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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works
DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 184	Press
375-378	Mis.
Dated 18-11-64	18 64

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th January 1864.*

No. 375. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd December 1863:—
Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to
W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Bellary,
10th December 1863, No. 173.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Board of Revenue certain matters connected with the welfare of this District, which I think require early attention.

First is the state of the season. The prospects of rain, I may now say, are over for this year, and probably no more will be received for the next six months. I understand that there has scarcely ever been a worse season, the general average rain-fall over the District has not exceeded fourteen inches since 1st December last. The consequence is that few tanks have received any, and none an adequate supply; there will be a most deficient rice crop, and even the dry crops will probably have a scanty yield, prices are rising in anticipation. And yet the river Toombuddra forming the western and northern boundary of the District, has flowed for four months nearly full to the banks, and the adjoining District of Kurnool has had a good season, and copious rain has also fallen in the southern direction of the adjoining territory of Mysore.

I believe nearly ten years.

2. The Board are aware that a project has long been mooted for bringing an irrigating canal from the Toombuddra due east through a gorge in the western chain of hills, which in my opinion is likely to have most important climatic effects besides the actual area of irrigation. I beg that a strong recommendation be made that this project which has been found feasible by the late District Engineer, Captain Fischer, may no longer be delayed—every month of delay is a source of direct loss to Government and to the people. A famine not ten years back occasioned a loss to Government of 19 lacs of Rupees, being 13 lacs expended on famine roads without proper supervision, for the immediate maintenance of the poor, and 6 lacs of decrease of Revenue for the year; the loss to the people is not stated, but scanty food to men and cattle cannot but have been disastrous.

3. In alluding to the climatic effects of a canal turned eastward into the District, I refer to my own observation, and to what has been pointed out to me by others.

4. When the clouds of the western monsoon reach the borders of the District it has been observed that if they strike in their course the angle of the Toombuddra, they follow its north-eastern course towards Kurnool. There is not a doubt that the condensation caused by the cold of the river attracts the clouds, and diverts them from a due eastern direction. Were, however, an eastern channel cut, there would be an antagonistic condensation eastward, and *vice versa* in the north-east monsoon, and Bellary would obtain a better distributed rain-fall. There is nothing else to cause it, no trees. Bare heated rocks, and scorched plains on the contrary, drive off the impending shower. This I have noticed many times in Bellary itself, so soon as the clouds were about to break, a wind sprung up (*i. e.*, the cold air rushing into the heated vacuum) and carried off the clouds, in fact dispersed them into the upper air.

5. I have noticed the same in Cuddapah. At its southern extremity there is a mango tope of considerable dimensions through which flows a stream of water, frequently in the south-west monsoon heavy rain falls on that tope and not a drop on the town not two miles off.

6. The next point I have to notice is the recent change in the Department of Public Works. The late locally experienced District Engineer of Bellary, Captain Fischer, is now by that change in the capacity of a Subordinate Executive Officer in the charge of a Range of Military buildings, for which limited duty he draws an equal if not larger salary than he did as the Officer in charge of a District of 11,000 square miles in extent. The Superintending Engineer, on the *lucus a non lucendo* principle has never as yet got further into the District, than Gootty, he has more territory to superintend than he can ever accomplish. Knows nothing personally of the District, resides at Cuddapah, and every communication I have with him must travel 300 miles, whereas the late District Engineer might have been generally at the Collector's elbow. I may ask how this sort of arrangement is likely to work. That a District may prosper it should have its District Engineer, as well as its Collector, both Officers of local experience, and able to exercise personal observation and to take a personal interest—centralization is a mistake.

7. As regards the season it is true that it is below par generally in the Presidency, and famine prices rule in most Districts. Yet Bellary is about the worst. It is very far from a sea coast, has an indifferent main road from the south-east and no Railway, and has a bad neighbour in the Nizam, whose views of political economy are different from ours, and who will not allow grain to be exported from his dominions; consequently, the difference of price of grain on the right and left banks of the Toombuddra is excessive, given then a bad season, a bad neighbour, an inland position and a bad main road, I consider Bellary entitled to early attention. The 3rd sort rice, which is the food of the Native Troops, is selling in the bazaar at eight Bellary measures equal to about five Madras measures, per Rupee. The difference between that and twelve measures,

fall

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
18th January 1864.*

is paid by Government, and will amount to a very considerable item of public expenditure. A Toombuddra Canal and a resident District Engineer would do much to improve the future prospects of the District, and I consider it my duty to press the above subjects on the notice of the Board and Government. I have only to add that I am not in favour of famine roads, nor are they required, as agricultural wages are high—I advocate merely the early execution of what will prove in the first instance, a most productive and eventually a truly economical undertaking.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the information and consideration of Government.
2. The Acting Collector should have reported specially at an earlier date on the prospects of his District in the current season, and will send fortnightly reports till matters improve.
3. The Acting Collector of Cuddapah has been required by telegraph to submit a special report on his District.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

Transferred to the Department Public Works.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

Fort Saint George,
24th December 1863.

