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(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Relations **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	Press Mis.
Dated	18

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th January 1864.*

No. 214. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 21st December 1863, No. 8,087:—

Read the following letter from J. FRASER, Esq., Acting Collector of North Arcot, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, date Chittoor, 28th November 1863, No. 241.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to submit the information called for by Government in their Order dated 18th September 1863, No. 2,708, communicated to me with the Board's Proceedings of the 22nd idem.

No. 134, dated 14th July 1863.

2. As stated in paragraph 16 of my letter marginally noted, 791, the tanks, rivers, and spring channels, being Government works of irrigation in this District are in a state of disrepair.

3. The enclosed Statement marked A, shows some of the tanks and channels under which remissions were granted in the four Taluqs* settled by me in the past Fasli. No repairs have been executed to these works for many years past; and many of them failed to receive any supply as they were actually incapable of holding water.

* Palmanair.
Gudiatam.
Vellore.
Poloor.

4. I have no means of ascertaining how much of the remissions granted under these works was owing to the absence of repairs, and how much to the bad season. No care was taken at the Jamabundy to note the loss under each of these causes separately. There was indeed no necessity felt to make this distinction, as the Ryots were entitled to indulgence in either case. The matter for consideration was whether there was just ground for remission; and I was from the inquiry made at the spot in the presence of the Taluq and village authorities as well as the Ryots concerned, perfectly satisfied that many of these tanks were utterly incapable of retaining any thing like an adequate supply, and that the fall of rain was sufficient to have filled them, had they been in repair.

5. The works exhibited in the Statement alluded to have been selected as a specimen of those out of repair. I can, if necessary, furnish the names of all such works in each Taluq. But as the accounts in my Office do not exhibit these particulars, I have not thought it necessary to wait for the receipt of them from the Taluqs considering that Statement A would suffice.

6. In paragraph 2 of the Orders under report, Government wish to know if the attention of the Department of Public Works had been promptly called to the repair of works under which remissions were given for want of repair. From the remarks entered in column 5 of the Statement referred to, the Board will observe that in eight cases the works were brought to the District Engineer's notice as requiring repair by letters addressed to him from this Office; and that in some cases the Tahsildars also reported the same to Department Public Works Officers.

7. On referring to the correspondence with the District Engineer, from January 1860, I find that the repairs of upwards of 50 irrigation works were urged by letters, addressed from this Office, the inefficient condition of these works being brought to the Collector's notice either by the Tahsildars or the Ryots concerned. I beg to enclose a Statement (marked B) showing the names of such works, and the letters addressed to the District Engineer regarding them. As will be seen from the remark column, estimates were received in some cases, while in others no estimates were prepared. But in no case was the required repair executed, although the estimates received were countersigned and returned in due course.

8. I may mention here that the Tahsildars frequently correspond directly with the Officers, specially subordinates, of Department of Public Works, bringing to their notice the condition of the tanks, &c., needing early attention. They have always been strictly enjoined to do so. The village authorities have also been directed to report directly to the Range Officers as they travel through the country the state of their respective tanks when early repairs are required. In one or two instances they were fined for omitting to make such reports. I have therefore no doubt that the condition of most of the works shown in A has been duly reported on either verbally or in writing to the Range Officers. During the recent Jamabundy many Ryots and Monigars complained to me that their personal applications to the Range Officers for repairing their tanks, &c., were never attended to. I believe that they meant to refer particularly to subordinate officers such as Overseers and Supervisors, and not to the European Officers who till lately were in charge of Range.

ENCLOSURE No. 1, A.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing some of the tanks and channels under which remissions were granted in the four Taluqs settled by the Acting Collector in Fasli 1272.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th January 1864.*

ENCLOSURE No. 2, B.

ABSTRACT.—Memorandum of irrigation works recommended to be repaired by the Collector, but not attended to by Public Works Department.

Submitted for the information of Government with reference to their Order in the Department of Public Works, quoted by the Collector.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 215. ORDER THEREON, 12th January 1864, No. 104.

1. Communicated to the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, for such remarks as he may wish to offer on the Collector's representation.
2. Lieutenant-Colonel Boileau's particular attention will be called to the requisition in paragraph 3 of G. O. No. 2,708, dated 18th September 1863.

(True Extract)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 4th Division, with two enclosures.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th January 1864.

ENCLOSURE No. 2, B.

ABSTRACT.—Memorandum of irrigation works recommended but not attended to by Public Works Department.

Submitted for the information of Government with reference of Public Works, quoted by the Collector.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed)

Handwritten notes:
No. 104-125 January 1864
No. 2908 dated 11th Feb 1863.
The Collector's letter of 11th Feb 1863 will be called to the attention of the Board of Revenue.
The Board of Revenue may wish to refer on the matter to the Board of Revenue.
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

No.

No. 8,087.

No. 104-125 January 1864

Dated 21st December 1863.
By the Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
R. S. S. S.

1664 Department.

Handwritten signature: J. S. S. S.

Submitting letter from the Collector of North Arcot forwarding the required information regarding the Works of Irrigation which are not in an efficient state of repair.

Handwritten signature: J. S. S. S.