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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

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Dated 30- 10- 1871.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

9/9

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 30th October 1871.

No. 472. Read the following Endorsement of the Officiating Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Fort St. George, 2nd September 1871, No. 72:—

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Consulting Engineer for the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 4th November 1870, No. 461.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you copy of a letter, No. 1,526, I have received from the Chief Engineer, enclosing translations of a complaint made by the villagers of Contaguntla of alleged damage done to crops by a flood in the Banakacherla Vagoo.

2. It will be seen that the Consulting Engineer was satisfied that the arrangements made by the Company were sufficient to guard against the risk of inundation. G. O., No. 3,577, of 14th December 1864.

3. It appears very doubtful whether, in the particular case reported, any crops had been sown, and whether, supposing any to have been sown, any damage done to them was due to the Company's works.

Under any circumstances, I concur with the Chief Engineer that it is desirable that a distinct understanding should be arrived at as to the liability of the Company.

From E. D. MATHEWS, Esq., for Chief Engineer, absent in Camp, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Kurnool, 24th October 1870, No. 1,526.

Use of the Koondaur Valley Main Stream for conveying the Company's water.

IN reference to G. O., No. 3,577, of 14th December 1864, in which Government approve as satisfactory the arrangements for utilizing the Banakacherla Vagoo, the Caulee, and the Koondaur, as channels for conveying the Company's water to the Jutoor, Rajoli, Adamapully, and Somesaweram anicuts and canals without danger of inundation, I have the honour to recommend that a distinct understanding be arrived at regarding damage sustained by crops sown whether in ordinary and usual course, or specially as a matter of speculation, within the extraordinary flood lines of those vagoos and rivers.

2. I enclose a translation (A.) of complaint made by the villagers of Contaguntla, supported by the Collector (B.), against the Company for damage done to crops by a flood in the Banakacherla Vagoo, which is a large tributary of the Caulee, (enclosure C.,) such flood occurring while there was more or less water flowing into the stream from the canal between the 4th and 15th of August last, a time when, as you are aware, an extraordinary rainfall occurred.

3. I reckon the natural drainage basin of this stream of Contaguntla to be not less than 18 square miles; and as it is near the hills I suppose that an extraordinary fresh will carry an inch of rainfall an hour off the ground, or 1½ million cube yards of water an hour.

4. The canal, when gauged between Tangadancha and the emptying sluices at Metacondal, seems never to have been carrying much more than half its full discharge, and the greatest discharge reported at the emptying sluices was when they were all open and the natural calingulah awash. There are six sluices, each 7 feet high and 3 feet broad, and with 9 feet on the cill, the height of the crest of the natural calingulah, and these sluices, if opened to the full extent of the play of the raising gear, namely, 4 feet, would discharge 119,040, 9 feet, or, with 10 feet, 127,256 cube yards of water an hour into the vagoo.

5. If it have been established that damage done by natural floods enhanced by the Company's works, shall, even if the certainty of such damage shall have been foreseen and speculated upon before the crops were sown, be recoverable from the Company, unless the Company possess the land, then no doubt all the land within the extraordinary flood lines of the vagoos and rivers mentioned is "required for the Company's weir and sluices," as sanctioned near Banakacherla, and can be claimed by the Company as Class A. land, just like the outlet to any other sluice.

made by the Villagers of Contaguntla

6. In this case I strongly recommend its immediate survey that land plans may be submitted to the Government. The Company has a right to the produce of their A. land, (plants trees, etc.,) and I recommend that it be let to the present holders, on the usual terms for wet and dry crops, on condition they grow wet crop on all such land as is commanded by the canal. In that case the Company will be bound to erect bridges for convenience in crossing, perhaps 25 at Rupees 10,000 each, but the money may readily be raised on security of the prospective crops, the arable area being probably 16,000 acres.

7. The point seems to me *merely* a legal one. But if the Company have a right to the land, I cannot conceive the result to be undesirable for the country, the Government and Company. The expense of bridging the rivers is a necessary one as it is, but with that the Company have nothing to do unless they have a right to the rivers themselves.

8. If the land be not necessary for the Company's works, the Government will, I presume, protect the Company from claims for damages done thereon.

ENCLOSURE A.

Petition of the Ryots and Inamdars of Contaguntla Village, Nundikotcoor Talook, to the Collector of Kurnool.

