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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 423	Press
97-98	~~Mis.~~
Dated 3. 2	18 66

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
3rd February 1866.*

No 97. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Revenue Department :—

Forwarding to the Board of Revenue, for their }
observations, certain correspondence relative }
to the proposed mode of levying the Madras } (Here enter 29th January 1866, No. 259.)
Irrigation and Canal Company's water-rate. }

No. 98. ORDER THEREON, 3rd February 1866, No. 423.

CIVIL WORKS, No. 10.

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 Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

" Manager for do. do.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th January 1866.*

No. 494. Read the following letter from the Consulting Engineer Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 22nd January 1866, No. 143 :—

1. I have the honor, in continuation of my letter No. 137 of the 5th instant, to forward, for the consideration of Government a letter, No. 156 of the 9th instant, from the Chief Engineer Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, which was received with the Agent's Endorsement No. 531 of the 19th instant.

In this letter Mr. Latham points out that the practice, which has already to some extent prevailed, of Ryots asking for water for land forming only a part of a numbered field of the Revenue Survey, has led to the canal water being used over a larger area than that for which it is intended that payment should be made.

* No. 137 of 5th instant, paragraph 9. 3. I have recommended* that except where a part of a survey field is above the requisite level, water be supplied only to the survey fields in full, and I think also with the Chief Engineer (end of paragraph 6) that it is advisable that all cases, which may be brought to notice, of lands being cultivated with canal water, without first being registered for such cultivation should be strictly dealt with, in order that the Ryots may understand from the first that it is intended to prevent any laxity in this respect. The District Gazette would probably afford the best means of making the penalties inflicted for the fraudulent or irregular use of canal water a warning to others.

Endorsement of the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 19th January 1866, No. 531.

From the Provisional Chief Engineer Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Collector of Kurnool, dated Kurnool, 9th January 1866, No. 156.

1. I have the honor to enclose a list of the numbers and areas, as given by the Revenue Survey, of the fields irrigated in latter half of 1865, amounting to 1,617½ Acres or so. It has been carefully prepared by Mr. Dodson.

2. Of these numbers some are compounds containing houses paying house water-rate to the Municipality of Kurnool, and such, and I think such only, are exempt from liability to pay further rate.

3. Of the rest the return has been prepared exactly on the principle of your advertisement in the Kurnool Gazette of 22nd October 1864 (of which a copy is appended) if the word "waste" be omitted and the word "wet" be inserted before cultivation.

4. It is clear that the mode of estimating the acreage liable to wet assessment must follow some analogy; and I know of no other than the mode in which the Government make their estimates of acreage liable to assessment.

5. It is seen that if a man ploughs up and sows a portion of a demarked field, the Government practice known all over the Presidency, is to enter the whole area of the field against his name, and the assessment has to be paid on the whole area. Yet the facility for ascertaining that it really is only partly cultivated is great, a single inspection by a responsible Officer suffices to shew it. A greater reason exists for charging water assessment on a whole field part of which is put under

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th January 1866.*

irrigation from our canals, and part irrigated from wells, or cultivated with garden herbs or dry crop, for it would require a watch day and night by a considerable effort for the whole period of the cultivation, in order to ascertain whether the Company's water be not run over the whole of the field. It may indeed be said that the whole of such a field is sown with rice, and if it be so, the part of the cultivator receives the full benefit of the Company's irrigation. In other respects the similarity between wet and dry cultivation seems complete. For instance, in each it is equally undesirable that a man should take up more land than he means to sow, and so cultivate. It is, however, noticeable that a Ryot has to pay as much for his land as for his crop in the Government dry system, while wet cultivation needs no fallow.

6. I have little doubt that in some cases in which Ryots have cultivated half an acre or more in a field or number adjoining that for which they asked water, under the impression that they might succeed including the water-rate for all such, and thus a Ryot might hope to get twice as much wet crop as he paid for, by overrunning his boundary line on all sides. My impression is that the most merciful way of dealing with such cases, and also with cases of encroachment or violation, is to be strict from the first.

7. It seems that the ordinary Government rule that applied, gives more than double the amount of the assessment as returned to the Deputy Collector, and this shows the importance that the mode of levying the rate should be considered and set at rest, before irrigation extends.

8. The exact area of the cultivation on those plots or fields for which water has been asked has been estimated by the village Gurnams, who of course are interested parties, at some where about 600 Acres, and my Native Irrigation Superintendent has observed the water course, and agrees with it pretty nearly. But in the first place, the Gurnams have not been very accurate in their calculations, and in the second place, in numberless cases in adjacent plots, where village water, Gurnams' water, &c., have been very considerably encroached upon, and in the third place I am not prepared, as a rule, to accept either calculation as at all fair to the Company. Supposing it ruled that only the area actually cultivated is to pay water-rate, then that area should be ascertained on the responsibility of officers equal in rank to those who have conducted the Demarcation and Revenue Surveys for the settlement of the Government revenue, and no provision has been made either by Government or by the Company for such a staff capable of making such an accurate survey, far more accurate than the Revenue Survey, which simply has to take up the generally straighter divisions of fields from stone to stone as demarked by the demarcation party. A survey which would have to be completed yearly in the course of a few months, and prosecuted just at the time when the country is unproductive in the thick of the cultivation. You are no doubt aware that the difficulty is no imaginary one. The tracks demarked for the use of the villagers through their fields have, by arrangement amongst the villagers themselves, been partly or wholly cultivated, and the traffic of these has been temporarily diverted to the higher ground. Water courses have been damaged, ploughed and sown as soon as the time of danger of damage from floods has passed, and so forth. This is very well, and I hope that many water courses will be made, in time, as fruitful as those of the western hills, and this would not be prevented, I believe, by the rule that if a Ryot encroaches on wet cultivation in any plot he must pay water-rate for the whole.

