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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Financial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1713 Press / Mis.

163-168

Dated 24 - 8 - 1875.

34/35

Not to be folded or roughly handled

S. J. M.

Local Funds—Rents.

Read the following papers:—

No. 163. Proceedings of Government, in the Public Works Department, dated 20th October 1874, No. 2991-A.

ABSTRACT.—*Capital and Revenue Accounts of Irrigation Works.*—Issuing detailed instructions for the guidance of the Deputy Controller in starting the accounts.

No. 164. Proceedings of Government, in the Public Works Department, dated 19th November 1874, No. 3278.

ABSTRACT.—*Irrigation Budget for* 1874-75.—Passing orders on letter from the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts affording explanation as regards the differences between the actual receipts of 1872-73 as entered in Part VII. of the Budget and that entered in the books of his office.

No. 165. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th July 1875, No. 1975.

Read the following letters:—

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Shembaganoor, 23rd May 1875, No. 64.

I HAVE the honor to submit copy of Resolution, No. 90 of 1875, passed by the Madura Local Fund Board, pointing out that they have no such balances as Government suppose, and requesting that Government Order, dated 27th April 1875, No. 944, Financial Department, may be reconsidered, and I beg to support their request on the grounds already stated in my letter in connection with the Dindigul Circle.

2. The following is the state of the Road Fund:—

Actual balance on 31st March...				Rs. 90,733-9-5
Deduct.				
Cost of Department Public Works supervision at 25 per cent. on their expenditure, viz., Rupees 1,39,645-15-2	34,911	7	10	
Opening balance in Budget of 1875-76	15,000	0	0	
Allotments to incomplete works passed by the Local Fund Board	76,550	0	0	
	1,26,461	7	10	

There is, therefore, a deficiency of Rupees 35,727-14-5, and the order in question will make the fund bankrupt, unless the Department Public Works do much less work than is anticipated.

3. The money can be utilized without delay if Government will only be pleased to hold the proper persons responsible. I have never yet seen the District Engineer compelled to expose and account for the defects of his department. That duty is left to some member of the Local Board, who is generally treated with angry contempt by the District Engineer, and Resolutions of the Boards are words and

nothing more. I may venture to say that, with the exception of the energetic Vice-President at Dindigul, every one is tired of fighting without hope and without support, but Government can put matters right by a single order.

4. I need not remind the Board of Revenue that there is scarcely a mile of made road in the Ramnad Zemindary, though it has paid road-cess for years. There is no part of the Presidency where money is more required than in Madura, and I trust that the Board of Revenue will support my earnest request that we may not be punished for the past errors of a Government Department which we have for nearly four years done our best to correct.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Board.

From the same Officer, dated Shembaganoor, 24th May 1875, No. 65.

I HAVE the honor to submit Resolution, No. 51 of 1875, passed by the Dindigul Circle Board, with a Minute by the Vice-President and four explanatory statements, and I venture to support the Board's request that Government Order, dated 27th April 1875, No. 944, Financial Department, may be reconsidered on the grounds that the balances are not half what Government supposed them to be; that the order in question will put a stop to most important new works; and that the people of the Circle cannot justly be fined Rupees 38,000, because the Public Works Establishment has been inefficient and allowed balances to accumulate in the beginning of the new Local Fund system.

2. The money is most urgently wanted in Madura, a large portion of the district being more utterly destitute of roads than any other part of Southern India, and, in my humble opinion, the whole of the money can be utilized without delay if Government will only be pleased to supply the District Engineer with an adequate establishment, and to hold him responsible for the performance of his duties.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle, passed at a Meeting held on 20th May 1875.

* * * *

Proceedings, No. 51 of 1875.

Read the following papers:—

1. Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 619, dated March 15th, 1875.
2. G.O., No. 944, dated April 27th, 1875, Financial Department.
3. Minute by the Vice-President, dated May 17th, 1875.

The President is requested to represent without delay to Government the error they have fallen into as to the amount of the Local Fund Balances and the state of virtual bankruptcy to which the Road Fund has been reduced by the orders above recorded, and to urge them to reconsider them. It is understood that an Executive Engineer has recently been posted to the Range and will shortly join, so that there should be no doubt as to the possibility of the expenditure within the year of the major part, if not all, of the funds in hand. Funds will also probably be required before the year closes for opening out the traces Major Law has been specially deputed to make,

and if the retrenchments now ordered are carried out it will be impossible to supply them. Many most useful and important works enumerated in the Vice-President's Minute must also be deferred or left incomplete.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. McQUHAE,
President.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

MINUTE by the Vice-President, Local Fund Board, Dindigul Circle.

Two Government Orders have recently been received, which so seriously diminished the funds at the disposal of the Local Fund Board, that I think it necessary to draw the special attention of Members to them before moving a resolution with regard to them at the next meeting.

2. The first is G O., dated 19th November, 1874, No. 3278, Public Works Department, communicated with Revenue Board's Procerdings, No. 619, dated 15th March 1875. This is that all items of revenue derived from Irrigation Works maintained from Imperial Funds shall be credited to Irrigation Revenue under Public Works with effect from 1st April 1874, instead of, as previously in some cases, to Local or Special Funds. Under this order so much of the Local Fund receipts of the year 1874-75 as fell under the head of "Fisheries" and as was derived from Irrigation Works maintained from Imperial Funds will now have to be refunded. How much this will be, I cannot exactly say. Information must be obtained from the Collector's office. But I imagine I am not far wrong in thinking that at least Rupees 6,000 will have to be refunded out of the total sum of Rupees 8,353 received. For the same reason a deduction must be made from the anticipated income of the current year (1875-76). The Budget provision is Rupees 6,500, out of which I estimate that Rupees 4,500 will now have to be credited to Irrigation (*i.e.*, Imperial) Revenue instead of to Local Funds. Add these two sums together and we get a total of Rupees 10,500 by which amount the funds at the disposal of the Local Fund Board during the current year will fall short of what was anticipated.

3. This is a serious loss, but not so serious as will be occasioned if G.O., dated 27th April 1875, No. 944, is carried into effect. This Order has been passed on the Proceedings of the Revenue Board (No. 655, dated 19th March 1875) reviewing the special reports submitted from the district in reply to the orders of Government passed upon consideration of the Local Fund Report of 1872-73. These special reports were called for in consequence of the dissatisfaction felt by Government at the slow progress of expenditure in that year (1872-73). They treated of the transactions of 1873-74, and of the then current year (1874-75) up to date. In reviewing them the Revenue Board remarked with regard to expenditure in the then current year that "if receipts and expenditure proceed in the same proportion as in the first seven months, there will be a balance of Rupees 1,44,814 at the end of 1874-75."

4. When so remarking the Revenue Board seem to have entirely overlooked the notorious fact that receipts are always proportionately greater in the former than in the latter months of the year and always must be so, so long as the chief collections of revenue, and therefore of land-cess, are between April and July or August. With expenditure, of course, it is the other way. From various causes it is always proportionately heavier in the latter than in the former months of the official year.

5. Both these causes have contributed to vitiate the Revenue Board's estimate of the balance at the close of 1874-75. The actual receipts were Rupees 1,46,113 as against an estimate of Rupees 1,44,300, and there are no material or unusual arrears that I am aware of. But of the receipts over 73 per cent. were collected in the first seven months of the year, and less than 27 per cent. in the last five. Similarly with the expenditure. This amounted (so far as I can calculate from the Progress Reports, in the absence of the passed Public Works Accounts which have not yet been received from the Controller) to Rupees 1,47,592 as against a Budget allotment of Rupees 1,73,130. The causes of this great falling off need not now be considered. What I wish to point

out is that of the expenditure nearly 55 per cent. was in the last five months of the year, as against 45 per cent. only in the first seven.

6. As I said before, the Revenue Board failed to notice this, and therefore estimated the closing balance of 1874-75 at Rupees 1,44,814, or almost exactly double its actual amount (Rupees 77,611).

7. Most unfortunately also Government have failed to notice the erroneous nature of the Revenue Board's assumption, and on the ground that "it is exceedingly improbable that it will be found practicable to spend those large accumulations in addition to the revenues of the current year, and that money is urgently required in other parts of the Presidency," have reduced the allotment from General Revenues made to this circle for the current year by Rupees 38,000. Add to this the loss upon fishery rents above mentioned, and the funds at our disposal during the current year will be seen to have been reduced by no less than Rupees 48,500.