HUMBLY SHEWETH.—That the officers of the Irrigation Company having let the water from the canal into the vagoo near Banakacherla, and the water having flown over our cultivated land, caused great damage and the fields are turned useless. The cultivation thus spoiled is estimated upwards of Rupees 2,000. As the canal water is running down the vagoo, it is impossible for men and cattle to cross the vagoo with implements. Therefore the land on the other side is bunzer* and the fields that have already been sown have been destroyed by weeds, as we cannot cross and look after them.

* Uncultivated.

We are to sustain a great loss by these, and we are very poor people; we therefore beg your will kindly take the necessary steps so that the water now let off near *Gregory's bungalow* may be stopped and it may be let somewhereelse.

i. e., by the emptying sluices at end of 72nd mile.

ENCLOSURE B.

From the Collector of Kurnool, to the Chief Engineer of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Kurnool, 13th August 1870, No. 704.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for such steps as you may deem necessary to take, an original petition* from the villagers of Contaguntla in the Nundikotcoor Talook complaining that water from the canal escapes at an inconvenient place, and requesting to arrange for its escape elsewhere. I shall feel obliged if you will let me kwow what can done in the matter.

* To be returned.

ENCLOSURE C.

Memorandum from J. A. DAWSON, Esq., Assistant Engineer, dated Villapanoor, 19th October 1870.

Contaguntla Land.

I VISITED the lands in the above village adjacent to the Caulee River and reported by the ryots as having been inundated by the Company's water at the time the scouring sluices in the 73rd mile were opened. A short description of the land is here required. Near the junction of the boundary of Vampenta and Contaguntla with the river a bye-stream takes its start and flows south and nearly parallel with the river itself; the tract of land between these streams is intersected by numerous flat bedded vagoos, and its general character is such that it is liable to be submerged by an ordinary heavy fall of rain.

2. I inspected the land from the point above mentioned, namely, from the junction of the northern boundary of the village with the river to the junction of its southern boundary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30*th October* 1871.

3. The Curnum informed me that the inundation of these lands commenced on the 4th August last; that the water stood highest about 8 inches or 10 inches, and that about the 15th it had subsided to its ordinary flow; this information he gave me from his official records or what appeared to be such. The complaint of the Reddy and Curnum condensed is as follows.

4. That the floods had been unusually high this year; in evidence of this he showed me brushwood which, under the action of water, had been carried against bushes and trees, and had been left there 3 feet above ground level when the water subsided. That the general annual flood caused a like inundation, but the water never exceeded a depth of one foot. That the water in former years was confined to the tract of land between the vagoo and main river above mentioned, but this year it had exceeded those bounds and had submerged the lands beyond.

5. The crops that received the most damage were those standing in the flat vagoo intersecting the lands. He pointed out also that, in some instances, the whole crops standing in a vagoo had been entirely washed away.

6. In two instances there were disputes between two ryots, the owners of certain plots of ground and the Reddy and Curnum. The ryots protested that cholum had been sown in their plot and the Reddy and Curnum either denied that this was the case or disclaimed any knowledge regarding the matter.

7. The crops in the higher lands are in very good condition; the cholum frequently attaining a height of from 8 to 12 feet, and the raggy from 2 to 3 feet.

8. With reference to the statement of the Reddy and Curnum that in the flat vagoo the crops had been washed away, I observed no evidence of there having been any cholum in some of those vagoos. In other cases a crop of cholum had evidently been sown, but it is questionable whether (the soil being sandy) the crop had attained a height of above 2 feet when the submersion occurred, as at present date the plants remaining in the bed of the vagoo are scarcely of the height mentioned. That the lands have been under water is evident, but bearing in mind that they are low-lying, bounded by the river on one side, and a large vagoo on the other, and intersected by small cross streams, and further noticing the fact that the rainfall from July last has been extraordinarily heavy, it is nothing remarkable that the crops have received some damage.

9. The land out of the bunds of the vagoo which, according to the statement of the Curnum, were submerged this year only, and never before, were of a much poorer soil than those lying lower. The crops are mostly of cona, and the ryots did not appear very anxious to draw my attention to these crops, which were very little injured, if at all. The crops on the west bank of the vagoo were also said to have been injured, but the above remark would apply in both cases.

