M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2361 A — Press ~~Misc~~

172. 172A

Dated 8—10—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th October 1867.

No. 172. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department:—

Passing orders on Board's Proceedings on the progress of Public Works in the Madras District for 1866-67. } (Here enter 7th October 1867, No. 3,102.)

No. 172 A. ORDER THEREON, 8th October 1867, No. 2,361 A.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. H. WILKINSON,
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

Exd T. O'Connor.

No. 113. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th September 1867, No. 6,134.

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 2nd August 1867, No. 245 :—

1. Agreeably with the instructions of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd May 1856, I have the honor to submit a report on the progress of Public Works in this District for the past official year 1866-67.

From the subjoined abstract statement it will be seen that the total expenditure of the year under review fell short of the previous year by Rupees 1,000 :—

Particulars of Works.		Expenditure of 1865-66.	Expenditure of 1866-67.	Difference. Increase.	Difference. Decrease.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Irrigation ...	New Works	19,226	2,792	...	16,434
	Repairs	77,079	90,564	13,485	...
Communication.	New Works	17,867	7,219	...	10,648
	Repairs	97,807	94,344	...	3,463
Buildings... ...	New Works	46,738	53,864	7,126	...
	Repairs	24,900	33,834	8,934	...
Total	New Works	83,831	63,875	7,126	7,082
	Repairs	1,99,786	2,18,742	22,419	3,163
	Grand Total	2,83,617	2,82,617	29,545	30,545
	Net Decrease	...	...	...	1,000

3. Irrigation.—*New Works.*—The amount expended on new works of irrigation was Rupees 2,792. This amount was spent upon minor new works such as Calingulahs, Sluices, &c. None of the important new works advocated in the last year's report have as yet been commenced. The anicut on the Cheyar, and that on the Kortilar at Vallúr, are no doubt urgently required, as has been explained by the late Acting Collector, Mr. Cockerell, in the last year's report.

4. The Madras Water Works project is the most important new work now in progress. Some difficulty having been experienced in obtaining the land adjoining the present bunds of the Red Hills and Sholavaram tanks, the permission of Government has been obtained for taking possession of the land under Act VI of 1857.

5. A project for the enlargement of the Chembrambakkam tank, which is also a most important work, is under consideration. It has formed the subject of a special report of the 22nd ultimo, No. 227, in reply to Government Order* of the 15th May last.

* *Vide* Board's Proceedings, dated 17th May 1867, No. 3,056.

6. *Repairs.*—Under this head Rupees 90,564 have been expended ; nearly one-third of this amount was spent on extensive repairs to certain tanks in the first range, each of which cost more than two thousand Rupees, the remainder on ordinary repairs of tanks and channels. The expenditure on repairs this year largely exceeds that on previous years, but it is still quite inadequate to the wants of the district, and the interests of Government suffer equally with the well-being of the people by the insufficiency of the allotments.

7. Mr. Cunliffe, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Fane, and Mr. Cockerell have successively brought the wants of the district to the notice of the Board and Government.

8. So long back as 1863, Mr. Ellis expressed a very strong opinion that Rupees 1,50,000† a year ought to be allotted to repairs of irrigation works. I have now received reports from the Sub-Collector and Range Officer on the state of the works in the Madurantakam talook, copies of which I beg to enclose. Mr. Burnell states that the tanks in that talook alone require an expenditure of a lac of Rupees to be distributed over four years to put them in a proper state. In some districts the expenditure on repairs is often restricted by the want of labor, but that difficulty does not appear to be felt here—any reasonable amount can always be given on contracts. I venture to hope, therefore, that an allotment of not less than 1,50,000 Rupees may be assigned for the next year.

† *Vide* Board's Proceedings, dated 3rd October 1863, No. 6,291.

9. Communications.—*New Works.*—The expenditure under this head, during the past year, has been Rupees 7,219; a portion of this amount has been spent upon the roads from Mylapore to Kunnathur, from Cheyur to Chotupakam, and upon the line leading from the Mount Road to Sydapet. A portion of the Trunk Road No. VIII has been re-metalled.

10. The road from Cheyur to Chotupakam has not yet been metalled from want of funds. The falling off in the salt traffic in the Cheyur Kottar is attributed to the bad state of this road. Its requirement will form the subject of a separate report.

11. Some of the new roads, recommended for construction in the last year's report, have been provided for this year in the Supplemental Budget for Local Funds. The Uttramallur road has been for want of funds ordered to lie over in Government Order, No. 2,105, of the 13th July; both this and the line from Chingleput to Kelambakam are important lines, the former as being the chief outlet for the produce of the Uttramallur talook, and the latter as a salt road for the transport of the Covelong and Kelambakam salt. Provision should, therefore, I request be made in the next year's Budget for the commencement of these two lines. Rupees 3,996 have been spent upon the new salt channels at Voyalur, Attipat, Vallur, and Puludivak.

12. Communications.—*Repairs.*—Rupees 94,344 have been expended upon repairs to roads; 64,219 Rupees on Trunk Roads; and the remainder on cross lines and the causeway over the Palar.

13. Buildings.—*New Works.*—Of the total expenditure under this head, amounting to Rupees 53,864, the portion consumed by the Military buildings at St. Thomas' Mount, Poonamallee, and Palaveram alone amounted to Rupees 35,416 The works in Guindy Park cost Rupees 7,188, and the burial-ground at Pulicat Rupees 1,604. The remaining amount was spent on the Latrine at Homes' Garden, the Salt Cutcherry at that Kottar, and the Uttramallur Talook-office. Rupees 9,200 were spent upon the new platform at the Madras Kottar. The Talook Cutcherry at Trivellur has been sanctioned, but has not been yet commenced owing to certain alterations in the plan being contemplated by the Committee for Subsidiary Jails. A Cutcherry for the Sydapet talook is also much needed.

