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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

public works. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1180 Press -Mis.-

584-585

Dated 25 - 6 - - 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 584. Read the following letter from the Honorable C. PELLY, Member of the Board of Revenue, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, dated Madras, 2nd April 1864, No. 1,692:—

SIR,

To Government, dated 20th August 1862, No. 1,363.

1. Referring to my letter on the Village Establishments of Salem (paragraph 13), I have now the honor to report on the requirements of the District in respect of Nirgunties.

Present Establishment.
From Collector, dated 20th April 1836, No. 2,495.
To do dated 8th May 1863, No. 1,528.
From do. dated 19th Oct. 1863, No. 2,665.
To do. dated 30th Oct. 1863, No. 1,633.
From do. dated 4th March 1864, No. 2,756.

2. The present Establishment of Nirgunties consists of the Establishments for the three large river channels, which alone the Collector proposes to retain; and of the Nirgunties for the minor works of the District, which the Collector and the District Engineer consider to be unnecessary. Mr. Arbuthnott is of opinion that the "proposed Ordinary Village Establishments are sufficient for looking after the irrigation works in their respective Táluqs" an opinion which the District Engineer and the former Collector Mr. Brett also hold.

Tank Establishment.

3. This Establishment for the ordinary works of the District consists of:—

		RS.
358 Persons who have emoluments in land valued at...	...	2,883
and 7 Persons paid in cash		87
Total... 365 Men		2,970

To be left as it is.

4. As the local Officers deem it unnessary to revise this Establishment and would even abolish it, I propose for the present at least to leave it as it is. Until the new Village Establishments are introduced it would be premature to reckon on their undertaking the work now performed by these Nirgunties, and if the Ináms are resumed it may probably be found necessary to supply men on a fixed salary to perform the work now done in past years by the Nirgunties who enjoy hereditary Ináms. It would not be right to deprive these tanks and water works of their accustomed assistance, in order to transfer their funds to supplement the three river channels, as has been proposed by the District Engineer, I would therefore propose to leave them untouched for the present.

See letter from District Engineer to Chief Engineer, dated 16th September 1862.

Canal Establishment.

5. I have had to make repeated references to the Collector before I could obtain full information of the exact nature of the Establishment employed on the three large river channels, which has unavoidably delayed the submission of this report. From the Collector's reports and explanations it appears that an Establishment for the superintendence of the channels is entertained, and paid partly by Government and partly by the Ryots, and that the Ryots provide labourers at their own cost at a certain known rate for working at the channels. All that it is now proposed to do is to revise the Superintending Establishment. It is not proposed to interfere with the system of supplying labour that has long existed and which apparently works well. For much information regarding the system in vogue I would beg to refer you to the Deputy Collector Ramiengar's report* and to the Memorandum† containing the Collector's replies to my remarks, which form enclosures to this letter.

* From Deputy Collector, dated 4th June 1863, in letter from Collector, dated 19th October 1863.

† From Collector of Salem, dated 4th March 1864.

Distrct

Present Establishments.

6. The Establishment exclusive of Corumbals or labourers, at present entertained for the care of the three Cauvery river channels called :—

		Length in Miles
1.	Paramutty, Rajah Vaikal Channel ...	20
2.	Comarapoliem do.	8 and
3.	Mohanur do.	16

See Revised Statement No. 2 in letter from Collector, dated 4th March 1864.

	No.	Rs.
Total Establishment ...	193	4,503
Deduct Corumbals ...	103	2,448
Remains for Establishment	91	2,055

How paid.

consists of 91 persons, who receive remunerations to the amount of 2,055 Rupees. The Superintending Establishment is payable partly by a small land Inam belonging to one person of the value of 3 Rupees, partly in cash by Government to 6 persons 204 Rupees; but chiefly by fees valued at 1,848 Rupees.

Its duties.

7. The duties of the servants of this Establishment are as follows, viz. :—

(1.) Monigar and Assistant Monigars, superintend the channels and operations.
(2.) Conicopillais keep the accounts, &c.
(3.) Neerani is the head of the Coolies.
(4.) Corumboo Peons are under the orders of the Monigars.
(5.) Karay Peons protect the channel banks.
(6.) Tannikatties attend to the sluices and distribute water.
(7.) Kondivetties keep off stray cattle.
(8.) Mooppens and (9.) Palayans } collect Coolies.
(10.) Painakaren, a head of Coolies.
(11.) Ameen, an officer employed by the Department of Public Works since the works were placed under the charge of that Department.

