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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

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No. 1,914.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd September 1873.

Read the following letter from the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Tanjore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd August 1873, No. 296 :—

I HAVE the honour to report on the operation of the Public Works Department during the Official year 1872-73.

2. Subjoined is a Statement of expenditure on Public Works during the year under report in this district, as compared with that of last year —

Works.		Expenditure of 1872-73.	Expenditure of 1871-72.	Difference. Increase.	Difference. Decrease.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
New Works.					
Civil Buildings..	Imperial 7,918	...	...	...	...
	Provincial 50,768	...	...	...	...
		58,686	10,350	48,336	...
Agricultural ...	Ordinary	15,003	7,772	7,231	...
	Extraordinary	45,296	1,03,854	...	58,558
Miscellaneous Public Improvements..	...	9,149	...	9,149	...
Total...	...	1,28,134	1,21,976	64,716	58,558
Net...	...	...	...	6,158	...
Repairs.					
Civil Buildings ...	Imperial ... 138	...	...	...	...
	Provincial ... 6,234	6,372	6,393	...	21
		1,50,835	1,51,338	...	503
Agricultural—Imperial	...				
Miscellaneous Public Improvements—Provincial	...	200	596	...	396
Total...	...	1,57,407	1,58,327	...	920
Grand Total...	...	2,85,541	2,80,303	...	..
Allotment ...	New Works 199,967	...	...	...	...
	Repairs 162,536	...	...	...	...
		3,62,503	...	...	...
		76,962	...	...	...

3. It will be seen from the Statement above given that Rupees 76,962 or nearly 21 per cent. remained unexpended out of the total allotment ; the expended portion at the end of the year 1871-72, being only Rupees 17,649. It should, however, be noted that the allotment during the year under report, was much greater than that in the year preceding, being Rupees 3,62,503 against Rupees 2,80,303. It is explained that the unfavourable character of the season contributed to the large excess of the allotment over the expenditure. The execution of the Public Works was greatly retarded by the heavy storm of the 30th of April 1872, and of the following day, occurring as it did in the very middle of the working season, and also by the heavy rain which fell during the year and of which there were no less than 64·23 and 53·26 inches respectively on the coast, and in the interior against an average of 36·9.

4. The following table shows the most important among the works executed during the year, and I shall make a few remarks on each of them :—

Names of works.	Amount of Estimate.	Expenditure up to end of 31st March 1872.	Expenditure during the year.	Total.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1. Constructing a Telegraph Office at Negapatam	12,520 0 0	4,170 4 6	7,917 7 10	12,087 12 4
2. Regulating works for the principal branches of the Vennaur	1,97,240 0 0	1,29,961 0 4	44,770 10 2	1,74,731 10 6
3. Coleroon Survey	4,360 0 0	.....	2,102 15 4	2,102 15 4
4. Cutting a new channel from the Cauvery north bank and providing necessary masonry work for the irrigation of Ponnadapal, etc., villages	19,500 0 0	.....	3,998 4 0	3,998 4 0
5. Constructing a new Tahsildar's Cutcherry and Sub-Jail with out-houses at Tanjore.	29,600 0 0	13,495 10 9	12,929 13 3	26,425 8 0
6. Do. do. do. at Shealli	23,960 0 0	10,678 11 7	8,823 7 10	19,502 3 5
7. Do. do. do. at Teruvidamarudur ...	12,170 0 0	4,111 7 11	8,060 0 0	12,171 7 11
8. Do. do. do at Porayar	15,315 0 0	6,169 3 9	3,691 1 8	9,860 5 5
9. Constructing an Office for the Superintendent of Sea Customs at Tiroomalavasal.	1,930 0 0	.....	389 7 6	389 7 6
10. Constructing additional groynes and lengthening the existing groyne in front of the King's Bastion at Tranquebar for the protection of the Fort from the encroachment of the Sea	15,000 0 0	.....	9,149 0 5	9,149 0 5
11. Completing the navigable Canal between Negapatam and Vadarniem	1,08,192 0 0	1,05,735 4 3	996 10 3	1,06,731 14 6
12. Restoring the River face of the Jetty at Negapatam	24,800 0 0	24,254 14 11	1,581 1 4	25,836 0 3

5. The Telegraph Office has been nearly completed; the total expenditure being Rupees 12,088.

6. The progress made in the construction of the Regulating works of the Vennaur must, considering the character of the working season, be said to have been satisfactory. The estimate for these works was Rupees 1,97,240, out of which the expenditure during the year under review amounted to Rupees 44,771, the allotment being Rupees 56,000. The total expenditure up to the end of the year was Rupees 1,74,732. The works not being complete, the regulation, by their means, of the Vennaur during the year was impracticable, but the District Engineer hopes to be able to effect this during the current year.

