

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Police / Madras DEPARTMENT.

18-8-57

G.O. No. <i>1580</i>	Press Mis.
<i>18-8</i> Dated <i>15-8-57</i>	<i>18-8-57</i>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 18. Read the following letter from Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 23rd June 1857, No. 1451.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward for the consideration and orders of Government, the accompanying copy of a letter No. 304, dated 9th Instant, from the District Engineer Godavery Division, together with the correspondence in original (to be obligingly returned,) which has taken place between that Officer, and the Acting Collector of Masulipatam, on the question, as to which Department, the duty of distributing water is to be entrusted.

2. The circumstance which gave rise to the correspondence, is stated in para. 3 of the District Engineer's letter, and it is evident, that the difference of opinion now existing, on the all important question of the distribution of water, should be put an end to, at the earliest possible period.

3. The District Engineer in his letter marked A, very properly brought to the notice of the Collector, the conduct of the Tahsildar of Ralinghee, in ordering, without reference to any Officer of the Public Works Department, a bund to be thrown across the Singaveram channel.

4. Overseer Harris, the District Engineer observed, had arranged with the different parties concerned, for the equal distribution of the water, proportionally to the extent of land requiring it, and in requesting that the Tahsildar of Ralinghee might be instructed not to interfere with any of the irrigation works, expressed the readiness on the part of the Officers of his Department to enquire into the propriety, or otherwise, of making alterations in the existing arrangements, should such be considered necessary.

5. The Acting Collector in his reply* enclosed copy of a Report from the Tahsildar of Ralinghee, and observed, that he was "unable to conjecture, why Mr. No. 69 dated 28th April 1857. "Harris, has prohibited water being taken, but the Ryots require water, "and are entitled to it."

6. The Acting Collector refers to Overseer Harris having issued a proclamation, on the infliction of corporal punishment.

7. In his letter marked B, the District Engineer in para. 1 observes, that the Statement made by the Zilladar of Neddavole, regarding the infliction of Corporal punishment, is declared by Overseer Harris to be wholly untrue, and that the Overseer (whose character for truthfulness is too well established to admit of his word being doubted) states, that he never made any proclamation to that effect, and that he has never lifted his hand against any man, since he has been in the Department.

8. In para. 2, the District Engineer points out, that the distribution of the water is Overseer Harris' particular duty, and one to which his constant attention is given, and that in view to as equable a distribution as possible being made, he had arranged that each portion of land should receive irrigation every 3 days.

9. In para. 3, the District Engineer states, that the Ryots are not "entitled" to the water, unless they are paying Rupees 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ acre as a water rate, according to the late orders of Government on the subject, (as subsequently informed by the Acting Collector, the order has not been applied to the Masulipatam District) and observes, that without being furnished by the Revenue Officers, with a statement of the extent of land assessed, and of the rate levied thereon, it is impossible for the Public Works Officers to know, to whom water should be distributed as a right. In the instance in question, the District Engineer further observes, that as far as he is able to ascertain, no information as to the extent of land irrigated, has as yet been demanded from the Officers of his Department.

10. In para. 4, the District Engineer refers to the interference of the Ralinghee Tahsildar, and requests that orders may be given to prevent a recurrence of it.

11. In para. 5, is further noticed, not only the total want of co-operation on the part of the same Tahsildar, but of the absolute obstructiveness he has always displayed towards the Officers of the Public Works Department, and in support of the same, are forwarded copies of two complaints† preferred against the Tahsildar.

Marked C.

12. The Tahsildars of Kykalore, Pentapaud, and Ellore, are also named as offering obstruction, instead of assistance to the Officers of the Department, and to show that the complaints are not imaginary, the District Engineer notices, "that Officers who happen to be engaged on works common to both Rajahmundry and Masulipatam, have rarely complained of want of co-operation in the former, while they meet with opposition at every turn in the latter." The Tahsildar of Tirvoor alone is said to work willingly with the Department, and to render most effectual assistance.

13. In his letter No. 85, dated 16th May 1857, the Acting Collector observes in para. 1. "It is impossible for Public Works Officers to learn, to whom water should be distributed, unless they are first informed by the Revenue Authorities, but moreover it is not in my opinion desirable they should attempt it in detail," and proceeds in the two following paras. to support the view thus expressed.

14. My own decided conviction is, that for the interests of both Government and the Ryots, the entire distribution of the water, (not to individuals as noticed by the Acting Collector) should rest solely on the professional Department, and that unless some comprehensive system is introduced, the present mismanagement and waste of water so loudly complained of by all Officers of the Department who have had experience in irrigation works, will only be perpetuated.

15. The Acting Collector* does not admit, that there was any thing reprehensible in the conduct of the Tahsildar of Ralinghee, and expresses regret that the District Engineer's Department should be dissatisfied.

16. With reference to a complaint about the making of bricks being interfered with, though there is nothing in the correspondence to show that any trespass had been committed, the Acting Collector merely observes that he has issued a stringent order, that he will not allow bricks to be made on land against the wishes of its owner, and that the first contractor convicted of trespass, will be heavily fined. With much diffidence I would venture to express my regret at the publication of an intimation which assuredly could need no such publicity, and which was so peculiarly likely to be misinterpreted by Asiatic construction, into a prohibition against proprietors permitting their ground being lent for the accommodation of Public Works contractors.

In point of fact, the almost inevitable effect of such an order being issued at a time when bricks were much required by the Engineer Department, needs no comment.

17. There is nothing calling for particular remark in the two concluding paras. of the Acting Collector's letter, except that, that Gentleman appears to be under the impression, that there is a desire on the part of the Public Works Department Officers to find fault, and that the letter of the District Engineer is somewhat one sided.

18. The misapprehension on the part of the Acting Collector of the remarks regarding the distribution of the water as contained in para. 3 of the District Engineer's letter (marked B.) being apparent, the latter Officer enters somewhat more fully into the question in his subsequent letter No. 288 of the 3rd Instant, and foreseeing the evils that must inevitably follow the Acting Collector's approval of the conduct of the Ralinghee Tahsildar, in distributing the water on his own authority, expresses his intention of submitting the question for the orders of Government.