Fees.

8. The fees for the remuneration of the Establishment are levied under two heads :—

1. Sotuntrum.
2. Corumboo fees.

They are very irregularly paid and the Establishment is in an inefficient state.

9. The first, the Sotuntrum, is a grain cess payable at various rates, and specially set apart for defraying the cost of the *Superintending* Establishment. The value of this fee cess at the commutation rates of former years is only 553 Rupees, but land brought under cultivation since the survey should also pay its fair quota. It has been a matter of just complaint that those Ryots, holding land watered by the channels at the survey, alone *pay* the fee, while the occupiers of new land receiving the benefit of the water are exempt; this is manifestly unreasonable, all should pay their quota. Applying the cess to those lands also the value of the whole Sotuntrum at the old commutation rate is 639 Rupees; computed at the average rates of the last 10 years, the value of the fees is doubled, and will be 1,263 Rupees. The Collector recommends that these fees should be commuted at the average rate of the last 10 years, and entered as a charge against the Ryots in their Puttahs. It would be a charge of about 4½ Pie on every Rupee or 2·28 per cent. on the demand, but not actually more than they are now liable to pay in fees. These fees were commuted in 1268 Fusly into a cash payment, but on the complaint of the Ryots Mr. Knox the Acting Collector reverted to the old system, much it would seem to the detriment of the Establishment.

Sotuntrum fees.

See Memorandum, paragraphs 5, 6, 8 and 24.

See letter from Collector to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th June 1862.

Corumboo Fees.

10. The Corumboo fees are of a different kind. The Corumbals are the labourers which the land-holders are

bound to supply for working at the channels. The complement which each Ryot has to supply is regulated by the extent of land which he occupies. A full explanation of the method adopted under each channel is given in the Memorandum already alluded to. A certain area of land, either a Karay or a Chai of land is responsible for one or more labourers; as for instance under the Paramutty channel each Karay of land retains one labourer, half the number of this complement is constantly employed on the channels, and the other half is kept in reserve, and is frequently called out. These are designated Nija and Rettippal Corumbals. On emergencies which occur four or five times a year the Ryots have to supply another rate of one man per Karay. These are called Nal Rettippals. If a Ryot neglects to supply his quota of labour a fine of 2 Annas a day for each Nija Corumbal or Rettippal that is withheld, is imposed, and a fine of 4 Annas for each Nal Rettippal not sent.

Memorandum, paragraphs 8 to 14.

Memorandum, paragraph 30.

11. It might seem from the above that the Sotuntrum fees were originally intended to provide for the payment of the superintendence, and that the Ryots were responsible only for the supply of labour; but in fact this is not the case. The Corumboo labour demandable from the Ryots has to a certain extent been as it were, commuted into a cess for supplementing the Superintending Establishment. A certain number of Karays of land are exempted from the duty of supplying labour, but are assessed with a grain fee contribution in lieu of labour. This is the Corumboo fee. In Paramutty channel out of 284 Karays of land 66 Karays are exempted from the supply of labour, but are assessed with a grain fee cess as a contribution to the Superintending Establishment. The Mohanur Channel out of 122 Karays sets apart 21½ Karays for the same purpose. But under the Comarapoliem channel the plan is different. Out of 17 Corumbals for which the lands are liable, two men are sent to the Establishment and employed as Neeranis. The Corumboo fees vary according to circumstances from 15 to 72 Marcals per Karay; and are estimated in the gross on the whole lands to represent a value of about 4,834 Rupees. Out of which so much as represents the Karays of land set apart for the Establishment is taken for that purpose, and is enforced in case of recusancy by stopping the supply of water to the defaulter's land until it is paid. It is further to be observed that though a certain quantity of land is freed from sending labourers in consequence of its contributing a fee in lieu of labour, yet it is not the same land in every year that is so exempted. The Ryots settle among themselves what set of lands shall in each year accept the liability to provide for the Superintending Establishment.

12. Such then is the present system. A Superintending Establishment is paid by land Inám, by cash from Government, by Sotuntrum fees and by Corumboo fees. The labour required for the works is supplied by the Ryots.

Resumé of present system.

13. It is not proposed to alter the system of labour supply. None of the local authorities, neither the Deputy Collector in charge of the Táluqs where the channels are, nor the Engineer who has had the immediate charge of the works, nor the Collector, recommends any change in this respect. There are several objections to a plan suggested of relieving the Ryots from the necessity of supplying labour, and introducing a cess to meet the charges of undertaking the work by a paid Establishment; they are :—

Proposed system.

