M.R.O. 1—77,000—8-6-37.

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

Con. 20—1—1860

G.O. No. 169	Press Mis.
123-24 Dated 20—1—	1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

DH 21/11/38

In Con. 16th December 1859, No. 6261.

From T. J. KNOX, Esq., Officiating Collector of SALEM,

dated Salem, 12th December 1859, No. 276.

With reference to the Extract from the Minutes of Consultation, under date the 25th September 1858, and the Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated the 31st October 1859, I have the honor to report on the new arrangements for the distribution of certain irrigating waters in this District.

2. For the three Cavery channels in Nameul and Paramati Taluqs, a separate Establishment had long existed, and the entire charge of these Channels was made over to the District Engineer, on the 1st November 1858.

3. From the reports now received, it appears that the people are not satisfied, and greatly desire that the channels should be restored to the management of the Revenue Department.

4. As far as I can learn here, as in other instances, the Ryots supposed that the Department Public Works were to do every thing for them, and they soon found that the Department Public Works had not, as the Collector had the influence or power of enforcing the labour and attention to the work in many small matters, in which under the old system the people never thought of asking the Revenue authorities to help them again, the Department Public Works have not been strong enough for all the duties thrown upon them, and in this case difficulties arose from the contributions of the Ryots being received in grain and not in coin, and as the amount of the contribution was not entered in their Pattas, the enforcement of payment by the Revenue authorities was very irregular, and of questionable legality; but I hope to be able to introduce a money payment.

5. I am of opinion that the Engineer's skill and powers should always be required for any large repairs or any necessary improvements; but I consider that small establishments of this nature should be entrusted to the Revenue authorities, which, after all, means the leading men in the Village, whose interests being at stake, may be expected to manage most judiciously a matter so completely within their knowledge and experience.

Exd. J. Thomson.

No. 51.

PROCEEDINGS of the BOARD of REVENUE, dated 6th January 1860.

Read letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem, dated 12th December 1859, No. 276.

(In Con. 16th December 1859, No. 6261.)

Resolved that the above report be submitted to Government, with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation, 25th September 1858, No. 1988, Public Works Department, Revenue Irrigation, and paragraph 7 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 30th November last, No. 4913.

In Con. 30th September 1858, No. 4351, para. 1.

2. Mr. Knox in this communication states that the arrangement sanctioned in the above Extract Minutes Consultation, whereby the entire charge of the Kareri channels with their establishments was made over to the District Engineer, is not approved by the people who are anxious that the works should be replaced under the Collector. Mr. Knox attributes this to the circumstance of the Engineer having less authority than the Collector, to the department not being sufficiently strong for the duties devolving on it, and to difficulties connected with the grain fees, of the servants. These fees however, he hopes to be able to commute into money payments, which is certainly a desirable change. Mr. Knox's own opinion is that such small establishments as these had best be left under the revenue authorities, which, in practice, places them under the leading men of the villages, who being directly interested, are likely "to manage most judiciously a matter so well within their knowledge and experience."

3. The Board observe that Mr. Knox's report does not fully meet their requisition. The question is not merely whether the change effected in 1858, is popular, but also whether it secures a more efficient management of the works and a just and economical distribution of water. It does not follow, as a matter of course, that its unpopularity is the consequence of the latter object not having been attained. It will be more satisfactory, therefore, if Mr. Knox briefly reports on the subject in this aspect, after he has been sufficiently long in the district to form his own opinion of the working of the new system.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary.

To

T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Copy to Officiating Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue Department

No 51.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 6th January 1860

Read letter from the Officiating Collector of Salem dated 12th December 1859 No 276.

Also Cons 16th December 1859 No 6264.

Resolved that the above report be submitted to Government with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation 25th September 1858. No 1988 & P.W. Department Revenue Irrigation and para 7 of the Board's Proceedings dated 30th November last No 4913.

2. Mr Knox in this communication states that the arrangement sanctioned in the above Extract Minutes Consultation whereby the entire charge of the Haveri channels with their establishments was made over to the District Engineer is not approved by the people who are anxious that the works should be replaced under the Collector. Mr Knox attributes this to the circumstance of the Engineer having less authority than the Collector, to the Department not being sufficiently strong

P.W. No 28 Ayth 1858 No 87-88
10 Copy to Do No 372

P.W. 1860 Despatch
Pro-forma 20 January

No 30

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
for Revenue.

Dated 6th January 1860.
Rec'd 9th Do
Desp'd 10th Do
6-1 - Original Letter
Nothg - 20 Copy 1/60
No 51.

Submitting with the Board's recommendation a letter from the Collector of Salem reporting that the arrangement sanctioned by Govt. in the accompanying Extract Minute of Consultation whereby the entire charge of the Haveri channels with their establishments was made over to the District Engineer is not approved by the people who are anxious that the works should be replaced under the Collector.

No 234/124

6-1 Copy Rec'd:

strong for the duties devolving on it, and to diffi-
culties connected with the grain fees of the servants.
These fees however he hopes to be able to commute
into Money payments, which is certainly a de-
sirable change. Mr Knox's own opinion is, that
such small establishments as these had best
be left under the Revenue authorities, which,
in practice, places them under the leading men
of the Village who being directly interested
are likely "to manage most judiciously a matter
so well within their knowledge and experience."

3. The Board observe that Mr Knox's
report does not fully meet their requisition.
The question is not merely whether the change
effected in 1858 is popular but also whether it se-
cures a more efficient management of the works &
a just and economical distribution of water.
It does not follow as a matter of course that
its unpopularity is the consequence of the latter
object not having been attained. It will be
more satisfactory therefore if Mr Knox can
briefly report on the subject in this aspect after he has
been sufficiently long in the District to form
his

his own opinion of the working of the new system.

/True Extract/

C. Stuart Hay
Sub Secretary.

To
J. Inverarity Esqre
Chief Secretary to
Government.

Compd
C Burton

P.W.C. 28: Septr. 1858 Inc
87-88.
10th Jany 1860 Pro: No 72.

P.W. 1860 Dep.t
Sec.t of Gov.t 20th January.
No 30

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Pro: from the Bd of Rev.e 21
16 July 1860 Cp 2228. in
Pro

Date 6th
Desp.d 6th } Jan.y 1860.
Rec.d 7th }
E. I. corps letter

No 51

No 1149. 20th January 1860.
Submitting with the Lt Gs
observations a letter from the
Offg Coll.r of Salem reporting
that the arrangement sanctioned
by Govt whereby the entire charge
of the Kaveri Channels with
their Establishment was made
over to the District Engineer
is not approved by the
people who are anxious
that the works should
be replaced under the Coll.r

With an order

Nos 123 & 124.

Cll 1 Jany 60 18

Pro: 1147 & c. 149

The Govt want
the further report on
the subject called
for by the Board in the
2.d para of these proc.s

Fort St. George
20th Jany 1860
10 Copies &c

The Bd of Rev. Dispd 27th idem with Draft.