

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1318	Press
52-53	~~Mis.~~
Dated 2	5 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

91

No. 52. Read the following letter from the Controller of Public Works Accounts, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 27th June 1866, No. 932:—

In continuation of my letter to your address of the 15th February 1866, No. 3,156, I have the honour to point out that the average cost per acre for repairs, which in the three years 1855-56 to 1857-58 was about 1 Rupee, had been reduced in the years 1860-61 to 1863-64 to 5 Annas, and in the year 1864-65, the last for which I have any accounts, the cost is only 4 Annas per acre, showing clearly that whilst the breadth of land under cultivation has been increased to nearly double its former extent, this can be maintained in full production at one-fourth its former cost, notwithstanding that the price of labour and materials in that district have increased cent. per cent.; and as this expense has been saved to the State, I respectfully submit it should be considered in connexion with the subject of the revenue obtained from irrigation works. I have omitted all reference to the value of this produce as enhancing the means of the Ryots, as unfortunately I have none of my notes with me here; but I understand paddy straw sells about Tadputtri and Gooty at 5 Annas a bundle, an acre of good land is said to yield 100 bundles of straw, the increased extent of land now under cultivation above the average of the period first mentioned in this letter is 78,960 acres; but a good deal of this is probable under sugar-cane, betel, or garden cultivation; if, however, 50,000 acres have been added to the paddy cultivation, then a sum of above 15 lacs of Rupees a year represents the increase of money value in the article of straw alone to the ryots. It may be objected, that this land was not entirely unproductive before, and therefore a deduction on this account requires to be made; but I would observe I am not making a comparison with the entire produce of wet and dry lands to exhibit their respective merits. I have only shown that, for one article for which a great demand has sprung up since the means of communication between districts has been so facilitated, means have been afforded to the people to take advantage of this state of affairs with considerable benefit to themselves, and at no loss to the State.

No. 53. ORDER THEREON, ²³ May 1867, No. 1,318.

IRRIGATION, No. 6.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. T. Cartledge.

irrigation, if, however, 50,000 acres have been

N. 932.

Office of the Controller of
P.W. Accounts.

Madras 27th June 1866.

From,

The Controller of P.W. Accounts.

To, The Secretary to Government, P.W. D.
Fort St. George.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter to your address
of the 15th February 1866, N. 3156, I have the honor to
point out that the average cost per acre for repairs,
which in the three years 1855-56 to 1857-58 was
about Rs. 1, had been reduced in the years 1860-61
to 1863-64 to 5 Annas, and in the year 1864-65 the
last for which I have any accounts, the cost is only
4 Annas per acre, shewing clearly that whilst the
breadth of land under cultivation has been
increased to nearly double its former extent, this
can be maintained in full production at 1/4
its former cost and as this expense has been
saved to the State, I respectfully submit that it
should be considered in connection with the subject
of the Revenue obtained from irrigation works.
I have omitted all reference to the value of this
produce, as enhancing the means of the ryots,
as unfortunately I have none of my notes with
me. here, but I understand paddy straw
sells about Tadpatri and Gooty at 5 Annas
a bundle, an acre of good land is said to
yield 100 bundles of straw. The increased
extent of land now under cultivation above the
average of the period first mentioned in this
letter is 78,960 acres; but a good deal of this is
probable under sugar cane, betel, or garden
cultivation, if, however, 50,000 acres have been
added to the paddy cultivation then, above 15
lacs of Rupees a year represents the increase
of

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in that District have
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the pigots. It may be objected, that this land was
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a deduction on this account requires to be made,
but I would observe I am not making a
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and dry lands to exhibit their respective merits
I have only shown that for one article for which
a great demand has sprung up since the
means of communication between districts
has been so facilitated means have been
afforded to the people to take advantage
of this state of affairs with considerable
benefit to themselves and at no loss to the
State.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Most Obedt Servant

Wm. A. C. M. Captain R.E.

Controller of P.W. Accounts.

Comd. C.M.

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Recorded

Grant St George
2nd May 1867