8. The whole of this reduction is from the Road Fund. I show below how completely it will cripple us.

9. The Road Fund transactions of the past year may be briefly summarized as follows :—

Cr.	RS.	*Dr.*	RS.
Balance in hand, 1st April 1874 ...	63,584	Expenditure during year	1,18,531
Receipts during the year	1,11,923	Balance on 31st March 1875 ...	56,976
Total ...	1,75,507	Total ...	1,75,507

10. The General Fund transactions were as follow :—

Cr.	RS.	*Dr.*	RS.
Balance 1st April 1874	9,595	Expenditure during year	25,996
Receipts during year	30,775	Balance 31st March 1875...	14,374
Total ...	40,370	Total ...	40,370

11. The transactions of the Endowment Fund need not be particularized, but it may be stated that the balance in hand has increased during the year by Rupees 350 (from Rupees 5,911 to Rupees 6,261).

12. The Road Fund Balance, however, which is far the largest and which is that which has chiefly attracted unfavorable notice, has decreased during the year by Rupees 6,608 or nearly 10 per cent. Though the General Fund Balance has increased the cause is clear and has been to a great extent unavoidable. It is the delay which has occurred in finishing the Periakolum Hospital, and in deciding on a plan for the hospital at Uttamapoliyam and in obtaining sanction for the Ammenaikanur Dawk Bungalow, all of which works will require heavy allotments during the current year, so that the whole of the General Fund will be fully utilized and no portion of it will be available for diversion to the Road Fund.

13. The Road Fund Balance, again, though apparently in excess of the Budget opening balance of the current year by Rupees 38,976 (Rupees 56,976 — 18,000), is not really so. The fact is that when the Budget was made out it was very well known that the actual balance would be about Rupees 50,000; but it was also known that a great part of the actual balance would be required for reallotment to works left incomplete at the end of 1874-75; and only so much of it was therefore carried forward and made available for allotment in the Budget as seemed likely not to be required for this purpose. I was acting as President at the time, and I remember that I explained this in my covering letter; and my recollection is that the Board of Revenue objected that the principle on which the balance to be carried forward had been calculated, as above, was incorrect. Nevertheless, as they allowed the figures, though incorrectly calculated, to stand, it cannot, I think, now be fairly argued that the excess of the actual over the estimated balance justifies the retrenchment now ordered.

14. As it is, I find that, of the excess of Rupees 38,976 in the actual over the estimated balance, no less than Rupees 21,606 are required for allotment to works left incomplete at the end of last official year. The usual Incomplete Works Statement showing how this sum is arrived at has been prepared, and will be laid before Thursday's meeting. Besides this, about Rupees 5,000 each will be required for the road from Dindigul to Trichinopoly, and for extra gravelling required to the road from Dindigul to Palni, both of which demands were, I remember, mentioned as certain to be made in my covering letter forwarding the Budget for 1875-76. These absolutely necessary appropriations aggregate Rupees 31,606; and there is a further sum of Rupees 8,000 due from 1874-75 to Road No. 38-A, branch to Bodinaikanur from road from Periyakolum to Gudalur, on which no expenditure was possible last year owing to delay in the preparation of the estimate, and for which only Rupees 5,000 are provided in the current year's Budget, though there can be no doubt that if the work is put in hand at once and pushed on vigorously very much more can be spent before the 31st of next March. No one can say that this road is not urgently required, and, as it is proposed to construct it in the Revenue Department, it will not interfere with other expenditure by the Department of Public Works.

15. The whole of the excess balance being thus disposed of it is clear that none of it is left to set off against the decrease of Rupees 48,500 shown above in paragraph 7. But the total Budget allotment for New Works in the current year is only Rupees 47,010. If this retrenchment is to be made, therefore, the newly-proposed roads marginally noted, for which estimates are under preparation, and which are urgently required (in some cases to open up communication with the Railway), must be postponed; work must be stopped, with an absolute certainty of heavy consequent loss, on Roads Nos. 32 (Dindigul to Aravakurchi, *via* Vedasandur) and 47 (Tirumangalam to Strivelliputtur), the latter a most important line of communication which has been under construction for several years and is now nearly finished; and Roads Nos. 5 (Madura to Allinagaram, also a most important road some years under construction), and 36-A (a railway feeder urgently required to be completed as soon as the Railway is open) must be left incomplete for at least another twelve months.

No. 33-A, Branch from Eriode to Vedasandur.
" 34-A, " " Vadamadura to Eriode.
" 44, Pulkanuth to Dharapuram.
" 49, Usilampatti to Sinakasi.

16. It is impossible to suppose that Government can have intended thus to render the Road Fund of this circle practically bankrupt, or to doubt that they will be ready to consider their Order, No. 944, dated 27th April 1875, Financial Department, on its necessarily disastrous effects being pointed out to them. I think, therefore, the President should be requested to represent the circumstances without delay, and at Thursday's meeting shall move a resolution to this effect.

10. The following papers are circulated, herewith, for the information of Members :—

(*a.*) Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 619, dated 15th March 1875.
(*b.*) G.O., No. 944, dated 27th April 1875, Financial Department.
(*c.*) Statement showing all Local Fund Receipts in 1874-75.
(*d.*) " " " Expenditure "
(*e.*) " " Road Fund Receipts and Expenditure in 1874-75.
(*f.*) " " General Fund " " in 1874-75.
(*g.*) Budget of 1875-76.
(*h.*) Incomplete Works Statement of 1875-76.

KODAIKANAL,
17*th May* 1875.

(Signed) H. W. BLISS,
Vice-President.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 3 to 6.—Statements.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., Financial Department, dated 27th April 1875, No. 944.

2. The following figures are taken from the Local Fund accounts for March 1875, and are approximately correct. The charge for Department Public Works supervision at 25 per cent. is included :—

	Madura.			Dindigul.		
	Road Fund.	Endowment Fund.	General Fund.	Road Fund.	Endowment Fund.	General Fund.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Receipts	2,34,259	17,659	64,945	1,75,250	6,046	40,917
Charges	1,78,436	1,123	38,087	1,16,118	530	24,125
Balance ...	55,823	16,536	26,858	59,132	5,516	16,792

The total balances were then in Madura Rupees 99,217, and in Dindigul Rupees 81,440.

3. The balances estimated by the Board on seven months' actuals were much higher, and, though they related to the whole Local Funds, the retrenchments made by Government affect only the Road Funds. The following figures show the necessary revision in the Road Fund Budgets, and the effect of the retrenchments on the Road Fund programme for the year :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	RS.	RS.
Receipts—		
Balance	55,820	59,130
Cess	94,000	54,000
Allotments, &c.	26,250	15,070
Tolls	.....	4,000
	1,76,070	1,32,200
Expenditure—		
Works and Repairs... ...	1,11,610	91,810
Public Works Department Establishment	27,900	21,280
Tolls and Ferries	... ...	500
General Management ...	1,310	1,070
Contingencies	100	200
Tools and Plant	1,120	920
Reserve	12,030	7,310
	1,54,070	1,23,090
Balance...	22,000	9,110
	1,76,070	1,32,200

4. Thus there are available for incomplete works Rupees 34,030 in Madura, and Rupees 16,420 in Dindigul. The lists of incomplete works for the two circles have been received with the President's letters, dated 22nd May 1875, No. 63, and dated 31st May 1875, No. 67, and contain demands as follows :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	RS.	RS.
Road Fund	76,550	21,631
Endowment Fund	6,039	505
General Fund	6,221	10,117
	88,810	32,253

5. The sums stated as required from Endowment and General Funds can be provided. As regards the Road Fund lists, the Board observe that the Madura list contains seventeen new works, Rupees 58,735, and ten repair works, Rupees 17,815 ; but of these, no expenditure whatever was incurred on the items shown in the margin (for which a sum of Rupees 43,290 is provided) up to the close of 1874-75. These are not in the proper sense of the word incomplete works, but merely allotments left unutilized by the Public Works Department. If these be struck out there will remain a requirement of Rupees 33,260 for incomplete works properly so called.

