M.R.O. 14–5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 147 Press ~~Mis.~~

307-308

Dated 15-1-1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

147
157 1867

To the Agent and Manager of the Madras [illegible]

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
15th January 1867.

No. 307. Read the following letter from the Agent and Manager Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 17th September 1866, No. 249 :—

1. I have just received a note from Mr. Arbuthnot, written by Lord Napier's desire, inquiring, in reference to G. O. No. 2,350 of 4th instant, whether the Officers of this Company are in a position to give employment at once to large bodies of laborers.

2. The present crisis is of a character well calculated to induce any man of common humanity to assume a responsibility, from which, under ordinary circumstances, he might be disposed to shrink; but I cannot forget that much of the losses and difficulties in which the Company has become involved, much of the disapprobations so constantly and loudly expressed by the Government of Fort Saint George, is due to the benevolent desire with which Colonel Cotton was actuated to assist the Government, under precisely similar circumstances, when he hastily consented to commence the works upon incomplete plans and estimates.

3. My labors, since I have been in India, have, owing to this very circumstance, been of a peculiarly arduous and irksome character.

4. Again, although the Power of Attorney, under which I transact the business of the Company in India, is registered in the Offices of Government, and therefore patent in all its provisions to the Government, yet the Order passed by Government, in the Revenue branch, on the 1st June, No. 1,348, contained in its last paragraph very severe, and, I venture to say, undeserved strictures upon me, for attempting to discuss with them a subject upon which I had not full powers from my Directors, although I had entered into the discussion of that particular subject upon the *invitation* of the Revenue Board, to which body I perhaps attributed a larger authority than they possess.

5. In that Order I was told that if *I* DISTRUSTED *my own judgment*, I must apply to the Board for instructions before I addressed the Government. I by no means distrust my own judgment, but my judgment may not always be in accordance with the judgment of the Board, and the powers delegated to me place, as the Government is well aware, considerable restrictions on my judgment.

6. Under these circumstances, I regret to be under the necessity of declining to issue any orders to the Officers of the Company to employ labor, until I receive full instructions from the Board, which however I expect by a very early mail.

No. 308. ORDER THEREON, 15th January 1867, No. 147.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Pro: 1st June 1866 Nos 120-121
- 4 Sept " " 85-86.

Rec'd 1866. Dep't
Rec of Gov't for January
Nº 3178.

From
Agent & Manager
for Irrigation
& Canal Comp'y.

Dated 17th Dec'r
Recv'd 17th " 1866.
Nº 147 Nº 749.

RECORDED
15th Jan'y 67 L. D.

Under the circumstances stated declines to issue any orders to the officers of the Company to employ laborers until receives full instructions from the Dep't
he 3478
early

No 307 Nº 208

1 Copy to Gen'l Manager & Chief Engineer Irrigation & Canal Company