

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 42

Press  
~~Mis.~~

233. 234.

Dated

25 / 1 - 1863.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,  
25th January 1865.*

No. 233. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works  
Department :—

Directing the scheme for diverting the waters  
of the Pennar into the Anantapoor and other  
tanks in the Bellary District to lie over, till } (Here enter 20th December 1864, No. 3,638.)  
a properly qualified Officer can be spared to }  
investigate it fully.

No. 234. ORDER THEREON, 25th January 1865, No. 112.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated, through the Board of Revenue, to the  
Collector of Bellary, in view to the necessary intimation  
being made to the Petitioners in reply to their Petition to  
Government, No. 2,264 of 1863. As to the grant to the Municipal Association of their Town,  
the Government observe that this has been  
sanctioned in a recent Order\* to the extent of  
Rupees 1,200 yearly.

\* 1st December 1864, No. 1,716, Judicial Department.

(True Extract.)

*Under Secretary to Government.*

To the Board of Revenue.  
,, the Judicial Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,  
20th December 1864.*

No. 414. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th October 1864, No. 7,092:—

Read the following letter from A. HATHAWAY, Esq., Collector of Bellary, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th October 1864, No. 182.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report as follows on Government Petition No. 2,264 of 1863 (herewith returned), Board No. 380 of 1863, in which Sivaramapah, Seshagiri Row and others, inhabitants of Anantapore in this District, bring to notice the dangerous position of their village, which is situated below a tank calculated to sweep away the former in case of heavy rain, and pray that the bank may be strengthened, and the supply channel of the tank improved to allow a greater supply of water to the tank. They further state that for the Municipal Establishment of their village, a sum of Rupees 80 is required per mensem, and pray that half of the said amount may be paid by Government.

2. With reference to the first subject, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from Mr. Wilson, to the address of my Acting Sub-Collector, No. 5, dated 11th May 1864, in which, while giving his opinion that there is not the slightest danger of the tank bursting in any ordinary monsoon he promises to frame an estimate for the repair of the tank where necessary. With regard to the further supply of water to their tank, I have the honor to forward the original letter (with enclosures) of my Sub-Collector recommending (in paragraphs 9 to 11) very strongly the carrying out of the Bookacherla project, whereby the tank in question, and many others, will receive a greater supply of water, and thereby benefit the country.

3. From the records in my Office I am also of opinion that this work will be of great benefit both to Government and the people; and I accordingly recommend that the plans and estimates connected with this project, which I believe are in the Office of the Superintending Engineer of this Division (whom I have also addressed on the subject) may be obtained, and laid before Government for their favorable consideration.

4. In conclusion, I may mention that Captain Fischer, the then District Engineer, who projected this work, is also of opinion that it would be a great pity to give up this project; and recommended me strongly to write to the Board on this subject.

5. With regard to the second prayer of the Petitioners, it has already been granted—*vide* Government Notification published in the "Fort Saint George Gazette," at page 568 of 1864.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. L. WILSON, Esq., Assistant Engineer, Department Public Works, to J. W. REID, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Bellary, dated Anantapore, 11th May 1864, No. 5.

SIR,

1. With reference to your letter No. 27, dated 7th May 1864, referring to your letters as per margin, I have the honor to forward you the accompanying report called for therein, and to inform you that I should have sent it sooner, but press of business prevented my doing

Memorandum No. 96, dated 4th November 1863.  
Letter No. 2, dated 12th July 1864.  
Do. 14, " 8th April "  
Do. 17, " 7th May "

so. The villagers of Anantapore, in a petition to His Excellency the Governor, request that the bund of their tank, from the south calingulah up to a temple situated about half way along the bund, be raised to an additional height of six feet and strengthened, by making it eighteen or twenty-four feet thicker, alleging that their village is in danger from the breaching of the bund in this place; also that in the monsoon of 1851 ninety houses were destroyed, &c. This damage and loss of life, I found on inquiry from the Reddy, Curnum, and villagers, was caused not by the breaching of the bund, but owing to a greater amount of water passing over the calingulah than the surplus channel could carry away, it escaped through the south gate, &c., and caused the damage referred to.

2. I have carefully inspected the bund, and have taken a line of levels along it, from the crest of the calingulah, by which I find that the lowest height above the crest to the top of the bund is seven feet, in some places it is nine feet; the bund itself is in very fair order; it requires some repairs, and in one or two places I should recommend its being a little strengthened; but I have no hesitation in saying that there is not the slightest danger of its giving way in any ordinary monsoon. Again, the three calingulahs have together a crest of 1,009 feet in length; the highest overflow, according to the Reddy and villagers, is eighteen inches. Allowing it to be two feet, with a velocity of approach of six feet per second, which is ample, the discharge will be then the large amount of 6,82,695 cubic feet per minute. This can only happen in the very heaviest monsoon, and even then the top of the bund will be five feet above the water, and when the great thickness of the bund is taken into consideration, no fear whatever need be entertained of its giving way.

