M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1373 Press ~~Mis.~~

156 : 57

Dated 11—6—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th June 1867.

No. 156. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department :—

Directing that all communications from Revenue authorities regarding works under Talook Overseers should be addressed to Range Officers. } (Here enter 7th June 1867, No. 1,708.)

No. 157. ORDER THEREON, 11th June 1867, No. 1,313.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue, who will instruct Collectors accordingly.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 1,708.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 145. Read the following letter from the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Camp, Bellahoonsy, 23rd May 1867, No. 518:—

1. With reference to G. O. No. 1,357, of the 4th instant, calling for a report on the progress made in repairing the Coragul anicut, I have the honour to inform you that I did not reply earlier, as the remarks in my Diary of 30th ultimo had already given you the information.

2. I now beg to inform you that I have again this morning inspected the anicut, the repairs of which are not yet quite completed, having been delayed by small freshes between the 7th and 10th instant. On my arrival here, yesterday morning, I learnt that it was expected the stone work would be finished last evening; unfortunately yesterday, instead of steadily working, the Wudders went away for some time to fish, and as, at about 4½ P.M., rain came on they stopped work, and so a small portion remained incomplete.

3. On my proceeding this morning, with Mr. Porter, to inspect the anicut, I found that a small fresh had come down about an hour before, which prevented the Wudders getting to the unfinished spot; but, as the water is again falling, it will most probably be finished by to-morrow, or Saturday.

4. I beg to state that I think great credit is due to Overseer Vurdarajooloo Moodelly for the manner in which he has carried on the repair of this work, and I think it extremely unfair on the part of the Collector or Acting Head Assistant to make the least insinuation against him.

5. The Overseer had to look after the other anicuts lower down, but spent most of his time at the Coragul anicut, having been present nineteen days in March, twenty-four days in April, and the whole of this month; a Maistry has been present all the time.

6. Before troubling the Board and Government, I think the Collector should have made full inquiries. I cannot account for the Acting Head Assistant not having seen any people at work on the 8th ultimo, except by supposing that he went at too early an hour; as, from the accounts, there appears to have been both Wudders and coolies employed on that day. There was little work done on the 4th to 6th, owing to the absence of the Wudders on account of the Teloogoo New Year day, when they went to Humpy. We cannot forcibly detain the workpeople if they wish to go away; but, as far as I can learn, none went away unless they were suffering from fever, of which there was a good deal here at one time: the Overseer however, by purchasing pills and distributing them among the workpeople, managed to get many to stay. All this I have informed the Collector.

7. In conclusion, I would beg for an expression of the opinion of Government as to whether the Collector should utterly ignore the Range Officer. On the 8th March, Mr. Wedderburn directed the Overseer to submit weekly reports to him of the progress of the work at the Coragul anicut, but give no intimation of his having done so to either Mr. Porter or myself. On the 29th idem he wrote to the Overseer to the same effect, and then sent to me, for information, a copy of his letter. I was at that date at Durmavaram, and immediately replied that, in my opinion, reports from Overseers should be called for through Range Officers, and, as Mr. Porter was within one day's post, any information required should have been obtained

through him. In another letter, as I found that the Collector quite overlooked the Range Officer, I requested that, whenever he wrote a letter or gave an order (which I begged should be in writing) to an Overseer, he would, at the same time, send a copy of such communication to the Range Officer. Mr. Porter was in ignorance of what was passing between the Collector and Overseer until it had been through my Office, and I ordered the Overseer to submit all reports through his Range Officer, communicating what I had ordered to Mr. Wedderburn.

N. B.—Since writing the above, the water has gone down sufficiently for the Wudders to put in all the stones. Only a few clamps remain now to be fixed.

No. 146. ORDER THEREON, 7th June 1867, No. 1,703.

IRRIGATION, No. 6.

1. The Government are glad to observe that the repairs of the Coragul Anicut have been successfully completed, and they are fully satisfied with the explanations of the Superintending Engineer of the 3rd Division, as contained in paragraphs 1 to 5 of the letter above recorded.

2. Adverting to paragraph 7, His Excellency in Council considers that, as Talook Overseers are directly subordinate to Range Officers, all communications from the Revenue authorities regarding the works under the supervision of the former should be addressed to the latter, to whom also application should be made for any reports or information which may be required.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd S. T. Augustin.

19-3-15 B I

Revenue 1867 - Dept.
Pro: of Government for June
No. 1480.

Proceedings in the
Jo. N. Dept.

Dated 7th June
Received 8th " 1867.
No. 1708.

No 1313. 11th June
Directing that all
communications from Rev:
Authorities regarding works
under Jo. look Overseers
should be addressed to
Range Officers. -

No. 156 & 157

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