

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 2024

Page

118/110

dated 12 Sept 1969

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Chief's Office. —

Read the following papers:—

No. 118. MINUTE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT.

I took occasion, not long since, to bring under the notice of Council the capacities of the river Tambrapoorney as an instrument of irrigation. I desire now to refer to the water-power which it affords for the purposes of manufacturing industry.

2. In attempting the establishment of a factory, the following important points must be taken into consideration:—

- (1.)—Motive power.
- (2.)—Access to the raw material.
- (3.)—Access to markets of consumption.
- (4.)—Labour.
- (5.)—Capital.

In all these respects the site of Papanassem in Tinnevely, where the Tambrapoorney issues from the ghauts, appears to me to offer great encouragements for the creation of a cotton mill.

3. After breaking from the mountains in a magnificent cascade, the Tambrapoorney descends, by a course of rapids, to the Pagoda where the shoal of sacred fish is fed, and where the torrent subsides into a long series of level reaches. The interval between the water-fall and the temple presents more than one spot perfectly adapted for the erection of buildings and machinery. I allude particularly to a place where I think a temporary weir is used, and where the first irrigation channel is taken off. The volume of water is probably more than sufficient at all times of the year; but if it were not, the projected irrigation reservoirs in the hills would repair the deficiency in dry seasons. No objection could be raised by the cultivators below, for the supply would be restored undiminished; and if hereafter dyeing works were established, the river could well afford the insignificant loss which would be caused by the diversion of the contaminated water. On the value of water-power, with reference to cheapness and salubrity, I need not enlarge: the examples of Scotland, Saxony, Switzerland, and of other countries, attest its advantages.

4. The northern parts of Tinnevely and the adjacent district of Madura produce the raw material in abundance, which would be laid down by the railway twenty miles from the factory. It may also be presumed, that if the mill was established, the ryots in the immediate vicinity would devote themselves to the cultivation of cotton in a greater degree than is at present the case.

5. The facilities for the circulation and export of the manufactured article would be as great as those for the receipt of the raw material. The home consumption in an opulent district would be considerable: the railway would carry the fabrics northwards, while the port of Tuticorin would be their natural outlet towards Ceylon and other foreign markets.

6. Labour is nowhere scarce in India. In Tinnevely it would be superabundant, for emigrants repair in numbers from the southern provinces to Ceylon

and other colonies. Nor would these people be deficient in aptitude for factory-work. No race in the world has greater flexibility and delicacy of manipulation than the Hindus, and what is done with perfect success at Bombay and at Calcutta, would be done as well at Papanassem.

7. I am not prepared to affirm that the capital of Natives would be immediately invested in the establishment of a cotton mill; but I am justified in asserting that there is more capital in Native hands in Tinnevely than in any other part of the Presidency, and that it would become available for a purpose of this nature with some encouragement on the part of the English commercial houses of Madras and Tuticorum. There is, in fact, a plethora of money in Tinnevely derived from the exportation of cotton; and it would be a further benefit to direct these accumulated gains into a reproductive channel, which are now hoarded or employed in usury.

8. Two arguments may perhaps be urged against the project which I recommend to the attention of the Council: (1), that it is not the duty of Government to co-operate in the introduction of any branch of industry; (2), that the development of cotton manufactures here would be detrimental to the interests of Great Britain.

9. It is not the legitimate function of Government to support manufacturing establishments, except perhaps exceptionally, in the interest of the fine arts; and it would plainly be wrong to foster them by a protective or prohibitive system. It will, however, hardly be affirmed that a Government may not rightfully point the attention of private parties to new avenues of speculation and enterprise, and afford them some kind of aid in the outset. Even the expedient of bounties is not absolutely excluded by the less rigid economists. Should the undertaking, which I now advocate, prove to be acceptable to practical men, I do not contemplate a greater measure of State assistance than would be involved by the gratuitous concession of water-power and building sites, the improvement of roads, the exemption of imported machinery from duty, the purchase of the manufactured article for public purposes, with due regard to price and quality, and similar occasional and insignificant offices which may be indulgently extended to an incipient attempt.