No change recommended in labour supply.

First.—That the fee cess would not be sufficient to supply the quantity of labour permanently and occasionally and on emergencies required, and which the Ryots are bound to, and do now, supply.

Second.—That to exact a further cess to represent the extra labour for Nal Rettippals now supplied by the Ryots would be a hardship on the Ryots, would be objected to by them, and would be difficult of realization.

District

Third.—That if the fees were commuted and collected by Government the Ryots would be absolved from all liability for customary labour, and would look to the Government alone for the efficient maintenance of the channels; complaints would arise if there was any delay in executing the numerous operations the necessity for which is constantly arising, and applications for remissions of revenue owing to defective crops in consequence of repairs neglected, would embarrass the Government servants.

Fourth. That the cost to Government would be much greater than the assets, and at the same time the work would not be performed so well or so economically under the superintendence of low paid Government officials as by private individuals familiar with their men possessing local influence and knowledge and actuated by self-interest.

Fifth. That to collect the fee cess which now represents the amount of labour for which the Ryots are liable to be called on to supply, would be, in fact, to collect what, to the extent of one-half, is the wages of their private labourers; for one-half only of the complement of the Coolies is employed at the channel head at a time, the other half is at work in the Ryots' fields; and further, as the poorer Ryots give their quota of labour by going themselves or sending one of their family, the commuting of their labour into money and collecting it from the Ryots, would impose a cess which in reality they have never hitherto paid.

Sixth. That the present system is also more acceptable and more advantageous to the labourers than a monthly salary of 2 or 3 Rupees would be.

Changes proposed in the Superintending Establishment.

14. But changes are proposed in the Superintending Establishment, and in the mode of procuring the necessary funds for its payment.

15. The Establishment that is required, and which has been carefully considered by the local Officers, for the three channels, is to consist of seventy-seven men, with salaries aggregating monthly 227 Rupees 8 Annas, and annually 2,730 Rupees, in supercession of the existing Establishment as follows:—

Table of Establishment.

Designation.	Paramutty Channel.				Comarapoliem Channel.				Mohanur Channel.				Total cost per annum.
	Number.	Rate.	Cost per month.	Do. per annum.	Number.	Rate.	Cost per month.	Do. per annum.	Number.	Rate.	Cost per month.	Do. per annum.	
		RS.	RS.	RS.		RS.	RS.	RS.		RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Corumboo Monigar.	1	14	14	168									
Assistant do. ...	2	7	14	168	1	6	6	72	1	6	6	72	312
Conicopillai... ...	1	4	4	48	1	5	5	60	1	5	5	60	288
Neeranies	2	5	10	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Tannikatties. ...	8	3	24	288	1	3½	3½	42	1	4	4	48	210
Condivetties. ...	4	3	12	144	2	3	6	72	4	3	12	144	504
Mooppens	10	1	10	120	1	3	3	36	2	3	6	72	252
Village Monigar ...	10	2	20	240	2	1	2	24	4	1	4	48	192
Peons...	9	3½	31½	378	1	2	2	24	4	2	8	96	498
					2	3½	7	84	3	3½	10½	126	588
Total...	47	...	139½	1,674	11	...	34½	414	19	...	53½	642	2,730

Funds available for payment of Establishment.
Memorandum, paragraphs 24, 27.

16. To meet the cost of this Establishment there are the Sotuntrum fees. These amount at the old commutation rates to 553 Rupees; but to this should be added the land brought under cultivation since the survey and which has not as yet, and should be now made liable to the cess also, which would raise the amount to 639 Rupees. Again commuting

the customary fees at the average rate of the ten last years (which is a legitimate proceeding) a fund amounting to 1,263 Rupees would be raised. Add to this the

Government sum...	...	204 and
Inám... ...	...	3
The total Assests amount to		1,470 Rupees, which
deducted from...	...	2,730 Rupees the cost of the revised Establishment
leave a deficiency of	...	1,260 Rupees.

This deficiency should properly be made up by Corumboo fees of the Máfikarays or those lands which, as before noticed, have been set apart for the payment of the Superintending Establishment. But there is a difficulty, as explained by the Deputy Collector, in fixing what Karays should be selected to contribute money as a permanent arrangement. And Mr. Arbuthnott (the Collector) is of opinion that the whole body collectively should bear the cost of maintenance of the Superintending Establishment, as well as to provide labour, and this appears to be an equitable and convenient arrangement. He would impose a general cess on all lands falling equally on all, to take the place of the existing *Sotuntrums* and *Corumboo* fees now faid. Mr. Arbuthnott shows how he would thus provide the funds required for each channel.

