

(1) Number of pages 30

(2) Date of repair 24-5-43

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 3931-32	Press Mis.
398-400	
Dated 19 12 1867.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 398. Read the following translation of a letter from His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor of the Presidency of Fort St. George, Madras, dated Pondicherry, 6th December 1867, No. 20:—

On the subject of the construction of an Anicut at Cabistalom.

1. The Mirasidars, land-owners in the French Settlement of Karikal, have addressed a petition to me, bringing to notice the serious injury that will be inflicted on their properties by the construction proposed by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty of a great Anicut, or masonry weir, at Cabistalom, a point about three miles from the place where the river Arasalar branches off from the Cauvery.

2. The Chief Civil Officer at Karikal having, under my instructions, applied to the Collector of Tanjore for information regarding this project, that officer has informed him, under date the 21st November, that the work in question was about to be undertaken, but that it would be executed in a way that would furnish a very large quantity of water for the Arasalar, contrary to the apprehensions manifested by the French subjects of Karikal.

3. In 1837, an Anicut was proposed for the same place, but the Mirasidars feared that it would not fail to be very prejudicial to their cultivation. The Chief Civil Officer at Karikal was of the same opinion, and he requested the serious attention of the Collector, Mr. Kindersay, to the facts stated in the representation of the Mirasidars. Mr. Kindersay replied in exactly the same way as Mr. Morris has done in the present instance. He affirmed that the apprehensions of the ryots and of the Chief Civil Officer were without the least foundation. Notwithstanding this assurance of Mr. Kindersay's, who gave it in good faith, but who was misled by his subordinate agents, it was admitted, some time after, that the proposed work would be greatly injurious to us, and it was not carried out. This solution of the difficulty resulted from a letter from one of your Excellency's predecessors', under date the 7th July 1838.

4. I have grounds for thinking, that your Excellency's attention has not been called to the precedent to which I refer.

5. The considerations set forth on that occasion will have, I have no doubt, the same weight with your Excellency. There is the fact at least of possession and enjoyment, which is traced back to the time of the concession and sale of the territory of Pondicherry by the Rajah of Tanjore, and which has continued up to this day. An arrangement suited to the state of things can be adopted only with the consent of both the parties interested.

I appeal to your Excellency's authority, and beg that your Excellency will be good enough to order the suspension of these works. If, after considering their nature and the weight of the objections that I have the honor to submit to you, you conclude that you ought to proceed with the execution of them, I shall in that case request that the details of the project may be communicated to me, in order that our Engineers may be able to give their opinion on the probable consequences.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
19th December 1867.*

Transferred to the Chief Secretary to Government.

By order,

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Private Secretary.

MADRAS,
7th December 1867.

Transferred to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) R. S. ELLIS,
Chief Secretary.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
10th December 1867.

No. 399. ORDER THEREON, 19th December 1867, No. 3,931.

IRRIGATION, No. 13.

Ordered that the following letter
be sent:—

(Here enter No. 3,932, dated 19th December 1867.)

(True Extract.)

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

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE,
19th December 1867.

No. 3,932.

No. 400.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR
OF THE FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA.

SIR,

IRRIGATION, No. 14.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's letter No. 20, dated 6th December 1867, on

the subject of the construction of a dam across the Arasalar river in Tanjore.

2. The object of the proposed masonry work has not been correctly represented to your Excellency.

3. The regulation of the supply of water to the lands under the river Cauvery in Tanjore has for many years engaged the attention of the local Engineer Officers. It was in the first instance applied on a large scale to the improvement of the supply of the Cauvery itself by means of the construction of an Anicut across the Coleroon to the westward of Trichinopoly: and was further promoted by the construction of numerous sluices for the discharge of surplus flood-water back to the Coleroon.

4. In 1851, a regulating work was constructed across the Cauvery and the head of the Vennaur, with a view to alleviate the heavy annual expenses which had to be incurred in the formation of temporary works, and to equalise as far as possible the quantity of water passing down either channel, to the proportions required for the cultivation.

5. Now it is proposed to carry the same principle into effect with regard to the other great branches of the Cauvery, viz., the Codamoorthy, the Arasalar, and the Veerasholem. A vast volume of water at times enters the Cauvery which occasions mischief on all sides. The effect of such floods is to distort the heads of the branch channels, to allow of a greater or less body of water entering them than is proportional to the requirements of cultivation, and on the subsidence of the floods to maintain that disproportion.

6. The Codamoorthy, in consequence of the changes which have resulted from the continued action of an excessive volume of water, has become enlarged to an inordinate extent, and when the whole supply on the Cauvery is only sufficient for the cultivation in the delta, it draws off fully-three-fifths more than its proper share. The proposed regulating dam will curtail the waterway of the Codamoorthy, and the water which will by this means be withdrawn from it, will be available for improving the supply to the Cauvery and the lower branches, including the Arasalar, which will thus be benefited by the work.

