

THE MAINTENANCE OF MACADAMISED ROADS

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The Maintenance of Macadamised Roads by Thomas Codrington

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THOMAS CODRINGTON

**THE MAINTENANCE
OF MACADAMISED
ROADS**

THE
MAINTENANCE
OF
MACADAMISED ROADS.

BY
THOMAS CODRINGTON,
M. INST. C.E., F.G.S., ETC.,
FORMERLY GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT OF COUNTY ROADS FOR
SOUTH WALES.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED.



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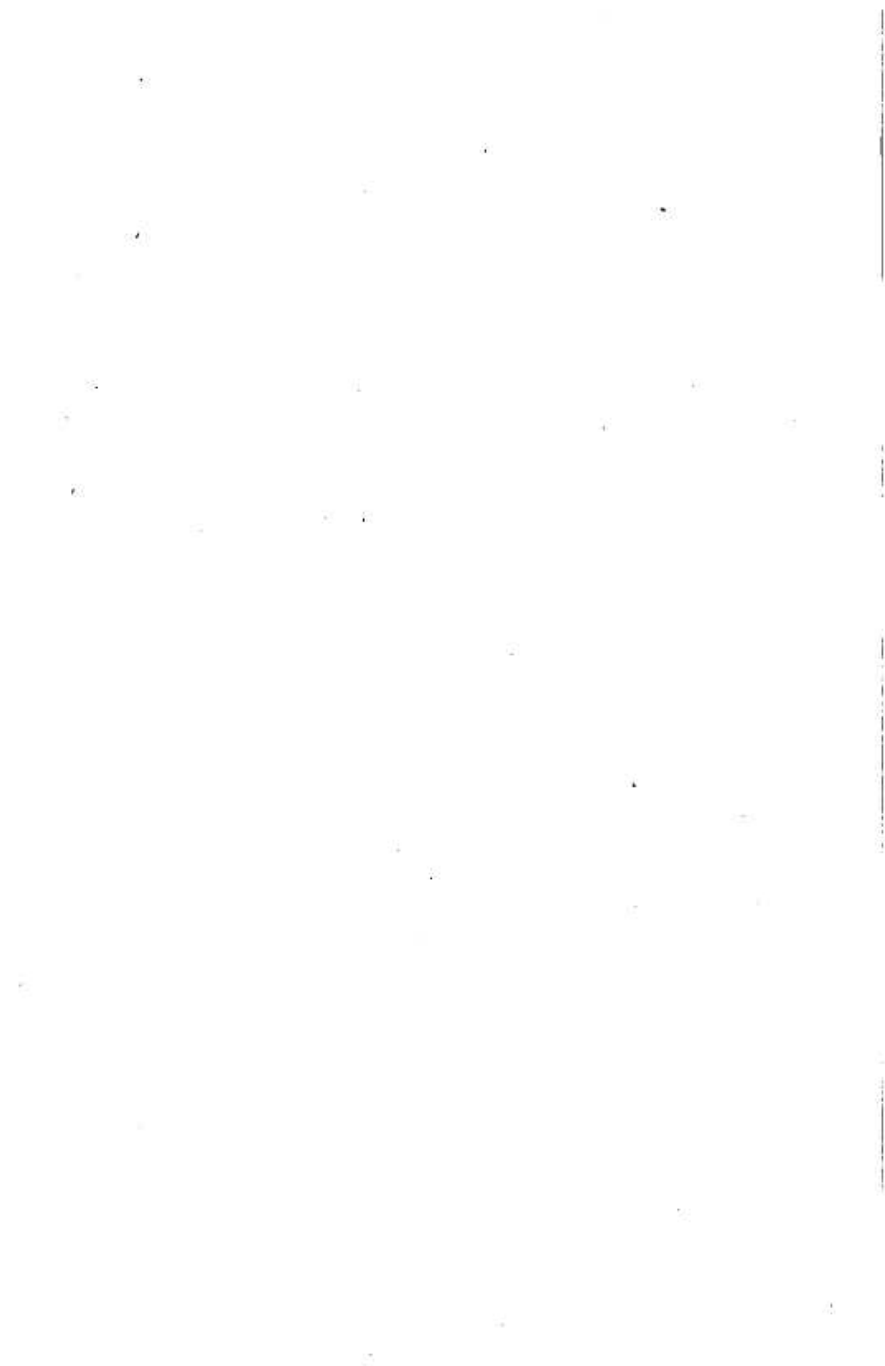
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PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THE call for another edition of this work gives the opportunity of adding some new matter relating to road maintenance, and also of modifying or omitting parts relating to management which have become obsolete in consequence of the general abolition of turnpike trusts, and of the transfer of the main roads to the County Councils by the Local Government Act of 1888. The effect of this transfer is to afford scope for road maintenance on a larger scale than has hitherto been possible in England, and may be expected to have good results.

T. C.

September 1891.



PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE maintenance of roads is a subject upon which the published information in this country is remarkably scanty. McAdam and Parnell, while treating of the improvement of old roads, and the construction of new ones, passed over their maintenance with little notice, and those who have since had the charge of road maintenance on any considerable scale have left few records of their practice and experience, beyond what can be gathered from reports, and evidence before Parliamentary Committees.

Information relating to those general principles which should guide the practical work of road maintenance must be sought for almost exclusively abroad, where the State management of roads has afforded facilities for investigation, and for generalising results, which have been wanting in this country. The engineers of the Ponts et Chaussées have been foremost in enquiries of this sort, and the results of their labours are fortunately for the most part as applicable in this country as in France.

At the present time, when opportunities of acquiring practically a knowledge of systematic road maintenance have become rarer as large areas of management under persons of wide experience have become fewer, there is need of a more general acquaintance with the principles upon which good

road maintenance depends. The want of this will probably become more apparent when, under the Highways and Locomotives (Amendment) Act of 1878, the incidence upon the county rate of one-half the cost of repairing the main roads leads to a supervision over the expenditure on them, and the mode of their maintenance, by the county authorities.

The following manual is intended to treat of all matters which relate to the systematic maintenance of macadamised roads. The observations and conclusions of foreign engineers are freely used where experience has proved their applicability in this country, and information from other sources not generally accessible has been brought together in, it is hoped, a useful form. The results of enquiries of my own, upon points on which further information seemed desirable, are given, and some experience of the county management of roads enables me to offer suggestions as to the manner in which the control of the county authority over the expenditure on main roads may be exercised with advantage.

T. C.

January 1879.

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