From the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated 11th November 1870, No. 238.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter, No. 461 of the 4th instant, regarding a complaint made by the villagers of Contaguntla of alleged damage done to crops by a flood in the Banakacherla vagoo, and which they state arose from the canal water being let into the vagoo.

2. The Collector of Kurnool,* in forwarding the villagers' petition to the Chief Engineer, does not claim any compensation for loss of crops, but treats the petition as a simple complaint that the surplus water in the canal is allowed to escape at an inconvenient place, and that the ryots request arrangements may be made for its escape elsewhere.

* No. 704, 13th August 1870.

3. The Chief Engineer,* in transmitting the correspondence, assumes that the Company have been asked to pay compensation for certain damage said to have been sustained, and instead of dealing with the specific case opens a very wide, general question, and recommends "that a "distinct understanding be arrived at regarding damage sustained by crops sown whether in ordi- "nary or usual course, or specially as a matter of speculation within the extraordinary flood lines "of those vagoos and rivers," and you endorse the Chief Engineer's opinion so far as to "concur "with him that it is desirable a distinct understanding should be arrived at as to the liability of "the Company."

* No. 1,526, 24th October 1870.

4. Arrangements having been made for discharging the surplus water of the canal at the 73rd mile into the vagoo referred to as the most suitable plan, and which was approved of by Government, it is clear that it cannot now be disposed of elsewhere, which would be a sufficient answer to that part of the petition; but it is certainly desirable that any claim which the ryots may have to compensation for loss of crops this year should be adjusted on its merits, and regarding which the information before me is too meagre to admit of my laying the papers before Government, or reporting on the general question raised by the Chief Engineer.

5. It is of course impossible in a case of this kind to distinguish between the damage done by the water of local floods and the water out of the canal; but it seems to me that much will depend on whether the crops destroyed were on land within the old flood line of the vagoo or outside that line and within a *new flood line* caused by the additional water that may have flowed out of the canal, and I would suggest to you that this matter should be carefully investigated, and a proper survey of the land made if there is none in existence.

6. I forward a copy of this letter to the Collector, and should you not consider it expedient to act on my suggestion, I will be happy to lay before Government any specific proposal supported by facts and a survey of the land.

7. There would not be any difficulty, I think, in the Company getting possession of any land that would be necessary to protect them from periodical demands for damage done to crops, but as the Company have not the means of building twenty-five bridges at Rupees 10,000 each, all reference to such a course had better be omitted in future communications as it only complicates the question.

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Madras, 28th June 1871, No. 282.

With reference to your predecessor's letter of the 12th November, No. 238, suggesting that a careful investigation of the land referred to in a complaint made by the villagers of Contaguntla of alleged damage done to crops by a flood in the Banakacherla Vagoo, and which they state arose from the canal being let into the vagoo, I have the honour to inform you that Mr. Latham has caused an Engineer, Mr. Wilks, to visit the spot where the ryots of Goontacoutla wish to have some means of crossing the vagoo, which they call Peddavagu.

The latter reports that "about one-third of the village lands are situated on the west of the stream, and that portion is by far the most fertile."

The vagoo is rather deep, having a section of about 250 square feet and a depth of 6 to 9 feet; the fall in bed of stream is about 3 inches per chain. The surrounding land is very flat, especially on the village or east side, and there are traces of inundation and bye waters for about 30 chains. In heavy rains the country has frequently been flooded, but these floods soon disappear. Last year, in August, the Reddy and Curnum and other ryots declare that for fifteen days there was a flood in the vagoo so that no one could cross without swimming; according to Mr. Wilks' levels there must have been at least 6 feet, and the water spread over about 12 chains in width. The vagoo below the crossing is much overhung with trees and bushes, it is also very tortuous, so that the water is much impeded in its progress and likely to be backed up.

He thinks a raft would not be of much use as the current would be too strong, but proposes that all the bushes and trees which are now on the edge of the stream below the road should be cut down, the vagoo widened and straightened, and a raised road of cumber or stone be laid down. To do this effectually Mr. Wilks estimates that Rupees 1,200 would be required.

It is worthy of remark that the road has not been demarcated, and perhaps a deviation might be made to a more favourable point of the stream.

From the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated 8th July 1871, No. 76.

