M.R.O. 1—80,000—16-10-39.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1399 Press ~~Mis.~~

449-450

Dated 19th May 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th May 1869.

No. 449. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th May 1869, No. 3,075 :—

Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th April, 1869, No. 104.

I HAVE the honor to report, that on receipt of the Board's Proceedings No. 2,495, dated 12th instant, communicating the order of Government, dated 9th idem No. 977, Revenue Department, Mr. Gibson was relieved of all regular duty, and started, on the 21st instant, on his tour of inspection.

2. It has been arranged that Mr. Gibson visits first the "Southern Group," as in that are comprised the roads upon which the largest outlay from Relief Funds has been made, and because these also lie in the part of the District in which (if any where) it may be necessary to prosecute relief operations to some extent as a means of providing employment for the laboring masses.

In the Southern Group of which I speak, are comprised Nos. 3 and 4 "Grain" roads, *viz.*

Road No. 49.—(District Road Map sent with Local Fund Report) from Conjeveram by Wandewash to Tellar.

Road No. 48.—Wandewash *via* Chetput to Poloor, with branches Nos. 43 and 44 from Chetput and Poloor to Arni.

and five of the "16 other roads" alluded to in paragraph 28 of the Board's Proceedings embodied in the Government Order now under acknowledgment, *viz.*

Road No. 41.—From Wandewash to Trivattoor. Southern Section of Road from Arcot to Wandewash.

Road No. 42.—Kannamangalum on Vellore and Arni Road to the South Arcot frontier *via* Poloor.

Road No. 61.—to Santavasal and Padanedu Jungles.

Do. „ 62.—Road from Arni to Wandewash.

Do. „ 63.— do. Vussoor to Natchatracovil.

3. Under the tenor of his instructions, Mr. Gibson will have to inspect and report on all these roads, and as, in doing this, he will, in some instances, be obliged to go twice over the same ground, it is not probable that, at this season of the year, he will be able to accomplish much more than this part of his mission within the prescribed time.

4. The group which will next come under Mr. Gibson's inspection is the "Northern Group," comprising the following roads, namely :—

Road No. 26.—from Tripathi Station to Nellore frontier, *via* Kalastri.

Branch do. No. 27.—from Yerpet on No. 26, to Venkatagherry.

Do. „ 25.—from Chondragherry to Rangampet at foot of Beemavaram Pass.

5. With the "Western Group" will terminate Mr. Gibson's mission. The roads embraced in this group are :—Road Nos. 5 and 6—Road from Cuppam Station on Bangalore Branch Railway to Palamnair, from Palamnair by Punganoor to the Cuddapah frontier.

6. My object in placing the programme of Mr. Gibson's inspection tour, as now arranged, before the Board, is that they may more clearly understand which particular items on the list coming within the scope of the Government Order may,

for the reasons which I am about to give, be excluded from the inspection now ordered.

7. The roads which I would exclude are the following :—

Road No. 17—*Road from Penmarri to Nendragunta on Road No.* 7.—I. I was over this short branch road a week ago. My comments on the work have been communicated to the Superintending Engineer. In every case it requires no more money except the ordinary maintenance allowance.

Section between Koturlapalli and Pallipat of Road No. 20, *from Chittoor to Pothoor Railway Station, North-West Railway.*—II. An outlay of Rupees 1,400 from Famine Funds was made on this section of the road as a means of employment in a distressed neighbourhood. It is the midway section of the road described in the margin, and as the work was a mere repair, and expenditure will hereafter be confined to the maintenance allowance provided in the Budget, no purpose would be served by its special inspection.

Road No. 4, *Pollikonda to Kaniembudy on road from Vellore to Arni.*—III. Rupees 885-13-5 were spent from Relief Funds in the improvement of this, a long existing District Road. The work was a mere general repair, and, as no further expenditure beyond the maintenance allowance is proposed, this too might be omitted from Mr. Gibson's inspection list.

Road No. 9—*Road from Sautghur to Amboor and road from Mudandcuppum to Melpadi (extension of No.* 13.)—IV. The allotments from Relief Funds for these roads were Rupees 3,500 and Rupees 2,000 respectively. I have very lately been over both roads from end to end. The first is nearly as good a road as there is in the district, and may be considered complete in all respects. There remained by last Progress Report a balance of Rupees 1,252-4-6 on the allotment. The Range Officer has been asked to settle the bills for all work executed up to date, and, in the event of the balance in hand not being sufficient, to report what further sum will be required.