Funds for the Paramutty Channel.

17. First is the Paramutty Rajah Vaikal, the most important of the three. The assets under it at present payable to the Superintending Establishment are:—

	Rs.
Value of Corumboo fees commuted at average price of ten last years...	2,070
Do. of Sotuntrum	607
	2,677
Government allowance...	120
Total Assets...	2,797
Proposed cost of Establishment for this channel is	1,674
Surplus of funds	1,123

In the above Estimate of assets the land still liable to the cess is not included, viz.: 670 acres cultivated subsequent to the survey. The sum to be provided by the Ryots is 1,554* Rupees, which distributed over the lands would be 9 Annas and five Pice per acre, or if rated on the assessment would be 8 Pice per Rupee.

* Rupees 1,674 — 120 = 1,554.

Funds for the Mohanur Channel.

18. Under the Mohanur Channel the Corumboo fee is now paid in cash:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Its value is...	267	0	0
Do. of Sotuntrum fee paid in grain... ...	277	0	0
Inám land...	3	2	11
Total Assets... ...	547	2	11
Proposed cost of Establishment...	642	0	0
Deficiency of Assets...	94	13	1

† Rupees 642 — 3 = 639.

The charge on the Ryots would be 639 Rupees† or 95 above their present contributions. The incidence would be 12 Annas and 11 Pice on each acre, and 10 and ¾ Pice on every Rupee; the rate is higher than in the Paramutty Channel.

Funds for the Comarapoliem Channel.

19. The Corumboo fees have here also been paid in cash, and the assets are,

	Rs.
Value of Corumboo fees...	144
Do. Sotumtrums...	190
Total fees... ...	334
Government allowance...	84
Total Assets... ...	418
Cost of proposed Establishment	414
Surplus of funds... ...	4

‡ Rupees 414 — 84 = 330

The net cost to be borne by the Ryots is 330‡ Rupees or 4 Rupees less than they are now debitable with. This sum distributed on the cultivation under the channel will fall at 9 Annas and 8 Pice per acre, and at 1 Anna and 1 Pie nearly per Rupee of the assessment.

20. This proposition of the Collector seems fair and reasonable. Each channel should bear the charge of its superintendance, and with the exception of the Mohanur channel this can be done without imposing any burden additional to what is now in reality imposable. The extra cost to the Ryots of the Mohanur channel, in order to place them all on nearer equality, might be made good by a Government contribution of 95 Rupees. At present there is no Government allowance to this channel, but the other two channels receive respectively 120 Rupees and 84 Rupees.

Deficiency of assets in Mohanur to be made good by Government.

21. By the plan proposed the collection and payment of all fees for the Superintending Establishment would cease. The cess in lieu of these fees would be entered in the Ryots' Puttahs and the Government servants would see the Establishment paid, and the Ryots would contribute their ordinary labor punishable for neglect under Act I of 1858. It would be necessary, the Collector observes, to have a Legislative Act for levying the channel Conservancy Cess.

22. The cost of the Superintending Establishment for the three Channels, and the mode in which it is proposed to raise the funds for meeting that cost may be stated as follows:—

Names of the Channel.	No. of persons.	Cost.	Proposed to be paid.				Cess on Ryots how leviable per Acre or per Rupee of assessment.			
							Per Acre.		Per Rupee.	
			By Inám lands.	By Government grant.	By Cess on Ryots.	Total.	Extent of land	Average rate per acre of Ryots' Cess, column 6.	Amount of assessment on land.	Average rate per Rupee of assessment of Ryots' Cess, column 6.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
1. Paramutty Channel ...	47	1,674	...	120	1,554	1,674	2,639	0 9 5	38,977	0 0 8
2. Mohanur do.	19	612	3	95	514	612	789	0 11 0	11,380	0 0 9
3. Comarapoliem do. ...	11	414	...	84	330	414	545	0 9 8	4,926	0 1 1
Total...	77	2,730	3	299	2,428	2,730	3,973	.....	55,283	...

23. I think it might be very convenient to adopt a uniform rate of 9 Pie or ¾ Anna per Rupee throughout as the fixed rate of the cess. By this arrangement the Government would have to pay only 136 Rupees instead of Rupees 299 as shown below. But they would thence-

forth be responsible for every charge on account of Establishment, &c., and no further charge would be imposed on the Ryots for these three channels. This plan is simple and one that should I think be acceptable to the Ryots.