9. I have brought the subject fully forward now, because it is of great importance that it should be settled before next season. The settlement was postponed by Colonel Ordre until the extent of irrigation should render it of importance, in order that as much experience as possible might be gained in the interim. I have the honor to request your consideration of my remarks while preparing the lists of water-rate due to the Company for the past season of 1865, and the favor of your views, if in any case you cannot agree with me, as to the fairness of the mode of levying it, which I have proposed above, and have acted on in preparing the enclosed list. It will be remembered that the demarcation of land under the canal has been conducted with a special view of having the size of the plots suitable to wet cultivation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
29th January 1866.*

Forwarded to the Consulting Engineer, with reference to this Office No. 499 of 2nd January 1866.

(Signed) F. H. HENSLOWE,
Agent and Manager.

NOTICE.

1. The Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement has brought to the notice of the Collector that the Ryots are in the habit of taking up portions of demarcated waste land in any manner that suits their own convenience, without paying attention to the limits of numbers as laid down by Settlement authorities.

2. In taking up waste lands, Ryots are never to take up less than a survey number, and if a portion be brought under cultivation by any Ryots without orders, the whole number must be entered in his Puttah. The occupation of demarcated waste lands except in accordance with the demarcation is forbidden in the Board's Circular Order dated August 7th 1861, No. 4,261, the provisions of which will be strictly enforced.

17th October 1864.

(Signed) J. I. MINCHIN, *Collector.*

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. C. BEAUMONT,
Officer in charge.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

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

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
23rd January 1866.

No. 495.

ORDER THEREON, 29th January 1866, No. 250.

Miscellaneous.

Forwarded to the Board of Revenue for their observations.

(True Extract.)

J. H. Cole.
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

.. the Public Works Department.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No 156. Malabar Irrigation Canal Co.
Chief Engineer's Office
Muvattupuzha 9th January 1866.

To,
John H. Latham Esq.
Pres. Chief Engineer

James James Minchin Esq.
Collector of
Muvattupuzha

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a
list of the plots and areas, as given
by the Revenue Survey of the fields
surveyed in latter half of 1865
amounting to 167 ³/₄ acres or so.
It has been carefully prepared
by Mr. Wodson.

Of these plots some are
compounds containing houses
paying house water-rate to the
Municipality of Muvattupuzha, and
such, and, I think such only
are exempt from liability to
pay further rate.

3 Of the rest the return
has been prepared exactly
on the principle of your
advertisement in the Muvattupuzha
Gazette of 22nd October 1864
of which a copy is appended
if the word "waste" be omitted

and

21/1/23

Communicated
to the Consulting Engineer
for the Rangoon Ship Canal
and Canal Company
J. H. Latham Esq.
James James Minchin Esq.
Collector of Muvattupuzha
Chief Engineer
Muvattupuzha
9th January 1866
J. H. Latham Esq.
James James Minchin Esq.
Collector of Muvattupuzha
Chief Engineer
Muvattupuzha
9th January 1866

and the word "wet" is substituted
before Cultivation. It is clear that the mode
of estimating the average value
to wet assessment must follow
some analogy; and I know
of no other than the method
in which the Government made
their estimates of average value
to assessment.

5. It is even more if a man
ploughs up and sows a portion
of a demarcated field, the Govern-
ment practice, known all over
the Presidency is to enter the
whole area of the field against
his name, and the assess-
ment has to be paid on the
whole area. Yet the facility
for ascertaining what is really
only partly cultivated
is great - a single inspection
by a responsible officer suffi-
ces to show it. A greater
reason exists for charging
water assessment on a whole
field part of which is put
under irrigation from one
Canal, and part irrigated
from wells, or cultivated as
garden herbs or dry crops,
for it would require a

night day and night by a
dependable officer for the whole
period of the Cultivation, in
order to ascertain whether
the Compa's water be not
run over the whole of the
field. It may indeed be said
that the whole of such a
field in practice, even if it
be involuntarily on the part
of the Cultivator, receives the
full benefit of the Compa's
irrigation. In other respects the
similarity between wet and
dry Cultivation seems complete.
For instance in each it is
equally inadvisable that a
man should take up more
land than his means enable
him to cultivate. It is however
noticeable that a ryot has
to pay as much for his fallow
as for his crop on the
Government dry system. While
wet Cultivation needs no
fallow.

