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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rec. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 154.	Press
B.P. No.	Mis.
Dated 22.8.1963	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th August 1873.*

No. 291. Read the following letter from Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., District Engineer, Chingleput, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Guindy, 23rd July 1873, No. 1,044:—

REFERRING to my No. 854, of 3rd July 1873, I have the honour to observe that till 1863-64 Rupees 200 per mile were granted for the maintenance of the East Coast Canal. In that year it appears to have been reduced to Rupees 100 per mile. I went over the portion of it between Madras and Pulicat last week with the Deputy Collector in charge of salt works, and was very much surprised to find that he had been permitted to spend Rupees 20,000 last year on the forty miles of branch channels, or Rupees 500 per mile.

2. The branch channels are not, I believe, half the section of the main canal, so that the rate is nearly ten times that allowed to the Department Public Works.

3. I take the opportunity of calling attention to the great labour thrown on the Range Officers, Serooloor and Chingleput, in connection with the salt works, labour which I knew very little of till last week and, therefore, believe the Government are not aware of our having to do.

4. It appears that every year we have to prepare estimates for the clearing of all these branch channels, drains, etc., costing more than Rupees 500 each, and to measure up all the work when finished by the Salt Department Officers, among whom is an Overseer receiving Rupees 80 per mensem, whom I could not employ on Rupees 60, as he had not passed the necessary examination. He was a maistry on the petty establishment on Rupees 40, supervising under Mr. Harington the work which he is now executing.

5. It appears to me worthy of some notice that the Revenue Department can make such advantageous offers to our subordinates as to draw away good men of their class whom our stricter rules prevent us from promoting.

No. 292. ORDER THEREON, 19th August 1873, No. 2,058.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 21.

RECORDED, with reference to orders on the Canal Budget.

2. The Government were aware that the salt works were estimated for and measured by the Public Works Officers.

3. The District Engineer's remark on the high rate allowed for salt channel clearances and supervision will be communicated to the Revenue Department.

(True Extract.)

G. W. Walker Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Chingleput.
„ Revenue Department. ✓

Exd. S. T. Austin.

1054
N. B. of Rev further

Recd 18/3 Sep
N. 2550
Govt. of India

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, CHINGLEPUT

&c. &c. &c.

Dated August 19th

Recd.

— 22nd —

Encl.

G. O., 19th August 1873, No. 2,058.

AUGUST

Nos. 291-292

See No 1541

East Coast Canal.—Letter from the District Engineer, Chingleput, regarding the expenditure on the canal, recorded District Engineer's remark on the high rate allowed for salt channel clearances and supervision, communicated to the Revenue Department.