New Works—	
Item 2	13,640
„ 3	10,000
„ 11	1,950
„ 12	116
„ 14	380
„ 15	2,600
„ 16	640
„ 17	1,030
	30,356
Repairs—	
Item 19	525
„ 21	220
„ 23	4,600
„ 24	2,300
„ 25	2,439
„ 26	2,850
	12,934
	43,290

6. In the Dindigul list only two small items, aggregating Rupees 640, are of this character. The demand in Dindigul is therefore Rupees 20,991. These amounts seem necessary, and will be allotted in separate Proceedings.

7. But there is another formidable cause of financial embarrassment, viz., the refund of the sums received from fishery rents in 1874-75, and the loss of the amounts taken credit for under the same head for 1875-76, which are necessitated by the G.O., Public Works Department, dated 19th November 1874, No. 3,278. It is probable that the whole, or nearly the whole, receipts under this head are derived from irrigation works and will fall within the order quoted.

The amounts are :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	RS.	RS.
1874-75 (Actuals)...	12,880	8,353
1875-76 (Budget)...	13,000	6,500
	25,880	14,853

8. Allotments have already been made from the Madura Road Fund Reserve, Rupees 2,830, and from that of Dindigul, Rupees 2,800. The total deficit in the Road Funds are therefore as follows :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	RS.	RS.
Available...	34,030	16,420
	33,260	20,991
Incomplete works	2,830	2,800
Allotted from reserve	25,880	14,853
Fishery rents		
	61,970	38,644
Deficit	27,940	22,224

Without the refund of fishery rents, the Madura deficit will be Rupees 2,060 and that of Dindigul Rupees 7,371, besides establishment charge, should that not be met from savings in the budget grants. These sums could be met in Madura by small reduction of some allotments or by savings, and in Dindigul by transfer

from certain unsanctioned works in the budget of 1875-76 for which Rupees 19,000 have been entered. The President estimates that the receipts of the current year will exceed the estimate by Rupees 35,000, owing to collections of arrears of cess from Ramnad and Shevagungah. But some further explanation as to the accrual of this large sum must be given, and if it accrues, it will be properly allotted as proposed to the works entered in the incomplete list, but above ordered to be struck out.

9. It will be apparent to Government from the foregoing statement that unless grants amounting to Rupees 41,000 and 22,000 respectively are restored, or unless the orders regarding fishery rents be kept in abeyance, the programme of the year cannot be carried out, and serious inconvenience will be caused. The Board would prefer that the fishery rents should be left to the Local Funds, and they feel bound to remark that the orders in question must cause great inconvenience in all Local Fund Circles. The amount of fishery rents, nearly all of which fall under the order, is Rupees 98,000 in round numbers; and, as the order requires refund for 1874-75, the result is that the estimates of 1875-76 will be thrown out by about two lakhs of Rupees. The order reached the Board in December when it was too late to take its effect into account in dealing with the Local Fund Budget for that year. The Board would be glad if Government could at least allow the introduction of the new system to be postponed till 1876-77. If this be done, the Local Boards in Madura will do very well in 1875-76, notwithstanding the loss of the Provincial grant.

10. The accumulation of balances in the Madura District, which has led Government to withdraw the grants for the current year, is due to short outlay by the Public Works Department, and it is hard, as pointed out by the President in strong terms, that the district should suffer as well by losing Government money, of which it would otherwise have got the benefit, as by the inefficiency of the Engineers. The expenditure by the department in 1874-75 was in Madura 66·9 per cent. of the allotment and in Dindigul 69·3 per cent. only.

	Madura. RS.	Dindigul. RS.
Allotment, Public Works Department	2,08,811	1,24,557
Outlay	1,39,646	86,359
	69,165	38,198

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 166. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th July 1875, No. 2,090.

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vellore, 29th June 1875, No. 355:—

I HAVE the honor, with reference to paragraph 3 of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 15th March last, No. 619, to report that no sum of the kind referred to in paragraph 2 of those Proceedings was credited to either Local or Special Funds from April 1874.

2. Adverting to the remarks of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on paragraph 43 of Lieutenant Christie's Note, recorded in G.O., Public Works Department, dated 20th October 1874, No. 2,991-A, I beg that the Board will be pleased to instruct me whether "Irrigation Revenue" includes "Fishery Rents." If the proceeds of these rents are not hereafter to be credited to Local Funds, the loss will be a very serious decrease in the Local Fund Revenue of this district, inasmuch as Rupees 14,578-9-2, as shown in the margin, were credited to that head during the past fourteen months from April 1874.

	Chittoor Circle. RS. A. P.	Vellore Circle. RS. A. P.
From April 1874 to March 1875...	4,682 5 4	7,213 14 4
In April 1875 ...	522 6 7	1,314 0 1
,, May ,, ...	306 6 3	539 8 7
	5,511 2 2	9,067 7 0
		5,511 2 2
Total... ...		14,578 9 2

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. It appears to the Board that it was intended that Fishery Rents derived from Irrigation works should be credited to Irrigation Revenue, as pointed out in Board's Proceedings, dated 15th July 1875, No. 1,975. This interpretation will entail great inconvenience on Local Funds.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 167. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th August 1875, No. 7398 (Miscellaneous).

Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madura, 30th July 1875, No. 91:—

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 1975, dated the 15th July 1875, I have the honor to note in the margin the amount of the arrears of land-cess due by the estates of Ramnad and Shevaganga up to Fasli 1284.

2. Rupees 55,912-15-9 of this sum have already been collected, and it is hoped that the remainder will also be paid up within the current year.

	RS. A. P.
Ramnad Zemindari	32,823 10 9
Shevaganga Zemindari, including arrears of the previous year	69,928 8 6
Total ...	1,02,752 3 3

Submitted to Government with reference to paragraph 8 of Board's Proceedings, 15th July 1875, No. 1975.

2. It appears that the President's statement that the collections of cess in 1875-76 will exceed the estimate by Rupees 35,000 in the Madura Circle is well founded; and consequently that there will not in any case be a deficit in that

Local Fund at the close of the year, even allowing for the refund of the fishery rents.

3. But the Board hesitate to make any allotments for the works referred to in paragraph 5 of the Proceedings quoted, pending the orders of Government.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 168. ORDER THEREON, 24th August 1875, No. 1713.

The Governor in Council has carefully considered these papers.

2. It appears from them that the only consideration given to the question of Fishery rents was in, and on, paragraph 43 of Lieutenant Chrystie's Memorandum embodied in Public Works Proceedings, dated the 20th October 1874, No. 2991-A.

3. It was assumed by Lieutenant Chrystie, and in the marginal note on the paragraph alluded to, that the rents were recent grants to Local Fund Boards, whereas the fact is that the great bulk of the Fishery rents are very old established items of Miscellaneous Revenue standing on a perfectly distinct footing from Irrigation Revenue, and originally much more of the nature of Moturpha, and assigned for local purposes.

4. The propriety therefore of the assumption by the Public Works Department of all Fishery rents is questionable, and the Governor in Council directs that as regards them all action be suspended on G.O., Public Works Department, dated 19th November 1874, No. 3278, pending submission of detailed accounts of the amount and origin of the Fishery rents in each district which will be called for in the Revenue Department.

5. The Board of Revenue will be informed that the Government are unable now to restore the Provincial grants withdrawn from the Madura and Dindigul Circles, but the suspension of the G.O. in the Public Works Department above cited will afford some measure of relief to the Circles.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" Public Works Department.
" Board of Revenue, with Public Works Proceedings, Nos. 2991-A and 3278.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated August, 24th.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 24th August 1875, No. 1718.

AUGUST.
Nos. 163—168.

Local Funds—Rents.—The Board of Revenue informed that Government cannot restore the Provincial grants withdrawn from the Madura and Dindigul Circles, but action on Public Works Department G.O., dated 19th November last, No. 3278, ordered to be suspended, which will afford some measure of relief to those Circles.

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Extract from the minutes of the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board, Dindigal Circle, passed at a meeting held on 20th May, 1875.

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Proceedings No. 51 of 1875.

Read the following papers:—

1. Revenue Board's Proceedings No 619, dated March 15, 1875.
2. Government Order No 944, dated April 27, 1875, Fin. Dept.
3. Minute by the Vice President dated May 17, 1875.

