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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue.

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	411	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	30.1.1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th December 1876.

Read the following letter from H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd December 1876, No. 4,685:—

REFERRING to my letter, dated 22nd November 1876, No. 4,200, I have the honor to report that the rain is still holding off and distress is steadily increasing.

The prices of grain have risen to what I understand to be famine rates,* rates which are, I believe, higher than those ruling in

Madras where the necessity for relief works has already been admitted; *a fortiori* it would seem that it should be admitted here also. The laboring classes are suffering much and anxiously looking for work. It seems to me therefore imperatively necessary that some relief works should be started at once. The difficulty of people flocking from surrounding districts exists here as well as in Madras. I know of one instance in which a large quantity of grain is already being imported from Madras. But as the plans and estimates for the works I propose to execute are not yet ready, I am unable to submit them for sanction. To avoid delay I think it would be well to commence the earthwork embankment of the large tank at Vallam and the Fort ditch cleaning in connection with the Tanjore water project so as to afford employment to a large number of sufferers, and if the Board and Government are not disposed to grant funds for its execution as a relief work, I request that they will be pleased to grant me at least a loan of Rupees 15,000 to be repaid when a Municipal loan is raised in the open market for the water project.

2. It will be clear that no such loan can be raised till the whole scheme is fully matured with plan and estimate complete, and till these papers have passed in due course through the offices of the Board, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, the Government and the Imperial Government whose sanction is necessary. All this will take such time that we cannot expect to turn a sod for six or twelve months, whereas the simple earthwork might be undertaken at once as a most conveniently situated relief work, and that without compromising the details of the scheme which could come under regular scrutiny and sanction in due course, the guarantee of such a superior irrigation officer as Captain Brockman being meanwhile taken as sufficient security for the earthwork being wisely undertaken.

3. Before even this can be undertaken a month will probably elapse in taking levels, contour lines, and acquiring land, and the consequent necessity for somewhat more money than was anticipated for preliminary expenditure, especially since the Municipality has had made on it the unexpected demand conveyed in Board's Proceedings, dated 4th September 1876, No. 7,511, makes it imperative that I should seek the temporary advance of Rupees 15,000 to be repaid by the Municipality on the raising of a loan.

4. I hope the Board will be pleased to take the sufferings of the distressed into consideration and accord sanction to the immediate commencement of the work on that round.

No. 898. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th December 1876, No. 3,312:—

Read the following letter from H. S. THOMAS, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd December 1876, No. 4,685:—

REFERRING to my letter, dated 22nd November 1876, No. 4,200, I have the honor to report that the rain is still holding off and distress is steadily increasing. The prices of grain have risen to what I understand to be famine rates,*—rates which are, I believe, higher than those ruling in Madras where the necessity for relief works has already been admitted; *a fortiori* it would seem that it should be admitted here also. The laboring classes are suffering much and anxiously looking for work. It seems to me therefore imperatively necessary that some relief works should be started at once. The difficulty of people flocking from surrounding districts exists here as well as in Madras. I know of one instance in which a large quantity of grain is already being imported from Madras. But as the plans and estimates for the works I propose to execute are not yet ready, I am unable to submit them for sanction. To avoid delay I think it would be well to commence the earthwork embankment of the large tank at Vallam and the Fort ditch cleaning in connection with the Tanjore water project so as to afford employment to a large number of laborers, and if the Board and Government are not disposed to grant funds for its execution as a relief work, I request that they will be pleased to grant me at least a loan of Rupees 15,000 to be repaid when a Municipal loan is raised in the open market for the water project.

2. It will be clear that no such loan can be raised till the whole scheme is fully matured with plan and estimate complete, and till these papers have passed in due course through the offices of the Board, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, the Government and the Imperial Government whose sanction is necessary. All this will take such time that we cannot expect to turn a sod for six or twelve months, whereas the simple earthwork might be undertaken at once as a most conveniently situated relief work, and that without compromising the details of the scheme which could come under regular scrutiny and sanction in due course, the guarantee of such a superior irrigation officer as Captain Brockman being meanwhile taken as sufficient security for the earthwork being wisely undertaken.

3. Before even this can be undertaken a month will probably elapse in taking levels, contour lines, and acquiring land, and the consequent necessity for somewhat more money than was anticipated for preliminary expenditure, especially since the Municipality has had made on it the unexpected demand conveyed in Board's Proceedings, dated 4th September 1876, No. 7,511, makes it imperative that I should seek the temporary advance of Rupees 15,000 to be repaid by the Municipality on the raising of a loan.

4. I hope the Board will be pleased to take the sufferings of the distressed into consideration and accord sanction to the immediate commencement of the work on that ground.

The Board observe that in G.O., dated 26th December 1876, No. 2,170, separately communicated this day to the Collector, a sum of Rupees 10,000 for irrigation works has been sanctioned for the dry taluqs. The Board are of opinion that this grant is sufficient for the present.

2. The project for the water-supply of Tanjore town not having been yet matured and fully examined, the Board are unable to support the Collector's proposal that a loan of Rupees 15,000 should be made for its prosecution.

3. The Board take this opportunity of requesting the attention of Government to the Proceedings, dated 2nd December 1876, No. 3,045, submitting for sanction the estimates for a straight cut in the Vedarni canal line of navigation. This is a useful work, which will be paid for from Canal and Ferry Funds, and will afford employment at the present time.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
the Collector of Tanjore.

Exd. W. H. French.

14th Dec. 1876. O. Stokes Esq. to H. E. Stokes Esq.

15th Dec. 1876. H. S. Thomas Esq. to H. E. Stokes Esq.

19th Dec. 1876. H. E. Stokes Esq. to H. S. Thomas Esq.

19th Dec. 1876. H. E. Stokes Esq. to H. S. Thomas Esq.

BOARD OF REVENUE,
MADRAS.

1876.

PROCEEDINGS, 28th Dec. 1876, No. 3,312.

DECEMBER.
No. 3,312.

Tanjore Water-supply Project.—Informing Collector that Board are unable to support his proposal that a loan of Rupees 15,000 should be made for—, and requesting attention of Government to Board's Proceedings requesting sanction for estimates for a straight cut in Vedarni Canal line of navigation.

Received 18th January 1877.

Copy to Govt.

18th Dec. 1876. O. Stokes Esq. to H. E. Stokes Esq.

THE Board observe that in G.O., dated 26th December 1876, No. 2,170, separately communicated this day to the Collector, a sum of Rupees 10,000 for irrigation works has been sanctioned for the dry taluqs. The Board are of opinion that this grant is sufficient for the present.

2. The project for the water-supply of Tanjore town not having been yet matured and fully examined, the Board are unable to support the Collector's proposal that a loan of Rupees 15,000 should be made for its prosecution.

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(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 899.

ORDER THEREON, 30th January 1877, No. 411.

Irrigation, No. 8.

RECORDED with reference to G.O.,
2nd January 1877, No. 14, Financial

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue,
„ the Financial Department.

Cost of (1877) *Mydins*.
REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated January, 30th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 30th January 1877, No. 411.

JANUARY.
Nos. 898-899.

Tanjore Water-supply Project.—Recording
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue intimating
their inability to support the Collector's proposal
that a loan of Rs. 15,000 should be made for pro-
secution of the —.