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Not to be folded or roughly handled*211/*
17/12/38

No. 2540.
FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
To THE SECRETARY TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
Fort William, 25th April 1859.

Agricultural.
Dykes.

SIR,

In reply to your letter No. 1683 of 21st August last, and in continuation of paragraph 2 of Major Strachey's letter No. 5943 of 27th November last, I am directed to request that a longitudinal section of the bed of the Pennair river may be furnished for the information of the Government of India, extending from two or three miles above the site of the Annicut to at least four miles below it.

2. The slope of the Pennair where this Annicut is established, so far as can be judged from the fragmentary section received, appears to be very considerably greater than that of the great Madras rivers on which Annicuts have been established heretofore.

3. The establishment of weirs on rivers of sandy bed and rapid slope has been found, in the experience of our Engineers in the North-Western Provinces, to be attended with peculiar effects.

4. In the case of the Muskurra, a river which crosses the Eastern Jumna Canal, and the slope of which closely corresponds with that of the Pennair as given in the section, the dam was originally established with its crest $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the bed of the river. Year after year successive steps worked back on the tail of the dam and were met by successive extensions of the work, till at length the old dam appeared to be upwards of 20 feet above the modified bed of the river on the down stream side. Ultimately a succession of rough dams was established below to regulate the tail slope of the bed; and the retrogression of levels then ceased.

5. It does not appear, from the papers accompanying your letter of August last, that any retrogression of levels had taken place on the Pennair in consequence of the establishment of the Annicut. The Engineers of the Canal Department, N. W. P., however, anticipate that such an effect (though it does not appear in the low sloped rivers on which the larger Annicuts of the Madras Presidency have been established) will appear on the Pennair when the Annicut shall have been established and maintained intact for two or three years.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. J. G. G. G.

Secy. to the Govt. of India.

