M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 221 Press ~~Mis.~~

117-118

Dated 6. 2. 1862

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 6th February 1862.

No. 117. Read the following letter from JAMES INNES MINCHIN, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Pattikonda, 30th January 1862, No. 5:—

SIR,

1. Colonel Cotton having favored me with a copy of his letter of the 22nd January to your address, adverting to my report on the value of the land proposed to be submerged in the 2nd and 3rd portions of the first section of the main Canal, I have the honor to submit some necessary explanation on the points raised by him.

2. The error pointed out in the 12th column of the statement which accompained my report, is simply a clerical error fallen into unfortunately by the copyist of the Deputy Collector's statement, and not noticed by either of us in the hurry, with which to meet Colonel Cotton's wishes, my report was forwarded.

3. The heading of the 12th column should have been "value of the land entered in column "8, at five times the assessment entered in column 11, such being the rate of payment made for "lands on the first seventeen miles."

4. Until the Deputy Collector has valued each field separately, it is impossible to know the exact price of compensation. The existing assessment, from its irregularity and unfairness, forms no basis for the purpose, and a new assessment on simple principles is fixed by the Deputy Collector for all land required for the Company, upon which the rate of compensation is calculated.

5. Where the land is Inám, the assessment fixed by the Inám Commission Deputy Collectors is taken for the purpose.

6. The price paid for the land in the first seventeen miles, amounted altogether to Rupees 6,500, and the original assessment on that land was Rupees 1,220, the cost of the land was a little more, therefore, than five times the original assessment, and having no other data at his disposal, the Deputy Collector took this as the basis on which to calculate the cost of the submerged land. I believe the Estimate to be as correct as can be framed previous to actual valuation.

7. Colonel Cotton is correct in stating that 200 acres of the Nizam's territory are included in the 1,432 acres of valuable submerged land. These two hundred acres are Patta land paying a Revenue of Rupees 300 yearly, but though made over by the Nizam's Government the question of compensation has not yet been settled, and if really required for the Company, such compensation will have to be paid, both to the Ryots who enjoy the land, and the village renter or the Nizam's Government for the loss of Revenue. It is impossible to leave these lands out of consideration in calculating the cost to Government of the lands proposed to be submerged.

8. The Government are aware, that not only Inám land, but land paying Revenue to Government, has equally to be paid for, before it is taken from its owners, and made over to the Company. The real cost of land, taken up, whether Inám, or Patta, is in fact the same. In the case of Patta lands the Government pays compensation to the owner at the rate of seven years' assessment, and loses its Revenue for ever, which must be valued at twenty years' purchase. In the case of Inám land there is in a few instances the apparent saving of making over to the Inámdár existing arable waste, in lieu of the Inám taken up; such a saving is, however, more nominal than real; there is great difficulty in finding any such arable waste even now, and I am convinced that in two or three years the whole arable land of those Táluqs will be in the holding of some Ryot, and that there will be no waste except of uncleared jungle land. Alienating the little waste that now remains as compensation for Inám, lands taken up for the Company is in the future loss of Revenue an equal expense to the Government as paying down the money value of the Inám would be.

9. I consider, therefore, that the value of the lands proposed to be submerged was as correctly estimated in my report as the nature of the case would allow, and for the 1,430 acres of cultivable land it will not prove less than Rupees 60,000.

10. Colonel Cotton considers that by the erection of double banks, for the preservation of the above valuable land from being submerged, an additional 600 acres of land under class B, must be denuded and rendered unfit for cultivation. Without careful examination of the depth of soil along the line, it is impossible to pronounce with accuracy how much land will really be required for the construction of a second bank, but the quantity would doubtless be great, and the fact should certainly be taken into consideration in calculating the additional cost which the proposed construction of those tanks will impose upon the Government.

11. The question whether that cost should fall upon the Government or the Company, in case it is determined to construct the Canal with a single bank, is however one of great importance, as the value of land proposed to be submerged in the second and third portions of the first section is nothing compared to that of the land which it is proposed to destroy in the next portion of that section, and on which I shall report to the Consulting Engineer as soon as the detailed examinations have been completed.

12. I beg also to state that the Deputy Collector has reported to me, that some buildings, a well, and garden, valued at Rupees 2,000, will be inundated by the proposed tanks in the second and third portions, within the village of Alloor.

No. 118. ORDER THEREON, 6th February 1862, No. 221.

Transferred to the Department of Public Works.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

11. The question whether that cost should fall upon the Government or the Company, in case it is determined to construct the Canal with a single bank, is however one of great importance, as the value of land proposed to be submerged in the 2nd & 3rd portions of the 1st section is nothing compared to that of the land which it is proposed to destroy in the next portion of that section, and on which I shall report to the Consulting Engineer as soon as the detailed examinations have been completed.

12. I beg also to state that the Deputy Collector has reported to me, that some buildings, a well, and garden, valued at Rupees 2,000 will be inundated by the proposed tanks in the 2nd & 3rd portions within the village of Alloor.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servt

James Dunn Arbuthnot
Sg Collector

Revenue & Debate
Proof Govt for February

No. 325.

Received 6th Feby.

Further Cor. 2173/63.

No 117 & 118.

No. 221 - 6 Feb
With an Order

No. 221.

Transferred to the
Department of Public
Works.

Copies

Front Mr. George
6th Feby 1862

11 Copies to the D. P. Works Dist. 6
1 — Clk of Turnpikes