The President is requested to represent without delay to Government the error they have fallen into as to the amount of the Local Fund Balances and the state of virtual bankruptcy to which the Road Fund has been reduced by the orders above recorded and to urge them to reconsider them. It is understood that an Executive Engineer has recently been posted to the Range and will shortly join, so that there should be no doubt as to the possibility of the expenditure within the year of the major part, if not all, of the funds in hand. Funds will also probably be required before the year closes for opening out the Traces Major Law has been specially deputed to make, and if the retrenchments now ordered are carried out it will be impossible to supply them.

them. Many most useful and important works enumerated in the Vice Presidents minute must also be deferred or left incomplete.

(True Extract)

W W McLuhan
President.

17 5-80

Minute by the Vice President, Local Fund Board, (Dindigal Circle.

1. Two Government orders have recently been received which so seriously diminished the funds at the disposal of the Local Fund Board that I think it necessary to draw the special attention of Members to them before moving a resolution with regard to them at the next meeting.

2. The first is Government Order dated 19th November, 1874, No. 3278 P. W. D., communicated with Revenue Board's Proceedings No. 619, dated 15th March 1875. This is that all items of Revenue derived from Irrigation Works maintained from Imperial Funds shall be credited to Irrigation Revenue under Public Works with effect from 1st April 1874, instead of, as previously in some cases, to Local or Special Funds. Under this Order so much of the Local Fund Receipts of the year 1874-75 as fell under the head of Fisheries and as was derived from Irrigation Works maintained from Imperial Funds will now have to be refunded. How much this will be, I cannot exactly say. Information must be obtained from the Collector's Office. But I imagine I am not far wrong in thinking that at least Rs 6000 will have to be refunded out of the total sum of Rs 8353 received.

For

I

Enclosure in letter from

The President
& Members
of the Board
of Revenue

Board's Proceedings No. 619, dated 15th March 1875.

Subject

Letter from the Collector of the Trichinopoly District, dated 20th May 1875 No. 82.

For the same reason a deduction must be made from the anticipated income of the cur=rent year (1875-76). The Budget provision is Rs 6500, out of which I Estimate that Rs 4500 will now have to be credited to Irrigation (i.e. Imperial) revenue instead of to Local Funds. Add these two sums together and we get a total of Rs 10,500 by which amount the funds at the disposal of the Local Fund Board during the current year will fall short of what was anticipated.

3. This is a serious loss but not so serious as will be occasioned if Government order dated 27th April, 1875, No. 944, is carried into effect. This order has been passed on the Proceedings of the Revenue Board (No. 655, dated 19th March, 1875) reviewing the special reports submitted from the District in reply to the orders of Government passed upon con=sideration of the Local Fund Report of 1872-73. These Special reports were called for in con=sequence of the dissatisfaction felt by Government at the slow progress of expendi=ture in that year (1872-73). They treated of the transactions of 1873-74, and of the then current year (1874-75) upto date. In reviewing them the Revenue Board remarked with regard to expenditure in the then current year that if

"if receipts and expenditure proceed in the same 19 6 88
"proportion as in the first seven months, there
"will be a balance of Rs 1,44,814 at the End of
1874-75".

4. When so remarking the Revenue Board seem to have entirely overlooked the notorious fact that receipts are always proportionately greater in the former than in the latter months of the year and always must be so, so long as the chief collections of Revenue, and therefore of Land Cess, are between April and July or August. With Expenditure, of Course, it is the other way. From various causes it is always proportionately heavier in the latter than in the former months of the official year.

5. Both these causes have contributed to vitiate the Revenue Board's estimate of the balance at the close of 1874-75. The actual receipts were Rupees 1,46,113 as against an Estimate of Rs 1,44,300, and there are no ma=terial or unusual arrears that I am aware of. But of the receipts over 73 per cent were collected in the first 7 months of the year and less than 27 per cent in the last 5. Similarly with the Expenditure. This amounted (so far as I can calculate from the Progress Reports, in the absence of the passed Public Works accounts which have not yet been received from the Controller) to Rupees 1,47,592 as against a Budget

Allotment

allotment of Rs 1,73,130. The causes of this great falling off need not now be considered. What I wish to point out is that of the expenditure nearly 55 per cent was in the last 5 months of the year as against 45 per cent only in the first 7.

6. As I said before, the Revenue Board failed to notice this, and therefore Estimated the closing balance of 1874-75 at Rs 1,44,814, or almost exactly double its actual amount (Rs 77611).

7. Most unfortunately also Government have failed to notice the erroneous nature of the Revenue Board's assumption and on the ground that "it is exceedingly improbable "that it will be found practicable to spend those "large accumulations in addition to the Revenues "of the current year, and that money is ur "=gently required in other parts of the Presi "=dency" have reduced the allotment from General Revenues made to this circle for the current year by Rs 38,000. Add to this the loss upon Fishery rents above mentioned, and the funds at our disposal during the current year will be seen to have been reduced by no less than Rs. 48,500.

8. The whole of this reduction is from the Road Fund. I show below how completely it will cripple us.

9. The Road Fund transactions of the past

year may be briefly summarized as follows:

Cr.	Rs	Dr.	Rs.
Balance in hand April 1, 1874	63,584	Expenditure during year	1,18,531
Receipts during the year	1,11,923	Balance on March 31, 1875	56,976
Total	1,75,507	Total	1,75,507

10. The General Fund Transactions were as follows:—

Cr.	Rs	Dr.	Rs.
Balance April 1, 1874	9595	Expenditure during	25,996
Receipts during year	3,775	Balance March 31, 1875	14,374
Total	40,370	Total	40,370

11. The transactions of the Endowment Fund need not be particularized, but it may be stated that the balance in hand has increased during the year by Rupees 350 (from Rs 5911 to Rupees 6261)

12. The Road Fund Balance, however, which is far the largest and which is that which has chiefly attracted unfavourable notice, has decreased during the year by Rupees 6608 or nearly 10 per cent. Though the General Fund Balance has increased the cause is clear and has been to a great extent unavoidable. It is the delay which has occurred in finishing the Periakolam Hospital, and in deciding on a plan for the Hospital at Putta =mapoliyam and in obtaining sanction for the Ammenaikanur Dawk Bungalow, all of which works will require heavy allotments during the current year, so that the whole of the General Fund will be fully utilized and no portion

of it will be available for diversion to the Road Fund.

13. The Road Fund Balance, again, though ap=parently in excess of the Budget opening balance of the current year by Rs 38976 (Rs 56,976 – 18,000), is not really so. The fact is that when the Budget was made out it was very well known that the actual balance would be about Rs 50,000; but it was also known that a great part of the actual balance would be required for realot=ment to works left incomplete at the end of 1874-75; and only so much of it was therefore carried forward and made available for al=lotment in the Budget as seemed likely not to be required for this purpose. I was acting as President at the time and I remember that I explained this in my covering letter; and my recollection is that the Board of Revenue objected that the principle on which the Balance to be carried forward had been calculated, as above, was incorrect. Nevertheless, as they allowed the figures, though incorrectly calculated, to stand, it cannot I think now be fairly argued that the excess of the actual over the Estimated balance justifies the retrenchment now ordered.

14. As it is, I find that of the excess of Rs 38,976 in the actual over the estimated balance, no less than Rs 21,606 are required for allotment to works left incomplete at the End of last offi=cial year. The usual incomplete works state=ment showing how this sum is arrived at has

has been prepared and will be laid before Thurs=day's meeting. Besides this, about Rs 5000 each will be required for the Road from Dindigal to Trichinopoly and for extra graveling required to the road from Dindigal to Dalui, both of which demands were, I remember, mentioned ascertain to be made in my covering letter for=warding the Budget for 1875-76. These absolutely necessary appropriations aggregate Rs 31,606; and there is a further sum of Rs 8,000 due from 1874-75 to Road No. 38 A, Branch to Bodinaikanur from Road from Periyakolam to Gudalur, on which no expenditure was possible last year owing to delay in the preparation of the Estimate and for which only Rs 5,000 are provided in the current year's Budget though there can be no doubt that if the work is put in hand at once and pushed on vigorously very much more can be spent before the 31st of next March. No one can say that this road is not urgently required, and as it is proposed to construct it in the Revenue Department it will not interfere with other Expenditure by the Depart=ment of Public Works.

