Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th May 1872.

No. 79. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd May 1872, No. 714 :—

Read the following letter from H. W. BLISS, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Madura, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Dindigul, 22nd April 1872, No. 133 :—

I HAVE the honour to forward, copy of telegram, despatched to your address, in reply to telegram yesterday received from you.

2. As the Board will probably wish for a fuller report than I could send by telegraph, I beg to state, that though in the Dindigul itself, and many of the northern villages of the Division there has been no rain, and the supply of drinking water in the wells is therefore gradually diminishing, water for domestic purposes is everywhere procurable, so far as I know, though of course in many places, it is necessary to send some little distance for it. Want of drinking water is however always more or less of a difficulty in most parts of this Division, the soil being as a rule gravelly, and rock being generally found close below the surface. There are plenty of wells in every village, but in very many of them the water though not unsuitable for cultivation (especially of tobacco) is too salt for drinking. As a rule, the wells are already down to the solid rock, so that it would be mere waste of money to deepen them. Had it been otherwise, I would have asked for a grant for the purpose.

3. The present condition of the people is not such as to give cause for anxiety. At this time of year, when no agricultural employment is obtainable, the poorer classes always find it more or less difficult to get on. They are not now however worse off than usual, so far as I have been able to ascertain. Of course the suspension of the collections has been a great relief to them. Since it has been generally known that I have recommended the grant of remission on unirrigated land, I have received very few complaints. A few of course reach me that crops have withered, but this is always so just before the Jamabandi. No increase that I can hear of has been noticed in the number of beggars in the towns, and there is no disease to speak of among men or beasts, except that Chicken-pox is very prevalent. It causes, however, little or no mortality. In a few localities there have been outbreaks of Small-pox, which, I believe, is very prevalent just now all over the Southern Districts, but the disease has not specially or principally affected the villages where the failure of rain and crops has been most marked.

4. Employment will be obtainable to any extent on the Railway in a few days I trust. The Railway Engineer here told me on Saturday that he should have commenced his earth-work already, but that he could not get the Contractors to agree to his terms. This means, I think, in other words, that no great numbers of people are in want of work, or labour would be cheaper, and contractors would take lower rates. As soon as the estimates are sanctioned, works will be commenced also on the roads marginally noted. I believe the estimates are nearly, if not quite ready. That for the first road will probably come before the Local Fund Board at their next Meeting, three weeks hence. Work can of course be commenced on both roads in anticipation of sanc-

1. Dindigul towards Trichinopoly.
2. Pulni ,, Dharapuram.

tion of estimates, if Government do not object; and as funds are provided for both in the current year's budget, I think this might as well be done, so that we may be on the safe side in regard to the provision of employment for the people.

5. I am sending Mr. McQuhae copies of your and my telegrams and of this letter.

THE Board are glad to find that there is no cause for apprehending immediate danger of scarcity.

2. To meet the existing pressure it will be sufficient if work is commenced on the roads named in paragraph 4 of the letter. They appear in the Dindigul budget with reduced allotments of Rupees 6,000 each. Estimates have not been submitted yet but the Sub-Collector states that they are nearly if not quite ready.

3. The Board resolve to request Government to allow work to be commenced (with the consent of the Local Fund Boards) on these roads in anticipation of sanction.

No. 80. ORDER THEREON, 9th May 1872, No. 745.

Miscellaneous. SANCTIONED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Dindigul
Sub Collector's Office
22nd April 1872

No. 133.

From,

H. W. Bliss Esqre
Asst Sub Collector, Madura

To,

J. Grose Esqre
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue, Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to for-
-ward copy of telegram despatched
to your address in reply to telegram
yesterday received from you.

2. As the Board will probably
wish for a fuller report than I could
send by telegraph I beg to state
that though in the Dindigul itself
and many of the Northern villages
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gradually diminishing, water for domestic purposes is everywhere procurable, so far as I know, though of course in many places it is necessary to send some little distance for it. Want of drinking water is however always more or less of a difficulty in most parts of this Division the soil being as a rule gravelly and rock being generally found close below the surface. There are plenty of wells in every village but in very many of them the water though not unsuitable for cultivation (especially of tobacco)

is too salt for drinking.

4. As a rule the wells are already down to the solid rock so that it would be mere waste of money to deepen them. Had it been otherwise I would have asked for a grant for the purpose.

5. The present condition of the people is not such as to give cause for anxiety. At this time of year when no agricultural employment is obtainable the poorer classes always find it

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always so just before the Jummabandi. The increase that I can hear of has been noticed in the number of beggars in the towns and there is no disease to speak of among men or beasts, except that chicken-pox is very prevalent. It causes however little or no mortality. In a few localities there have been outbreaks of small pox, which I believe, is very prevalent just now all over the Southern districts, but the disease has not specially or principally affected the villages where the failure of rain and crops has been most marked.

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1 Dindigul towards Trichinopoly } marginally noted.
2 Pulni " Dharapuram }

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I

5. I am sending Mr. McL. Duke copies of your and my telegrams and of this letter.-

I have &c
(sd) H. W. Bliss
Asst Collector

(True Copy)

J Gole
Secretary

X-A Dojn

Sd/- Illegible

Rec. 15 2/72

Enclosure in Collector's letter of the Board of Revenue dated 22 May 1872.

Qy R. letter from acting Collector of Madura forwarding Qy R. Telegram re Spring fever reports in the Dindigul division.

