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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	482.	Press
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Dated	21-2-1876	197

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1202

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th May 1875.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 513. From Colonel C. V. WILKIESON, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Coimbatore, 3rd April 1875, No. 2.

WITH reference to G. O., No. 694, of 14th March 1874, I have the honor to forward a survey of the Cauvery river near Humpapooram in Collegal together with an estimate, amounting to Rs. 2,500, for constructing embankment and six temporary groynes to protect the right bank on the British side of the river, as well as for revetting the whole of the eroded embankment from L to D in the survey.

This being the only season to undertake the work, and as there will be only about six weeks to complete the work, I have, in anticipation of the sanction of Government, ordered the Range Officer to close up the two channels A and B in the survey by sand bank gradually coming up to the high ground towards M revetted with wattle of the kind used in Mysore, and plant the sand bank from A at end of bund to high ground near M with nanul. The six small groynes will be of the description given in Colonel Mullins' memorandum, No. 619-A, dated 10th September 1873, revetted with nanul at the points marked K, D, J, F, H, and at the end of the embankment at L in the survey, and the whole foot of the bank from L to C will be planted with wild cane, screw pine, and nanul.

3. The Revenue statement of value of the land endangered by the encroachment will be submitted to you as soon as it is received from the Collector.

No. 490.

No. 514.

Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Nor being acquainted with the part of the Cauvery at which the protective works estimated for by the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore, are situated, I am unable, in the absence of a series of connected levels over this portion of the river, and without a much more extended survey, to form any opinion as to whether these works are likely to prove successful.

2. The efficacy of bund A B across the two channels depends upon the relative levels of the sand banks connected and of the deep channel of the river, and these are not given. This bund is to cost Rupees 1,320 out of the 2,500 Rupees of the estimate.

3. Apparently the best line for the river, or for a considerable channel of it, would be from A A to B B, then it would run parallel to the right bank instead of as at present coming across the channels nearly at right angles to the axis of the river from the left bank.

4. Some of the proposed groynes are, it is thought, insufficiently oblique to the current.

5. The information referred to in paragraph 3 of the Superintending Engineer's letter has not yet been received, and, as it will be seen that the work is in progress, the submission of the estimate to Government will not be longer delayed. The

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survey does not indicate what property is endangered, or how far encroachments have progressed in recent years, and the Mysore boundary which was to be the starting point* has not been noted.

* G. O., 14th March 1874, No. 694.

OOTACAMUND,
10th May 1875.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 515. Endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 13th May 1875, No. 503.

From Colonel C. V. WILKIESON, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Coimbatore, 6th May 1875, No. 22.

With reference to the last paragraph of my letter, No. 2, dated 3rd April 1875,

* No. 54, dated 5th May 1875.

I have the honor to forward a copy of Coimbatore Collector's letter* regarding the value of land endangered by the encroachment of the Cauvery river near Humpapooram.

From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to Colonel C. V. WILKIESON, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore, dated Coimbatore, 5th May 1875, No. 54.

In reply to your letter, No. 29, of 23rd April 1875, requiring information as to the amount of revenue endangered by the want of protection to the Collegal shore of the Cauvery, I have the honor to state that it will be very difficult to give you a formal estimate of the same.

2. In Mr. Sullivan's letter, printed with Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 6,393, of 31st October 1870, it was stated that 148 acres of the Humpapooram village had been taken away by the Cauvery. I noticed that it was a fine black loam which the river was undermining, probably worth Rupees 100 an acre. This being so, it follows that Rupees 14,000 of land has already been lost, and the erosion continues and will continue in the same direction, for the sandy spit opposite has every tendency to increase—vide my remarks on the sand-covered pagodas of Talakad on the Mysore side; and to throw the current still more severely on the Collegal side, Mysore is acquiring barren acres of sand, while we are losing acres of deep black soil, and in all probability the Cauvery will take a semi-circular bend out of our territory. It is rather an engineering than a revenue question to answer as to what further acreage of land will be eroded and washed down the Cauvery.

3. I would put it on past damage, the necessity of obviating future loss, by the simple hurdle groyne, and cut, through the sandy spit, which I advocated, and it is perfectly certain that unless we take this precaution the erosions will go on unchecked.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of this office note, No. 490, dated 10th May 1875.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 516. ORDER THEREON, 26th May 1875, No. 1,471.

IRRIGATION, No. 62.

