M.R.C. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1848 Press ~~Mis.~~

640*41

Dated 29th June 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th June 1869.

No. 640. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department.

Passing orders on papers relative to the appropriation of the amount contributed by private parties for the Streeviguntum Anicut Project, Tinnevelly District. } (Here enter 14th June 1869, No. 1,926.)

No. 641. ORDER THEREON, 29th June 1869, No. 1,848.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 1,926.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras, 1869. Public Works.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated June 23rd.

Read.

G. O., 29th June 1869, No. 1,818.

Tuti.

Sec. 340-24.

Streeviguntum Anicut Project in Tinnevelly District.—Public Works Proceedings passing orders on Papers relative to the appropriation of the amount contributed by private parties for the purpose, communicated to Madras Govt.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 14th June 1869.

Read the following letters:—

No. 283. From the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp at Poodoogoody, 18th May 1869, No. 399:—

1 Copy of Collector's letter.

With reference to G. O., No. 1,417, of the 30th April 1869, I have the honour to report that when Colonels Anderson and Wilkieson were down here a year ago, it was decided that the amount of contributions of the villagers towards the Streeviguntum Anicut Project should be given back to the Collector, after the works were fairly taken up by this Department, in order that the undertaking might belong entirely to the Government; and that the people might have no grounds on which to base a claim for a right to water from tanks or channels, in consequence of their having paid their money.

2. Mr. Puckle's proposal to open out the main channel to the Cadamba tank, early last year, from the contribution funds, was approved by Government; and the floods in June were carried down from the new channel head: but since then nothing has been done by the Collector in the actual execution of any part of the anicut works.

Vide G. O., No. 380, dated 4th February 1868.

The work done by the Collector was measured up, and it was our intention to pay out of the sanctioned estimate the amount contributed, (about Rupees 40,000), to the Collector, and to exhibit this outlay in the accounts of the project.

3. To utilize the same fund, it has further been in contemplation to complete the bridge over the anicut, the foundations having been provided for in the estimate that has been sanctioned. The bridge will cost about Rupees 70,000, and if the Government approve of two grants, of Rupees 15,000 each, being made in two successive years from the Local Funds, the work might be finished by about the same time that we expect to be pretty well through the general project.

As the anicut works are carried out from the Loan Funds, I imagine the Government will not think it necessary to reduce the cost by appropriating the subscriptions, and there is probably no better way of expending the money that is in hand for the benefit of the different villages than in building the bridge.

I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to me by the Collector of Tinnevelly.

From the Acting Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, dated Tinnevelly, 15th May 1869, No. 137.

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter to Government, and to say that I entirely concur in your proposal to devote the 40,000 Rupees subscribed by the villagers, to the head-sluice and channel, to building a bridge over the anicut. I have, however, two suggestions to make:—

(1.)—That you should deposit 40,000 Rupees in the Tuticorin Bank, as a *fixed deposit* for two years, bearing interest at five per cent., thus reducing the sum required to be paid from Local Funds by 4,000 Rupees; and,

(2.)—That a toll of one anna be levied on all bandies crossing the bridge. It is calculated this will give a return of about Rupees 5,000 per annum, and will recoup the Local Fund in six years for the outlay of Rupees 26,000, which with the 4,000 Rupees interest on 40,000 Rupees will be required to make up the sum of Rupees 70,000 for the bridge.

No. 284. From R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector on Special Duty, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 2nd June 1869.

In reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that the money subscribed for the Streeviguntum Anicut Project could not be better laid out than on a bridge over the anicut. There is at present no bridge lower down than Palamcottah, and the traffic along the coast is greatly impeded when the river is in flood.

2. The people subscribed their money unconditionally, toshow how much they wished for the anicut; and utilizing the amount by cutting the southern channel as far as the Kadamba tank was an after-thought, in no way affecting the absolute gift of the money. A bridge would greatly benefit the subscribers, but a toll on the traffic would be a mistake I think, as it would tend to lessen the feelings of gratification with which the people would otherwise regard the outlay of their money on a popular work, and would contrast badly with the other bridges over the river, which are free of toll, and were both built by private individuals.

No. 285. ORDER THEREON, 14th June 1869, No. 1,926.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 48.

In the first of the letters above recorded, the Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division recommends that the amount contributed by private parties for the Streeviguntum Anicut Project should be appropriated to the completion of the bridge over the anicut, for laying the foundations of which provision is made in the sanctioned estimate. The cost of completing the superstructure of the bridge is calculated at Rupees 70,000, and, in the event of the proposed arrangement being approved, Captain Prendergast suggests that the balance of Rupees 30,000 required to finish the bridge should be made in two grants of Rupees 15,000 each from Local Funds in two consecutive years. The Acting Collector concurs in the Superintending Engineer's proposals for the appropriation of the amount of the private contribution, but suggests that it should be placed in the Tuticorin Bank as a fixed deposit for two years bearing interest at five per cent., and that a toll of one anna should be levied on all carts crossing the bridge. By this means Mr. Longley believes that the Local Funds might be relieved from a part of the charge for the construction of the bridge and be eventually reimbursed.

2. These proposals having been referred to Mr. Puckle for his opinion, that gentleman expresses his full concurrence with the suggestion to lay out the whole amount of the private contributions in question on the construction of the bridge, but deprecates the imposition of any toll.

3. Under these circumstances His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to sanction the construction of the bridge over the Streeviguntum Anicut being proceeded with in due course with the money subscribed by the people and

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
14th June 1869.

to be recovered from the sanctioned estimate for the project, the additional amount for its completion being provided, as required, from Local Funds, leaving the question of the imposition of a toll on the bridge, when opened for traffic, to be considered hereafter.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant-General.
" Revenue Department.
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 1848.
Comm.r to the
Revenue Board

29 June/69

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue Dept

A. 1991.

Govt. of [1869] Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Sir,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated June, 1869.

Read 16th June

G. O., 16th June 1869, No. 1,099.

JULY.

Nos. 293-295

A. 1848. 29 June

Streeviguntum Anicut Project.—Passing orders on papers relative to the appropriation of the amount contributed by private parties for the Streeviguntum Anicut Project, Tinnevelly District.

With Order