7. There were two Taluq and two new Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherries in course of construction, viz., Tanjore, Shealli, Porayar and Teruvidamarudur. The one at Tanjore is nearly completed, but certain additions to the building were found necessary to provide accommodation for the Sub-Registrar of the station. These works are now in progress, and it is expected that the Taluq Cutcherry may be removed into the building in the course of a few months. The building at Tiruvidamarudur, was finished. The Cutcherries at Porayar and Shealli were not, however, completed, and the slow progress made is ascribed to the difficulty of getting timber for the work.

8. Besides the above, additions and alterations have been made to ten other Cutcherries.

9. The construction of an Office for the Sea Customs Superintendent at Tiroomalavasal was commenced late in the year, owing to the difficulty in procuring a site for the building, and this accounts for the small progress made in the work.

10. The excavation of a new channel from the Cauvery north, for the irrigation of Ponnavasal and other villages, was sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rupees 19,500, and Rupees 3,998 have been expended on this work. The District Engineer reports that the work, when completed, will prove very remunerative.

11. The slow progress made in the construction of the additional groynes and the improvement of the existing ones on the sea face of the Fort of Tranquebar is reported to be due to the difficulty in procuring stone.

12. The progress made during the year in the construction of the subsidiary works connected with the Vadarniem Canal, and for which an allotment of Rupees 2,454 was sanctioned, was as slow as in the year preceding, owing to the locality, in which the works have to be carried out, being submerged during the greater part of the year, and the unfavourable character of the season.

13. The restoration of the Jetty at the Negapatam harbour was completed at a total expenditure of Rupees 25,836-0-3, being Rupees 1,036 in excess of the estimate.

14. The number of irrigation and other works repaired during the year was as follows:—

Irrigation Channels	124	Agricultural.
Tanks...	11	
Dykes...	378	
Drainage	20	
Navigable Canal...	27	Communications.
Roads	918	
Buildings	29	Civil Buildings.

15. An estimate, amounting to Rupees 1,600, was originally prepared for executing repairs to the Taluq Cutcherry at Nannilam, but the work was not carried out as it was then considered that it would be preferable to construct a new Taluq Cutcherry on the standard plan. In his report on the state of Public Works within his Division, of which a copy is herewith, forwarded, Mr. Stokes, the Sub-Collector, objects to this proposal and, is of opinion that the existing building, if repaired at a small cost, would answer all requirements for another twenty ... rs. The building has since been inspected by Major Oakes, and that officer concurring in the opinion expressed by Mr. Stokes, the proposal of constructing a new Cutcherry has been abandoned, and arrangements have been made for having the old building properly fitted up.

16. The construction of an Office for the Sub-Collector at Negapatam was not put in hand during the year under report, but the necessary estimates have since been prepared, and it is expected that the work will be commenced soon.

17. The state of the roads was generally satisfactory, but, as they are all under the management of the Local Fund Boards, they will be more particularly noticed in the reports connected with the operations of the Local Fund Department.

18. I beg also to enclose, for the Board's perusal, copies of the report of the Acting Head-Assistant Collector on the operation of the Public Works Department in his Division.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. J. STOKES, Esq., Sub-Collector, to the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 8th May 1873, No. 161.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, report on the state of Public Works in the Sub-Division of Tanjore for the Official year 1872-73.

2. NEGAPATAM TALUQ.—*Civil Buildings.*—During the year under report, a sum of Rupees 4,681-3-2 was spent on three new buildings. Of these, the most important is the building for the Sub-Jail at Negapatam. This was commenced some years ago, and is still in progress. It is reported that it will be completed shortly. The next is the building of the out-houses to the Sub-Magistrate's Office at Trivalore, on which Rupees 1,716-9-3 was spent during the year. This work is almost complete, the well remaining to be sunk. The third work on which Rupees 261-8-6 was expended this year, is the construction of four Jail-wards. This is also reported to be almost complete.

3. As for the repairs of Civil buildings only Rupees 512-13-10 was spent in raising a shed in the front of the District Munsif's Office at Trivalore, and in repairing the Sea-Custom House at Negapatam.

Besides the new buildings abovementioned, another building was erected at Negapatam for the Government Telegraph Office, on which Rupees 7,917--7-10 was spent during the year, and Rupees 4,170-4-6, up to the end of the previous year. It is reported to be all complete except compound walls and part of the flooring.

4. *Irrigation.*—A sum of Rupees 1,068-10-0 was spent on three new works under this head, but none requires any special notice; Rupees 4,242-9-11, was spent in repairing twenty-four minor irrigational works against an allotment of Rupees 5,770. Of these, twelve are completed, and the others are reported to be in progress. Three of the items under this head are for conservancy establishments.

5. *Communications.*—Two new works were carried on during this year at the total cost of Rupees 3,765-11-0. Of these, one is the canal between Negapatam and Vadarniem which cost Rupees 996-10-3 during the year, and is in progress. The other is the new road between Kivalur and Kachchonam on which Rupees 2,769-0-9 was spent. A sum of Rupees 5,000 has been allotted for the improvement of road No. 35, from Tritrapundi to Kivalur, but the work was not commenced this year. A sum of Rupees 14,323-7-7 was spent on carrying out the ordinary repairs of eleven works.