15. The whole of the excess balance being thus disposed of it is clear that none of it is left to set off against the decrease of Rs 48,570 shown above in paragraph 7. But the total Budget allotment for New Works in the cur=rent year is only Rs 47,010. If this retrench=ment

retrenchment is to be made, therefore, the

No. 33A Branch from Eriode to Vedasandur — newly proposed roads marginally noted, for which estimates are under preparation and which are urgently required (in some cases to
" 34A Branch from Vedasandur to Eriode
" 44 Dulkanuth to Dharapuram.
" 49 Desilampatti to Likasi.

open up communication with the Railway) must be postponed: work must be stopped, with an absolute certainty of heavy consequent loss, on Roads Nos. 32 (Dindigal to Aravakurichi via Vedasandur) and 47 (Tirumangalam to Srivilliputtur) — the latter a most important line of communication which has been under construction for several years and is now nearly finished: and Roads Nos. 5 (Madura to Ellinagaram, also a most important road some years under construction), and 36A (a railway feeder urgently required to be completed as soon as the Railway is open) must be left incomplete for at least another 12 months.

16. It is impossible to suppose that Government can have intended thus to render the Road Fund of this circle practically Bankrupt, or to doubt that they will be ready to consider their Order No. 944, dated 27th April, 1875, F. D., on its necessarily disastrous effects being pointed out to them: I think therefore the President should be requested to represent the circumstances without delay and at Thursday's meeting shall move a resolution to this effect.

17. The following papers are circulated herewith for the information of Members.

A. Revenue Board's Proceedings No. 619 dated March 15, 1875.

B. Government Order No. 944 dated April 27, 1875 Finl. Department.

C. Statement showing all Local Fund Receipts in 1874–75.

D. " " Expenditure do do.

E " " Road Fund Receipts and Expenditure do do

F " " General Fund do do

G Budget of 1875–76

H. Incomplete Works Statement of do do

Kodaikanal
May 17, 1875

(Signed) H. W. Bliss
Vice President

(True Copy)

H. W. Bliss
President.

Statement No 2.

Statement showing the expenditure of Local Funds of the Dindigal Circle for the Offl year 1874-75.

	By G.P.W.	By other Agency	Actuals Details	Actuals Total
Grant I. Public Works—				
(a) New Works				48366
Communications	45875	114	45989	
Educational	"	"		
Sanitary & Miscellaneous	2012	365	2377	
(b) Repairs				47338
Communications	40270	3773	44043	
Educational	"	"		
Sanitary & Miscellaneous	3172	118	3290	
	91329	4370		
(c) Establishments—				
Cost of General Establt P.W.D—			23925	23925
Petty Establishment			1570	1570
Establishment on account of Tolls			502	502
Do for taking traffic Accounts			321	321
(d) Tools and Plant			1371	1371
(e) Contingencies			"	"
(f) Road Fund Reserve			"	"
				123388
Grant II. Education.				
(a) Payment for inspection—				
Government Establishment			"	
Local Fund Establishment			1064	1064
(b) Training Schools—				
(c) Local Fund Schools				
Purchase of Books			170	
Commission on Sale of Books			17	
Miscellaneous			5	
				192

No 2

Enclosure in letter from

The Chairman
L. F. Board
Madura

To The Secy to the Govt
Bo of Revenue
Madras

Dated 24th May 1875

No 65

Rec'd 27th May 1875

Returned by the Circle Pleader with a Statement

Dindigal 17th May 1875

	Actuals	
	Details	Total
Grant II (Contd)		
(d) Grant-in-aid		
Salary grants		
Results grants	457	457
		5826
Grant III. Sanitation, Medical Services and Public & Charitable Institutions —		
(a) Hospitals & Dispensaries —		
Salaries of Medical Subordinates	1995	
Clerks & Servants	468	
Diet of patients	72	
Medicines & Surgical apparatus & Supplies	2450	
Contingencies	286	
Miscellaneous rent, furniture &c	258	3529
(b) Vaccination —		
Government Establishment	"	
Local Funds Estt —	3168	3168
(d) Sanitary Establishments and cleansing of tanks & wells —		
Pulni festival	"	
In Dindigal Taluq	"	
Scavengering Establishments	173	
Tanks & wells & clearances	2033	2206
(e) Markets —		
Establishment	"	
Contingencies	"	
(f) Schoolbries —		
Establishments	1004	
Contingencies	358	
Feeding the poor	1703	
Public Bungalow —		
Establishment	54	3119

	Actuals.	
Grant III (Contd)		
(g) Miscellaneous —		
Contribution to the Revd E. Chesters Dispensary at Dindigal	1754	1754
		15,776
Grant IV — Miscellaneous —		
(a) Contribution for Controlling Establishment at the Presidency	689	689
(b) Estt in the Collector's Office	287	287
(c) Do Local Fund Board's Office	435	435
(d) General Contingencies	183	
Refund of Road Cess	1	
Erroneous credit referred to in the Collector's letter to Accountant General No 307, dated 22 February 75	3	
Do to Local Funds in March, 1878	880	
Refund of advances	5	
Debit balance of Bungalow Fee fund	13	1085
		2496
Miscellaneous Debt accounts —		
Permanent advance	"	
Advance recoverable	106	106
		147592
General Reserve	"	-
Balances		
(a) Road Fund	56,976	
(c) Endowment Fund	6261	
(d) General Fund	14374	77,611
		225,203

President

…ument No 2

…[illegible] 3725/75

…[illegible] 1745/75

Statement Shewing the Receipts and charges of the ~~Road Fund~~ of the Sandigub circle Madura District for the Official year 1874-75.

	Receipts.	Amount				Expenditure	Amount			
1	Balance on the 31st March, 1874,	63584	-	-	1	New Works — By P.W.D	45875	-	-	
	Act III of 1866	41	-	-		By other Agency	114	-	-	
2	2/3 rds of the Collections of Land Cess within the year	51741	-	-	2	Repairs — By P.W.D	40270	-	-	
3	Additional appropriation from the Land cess by the Local Fund Board	"	"	"		By other Agency	3773	-	-	
4	Grants from Government.				3	Establishments.				
	(a) Provincial Funds	44970	-	-		(a) Petty Establishment	1570	-	-	
	(b) Special Funds					(b) Share of cost of P.W.D supervision chargeable to the Road Fund	22629	-	-	
	Surplus Pound Fund	1600	-	-		(c) Charges in connection with Tolls &				
	Ferry Rents	"	"	"		Ferries	502	-	-	
	Fish Rents	8353	"	"		Do for taking ~~Tr~~ traffic accounts	321	-	-	
	Grass Rents	1	"	"		(d) Share of the cost of General management chargeable to the Road Fund	1194	-	-	
	Miscellaneous	16	-	-		(e) Contingencies	-	-	-	
5	Tolls	4062	-	-	4	Tools and Plants	1293	-	-	
6	Contribution from the Funds of other Circles and Municipalities for Roads:				5	Contribution from the Road Fund to the Funds of other circles & Municipalities for Roads.				
	a From — To —					(a) To — For				
7	Miscellaneous.				6	Miscellaneous Debt Accounts.				
	(a) Sale proceeds of Materials.					(a) Advances recoverable	106	-	-	
	Tools and Plant &c	"	"	"		(b) Cash Recoveries	-	-	-	
	(b) Public Works Receipts	573	-	-		(c) Suspense Account	-	-	-	
	Refund of Expenditure	440	-	-		Refund of Road Cess	1	-	-	
8	Miscellaneous Debt Account.					Erroneous Credit	883	-	-	
	(a) Advances recoverable	106	-	-		Total	118531	-	-	
	(b) Cash recoveries	20	-	-		Balance	56976	-	-	
	(c) Suspense Account	"	"	"			175507	-	-	
		175507	-	-						

(Signed) H. Dr Bliss
Vice President

(True Copy) T Rennlorgh
For President

23	Vaccination	3168	-	-	
24	Medical Practitioners	-	-	-	
25	Sanitary Establishment &c	2206	-	-	
26	Markets	-	-	-	
27	Bungalows	54	-	-	
28	Contributions	1754	-	-	
		12711	-	-	
	Grant IV.				
29	Share of cost of General management	400	-	-	
	Miscellaneous Debit Accounts				
30	Advances recoverable	-	-	-	
31	Suspense Account	-	-	-	
32	Cash Recoveries	-	-	-	
	Permanent Advances	-	-	-	
	Arrears (Refund of)	5	-	-	
	Debit balance of Bungalow Fee Fund	13	-	-	
		418	-	-	
		25996	-	-	
	Balance	14374	-	-	
	Total Rs	40370	-	-	

J. Rambon
For President

Statement No 3

Audited [illegible]

[illegible]

Statement showing the Receipts and Charges of the ... Fund of the Dindigul Circle, Madura District for the official Year 1874-75.