19. The District Engineer observes, that he does not require the assistance of the Tahsildars in procuring supplies for public purposes, but very reasonably requests that they may not be allowed to interfere, where agreements with private parties have been effected, which is stated to have been the case in the two complaints marked C; and the interference avowedly claimed by the Collector on the part of his Tahsildar, as regards sales of both trees and leaves, cannot but be considered I presume highly undesirable in respect to the proprietors, who are thus denied the right or practice of direct action, to say nothing of the indefinite delay thereby caused in the delivery and completion of the supply.

20. The District Engineer concludes his letter by endeavouring to remove the impression entertained by the Acting Collector, as to the readiness of his Department to find fault, and observes that so far from such being the case with himself, he has on the contrary fallen short of his duty in not having long ago represented to Government, the continued complaints which have been made by the different Executive Officers employed in the Masulipatam District, which is all the more conspicuous from its contrast to the mutually good understanding that prevails in Rajahmundry.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing, a letter No. 152 of the 15th Instant, has been received from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, on Circuit, and as in it the same question is raised as to the Department to which the duty of distributing water should properly be entrusted, I beg to forward a copy of the letter for the information of Government.

Letter from Captain F. H. RUNDALL, District Engineer Godavery Division; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Camp at Dowlaishweram, 9th June 1857, No. 304.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward the accompanying copies of correspondence which have passed between the Collector of Masulipatam and myself, and I request you will be good enough to lay the same before Government, that some definite orders may be passed on the question as to which Department the duty of distributing the water to the several villages is to be entrusted.

2nd. I will briefly relate the circumstance which gave rise to the correspondence.

3rd. Mr. Superintendent Harris, whose duty is to distribute the water to villages lying on either bank of the Weyairoo near the villages of Neddavole and Chettyputt reported, that he had found a bund thrown across the channel leading to the village of Singavaram: and on enquiry was told, that it had been done by order of the Tahsildar of Ralinghee. He therefore wrote for instructions as to how he was to act, as it interfered with arrangements he had made for supplying certain villages with water in rotation according to their respective necessities. I desired him to immediately remove the bund, and wrote at once to the Collector of Masulipatam the letter marked A. To this he forwarded the reply marked B. in answering which, I took occasion to point out to the Collector the systematic obstruction which has been, and is still pursued by not only the Tahsildar of Ralinghee, but by all the native Revenue officials in his District towards the execution of the Public Works. Instead however of affording that co-operation which I had expected, he upholds the proceedings of the Tahsildar in spite of the open admission of direct and unwarrantable interference made by the Tahsildar in his own Urzee. And he seems to make the whole matter a party question, instead of looking at it on the broad ground that as servants of the same Government our combined efforts should be employed to further the interests of the State to the best of our ability.

4th. The Collector's correspondence and his proceeding plainly indicate that, but little co-operation is to be expected from him, and if the Head of the Department holds such views, it is quite certain no improvement can be expected in the conduct of his native subordinates.

5th. It seems scarcely necessary to notice the Collector's supposition, that "a wrong feeling is afloat." Of what consequence can it possibly be to any Executive Officer in what part of the country his work lies? the only feeling he can have in the matter is, one of anxiety to see his work progress, and when in spite of all his efforts he is continually brought to a stand still by an under current of vexatious interference, which it is out of his power to stem the additional "feeling" of annoyance will arise and I think it will be allowed not unreasonably so, but that there is a predisposition to find fault with the Talook servants in Masulipatam, simply because it is the Masulipatam District I deny and that it is a misconception on the part of the Executive Officers that they are thwarted at every time is simply absurd, as they are not so utterly senseless, but that they can understand when and where they meet with courtesy, attention, and assistance and when they meet with inattention incurly and obstruction.

6th. The Tahsildar of Ralinghee has on no single occasion rendered the Public Works Officers any assistance, but on the contrary, has both openly and otherwise done all in his power to oppose them, and unless he is removed from his charge, or some signal mark of the Government's displeasure be inflicted on him, there is not the slightest hope of work ever being carried on, where he is allowed to exert any influence. It is of the greatest importance that the two Departments should work together, especially in the matter of the distribution of the water, and continuance given by the Collector of Masulipatam to such proceedings as those of the Tahsildar of Ralinghee will only lead to endless discussions and in fact be utterly subversive of all attempts to organize any well regulated system of irrigation.

A.

Letter from Captain F. H. RUNDALL, District Engineer Godavery Division; to T. J. KNOX, Esq., Collector of Masulipatam, dated Camp at Dowlaisheram, 11th April 1857, No. 188.

SIR,

The Overseer in charge of the Irrigation in the neighbourhood of Singavaram has reported to me that the Tahsildar of Palinghee has without any reference to any Officer in the Public Works Department ordered the Singavariam channel to be bunded.

If this measure is carried into effect, 100 Pootties of land will be deprived of water for the sake of irrigating the land in the Ava which contains only 40 Pootties.

Mr. Overseer Harris had already arranged with the different parties concerned, so as to equalize the distribution of the water proportionally to the extent of land requiring it. Independent of this however I request you will be good enough to instruct the Tahsildar of Ralinghee not to interfere with any of the irrigation works, but in the event of any alteration being required in existing arrangements, to represent the necessity of such to the Officers in charge who will be ready to enquire into the propriety or otherwise of the same being carried out.

B.

Letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Acting Collector of Masulipatam; to Captain F. H. RUNDALL, District Engineer, Godavery Division, Dowlaisheram, dated 28th April 1857, No. 69.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose you copy of a report from the Tahsildar of Ralinghee.

I am unable to conjecture why Mr. Harris has prohibited water being taken, but the Ryots require water and are entitled to it, and Mr. Harris should know, he has no power to inflict the corporal punishment he has proclaimed.

I beg you will look into the matter.

C.

Letter from Captain F. H. RUNDALL, District Engineer, Godavery Division; to T. J. KNOX, Esq., Collector of Masulipatam, dated Camp at Dowlaisheram, 12th May 1857, No. 236.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th Ultimo, and its enclosure regarding the statement made in it by the Zilladar of Niddavole. Mr. Harris declares that it is wholly untrue, that he never made any proclamation to that effect, nor that he has ever lifted his hand against any man since he had been in the Department Public Works. His character for truthfulness is too well established for me to doubt his word for a moment.

2nd. With respect to the distribution of the water this is Mr. Harris' particular duty and one to which his constant attention is given, and the orders he receives, are to make as equable a distribution as possible for which purpose he arranged that each portion should receive irrigation every 3 days.

