M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 4

(2) Date of repair 24-9-68.

(3) Initials of the Referencer 30-9-68

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1618.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.

Dated 2-8-1875 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1,912.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th July 1875.

Read the following letter from J. R. COCKERELL, Esq., Commissioner of the Nilgiris, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 16th June 1875, No. 56 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit a report on the Public Works of the district for the year 1874-75.

2. The expenditure compared with grants is exhibited below :—

——	Grant.	Expenditure.	Excess of expenditure over grant.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
New Works ...	69,206 8 3	79,682 15 1	10,476 6 10
Repairs	53,260 0 0	53,360 7 6	100 7 6
Total ...	1,22,466 8 3	1,33,043 6 7	10,576 14 4

3. It was distributed as under :—

New Works.

	RS.	A.	P.
Military	5,590	14	6
Civil Buildings	5,717	15	11
Communications...	67,225	10	2
Miscellaneous Public Improvements...	1,148	6	6
Establishment	25,149	13	5
Tools and Plant...	1,559	8	2

Repairs.

Military	9,730	10	5
Civil Buildings	2,844	2	1
Communications...	39,533	4	0
Miscellaneous Public Improvements...	1,252	7	0
Tools and Plant...	1,578	12	0

NEW WORKS—*Military.*—Four works were executed during the year, of which only one needs mention. This is the incomplete No. 4 Barrack Block at Wellington. On account of this work ten lacs of bricks, two lacs of tiles, and the necessary door and window frames were manufactured. The barrack is an upper-storied building, consisting of four rooms 130′ × 21′, eight Serjeants' rooms 24′ × 9¼′, four cook-rooms 12′ × 21′, four night latrines 9½′ × 12′, and two store-rooms 8′ × 21′, with out-buildings attached. The work is estimated to cost Rupees 1,41,430, and will accommodate 152 unmarried soldiers. It will take two years more to complete.

Civil Buildings.—Five works were carried out during the year. The quarters for the Police Inspector at Wellington were enlarged by the addition of a room 15′ × 15′.

A raised platform with railings and a prisoners' dock were erected in the Court of the Joint Magistrate of Wellington.

Four huts each 12′ × 12′ were begun for the Police at Neddivuttum. They will be completed in the current year. The Police at Neddivuttum have hitherto occupied the chuttrum much to the inconvenience of travellers.

One-half of Sooba Row's Brahmin Chuttrum at Ootacamund was reconstructed; the other half was put into thorough repair. The chuttrum contains thirteen rooms of different sizes, and it has a well of drinking water in an enclosed yard.

Communications.—Twenty separate works under this head were carried out during the year, of which one was executed by a member of the Local Fund Board.

The Kotagherry Ghaut.—This ghaut has now been completed and is open to traffic. It is eighteen miles long, and the ruling gradient is 1 in 17. There are four zig-zags. The whole distance between Kotagherry and Mettapolliem is twenty miles. The width of the ghaut is nowhere less than 8 feet. The bridges and first-class drains are 12 feet broad, and the ghaut is 12 feet broad at the revetments, and consequently can be made into a first-class ghaut at any time at comparatively small cost. There are five bridges, three of which have a span of 20 feet and two a span of 15 feet.

Improvements to the Coonoor New Ghaut.—During the year the remaining nine miles of this ghaut were widened to 18 feet. A mile and a half of catch drains were cut. Stone parapets for three-fourths of a mile and earthen parapets of $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles were erected and twenty five under-drains constructed. The whole ghaut is now 18 feet wide, except in very rocky parts where it is only 15 feet. The ghaut is well-drained and its curves and corners are improved.

Metalling the Ootacamund Roads.—Six roads were metalled, viz., the Church Hill Road, the Club Road, Westbury Road, the Lake Roads, the Fern Hill Road, and Hadfield's Road with 495 cubic yards of laterite and 935 cubic yards of granite. Nine new stone drains were built. All the roads were rolled, and in some the levels were improved.

Colacumbay Branch Road.—This road, which is $3\frac{1}{8}$ miles long connects several important coffee estates with the arterial line which runs to the Coonoor Ghaut. It is 15 feet wide.

