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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.**Government of Madras.***Public Works* **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.

12915

Press

Mis.

Dated

1-618 60.**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

Proceedings of the Madras

*Government, Public Works Department,
June 1863.*

No. 37. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel R. STRACHEY, R. E., Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor General, (P.W.D.), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, in the Public Works Department, dated Simla, 4th May 1863, No. 576:—

Sir,

I am directed to enclose copy of letter this day addressed to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, and to state that His Excellency the Governor General will be glad if the Government of Madras will ascertain whether similar observations can be made in connection with the Irrigation Works at that Presidency.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. STRACHEY, R. E., Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor General, (P.W.D.), to the Secretary to the Government of North-Western Provinces in the Public Works Department, dated Simla, 4th May 1863, No. 574.

Sir,

1. Your letter No. 1,646, dated 10th March, in reply to the enquiry made by the Government of India as to the effect of closing the Canals of Irrigation in the North-Western Provinces on the depth of the water in the lower part of the rivers from which they are derived, having been submitted to His Excellency the Governor General, I am directed to remark that as the Canal Officers seem to have no definite data on the point referred to, His Excellency will be glad if measures are taken to obtain a careful record of the facts in future.

2. All that would be necessary for the purpose contemplated would be to select some one or more convenient points on the river below the canal head, such as Futtchgurh, Cawnpoor, or Allahabad, and to arrange that whenever the Ganges Canal is closed, immediate notice should be given to persons at the selected points to commence a register of the height of the water, and to continue it for ten days or a fortnight. If any real effect were produced on the lower part of the river, it would certainly become apparent within this period. It does not seem necessary to obtain a continued register of the river's height for the purposes in view, and it is probable that some of the Public Works Establishments could be easily made available to observe the height of the river for the short periods that would be really necessary.

3. The details of these observations (for the foregoing remarks are only intended to explain their general scope and object,) may be readily arranged under the orders of the Lieutenant Governor, in communication with the Superintendent General of Irrigation, and the investigation may usefully be extended to the Jumna.

4. The enquiry which it is thus desired to undertake, is, I am to observe, of some practical importance as likely to afford data by help of which to determine whether it would be possible to maintain a sufficient depth of water in a river for navigation by means of reservoirs in the form of large tanks, which would be allowed to flow into the river as its waters fell. If it is shown that the sudden and continued addition to the river supply of so large a body of water as that carried by the Ganges Canal, or the Western Jumna Canal, does not sensibly affect the Ganges or Jumna at Cawnpoor or Delhi, it will give ground for doubting the efficacy of the proposed system of improving navigation, and vice versa.

No. 575.

Copy forwarded to the Government of Punjab, with request that similar observations may be undertaken in connection with the canals under the Punjab Government.

No. 38.

ORDER THEREON, 1st June 1863, No. 1,395.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineers of Divisions with a request that they will submit their opinion on the subject referred to in the papers recorded above.

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

No. 50.

From

To

LIEUT. COL. R. STRACHEY, R. E.
SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA WITH THE GOVR. GENL.
THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MADRAS,
IN THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
Simla, 4th May 1863.

Agricultural.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose copy of a letter this day addressed to the Government of the North-Western Provinces, and to state that His Excellency the Governor General will be glad if the Government of Madras will ascertain whether similar observations can be made in connection with the Irrigation Works at that Presidency.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

R. Strachey Lieut. Col., R. E.
Secy. to the Govt. of India with the Govr. Genl.

1863
Bristol for June

N^o 1527

From the story to the
great battle with
the Lord of the

Reverend
Bristol 1863

Forwarding copy of a
letter addressed to the Govt of the
Provinces and requesting to ascertain
whether by closing Irrigation Canals
the depth of water in the River
can be secured so as to be suffi-
cient for navigation purposes.

N^o 1395 - 1st June -
Fresh an order

1837-38.

N^o 1395

Division with a proposal that they will purchase them in
the public market for in the public market above.

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