With reference to your letter No. 282 of the 28th June 1871, I have the honour to request that a general sketch showing the position of the scouring sluice in the 73rd mile, the Peddavagoo, road and land referred to in your own and previous correspondence on the subject of the complaint made by the villagers of Contaguntla, may be sent to this office.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 30th October 1871.

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Madras, 2nd August 1871, No. 335.

As requested in your letter of the 8th ultimo, No. 76, I have the honour to forward a sketch map showing the position of the scouring sluice in the 73rd mile.

From the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 7th August 1871, No. 109.

With reference to the letters as per margin, I have the honour to request information as to whether full advantage was taken of the facilities for discharging surplus water from the canal, provided at the scouring sluices in the 70th mile, at the time the Banakacherla Vagoo was in flood, and if not what was the reason. On the other hand, if these sluices were fully open I should be glad to have it explained how there could be such a surplus as 119,040* cubic yards per hour at the sluice in the 73rd mile to be discharged into the Banakacherla Vagoo.

From Agent, No. 461, dated 4th Nov. 1870.
To do. ,, 238, ,, 11th ,, ,,
From do. ,, 282, ,, 28th June 1871.
To do. ,, 76, ,, 8th July ,,
From do. ,, 335, ,, 2nd Aug. ,,

* See Chief Engineer's report.

2. It seems to me from the terms of the Consulting Engineer's letter of the 29th November 1867, No. 158, that before recommending for adoption the propositions of the Chief Engineer of the Company, he was led to suppose that the sluices in the 70th mile would so be used to relieve the canal that there would never be any greater surplus than 35,000 cubic yards per hour to discharge into the vagoo at the 73rd mile, and that he did not suppose it could carry off much more in addition to its own flood discharge.

G. O., No. 3,577, dated 14th December 1864.

From the Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Madras, 30th August 1871, No. 370.

Adverting to your letter of the 7th instant, No. 109, I have the honour to inform you that the Chief Engineer has given instructions to the Engineer in charge of the 70th and 73rd miles sluices to avoid letting more than 35,000 cubic yards per hour down the Banakacherla Vagoo from the canal at times when the vagoo is otherwise flooded, and this order will be adhered to excepting in case of any extraodinary flood endangering the canal.

Submitted to Government.

The correspondence above referred to has taken place in reference to a petition forwarded in August 1870 to the Collector of Kurnool by the ryots and inamdars of Contaguntla in the Nundikotcoor Talook, complaining of damage sustained by them by flood in the Banakacherla Vagoo caused by water from the Irrigation Company's Canal issuing from a surplus sluice in the 73rd mile.

2. The construction of this work and the use of the Banakacherla Vagoo to lead away the canal surplus water is sanctioned in G. O., No. 3,577, of the 14th December 1864. The correspondence between the Consulting Engineer and the Chief Engineer of the Company on the subject is referred to and explained by the Consulting Engineer in his letters to Government, No. 146, dated 15th November 1864, and No. 158, of the 29th November 1864, on which the above mentioned G. O. is passed.

The latter officer obviously was of opinion that the vagoo or stream was not of sufficient capacity to carry off, in addition to its own freshes, the surplus of the

canal, amounting to 300,000 cubic yards per hour, which the Chief Engineer of the Company apparently *originally* proposed to throw into it. And that officer then suggested that the scouring sluice in the 70th mile might be available to lead some portion of the surplus, leaving only the balance to be discharged by the sluice at the 73rd mile. It is necessary here to explain that the sluice at the 70th mile is on the one side of the water-shed, separating the Kistna and Pennair systems of drainage, and the sluice in the 73rd mile on the other. The 70th mile sluice discharges by a cut into the Bowanassy river, a tributary of the Kistna. The 73rd mile sluice, discharging into the Banakacherla Vagoo, the water flows into the Caulee, a tributary of the Pennair, so that the flow in the one case is entirely separated from that in the other.

The 70th mile sluice was originally constructed to lead off the surplus from the Terrogopillay Valley, which the canal crossed by a single bank, but as subsequently a double bank was formed and an aqueduct and under-passage provided to take off the drainage from above, the sluice was no longer required for the purpose for which it was originally built, and it will be understood that the proposition of the Chief Engineer was feasible.