7. The object of a dam at the head of the Arasalar is not to diminish the supply, which, as above stated, will on the contrary be increased, but to prevent the injurious erosive action of the current during high freshes. It is not to be built, as has been represented to your Excellency, at the distance of about three miles below the head of the channel, but on the contrary, is designed to be

placed at the head itself, with merely a masonry abutment between it and a similar work across the Cauvery, and on precisely the same level as that work.

8. I would remind your Excellency that the British interests affected by the proposed work are of even greater importance than those of your Excellency's Government, seeing that the areas of land irrigated by the Arasalar in the respective territories are, if I am correctly informed, in the proportion of eight to three and a half; so that I am, equally with your Excellency, bound to see that the work will have a purely beneficial effect on the Arasalar generally.

9. Your Excellency will observe on perusal of the enclosed copy of an Order of this Government, dated 14th* March 1867, that the works have been sanctioned after a very complete investigation

of the condition of the channels under the Cauvery, and after the fullest precautions have been taken to ensure a beneficial result accruing to the various interests depending upon them.

Accept, Sir, the assurance of the high consideration with which,

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's
Most obedient and humble servant,
(Signed) NAPIER.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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No 3932
3.1.32

To His Excellency the Governor of the
French Settlements
in India.

N. Sir,

I have the honor to
acknowledge receipt of
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No. 20, dated 6 December
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9 Your Excellency will observe on perusal of the enclosed copy of an order of this Government, dated 14th March 1867, that the works have been sanctioned, after a very complete investigation of the condition of the channels under the Cauvery, and after the fullest

+ No 775

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Accept, Sir, the as-
surance of the high consi-
deration with which,

I have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's
Most Obedt & Humble Servt.

J. W.

W. B.

per N
won
by A

Recd 20/12/67 with copy of the same
Order No 775 of 1867 and without
the report thereon
c. 114 Dec 1867. R. 17th recorded

3980-400

Pub. Works 1867 (Department)

Pro: of Govt for December

No. 3931 & 3932

Pro: of the Madras Govt

D^y 19th (December 1867)

No. 398-399 & 400

Translation.

From H. E. the Governor of the French Set-
tlements in India to H. E. the Right
Honorable the Governor of the Presidency
of Fort St. George, Madras, dated Pondi-
chery 5th Decemr 1867 N^o 20.

On the subject of the
construction of an
ancient at Cabistalou

The mirasidars, land-
owners in the French
Settlement of Karikal,
have addressed a pe-
tition to me, bringing
to notice the serious
injury that will be
inflicted on their pro-
perties by the construc-
tion ^{proposed} by the Govt. of
Her Britannic Majes-
ty of a great ancient
or masonry weir at
Cabistalou, a point
about three miles
from the place where
the river Arselan
branches

and I have now
with the
advice of the
Honorable the
Governor of the
Presidency of
Fort St. George,
Madras, and the
Honorable the
Governor of the
French Settlements
in India, I have
the honor to
acknowledge the
receipt of your
letter of the 19th
inst. and to inform
you that the
Honorable the
Governor of the
Presidency of
Fort St. George,
Madras, has
been pleased to
order that the
Honorable the
Governor of the
French Settlements
in India should
be requested to
take the necessary
steps for the
construction of
the weir at
Cabistalou, and
to report the
result thereof
to the Honorable
the Governor of
the Presidency
of Fort St. George,
Madras, for his
further consideration.

branches off from the
Cauvery.

The Chief of the Service
at Karikal having under
my instructions applied
to the Collector of Tanjore
for information regarding
this project, that officer
has informed him ^{under} ~~on~~ the 21st November
that the work in ques-
tion was about to be
undertaken, but that
it would be executed
in a way that would
furnish a very large
quantity of water for
the Arselar, contrary to
the apprehensions ma-
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subjects of Karikal.

In 1837, Monsieur
le Gouverneur, an ani-
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the same place, but
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2

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to be very prejudicial to
their cultivation. The
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Karikal was of the same
opinion, & he requested
the serious attention of
the Collector, Mr. Kinder-
say, to the facts stated
in the representation
of the Mirasidars. Mr.
Kindersay replied in
exactly the same way as
Mr. Morris has done in
the present instance. He
affirmed that the ap-
prehensions of the ryots &
of the Chief of the Service
were without the least
foundation. Notwithstand-
ing this assurance of Mr.
Kindersay who gave it
in good faith, but who
was misled by ~~one~~ his
subordinate agents, it
was admitted some time
after, that the proposed
work would be greatly
injurious to us, & it was
not

not carried out. This solution of the difficulty resulted from a letter from one of Your Excellency's predecessors under date the 7th July 1838.

I have grounds for thinking, Monsieur le Gouverneur, that your attention has not been called to the precedent to which I refer.

The considerations set forth on that occasion will have, I have no doubt, the same weight with Your Excellency. There is the fact at least of possession & enjoyment, which is traced back to the times of the concession & sale of the territory of Pondichery by the Rajah of Tanjore, which has continued up to this day. An arrangement

arrangement suited to the state of things can be adopted only with the consent of both the parties interested.