3rd. I am not prepared to admit that the Ryots are *entitled* to the water, until I know that they have been assessed, the value of it. It must be remembered that the water now sought, is that for the Dalwa crop, and unless the villages are paying Rupees 4 per acre as a water rate according to the late orders of Government on the subject. I do not consider them *entitled* to it. It is impossible for the Public Works Officers to know to whom water should be distri-

buted as a right, unless the Revenue Officers furnish them with a statement of the extent of land assessed and the rate levied thereon,—no information has as yet been demanded from the Officers of the Department that I can ascertain of the extent of land irrigated in the particular instance.

4th. Having thus far replied to your letter, I would beg to point out that you have not therein touched upon the subject of my letter of the 11th April 1857, which was the Ralinghee Tahsildar's interference in the distribution of the water by the erection of a bund across the channel without the slightest communication to the Public Works Officers in charge of the work. I must beg you to issue, a stringent order to prevent a recurrence of the same, and I shall feel obliged by your furnishing me with a copy of the order for the information of the Officers of my Department.

5th. I regret to be obliged to bring to your notice further, not only the total want of co-operation on the part of the Ralinghee Tahsildar, but the absolute obstructiveness which he has always displayed towards the Officers of the Public Works Department in the District. I enclose copies of two complaints which have been preferred against him on the work at Nundamore. But these are not the only instances. He has resolutely tried all in his power to hinder the manufacture of brick at different villages, and when the inhabitants themselves have been willing to enter into arrangements, his influence has been interposed and has prevented the same being carried out. I regret to add also that he is not the only Tahsildar from whom opposition is experienced in the Masulipatam District. Those of Kykulore, Pentapaud and Ellore have equally exerted themselves to throw hindrances in the way of the Executive Officers. The subject has been often represented to the several Revenue Officers successively in charge of the District, but the same spirit of opposition still prevails. That these complaints are not imaginary is evident from the fact that they are universal, and that Officers who happen to be engaged on works common to both Rajahmundry and Masulipatam have rarely to complain of want of co-operation in the former, while they meet with opposition at every turn in the latter. The Tahsildar of Terwoor alone works willingly with the Department, and his assistance I am bound to say is most effectually rendered. I regret thus to be obliged to bring these points to your notice, but it is absolutely necessary for me to do so, as it is impossible for the Officers in this Department to carry on these duties of the Executive, if obstruction instead of co-operation is experienced from all the native Revenue servants, one form of which is the refusal to assist them in obtaining even the common supplies of food.

Enclosure in C.

Assistant Overseer Edward Scally having made an application to the proprietors of a large Palmyra tope at Muddoor for 5,000 leaves the people were quite willing to furnish the same if paid for at the rate of one anna per 100. The leaves were being supplied when the Moonsiff of Muddoor notified to the suppliers that no more leaves should be supplied without an order from the Tahsildar of Ralinghee to do so.

Application was made for the Tahsildar's permission which was granted on condition of paying for the leaves in advance, the money to be lodged at the Tahsildar's Cutcherry. The price of 5,000 leaves were delivered on the 25th October 1856, but up to this date 7th of May the leaves are only partly supplied though frequent remonstrances have been made to the Tahsildar on this subject.

In consequence of the leaves not being supplied a loss of 80,000 wall bricks has been sustained.

Assistant Overseer Edward Scully having made application for 60 Palmyra trees to the proprietors of Palmyra topes at Neddavole, the people were quite willing to enter into a contract to furnish the same if paid for at the rate of 8 annas per tree. But at the same time said that the permission of the Tahsildar of Ralinghee would be requisite before cutting.

On application for the Tahsildar's permission the Tahsildar replied that the price of the 60 trees were not to be paid to the proprietors but to him, accordingly 30 Rupees were sent early

in October 1856, but instead of permission to cut them at Neddavole where several thousands of trees are growing, the order was to cut them in the following four villages viz.

Neddavole.

Daravarum.

Sencarapoorum.

Brammanagoodem.

Some of those villages are at a great distance from Nundamore where the trees were required and had neither Bandy road or Canal way leading to them.

Thirty trees were only supplied though the want was emergent.

Letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Acting Collector of Masulipatam; to Captain F. H. RUNDALL, District Engineer, Godavery Division, Dowlaishweram, dated 16th May 1857, No. 85.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 12th Instant, I have the honor to remark that not only as you state in para. 3, it is impossible for Public Works Officers to know to whom water should be distributed unless they are first informed by the Revenue authorities but moreover it is not in my opinion desirable they should attempt it in detail.

2nd. To see that each village receive a fair proportion of water, is as much as your Department can be expected to do—but its distribution among the Ryots of the village should be left to the villagers themselves. The joint renting system requires this freedom from an interference which, I am perfectly satisfied is injudicious, for nearly every village has its own established customs as to the distribution of irrigating water and the wants and soil of each field, are familiar to the cultivator in a degree no paid Officer would ever acquire an equal knowledge.

3rd. As to your reasoning in para. 3, I would beg to inform you there is no order of Government ordering a water rate at 4 Rupees an acre in this District. You do your duty in providing water, and I humbly endeavour to do mine in securing a due return to Government and there is ample work for both of us without the one attempting to do the business of the other, and I alone am responsible to Government in matters of assessment of land revenue.

4th. It was through a mistake in my office, your letter of the 11th April has remained unanswered, I now enclose the Tahsildar's explanation and as I saw no reprehensible interference on the Tahsildar's part, I issued no stringent orders on the subject.

5th. As to your charge against the Ralinghee Tahsildar, I regret your Department is so dissatisfied, and I am always ready to enquire into any definite complaints.

As to the brick making, I have issued a stringent order in the Magistrate's Department that I will not allow bricks to be made on land against the wishes of its owner, and the first contractor convicted before me of this trespass shall be heavily fined.

6th. The two complaints about trees which you forwarded shall be enquired into, but it appears to me probable the rules of this District were not known by your Overseer. On every Palmyra cut down, $\frac{1}{2}$ Rupee is levied for Government, and Tahsildars are strictly forbidden to allow Toddy yielding trees to be cut down and for every 100 leaves 1 anna must be paid to the Tahsildar.