	Receipts	Amount			
1	Balances	9595	-	-	
2	Provincial Funds	-	-	-	
3	Avenues	2326	-	-	
4	One third of Land Cess	25871	-	-	
5	Contribution on account of Educational Inspection				
	From Dindigul Municipality	543	-	-	
6	Receipts of unendowed Institutions				
	(a) Hospitals	45	-	-	
	(b) Choultries	-	-	-	
7	Contribution from Private individuals in aid of works.	1054	-	-	
8	Sale of old Materials & Tools & Plant	-	-	-	
9	Fees from Local Fund Schools	-	-	-	
10	Miscellaneous:				
	Bungalow fees	135	-	-	
	Market Rents	550	-	-	
	Sale proceeds of Books.	133	-	-	
	Sale of other property	31	-	-	
	Miscellaneous	87	-	-	
11	Advances recoverable	-	-	-	
12	Suspense Account	-	-	-	
13	Cash Recoveries	-	-	-	
14	Permanent advances.	-	-	-	
	Carried over	40270	-	-	

	Expenditure	Amount			
	Grant I				
1	Appropriation to the Road Fund for Roads.	"	"	-	
2	Do Union Funds for Educational buildings	-	-	-	
3	Do to Endowment Fund	-	-	-	
	(a) Hospitals	-	-	-	
	(b) Choultries	-	-	-	
4	Unendowed Hospitals	1765	-	-	
5	Do — Choultries	1451	-	-	
6	Travellers Bungalows	375	-	-	
7	Avenues	1391	-	-	
8	Construction Repair of tanks & wells	685	-	-	
9	Miscellaneous Public Works	-	-	-	
10	P. W. General Establishment	1296	-	-	
11	Tools & Plant	78	-	-	
12	Miscellaneous	-	-	-	
		7041	-	-	
	Grant II				
13	Appropriation to Local Fund Schools	-	-	-	
14	Inspection.				
	(a) Dy Inspectors Salary &c	"	"	"	
	(b) Inspecting School Masters Do	1064	-	-	
15	Contribution to Government Normal Schools	-	-	-	
16	Local Fund Training Schools	-	-	-	
17	Salary Grant	-	-	-	
18	Results-grant	4570	-	-	
19	Miscellaneous	192	-	-	
		5826	-	-	
20	Appropriation to Endowment Fund	-	-	-	
21	Unendowed Hospitals	5529	-	-	
22	Do — Choultries	-	-	-	

Brought forward	40370	-	-

		Actuals	
		Details	Total
(b) Hospitals & Dispensaries—			
Sale of medicines		45	
(c) Poultries		3253	
Interest and Rents	739		
Sundries	2514		
(d) Miscellaneous—		162	3593
7. Miscellaneous—			
(a) Market Rents & Band pettah fees		550	
(b) Fines and penalties		"	
(c) Sale of materials &c		"	
(d) Sale of other property		31	
Bungalow fees		135	
Contributions for works unconnected with Unions or endowed foundations		1054	
Public Works Receipts		573	
Refund of expenditures		440	
Advance recoverable		106	
Cash recoveries		20	
Miscellaneous		87	
			2996
	Total		146113
Total including Balance			225203

W W Dalrymple
President

(43)

Extract from the Proceedings of the Local Fund Board of the Madura Circle, Madura District, at a Meeting held on the 17th May 1875.

Present :—

E. J. Sewell Esquire Vice President

M. R. R. T. Rama Row Treasury Dy Collector

—"— T. Appaji Row, Actg Dy Collector on General Duties.

—"— A. Vythialinga Chettiar Dy Inspector of Schools.

—"— T. Masana Duttha Pillay.

Members

Read Government Order dated 27th April 1875, No 944, P. D, passing orders on Proceedings, Board of Revenue, reviewing the report of the President on the assets, allotments, and expenditure of the local funds of the Madura and Dindigul Circles in 1873-74 and for the year 1874-75 up to October 1874.

The Board resolve to call the attention of Government to the fact that though they have a balance of Rs 1,34,126-7-4 they have to meet from this sum the cost of the works on

Statement No 1

Rs Rs 1,34,126-7-4

A. Rs 1,34,5/75

on which considerable work was done last year and for which fresh allotments are now asked in the "Incomplete works list." The expenditure likely thus to be incurred will be Rs 88810. * They have also to pay the contribution due for last year to Public Works Supervision amounting to Rs 38,429. The total of these two items is Rs 1,27,239 leaving only a balance of Rs 6887 -"-"- which they allowing for short expenditure estimated at Rs 28000.

2. It is not therefore the case they have any balance available and to reduce Provincial Grant in order to transfer funds to other circles will in all probability leave the Board without funds for important works.

* Total of the whole incomplete list.

(True Extract)

W. W. Pearce
President

No. 1,975.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 15th July 1875.

Read the following letters :—

From W. McQUHAE, Esq., President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Shembaganoor, 23rd May 1875, No. 64.

I HAVE the honor to submit copy of Resolution, No. 90 of 1875, passed by the Madura Local Fund Board, pointing out that they have no such balances as Government suppose, and requesting that Government Order, dated 27th April 1875, No. 944, Financial Department, may be reconsidered, and I beg to support their request on the grounds already stated in my letter in connection with the Dindigul Circle.

2. The following is the state of the Road Fund :—

Actual balance on 31st March...				Rs. 90,733-9-5
Deduct.				
Cost of Department Public Works supervision at 25 per cent. on their expenditure, viz., Rupees 1,39,645-15-2	RS. 34,911	A. 7	P. 10	
Opening balance in Budget of 1875-76.	15,000	0	0	
Allotments to incomplete works passed by the Local Fund Board	76,550	0	0	
	1,26,461	7	10	

There is, therefore, a deficiency of Rupees 35,727-14-5, and the order in question will make the fund bankrupt, unless the Department Public Works do much less work than is anticipated.

3. The money can be utilized without delay if Government will only be pleased to hold the proper persons responsible. I have never yet seen the District Engineer compelled to expose and account for the defects of his department. That duty is left to some member of the Local Board, who is generally treated with angry contempt by the District Engineer, and Resolutions of the Boards are words and nothing more. I may venture to say that, with the exception of the energetic Vice-President at Dindigul, every one is tired of fighting without hope and without support, but Government can put matters right by a single order.

4. I need not remind the Board of Revenue that there is scarcely a mile of made road in the Ramnad Zemindary, though it has paid road-cess for years. There is no part of the Presidency where money is more required than in Madura, and I trust that the Board of Revenue will support my earnest request that we may not be punished for the past errors of a Government Department which we have for nearly four years done our best to correct.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Board.

From the same Officer, dated Shembaganoor, 24th May 1875, No. 65.

I HAVE the honor to submit Resolution, No. 51 of 1875, passed by the Dindigul Circle Board, with a Minute by the Vice-President and four explanatory statements, and I venture to support the Board's request that Government Order, dated 27th April 1875, No. 944, Financial Department, may be reconsidered on the grounds that the balances are not half what Government supposed them to be; that the order in question will put a stop to most important new works; and that the people of the Circle cannot justly be fined Rupees 38,000, because the Public Works Establishment has been inefficient and allowed balances to accumulate in the beginning of the new Local Fund system.

2. The money is most urgently wanted in Madura, a large portion of the district being more utterly destitute of roads than any other part of Southern India, and, in my humble opinion, the whole of the money can be utilized without delay if Government will only be pleased to supply the District Engineer with an adequate establishment, and to hold him responsible for the performance of his duties.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Extract from Proceedings of Local Fund Board.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Copy of Vice-President's Minute.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 3 to 6.—Statements.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., Financial Department, dated 27th April 1875, No. 944.