Excellency's authority, Monsieur le Gouverneur, I beg that Your Excellency will be good enough to order the suspension of these works. If after considering their nature & the weight of the objections that I have the honor to submit to you, you conclude that you ought to proceed with the execution of them, I shall in that case request that the project may be communicated to me in order that our Engineers may be able to give their

Handwritten text in Devanagari script, likely a title or introductory phrase, partially obscured by the English text.

their opinion on the
probable consequences.

True translation

J. W. Lyons.

French Translator.

9-12-67.

Extensive handwritten text in Devanagari script, appearing to be a detailed report or commentary, covering the majority of the left page.

Extensive handwritten text in Devanagari script, continuing the report or commentary, covering the majority of the right page.

Transferred to the Public
works department.

Port Saint George
10 December 1857

W. W. W.
Chief Secretary

3rd Dec 1857
1857

Gouvernement
des Etablissements Français
dans l'Inde

Administration
de l'Ordonnateur.

N^o 20

Pondichéry, le 6 Décembre 1857

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Monsieur le Gouverneur,

En sujet de l'établissement
d'un barrage à Cabistalom,

Les mirasdars propriétaires
du sol de l'établissement français de
Kaisthal, viennent de m'adresser
une requête me signalant les graves
préjudices que va porter à leurs
propriétés la construction projetée
par le Gouvernement de S. M.
britannique d'un grand déversoir
ou barrage en maçonnerie à
Cabistalom, point proche
d'environ 3 milles de l'endroit où
la rivière Arselar prend sa
source au moyen des eaux du
Caveray.

M. C.

A Son Excellence le Très-honorable Gouverneur de la
Présidence du Fort St. Georges, à Madras.

M^r le Chef du Service à Karikal
ayant, conformément à mes instruc-
tions, provoqué de M^r le Collecteur
du Canjore quelques renseigne-
ments à cet égard, celui-ci lui a
fait connaître à la date du 21
Novembre qu'en effet le travail en
question allait être entrepris mais
qu'il serait exécuté de façon à
procurer une plus grande quantité
d'eau à l'Arslar contrairement
aux craintes manifestées par les
sujets français de Karikal.

En 1837, Monsieur le
Gouverneur, un déversoir ayant
été projeté dans le même endroit,
les Mirasdars pensèrent qu'il ne
pourrait nuire d'être très-
préjudiciable à leurs cultures. Le

chef

Chief du Service de Karikal fut
du même avis, et recommanda
à la sérieuse attention du Collecteur
M^r Kindersay les faits consignés
dans une requête de ces Mirasdars.
M^r Kindersay répondit
exactement comme le fait
aujourd'hui M^r Morris: il
affirma que les craintes des
Cultivateurs et du Chef de Service
étaient sans le moindre fondement.
Nonobstant cette assurance de
M^r Kindersay qui était de
bonne foi mais qui avait été
trompé par un de ses agents
subalternes, il fut reconnu,
quelque temps après, que le travail
projeté nous serait grandement
préjudiciable, et il ne fut pas
exécuté. Cette solution résulte
d'une

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d'une lettre de l'un des Juges de
de Votre Excellence, en date du 7
Juillet 1838.

J'ai bien de penser, Monsieur
le Gouverneur, que votre attention
n'a pas été appelée sur le pré-
sent que je viens de rappeler.

Les considérations invoquées
à cette époque auront, je n'en
saurais douter, le même poids
auprès de Votre Excellence. Il
y a là une fait de possession
et de jouissance, qui remonte à
l'époque de la concession et de
la vente du territoire de Pondichéry
par le Royah du Canjore et
qui a existé jusqu'à ce jour.

Une modification apportée à cet
état de choses ne pourrait
qu'être concertée entre les deux
parties intéressées.

Je

Je viens donc faire appel à
votre autorité, Monsieur le
Gouverneur, et prier Votre
Excellence de vouloir bien
ordonner la suspension de
ces travaux. Si après avoir
examiné leur nature et la
valeur des observations que
j'ai l'honneur de lui présenter,
Elle pensait devoir en
poursuivre l'exécution, je
lui demanderais alors que le
projet me fut communiqué pour
que nos Ingénieurs pussent
donner leur opinion sur ses
conséquences probables.

Puisse agréer, Monsieur le Gouverneur,
l'assurance de la haute considération
avec laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être,
De Votre Excellence

Le très-obéissant serviteur,
Le Commissaire Général de la Marine,
Gouverneur des Etablissements Français des Indes,
Duméril

1867 Dec 17
No. of page for December
904-714

from the by the Government
of the French & the
interest in India

dated 1867
Dec 17

1867 Dec 17

Regarding that,

under the circumstances
cannot be from 1867
notice, the construction
of the ancient at
Chishtian, about 1867
and also from the point
where the river the
can be reached off from
the country, may be
suspended.

1867 Dec 17

1867 Dec 17

1867 Dec 17

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transferred to
the Chief Secretary
Department.

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