No. 376. ORDER THEREON, 18th January 1864, No. 184.

No. 3,240, dated 7th November 1863.
" 3,621, " 8th December " 1863.
1. The Board of Revenue will observe from the Orders marginally noted, copies of which will now be furnished to it, that with a view to determining the feasibility and cost, as well as the advantages of a Canal for the irrigation of part of the Adoni Taluq of Bellary and portions of the Kurnool District lying between the Hindry and Toombuddra, Mr. Supervisor Porter has been directed to take a line of levels from the Toombuddra from Seeroogoopa or from any point above that place, that he may find suited for the erection of an Anicut, and beginning with a level of six feet above the bed of the river at the spot selected, to carry that level on a contour line across the Pedda Huggry, and through the Adoni Taluq, onwards towards Kurnool so as to ascertain by the area embraced the extent of land under command of a channel carried in that direction, affording at the same time a rough approximate Estimate of the cost of the Anicut and Channel with all its subsidiary works.

2. As regards the irrigation of the plains surrounding Bellary, the Government believes that it is from Ballabhappooram alone that a Channel can be led for that purpose, but the survey of the country, and the levels that have already been taken show such vast, if not insuperable, physical difficulties to exist, as to satisfy the Government that the work is of greater magnitude than can at present be undertaken by the State.

3. It is observed that in Proceedings No. 3,608, dated 7th December 1863, a special Establishment was authorized to be entertained for the investigation of the scheme for extending the Irrigation Company's Canal works in the Bellary District.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue, with G. O. Nos. 3,240 and 3,621 of 1863.
" Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue Department.

*Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 23^d December 1863.*

Read the following letter.

*From
A. Meddeshum Esq^r
Acting Collector of Bellary.
To
W. Hudleston Esq^r
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.*

*I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Board of Revenue certain matters connected with the welfare of this District, which I think require early sanction.
First is the state of the Season. The prospects of rain, I may now say, are over for this year and probably no more will be received for the next 6 months. I understand that there has scarcely ever been a worse season, the general average rain fall*

fall over the District, has not exceeded 14 inches since 1st December last. The consequence is that few Junks have received any & none an adequate supply. There will be a most deficient rice crop. & even the dry crops will probably have a scanty yield - prices are rising in anticipation. And yet the River Toom, - budra forming the Western & Northern boundary of the District, has flowed for four months nearly full to the banks - and the adjoining District of Thurnool has had a good season, and copious rain has also fallen in the Southern direction of the adjoining territory of Mysore -

2. The Board are aware that a project has long been mooted for bringing an irrigating Canal from the Toombudra due east through a gorge in the Western chain of Hills - which in my opinion is likely to have most important climatic effects besides the actual area of irrigation. They that

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3. In alluding to the climatic effects of a Canal, turned eastward into the District, I refer to my own observation, and to what has been pointed out to me by others.

4. When the clouds of the western monsoon reach the borders of the District, it has been observed that if they strike in

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bedra they follow its North Eastern
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Bare heated rocks, & scorched plains
on the contrary drive off the impending
shower. This I have noticed many
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as the clouds were about to break,
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air rushing into the heated vacuum)
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them into the upper air.

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dimensions through which flows a coo
stream of water. frequently in the South
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Tree & not a drop on the Joorn not 2 coo
miles off.

6. The next point I have to notice
is the recent change in the Depart-
ment of Public Works. The late
locally experienced District Engineer
of Bellary Captain Fincher is
now by that change in the capacity of
a Subordinate Executive Officer in the
charge of a Range of Military Build-
ings, for which limited duty he draws
an equal if not larger salary than
he did as the Officer in Charge of a
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extent. The Superintending Engineer
on the lucius à non lucendo principle has
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than Gooty, he has more territory to superintend than he can ever accomplish. Knows nothing personally of the District - resides at Cuddappah, and every communication I have with him must travel 300 miles, whereas the late District Engineer might have been generally at the Collector's elbow. I may ask how this sort of arrangement is likely to work. That a District may prosper it should have its District Engineer as well as its Collector both officers of local experience, and able to exercise personal observation & to take a personal interest - centralization is a mistake.