14. *Repairs.*—Rupees 33,834 is the expenditure under the head of "Repairs to Buildings." The repairs to Military buildings have taken up Rupees 23,553, and the Guindy works Rupees 7,377. The remainder has been spent upon minor repairs to the Record-room at Homes' Garden, the Dispensary at Chingleput, the Talook Cutcherry at Madurantakam, and the Court-house at Chingleput.

From the Acting Sub-Collector of the Madras District, to the Executive Engineer, Fourth Range, dated Chingleput, 9th July 1867, No. 114.

2. It will be seen from this, that the assessment on nunjah land in the holding of the ryots, left waste every year, amounts to from twenty to thirty-five thousand rupees. This large extent of waste is partly attributable to unfavorable seasons, and partly to the neglect of the Government Irrigation works.

3. Last Fusly the sum of Rupees 8,220 was remitted on nunjah land which had been left waste owing to the bad state of the irrigation works. Rupees 12,513 was charged for waste which was attributed to the neglect of the ryots; but I fear there are many cases where the ryots were not in fault that did not come to my notice.

4. The irrigation works of the three talooks of the Sub-division are undoubtedly in a sad condition, and this is particularly the case with the Madurantakam talook; and the cause I believe is clear; namely, the small amount allotted to it annually for repairs. It is the largest and most important talook in the district, and also brings in the highest revenue.

5. It is true that the amount allotted by Government annually for repairs is not at all commensurate with the wants of the district, but it is equally true, I think, that the Madurantakam talook does not get its fair share of this amount such as it is. The consequence is that matters are getting worse and worse every year, so that a lac of rupees would not now suffice to put the irrigation works of this talook in decent order. Something should, therefore, be done speedily; for the longer the matter is neglected, the greater the annual loss of revenue, and the greater will be the eventual cost of the work.

Statement showing the amount of remissions granted for nunjah waste and shavi during the past five years in the Madurantakam talook, as also the amount charged for waste during the same period.

Fusly.	Remission.			Waste Charged.	Total waste Columns 2 and 5.
	Waste.	Shavi.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1272	33,828	2,180	36,008	1,316	35,144
1273	14,022	1,470	15,492	7,631	21,653
1274	11,029	988	12,017	9,251	20,280
1275	26,250	10,034	36,284	2,931	29,181
1276	8,220	240	18,460	12,513	20,733

(Signed) A. C. BURNELL,
Acting Sub-Collector.

From the Executive Engineer, Fourth Range, to the Acting Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, dated Chingleput, 19th July 1867, No. 125.

* * *

There are sufficient irrigation repair works in the Madurantakam talook alone to engage an Officer's time and attention for the next three or four years, and it is absolutely necessary that at least 25,000 Rupees should be allotted to this Range annually, till all the irrigation works are put in order, for they are in a most disgraceful state. The severe weather last year did a great deal of damage which will take many years to rectify if allotments are made as hitherto.

* * * *

1. Resolved that the foregoing report be submitted for the information of Government.

2. The attention of Government is requested to the latter part of paragraphs 3 and 6.

3. The report in paragraph 7 of the state of the irrigation works in the Madurantakam talook discloses a most unsatisfactory state of affairs.

4. The Board would beg to draw the attention of Government most particularly to Mr. Burnell's letter on the subject. It appears that at least one lac of Rupees is required to put these works into an efficient state, and the Board would suggest that a professional report upon the irrigation works of the district should be called for.

5. The report on the enlargement of the Chembrambakkam tank, referred to in paragraph 5, was disposed of in Board's Proceedings, dated 20th August.

6. The Board await the report promised in paragraph 10.

7. In paragraph 11, the Collector states that no funds are available for the Uttramallur road, and requests that provisions may be made, in next year's Budget, for the commencement of this line of road. The Board wish, however, to know whether this is a local road, and where it leads to.

8. The Collector should submit an estimate for the Cutcherry at Sydapet.

No. 114. ORDER THEREON, 7th October 1867, No. 3,102.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 16.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 4th Division, who will submit as early as practicable a report on the condition of the irrigation works in the Madurantakam talook, and provide in his Budget estimate for the ensuing official year such a sum as in his opinion may be advantageously expended on the repair of agricultural works in the Madras District.

2. An estimate of Rupees 36,000 for the construction of an anicut over the Cortelliar near the village of Vallur was sanctioned in the Proceedings of Government of the 11th January 1867, No. 92, and provision for the work will be made in the outgoing Budget.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 7th October 1867.

3. As regards the anicut on the Cheyar, the Board's attention will be called to paragraph 9 of the Superintending Engineer's letter recorded in the Order of the 24th September 1867, No. 2,986.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division.
" Board of Revenue.
" Revenue Department.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

Decreed 1867. Oct. 14
Bd of Govt for Cert
No. 2682.

Proceedings of the
Ld. M. Office

Dated 7th Oct.
Received 8th " 1867

No. 3102.

8.

Copies of orders
on Boards Proceedings
on the Supply of Public
Works on the Madras
Coast for 1866/67.

No. 2361 A.

RECORDED.

No. 1724/72 A