Rev— 1869. Dispatch

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

No. 3020.

PROCEEDINGS, 26TH AUGUST 1869, No. 6,424.

Dep. 3 Sept. 1869 Encl.

Received

Read

Noted

Recorded

AUGUST.

No. 6,424.

Public Works—executed in Nellore District during 1868-69,—Collector's report on, submitted to Government.

Read

Recorded

To the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

to the Acting Collector of Nellore.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract)

Acting Secretary.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 6,424.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 26th August 1869.

Read the following letter from R. J. MELVILLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 17th June 1869, No. 1,179:—

I HAVE the honor to submit the Annual Report on the Public Works executed in this District during the past official year 1868-69.

2. The following statement exhibits the expenditure incurred during the past year in comparison with the previous year:—

Works.	Expenditure of 1867-68.	Expenditure of 1868-69.	Difference.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
New Works.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Communications	35,944	62,471	26,527	.....
2. Irrigation	88,691	91,154	2,463	.....
3. Buildings	3,990	37,012	33,022	.....
Total...	1,28,625	1,90,637	62,012	.....
Repairs.				
1. Communications	44,311	40,185	.....	4,126
2. Irrigation	42,883	52,343	9,460	.....
3. Buildings	1,214	2,589	1,375	.....
Total...	88,408	95,117	10,835	.....
Grand Total...	2,17,033	2,85,754	72,847	.....

III. COMMUNICATIONS.—The expenditure under this head amounted to Rupees 62,471, or Rupees 26,527 above that of the previous year. The greater portion of this expenditure was on account of the Musunur valley and Trunk Road No. 6, both of which have been completed this year; Rupees 20,496-4-9 was expended on the former, and Rupees 34,726-7-3 on the latter, making a total of Rupees 55,223. A sum of Rupees 5,087-14-6 was spent in collecting materials for making a portion of the road from Madras to Cuttack. The remaining sum of Rupees 2,160 was laid out on road dams, tunnels, and minor bridges as follows:—

1. Road dam on Trunk Road No. 6.
2. Two culverts on do.
3. A tunnel at the junction of do. with the Dugarazupatnam road.
4. A metalled ramp on the 8th mile.
5. A road dam and two bridges on the road from Rapur to Gudur.

II. REPAIRS TO COMMUNICATIONS.—The expenditure on this account was Rupees 40,184-9-9, or Rupees 4,126 below last year. The works repaired were—

1. Trunk Road No. 6 in several places.
2. Trunk Road No. 7.
3. Repair of the Salt road from the Dornal Pass to Krishnapatnam.
4. Salt road from Gudur to Dugarazupatnam.
5. Salt road from Ongole to Kottapatnam.
6. Repairs to four of the Travellers' bungalows.

3. Of this expenditure Rupees 10,248 was on account of the Salt roads, and Rupees 515 on the repair of the Travellers' bungalows.

4. I beg to enclose copy of the Acting Sub-Collector's letter, who reports more favorably of the state of the roads this year. Eleven miles of the Ongole and Hyderabad road have been entirely reconstructed. The Cumbum road is reported to be in a fair condition. The Acting Sub-Collector has still cause to complain of the defective mode of metalling, which is said to be done without sufficient tamping.

5. The subjoined is a comparative statement, showing the aggregate expenditure both for New Works and Repairs, under the head "Irrigation," compared with the Revenue.

Name of Talooks.	Area irrigated and the assessment as adjusted for 1868-69.		Expenditure under the Public Works Department during 1868-69 on works of Irrigation.		Total.	Comparison of expenditure with Revenue.	
	Area.	Assessment.	New works.	Repairs.		On repairs.	Total.
	ACRES.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	PERCT.	PERCT.
Gudur...	40,626	1,93,838	7,108	4,858	11,966	2½	6
Rapur...	3,899	21,106	203	1,846	2,049	9	10
Nellore	79,661	3,23,965	3,116	22,761	25,877	7	8
Atmakur	24,713	86,059	1,767	5,938	7,705	7	9
Kavali	14,903	69,889	149	7,652	7,801	11	11
Udayagiri...	1,510	8,515	.....	3,269	3,269	38	38
Ongole	2,513	16,252	68	2,352	2,420	14	15
Kandukur...	9,154	55,208	971	3,156	4,127	6	7
Kanigiri	380	3,129	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Total.....	1,77,359	7,77,961	13,382	51,832	65,214	...	...
Expenditure on the Pennair Anicut distributed over two Talooks	.....	.....	5,693	461	6,154	...	...
Do. Jaffer Sahib's Channel ...	.....	.....	107	.....	107	...	...
Do. on improvements to Sarvepalli Channel in connection with Nellore Anicut	.....	.....	71,597	.....	71,597	...	...
Krishnapatnam Canal	.....	.....	375	.....	375	...	...
Pennair Embankment	.....	.....	.....	50	50	...	...
Total...	.....	.....	77,772	511	78,283	...	...
Grand Total...	1,77,359	7,77,961	91,154	52,343	1,43,497	7	19

6. The total expenditure on Irrigation works this year is Rupees 91,154 on New Works and Rupees 52,343 on Repairs, making a total of Rupees 1,43,497 against an expenditure of Rupees 1,31,574 last year. Nearly one-half of this expenditure was incurred on the Sarvepalli Channel improvements.