6. I have little doubt that
in some cases in 1865 ryots
have cultivated half an acre
or more in a field or in
adjoining plots for which
they asked no water, under
the

the impression that they might
succeed in obtaining the
rate for is much higher than
a ryot might hope to get for
three or much more than he
he paid for, by procuring
his boundary lines in addition.
My impression is that the
most successful way of
dealing with such cases, and
also with cases of
carelessness or wilfulness,
is to be strict from the first.
7th It seems that the
Government rule that applies
gives more than double the
amount of the assessment has
returned to the Deputy Col-
lector, and this shows the
importance that the matter
of levying the water should
be considered and set
at rest, before irrigation
extends.

8th As to each area of the
cultivation in those plots
or fields for which water
has been asked, each has
estimated by the village
Caranams - who of course
are interested parties.
at some where about by

600

600 acres, and say that the
irrigation Superintendent has
checked the calculation and
a press with it pretty nearly.
But in the first place neither
calculation includes the cul-
tivation that has taken place
and including all cases in
adjacent plots where village
roads, garden roads &c.
have been very considerably
encroached upon, and in
the next place I am not
prepared as a rule to ac-
cept either calculation as
at all fair to the Company.
I suppose it would be that only
the exact area cultivated
is to pay water rate. Then
that area should be ascer-
tained on the responsibility
of Officers equal in rank
to those who have conducted
the demarcations and revenue
surveys for the Settlement
of the Government revenue, and
no provision has been made
either by Government or by the
Company for such a staff
capable of making such
an intricate survey - far
more intricate than the
Revenue Survey which simply

Simply line to be taken up. The
generally straightened drainage
of fields from stone to stone as
demanded by the Demarcation
party - a survey which would
have to be completed nearly
on the course of a year
and prosecuted just at the
time when the country is in-
-practicable in the thick
of the cultivation. You are
no doubt aware that the
difficulty is no imaginary
one - The tracks demarcated
for the use of the Villagers
through these fields have
by an arrangement arranged
the villagers themselves have
partly or wholly cultivated
and the traffic if there
be any / temporarily diverted
to the higher ground. Water
courses have been dammed
across, ploughed and sown
as soon as the time of
danger of damage from
floods has passed, and so
forth. This is very well, and
I hope that many water
courses will be made, in
time, as fruitful as those
of the Western hills, and

5
this would not be prevented,
I believe, by the rule that
if the right carries on wet
cultivation in any plot
he must pay water rate
for the whole.
I have brought the subject
fully forward now, because
it is of great importance
that it should be settled
before next season. The
Settlement was postponed
by Colonel Cotton until the
extent of irrigation should
render it of importance,
in order that as much ex-
pense as possible might
be gained in the interim.
I have the honor to request
your consideration of my
remarks while preparing
the lists of water rate due
to the Company for the past
season of 1865 and the favor
of your views if any case
you should refer with me
acts the fairness of the
mode of levying it which
I have proposed above, and
have acted on in prepar-
ing the enclosed list. It
will be remembered that
the demarcation of land
under

under the Canal has been
conducted with a special
view of having the size
of the plots suitable to
suit cultivation -

Diace
Signed of Wm B. Beaumont
Prov. Chief Engr

True Copy
1861 W. Beaumont
Officer in Charge

No. 531

Forwarded to the General
Engineer with reference to this
Office No. 499 of 2nd Jan 1866.

Fr. Martineau
Agent & Engineer

Received
19th Jan 1866

99/407/106

Notice

The Deputy Director of Revenue Settlement
has brought to the notice of the Collector, that the
Ryots are in the habit of taking up portions of
demarcated waste land, in any manner that
suits their own convenience without paying at
tention to the limits of the number of land down
by settlement authorities -

In taking up waste lands, Ryots are never
to take up less than a square number and if
a portion be brought under cultivation by any
Ryots without order, the whole number must
be entered by his settlement. The occupation of
demarcated waste lands except in accordance
with the demarcation is forbidden in the
Proviso C. O. dated August 1861 No 4264,
the provisions of which will be strictly en-
forced -

W. J. L. Murchison
Collector

17th October 1864

(True Copy)

W. B. Beaumont
Officer in Charge

To Cash 1887/12 22 Jan 1886

Dec 203/66 - 1886

No 531

of 1886/87

Chas. Spaulding

Dr 24 c co

To 1887/88

to Gen. Spaulding

Dr 24 c co

Dated 19 Jan 1886

Received 22 Jan 1886

Forwarded Copy of

Correspondence received

from Mr. Spaulding

Chief Engineer with

reference to the area

the Hotel de la

in the latter half of

1886/87

107 1886/87 Dec 1886
Pro. of Govt. for February
No. 434

Pro. of Govt. in the
Revenue Dept
D/29 Jan, '86
Recd 1st July

No. 250

Forwarding to
the B. of Rev. for their ob-
servations, certain cor-
respondence relative to
the proposed mode of
levying the Madras
Heard Company's
water-rate.

123. 3rd July 1886

With an order

No. 97-98