

(1) Number of Pages.....6

(2) Date of repair.....11.10.1965

(3) Initials of the Referencer.....

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	25	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	6.9.1872	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1,593.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th August 1872.

Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 27th July 1872, No. 84:—

I HAVE the honour to submit my report on the Department Public Works transactions in this district for the year 1871-72.

2. The expenditure as compared with the grants during the year stands thus:—

	Grant.			Expenditure.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
New Works	91,267	10	3	91,451	15	10
Repairs	52,104	0	0	52,323	15	4
Total...	1,43,671	10	3	1,43,775	15	2

3. This expenditure was distributed as follows:—

New Works			RS.	A.	P.
1. Military...	...	...	29,092	5	11
2. Civil Buildings...	...	...	11,200	5	9
3. Communications...	...	...	12,571	0	5
4. Miscellaneous Public Improvements...	...	...	10,703	0	0
5. Tools and Plants...	...	...	800	0	0
6. Establishment...	...	...	27,084	10	3
Total...			91,451	15	10

Repairs.			RS.	A.	P.
7. Military...	...	...	8,925	11	9
8. Civil Buildings...	...	...	4,053	10	8
9. Communications...	...	...	37,765	6	5
10. Miscellaneous Public Improvements...	...	...	949	2	6
11. Tools and Plants...	...	...	630	0	0
Total...			52,323	15	4

Grand Total... 1,43,775 15 2

4. No expenditure was incurred under head "Agricultural."

5. I note the following details:—

New Works.—*Military*.—Expenditure Rupees 29,092-5-11, of this sum Rupees 25,152-5-11, were spent upon the Lawrence Asylum. A large Dining-hall (105' x 40') with Store-rooms underneath. A School Library and Reading-room

each (9' x 18'), the main Staircase, and other Passages and Staircases, the Latrines and Wash-houses, the covered Playground (364 square yards) together with the Masters' Cook-rooms, were completed and handed over to the Principal. The present strength of the Boys' School is 346, this includes 250 boys received into the Asylum in September last. Four acres of rough swamp land were reclaimed and levelled for an open Playground for the boys. The fresh designs with estimates for the construction of the Hospital into a branch for 300 girls, and the buildings on the female site into Hospitals, with Attendants' quarters, etc., for both branches, were prepared and submitted, but the orders of the Government of India have not yet been received. The balance of the expenditure Rupees 3,940 was laid out in the construction of Latrines and Drains at Wellington.

Civil Buildings.—The 1,000 Rupees allotted for the Masonry drop for the lake sluice was spent in procuring bricks and stone. The old escape of the lake was so completely destroyed in the heavy storm in November last, that an estimate for re-constructing the sluice and channel, and making the drop steps and revetments of mortar masonry, received the sanction of Government. The work has been begun and will be completed before the heavy rains. Of the balance, Rupees 2,000 were given as a grant-in-aid for the re-construction of the dome of the Roman Catholic Church. Three hundred and seventy Rupees for enclosing part of the Engineer's yard, Ootacamund, and 100 Rupees for the repairs of Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, Coonoor.

The Commissioner's Office, etc., was re-roofed, and continuous iron sheeting placed underneath the tiles. The roof is now perfectly water-tight. A light iron verandah (100' x 10') was also erected on the south side of the building for protection from the weather, of people coming to the Courts and Offices.

Upon Stonehouse Rupees 3,776-9-1 were also spent. The roof was entirely re-constructed and fresh pavement laid down in the out-offices. The premises were also white-washed, oiled, and painted throughout, and dignified by the erection of a Flag staff, a single pole of Australian gum 90 feet high.

Communications.—The expenditure Rupees 9,000 under this head was principally upon the New Coonoor Ghaut Road. Parapet walls, in all two miles in length, were constructed at intervals along the most dangerous parts of this road; seven miles also of the road have been widened and improved, and there remains now but one spot for which repairs are urgently needed, and these will be effected shortly.

Rupees 1,000 were also expended upon the road from Yellenhully Chattram to Kartairy. Twenty stone drains, and three miles of catch-drains were made, and 1½ miles of the road widened. The road is now nearly half completed. Upon the Kotagiri Ghaut New Road, Rupees 2,341-0-5 was spent, the line was traced and surveyed. The ghaut is 20 miles in length with a gradient of 1 in 17 and has only 3 zigzags. The surveys and estimates have been approved by the Local Fund Board and Government. The money was spent upon the lower portion near

tapolliam, 7 miles in length, where the old track is worst. Should the road be reeded with, every effort will be made to open out these seven (7) miles for ock traffic during the year.

Four miles of the road starting from Kotagiri were opened last year. The is at present at a stand-still until the Planters have assured the Board of the ment of the promised contribution of Rupees 3 per acre of cultivation.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.—Rupees 10,703-9-6. The most impor-work falling under this head is the Ootacamund water-supply. It will be mbered that the Southern Channel was completed in 1870-71 and the main a of the Northern Channel, but during the early part of 1871-72 no funds available. In May, however, there were heavy rains, these caused the Snow-unnel in some places to fall in, and consequently it was found necessary to he tunnel (370 feet long) with masonry. This has been done, and it only now ns to build up the south lining walls. Near St. Stephens' Church a rry drop (73 feet long) with 17 steps has been constructed, the height verti-is 36 feet.

