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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	6157	Press.
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Dated	20-10-1977	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

12th October 1877, No. 980 W.

Buildings and Roads.

Civil Works.

Read the following papers:—

No. 112. From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated St. Thomas' Mount, 19th July 1877, No. 1,454.

I HAVE the honor to return the papers enclosed in your No. 1,970 of 16th instant, having marked on it the existing shoals which are above water in green color. The depth of water around is so small that a boat cannot get near the cuts made in 1876 and 1877.

4 Plans.

2. Close along the north side of the spit running up to the dotted red chalk lines is deeper water, and a cut may fairly be made at this point.

3. I prefer the line originally laid out by me, first because it is the natural line of the river and there is deep water 12 and 14 feet in the bed, and that the right bank will be then clay, whereas further north there is a space of sand which is in motion from the wind and very liable to fill in our cut.

4. I cannot conceive how such work as this can injure any of the property on the bank, which is exposed to the full river in flood; this has extended back to the salt platform in 1872 and 1874, quite independently of any action of ours.

No. 112-A. From the same Officer, dated camp at Chingleput, 12th September 1877, No. 2,359.

I HAVE the honor to report that, in consequence of memorandum No. 1,970 of 16th July 1877, I arranged for opening the bar of the river at Ennore on the 9th August, using four charges of 20 lbs. each of gunpowder; only two were exploded, and the craters made were so small that they had no effect on the sea.

2. On the 22nd Lieutenant Wiffen opened the mouth again with the help of a high tide and surf and got nearly 3 inches of water in two days.

3. On the 6th instant I again endeavoured to blow up the beach with gunpowder, but failed. I have not learned the cause, but fear that the barrels were not water-tight; a sudden rise of the tide with very high surf broke the slight barrier made near the place where the charges were laid, and a fine stream of water passed into the river for about four hours at each tide, but it carried an immense quantity of sand into the cut which connected the back-water with the sea, and filled it up in some degree every day.

4. The 3 inches acquired on the 22nd, &c., had fallen to 1 inch by dispersion over the surface inland and evaporation, and the quantity now received will probably amount to the same in another week.

5. The benefit to navigation is very small from such supply as this which has no continuance, I would therefore urge the uselessness of any further expenditure.

6. But I would point out that even our little temporary groynes were of some service in producing a set on the beach to leeward of them; and, if we had any ebb of tide from the basin inshore, I believe we should keep the rivers open very nearly, if not quite, through the year, as the area of basin affected by each tide is very considerable and specially at Pulicat.

7. I would beg therefore permission to run the groyne proposed by me at Covelong, estimate sent on 30th April 1877, so that it should be completed before the occurrence of the North-east monsoon floods. If we have fair rain the discharge will cut a good opening, and I am sanguine of favorable results. If the experiment succeeds at Covelong, it may be afterwards tried at the other river mouths with considerable benefit to the canal and the town of Madras.

No. 112-B. Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.

THE Chief Engineer thinks further expenditure should be stopped and it is understood that the manufacture of salt has ceased.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
15th September 1877.

(Signed) E. A. FOORD, Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

No. 113. ORDER THEREON, 12th October 1877, No. 980 W.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council will be guided by the Chief Engineer; but it is of much importance to keep these bars open, and, if he thinks the groyne experiment at Covelong has any chance of success, it should be brought forward again when time and circumstances are favorable.

2. Expenditure on these works is chargeable to Imperial Salt.

(True Extract.)

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

To the District Engineer, Chingleput.
" Chief Engineer, Public Works Department.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
" Revenue Department.
" Financial "

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

20 Spare Copies

Revenue 1877 Depar^t
No 4451.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

Govt. of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER,
CHINGLEPUT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated October 12th.

Issued

Recd. 19th Oct

Encl.

G. O., 12th October 1877, No. 180 W.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 112-113.

Coneloug and Ennore Bars.—Further
expenditure to be stopped in opening the —.

Comd^r to the
Board of Revenue

20.10.1877.

15-5. 12 of Revenue 22-10-77