Accepting the arrangement proposed for dividing the surplus between the sluices, and allotting a discharge of 35,000 cubic yards per hour to the 73rd mile sluice, the Consulting Engineer recommended the arrangements and obtained the sanction of Government thereto.

3. Adverting now to the report forwarded by the Chief Engineer of the Company, enclosed by the Agent with his letter No. 461, of the 4th November 1870, it will at once be seen that the Company's officers have failed to work the sluices in accordance with the sanctioned system, for it is admitted that 119,040 cubic yards per hour were discharged from the 73rd mile sluice into the Banakacherla Vagoo instead of 35,000 cubic yards, which was really the quantity that line of drainage was intended to carry off.

4. It seems to be clear that in such a case as this the Company must be held responsible for damage done and for compensation if claims are made, but it does not appear that in this case such claims are set up.

5. In his last letter to me, which is meant as an answer to mine of the 7th August 1871, No. 109, the Agent does not give any reason for the apparent misuse of the sluice in the 73rd mile in August 1870, but contents himself with stating that orders have been given to work it in accordance with the original intention except in case of extraordinary flood. No flood water in excess of what the vagoo will carry should be allowed to pass across the water-shed, and extra provision for discharge sh ould be made above the 70th mile sluice if necessary.

6. With regard to the measures for the improvement of the Banakacherla sluice, and the provision of a bridge referred to by the Engineer who examined the locality, it may be pointed out that though it would perhaps be desirable to clear away bushes and obstructions of a similar character, it remains yet to be seen whether there is really any necessity for improvement if the discharge from the sluice is limited to that which was never intended to be exceeded.

(Signed) A. deC. SCOTT, Captain, R.E.,
Officiating Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
30th October 1871.

No. 473. ORDER THEREON, 30th October 1871, No. 2,742.

IRRIGATION, No. 27.

THESE papers relate to a complaint made by the villagers of Contaguntla, through the Collector of Kurnool, of alleged damage done to crops by a flood in the Banakacherla Vagoo, and which they state arose from the water of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company's Canal being let into the vagoo. It does not appear that any actual claim to compensation on this account is preferred, but the Collector forwards the complaint with a view to arrangements being made for discharging the surplus water in the canal at a more convenient position.

2. The arrangements proposed to remove the risk of inundation to which it seemed likely that the Company's works would expose the land near Banakacherla were enquired into by the Consulting Engineer and approved by Government in G. O., No. 3,577, dated 14th December 1864. It seems clear, however, from the papers now laid before Government that those arrangements, which contemplated the surplus being divided between the sluices in the 70th and 73rd miles, were not followed, and that while a discharge of 35,000 cubic yards per hour was allotted to the sluice in the 73rd mile, no less than 119,040 cubic yards are stated to have been allowed to escape through it into the Banakacherla Vagoo. Although it may be difficult to decide whether the damage of which the villagers of Contaguntla complain was caused by local floods or by the water out of the canal, the failure of the Company's officers to work the sluices in accordance with sanctioned arrangements renders them liable to make good any loss sustained, but, as above stated, no claim to compensation has been actually preferred, and it is to be hoped that the instructions which the Agent has now issued for those arrangements being conformed to in future will obviate the necessity for any further complaints.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) J. CARPENDALE, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Agent and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.
" Revd Dept

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Madras Irrigation and C.C.
Chief Engineers Office
Nungumbaukum 24th October 1870

No. 1526.

To,

F. H. Henslowe Esquire
Agent and Manager
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a plan of the Koondaur Valley drainage stream for conveying the Company's water.

In reference to G.O. No. 3577 of 14th December 1864, in which Government approved as satisfactory the arrangements for utilizing the Banakacherla Vagoo, the Tandlee, and the Koondaur, as channels for conveying the Company's water to the Nellore, Rapoli, Adamapully and Somesvaram Tanks and Canals without damage or inundation, I have the honor to recommend that a distinct understanding be arrived at regarding damages sustained by crops &c., whether in ordinary and usual course, or specially as a matter of speculation, within the extraordinary flood lines of these Vagoos and rivers C.

*A I enclose a translation of a complaint made by the Villagers of Contagunda la, supported

supported by the Collector against the Company for damage done to crops by a flood in the Banda Kaeherla Vagoo, which is a large tributary of the Canle. such flood occurring while there was more or less water flowing into the stream from the Canal - between the 4th and 15th of August last, a time when, as you are aware, an extraordinary rainfall occurred.

