

(1) Number of pages 12  
(2) Date of repair 10.3.12.  
(3) Initials of the Referencer \_\_\_\_\_

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Public works* DEPARTMENT.

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| G.O. No. 2671      | Press<br>Mis.— |
| 131-132            |                |
| Dated 6. 11. 1862. |                |

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
6th November 1862.*

No. 131. Read the following letter from Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Chief Engineer, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 29th October 1862, No. 3,907 :—

SIR,

1. With reference to the Proceedings of Government, *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 2,328, dated 29th September 1862, I have the honor to submit for information the accompanying copy of the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 6,906 of the 16th October 1862, giving cover to a report from the Collector of Nellore regarding the subject of the working of the Delta irrigation being impaired by the trespasses of the Ryots.*

2. The Collector has in communication with the District Engineer drawn up a set of Rules, which I hope will prove sufficient to prevent in future the trespasses complained of by Major Greenaway in paragraph 7 of his letter, No. 1,840, dated 12th September 1862, embodied in the Proceedings of Government above quoted, and ensure a proper distribution of water to the several villages irrigated from the Jaffer Saib and Sarvapilli Channels.

3. These Rules have been, I observe, published in the local Gazette, and as the Board of Revenue have not made any remarks in connection therewith, they have not, I conclude, any objection to their being adopted in the Nellore District.

No. 132. ORDER THEREON, 6th November 1862, No. 2,671.

Ordered to be recorded.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,  
Secretary to Government.

No. 6,906.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th October 1862.

Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., Collector of Nellore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 4th October 1862, No. 249:—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Proceedings of the Board, under date the 1st instant, forwarding for any remarks or suggestions I may wish to offer, the letter of the Acting District Engineer of the 12th ultimo, in which, in the 7th paragraph, the Acting District Engineer gives it as his opinion, that the advantageous working of the Delta irrigation is very much impaired by the selfishness and perversity of the Ryots, who commit trespasses in the most reckless manner.

2. The remarks of the Acting District Engineer have immediate reference to the injury sustained recently by the first weir on the Gangapatnam branch of the Jaffer Sahib channel.

3. As it happened, I saw this weir soon after it was injured. I saw it a short time ago a second time. And I saw it again for the third time yesterday evening. And on none of these occasions have I ever had reason to believe that the injury was in consequence of the Ryots having removed the shutters in the night. If this had been the case, I think I should have heard of it from the rival villagers, who were present with me on the different occasions. And I believe myself the accident in this case was entirely owing to constructional defects. The site is sand, and the precautions were insufficient.

4. That the Ryots will however be much inclined to interfere with the channels, is unquestionable. They have been accustomed to get the water down the channels by customary labour, and to distribute it by customary labour; the *modus operandi* being the construction of banks in the channels at stipulated places, and for stipulated times. And they would not be Hindoos, if they gave up these mamool rights without a struggle. That they should be given up is however clear. And in communication with the Acting District Engineer, I have drawn up rules for irrigation in the Delta which I subjoin for the Board's information.

5. The rules were published in last Saturday's District Gazette, and the Board will see and place the supply a Channels entirely in the hands of Public Works Department, leaving the petty distributing Channels and Tank Sluices in the hands of the village authorities.

Collector's Office, Nellore, 25th September 1862.

#### NOTICE.

1. The completion of the Nellore anicut, and the progress made in the subsidiary works in the Southern Delta of the Pennair render it necessary to lay down such fixed rules, as shall ensure a proper use being made of the increased means for irrigation, now available.

2. Hitherto irrigation, so far as the river was concerned, has been carried out by raising annually, by customary labour, channel heads to the Jaffer Sahib, and Saroapalli channels, and distributing the supply thus obtained, to the villages furnishing the labour.

3. The distribution of this customary labour supply was by certain fixed proportions, and by the erection of banks in the channels.

4. In future no customary labour will be required to secure a supply of water from the river. By a heavy outlay of the public money, an anicut has been built, and subsidiary works are in progress, that will supply the means of irrigation for a greater extent of land than is at present in occupation. And henceforth the supply will be available for the Delta generally.

5. The supply will be distributed to the several villages wholly with reference to the area to be irrigated.

6. The regulating works and supply channels will be under the immediate superintendence of the Public Works Department.

7. The petty distributing channels and tank sluices, &c., will be under the authorities of the village in which situated.