10. The increase of cotton manufactures in India would undoubtedly tend to restrict importations of the same articles from England; but we are not to be deterred by this consideration from giving free scope to all the natural facilities for manufacturing industry which India possesses. India is a valuable market for English manufactures, and in the interest of the great mass of Native consumers the markets that we open should not be limited by artificial obstructions, such as high duties; but India is not a preserve for Manchester, and the Government and people of England would reproach a calculated neglect of the industrial capacities of the country. That we have hitherto been guilty of inactivity is proved by the fact that all our cotton possessions are still idle cotton factories, in which the raw material grows and the thread spun, but the thread is not worked up with great promptness to the requirements and demand of the population. Yet the French Settlements have developed a cotton industry which does not exist at Madras, and suffers under several drawbacks and disabilities if contrasted with Tinnevely, the chief of which is the total absence of water-power.

II. As a first step towards the introduction of factory-labour into the Presidency, I propose that the Government shall charge Mr. Duval, a gentleman who possesses a competent knowledge of machinery and manufacturing processes, to proceed to Tinnevely with the view of reporting on the three following points:—

(1.)—On the capacities of the river Tambrapoorney as a motive power.

(2.)—On the adaptability of the site I have designated at Papanassem for the purpose of establishing a cotton factory.

(3.)—On the probable approximative cost of erecting a water-power Mill, including machinery and buildings, which would employ about one thousand hands of both sexes and all ages.

Mr. Duval has been strongly recommended to me by the Governor of Pondicherry; he was employed at that place in the management of a cotton factory, and he has informed me, personally, that he has had some knowledge of water-power engines in France.

A project of this nature, presented with the credit and authority belonging to a Government inquiry, would not fail to attract the attention, and, I trust, eventually to enlist the support of those who possess capital and are disposed to embark it in industrial pursuits.

12th August 1869.

(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 119. MINUTE BY THE HONOURABLE H. D. PHILLIPS.

THE amount which it will be necessary to assign to Monsieur Duval as remuneration for his labour in examining the locality adverted to by His Lordship the President, and determining the practicability of there establishing a mill to be worked by water-power, will be well laid out. I readily assent to measures being taken for securing Monsieur Duval's services, and for incurring the expenditure which his employment will involve. We shall receive an ample return for it if British energy and capital, or Native capital assisted by European agency, can be drawn in the direction of the Upper Tambrapoorney.

31st August 1869.

(Signed) H. D. PHILLIPS.

No. 120. ORDER THEREON, 6th September 1869, No. 2,524.

Irrigation, No. 1.

THE Government cordially concur in the opinion expressed in His Excellency the President's Minute above recorded. They accordingly resolve to authorize the employment of Mr. Duval for two months, on a consolidated salary of Rupees 500 per mensem, in investigating the points indicated in paragraph 10 of His Lordship's Minute.

2. Mr. Duval will present himself to the Collector of Tinnevely before entering upon the contemplated inquiry, and the Collector will be directed to afford to Mr. Duval all the information and assistance which he may deem conducive to the purpose in view.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th September 1869.

3. Mr. Duval will be required to pay his own travelling expenses, and he will report on what date he will be prepared to enter upon the duty which the Government propose to entrust to him.

4. The Officiating Accountant General will be good enough to inform Government to what head in the Budget provision Mr. Duval's salary will, in his opinion, be properly debitable.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To Mr. Duval,
Public Works Department,
the Board of Revenue,
the Officiating Accountant General.

Wm. F. B. Bantamman

Minute by H.E. The President.

I took occasion at the meeting since to bring under the notice of Council the capacities of the River Tamrapooney as an instrument of irrigation. I desire now to refer to the water power which it affords for the purposes of manufacturing industry.

II. In attempting the establishment of a factory in this country the following important points must be taken into consideration.

(1) Motor power.