V. The second is a short but important link of road opening up the country on the west bank of the Poinoy river, and giving access from the main roads north and south to Vallemalai, one of the principal places of pilgrimage in the district

The allotment from Special Funds has been well spent, and the road though in a rough state and not yet provided with tunnels, is open to cart traffic from end to end.

It has an estimate of Rupees 5,300, which was recently submitted to Board for sanction. Neither this nor the Sautghur road used to be a further charge on Special Funds, and may therefore be omitted from Mr. Gibson's programme.

Road No. 15, *from Chittoor to Arugonda.*—VI. I shall have occasion to pass along this road in a few days, and will append my remarks on it in a foot-note to Mr. Gibson's report. Meanwhile the road need not be a further charge on Relief Funds, and will be gradually completed from its own sanctioned estimate of Rupees 6,000.

8. The roads which I now ask to have excluded from Mr. Gibson's programme are therefore the following :—

Road No. 17.—Road from Penmari to Nendragunta on Road No. 7.

Section between Koturlapalli and Pallipat of Road No. 20, from Chittoor to Pothoor Railway Station, North-West Railway.

Road No. 4.—from Pallikonda to Kaniembady on road from Vellore to Arni.

Road No. 9.—Road from Sautghur to Amboor, and road from Madandccuppum to Melpadi (extension of No. 13.)

Road No. 15.—from Chittoor to Arugonda.

9. If my recommendation be accepted, there will only remain the two roads named in the margin to be considered with reference to the objects of Mr. Gibson's mission. The outlay from the Relief Funds on these two works has been Rupees 357-9-8 and Rupees 938-9-2 respectively.

Road No. 64.—Road from Pollikondah to Vepamcuppum.
Do „ 55.—Road from Verinjipuram to Railway Station.

The first opens out a wild valley lying among the Jawadi Hills and debouching at the southern extremity into the Salem District.

The northen section of this was undertaken as a means of giving employment to the distressed hill population of those parts; but that crisis having passed, I have not heard that there will be any necessity of prosecuting this work further as a means of relief.

I, therefore, think that as both this and the Verinjipuram road which is a short Railway feeder to the station of that name, lie much out of the way, the report on their requirements may be left to me.

10. In anticipation that Government will relieve Mr. Gibson of this detour I have called upon the respective Range Officers to submit a full report on the present stage of progress and future requirements in so far as these relate to the conservation of work already executed.

11. In conclusion, I beg to request that I may be favored with the earliest possible instructions on the subject of the present reference.

SUBMITTED for the information and orders of Government, with reference to their Order, dated 9th April 1869, No. 977.

2. It will be seen that arrangements have been made for Mr. Gibson to visit and inspect the two grain roads, together with five other roads in the talooks south of the Poloor, these latter being five of the sixteen alluded to by the Board in their Proceedings of 4th March, and also by Government in paragraph 3 of their Order above quoted.

3. Mr. Robinson is of opinion that the inspection of these roads will occupy the whole of the time allotted for Mr. Gibson's tour of inspection.

4. According to the instructions conveyed by the Government Order, Mr. Gibson will then have to inspect the northern group of roads, three in number, and afterwards visit the western group comprising the roads from Cuppam Station on the Bangalore Railway, to Palamnair and from Palamnair by Punganoor to the Cuddapah frontier.

5. Mr. Robinson recommends that seven of the sixteen roads already mentioned be excluded from the tour of inspection, both on account of the limited time

allowed and because on several the nature of the work done is mere repairs, and further because he himself has inspected others very recently or will do so shortly.

6. The Board recommend that Government sanction the modification of the scheme of Mr. Gibson's tour as suggested by the Collector.

No. 450. ORDER THEREON, 19th May 1869, No. 1,399.

Miscellaneous.

As it seems clear from the Collector's report that no further special expenditure will be required on the roads to which he refers, it will be unnecessary for Mr. Gibson to inspect them. Mr. Gibson's tour should not in any case be extended beyond the close of the present month, when he will resume the ordinary duties of his position.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Govt. of Madras

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated May, 19th.

Recd. Ans.

G. O., 19th *May* 1869, *No.* 1,309.

MAY.

Nos. 449-450.

Certain roads in North Arcot District.—Their inspection by Mr. Gibson not considered necessary.