At the Marimund Reservoir it was found necessary to construct a masonry 128 feet long with 20 steps. The fall vertically is 49 feet. This work was sary in order to let out the water for clearing the lake. I would mention he south channel has worked well and the supply of water has sufficed. The ern part of the town will, it is hoped, receive pure drinking water by the channel in October next. The cost of distribution is being borne by the ipality. Cisterns have been constructed at their cost, and already 300 yards thenware piping has been laid down, and they propose to lay down similar g to the extent of nearly a mile at but not metalled.

The heavy rains of 7th November last, did some damage to roads in different of the district and necessitated emergent repairs. The following expendi-ccurred:—

	RS.	A.	P.
On tall Houses	98	0	0
On emergent repairs to Roads	289	5	1
Cost of Surveys and Estimates	250	0	0
Re-construction of the Cold Stream Bridge	500	0	0
Re-roofing the Travellers Bungalow at Neddavuttam	3,000	0	0
Repairs to Chuttram	200	0	0
Total	4,437	5	1

he bridges at Kartairy, Kotagiri, Pykarah, and Seegoor sustained more or jury from the rains in November.

Rupees 3,000 were expended in re-roofing with continuous iron under-tiles edduvuttam Bungalow and Out-houses attached. The completion of this necessary work will no doubt make the bungalow a more frequent resort of ynaad Planters than it has hitherto been.

Miscellaneous Public Improvements.—Rupees 949-2-6 were spent in repairs to the weir of the Lawrence Asylum Lake Band which the rains of November ed considerably and Rupees 630 on Tools and Plants.

Repairs to Civil Buildings.—Cost Rupees 4,053-10-8. The principal items of this expenditure are Rupees 1,260-15-9 laid out in repairs to the terraced roof of the European prison, and Rupees 500-6-11 in re-tiling and white-washing the Public Offices at Coonoor. Among minor repairs are included those to the Ootacamund, Coonoor, and Kotagiri Churches, and those to the Government Buildings at Ootacamund known as "Lower Norwood."

Communications.—Rupees 33,328-1-4 is the total expenditure on the roads of the district as particularized below:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Station roads of Ootacamund, Coonoor, and Willington	3,959	15	9
Road from Coonoor to Kotagiri	1,319	15	0
Do. Ootacamund to Kotagiri	1,320	0	2
Do. Ootacamund to Tippecaddos via Seegoor Ghaut	2,856	15	10
Do. Coonoor to Ootacamund (new)	2,639	15	7
Do. do. (old)	1,099	15	7
Do. Ootacamund to Goodaloor	3,303	1	3
New Coonoor Ghaut	9,824	15	10
Old do.	980	0	0
Road from Ootacamund to Deva Sholah	1,320	0	0
Do. Kartairy to Ootacamund	280	0	0
Do. Kartairy to Ootacumbia	280	0	0
Do. Kotagiri to Kodanah	320	15	5
Kotagiri Ghaut	1,024	15	2
Road from Ootacamund to the Avalanche Bungalow	528	10	3
Do. Coonoor to Dolphin's nose, via Lady Canning's Seat	660	0	0
Do. Coonoor Ghaut to Heolical	550	0	0
Do. Coonoor to Kartairy	439	9	4

Total... 33,328 1 4

This money was laid out upon 283 miles of road and bridle paths. Seventy-eight miles of the road were metalled with granite and 144 miles made and

No great progress has been made with the Ootacamund Lake Reclamation Scheme, as the convicts were otherwise engaged. However a sum of 2,600 Rupees was spent upon this undertaking during the year. Three acres of land were reclaimed; a masonry drain of 30 running feet was constructed near Abdool Kawder's shop; and 300 running yards of road in the same neighbourhood were levelled, drained, and metalled.

Over and above this a quarter of a mile of road leading from Gool Mohamed's shop into the bazaar, was excavated, and levelled, and the earth used for the lake reclamation.

The reclamation of the marsh near Allamby's was completed during the year, swamp to the extent of twenty acres has now been reclaimed in Ootacamund. Two hundred and seventy running yards of the supply channel revetted with stone, and a sluice has been constructed for lowering the waters of the lake, so as to admit of the swampy and marshy parts at the head of the lake being cleaned and cleared of weeds and refuse.

Repairs.—Military Buildings.—The amount expended on repairs to Military Buildings was Rupees 8,925-11-9, of which Rupees 1,785-6-5 pertain to the Lawrence Asylums at Ootacamund.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. There is nothing in the report to call for any special remark from the Board of Revenue.

3. The results of the expenditure will be patent to His Excellency in Council.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. A. Turton
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

Copy to the Chief Secretary to Government, R. D.
... to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

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Dec 1872. 11. 2381
BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH AUGUST 1872, No. 1,593.

Copy 2600/102
Encl.

Received *31st August 1872*

AUGUST.
No. 1,593.

Public Works—in Aligarh—Report
from Commissioner on progress of—during
1871-72, submitted to Government.

11. 2381
11. 2381