(2) access to the raw material

(3) access to markets of consumption

(4) Labour.

(5) Capital.

In all these respects the site of Khorasum is eminently where the Tamrapooney affords for the objects appears to me to offer great encouragement for the creation of a cotton mill.

III. After breaking for the mountain

2
48
a magnificent cascade the Sambapoomy
descends by a course of rapids to the
pagoda where the shoal of sacred fish
~~is~~ fed and where the torrent subsides
into a long series of level reaches. The
interval between the water fall and the
temple presents more than one spot
perfectly adapted for the erection of
buildings and machinery. I allude particularly
to a place where, ^{an artificial weir is used and where,} I think the first irrigation
X channel is taken off. The volume of water
is probably more than sufficient at all
times of the year but if it was not the
X projected irrigation reservoir in the hills
would repair the deficiency in dry seasons.
No objection could be ^{raised} taken by the cultivators
below for the supply would be restored
undiminished and if hereafter dyeing
works were established the river could
well afford the insignificant loss which
would be caused by the diversion of the
contaminated water. on the value of
water ^{lower} with reference to cheapness and
salubrity I need not enlarge. The
examples of Scotland, Saxony, Switzerland
and of other countries attest its advantages.

IV. The northern parts of Travancore and the adjacent district of Madurai produce the raw material in abundance which would be laid down by the Railway twenty miles from the factory. It may also be presumed that if the Mill was established the Ryots in the immediate vicinity would devote themselves to the cultivation of cotton in a greater degree than is at present the case.

V. The facilities for the circulation and export of the manufactured article would be as great as those for the receipt of the raw material. The home consumption in an affluent district would be considerable. The railway would carry the fabrics northwards, while the port of Tuticorin would be their natural outlet towards Ceylon and other foreign markets.

VI. Labour is nowhere scarce in India. In Travancore it would be superabundant for emigrants ^{perhaps} ~~in~~ numbers from the Southern provinces to Ceylon and other ~~provinces~~ ^{colonies}. Nor would they be

5
which are now hoarded or employed
in usury.

VIII. Two arguments may perhaps be
urged against the project which the Council
recommended to the attention of ~~the Council~~.

(1) That it is not the duty of government
to cooperate in the introduction of any
branch of industry. (2) That the
development of cotton manufactures
here would be detrimental to the
interests of Great Britain.

IX. It is not the legitimate function
of government to support manufacturing
establishments except, perhaps,
exceptionally, in the interest of the
fine arts, and it would plainly be
wrong to foster them by a protective
or prohibitive system. It will however
hardly be affirmed that a government
may not rightfully point the attention
of private parties to new avenues of
speculation and enterprise and
afford them some kind of aid in the
outset. Even the expedient of bounties

6
is not absolutely excluded by the less
rigid economists. Should the undertaking
which I now advocate prove to be
acceptable to practical men I don't
contemplate a greater measure of State
assistance than would be involved by the
gratuitous concession of water power and
building sites, the improvement of
roads, the exemption of imported
machinery from duty, the purchase
of the manufactured article for public
purposes, with due regard to price
and quality, and similar occasional
and indirect good offices which may
be indulgently extended to an
incipient attempt. -

X IX. The increase of cotton manufactures
in India would undoubtedly tend
to restrict importations of the same
articles from England but we are
not to be deterred by this consideration
from giving free scope to all the
natural facilities for manufacturing
industry which India possesses. India

7
is a valuable market for English Manufacture
and in the interest of the great mass of
native consumers themselves that market
should not be limited by artificial
obstructions such as high Tariffs, but India
is not a preserve for Manchester and the
Government and people of England would
be guilty of a calculated neglect of the
industrial capacities of the country. And
we have already been guilty of
inactivity is proved by the fact that
Sunderland produces paper for the
factory in which the raw material
~~at the~~ grown and the thread
spun on the British territory
are worked up with great profit
to the proprietors and knelt to the
population. Yet the West of England
enjoys an advantage for this
industry which does not exist at
Madras and suffers under several
drawbacks and disabilities if
contracted with Tirunelveli the chief
of which is the total absence of water power.