III. BUILDINGS.—The expenditure under this head was Rupees 39,601. The outlay on New Works was Rupees 37,012. This sum was laid out on constructing Subsidiary Jails at Udayagiri, Atmakur, Rapur, and on improvements to Salt Cutcherries at Krishnapatnam, Kanuparti, etc., and numerous minor works.

7. The expenditure on Repairs was Rupees 2,589, and includes repairs to the Store-yard, Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherries at Nellore, Kandukur, Ongole, and Addanki; Salt Cutcherry at Gogulapalli, Ramapatam Post Office, and repairs to the Ship Captain's Bungalow at Iskapalli.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. C. HUGHESDON, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to the Acting Collector of Nellore, dated 7th June 1869, No. 188.

I HAVE the honor to report on the operations of the Public Works Department in the Sub-Division during the official year 1868-69.

2. The Supervisor, till lately in charge of the Range, has been more actively employed (especially since the visit of the Superintending Engineer in January last) than he was in the preceding year, and against an expenditure stated by Mr. Burnell, (in his letter of 14th May 1868, No. 107,) at Rupees 24,980 for 1867-68, we have an expenditure during 1868-69 of Rupees 71,236-8-7, of which Rupees 60,451-9-8 is from Imperial and Rupees 10,785-1-11 from Local Funds.

3. The expenditure from Local Funds has been entirely on "Communications." From Imperial Funds Rupees 9,034-8-5 is under the head of "Civil Buildings," Rupees 6,546-4-7 "Agricultural," and Rupees 44,870-9-8 "Communications." The balance of Local Funds remaining unexpended at the close of the year was under Rupees 100, and of Imperial Funds about Rupees 3,150.

4. Under Civil Buildings the most important works appear to have been the completion of the Talook Cutcherry at Ongole, (respecting which I understand the Government have, at the instance of Mr. Dykes, called for a special report from the Superintending Engineer,) the completion of a Sea Custom House at Kottapatnam, and the commencement of a Salt Cutcherry at Kanuparti, the construction of which I believe is now almost finished.

5. Under the head "Agricultural" there are none but petty works.

6. On "Communications" I am able to report more favorably than did my predecessor. No doubt certain portions of the trunk road are not even now in decent order, and moderately heavy rain for a few hours renders the road in several parts almost impassable, but whether this inevitably arises from the nature of the soil, or whether it is a consequence of defects in the original construction, or of subsequent insufficient repair, I cannot undertake to say. To the south of Ongole some eight or ten miles of the trunk road is in course of being entirely reconstructed, and when I last saw it the works were almost completed. But where the work has not been of this thorough kind the money expended on the repairs seems to me to have been entirely thrown away; for the operations have consisted simply in scattering a quantity of metal over the road without any attempt by "tamping" or otherwise to consolidate it, and consequently it has very soon become entirely pulverized by the wheels of the passing bandies. The department plead want of rain as the cause of the incompleteness of their operations, and the excuse seems to be a sufficient one; for in most parts wells are scarce and water not easily procurable. The trunk road to the north of Ongole is to be abandoned and a new line adopted, consequently nothing has been expended on the old line. I believe the new one is shortly to be commenced. Of the road between Ongole and Hyderabad about eleven miles have been entirely reconstructed, but the remainder of the road is very bad. Along some few miles of this road, however, as well as of the trunk road south of Ongole, materials have been collected for further repairs, and I think there is some reason to hope that before the end of the current year both roads, for their whole length through the Sub-division, will be in good order.

7. Of the less important roads the Cumbum road is generally in fair order; the repairs of the Kottapatnam road (respecting which there has been much correspondence) are now almost completed, but the progress made with them till recently was certainly very slow and unsatisfactory; the Salt road from Singarayakonda to Ullapalieni and Pakala is in a decent state, but here, as on the trunk road, the metal has been in some places spread without any attempt to form it into anything like a concrete mass. On the other roads in the Sub-division there has not been any considerable expenditure.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) R. J. MELVILLE,
Acting Collector.