6. *Marine Works.*—From the Port Fund, one original work was executed during the year at a cost of Rupees 1,581-1-4. This is for the restoration of the Negapatam Jetty, the estimate for which is Rupees 24,800. Rupees 484-11-10 was expended from the Port Fund for the repair of two minor works.

7. NANNILAM.—In this taluq all the irrigation works are repaired and kept in good order. No irrigation work worth any special notice, was undertaken during the year under report.

8. The communications are maintained in good order.

9. Under the head of Civil Buildings three new works were executed at a total cost of Rupees 491-11-8. The chief of them are the alterations in the Sub-Jail at Nannilam and Kodavassal. The first is nearly finished. the other two works being delayed, as the plans have been mislaid. A sum of Rupees 798-11-10 was expended in the repair of two works, Civil Buildings, the works are the repairs to the Sub-Magistrate's Office at Kodavassel, and constructing a Pandal for the accommodation of the Nannilam Tahsildar's Cutcherry. The first is in progress, and the other is finished.

10. The Tahsildar is put to great inconvenience by his Cutcherry building not being as yet put in repair; the Department Public Works report that the present building is not worth repairing; but I certainly cannot agree with them. The walls are very good, and an expenditure of Rupees 1,200 or 1,500 would, in my opinion, do all that is necessary to make the Cutcherry all that is required for the next twenty years. It will take at least three years to get a new, and will involve a large expenditure, which I think wholly uncalled for.

11. Nothing has yet been done towards supplying an Office for the Sub-Collector at Negapatam.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From M. R. WELD, Esq., Acting Head-Assistant Collector, to the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Tanjore, dated Mayaveram, 25th June 1873, No. 155.

I HAVE the honour to forward the following report on the state of Public Works in the Mayaveram Division for the past Official year 1872-73:—

2. IMPERIAL ORDINARY WORKS.—*Agricultural.*—No original works whatsoever were undertaken during the year.

3. Under the head of Repairs, there was an expenditure of Rupees 20,694 on several works about 143 in number, such as (1) repairing dams, sluices, anicuts, calingulas, acqueducts, marisals—(2) Diverting the course of rivers and channels—(3) Repairing, strengthening, and protecting the banks of rivers and channels; (4) Planting Nanals on the banks of rivers and channels; and (5) Closing breaches, etc. ect.

4. No money appears to have been spent in the way of clearing rivers or channels with the exception of a very small sum of Rupees 88 for clearing the Paravari channel branching from the right bank of the Veerashologan. The Tahsildars report that no rivers or channels were cleared in Kudimaramat, during last year.

5. CIVIL BUILDINGS—*Provincial Service—Original Works.*—Under this head there was an expenditure of Rupees 14,910 on four works. The Deputy Tahsildar's Cutcherry and Sub-jail at Porayar and the Tahsildar's Cutcherry and Sub-jail at Shealli are nearly completed, and the Sub-jail with Out-houses in the compound of the Mayaveram Taluq Cutcherry has been finished. The new Office for the use of the Sea-Customs Superintendent at Tiroomalavasal has been about half finished.

6. Under the head of "Repairs" to Civil buildings there was an expenditure of Rupees 2,739.

7. *Communications.*—Under the head of Original works there was an expenditure of Rupees 2,007. Road No. 68 from Puttur to Pudupatnam, the construction of which was begun in 1871, was completed. The total cost of the road amount to Rupees 12,836.

8. The expenditure under the head of Repairs to roads was about Rupees 15,177. It may be said that the roads are generally in good order.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Collector.

THIS report on the state of Public Works in Tanjore for 1872-73 will be submitted for the information of Government.

2. A very large proportion of the allotment remained unspent but the storm of 30th April and the unusual character of the season sufficiently accounted for the short expenditure.

3. Good progress was made with the regulating works on the Vennaur and on other irrigation works.

4. Among Civil Buildings the principal were the Telegraph Office at Negapatam and the Tahsildars Offices at Tanjore, Shealli, and Teruvidamarudur, all of which were either completed or well advanced.

5. The Board regret to find that so little progress was made in improving the Vedarniem canal. The importance of this work in connection with the Salt Revenue being great.

6. At the suggestion of Mr. Stokes, the Sub-Collector, the proposal to abandon the Taluq Cutcherry at Nannilam has been given up, Major Oakes having decided that the old building might be properly repaired.

7. On the whole the Board consider the report to be satisfactory.

(True Copies and Extract.)

H Stokes
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

" to the Collector of Tanjore.

Rxd. G. A. Turton.

Revenue 1873 Sept.
No. 3091

1873.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 23RD SEPTEMBER 1873, No. 1,914

Dep.t 30 Sept.r 73.

Encl.

Received 2nd October/73

SEPTEMBER.

No. 1,914.

Public Works—in Tanjore District.—Report of Collector on state of —for 1872-73, submitted to Government, with remarks.

No 86

15 Oct.r 73

86 With Order

Rec.d 15 Oct.