8. As a first step towards the introduction of Factory Labour into the Presidency I propose that the Government shall charge Mr. ~~William~~ Daval a gentleman who possesses a competent knowledge of machinery and manufacturing processes to proceed to Sivasvally with the view of reporting on the three following points.

- (1) on the capacities of the River Simbra Poorney as a motive power.
- (2) on the adaptability of the site I have designated at Pporaper for the purpose of establishing a cotton factory.
- (3) on the probable approximate cost of erecting a water power mill including machinery and buildings, which would employ about ~~one~~ ^{thousand} ~~hundred~~ hands of both sexes and all ages.

Mr. Daval has been strongly

recommended to me by the Governor of Pondichery. He was employed at that place in the management of a cotton factory. He has informed me personally that he had some knowledge of water power and is a native.

A project of this nature presented
with the credit and authority belonging
to a government enquiry would not
fail to attract the attention and
I trust eventually to enlist the
support of those who possess
capital and are disposed to embark
it in industrial pursuits.

Napier

Madras. August 12th 1869.

The amount which it will be
 necessary to assign to maintain
 several ~~the~~ as remuneration for
 his labor in examining the locality
 adverted to by his Lordship, the
 President, and determining the
 practicability of these establishments
 shall to be worked by water
 power will be well laid out.
 I readily assent to measures
 being taken for securing most ~~of~~ ^{the} ~~best~~
~~of~~ ^{the} ~~best~~ service & for increasing the
 expenditure which his employment
 will involve. He therefore is
 an ample return for it, if British
 money and capital, & talent

Received 1869 Oct 15
 No. 3026

Presented by Mr. S.
 The President

Presented by Mr. S.
 Received by Mr. S.

Presented by Mr. S.
 Received by Mr. S.
 Presented by Mr. S.
 Received by Mr. S.

Received 1869 Oct 15
 No. 3026

Received 1869 Oct 15
 No. 3026

118

148
Capital spirit by European
agency can be drawn in the
direction of the other Samba-
poony.

31 August 1889.

W. D. L. L.

Revenue 1869 Octr.
N^o. 3027.

Minute by the Hon.
H. V. Phillips

Order 31st Aug 1869
Received 1st Sept 1869
N^o.

Regarding the
employment of Mr.
Bural at Poponaxum
in Timorelly.

Doc No 2524-6 Sept 1869

B.A. Sept 1869

119

N^o. 2524. Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 6th Sept 1869

Read the following Papers.

Minute by H. V. Phillips

On the subject of the
proposed water power Cotton
mill at Poponaxum in
Timorelly.

Minute by Hon H. V. Phillips

H. V. 12th Aug 1869

do 31 do

The Govt cordi-
ally concur in the op-
inion expressed in the
Report of the President.
Minute above recorded.
They accordingly re-
solve to authorise the
employment of a Mr. Bural
for two months on a
consolidated salary
of Rs 500 per mensem
in investigating the
points indicated in
para 10 of Mr. Bural's
Report. -

WON

3. Mr Duval
will be required to
pay his own travelling
expenses and he will
report on what date
he will be prepared
to enter upon the
duty which the Govt
propose to entrust
to him.

4. The ~~Black~~ ^{Black} ~~Brut~~
with the food supply
uniformly Govt. to what
had in the Budget
provision, Mr Duval's
salary will, in his
opinion, be properly
definite.

I think I need
add.

Mr. Duval will
present himself to
the collector of
revenue before
entering upon the
contemplated
enquiry and the

directed to afford
to Mr Duval all
the information and
assistance which he
may deem conducive
to the purpose in
view. N.

1 To Mr Duval Dept 6
21 - Mr Duval
14 - Mr Duval
6 - Mr Duval

13/ 42
Mr. Rinald
A. Special Agent

Received from
Mr. Rinald