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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. <u>10 30</u>	Press
<u>279-280</u>	~~Mis.~~
Dated <u>19 - 4 -</u>	<u>18 63.</u>

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th April 1865.*

No. 279. Read the following letter from Captain J. MULLINS, R. E., Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department of Public Works, dated Madras, 7th April 1865, No. 238:—

SIR,

1. I have the honor to forward, for the consideration of Government, a letter No. 170 of the 4th instant, from the Agent and Manager Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, requesting a re-consideration of the Order of Government No. 745 of the 17th ultimo, on the ground that there are about 90 acres of paddy land under second crop between Soonkasala and Kurnool, which will be destroyed if the irrigation be stopped.

1 Copy of letter from Consulting Engineer, No. 417, dated 4th February 1865.

2. I first learnt from the Chief Engineer's report for December that some second crop cultivation had been commenced, and I wrote* to the Agent, pointing out that it seemed to me very inadvisable that any such cultivation should be allowed at that time of the year. I saw these crops on the 21st ultimo, and there was then so little water in the canal that it had been found necessary to construct temporary dams across it, and in one case where the sill of the irrigation sluice was above the canal bed, the water was being raised at the Company's expense by baling baskets.

* No. 417 of the 4th February last, copy enclosed.

3. It seems to me that it was altogether a mistake to allow any crops to be put down after the end of September, and I believe even were the Government to reverse their order for the current year, it would not suffice to save these crops, small as is their extent, unless indeed the freshes should come unusually early, and water, which will no doubt be needed under the Kistna anicut for seed beds, were diverted into the Company's main canal.

4. It is not the wish of Government that water should be wasted when this can be avoided, but when the quantity of water in the Toombuddra is small, whether at the close of the freshes of one season or at the commencement of those of another, it must be presumed that this small quantity will be needed for the works below Soonkasala which have a prior claim, and as it is not possible to forecast the state of the river at such times, and as without such knowledge it is not practicable to make beneficial use, under works possessing only a secondary claim to water, of supplies uncertain in themselves, and liable to be altogether stopped at any moment, except at a risk to the cultivators, which it is very undesirable that they should be allowed to incur, I would recommend that, whatever orders the Government may be disposed to pass to meet the circumstances of the cultivation already commenced, no alteration of the Order of the 17th ultimo, which would tend to induce cultivation at a season when sufficient water for bringing the crops to maturity cannot be afforded, should be made.

5. It must be noticed in connection with paragraph 2 of the Agent's letter that, while it may be possible for the Engineer in charge of the Kistna works to intimate to the Chief Engineer of the Company when the Kistna has risen sufficiently in the early part of the season to supply the channels under that anicut, and again to report when, towards the end of the season, his supply is beginning to run short, it would

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19th April 1865.*

be quite impossible for him to repeatedly advise the Company's Officers of the variations in the supply at those times when the river is not to be depended upon, and, moreover, it would be of no use to the Company could he do so. It is very much better, therefore, that it should be a settled arrangement that, during those months in which the experience of past years has shown that the quantity of water in the Toombuddra will generally be extremely small, no water for irrigation is to be taken through the head sluice at Soonkasala, and as a consequence that the commencement of cultivation under the canal is to be restricted to the times which will make the expectation reasonable that the crops will be brought to maturity.

No. 280.

ORDER THEREON, 19th April 1865, No. 1,030.

MISCELLANEOUS, No. 9.

The Government see no reason to modify their orders.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company.
,, Manager for do. do.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Consulting Engineer's Office,
Irrigation and Canal Company,
Madras 1st February 1865.

N^o 417.

Sir,

Captain J. Mullins, R.E.

Consulting Engineer, I.C.C.

The Agent and Manager, I.C.C.

Sir

x
N^o 1437-24 Jan^y
received with your
N^o 52-31 Idem

1. I have the honor, with reference to paras 4 & 5 of Division IV of the Chief Engineer's report for December, to point out that it would seem very inadvisable to put down 2nd crops under the main Canal at a time when the admission of any water to the Canal from the Toombuddra, beyond P.W.G. N^o 704, 7 April, what is required for the use of the water supply of Kurnool, is liable at any moment to be stopped.

Col. Cotton's letter to
Secretary, I.C.C. from which you will observe that it has from the
of 21 Oct 1859 paras
35 & 36. P.W.G.
N^o 2397-20 November
1860 paras 7-9 & 10.

