

No. 7,045.

From A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Board of Revenue to submit, herewith, for despatch to England, over-
land, their printed Proceedings for the month of August 1869.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Madras,
22nd September 1869

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings for the month of August 1869.

Exd: T. Cartledge.

3226

1869.

Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

FROM THE AG. SECT. TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE,
TO THE AG. SECT. TO GOVERNMENT, R. D.

Dated 22nd September 1869.
Dep'ty
Received

Encl.

SEPTEMBER.

No. 7,045.

Board's printed Proceedings—for August
1869, submitted to Government for despatch to
England.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department.
17th September 1869.

111. Read the following letter from the Officiating Collector of the Kistna district, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Masulipatam, 26th August 1869, No. 30.

With reference to G. O., dated 19th March 1869, No. 354, Public Department, respecting that the repair of the Red and Black Tanks at Guntoor should be undertaken by the Municipal Commissioners, who were required to report to Government, at the end of three months, the progress made, I have the honour to forward, herewith, a copy of a letter from the Vice-President, Major T. C. Bird, dated 13th August 1869, No. 120, with a plan showing the progress that has been made.

2. I may mention that I have received complaints from the Superintending Engineer that the prosecution of the work has taken away coolies from the Department of Public Works. He is totally opposed to the scheme which he thus characterizes: "to deepen a wide-spreading shallow tank which had been silted up; a procedure condemned by numerous authorities even for irrigation: a still greater stake when it is intended to retain water for household purposes."

From Major T. C. BIRD, Vice-President of the Guntoor Municipal Commission, to the President of the Guntoor Municipal Commission, Masulipatam; dated Guntoor, 13th August 1869, No. 120.

With reference to paragraph 6 of Government Order, No. 354, dated 19th March 1869, calling for a report on the progress made after three months in the repairs of the Red and Black Tanks at the station, I have the honour to state as follows:—

2. The Order of Government directing the work to be commenced did not reach the Municipality until the 4th of April 1869. Considering that some delay must occur in procuring labour, the Commissioners, owing to the lateness of the season, did not think it advisable to commence immediately upon the Black Tank, because being a very large one, the heavy rains in June would, as was thought, inevitably spoil the work.

3. The case is different, however, with the Yerracherroo, or Red Tank. This tank is divided into three portions by two* roads running across it connecting the old and new towns of Guntoor, and, on or about 30th April 1869, the repairs on

* Vide plan.

the centre portion were commenced. The bed of this part contains an area of about 35,500 square yards, and up to the present date the whole of the portion A.B., coloured light red, has been excavated to an average depth of 1½ yard, giving in the aggregate 8212 cubic yards of excavation to be carrying. The expenditure up to the 31st ultimo was about Rupees 955.

4. I would here mention that the Commissioners have not been able to execute this work as quickly as they wished in consequence of the very great difficulty they have experienced in procuring coolies, there being so much work going on in the district at this time of year in the Public Works and Revenue Departments. At the present date there are only twenty-five coolies at work, and the greatest number never exceeded 112. The Commissioners are, however, pushing the work as quickly as they can, and it is hoped that next year the tank will be capable of affording an abundant supply for the people on that side of the town.

5. Although the repairs of the Black Tank have not been commenced, the Commissioner has to put the work in hand as soon as possible after the rainy season. In the meantime a tunnel with head sluice connecting the deep part of the tank with a large stone-built reservoir is rapidly progressing, and will, doubtless, give an ample supply of good fresh-water for the wants of the people during the next hot weather:

112. ORDER THEREON, 17th September 1869, No. 1306.

With the foregoing letter, the Officiating Collector of the Kistna district submits the report called for in paragraph 6 of G. O., dated the 19th March last,

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
17th September 1869.*

No. 354, relative to the progress made in deepening and improving the Red Tank and Black Tank in the town of Guntoor.

2. It appears from the report that the improvements of the Black Tank has not yet been undertaken, and that owing to the difficulty experienced in procuring coolies the Municipal Commissioners for the town of Guntoor have not been able to execute the work in the Red Tank as quickly as they desired. The excavation already made extends over an area of 35,500 square yards of an average depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ yard, and has cost Rupees 955. The Commissioners hope, however, that next year the tank will be capable of holding an abundant supply of water for the people. They also hope to undertake the improvement of the Black Tank "as soon as possible after the rainy season."

3. The Officiating Collector states that the Superintending Engineer "is totally opposed to the scheme which he thus characterizes: 'to deepen a wide spreading shallow tank which had been silted; a procedure condemned by numerous authorities even for irrigation: a still greater mistake when it is intended to retain water for household purposes.'"

4. The Officiating Collector has not expressed any opinion on the remarks of the Superintending Engineer. But as the advantages to be derived by the improvement of the tanks will depend in great measure on the depth and quantity of silt, and on the distance to which it has to be removed, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to request the Officiating Collector to submit, in communication with the Municipal Commissioners for the Town of Guntoor, his views on the subject, with as little loss of time as possible.

(True Extract.)

M. A. S. S. S.

Actg. Secy. to Govt.

To the Officiating Collector of the Kistna district,
with the plan.

„ Revenue Department. ✓
„ Public Works do.

7-88.

*Comm to the
Revenue Board.*

Exd. J. Wright.

S. J. Wright

28.9.69