(1) Number of pages 2

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	4388	Press / Mis.
Dated	7.8.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

Archives I—10,006—19-4-79.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

24th July 1877, No. 477 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following papers :—

No. 321. Petition from C. MOOTHOOSAWMY MOODELLIAR and others, Landed Proprietors of Mylapore, to HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS, Governor in Council, Fort St. George, dated Mylapore, 13th June 1877.

YOUR Petitioners most humbly beg leave to state that their worst fears as particularized in paragraph 2 of their petition, dated 10th January 1877, (enclosing Memorial to the Most Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India,) have come to pass.

2. The Petitioners solicit permission to explain the extent to which those apprehensions have been realized, and the serious obstacles which the recent rain has proved the Junction Canal to present to the cultivation of the adjacent gardens and fields.

3. The Junction Canal from Adyar to the point at which it meets Brodie's Road has intercepted four main Irrigation channels, besides four others of minor description.

4. When the shower alluded to fell last month, water collected both in the canal and in the lands to the west of it, and the usual ways having suffered interruption it remained standing over the fields for three or four days and submerged and overflowed some dry crops such as raggy, brinjal, and sugarcane, which had been raised with considerable labor and expense on both sides of the canal.

5. Lands lying on the eastern side of the canal cannot be cultivated now for want of water from the Mylapore tank, the canal having intercepted the supply. The tank opposite Kabaleeswara temple, which is the bath of the inhabited Mylapore, and which was usually fed by one of the channels now intercepted over the canal, remains unfilled, and the wells in the neighbourhood are consequently low.

6. The Petitioners are led to think that, if these Irrigation channels had not been cut through until work could be taken in hand to conduct them over the canal, the injuries above described would not have happened. In their Order of 18th December 1876, No. 3,461, the Government assured that irrigation would be carefully provided for. This is yet to be done.

7. Your Petitioners humbly beg to suggest regarding the nature of the works by which these channels should be conducted over the canal. Captain Clarke in charge of the Junction Canal in a reply to their petition thinks of laying pipes, which have proved useless on the South Canal. The water to be conveyed over is generally in a miry state, and would deposit silt in its course through the pipes, and Petitioners would have frequent occasion to trouble the Government for cleaning them. Either

masonry aqueduct or devices other than pipes which would maintain an easy flow of water from one side to the other appear necessary.

8. The channels that existed served also as ways for carts to convey manure and garden produce, &c. With this view the Petitioners beg to pray that small bridges be constructed at some if not at all the crossings of the channels, and that four or five fords besides for cattle and laborers to pass through be made.

9. Petitioners beg to prefer one other prayer that locks should be constructed at least one near the Adyar and the other at Barber's bridge to prevent salt water from getting into the canal.

For which act of kindness, your Petitioners shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

No. 321-A. Endorsement of the District Engineer, Presidency, dated 6th July 1877, No. 1,979.

From Captain S. C. CLARKE, R.E., Executive Engineer, Junction Canal Works, to Major ROSS THOMPSON, R.E., District Engineer, Presidency, dated 5th July 1877, No. 647.

WITH reference to your letter No. 1,923 of the 4th instant, forwarding a copy of the Chief Engineer's No. 1,840 of the same date, regarding certain complaints preferred by the inhabitants of Mylapore, I have the honor to state that during the short time occupied in forming the aqueduct at the sites selected for the two syphons in the vicinity of the Covil Road, the water did stand on a portion of the land lying to the westward of the canal; but it has been subsequently drawn off, and the crops do not appear the worse for their temporary submersion.

2. The temporary aqueducts are amply large enough to provide the full requisite supply of water for irrigating the land on the east side as long as the tank is full, and in addition to this source of supply I have had several picottah pumps erected, which are in daily use pumping water out of the canal into the adjoining channels; and, as every effort has been made to satisfy the wants of the several gardens, I do not think the proprietors can justly demand more of Government.

3. The Mylapore inhabitants have from the outset opposed stoutly the canal project, and are now merely endeavouring to impose on the Government.

SUBMITTED to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with reference to his memorandum, No. 1,840, dated 4th July 1877.

(Signed) ROSS THOMPSON, Major, R.E.,
District Engineer, Presidency.

No. 322. ORDER THEREON, 24th July 1877, No. 477 W.

THE Government have no doubt that the Petitioners had just reason for complaint with regard to the obstruction by the canal of the old Irrigation channels, while other sources of supply were not at the same time provided.

2. The report received from the Engineer in charge of the works leads Government to believe that in this respect the grievances of the Petitioners have now been removed. The other points raised in the petition will require further consideration.

3. The Governor in Council is of opinion that the suggestions of the Petitioners as to the crossings by fords are reasonable, and the Executive Engineer will at once

consider and report upon these, and upon the proposal to place a lock at the Adyar end of the canal.

(True Extract.)

E A Bird Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Mis. 6 of 4388

Communicated to the B. of R.

7 August 1877

To the Petitioners, extract paragraphs 1 and 2.
" District Engineer, Presidency.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

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Rev. 1877 dept^te

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of {1877} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Fne 6257.

To

THE PETITIONERS.

EXTRACT PARAGRAPHS 1 AND 2

&c., &c., &c.

Dated July 24th.

Issued

24 August 77

G. O., 24th July 1877, No. 477, W.

JULY.

Nos. 321-322.

Mis G 07 August 1877 N 1288.

Junction Canal, Madras.—Passing orders on Petition from certain inhabitants of Mylapore complaining of the obstruction to navigation caused by the —.