2. I beg to refer you to the papers as per margin first been admitted that, from December to June, all the Toombuddra water would be required for irrigation under the Kistna, and that, such being the case, no water could be drawn off into the Company's main Canal from that source of supply.

3. The Government would not desire that any water should run waste into the sea in order to carry out exactly the intentions referred to above, and no doubt therefore objection will not be made to the utilization by the Company of all water which can be spared between December

and

and June, but on the other hand it is very re-
quisite that care should be taken to prevent
the Ryots making any outlay for preparing
their fields and providing seed, when it is highly
improbable that the necessary water for maturing
the crops will be available. It must be re-
marked too that the Government are directly
interested or concerned in seeing that all rea-
sonable precaution in this respect is taken, because,
so long as the Company's dues are collected by
the Revenue officers, the Ryots will look to them
to see that they are not misled into expecting
sufficient and continuous supplies when water is
not likely to be forthcoming, and I need hardly
add that the Company's interests would be much
injured by the belief becoming prevalent that
the supply from their Canal could not be depended
upon.

I have &c &c

Wm J. Mullins, Capt. R.E.
Consulting Engineer, I.C.C.

/ True Copy /

Wm J. Mullins Captain R.E.
Consulting Engineer, I.C.C.

N^o 238.

Consulting Engineer's Office,
Irrigation & Canal Company.
Madras 7 April 1865.

To
From
Captain John Mullins R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for I.C.C.
The Secretary to Government,
Department of P. Works.

Sir,
1. I have the honor to forward for the consideration of Government, a letter N^o 170 of the 4th Instant from the Agent and Manager Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, requesting a reconsideration of the Order of Government N^o 745 of the 17th Ultimo, on the ground that there are about 90 acres of Paddy land under 2nd crop between Sonthasala & Kurnool, which will be destroyed if the Irrigation be stopped.

2. I first learnt from the Chief Engineer's report for December that some 2nd crop cultivation had been commenced, and I wrote to the Agent pointing out that it seemed to me very inadvisable that any such cultivation should be allowed, at that time of the year. I saw these crops on the 21st Ultimo and there was then so little water in the Canal that it had been found necessary to construct temporary dams across it, and in one case where the sill of the Irrigation sluice was above the Canal bed, the water was being raised at the Company's expense by baling baskets.

N^o 170 of the 4th Inst.
last. Copy enclosed.

Enclosed in a letter N^o 238
of 7th April 1865 from the
Consulting Engineer to the
Secretary to Govt. N^o 170.

1223/65

From 19th April 1865

3. It seems to me that it was altogether a mistake to allow any crops to be put down after the end of September, and I believe even were the Government to reverse their order for the current year, it would not suffice to save these crops. Small as is their extent, unless indeed the freshes should come unusually early, and water, which will no doubt be needed under the Krishna ariant for seedbeds, were diverted into the Company's Main Canal.

4. It is not the wish of Government that water should be wasted where this can be avoided, but when the quantity of water in the Tumbudra is small, whether at the close of the freshes of one season or at the commencement of those of another, it must be presumed that this small quantity will be needed for the works below Sontakala which have a prior claim, and as it is not possible to forecast the state of the river at such times, and as without such knowledge it is not practicable to make beneficial use, under works possessing only a secondary claim to water, of supplies uncertain in themselves, and liable to be altogether stopped at any moment, except at a risk to the cultivators, which it is very undesirable that they should be allowed to incur, I would recommend that, whatever orders the Government may be disposed to pass to meet the circumstances of the cultivation already commenced, no alteration of the order of the

17th

17th Ultimo, which would tend to induce cultivation at a season, when sufficient water for bringing the crops to maturity cannot be afforded, should be made.

5. It must be noticed in connection with para 2 of the Agent's letter that, while it may be possible for the Engineer in charge of the Krishna works to intimate to the Chief Engineer of the Company when the Krishna has risen sufficiently in the early part of the season to supply the channels under that ariant, and again to report when, towards the end of the season, his supply is beginning to run short, it would be quite impossible for him to repeatedly advise the Company's officers of the variations in the supply at those times when the river is not to be depended upon, and moreover it would be of no use to the Company could he do so. It is very much better therefore that it should be a settled arrangement that, during those months in which the experience of past years has shown that the quantity of water in the Tumbudra will generally be extremely small, no water for irrigation is to be taken through the head sluice at Sontakala, and as a consequence that the commencement of cultivation under the Canal is to be restricted to the times which will make the

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