2. The following figures are taken from the Local Fund accounts for March 1875, and are approximately correct. The charge for Department Public Works supervision at 25 per cent. is included :—

	Madura.			Dindigul.		
	Road Fund.	Endowment Fund.	General Fund.	Road Fund.	Endowment Fund.	General Fund.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Receipts	2,34,259	17,659	64,945	1,75,250	6,046	40,917
Charges	1,78,436	1,123	38,087	1,16,118	530	24,125
Balance	55,823	16,536	26,858	59,132	5,516	16,792

The total balances were then in Madura Rupees 99,217 and in Dindigul Rupees 81,440.

3. The balances estimated by the Board on seven months' actuals were much higher, and, though they related to the whole Local Funds, the retrenchments made by Government affect only the Road Funds. The following figures show the necessary revision in the Road Fund budgets, and the effect of the retrenchments on the Road Fund programme for the year :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	RS.	RS.
Receipts—		
Balance	55,820	59,130
Cess	94,000	54,000
Allotments, &c.	26,250	15,070
Tolls	.....	4,000
	1,76,070	1,32,200
Expenditure—		
Works and Repairs... ...	1,11,610	91,810
Public Works Department Establishment	27,900	21,280
Tolls and Ferries	.....	500
General Management ...	1,310	1,070
Contingencies	100	200
Tools and Plant	1,120	920
Reserve	12,030	7,310
	1,54,070	1,23,090
Balance...	22,000	9,110
	1,76,070	1,32,200

4. Thus there are available for incomplete works Rupees 34,030 in Madura and Rupees 16,420 in Dindigul. The lists of incomplete works for the two circles have been received with the President's letters, dated 22nd May 1875, No. 63, and dated 31st May 1875, No. 67, and contain demands as follows :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	RS.	RS.
Road Fund	76,550	21,631
Endowment Fund	6,039	505
General Fund	6,221	10,117
	88,810	32,253

5. The sums stated as required from Endowment and General Funds can be provided. As regards the Road Fund lists, the Board observe that the Madura list contains seventeen new works, Rupees 58,735, and ten repair works, Rupees 17,815; but of these, no expenditure whatever was incurred on the items shown in the margin (for which a sum of Rupees 43,290 is provided) up to the close of 1874-75. These are not in the proper sense of the word incomplete works, but merely allotments left unutilized by the Public Works Department. If these be struck out there will remain a requirement of Rupees 33,260 for incomplete works properly so called.

New Works—	
Item 2	13,640
„ 3	10,000
„ 11	1,950
„ 12	116
„ 14	380
„ 15	2,600
„ 16	640
„ 17	1,030
	30,356
Repairs—	
Item 19	525
„ 21	220
„ 23	4,600
„ 24	2,300
„ 25	2,439
„ 26	2,850
	12,934
	43,290

6. In the Dindigul list only two small items, aggregating Rupees 640, are of this character. The demand in Dindigul is therefore Rupees 20,991. These amounts seem necessary, and will be allotted in separate Proceedings.

7. But there is another formidable cause of financial embarrassment, viz., the refund of the sums received from fishery rents in 1874-75, and the loss of the amounts taken credit for under the same head for 1875-76, which are necessitated by the G.O., Public Works Department, dated 19th November 1874, No. 3,278. It is probable that the whole, or nearly the whole, receipts under this head are derived from irrigation works and will fall within the order quoted.

The amounts are :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	Rs.	Rs.
1874-75 (Actuals)...	12,880	8,353
1875-76 (Budget)...	13,000	6,500
	25,880	14,853

8. Allotments have already been made from the Madura Road Fund Reserve, Rupees 2,830, and from that of Dindigul, Rupees 2,800. The total deficit in the Road Funds are therefore as follows :—

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	Rs.	Rs.
Available...	34,030	16,420
Incomplete works	33,260	20,991
Allotted from reserve	2,830	2,800
Fishery rents	25,880	14,853
	61,970	38,644
Deficit	27,940	22,224

Without the refund of fishery rents, the Madura deficit will be Rupees 2,060 and that of Dindigul Rupees 7,371, besides establishment charge, should that not be met from savings in the budget grants. These sums could be met in Madura by small reduction of some allotments or by savings, and in Dindigul by transfer from certain unsanctioned works in the budget of 1875-76 for which Rupees 19,000 have been entered. The President estimates that the receipts of the current year will exceed the estimate by Rupees 35,000, owing to collections of arrears of cess from Ramnad and Shevagungah. But some further explanation as to the accrual of this large sum must be given, and if it accrues, it will be properly allotted as proposed to the works entered in the incomplete list, but above ordered to be struck out.

9. It will be apparent to Government from the foregoing statement that unless grants amounting to Rupees 26,000 and 22,000 respectively are restored, or unless the orders regarding fishery rents be kept in abeyance, the programme of the year cannot be carried out, and serious inconvenience will be caused. The Board would prefer that the fishery rents should be left to the Local Funds, and they feel bound to remark that the orders in question must cause great inconvenience in all Local Fund Circles. The amount of fishery rents, nearly all of which fall under the order, is Rupees 98,000 in round numbers; and, as the order requires refund for 1874-75, the result is that the estimates of 1875-76 will be thrown out by about two lakhs of

Rupees. The order reached the Board in December when it was too late to take its effect into account in dealing with the Local Fund Budget for that year. The Board would be glad if Government could at least allow the introduction of the new system to be postponed till 1876-77. If this be done, the Local Boards in Madura will do very well in 1875-76, notwithstanding the loss of the Provincial grant.

10. The accumulation of balances in the Madura District, which has led Government to withdraw the grants for the current year, is due to short outlay by the Public Works Department, and it is hard, as pointed out by the President in strong terms, that the district should suffer as well by losing Government money, of which it would otherwise have got the benefit, as by the inefficiency of the Engineers. The expenditure by the department in 1874-75 was in Madura 66·9 per cent. of the allotment and in Dindigul 69·3 per cent. only.

	Madura.	Dindigul.
	Rs.	Rs.
Allotment, Public Works Department	2,08,811	1,24,557
Outlay	1,39,646	86,359
	69,165	38,198

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. Adam.

Acting Secretary.

To the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department,
with seven enclosures, to be returned.
„ the President of the Local Fund Boards, Madura District.
„ the District Engineer, Madura.
„ the Controller of Public Works Accounts.
„ the Accountant-General.

Fxd. W. J. Lewis.

Received 24th July 1875
Dept. Public Works
Encl. 4
No. 1745

1875.

Board of Revenue, MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 15TH JULY 1875, No. 1,975.

JULY.

No. 1,975.

Local Funds—of Madura and Dindigul Circles.—Letters from President forwarding Resolutions of Circle Boards, and requesting that Government Order reducing Provincial grant for 1875-76 may be re-considered for certain reasons, submitted to Government with remarks.

No. 2,090.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 27th July 1875.

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vellore, 29th June 1875, No. 355:—

I HAVE the honor, with referrnce to paragraph 3 of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 15th March last, No. 619, to report that no sum of the kind referred to in paragraph 2 of those Proceedings was credited to either Local or Special Funds from April 1874.

2. Adverting to the remarks of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on paragraph 43 of Lieutenant Christie's Note, recorded in G. O., Public Works Department, dated 20th October 1874, No. 2,991-A, I beg that the Board will be pleased to instruct me whether "Irrigation Revenue" includes "Fishery Rents." If the proceeds of these rents are not hereafter to be credited to Local Funds, the loss will be a very serious decrease in the Local Fund Revenue of this district, inasmuch as Rupees 14,578-9-2, as shown in the margin, were credited to that head during the past fourteen months from April 1874.

	Chittoor Circle.			Vellore Circle.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
From April 1874 to March 1875...	4,682	5	4	7,213	14	4
In April 1875 ...	522	6	7	1,314	0	1
„ May „ ...	306	6	3	539	8	7
	5,511	2	2	9,067	7	0
				5,511	2	2
Total... ...				14,578	9	2

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government.

2. It appears to the Board that it was intended that Fishery Rents derived from Irrigation works should be credited to Irrigation Revenue, as pointed out in Board's Proceedings, dated 15th July 1875, No. 1,975. This interpretation will entail great inconvenience on Local Funds.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Acting Secretary.

To the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, Financial Department.

Copy to the Collector of North Arcot.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

Transcribed and Published by the Board of Revenue, Madras.

