6-8-37

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. Press Mk.

Dated 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

2. Read the following letter from T. J. KNOX, Esq., Acting Collector of Masulipatam; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, dated 26th August 1857, No. 24.

SIR,

Para. 1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract Minutes Consultation August No. 1580 Revenue Irrigation Department.

2. I deeply regret that Government have been pleased to comment on my conduct in such e terms. I might have expected that the whole tenour of my official life would have been ed to weigh something against the tone of a single letter, for it can hardly have been unvn to the Government that I have been thrown very much among Engineers, that I have ys maintained the greatest cordiality towards them officially and in Rajahmundry and Malahey have become my personal friends, and I feel perfectly innocent of any feeling of antasm towards them.

3. I do not know however what Captain Rundall has written of me. I think he might inserted in his letter that I issued "800" copies of the very order he solicited, placing the r of distributing water on his Department. I beg to enclose a copy of my draft in English h before issuing I submitted for Captain Orr's amendments and approval. This order, I learn from the Government Proceedings, was premature. But I issued it on my own resibility being anxious to forward a Department with which I am now most unexpectedly ased of not cordially co-operating.

Circular Orders to all Tahsildars, Zilladars, and Cwnums.

1. Whereas it is necessary that there should be no misunderstanding as to the powers of Public Works Department as to the distribution of Irrigating waters, and the several reue authorities may not fully comprehend the change that has taken place, the following rules laid down as general guides and they must be obeyed in letter and in spirit.

2. The Public Works Department have entire control over all Canals, channels, and *sluices*, y are responsible to Government for their preservation and for the right distribution of the ter, consequently Tahsildars and their subordinates, and Curnums, have nothing to say to the tributing of water as long as it is within a channel the sluice gates of which are under the rge of a Public Works Department's Officer.

3. And all Police and Revenue authorities are strictly ordered to prevent any ryot or body ryots, erecting bunds in these Canals or interfering with the sluices or in any way altering rks or arrangements of the Public Works Department.

4. When a dispute arises about water and the parties bring it before the Head of Police, is, before deciding it, to ascertain what rule the Public Works Department had established garding this water, and punish the offending party and to allow of no compromise which is not cording to the Public Works Department's rule.

5. The Public Works Department's rule is to be considered as the "Maumool" was in rmer days.

6. Of course once water has left the sluices and has got away fields and it is fought about y one ryot with another, the Head of Police can act according to justice and Maumool.

7. The Public Works Department will be requested to acquaint the Tahsildar as far as they m as to sluices and the distribution of water and their instructions must be strictly carried out.

8. The Public Works Department have to provide water to many villages and it is quite ossible that some times they cannot give a particular village as much water as it requires or ather wishes for, but instead of stealing from sluices, and cutting banks, the ryots must be aught to behave quietly.

9. The loss they think they have suffered by any arrangement of the Public Works Department, must be at once reported to the Collector, who promises remission where it is due, but the report of such loss from want of water, must be made within 10 days to enable the Collector to ask the Public Works Department to send a person and see it, otherwise a claim for remission will not be attended to, 28th May 1857.

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

(True Copy.)

T. J. KNOX,
Acting Collector.

No. 83. ORDER THEREON, No. 1708; dated 8th September 1857.

Ordered that the foregoing letter be recorded.

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

Circular Orders

to

all Tahsildars

" Zillahdars

and

" Curnums

1 Whereas it is necessary that there should be no misunderstanding as to the powers of the Public Work Department as to the distribution of Irrigation Water, and the General Revenue authorities may not fully comprehend the Change that has taken place, the following rules are laid down as General Guides & they must be obeyed in Letter & in Spirit.

2 The Public Works Department have entire Control over all Canals, Channels & Sluices — they are responsible to Government for their preservation & for the right distribution of the water — Consequently Tahsildars & their subordinates & Curnums, have nothing to do with the distributing of water as long as it is within a Channel the sluices of which are under the Charge of a Public Works Department officer —

3 And all Police & Revenue Authorities are strictly ordered to prevent any upset

or

or body of ryots, erecting bunds in these Canals or interfering with the sluices or in any way altering works or arrangements of the Public Works Department.