The estimate amounting to Rs. 2,500 for works designed to protect valuable lands on the right bank of the Cauvery

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near Humpapooram from further erosion is sanctioned, and the Superintending Engineer will report the effect of the works and their then condition after the freshes of 1875.

2. The remarks of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation should receive attention.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Major, R.E.,
Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore.

„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

Govt. of (1875) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

COIMBATORE.

Ac. Ac. Ac.

Dated May 26th.

Issued

Recd.

Rw 735/6

Encl.

G. O., 26th May 1875, No. 1471.

MAY.

Nos. 513-516

Protective works to the Cauvery River
near Humpapooram, Coimbatore District.—
Estimate of Rupees 2,500 for —, sanctioned
with remarks.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th February 1876.

No. 72. Read the following letter from Colonel C. V. WILKIESON, R.E.,
Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore, to Major-General G. W. WALKER,
R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Coimbatore,
18th January 1876, No. 107 :—

In accordance with G. O., of 26th May 1875, No. 1,471, I have the honor to
report, for the information of Government,
1 Sketch. that the protective works that I put up in

the Cauvery river to save the river bank from being cut away near Collegal have been
very successful, and I now send a sketch of how the river flows.

2. The cause of the river having a set not only against the right but also the
left or Mysore bank, was the quantity of sand brought down by the Honully river
forming a sand bank which divides the current of the river into two courses on either
side of it, and thus both shores are washed away. The Mysore authorities have also
complained giving the reason that the embankment I put last year marked "Durbah
embankment" was the cause, but this can be easily seen is not the case.

3. I have advised that they should put up wagganais and groynes as we have
done, and thus we shall soon get the river into its true course. I have also offered in
August next to meet the Executive Engineer of Mysore to consult as to mutual
protective works; but most of the management of the river is in the hands of the
Mysore Government, as the left bank of Honully is in Mysore as well as left bank
of Cauvery.

4. The sketch shows the river as it now is (January 12th), and the dark shaded
part the deep channel as it formerly was when it cut away the bank. The portion
marked "garden cultivation" has been already recovered and been taken up by the
ryots.

5. I have now ordered nanul grass and wattle to be planted along the sand bank
from M to N with a new embankment raised above high freshes. I have no doubt of
this preventing further encroachment; in fact the actual reclamation of the land
formerly washed away will be effected. Nanul grass will have to be planted round
and about the groynes, and the hole that now exists at third groyne filled in.

No. 73. ORDER THEREON, 5th February 1876, No. 318.

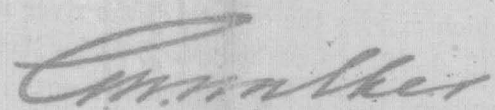
IRRIGATION, No. 6-A.

RECORDED. The sketch submitted is
too rough to allow of a correct idea of the
circumstances being formed. The best
line for the right bank from the outfall of the Honully river to the "Sawmy house"
shown on the survey dated 3rd April 1875, should be laid down, and the plantations
and other works arranged accordingly. The direction of the mid-stream embankment
on the rough sketch does not correspond with that on the survey, and the direction
M N on the former, on which it is proposed to place plantations, &c., for diverting
the current, may be proper in reality, but on the sketch N would appear to be too far
away from the right bank. Maps illustrative of river conservancy operations should

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5th February 1876.*

for successive years be prepared in the same manner and on the same scale. That of the 3rd April 1875 is on a somewhat larger scale* than is necessary, and it does not extend sufficiently far, either up or down the river, to enable a proper alignment to be laid down. Without more complete surveys and a clearer demonstration of what is intended to be done on the right bank, there will be considerable risk of any prejudicial changes on the left bank being attributed to the operations carried on under the orders of the Superintending Engineer.

(True Extract.)



Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, Coimbatore
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ Revenue Department, with G.O., No. 1,471, of 26th May.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

20 Spare Copies

Revenue Department
No 735

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
COIMBATORE,
&c. &c. &c.

Dated February 5th.

Issued

Recd. — 19.

Encl. 1

G. O., 5th February 1876, No. 318.

De. M. S.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 72 73

Protective Works to the Cauvery River near
Collegal, Coimbatore District.—Letter from
the Superintending Engineer reporting on
the effect of the — and forwarding a sketch
of the course of the river, recorded with
remarks.

No 482
Comm. to the
Board of Revenue
21 Feb 1876

14 To the Board of Revenue No. 20 Feb