

## MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1352

Press  
~~Miss.~~

236.237

Dated 18-6-1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
18th June 1867.*

No. 236. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the  
Public Works Department:—

Expressing satisfaction at the progress made  
towards the completion of the Negapatam and  
Vedarniem Canal, and noticing the exertions  
of the Tahsildar of Negapatam in collecting  
coolies for the work. } (Here enter 13th June 1867, No. 1,769.)

No. 237. ORDER THEREON, 18th June 1867, No. 1,352.

Separate Revenue, No. 16.

*Salt.*

Communicated to the Revenue Board.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 1,769.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.*

13<sup>h</sup> June 1867.

No. 282. Read the following letter from the Acting Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Tanjore, 28th May 1867, No. 265 :—

1. I have the honour to report the result of an inspection of the Negapatam and Vedarniem canal works, which I made between the 17th and the 22nd of this month.

2. The estimate for this work is entered in the Budget for 1867-68 as amounting to Rupees 70,410. This is the sum of two estimates, the one amounting to Rupees 64,000, sanctioned in G. O. No. 3,101, dated 19th October 1865, and intended to provide for the completion of the line of water communication between Negapatam and Vedarniem, the other amounting to Rupees 6,410, sanctioned in G. O. No. 2,736, dated 29th August 1866, and providing for certain alterations and improvements to the works in the neighbourhood of Caroongunny, where the Chendranudy river joins the canal.

3. The navigation intended to be provided for by these estimates was to be partly along the tidal portions of the rivers Cudduvayaur, Vellyaur, and Aduppaaur respectively; and partly along artificial cuts connecting these rivers. Its total length of thirty-two miles five furlongs was made up as follows, commencing from Negapatam :—

| Number of the Section | LENGTH IN |           |        | Name of River or Cutting.                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                       | Miles.    | Furlongs. | Yards. |                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1                     | 2         | 2         | 17½    | Tidal portion of the Cudduvayaur river artificially straightened some years ago from T to W.                                                                       |
| 2                     | 3         | 4         | 156    | New cutting from W. to Y.                                                                                                                                          |
| 3                     | ...       | 2         | 90     | A tidal portion of one of the branches of the Vellyaur river from Y to X.                                                                                          |
| 4                     | 2         | 2         | 104    | A tidal portion of the main branch of the Vellyaur river from X to E.                                                                                              |
| 5                     | 1         | 5         | 100    | A cutting stated to have been lately completed in Captain Oakes' letter No. 960, dated 5th September 1865, from E to F.                                            |
| 6                     | 10        | ...       | 140    | A new cutting along the Ramanaden and Paupan Voikals, and the Kodoochuttyaur from F. to K.                                                                         |
| 7                     | 8         | 6         | 66½    | A tidal portion of the Aduppaaur river from K to L.                                                                                                                |
| 8                     | 3         | 4         | 44     | An artificial canal from the Aduppaaur to the Salt Pans marked L. to M. on the survey completed before the estimates now referred to were submitted to Government. |
|                       | 32        | 5         | .....  | Total length of Canal.                                                                                                                                             |

4. The letters marking the different sections are those entered in the original survey, which is herewith returned to Government.

5. Of the eight sections noted in the foregoing table, the present estimates deal with only two, *i. e.*, numbers 2 and 6. The other six sections consist of the tidal portions of rivers Nos. 1, 3, 4, and 7, which have required no improvements, and the artificial cuttings 5 and 8, which had been made in previous years.

6. Section No. 2 is 6,316 yards in length. It is crossed at 1,980 yards from its northern extremity by a drainage stream following the old course of the

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
13th June 1867.*

Cudduryaur, and joining the present course of that river nearly opposite the Negapatam salt platform, which is shown on the survey. The centre portion of the canal has been excavated to the full depth allowed in the estimate, viz., three feet below water level up to the crossing of this drainage stream, the bed of which is only one foot below low water. In order to carry out the provisions of the estimate, the bed of this drainage channel must also be deepened two feet, and I have directed that this be done. Nothing is said in either estimate or report as to whether this drainage was to be passed into the canal, or to be allowed to cross it and continue on in its old course. As I consider that it will do the least harm if it be left as it is, I have directed that no attempt be made to divert it into the canal. Beyond this drainage channel and up to X where the cutting enters a branch of the Vellyaur, the centre portion of the canal has in great part been excavated to its full depth. But the side slopes have not been made except near the Vellyaur, and as the bottom breadth of the canal is only 10 feet, whereas the depth of the excavation averages between 8 and 9 feet, the side slopes, which are to have an inclination of two to one, form the most important part of the work in this section. The excavations were undertaken by nine contractors, who were to have completed them by the 15th of May, but they have all, except one who has finished the work near the Vellyaur, forfeited their deposit monies. I have directed Mr. Donaghue, who is in charge of the Range, to make fresh contracts, if possible, for the early completion of the work in this section. Two small under-tunnels, provided for in the estimate, have been built near the north end of the section, to convey water for the irrigation of lands to the eastward. They are at present under water with the exception of their wing-walls.

7. Section No. 6 is 10 miles and 140 yards in length. The excavations were completed at the time of my visit, inclusive of the side slopes, for the first 4½ miles from its northern extremity, whence up to 5½ miles from the same extremity the work was under progress; after which, up to 6½ miles it may be said to be very nearly finished, slight additions to slopes and banks being all that has to be done; after this again to the end, work may be said to have just commenced. The progress made in the first 6½ miles is mainly due to the exertions of the Negapatam Tahsildar in collecting labourers for the work. The southern part of the canal work was commenced later, and was stopped by drainage filling the excavations and rain dispersing the coolies; endeavours will be made to collect them again, and to complete the excavations if possible before the regular freshes caused by the south-west monsoon fill the Tanjore rivers and draw away all labour for cultivation.

8. At the head of the Ramanaden Vokkal four masonry works are under progress. The two largest are a tunnel under the canal which is being altered and partly re-constructed; its use being to convey a portion of the water of the Chendranady river from the west of the canal for the irrigation of lands lying to the east of it, and a masonry dam across what is now the main channel of that river, by which it has lately been connected with the canal—the use of the dam being to turn water into the under-tunnel whenever there is a scarcity thereof, and thus prevent its being wasted. These two works are to the north of a bridge over the canal near Caroongunny. The flooring and side walls of the under-tunnel were finished and there is every reason to believe that the work will be satisfactorily completed this season, there being a good deal of material ready on the spot. The

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
13th June 1867.*

foundations and body of the dam, which in previous correspondence is also termed a calingulah, have been executed. The wing-walls only have to be raised 4 feet. Immediately to the south of the Caroongunny bridge, two smaller under-tunnels are being partly re-constructed. These are nearly finished. About 3,000 yards to the south of the Caroongunny bridge an under-tunnel has been constructed for the irrigation of lands to the eastward belonging to the village of Karapadagay.

9. The above is an account of all the works as yet done. The completion of the canal this season depends entirely upon whether sufficient labour can be obtained. If there be no more rain, and if the freshes are rather late, there is a very good prospect of the work already estimated for being finished, otherwise I fear it will not be completed this season.

No. 283. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1867, No. 1769.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 37.

1. The Government are glad to learn from this report that the opening of the canal between Negapatam and Topotorny, to complete the water communication between the former place and Vedarniem, is making good progress, and they trust that the work will continue to be vigorously prosecuted.

2. Credit is due to the Tahsildar of Negapatam for his exertions in collecting coolies for the work in the first 6½ miles.

(True Extract.)



Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division,  
Revenue Department.

Erd. S. T. Augustin.

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900

1899-1900