4 When a dispute arises about water & the parties bring it before the Head of Police, he is, before deciding it, to ascertain what rule the Public Works Department had established regarding that water, & punish the offending party, & to allow of no compromise which is not according to the Public Works Department's rule.

5 The Public Works Department's rule is to be considered as the "Memorandum" was in former days.

6 Of Course once water head left the sluices & has got among fields & is fought about by one ryot with another the Head of Police can act according to justice & Memorandum.

7 The Public Works Department will be requested to ascertain the Cubic Feet as far as they can as to sluices & the distribution of water & their instructions must be strictly carried out.

8 The Public Works Department have to provide water to many Villages, & it is quite possible that sometimes they cannot give a particular Village as much water as it requires or rather wishes for but instead of stealing from sluices, and cutting banks, the ryots must be taught to behave quietly.

9 The loss they think they have suffered by any arrangement of the Public Works Department, must be at once reported to the Collector, who promises Remission where it is due. But the report of such loss from want of water, must be made within 10 days to enable the Collector to ask the Public Works Department to send a person & see it. Otherwise a Claim for remission will not be attended to. 28th May 1857

/signed/ J. L. Stokes
Acting Collector

/true Copy/

Acting Collector

No 24

Masulipatam Collectors
Cutcherry - 26th August 1857

From

J. J. Knox Esqre

Acting Collector of Masulipatam

To

H. Forbes Esqre

Acting Secretary to Government

Revenue Department

Fort St. George

Sir,

Para 1 I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Extract Minutes Consultation 15th August No. 1580 Revenue Irrigation depart-ment.

2 I deeply regret that Government have been pleased to comment on my conduct in such severe terms. I might have expected that the whole tenour of my official life would have been allowed to weigh something against the tone of a single letter, for it can hardly have been unknown to the Govern-ment that I have been thrown very much among engineers, that I have always maintained the greatest cordiality towards them officially and in Rajahmundry and Masulipatam they have become my personal friends, and I feel perfectly innocent of any feeling of

1857 Sept 4th
Rect a letter from the
Actg Collector of
Masulipatam
dated 26 August
1857 No 24

Copy of a Letter
to the Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1580 dated 15th instant, intimating that the Right Honble the Governor in Council has been pleased to direct that I should be informed that the Government have been pleased to comment on my conduct in such severe terms, that I might have expected that the whole tenour of my official life would have been allowed to weigh something against the tone of a single letter, for it can hardly have been unknown to the Government that I have been thrown very much among engineers, that I have always maintained the greatest cordiality towards them officially and in Rajahmundry and Masulipatam they have become my personal friends, and I feel perfectly innocent of any feeling of

Dated 28th Aug 1857

antagonism towards them-

3 I do not know however what Captain Rundall has written of me- I think he might have inserted in his letter that I issued "800" copies of the very order he solicited, placing the duty of distributing water on his department. I beg to enclose a Copy of my draft in English which before issuing I submitted for Captain O'Reilly's amendments & approval. This order, I now learn from the Government proceedings, was premature- But I issued it on my own responsibility being anxious to forward a department with which I am now most unexpectedly accused of not cordially co-operating-

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant

Illegible
Acting Collector

Conn 18 Aug 57 No 18-19.

Public Works 1857 Department
Recd 5th Sept. 1857 No 1723
From J. L. Stone Esquire
Acting Collector
of Municipalities
To The Acting Secretary
to Government
Revenue Dept.
Fort St George
Dated 26th August 1857
Recd 31st S. No 24

No 4
Encl 1

Expressing his regret
on the Arrangements made by
Government on his Conduct
in some terms in Extract
Minute Cons. 15th August 1857
No 1580 Revenue investing in
Dept. & stating that he always
maintained the Districts
Cordiality towards Europeans

1857 Sept 8 No 82 & 83.

2 Sept. 57