Lady Canning's Seat Road.—This road is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles long and 9 feet wide. It leads direct to the Seat, and is much used by the residents of Coonoor.

Through Cutting near the Brookland's Tea Estate.—A cutting was made through Government land in order to avoid encroaching on the Brookland's Tea Estate.

Road from Lady Canning's Seat to Dolphin's Nose.—This is a continuation of the Lady Canning's Seat Road. It is two miles long and 9 feet wide. It improves the communication with many important coffee estates in the neighbourhood.

Road from Coonoor Bridge to the Wellington Commissariat Godown.—The road is a mile long and 18 feet wide. It is drained and parapetted.

New approach to Ootacamund from Kotagherry.—The new approach is $2\frac{1}{8}$ miles long and 6 feet wide; the ruling gradient is 1 in 17.

Metalling the Ootacamund and Coonoor New Road.—Preparations were made for this work; 400 cubic yards of broken stone were provided and some rocky corners blasted.

New Road from the Yellanully Chut'rum to Kartairy.—This road has been under construction for five years. It is hoped it will be completed this year.

The old Ooty and Coonoor Road between Coonoor and the Half-way House.—One-half of this road was widened, levelled, drained, and improved.

During the year $21\frac{1}{4}$ miles of new road were added to the communications of this district. Four and five-eighths of the length can be traversed by carts and carriages, $16\frac{5}{8}$ miles are bridle-paths mostly of 9 feet width; 28 miles of road have been widened, drained, parapetted and otherwise improved, and one timber bridge of 20 feet span has been built.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS—*The Ootacamund Reclamation Scheme.*—The labor of 27,572 convicts was expended during the year on this work, which was entirely earthwork. The extent reclaimed was 10 acres. The bed of a considerable portion of the Upper Lake has been excavated. Altogether 32 acres of land are now reclaimed. About 1,350 feet of the Coonoor Water-supply channel were protected from being fouled by road and refuse wash. The Elk Hill aqueduct was planked for a length of 120 feet to form a safe foot bridge.

REPAIRS—*Military.*—Besides the usual annual repairs to the barracks, ten other distinct works were attended to at Wellington. The repairs to No. 3 Block were necessitated by the building having been struck by lightning on the night of the 29th December last. The lightning fortunately divided before it struck the building, so that the injury caused was comparatively trifling. The ridge of the block near the centre was affected by one stroke. The electric fluid passed down the southern fall of the roof tearing a teak rafter to pieces and injuring the purlin. It then fell on to the terrace verandah roof tearing up a large portion and cracked a joist. Eventually it passed harmlessly down one of the water-pipes. The other stroke struck one of the chimneys at the south-west end of the block and tore down the southern fall of the roof, breaking the tiles. It then descended to the flat-terraced verandah, which it injured, and passed down one of the water-pipes.

Civil Buildings.—Twelve distinct works were carried out.

Communications.—Two hundred and sixty-three miles of road have been kept in repair; seventy-eight of these are macadamized, forty-four are ghaut roads, and thirty-five are bridle-paths. Thirty-six [illegible] have been kept in repair, five Travellers' Bungalows, twelve chuttrums and three toll-houses have also been attended to. Special repairs were carried out to the Pykara and Neddivuttum Bungalows and to a chuttrum between Pykara and Neddivuttum.

The duties of the District Engineer have been exceptionally heavy throughout the year.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Copy of District Engineer's Memorandum of work done by P. W. D.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Statement showing expenditure and grant.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The report is satisfactory.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Officiating Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,
with two original enclosures to be returned.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

,, to the Commissioner of the Nilgiris.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Rev: 1875: Dept
N. 2807.
No. 745

1875.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 10TH JULY 1875, No. 1,912.

Dupd 15 July/75

Encl.

Received 19: July

JULY.

No. 1,912.

Public Works—of Nilgiri District.—Report of Commissioner on — for 1874-75, submitted to Government.

No. 1618

Recorded

2 Augst/75.

Withorders

1 Folio Board of Revenue Paper

C 28 July/75 No 2 Augst/75