7. No effort shall be wanting on my part to remove the obstructiveness the Public Works Department complain of but there must be allowance made on both sides, and not a readiness evinced to find fault, I may mention that within my own experience besides your letter which is somewhat one sided, I have had a very strongly worded letter from Lieutenant Farewell complaining of the Ellore Tahsildar, which he wisely withdrew. He has been too ready to believe the Tahsildar must be wrong, whereas the fault was in the Public Works Department and thus I infer there is a wrong feeling afloat which we as heads of our Department, must endeavour to

allay. Orders about supplies being readily afforded have been issued and I beg you will on your part order prompt payments to be made both for supplies and coolies.

Translation of an Urzee addressed to T. J. KNOX, Esq., Acting Collector in the Zillah of Musulipatam, by Armadata Chetumbarum Tahsildar of Ralenjee Talook, dated 20th April 1857.

In your ~~Urree~~ ^{Urree}, dated 17th Instant No. 84, it was directed that a letter had been received from the Engineer Officer that I caused the Singavarum Channel to be bunded without any reference to them and that I should report the reason for raising the bund in question, and what necessity occurred to do so.

While I was at Niddavole after the Jamabandy Settlement of this Talook was concluded at Vizaswarum the villagers of Niddavole, and Singavarum came before me and complained that the channel through which water for irrigation was procurable for the said Niddavole Senkarapoorum, &c., villages was on a high level and the fields low while the Singavarum channel was low and the fields high, consequently, the latter villagers stated that they experienced great want of irrigation for their Dalwa fields, while those of Niddavole declared that as the channel supplying water to their village fields runs through the field of Singavarum the Ryots of the latter village are impeding the supply of water to their fields. Upon personal enquiry and inspection of the said channels and the Dalwa fields of the both villages, I have in order that no contention may ensue between the both parties and to avoid loss to their produce by the obstruction of irrigation to their crops, intimated to them that each of the parties should continue irrigating their Dalwa fields for 2 days (by turns) I have also taken care that it may be done accordingly but, I have not caused the channel to be bunded. I therefore beg to represent this for your honor's information.

(Signed) A. CHETUMBRUM,
Tahsildar.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) T. J. KNOX,
Acting Collector.

Letter from Captain F. H. RUNDALL, District Engineer Godavery Division; to T. J. KNOX, Esq., Collector of Masulipatam, dated Camp at Dowlaishweram, 3rd June 1857, No. 288.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th Instant.

2. The remarks in para. 3 of my letter of the 12 Idem did not refer to the questions of the distribution of the water in detail, though until that is decided by higher authority, I would beg to point out that it does remain in the hands of the Irrigation Department.

3. My Officers, however, have no orders to interfere with the distribution of water to individuals, beyond that in gross cases of oppression of the poor by the rich Ryots to see the claims of the farmer are not set aside—my remarks had reference simply to the distribution amongst Villages and that unless the Revenue Officers communicated to the Irrigation Department the quantity of land registered by them as watered, the latter would not be able to regulate the supply equitably. Hitherto there has been no communication interchanged, and now that so large an extent of land is being brought under a second crop, it becomes a matter of necessity that there should be some recognized data on which to act otherwise there must be constantly questions of difference arising between the two Departments.

4. With respect to the amount of water rate ordered to be levied, my remarks were guided by the practice I know prevailing in Rajahmundry and Guntoor, which led me to conclude that the intermediate District of Masulipatam would naturally be amenable to the same. The

rate of Assessment in Rajahmundry being 2 Rupees per acre for one crop of rice, and 4 Rupees for two. My duty I would beg to observe is not only in providing water, but in providing it impartially, and taking care that it is not distributed recklessly. It is true that you alone are, responsible for the collection of the Revenue, and with this I would not presume to interfere, but I conceive it to be equally my duty to see that the works committed to my trust yield an adequate return to the State.

5. But with respect to the more immediate cause of this correspondence, I regret to find that you refuse to give your co-operation in a manner so essentially necessary, as the prevention of irregular interference on the part of the Tahsildars in the distribution of the water to different villages. It is a mere evasion for the Ralinghee Tahsildar to say that he did not cause the bund to be erected, his own letter shows, that in order to settle the dispute he told the villagers to *help themselves* to water every two days, and that "he had taken care that it should be done accordingly." Not a word is mentioned of his making any reference to the Subordinate irrigation Officer or even to his superior immediately in charge of the channel, but he assumed an authority not warranted, and issued an order that proved to be directly contrary to arrangements which the irrigation Officer had personally ascertained as necessary and consequently ordered to be carried out. Your opinion therefore that the conduct of the Tahsildar in this instance is not open to reprehension, an opinion which doubtless, by this time has been made known to him and to others, will I foresee be productive of so much trouble and such constant clashing between the two Departments, that I see no alternative but to refer the matter at once to Government and request that a definite order may be issued on the subject.

6. With regard to the brick making, I would beg to point out that at one locality the owners of the ground were perfectly willing to allow the soil to be used, and had already permitted the manufacture of bricks, but on the application of another Public Works Officer the order of the Ralinghee Tahsildar forbidding the owner to allow his ground to be used for the purpose was the excuse put forward.

7. I would here remark that I do not ask for assistance from the Tahsildar in procuring supplies for public purposes, but all I request, is that they may not be allowed to *interfere* where agreements with private parties have been effected which has been the case in the two instances I forwarded to you. The owners of Toddy yielding trees are not likely to part with them for 8 annas a piece, so that there is no danger of such being cut down by the Public Works Department, when the permission of the owner has been previously obtained.

8. I beg to protest against the expression of "a readiness to find fault."—So far from such having been the case with me, I have on the contrary fallen short of my duty in not having long ago represented to Government the continued complaints which have been sent in to me by the different Executive Officers employed in the Masulipatam District, and I have abstained in the hope that the opposition of the Native Revenue officials would gradually cease, as it has done in Rajahmundry.

9. It is not as observed by me in my last a question of imagination or "feeling which is a float," neither is it a party question, which the remarks in your letter seem to imply. It is a matter of perfect indifference *where* the work of the Executive Officer lies. It may be in one or the other or it may be in both Districts. His only care is that his work should progress, and he must be perfectly sensible where he meets with assistance, and where he meets with the reverse. It is no matter of feeling then but one of fact and as the fact of the opposition occurs in the Masulipatam District, the application was made to you to effect its removal.