Names of the Channels.	Amount of cess on Ryots at 9 Pie per Rupee.	Amount proposed to be paid.	Surplus.	Deficit.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Paramutty Channel... ...	1,827	1,674	153	...
2. Mohanur do.	533	639	...	106
3. Comarapoliem do. ...	231	414	...	183
Total...	2,591	2,727	153	289
Amount of deficit to be paid by Government... ...				136

Transfer to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

8th April 1864.

No. 585. ORDER THEREON, 25th April 1864, No. 1,180.

Ordered to lie over pending the receipt of the reports still due and of orders of the Government of India on the reference from the Revenue Department with regard to the transfer to the Revenue Budget of all charges connected with the employment of Nirganti, &c., Establishments.

18th January 1864, No. 104.

(True Extract.)

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

To Honorable C. Pelly.
To the Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Distrct

Revenue Board Office
Madras
2nd April 1864

No. 1692

From

The Honble C. Pelly
Member of the Board of Revenue

To

J. D. Sim Esqre
Secretary to Government
Revr Deptt

Sir

To Govt 20th August 1862 No 1363

Referring to my letter on the Village Establishments of Salem (Para: 13) I have now the honor to report on the requirements of the district in respect of Nirgunties.

Pycars Establishment

2. The present Establishment of Nirgunties consists of the Establishments

From Collr 20th April 63 No 2465
To do 8th May 63 No 2585
From do 19th Oct 63 No 3465
To do 30th Oct 63 No 3539
From do 2nd March 64 No 2756

for the 3 large river Channels, which also the Collector proposes to retain - and of the Nirgunties for the minor works of the district

district, which the Collector and the District Engineer consider to be necessary. Mr. Arbuthnott is of opinion that the proposed ordinary village establishments are sufficient for looking after the irrigation works in their respective talugs, an opinion which the District Engineer and the former Collector Mr. Bretto also held.

3. This Establishment for the Tank Establishment ordinary Works of the district consists of

358 Persons who have Emoluments in land valued at ——— 2883 Rs

and 7 Persons paid in Cash ——— 87

Total 365 Men 2970 Rs

4. As the local officers deem it to be efficient it is unnecessary to revise this Establishment and would even abolish it I propose for the present at least to leave it as it is. Until the new village establishments are introduced it would be premature to reckon on their

undertaking the work now performed by those Nirgunties. And if the Inams are resumed it may probably be found necessary to supply men on a fixed salary to perform the work now done in part years by the nirgunties who enjoy hereditary Inams. It would not be right to deprive these tanks and water works of their accustomed assistance, in order to transfer their funds to supplement the 3 river Channels, as has been proposed by the District Engineer. I would therefore propose to leave them untouched for the present.

In letter from Dist. Engr. to Chief Engr. 7 16th Sept. 02

5. I have had to make repeated references to the Collector before I could obtain full information of the exact nature of the Establishment employed on the 3 large river Channels, which has unavoidably delayed the submission of this report. From the Collector's reports and explanations it appears that an Establishment for the Superintendence of the Channels is entertained, and paid partly by Government and partly by the ryots.

Canal Establishment

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* From Depy Coll: 7 4th June 1863 in letter from Coll: 7 19th October 1863.

* From Coll: 7 Salem 7 4th March 1864

6. The present Establishment exclusive of Coumbals or labourers, at present entertained for the care of the 3 Cauvery River Channels called

	Length in Miles	Present Establt
1 Parainutty, Pagel Vaikal Channel	20.	
2. Comarapolliem	8.	
3 Mohanum	16.	

consists of 91 persons who receive remunerations to the amount of 2055 rupees. The superintending Establishment is payable partly by a small land Inam belonging to one person of the value of 3 rupees; partly in Cash by Government to 6 persons 204 Rupees; but Chiefly by fees valued at 1848 Rupees.

See Revenue Statement No 2 in letter from Coll: of 4th March 1864.

	Rs.	As.
Total Establt	193	1503
Deduct Coumbals	102	2448
Remains for Establt	91	2055

How paid

The

His duties

7. The duties of the servants of this Establishment are as follows: Viz:

1. Monigar and Assistant Monigars superintend the Channels and operations.
2. Conicopillais keep the accounts &c.
3. Neerani is the Head of the Coolies.
4. Coumbos Peons, are under the orders of the Monigars.
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10. Pannia Karen - a Head of Coolies.
11. Ameen. An officer employed by the Department of Public Works since the works were placed under the charge of that Department.