b. As regards the Season it is true that it is below par generally in the Presidency and famine prices rule in most Districts. Yet Bellary is about the worst. It is very far from a Sea Coast. has an indifferent main

rain road from the South East & no Railway. & has a bad neighbour in the Nizam, whose views of Political Economy are different from ours, & who will not allow grain to be exported from his dominions, consequently the difference of price of grain on the right & left banks of the Tungbuddra is excessive - given them a bad Season, a bad neighbour, an inland position & a bad main road, I considered Bellary entitled to early attention. The 3^d Sort rice which is the food of the Native Troops is selling in the Bazar at 8 Bellary measures equal to about 5 Madras measures per Rupee. The difference between that & 12 Measures is paid by Government, and will amount to a very considerable item of public expenditure. A Tungbuddra Canal & a resident District Engineer would do much to improve the future prospects of the District, and I consider it my duty to press the above subjects on the notice

notice of the Board & Government. I have only to add that I am not in favour of famine roads, nor are they required, as agricultural wages are high. I advocate merely the early execution of what will prove in the first instance, a most productive, & eventually a truly economical undertaking.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Bellary

Collector's Office

10th Decr 1863.

Your Most Obedient Servant.

Signed A. Waddellum.

Acting Collector

Ordered to be submitted for the information and consideration of Government.

The Acting Collector should have reported specially at an earlier date on the prospects of his District in the current season & will send fortnightly reports till matters improve.

The

The Acting Collector of Cuddappah has been required by Telegraph to submit a special report on his District.

(True Copy & Extract)

Secretary.

To

J. D. Lim Esq.

Secretary to Govt. Genl. Dept.

C. W. Waddellum
Copied
No. 2.

1863 *Memorie* *Sept*
No. 3144.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Hand General &
the B.M.

Attest
24 Dec 1863
J. H. H. H.

Date 23
Dec 23
Dec 23 1863

Dec 23 1863

J. H. H.

Submitting a report
from the W. S. Carey & Co.
on the progress of his work
in the current season, viz
the necessity for the immediate
execution of the Government
brigade project to be made
on the next spring in the
W. S. Carey & Co.

Discontinued

Public Works

1871

8

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 18th January 1866

Read the following Endorsement
from the Secretary to Govt in
the Revenue Department.

Transferring Proceedings of
the Board of Revenue submitting
letter from the Collector of
Bellary, urging on the necessity
for the immediate execution
of the Coombudra Irrigation
projects &c.

Here enter 26 December 1863

3240 27.7 Nov/63
3621 27.8 Dec "

JP

The Board of Revenue
will observe from the orders marginally
noted, copies of which will
now be furnished to it, that
with a view to determining
the feasibility and cost, as
well as the advantages of a
Canal for the irrigation of
part of the Adoni Taluk of
Bellary and portions of the
Kurnool District lying between

1863
1864

From the Secretary to Govt
in the Revenue Department

24th Dec 1863

21

Transferring Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue
submitting letter from the
Collector of Bellary, urging
on the necessity for the
immediate execution of the
Coombudra Irrigation
projects &c.

1871

1871 - 18th January 1864

the Hindery and Tombuddra,
Mr. Supervisor Carter has been
directed to take a line of level
from the Tombuddra from
Secrogoopa or from any point
above that place that he may
find suited for the erection
an Aricut, and beginning on
a level of six feet above the
bed of the river at the spot
selected, to carry that level
on a contour line across the
Padda Kuggery, and thence the
Adoni Taluq, onwards
towards Turnool so as to
ascertain by the area embraced
the extent of land under
Command of a Channel
Carried in that direction,
affording at the same time
a rough approximate Es-
timate of the cost of the
Aricut and Channel with
all its subsidiary works.

2. As regards the irri-
gation of the plains surrounding
Bellary.

Bellary, the Government
believes that it is from Nan-
labhapooram alone that a
channel can be ^{led} ~~cut off~~ for
that purpose; but the survey
of the Country, and the levels
that have already been taken
show such vast, if not
insuperable, physical diffi-
culties to exist, as to satisfy
the Govt. that the work, of
greater magnitude than
can at present be undertaken
by the State.

It is observed that
in Proceedings No. 3608 dated
7th December 1863, a special
Establishment was authorized
to be entertained for the inves-
tigation of the Scheme for
extending the Irrigation
Compounds Canal works in
the Bellary District.

To the Secy of Rev. Mr. G. B.
20. 3240 & 3621 of 1863
To the S. E. 3 Dec 1863

19th Jan 1864

of 1864 Dept
of Pro. of Gov. of Ind.

No 184
Pro. of the M. Govt
of 18 Jan. 1864

1864
1864
1864

Submitting letter from
the collector of Bellary requesting
that for the reasons given,
the project for bringing
an irrigating Canal from
the Loom-hadda may
no longer be delayed with
orders thereon.

No 375. 375