10. The decided measures of co-operation taken by all the Rajahmundry authorities have shown the native officials the hopelessness of opposition, and I addressed you solely with the hope that I should find the same active co-operation in your District, but of this your letter under reply gives me so little encouragement from the countenance you have lent to the proceedings of the Ralinghee Tahsildar, that I have resolved in forwarding a copy of the correspondence to Government.

11. I will only add that I have issued the requisite orders that proper and prompt payments be made in return for articles of food, any failure of this however will be doubtless made known to you quicker than to myself.

Letter from Major E. LAWFORD, Superintending Engineer Southern Circle; to Colonel C. E. FABER, Chief Engineer, dated Bangalore, 15th June 1857, No. 152.

SIR,

1. Referring to the letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly to the Board of Revenue, No. 62, dated 27th May 1857, which has been communicated to me from your office with Extract Proceedings, No. 960, I have the honor to observe, that Mr. Bird appears* to have misunderstood an expression in my letter to your address, dated 11th May 1857 No. 136, para. 6.

2. Of course I am aware that the Collector is responsible for the realization of Revenue on lands actually irrigated and cultivated, but my meaning was, that it did not appear to me clear to whom belonged the duty of seeing, that the promised results of an outlay of 50,000 Rupees are secured.

3. Supposing the Ponnary works to be finished, who is to attend to the distribution of the water, and the irrigation of the lands in such a way that no waste shall occur. I need scarcely remind you, that the Coleroon is by no means a river of unlimited supply, and it is absolutely necessary to the success of my project that the water shall be turned to the best account.

4. The charge of all the Corumboos, or channel heads in Trichinopoly, except those of Saulgudy still rests with the Collector, and if that of the Ponnary is to be given to the District Engineer, that Officer should be furnished with power or money to ensure the maintenance of the supply.

5. I rejoice to find so much land prepared for cultivation, and it now only rests with Lieutenant Ryves to provide the water.

6. I beg that this letter may be communicated to the Board of Revenue, and laid before Government.

No. 19. ORDER THEREON, No. 1580; dated 15th August 1857.

With this letter, the Chief Engineer submits for the orders of Government a communication from the District Engineer of the Godavery Division, giving cover to certain correspondence between him and the Acting Collector of Masulipatam, having reference to the question as to which Department, Revenue or Public Works, the duty of distributing water is to be entrusted. Colonel Faber submits also a communication from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle having reference to the same subject, in connection with the irrigation works of the Trichinopoly District.

2. The question appears to have arisen in Masulipatam from a bund having been thrown across the Sungavarum channel in the Ralinghee Talook, which the Overseer reported to the District Engineer had been done under orders issued by the Tahsildar of that Talook, without any reference to him, as the Officer in charge of the work. Captain Rundall requested the Collector strictly to prohibit any such interference, and brought to his notice the opposition experienced by the Public Works Department generally from the Tahsildars of Ralinghee, Kykaloor, Pentapad, and Ellore.

3. The Chief Engineer is of opinion that, for the interests of both Government and the Ryots, the entire distribution of water (not to individuals) should rest solely on the professional Department, and that unless some comprehensive system is introduced, the present mismanagement and waste of water, so loudly complained of by all Officers of the Department who have had experience in irrigation works, will only be perpetuated.

4. The Government have attentively perused all the papers now submitted, and they are of opinion that the distribution of water to the villages should rest solely with the Public Works Department, while the detailed distribution to the fields should be left with the villagers themselves, the village Officers interfering, if necessary, and appeals lying to the Samuddars, the Amildar, and eventually to the Collector. This appears to be the best arrange-

ment at all times and under all circumstances, but certainly so in Districts where the joint renting system prevails, because, as the rent is made with the body of the Ryots who are jointly responsible, and as the Government Officers do not necessarily know any thing of the extent of individual holdings; the Ryots have the best interest in seeing that all are fairly supplied, and the Government Officers are ignorant of the extent of each man's wants. The Government further think it necessary that the Collector should keep the District Engineer informed of the extent of irrigated land in each village, as irrigation extends, and should make known to him any cases of insufficient or superfluous supply that may be brought to his notice. Before however passing final orders, the Government resolve to refer the papers for the opinion of the Board of Revenue.

5. In the correspondence now under notice, reference is more than once made by the District Engineer to interference on the part of the Talook Officers of Masulipatam, with the arrangements made by the P. W. D. with individuals desirous to supply bricks to the Public Works. The people should be interfered with in this respect only on very exceptional occasions where land is of ordinary quality, and there may be much waste land available, the Ryots may be allowed to use their holdings as they please, but where the land is valuable, and but little may be available beyond the extent actually cultivated, the Collector may justly interfere on the part of Government to prevent its being ruined for the sake of only a temporary advantage to the holder, who will throw it up as soon as his purpose is answered.

6. The Acting Collector refers to a system prevailing in Masulipatam, under which the Government Officers receive a tax for every Palmyra tree that is felled, and for every hundred leaves that are cut. The Board of Revenue will be good enough to consider whether these taxes should not be abolished.

7. The Government regret to observe in the correspondence now submitted, a want of cordial co-operation with the Public Works Department on the part of the Acting Collector of Masulipatam. Mr. Knox was employed in Rajahmundry during the construction of the Godavari annicut, and had then an opportunity of seeing how mutually dependent on each other were when both acted in accord. The Government look to Mr. Knox to introduce into Masulipatam the same activity and interest in public improvements, which has been gradually increasing in the neighbouring District of Rajahmundry since the year in which the annicut was commenced, and to afford a ready and active co-operation to the Department of Public Works. The tone of Mr. Knox's correspondence, the reception given to the representations of the District Engineer, and his own account of his orders to his subordinates, all evince a feeling of antagonism which is little calculated to bring credit to his administration, or to advance the public service. The Government trust that hereafter he will remember that he cannot more efficiently do his duty as a Collector, than by a cordial co-operation with that Department, which is engaged in carrying out measures for the improvement of the country, and the general prosperity of the State, and that he will steadily and actively discountenance all attempts on the part of his subordinates, even passively to obstruct the Officers of the Public Works Department.