From Bliss
From Dindigul
Post Carour

To Madras
To Secretary
Revenue Board

Drinking water supply not seriously decreasing. Condition of people not bad. No employment now but Railway commences immediately

(Signed) H. H. Bliss
Ag Sub Collector

Dindigul
Sub Collrs office
21st April 1872
Desp? 3 P. M.

(True Copy)
H. H. Bliss
Ag sub Collector

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 3d May 1872.

Read letter from the Acting Sub Collector of Madura, dated 22d April 1872 No. 133.

The Board are glad to find that there is no cause for apprehending immediate danger of scarcity.

To meet the existing pressure it will be sufficient if work is commenced on the roads named in para 4 of the letter. They appear in the Dindigul budget with reduced allotments of Rs 6000 each. Estimates have not been submitted yet but the Sub Collector states that they are nearly, if not quite ready.

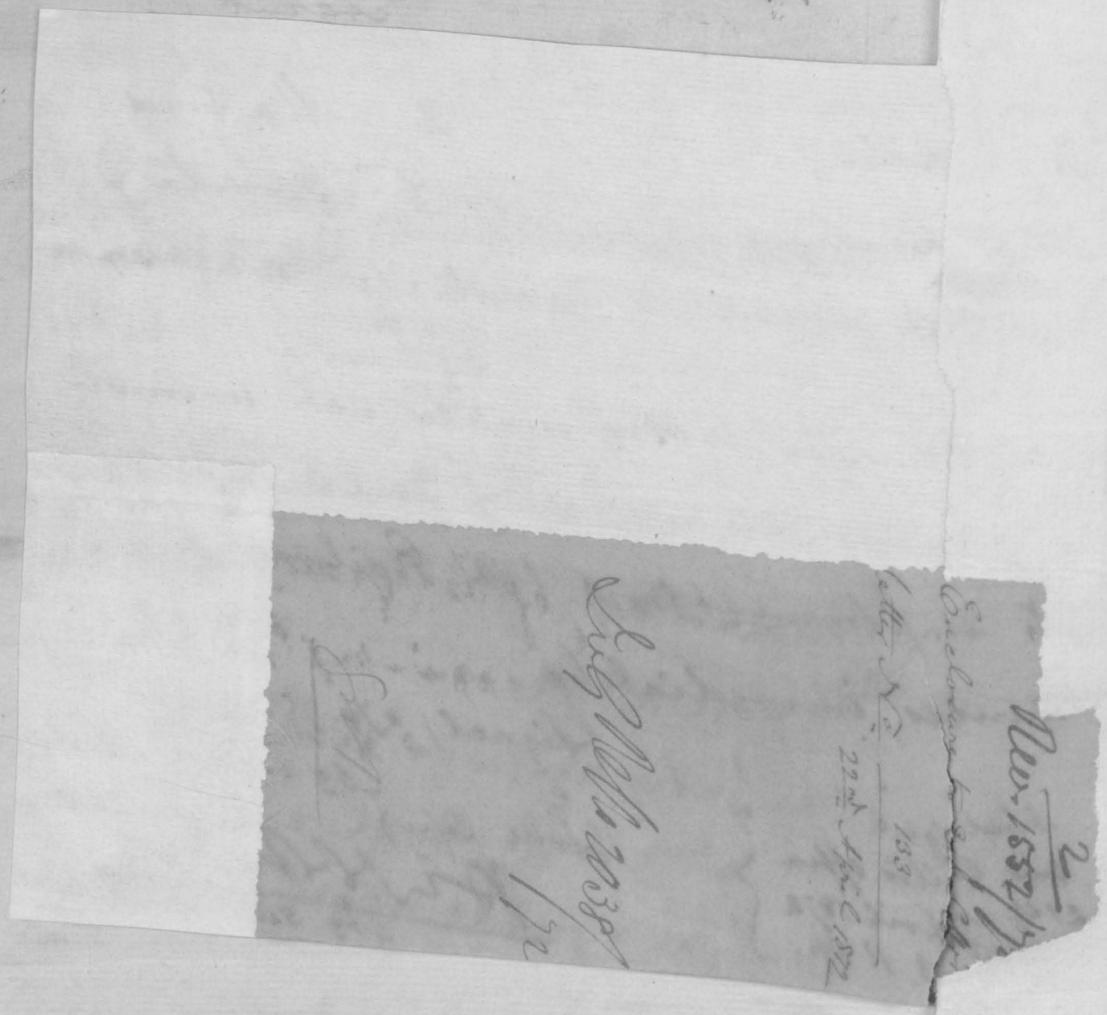
The Board resolve to request Government to allow work to be commenced (with the consent of the Local Fund Boards) on these roads in anticipation of sanction.

(True Extract)

J Gyle
Secretary

2d C.R. Gai
Trichy

To the Offg. Chief Secretary to Government
Revenue department
with copy of Collectors letter and enclosure.



Revenue 1872 Dept
No. 1552

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

H. Board's Letter dated 3rd May
1. Petitioners
2. Public Officers
3. Hindoo Do
4. Mahomedan Do
5. Sanitary Commrs

Dated 3 May 1872.

Despatched 3 " "

Rec'd 4th "

Requesting sanction of Government to commence work on the Roads from Dindigal towards Trichinopoly and from Pulni towards Dharapuram in order to breach the existing pressure in the District of Madura.

No. 745

Sanctioned

I Dl 9 May 1872

79 - 80

c. 6 May 72 R. 8 May