At the other end of the bund it is a little weak in one place, and requires repair. I will frame an estimate for this as soon as possible; but there is not the slightest danger of its giving way in any part in an ordinary monsoon.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. REID,  
Acting Sub-Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From J. W. REID, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Bellary, to A. HATHAWAY, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated Anantapore, 24th September 1864, No. 87.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to report on Board Petition No. 380 of, 1863 (herewith returned), presented by Sivaramapah, Seshagiri Row and others, to His Excellency the Governor, on the occasion of his passing through Anantapore in August 1863.

2. The 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th paragraphs do not require to be noticed in this report.

3. The prayer of the Petitioners in paragraph 10 has been granted already; a Notification that Act XXVI of 1850 had been put in force in the town of Anantapore having appeared in the "Fort Saint George Gazette" at page 563 of 1864. The necessary rules have been framed by the Commissioners and laid before Government, and a supplementary grant (in excess of that applied for in this petition, the amount of subscriptions being also larger) has been begged of Government.

4. It remains to consider the requests of the Petitioners in paragraphs 8 and 9, in the first of which they represent that the bund of the tank requires strengthening; and in the second, they urge that the supply of the tank, now small, can be made greater by the construction of an anicut in the Pennar river near Tiramanny, in the Mysore country, from which water may be diverted to the tank.

5. In connection with the weakness of the bund they represent the extreme danger should it breach, and that such an event would be as calamitous as they represent I believe, owing to the position, built as it is close up to the edge of the tank bund, at its western end. Were the tank to breach in the place they mention, viz., between the Igneshawara temple and the south calingulah, the town would in all probability be swept away.

6. As to the strength of the bund, I requested Mr. Wilson, the Assistant Engineer of the Anantapore range, to give me his professional opinion, he being more competent to judge of the matter than I am; and I have the honor to enclose copy of his reply, from which it will be seen that he is of opinion that the bund is sufficiently strong except in one place, for the strengthening of which he writes he will frame an estimate.

7. With regard to the supply to the tank, it is at present dependant on a stream called the Pandamer. This stream rises in a small portion of the Mysore territory, which is surrounded on all sides, but one by the Bellary District; this flows to the Nassanakota (Dharmavarum Taluq) tank. After leaving it is joined some four or five miles lower down by a stream which

passes the Rangiri (Dharmavarum Taluq) tank, and then after receiving the drainage of a tract of country about nine miles broad and twenty-four long, it falls into the Anantapore tank. Close to Anantapore the Pandamer is joined by a vanka or jungle stream called Uppurupalli vanka, which rises above Kundakur, a village about six miles from Anantapore, and supplying two tanks belonging to that village before entering the Pandamer. The Pandamer and its tributaries flow through different tanks before reaching Anantapore and of course, unless the calingulahs of those tanks discharge the water in each of the tributaries which flow to tanks, is stopped by that tank.

8. The supply of water in the Pandamer is a very uncertain one. The enclosed table shews the amount of water received in the tank during the last ten years, and the revenue derived in each year therefrom.

9. The project alluded to by the Petitioners is one projected, I believe, by Captain Fischer. It is generally called the Bookacherla project, and the estimated cost was then, I believe, about seven lacs, but I am not in a position to say for certain, as I have no record in my Office to shew the amount of the estimate. The plans and estimates are, I conclude, to be found at Madras, or in the records of the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.

10. Mr. Collett, when Sub-Collector of Bellary, reported favorably on this project, and from his letter to the Collector, and the State-ments\* drawn up by him, it appears that the water of the Pennar river, after being brought to Bookacherla tank, was to be divided into two channels, one going to Anantapore, one being taken into the Tadakaler, which now supplies the Singanamala tank.

The first of these before reaching Anantapore was to fill the Bookacherla tank (which was to be made capable of holding more water), the Goudareddipalli, Bomaparty, and Raptad tanks (the last three when full now discharge into the Pandamer). The increase of revenue anticipated from this channel is shown in Mr. Collett's Statement to be Rupees 7,503. The second channel, viz., from Bookacherla to the Tadakaler, was calculated by Mr. Collett to promise an increase of revenue amounting to Rupees 17,111. It is also to be observed that Mr. Collett in his letter anticipates the gradual cultivation of 10,000 acres. There is, I believe, no doubt that if the Bookacherla project can be depended on to bring the water of Pennar to the Anantapore tank so as to fill it every year, gain to Government would be great (besides the increase of revenue derivable from the project itself), the revenue being made more certain, the condition of the people would be improved. The Ryots of Anantapore are chiefly dependent on the tank. When it is full they are healthy, when it receives no water they are comparatively destitute. By making the supply less precarious, their means of livelihood would be made more certain.

11. With no estimate before me I am not in a position to give a more detailed report than the above, but I have the honor to recommend that the project be again required to be looked into by the Department Public Works, and that the project be brought before the Government for consideration.

ENCLOSURE 1 in No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Statement shewing the Ayacut and cultivation under the Anantapore tank.

ENCLOSURE 2 in No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Statement shewing the Ayacut and cultivation under certain tanks.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Petition.