8. The Government will not close these Proceedings without calling on both Mr. Knox and Captain Rundall to be careful so to conduct their public duties and correspondence as to forward the interest of Government. Captain Rundall's attention will be drawn to the use of the term "absurd" in the 5th para. of his letter to the Chief Engineer of the 9th Ultimo, which is unusual in official correspondence, opposed to common courtesy, and not calculated to maintain the harmony and good feeling that is essential to the public service.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

District Engineer's Office S. G.
9 June 1857.

No 304

Home: Captain J. H. Rundall.
District Engineer Godavery &
Colonel C. L. Faber
Chief Engineer D. K. W.
Fort S. George

Public: Sir

I have the honor to forward the accompanying copies of correspondence which have passed between the Collector of Masulipatam and myself, and I request you will be good enough to lay the same before Government, that some definite orders may be passed on the question as to which Department the duty of distributing the water to the several villages is to be entrusted.

2. I will briefly relate the circumstances which gave rise to the correspondence.

3. Mr. Superintendent Harris, whose duty is to distribute the water to Villages lying on either bank of the Weyanoo near the Villages of Neddavol and Chettyputh, reported, that he had found a bund thrown across the channel leading to the Village of Singavairam, and on enquiry was told, that it had been done by order of the Tasilidar of Palungy. He therefore wrote for instructions as to how he was to act, as it interfered with the arrangements he had made for supplying

certain

Linnit

Certain villages with water in rotation according to their respective necessities. I desired him to immediately remove the Band, and write at once to the Collector of Masulipatam the letter marked A. To this he forwarded the reply marked B, in answering which I took occasion to point out to the Collector the systematic obstruction which has been, and is still pursued, by not only the Sasil-dar of Palnugy, but by all the native Revenue Officials in his District towards the execution of the Public Works. Instead however of affording that co-operation which I had expected, he upholds the proceedings of the Sasil-dar in spite of the open admission of direct and unvarranted interference made by the Sasil-dar in his own Name. and he seems to make the whole matter a party question, instead of looking at it on the broad ground that as servants of the same Govt., our combined efforts should be employed to further the interests of the state to the best of our ability.

The Collector's correspondence and his proceeding plainly indicate that, but little co-operation is to be expected from him, and if the Head of the Department holds such views, it is quite certain, no improvement can be expected in the conduct of his native subordinates.

It

5. It seems scarcely necessary to notice the Collector's supposition, that "a wrong feeling is afloat" of what consequence can it possibly be to any Executive Officer in what part of the country his work lies? the only feeling he can have in the matter is one of anxiety to see his work progress, and when in spite of all his efforts, he is continually brought to a stand still by an under current of perpetual interference, which it is out of his power to stem the additional "feeling" of annoyance will arise. and I think it will be allowed not unreasonably so, but that there is a predisposition to find fault with the Talook Servants in Masulipatam, simply because it is the Masulipatam District I deny. and that it is a misconception on the part of the Executive Officers that they are thwarted at every turn is simply absurd, as they are not so utterly senseless, but that they can understand when and where they meet with courtesy, attention, and assistance, and when they meet with inattention, incivility and obstruction.

6. The Sasil-dar of Palnugy has on no single occasion rendered
the

the Public Works Officers any assistance, but on the contrary, has both openly and otherwise done all in his power to oppose them - and unless he is removed from his charge, or some signal mark of the Government's displeasure be inflicted on him, there is not the slightest hope of work ever being carried on, where he is allowed to exert any influence - It is of the greatest importance that the two Departments should work together, especially in the matter of the distribution of the water - and continuance given by the Collector of Masulipatam to such proceedings as those of the Sirdar of Rahungy will only lead to endless discussions and in fact be utterly subversive of all attempts to organize any well regulated system of irrigation

I have &c

Rajahmundry Brett
Camp at Dow. 3 / 10 J H Randall Capt.
Laiswar and
9 June 1837. District Engineer C.D.

PM 12/1/57

N^o 52.

Sup^r Eng^r Office
Southern Circle
Camp Bangalore

From

Major Lawford

Sup^r Eng^r S^r Circle
The Chief Engineer D.P.W.

Fort St. George

Dated the 15th June 1857

Sir

1. Referring to the letter from the Collector of Trichinopoly to the Board of Revenue, N^o 62 dated 27th May 1857, which has been communicated to me from your Office with Extract Proceedings, N^o 960.

Para. 3.

I have the honor to observe, that Mr. Bird appears to have misunderstood an expression in my letter to your address, dated 11th May 1857 N^o 136, Para 6.

2. Of course I am aware that the Collector is responsible for the realization of Revenue on lands actually irrigated and Cultivated, but my meaning was, that it did not appear to me clear to whom belonged the duty of seeing that the promised results of an outlay of 50,000 Rupees are secured.

3. Supposing the Donary works to be finished, who is to attend to the distribution of the water, and the irrigation of the lands in such a way that no waste shall occur. I need scarcely remind you, that the Collector is by no means

"river of unlimited supply, and it is absolutely necessary to the success of my project that the water shall be turned to the best account. -

4. The charge of all the Corumbos, or Chan: nab heads in Trichinopoly, except those of Spul: gudy shall rest with the Collector, and if that of the Annay is to be given to the District Engineer, that Officer should be furnished with power or money to ensure the maintenance of the supply. -

5. I rejoice to find so much land prepared for Cultivation, and it now only rests with Lieutenant Ryves to provide the water. -

6. Hop that this letter may be communicated to the Board of Revenue, and laid before the Government. -

Bangalore - }
15th June 1857 }
I have &c
(Signed) E. Lawford
Supt. Eng. & S. Circle

[True Copy]

Wm. Laid. Colonel

Chief Engineer

Central Office of R.L.
 P. S. George 25 June 1857.

No. 1451.
 From The Chief Engineers
 The Secretary to Government
 P.W. Department.

Sir,

1. I have the honor to forward for the consideration and Orders of Government, the accompanying copy of a letter No 304, dated 9th Instant, from the District Engineer of Launceston Division, together with the correspondence in Original (to be obligingly returned) which has taken place between that Officer, and the Acting Collector of Dnasulipatanam, on the question, as to which Department the duty of distributing water is to be entrusted.
2. The circumstances which gave rise to the correspondence, is stated in para: 3 of the District Engineer's letter, and it is evident, that the difference of opinion now existing, on the all important question of the distribution of water, should be put an end to, at the earliest possible period.
3. The District Engineer in his letter marked A, very properly brought to the notice of the Collector, the conduct of the

General.
 Correspondence on
 the question of dis-
 tribution of water.