1875.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

501713

PROCEEDINGS, 27TH JULY 1875, No. 2,090.

Dupe 29 July/75 Encl.

No 1810

Received 2nd September/75.

JULY.

No. 2,090.

Revenue derived from Irrigation Works—Letter from Collector of North Arcot reporting that no item of — was credited to either Local or Special Funds from April 1874, and requesting instructions regarding the crediting of "Fishery Rents," submitted for orders of Government with remarks.

No 168

Miscellaneous No 7398.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 14th August 1875.

Read the following.

167

From

C No 91.

W. Ince Dubae Esq

President Local Fund

Board. Cuddapa.

To

H. E. Stokes Esq

Secretary to the

Board of Revenue. Madras

Sir,

With reference to para 3. of the Revenue Board's Proceedings No 1965 dated the 15th July 1875, I have the honor to note in the margin, the amount of the arrears of land cess due by the estates of Rammad and Shevaganga upto Fusli 1284.

Rammad Zamindary — Rs. 2,22,022-10-0

Shevaganga — Do. — 2,69,626-8-0

Total Rs. 4,91,648-18-0

* including arrears of Cess for

2. Rupees 55912-15-9 of this sum have already been collected and it is hoped that the remainder will also be paid up within the current year.

President's Office, Madura. 30th July 1875.

I have &c
Wm. Duke
President

Submitted to Government with reference to para. 8 of Board's Proceedings 15th July 1875 No 1975.

2. It appears that the President's statement that the collections of cess in 1874-75 will exceed the estimate by Rupees 35,000 in the Madura Circle is well founded; and consequently that there will not in any case be a deficit in that Local Fund at the close of the year, even allowing for the refund of the fishery rents.

3. But the Board hesitate to make any allotments for the works referred to in para 5 of the Proceedings quoted, pending the orders of Government.

(True Copy & Extract)

A Moss
Sy Secretary.

To
The Chief Secretary to
Government, F.D.

C.15.

57

60 12

59

Financial DEPARTMENT.

No. 1745. of 187

From The Board of Revenue

Dated 15 July 187

FOR ORDERS.

To Statement of the Distribution of the Budget provision for Grants & L. Wks. in Detail & Memoranda can form no bind[ing] on the Jodicial[ry] of making any Grant over & above in add[n] to the Estimated amt. My impression is that we have no

From the perusal of the papers we have sent, I gather that the only criterion given to the question of Fishery rents is to be found in 30 Pict. Cryptics Items: Embodied in P.W. Proc[s] of 20 Oct. 74 No. 2991. A.

It is assumed there in in the marginal note that these were Recent Grants & L. Wks. Assuming the fact is that the great bulk of the Fishery rents are very ancient

embodied in Public Works Proceedings dated the 20th October 1874. No. 2991. A.

This case was argued before the Board of Revenue

Dated 14th August 1875

Submitted with the remarks & Orders of the President

Board of Revenue

Dated 14th August 1875

Submitted with the remarks & Orders of the President

Financial Commissioner

Dated 14 Sept 1875

Copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 14th August 1875

Submitted with the remarks & Orders of the President

Financial Commissioner

Dated 14 Sept 1875

Copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

the President's Letter
Enclosure Circular stating
the amount of the
arrears of Land Cess
to be by the certificate of
Commissioners

Money & give them.

I am decidedly
in favor of the
principle of the abandonment
of the F.V.D. pole Fishery
but I do not think
such explanation as
is given that Fishery
adopt with the approval
of the F.O. 15th Nov. 74
Ed. 3278.

I cannot help opposed
the retrenchment when
the G.O was passed but
was

time
items of Miscell. Est. standing
on property Return sporting
from Emig. Est. will show
more the nature of the services
assigned for absent employees
from abroad.

I do not see any
objection to my
instructing the Coroner
of Cork to issue process
out of Emig. Est. to
call for attached accts
of the amts. of wages in
each D. in the Rd.

The orders are passed
Rev. D. 2 Nov. 74. Dec. 16 &
19 Nov. 74. Dec. attached
from the papers put up.

The Budget Est. for 1875
being drawn & I have
to form any opinion as to
the possibility of restoring the 10%
granted to seamen.

Under Dr. of the Lunatic
Asylums Act has been
modified in many respects
since the Budget was passed &
Enquiries have arisen as to

Law a register showing
Exactly how the Calendar
stands. I think that
shortly before Mr. Sherlock
left. two Barristers should
have available that
work should from Mr.
Pattle told me. A statement
giving the required
information is
now put up

He State. Rev. Returns
shows that there are
20 pounds available
for removing the ground
rents

If they can be ascertained
for the Revenue Before the
Estimates are
Brought Could it be done
Brought. be done as
has been done in
and with the

I was a party to reducing the grant, as there was nothing to show that the large balance would be utilized and the

was in the minority I
would if possible restore
the grant but cannot say
whether those the Saving
has been distributed. This
should be seen to at once.

Mind & let the papers
Assist Fishery go round
again as decided by
Mr Hudleston

Sent to Mr Hudleston as to
Fishery Rents & how
far the Question as
to Purposes - Rate
Collection - the method
time - If the grant is
a part of the Cess

embodied in Public
Works Proceedings dated
the 20th October 1874.
No. 2991. A.

Restored & laid over
for consideration
to-morrow
19/8

Requesting reconsidn. of G.O. reducing Provl. Grant to Madura Circle Fund for 1875-76.

FOR ORDERS.

Restored & laid over for consideration to-morrow

19/8

Money was urgently required in districts which had suffered from the floods. — The Chief Engineer was called on for a report on the shortcomings of the D.P.W. in Madurai & Ramnad. I do not know if this report has been made — I think the order withdrawing the grants was right & I would not restore it without further discussion. I see some certainty that the D.P.W. agency — can utilize it. However there seems not much chance of any funds being available. I quite agree with Mr. Budleston's view of the Fisheries which I think should be read as per to L.F.B.d. R.H.

14 Aug. 75.

C29-7
18-8

Financial Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Papers.

READ the following letter

Prov: of Government P.W. Dept. 20th Octr. 1875 No 2991 A.
Do do 19th Novr. 1875 No 3278.
Prov: Board of Revenue 15th July 1875 No 1975.
Do 27th No 2090.
Do 17th Augt. No 7398.

168

Order thereon. Entered
24th Augt. 1875 No 1713

The Governor in Council has carefully considered these papers.

2. It appears from them that the only consideration given to the question of Fishery rents was in, and on, para 4 of Lieutenant Clerg-tie's memorandum embodied in Public Works Proceedings dated the 20th October 1874. No 2991. A.

24/8.

3 It was assumed by Lieutenant Chrystie, and in the marginal note on the paragraphs alluded to, that the rents were recent grants to Local Fund Boards, whereas the fact is that the great bulk of the Fishery rents are very old established items of Miscellaneous Revenue standing on a perfectly distinct footing from Irrigation Revenue, and originally much more of the nature of Meturpha, and assigned for local purposes.

4. The propriety therefore of the assumption by the Public Works Department of all Fishery rents, is questionable. 2nd The Governor in Council directs that as regards them all action be suspended on G.O. P.W. Department dated

dated 19th November 1874, No. 3278, and that detailed accounts of the amount and origin of the Fishery rents in each District, with a view to the transfer of the Revenue Department.

5. The Board of Revenue will be informed that the Govt are unable now to restore the Provincial grants withdrawn from the Madura and Tinnevelly Circles, but the suspension of the G.O. in the P.W. Department above cited will afford some measure of relief to the Circles.

To The Revenue Dept. 6
" Public Works Department. 11
" Bd. of Revenue. 14
" Accountant Genl. 6

Desp 6/1975

with P.W. Dis. 2931/A+3238.

5th 3 Parts

10-8-75

Order

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

23.5.12 ✓
6-9-13 ✓
27-10-13 ✓
13.12.15
16.9.26 II ✓
26-2-27 D ✓
23.9.38 II

Financial

To

Dated 24th August 1875; No.
Recd. 1713

Nos. 163 167.

Local Funds – Roads – &c.

Board of Revenue informed that Govt. cannot restore the Provincial grant withdrawn from the Madura and Dindigul Circles, since the Public Works Dept. dated 19th Nov. last. No. 3278 provided which will afford some measure of relief to those Circles.