1. Resolved that the foregoing letter be submitted to Government with reference to the Under Secretary's Endorsement, dated 25th September 1863.

2. The Board concur with Mr. Hathaway in considering that the project referred to in the 3rd and 4th paragraphs of his letter is calculated to be of great benefit to the country, and would beg to recommend it to the favorable consideration of Government.

4 *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*  
20th December 1864.

3. It is presumed that the estimate has been submitted to Government by the Department Public Works.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,  
Sub-Secretary.

Transferred to the Public Works Department.

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

14th November 1864.

No. 415. ORDER THEREON, 20th December 1864, No. 3,638.

1. The Board of Revenue in the foregoing Proceedings lay before Government a letter from the Collector of Bellary, No. 182 of the 6th October 1864, calling attention to a scheme known as the Bookacherla project, which has long been under consideration, and was thrown into something like shape by Captain Fischer when he was District Engineer of Bellary, for diverting the waters of the Pennar into the Anantapore and other tanks, and thereby increasing irrigation and the productiveness of the lands under them.

2. The project consists of the construction of an anicut, twelve feet in height, across the bed of the river Pennar near the village of Tiramanny, in the Mysore country, and of the excavation of a spacious canal some miles in length from the right flank of that anicut to carry half a million of cubic yards of water per hour into a natural water course, which now forms one of the channels of supply to the Anantapore tank. In its course the canal would feed the Condapoor and Pairoor tanks, both of which would be enlarged and improved, and, by means of a dam across the above-mentioned Anantapore tank supply channel below the junction with it of the canal, as much water as might be required would be thrown into a reservoir of great capacity which it is proposed to form at the site of the Bookacherla tank, where great natural facilities for the construction of a bund exist. The surplus of this reservoir would flow into the Singanamalla tank, and thus the improved means of supplying that tank and those of Anantapore, Condapoor, Pairoor, and Bookacherla, as well as some subsidiary reservoirs, would be completed.

3. The scheme is probably feasible, and looking at the estimated returns from increased and improved irrigation under the tanks to be benefited, as given by the Revenue Officers, there would be little doubt of its proving ultimately remunerative if reliance could be placed on the calculations of its cost that have been submitted by Captain Fischer. These, it is evident, are unfortunately so incorrectly prepared as to be utterly untrustworthy and valueless. The proposed section of the primary work, the anicut which has to be constructed across the sandy bed of a river with a fall per mile of no less than seven feet is, in the opinion of Government, totally inadequate, and would require to be so modified as probably to render necessary more than double the quantity of material allowed for its construction. The rates too seem far too low. It is not likely that, with a scarcity of labor and with high prices prevailing, three cubic yards of rough-stone could be quarried and deposited in the bed of the river for 1 Rupee, and that 2 Rupees would cover the cost of two cubic yards of large blocks of stone packed into the apron of the work and laid in concrete. A like inadequacy of rates may be remarked in all the items for masonry throughout the estimate.

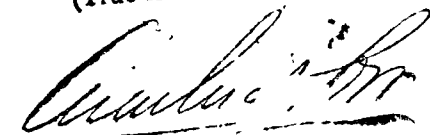
4. Illiberal as are the rates for masonry, those for the construction of the main part of the work, the channel, are still more insufficient. It is clear from its excessive tortuosity that the channel has to be carried along the base of a succession of hills and across intervening valleys, requiring in the former case deep cutting through stony hard soil, or perchance rock, and in the latter, high embankments. No provision for this kind of work has, however, been made in the estimate, which allows of prices scarcely adequate for ordinary earthwork, the rates ranging from 1 Anna for the great mass of the excavation, to a little more than 2½ Annas per cubic yard for a small portion of it.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 5*  
20th December 1864.

5. The rugged country through which the canal has to be carried, and which is described in the longitudinal section of the proposed canal as either hard, gravelly, or stony, is a difficult one for such a work, but this has been quite ignored in the preparation of the estimate, and from it therefore no idea can be formed of the probable expense of completing the undertaking.

6. The Government fully recognize the desirability of taking measures for improving and extending the means of irrigation in the District of Bellary, but the advantages of this project appear too doubtful to make it worth the while of Government to undertake it while many works of far more promising character are in hand, or are held in abeyance till funds are available. They accordingly direct that its consideration lie over till a properly qualified officer can be spared to investigate it fully, and to lay it before them in a practicable and reliable shape.

(True Extract.)



Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.  
" Revenue Department.  
" Board of Revenue, with three enclosures.  
To Captain J. F. Fischer, Royal Engineers.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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Communicated through

the Board of Revenue, to the Collector  
of Bellary, in view to the necessary  
information being made to the Petitioner  
in reply to their Petition to Govt of 1864  
of 1863. As to the grant to the sum.  
Legal Association of their Son,  
the Govt observe that this has  
been sanctioned in a recent order  
of 1864 to the extent of Rs 1200 yearly.

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Board of Rev  
Govt of Bellary  
Enclosed No 3608 and 3609

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