1857. 25 June 1857.

(Enclosure in letter from)
 the Chief Engineer S.P.M.
 to the Secretary to Government
 P.W.D.

Dated 25 June 1857.
 See 4.

No. 1451.
 P.W.D. 1261/57.

Copy of a letter from Major
 Lawford to the Chief Engineer
 S.P.M. dated 9th June 1857 (enclosed)
 containing his views regarding the
 results of the Commission's
 findings regarding the
 letter from the Collector of Launceston
 District.

the Sasildar of Ralinghee, in ordering, without reference to any Officer of the Public Works Department, a bund to be thrown across the Singaveram Channel.

4.- Overseer Harris, the District Engineer observed, had arranged with the different parties concerned, for the equal distribution of the water, proportionally to the extent of land requiring it, and in requesting that the Sasildar of Ralinghee might be instructed not to interfere with any of the irrigation works, expressed the readiness on the part of the Officers of his Department to enquire into the propriety, or otherwise, of making alterations in the existing arrangements, should such be considered necessary.

5.- The Acting Collector in his reply, enclosed copy of a Report from the Sasildar of Ralinghee, and observed, that he was unable "to conjecture, why Mr. Harris has prohibited water being taken, but the Ryots require water, and are entitled to it."

6.- The Acting Collector refers to Overseer Harris having issued a proclamation, on the infliction of Corporal punishment.

7.- In his letter marked B, the District Engineer in para: 1 observes, that the statement made by the Sasildar of Reddavele, regarding

regarding the infliction of Corporal punishment, is declared by Overseer Harris to be wholly untrue, and that the Overseer (whose character for truthfulness is too well established, to admit of his word being doubted) states, that he never made any proclamation to that effect, and that he has never lifted his hand against any man, since he has been in the Department.

8.- In para: 2, the District Engineer points out, that the distribution of the water is Overseer Harris's particular duty, and one to which his constant attention is given, and that in view to as equal a distribution as possible being made, he had arranged that each portion of land should receive irrigation every 3 days.

9.- In para: 3, the District Engineer states that the Ryots are not entitled to the water, unless they are paying Rapes 10 p. as a water rate, according to the late orders of Government on the subject, (as subsequently informed, by the Acting Collector, the order has not been applied to the Malsipatam District) and observes, that without being furnished by the Revenue Officers, with a statement of the extent of land assessed, and of the rate levied

there on

therein, it is impossible for the Public Works Officers to know to whom water should be distributed as a right. - In the instance in question, the District Engineer further observes, that, as far as he is able, to ascertain no information as to the extent of land irrigated, has as yet been demanded from the Officers of his Department.

10. - In para. 4, The District Engineer refers to the interference of the Ralinghee Tasilidar, and requests that orders may be given to prevent recurrence of it.

11. - In para. 5, is further noticed, noting the total want of co-operation in the part of the same Tasilidar, but of the absolute obstructiveness he has always displayed towards the Officers of the Public Works Department, and in support of the same, are forwarded, copies of two complaints preferred against the Tasilidar.

12. - The Tasilidars of Nylkhar, Puntapand, and Ellore, are also named as offering obstruction, instead of assistance to the Officers of the Department, and to show that the complaints are not imaginary, the District Engineer notices, that Officers who happen to be engaged on works common

*Mar. 1857

to both the Raja humdry and hasutipatam, have rarely complained of want of co-operation in the former, while they meet with opposition at every turn in the latter. The Tasilidar of Sirvor alone is said to work willingly with the Department, and to render most effectual assistance.

13. - In his letter No. 35 dated 16 May 1857, the Acting Collector observes in para. 1 "It is impossible for Public Works Officers to learn, to whom water should be distributed, unless they are first informed by the Revenue Authorities, but moreover it is not in my opinion desirable they should attempt it in detail," and proceeds in the two following paras to support the view thus expressed.

14. - My own decided conviction is, that for the interests of both Government and the Ryots, the entire distribution of the water (not to individuals as noticed by the Acting Collector) should rest solely on the professional Department, and that unless some comprehensive system is introduced, the present mismanagement and waste of water so loudly complained of by all Officers of the Department who have had experience in irrigation works, will only be perpetuated.

*Para 4 & 5

15. - The Acting Collector does not admit, that there was any thing reprehensible in the conduct of the Tasilidar of Ralinghee, (and

and expresses regret that the District Engineer's Department should be dissatisfied.

16. With reference to a complaint about the making of bricks being interfered with, tho there is nothing in the correspondence to show that any trespass had been committed the Acting Collector merely observes that he has issued a stringent order, that he will not allow bricks to be made on land against the wishes of its owner, and that the first contractor convicted of trespass, will be heavily fined. With much diffidence I would venture to express any regret at the publication of an intimation, which assuredly could need no such publicity, and which was so peculiarly likely to be misinterpreted by Asiatic construction, into a prohibition against proprietors permitting their ground being lent for the accommodation of Public Works Contractors.

In point of fact, the almost inevitable effect of such an order being issued at a time when bricks were much required by the Engineer Department, needs no comment.

17. There is nothing calling for particular remark in the two concluding paras of the Acting Collector's letter, except that that gentleman appears to be under the impression, that there is a desire on the part of the Public Works

Works Department Officers to find fault, and that the letter of the District Engineer is somewhat one-sided.

18. The misapprehension on the part of the Acting Collector of the remarks regarding the distribution of the water as contained in para: 3 of the District Engineer's letter (marked B) being apparent to the latter officer enters somewhat more fully into the question in his subsequent letter No 288 of the 3rd instant, and foreseeing the evils that must inevitably follow the Acting Collector's approval of the conduct of the Walinghee Sirdar, in distributing the water on his own authority, expresses his intention of submitting the question for the Order of Government.

19. The District Engineer observes that he does not require the assistance of the Sirdars in procuring supplies for public purposes, but very reasonably requests that they may not be allowed to interfere, where agreements with private parties have been effected, which is stated to have been the case in the two complaints marked C. and the interference avowedly claimed by the Collector on the part of his Sirdar, as regards sales of both trees and leaves, cannot but be considered I presume, highly undesirable.

inc

in respect to the proprietors, who are thus denied the right or practice of direct action, to say nothing of the indefinite delay thereby caused in the delivery and completion of the supply.