8. With reference to the precarious nature of the supply from the Pennair, no extension will be permitted, at present, of the area under direct irrigation.

9. Land that can be also irrigated from a tank, if necessary, is the proper land to take up for this additional supply from the anicut, and the application should specify the name of the tank.

10. Where the application for additional irrigation may involve the cutting of a new channel, it will be made through the Public Works Department, where it is an ordinary extension of existing irrigation, it will be made, as usual, through the Tahsildar of the Taluk. And to enable the Public Works Department to distribute the water properly, as well as to secure the public revenue, all who now hold land assessed with a water rate, which they have hitherto been accustomed to irrigate, or not, as they thought fit, will state at once whether they intend to continue to irrigate the land in question, and the extent they so intend to irrigate, which will be treated in future as ordinary irrigation, and, if the requisite supply were available, held liable for the water rate and original assessment, whether cultivated or not.

11. Petty distributing channels, in the occupation of private individuals, may be dammed up from time to time according to custom, and on the responsibility of those in occupation.

12. In supply channels under the immediate superintendence of the Public Works Department, as a general rule, no banks will ever be erected. And, when found absolutely necessary, such interference with the general supply will be under the written orders of the District Engineer, or Executive Engineer in charge of the range.

13. Any one attempting to interfere with the supply channels, either by tampering with the regulating works, erecting banks in the channels, making temporary cuts, or cutting branch channels from them, without leave duly obtained, will be prosecuted.

Ordered to be submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Proceedings, No. 2,323 in the Department Public Works, Public, dated 29th September 1862.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,  
Secretary.

To Colonel W. I. Birdwood, R. E., Secretary to Government, D. P. W.,  
through Chief Engineer, D. P. W.

Copy to J. W. B. Dykes, Esq., Collector of Nellore.

Ed. J. Wright.

Submitting for information a letter from the  
Collector of Nellore regarding the subject of  
the working of the Delta irrigation being im-  
paired by the trespasses of the Ryots.

No. 6,906.

Dated 16th October 1862.  
Despatched.  
Received.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No.

1862. Department.

5  
Inclosure is a  
letter from the Chief  
Eng. D. P. W. to the  
Secy: to Govt. P. W. D.  
Dated 29 Oct. 1862 No.  
3907.

P.W. 3258

no trespasses of the Ryots.  
The

Central Office of P.W.  
Chapman & Co.  
29 October 1862.

No. 3907

From,  
Colonel W. S. Birdwood P.W.  
Chief Engineer S.P.W.  
To,  
The Secretary to Government  
P.W.D.

Public - Sir,

Received  
by  
the  
Secretary  
to  
Government  
P.W.D.

With reference to the  
Proceedings of Government No. 328  
dated 29th September 1862, I  
have the honor to submit for  
information the accompanying  
copy of the Proceedings of the  
Board of Revenue No. 6906 of the  
16th October 1862 giving cover to  
a report from the collector of  
Vellore regarding the subject  
of the working of the delta  
irrigation being impaired by  
the trespasses of the Ryots.  
The

2. The collector has in communication with the District Engineer drawn up a set of rules which I hope will be more sufficient to prevent in future the trespasses complained of by Major Greenaway in para 7 of his letter N<sup>o</sup> 1840 dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 1862 and embodied in the Proceedings of Government above quoted, and ensure a proper distribution of water to the several villages irrigated from the Jaffer Sait and Saroujilli Channels.

3. These rules have been I observe published in the local Gazette and as the Board of Revenue have not made any remarks in connection therewith, they have not I conclude any objection to their being adopted in

90  
in the Nellore District.  
Central Office, M.  
Chepauk R.  
29 Oct. 1862. } I have the honor to be,  
Sir,  
Yours most Obedt Servt.  
Frederick A. Colonel R.E.  
Chief Engineer &c. &c.

The Secretary to Government  
P. N. S.

Confidential

Dr 1866 & 27th  
from No 3258

The Chief Justice

to the Secy. to Govt

June 29 1866  
Dec 30 1866  
No 1 1866 907

Submitting for  
information of the  
Hon. Secy of the  
Interior the  
report of the  
Commissioner of  
the General Land  
Office

Chapman  
6-26-66

2071  
Dec 26 1866  
Receives

1866

1866