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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 3304 Press Mis-

46-47

Dated 2 — 11 — 1865.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 2nd November 1865.

No. 46. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department:—

Forwarding to the Board of Revenue for report letter from the Consulting Engineer Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, submitting certain correspondence proposing that an addition, so as to provide for garden cultivation, be made to the Rules for the distribution of water, &c., sanctioned in Revenue Department Proceedings No. 1,830 of 1864. } (Here enter 30th October 1865, No. 2,655.)

No. 47. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1865, No. 3,304.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 8.

Communicated to the Consulting Engineer for the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 563. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Secretary to Government, Department of Public Works, dated Camp, Bellahunsi, 11th October 1865, No. 101 :—

1 Letter in original from Agent, General No. 537.

* From Chief Engineer to Agent, No. 750, 19th September.
From Chief Engineer to Collector of Kurnool, No. 93, 12th September.

1. I have the honor to transmit, for the consideration of Government, a letter No. 341 of the 23rd ultimo, from the Agent and Manager Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, together with the correspondence as per margin,* thereto attached.

2. In this correspondence it is proposed that an addition to the rules for the distribution of water, &c., as sanctioned for one year in the Order of Government No. 1,830 of the 5th October 1864, be made, so as to provide for garden cultivation.

3. Mr. Henslowe points out, paragraph 2, that he suggested, at the time the Draft rules were under discussion, that some provision for garden lands, as a distinct class from ordinary irrigated lands, should be made, and that the Board of Revenue, while admitting the distinction, considered it best to leave the matter unsettled at that time.

4. Now, however, the question has to be decided as certain garden lands in the Kurnool District have to be irrigated, and the rate they are to pay settled, and the Agent desires sanction for a monthly payment for such lands of one Rupee an Acre at present, this rate being one-fourth of the rate for an acre of irrigated land per crop ; and in the event of the latter rate being raised, he considers that the garden rate should be increased, so as always to be paid for monthly at one-fourth of the irrigated field rates.

The expressions "monthly payment" and "paid for monthly" refer to amount of rate to be levied, and not to the time of payment.

5. It appears to me that garden lands should be classified quite distinctly from field irrigation. It is not so much the quantity of water that gardens take which affects the question, but their usually detached situation, and the increased amount of regulation required. The value of their produce is another point, but this cannot be relied upon in the absence of details of cost of production ; and, moreover, were the data taken from value of produce, it would be necessary to prepare a scale of rates rather than a fixed payment. On the whole, therefore, the ground on which a higher rate of payment for garden lands should be required is that the supply gives more trouble, and will generally cost more to convey from the Canal to the garden ; to which may be added the probability of the surplus from garden channels remaining either unutilized or, if not so, unproductive of returns to the Company.

6. One point remains however to be considered, and that is whether it would not be better to place the supply of gardens under the same rule as that of towns and other exceptional cases. This arrangement would be more elastic than the fixed rule of one-fourth the rate for field irrigation, and gardens are so variously situated, and so variously circumstanced, that some difference in the rates of payment

seems necessary, and would be right. This arrangement was noticed in paragraph 6 of my letter No. 129 of the 24th October last, and I then referred only to gardens at Stations, but it is equally applicable to village gardens in very many cases. A similar provision has also been entered in a Memorandum showing the particulars to be included in an Act of the Legislature in connection with Section 27 of the Contract. This Memorandum, which was sent to the Agent in November last for consideration, has not yet been disposed of, as it and its covering letter referred principally to navigation tolls and rates, which in the present state of the Canal works do not need immediate settlement.

Proceedings Madras Government, 11th November 1864, No. 2,070, Revenue Department.

7. It may be useful to point out here the position of the Company on the one hand, and of the garden proprietors on the other. The Company can decline to supply water to any garden, should it appear that the rate chargeable for the supply would not be remunerative, as the demand on the Canal water will exceed its capacity of supply. On the other hand, the owner of the garden may wish for water, and be willing to pay a fair rate for it, and one which the Company would be glad to take, but if the field rate alone were allowed, the Company would not supply, and the garden would remain unwatered however anxious the owner might be to get water. Again, the fixed rate of one Rupee a month per acre may, as an average rate, be remunerative to the Company, but there will be cases in which garden owners may not like to pay as much, and the gardens may be so circumstanced that the Company could supply for less. As an instance take the case of gardens situated in the neighbourhood of leakage water. Other gardens may however be a long way off; the owners might wish for water at even double the proposed rate of one Rupee, or one-fourth the field rate, per month, and yet if there be no other than this one fixed rate, the Company might properly decline to supply, and the garden would be left without water. If however the supply be considered, as it indeed is, an exceptional one, every garden within a moderate distance from a channel can be supplied on terms beneficial and agreeable to both the Company and the owner, and for this reason I should recommend the adoption of this view of the question, and the leaving to the Company and the owners the settlement of the exact rate, within the maximum allowed by law, to be paid in each case.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
20th October 1865.

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

No. 564.

Miscellaneous.

ORDER THEREON, 30th October 1865, No. 2,655.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for report after communication with the Collector and with the Agent for the Canal Company.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 3204

Communicated to the

Consulting Engineer for the

Madras Irrigation and

Canal Company.

Secretary to Govt
2nd Order 1/65.

To the Consulting Engr for Madras Irrn & C. Co.
Fort St George — do — do.

X87

16/3

Dated 8th November

Pol. W. 1865 Depart.
Pol. Dep. of Govt. for Revr
No. 4279
Secr. of Govt. in the
Revenue Departt.
Dy 30 Octr/65
Rec.d 1 Novr/65.

Ex. 3304 - 2nd Novr/65. No. 2655

Forwarding to the
Bd. of Rev. for report,
letter from the Govt. Engr.
Madras No. 6. submitting
certain correspondence proposing that
an addition, so as to
provide for garden cul-
tivation, be made to
the rules for the dis-
tribution of water from
sanctioned Govt Pol. No.
1830 of 1864.
Fiche in order

No. 46.47

Examined for Mr.
Gardiner and
Secretary.

Dept. No. 23 Pol. Revenue