P.O. The District Engineer concludes his letter by endeavouring to remove the impression entertained by the Acting Collector as to the readiness of his Department to find fault, and observes that so far from such being the case with himself, he has on the contrary fallen short of his duty in not having long ago represented to Government the continued complaints which have been made by the different Executive Officers employed in the Masulipatam District, which is all the more conspicuous from its contrast to the mutually good understanding that prevails in Rayachoti.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obed^t Servant

Central Office of P.O.

Int. P. George

23rd June 1837

Mr. Major Colonel

Chief Engineer

P.S. Since writing the foregoing, a letter No. 152, of the 15th Instant, has been received

received from the Superintending Engineer Southern Circle, on Circuit, and as in it the same question is raised as to the Department to which the duty of distributing water should properly be entrusted, I beg to forward a copy of the letter for the information of Government.

Mr. Major Colonel

Chief Engineer

Wf
Atk. Eng. N.C.

23

1580

Extract from the Minutes of Consultations
Under date the 15th ~~Aug~~ ^{July} 1857.

Read the following
letter from the Chief Engineer.

(Here enter 23rd June 1857 &c/1451)

With this letter the
Chief Engineer submits for
the orders of Government
a communication from
the District Engineer of the
Coolahy Division, giving
cover to certain correspond-
ence between him and the
acting Collector of Malabar
District, having reference to the
question as to which Depart-
ment, Revenue or Public Works,
the duty of distributing water
is to be entrusted. Colonel Fisher

Ludwig

Wm. Lloyd Garrison
20th Nov 1837
20th Nov 1837

1961

1830
The Med. Inquirer
The Secretary of
the Department
of the Interior

Dec 23. Dec 1837.
Recd 14th

Recd. 3rd returned
1890 1880-15th signed
12/4/01

2)
 Answer for the consideration
 of both, a somewhat more
 full and plain plan has been
 in making Collection of the
 plan, and Richard Engineer
 formerly arrived on the
 question as to what is
 want the duty of also including
 water to the several villages
 as to be anticipated.

Submits also a communication from the Superintendent of the Engineer Southern Circle having reference to the same subject, in connection with the Irrigation works of the Krishnapur District.

2. The question as appears to have arisen in manipulation from a mound having been thrown across the Tungaswaru channel in the Kalinghee Talook, which the Overseer reported to the District Engineer had been done under orders issued by the Tahsildar of that Talook, without any reference to him, as the officer in charge of the work. Captain Randall requested the Collector

Collector strictly to prohibit any such interference, and brought to his notice the opposition experienced by the Public Works Department generally from the Tahsildars of Kalinghee, Tykoon, Puntapad, and Ellore.

3. The Chief Engineer is of opinion that, for the interests of both Government and the Ryots, the entire distribution of water (not to individuals) should rest solely on the professional Department, and that unless some comprehensive system is introduced, the present mismanagement and waste of water, so loudly complained of by all officers of the Department who have had experience in

in irrigation works, will
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The village officers inter-
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This appears to be the best
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and under all circumstances,
but certainly so in Districts
where

where the joint renting system
prevails, because, as the rent
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The Government further
think it necessary that the
Collector should keep the
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med of the extent of irri-
gated land in each village, as
irrigation extends, and should
make known to him any
cases of insufficient or
superfluous supply that
may

may be brought to his notice.

Before however passing

final orders, the Government

resolved to refer the papers

for the opinion of the Board

of Revenue.

5 In the correspondence

now under notice, reference

is more than once made by the

District Engineer to interfere

on the part of the Talook

Officers of Masulipatam,

with the arrangements made

by the P. W. D. with individ-

uals desirous to supply bricks

to the public works. It must

be at once put a stop to, all

that Government claims for

the occupation of land is the

payment of the fixed assess-

ment, and the manner in

which the land is made use of by

the occupant is for his sole consideration.

para 5 - 12 May

para 6. 3rd June

The people should be

interfered with in this

respect only on very

exceptional occasions

- Here land is of or-

- dinary quality, &

here may be much

barren land availa-

ble, but here the

land is water-logged, &

but little may be availa-

- ble beyond the extent

actually cultivated, for brick making will become

the only way justly inter-

- ferred on the part of Govt,

to prevent it being

It is true that under this view

land which has been excavated

for brick making will become

unfit for cultivation, and will

be thrown up when bricks are

no longer required, but this will

seldom occur, and as the

person who held the land

will require the means of

support for his family, he

will take up new land, and

the extent of cultivation will

not be at all diminished.

5 The Acting Collector

refers to a system prevail-

- ing in Masulipatam, under

which the Government

officers receive a tax for

every palmyra tree that is

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7. The Government regret to observe in the correspondence now submitted, a want of cordial cooperation with the Public Works Department on the part of the acting Collector of Masulipatam. Mr. Knox was employed in Rajahmundry during the construction of the Godavery Aqueduct, and had then an opportunity of seeing how mutually dependent on each other were the Engineer and the Collector's Departments, and how rapidly a gigantic work progressed

progressed when both acted in accord. The Government look to Mr. Knox to introduce into Masulipatam the same activity and interest in public improvements, which has been gradually increasing in the neighbouring district of Rajahmundry since the year in which the Aqueduct was commenced, and to afford a ready and active co-operation to the Department of Public Works. The tone of Mr. Knox's correspondence, the reception given to the representations of the District Engineer, and his own account of his orders to his subordinates, all evince a feeling of antagonism

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the general prosperity
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and good feeling that is essen-
tial to the public service.

9 Copies to the Chief Eng^r with enc^s Disps 17
3 - - to the Secy of War
with Copy of the Chief Eng^r's letter
+ enc^s 17

17

Public Works 1857 Depto.
D^o to Comd 28th Augt.

No 1580-

Contract Muns of Comd.

D^o 15th August 1857.

From J. S. & Prop. D^o to Comd.
Coll^y of Masulipatam 26th Augt.
67. C. N. 1123 in 6th 1857.
Extract from D^o 23rd July 1857 103 p^{er} p^{er}
14th Sept 1858

Passing orders on a correspondence
that has taken place between the
Acting Coll^y of Masulipatam and
District Engineer of Godavari Division
on the question as to what Dept^t
the duty of distributing water to
the several villages is to be en-
trusted.

No 18419.

27th Aug 1857