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establishment is in an inefficient state.

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Solumtrum Fees

See Memo: paras: 5-6-8 & 24

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Mems. para 3

1. It might seem from the above that the Solumtrum fees were originally intended to provide for the payment of the Superintendence and

that

that the pyots were responsible for the supply of labour; but in fact this is not the case. The Corumboo labour demandable from the pyots has to a certain extent been as it were, commuted into a cess for supplementing the Superintending Establishment. A certain number of Karays of land, are exempted from the duty of supplying labour but are assessed with a grain fee contribution in lieu of labour. This is the Corumboo Fee. In Paramutty Channel out of 284 Karays of land 66 Karays are exempted from the supply of labour but are assessed with a grain fee cess as a contribution to the Superintending Establishment. In Mohanur Channel out of 122 Karays 21½ Karays for the same purpose. But under the Comarapa Channel the plan is different. On

of 17 Coumbals for which the lands are liable, 2 men are sent to the Establishment and employed as Hirams. The Coumboo fees vary according to circumstances from 15 to 72 marcals per Karay; and are estimated in the gross on the whole lands to represent a value of about £834 rupees. out of which so much as represents the Karay of land set apart for the establishment is taken for that purpose. and is enforced in case of recusancy by stopping the supply of water to the defaulters land until it is paid.

It is further to be observed that though a certain quantity of land is freed from sending labourers in consequence of its contributing a fee in lieu of labour, yet it is not the same land in every year that is so exempted.

exempted. The pyots settle among themselves what set of lands shall in each year accept the liability to provide for the Superintending Establishment.

Resume of present System.

13- Such then is the present System. A Superintending Establishment is paid by Land Assessment by Customs from Government by Voluntrum fees and by Coumboo fees. The labour required for the works is supplied by the pyots.

Proposed System.

13 It is not proposed to alter the System of labour supply. None of the local authorities, neither the Deputy Collector in charge of the Taluqs where the Channels are, nor the Engineer who has had the immediate charge of the Works - nor the Collector, recommend any change in this respect. There are several objections to a plan suggested of relieving the pyots from the necessity

No change recommended in labour supply.

of

of supplying labour - and introducing
a cess to meet the charges of undertaking
the work by a paid establishment.
They are 1st. That the fee cess would
not be sufficient to supply the
quantity of labour permanently and
occasionally and on emergencies required,
and which the pyots are bound to, and do
now, supply.

2nd. That to exact a further cess
to represent the extra labour for Nal
Pettippals now supplied by the pyots
would be a hardship on the pyots, would
be objected to by them, and would be
difficult of realization.

3rd. That if the fees were com-
muted and collected by Government
the pyots would be absolved from all
liability for customary labour and
would

would look to the Government alone for the
efficient maintenance of the channels; com-
plaints would arise if there was any delay in
executing the numerous operations the necessi
for which is constantly arising and applicati
for remissions of revenue owing to defective cro
in consequence of repairs neglected, would embarra
the Government servants.

4th. That the cost to Government wo
be much greater than the assets, and at the
time the work would not be performed so we
or so economically under the superintendence
of low paid Government officials as by priv
individuals familiar with their own possess
local influence and knowledge and actuated
by self interest.

5th. That to collect the fee cess which no
represents the amount of labour for which the py
are liable to be called on to supply, would be, i
fact, to collect what, to the extent of one ha
is the wages of their private labourers; for o
half only of the complement of the Coolies is em
ployed at the channel head at a time, the
other half is at work in the pyots fields. A
further as the poorer pyots give their quota

of

of labour by going themselves or sending one of
their family, the commuting of their labour
to money and collecting it from the ryots,
would impose a cess which in reality they have
never hitherto paid.

That the present System is also more
acceptable and more advantageous to the
labourers than a monthly salary of 2 or 3
fees would be.

But changes are proposed in the
superintending Establishment, and in the mode
of procuring the necessary funds for its payment.

Changes proposed in the Superintending establishment

The Establishment that is required,
and which has been carefully considered by the local
officers, for the three Channels, is to consist
of 77 men with Salaries aggregating monthly
of Rs. 8 as. and annually 2730 Rupees in super-
cession of the existing establishment as follows.

Table of Establishment.

