M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2530 — Press Mis.

535 . 536

Dated 28—10—1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1530

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th October 1867.

No. 535. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department :—

Passing orders on Board's Proceedings reviewing report on the operations of the Department of Public Works in Salem District for 1866-67. } (Here enter 23rd October 1867, No. 3,289.)

No. 536. ORDER THEREON, 28th October 1867, No. 2,530.

Miscellaneous. Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 487. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th October 1867, No. 6,464.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st August 1867, No. 238 :—

1. I have the honor to report on the operations of the Department of Public Works in this district for the official year 1866-67, together with two statements, the one showing the expenditure on New Works and the other on Repairs.

2. The following abstract shows the total expenditure under different heads during the year in comparison with the past year.

Description of Works.		Expenditure of 1865-66.	Expenditure of 1866-67.	Comparison. Increase.	Comparison. Decrease.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
New Works.	Irrigation ...	1,087 8 6	2,366 9 8	1,279 1 2	... ...
	Communications.	15,334 14 10	5,239 15 6	... ...	10,094 15 4
	Buildings... ...	12,307 12 3	15,185 7 6	2,877 11 3	... ...
	Total ...	28,730 3 7	23,792 0 8	4,150 12 5	10,094 15 4
Repairs ...	Irrigation	19,862 9 0	19,169 11 6	... ...	692 13 6
	Communications	52,278 8 8	46,167 9 8	... ...	6,110 15 0
	Buildings... ...	1,656 1 5	3,845 8 2	2,189 6 9	... ...
	Total ...	73,797 3 1	69,182 13 4	2,189 6 9	6,803 12 6
	Grand Total ...	1,02,527 6 8	92,974 14 0	6,346 3 2	16,898 11 10
				Net ...	10.552 8 8

3. Irrigation.—The small amount (Rupees 2,367) spent on New Works under this head, is itself sufficient to show that no work of any importance was executed during the year. The sum, namely, Rupees 19,170 spent upon Repairs, was chiefly closing up of breaches, &c., in existing works, and was spent upon sixty-eight tanks, twenty-four channels, and twenty-four anicuts.

4. Communications.—The principal new road under construction was that between Malur and Oossoor, the expenditure upon which alone was Rupees 3,360. This road is said to have been completed on the 30th March last. The Sub-Collector, however, writes* in regard to this road as follows :—

* In letter dated 17th July 1867.

" This road is still being constructed. It yet requires much done to it. The " culverts and road-bridges have been built, and the work of covering them and " making the approaches has been completed, but metalling, &c., has not yet been " done. I spoke to the Assistant Engineer regarding this, and he informed me " that he wished the work to remain as it is until the monsoon is over in order " that the earth may settle. I consider the road practicable, but not by any means " perfect. Two large bridges have, to insure regular communication with the rail " to be constructed—one across the river Pennar at Bagalore, and the other over " the Chinniar near Oossoor. Estimates for these have been sent in by the Assist-

" ant Engineer, but the works have not yet been begun. I need hardly dilate on " the importance of this road as a railway-feeder for the whole of the Oossoor " talook, and I can only reiterate the wish of my predecessor that measures may " be speedily taken for putting it into perfect working order, and insuring by means " of bridges an uninterrupted communication.".

5. The road between Deevetyputty on Trunk Road No. V and the Shevaroy Hill Railway Station, and the road between Sooramungalum and Tharamungalum, are reported to have been completed.

6. Rupees 46,168, under the head Repairs, were spent upon 413 miles of Imperial road.

7. BUILDINGS.—The largest expenditure under this head was upon new works, namely, Rupees 15,185. The chief buildings were the Salem Central Jail, the Remount Depôt Stables, and the Rest-house at Jolarapett.

8. In regard to the irrigation wants of the district there is much that is required to be done, and if only funds admit of their being carried out, several works of a very useful and remunerative nature could be mentioned, such as Naranjipett anicut, Cuddumbore tank, &c. I am, however, glad to observe that the Public Works Department are engaged in framing estimates for some of them already recommended. The principal ones are the Badatalaib and Malapady tanks in the Hastnagherry talook. I propose shortly to address the Board specially on this subject.

9. There are numerous existing works, such as tanks and anicuts requiring repair, and several of these have been put in hand under the Order of Government, dated the 15th of June 1867, No. 1,807.

10. The wants of the district in regard to communications are not much. There are a few which properly fall upon Local Funds, and provision will accordingly be made for them as circumstances permit in the Budget.

11. In regard to buildings the wants are somewhat considerable. Tahsildars and Sub-Magistrates' Cutcherries, as well as Subsidiary Jails, are required at almost every station in the district, and proposals under this head will be made after the Subsidiary Jail Committee's labors are brought to a close.

12. I cannot conclude this report without mentioning that my own opinion is that several of the repairs to irrigation works that have been carried on by the Department of Public Works have not been of that proper and substantial nature, which they ought to have been. The result has been that much money has been spent in repairing breaches which having been repaired but a short time previous should have stood for years. If works are given out on contract, there should be careful supervision, to see that the work done is good. After a work is completed, it is impossible then to tell whether the foundation work has been properly executed or not. Supervision whilst the work is in progress is what is chiefly wanted.

13. I have written to the Superintending Engineer on this matter, and I hope that his orders on the subject will have the required effect.

ENCLOSURE No. 1, A.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the expenditure on New Works during the year 1866-67.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 23rd October 1867.

ENCLOSURE No. 2, B.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the expenditure on Repairs during the year 1866-67.

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

2. The Board beg to draw attention to the Collector's remarks, in paragraph 4, on the state of the road between Malur and Oossoor.

3. They will be glad to receive the communication promised in paragraph 8, regarding the progress of irrigation works; and would suggest that Government should be pleased to issue instructions to the Officers of the Department of Public Works to expedite matters.

4. The special attention of Government is also requested to paragraph 12, regarding the unsubstantial nature of the repairs executed by the Department of Public Works. There can be no doubt of the necessity for careful supervision during the progress of such works when executed by contract. The Collector should have sent up the reports of his subordinate officers in independent charge.

No. 488. ORDER THEREON, 23rd October 1867, No. 3,289.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 58.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer of the 5th Division, who will give his attention to the remarks contained in paragraph 8 of the Collector's letter.

2. The road between Oossoor and Malur being a local line and a railway feeder, the cost of its completion, inclusive of the bridges which are stated to be required, is chargeable to Local Funds.

3. Adverting to paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings, the Government request the Collector of Salem to furnish the Superintending Engineer with a list of the irrigation works referred to in paragraph 12 of his report. On the receipt of that list, Colonel Foord will enter the amount expended upon each work and the year in which the outlay was incurred, and he will submit to Government such explanations as he may have to offer with reference to the Collector's remarks.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 5th Division.
" Board of Revenue, with two Enclosures.
" Revenue Department.

Rxd. S. T. Augustin.

Rec'd 1867 Despatch
Rec'd from Gov. Curtin
No. 2873.

Proceedings of the
P. M. Despatch

Dated 23d Oct
Received 24th 1867.
No. 3289.

24.

Issuing orders
to Board of Pro. Revenue
suspension as to the op-
erations of the Depart'
Pitch Pine for Salem
District for 1866/67

RECORDED.

No 2530-28th Act.

Received

28 Oct 67

No 595 & 596