, and rd hope that the result of the survey which has been ordered will encourage nation of a connecting link in the Chunchulur Valley between the Dorenal neswaram roads.

The idea of fitting the Somasilla Pass for wheeled traffic seems to have ntertained by mistake, and must evidently be abandoned.

ORDER THEREON, 28th June 1869, No. 1,833.

Local Funds, No. 8.
Civil Works.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

oard of Revenue.

R. Bantleman.

14 November/68 No 262/64
24 Feby — 0 — 485/86
1 September — 0 — 1041

Rev: 1869. Sept.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

A: 1906.

PROCEEDINGS, 1ST JUNE 1869, No. 3,899.

Encl.

Dup. 7 — 2 — a
Received 8t

JUNE.
No 3,899.

Someswaram road—in Nellore District,—Letter from Collector furnishing certain information regarding, submitted to Government.—Collector requested to furnish further particulars with reference to proposed extension of road to Topegunta.

A-1833.

RECORDED.
28th June/69.

1st Dupl. Rec. 29th