Designation	Paramutty Channel				Comarapolly Channel				Mohanis Channel				Total Cost for Annum
	Numbr	Rate	Cost for months	&c for Annum	Numbr	Rate	Cost for months	&c for Annum	Numbr	Rate	Cost for months	&c for Annum	
Tambo Monigar	1	14	14	168	1	6	6	72	1	6	1	72	312
Cutte do	2	7	14	168	1	5	5	60	1	5	5	60	288
Vicopillai	1	4	4	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Varies	2	5	10	120	1	3½	3½	42	1	4	4	48	210
Municuttes	8	3	24	288	2	3	6	72	4	3	12	144	504
Dasettes	4	3	12	144	1	3	3	36	2	3	6	72	252
Topeis	10	1	10	120	2	1	2	24	4	1	4	48	192
Cargo Monigar	10	2	20	240	1	2	2	24	3	2	6	72	336
Peons	9	3½	31½	378	2	3½	7	84	3	3½	10½	126	588
Total	47	-	139½	1674	11	-	34½	414	19	-	53½	642	2730

To

16. To meet the cost of this Esta-
Funds available for payment of establishment.
blishment there are the Soluntrum fees. The
Memo: pages 24-27. amount at the old commutation rates to
553 Rs, but to this should be added the
land brought under cultivation since the sur
and which has not as yet, and should be
now liable to the cess also. which would raise
the amount to 639 rupees. Again commuting
the customary fees at the average rate of the
10 last years, which is a legitimate proceeding
a fund amounting to 1263 Rs. would be
raised. Add to this the
Government Sunn — 204
and Inam — 3
The total Assets amount to 1470 Rupees, which
deducted from — 2730 Rs, the cost
of the revised Establishment
leaves a deficiency of — 1260 Rupees.
This deficiency should properly be made
up by Crumboo fees of the Mafsikarays of
those lands which, as before noticed, have
been set apart for the payment of the
Superintending Establishment: But there
is a difficulty as explained by the Deputy
Collector in fixing what Karays should be

Selected

selected to contribute money as a permanent arrangement - And Mr. Arbuthnot (the Collector) is of opinion that the whole body collectively should bear the cost of maintenance of the superintending Establishment, as well as to provide labour, and this appears to be an equitable and convenient arrangement. He would impose a general cess on all lands falling equally on all, to take the place of the existing Solumtrums and Corumboo fees now paid. Mr. Arbuthnot shows how he would thus provide the funds required for each channel.

17. First is the Paramutty Rajah Vaikal, the most important of the three. The Assets under it at present payable to the Superintending Establishment, are:

Funds for the Paramutty Channel

	Rupees
Value of Corumboo Fees commuted at average price of 10 last years	2070-
Do of Solumtraw	607
	2677
Government allowance	120
Total Assets	2797
Proposed cost of Establishment for this Channel is	1674
Surplus of funds	1123

In the above estimate of Assets the land still

still liable to the Cess is not included — viz: 670 Acres cultivated subsequent to the Survey - The Sum to be provided by the pyots is 1554 Pt which distributed over the lands would be 9 annas and five pice per acre - or if rated on the Assessment would be eight pice per rupee.

× 1674 — 120 = 1554

Funds for the Mohanie Channel

18. Under the Mohanie Channel the Corumboo fee is now paid in Cash.

	Rupees
It's value is Rupees	267
Do of Solumtraw fee paid in grain	277
	3-2-11
Inam Comds	547-2-11
Total Assets	642--
Proposed cost of Establishment	94-13-1
Deficiency of Assets	

The charge on the pyot would × 639 rupees or 9s above their present contributions - The incidence would be twelve Annas and eleven pice on each acre; and ten and three quarters pice on every rupee - the rate is higher than in the Paramutty Channel.

× 642 — 3 = 639

Funds for the Comarapolium Channel

19. The Corumboo fees have here also been paid in cash and the Assets

	Rs.
Value of Coumboo fees	144
Ds Solumtrums	190
Total Fees	334
Government Allowance	84
Total Assets	418
Cost of Proposed Establishment	414
Surplus of funds	4

The net cost to be borne by the ryots is 330 Rs. or 4 pusfees less than they are now debitable with. This sum distributed on the cultivation under the Channel will fall at nine annas and eight pies per acre - and at one anna and one pie nearly per rupee of the assessment.

× 414 − 84 = 330

20. This proposition of the Collector seems fair and reasonable. Each Channel should bear the charge of its superintendance and with the exception of the Mohanni Channel this can be done without imposing any burden additional to what is now

Deficiency of assets in Mohanni to be made good by Government.

now in reality imposable. The cost to the ryots of the Mohanni Channel in order to place them all on nearer equality might be made good by a Government contribution of 95 Rupees. At present there is no Government allowance to this Channel. but the other two Channels receive respectively 120 Rs. and 84 pusfees.

21. By the plan proposed the collection and payment of all fees for the superintending Establishment would cease. The cess in lieu of these fees would be entered in the ryots puttahs and the Government servants would see the Establishment paid - And the ryots would contribute their ordinary labour punishable for neglect under Act I of 1858. It would be necessary, the Collector observes, to have a Legislative act for levying the Channel contri-

cess

cefs.

22. The cost of the superintending establishment for the three Channels - and the mode in which it is proposed to raise the funds for meeting that cost may be stated as follows.

Names of the Channels	Nos of persons	Cost	Proposed to be paid By Loan	By Govt grant	By Cess on pyots	Total	Cess on pyots shewn towards the cost or purpose of assessment. Per Acre: Extent in acres of pyots of Col. 7	Per Acre: Amount of Cess Col. 8	Per Rupee: Amount of Cess Col. 8	Per Rupee: Proportion of Cess Col. 10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Acres	Rs A P	Rupees	Rs A P
1 Paramutty Channel	47	1674	-	120	1554	1674	2639	--9-6	38977	----8
2 Mohanur Do	19	642	3	95	544	642	789	--11--	11380	----9
3 Comarapolium Do	11	414	-	84	330	414	545	--9-8	4926	----1
Total	77	2730	3	299	2428	2730	3973	-	55283	-

23. I think it might be very convenient to adopt a uniform rate of 9 Pie. or 3/4 Anna, per Rupee throughout as the fixed rate of the cess. By this arrangement the Government

Government would have to pay only 136 instead of Rs 299 as shewn below. But the would thenceforth be responsible for every ch on account of Establishment, &c and no further charge would be imposed on the pyots for these three Channels. This plan is simp and one that should I think be acceptable to the pyots.

Names of the Channels	Amount of Cess on pyots at 9 Pie per Rupee	Amount proposed to be paid	Surplus	Deficit
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1 Paramutty Channels	1827	1674	153	-
2 Mohanur Do	533	639	-	106
3 Comarapolium Do	231	414	-	183
Total	2591	2727	153	289
Amount of deficit to be paid by Government				136

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant,

Member.

30th August-/62 Nos 412-413

Rev-1864. Oct
No. 853.

From

The Honble Co. Pelly
Member of the
Bd of Rev.

To

J. D. Lisle Esqr
Secretary to Govt
Rev Deptt

Dated 2nd April 1864
Despd 4th
Received 6th
Enc: 5 letters

Transferred to the
Public Works Departt
Chancellor
Dy Secy to Govt

8th April/64.

No 1692

Submitting his
Report on the Irrigation
requirements of the District
of Salem.

2nd Sept.r/63 ex.n 31-33

P.W. 1864 Dep.t
Pro. of Govt. for April
No. 1554
From the Dy. Secy
to Govt.

Dated 8
Rec.d 11 April

G 20 - Returned to the Hd
Sheristadar of the Rev.e
& Offices. on Memo.
12-11-66 -
See the Memo. No. 2581 of 9th Feb.y/67

Transferring letter
from the Hon.ble C. Pelly re-
porting on the Nirgunty re-
quirements of the Salem distt.

No. 1180 - 25th April/64.

No. 554.

15th April/64. Or. 18th.

Public Works Department
35

No. 1180

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date the 25th April 1864.
Read the following

Letter from the Dy. Secretary to Government.

Transferring letter from the Honorable C. Pelly reporting on the Nirgunty requirements of the Salem District. } W.E. 8/8th April 1864

Ordered to lie over pending the receipt of the Orders still due of the Govt. of India on the reference from the Rev. Dept. with regard to the transfer to the Revenue Budget of all charges connected with the employment of Sergeants per Establishments.

18 Jan.y/64 - 104.

The Hon.ble C. Pelly &c &c &c

Rec.d 28th April

9/3/764

1st Wlth Dispatch
Invoice of Goods for Apl 6

No 1480

Invoice of Madras Goods
per 25 April 1864

Letter from the Honorable
C. Petty reporting on the Nirgum
ty requirements of the Salem
District to lie over.

No. 584. 585

Read in C. 1864. No. 184