I reckon the natural drainage basin of this stream of Comitadcundala to be not less than 18 square miles; and as it is near the hills, I suppose that an extraordinary freshwill carry an inch of rainfall off the ground, or 1½ million cubic yards of water an hour.

The Canal when gauged between Tandapadu (last and the next lying sluice at Kotakandal, about 2 miles to have been carrying much more than half its full discharge (and the greatest discharge reported at the last lying sluice was when they were all open and the natural Calingulah in use). There are 4 sluices each 4 feet high and 3 feet broad - and with 9 feet on the sill - the height of the end of the natural Calingulah - and these sluices if opened to the full extent of the play of the raising gearing 4 feet would discharge 119040 - 9 ft or with

10

B.

* Kotakonda Cr.

10 feet 127,256 Cubic Yards of water an hour into the Vagoo.

If it have been established that damage done by natural floods enhanced by the Company's works, shall, even if the certainty of such damage shall have been foreseen and speculated upon before the crops were sown, be recoverable from the Company, unless the Company proves the Land, then, no doubt, all the land within the extraordinary flood lines of the Vagoos and rivers mentioned in "required for the Company's weir and sluices" in part and near Banda Kaeherla, and can be claimed by the Company at Class A land; just like the outlet to any other sluice.

In this case I strongly recommend immediate survey, that land plans may be submitted to the Government. The Company have a right to the produce of their A land, (plants, trees &c) and can command that it be let to the present holders, on the usual terms for wet and dry crops, on condition they grow wet crops on all such land as is commanded by the Canal. In that case the Company will be bound to erect bridges for convenience in crossing; perhaps 25 at Rupees 1,000 each - but the money may readily be raised on security of

of the prospecting crops, the arable area being probably 16,000 acres.

The point being borne merely a legal one. But if the Company have no right to the land, I cannot conceive the result to be undesirable for the country, the Government and Company. The expense of bridging the river is a necessary one, as it is; but with that the Company have nothing to do unless they have a right to the river themselves.

If the land be not necessary for the Company's works, the Government will, I presume, protect the Company from claims for damages done thereon.

I have &c.
(Signed) E. D. Mathews
for Chief Engineer.

A

To,
The Hon. N. Chater Esquire
Collector of Revenue

The humble petition of the Ryots and Inamdars of Gummakumtla Village Nuzvid Kotcour Taluq.

Humbly Sheweth,

That the Officers of the Irrigation Company having let the water from the Canal into the Vagoo, near Banakacherla and the water having flown over our cultivated land caused great damage and the fields are turned useless. The cultivation thus spoiled is estimated upwards of Rupees 2000/. As the Canal water is running down the Vagoo, it is impossible for men and cattle to cross the Vagoo with implements. Therefore the lands on the other side is brought* and the fields that have already been sown have been destroyed by weeds as we cannot crop and look after them.

We are* mountain a great loss by them and we are very poor people. We therefore beg you will kindly take necessary steps so that the water may let off near Gregory's bungalow may be stopped and it may be let some where else.

* unavoidably detained.

i.e. by the emptying channel at end of 72 mile.

We beg &c &c
(List) Pavanapurthy
" Ramakrishiah
" Ramanah Blacksmith
" Venkata Reddie
&c &c to 22

(True Copy)
(sd) E. D. Mathews
Asst to Chief Engineer.

B.

No 704.

Collectors Office
Kurnool 13 August 1870

From,

T. A. N. Chase Esquire
Collector of Kurnool

To,

The Chief Engineer
M. S. and C. Co

Sir

I have the honor to forward for such steps as you may deem necessary to take an original Petition from the x to be a Villagers of Guntakundala in the Nundikotkur Taluq complaining that water from the Canal escapes at an inconvenient place, and requesting to arrange for its escape elsewhere, I shall feel obliged if you will let me know what can be done in the matter.

I have &c.
(Signed) T. A. N. Chase
Collector

(True Copy)
(Signed) C. D. Mathews
Assistt to Chief Engineer

C

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Memorandum

15

Gunta Kondala Land.

I visited the lands in the above Village adjacent to the Candlee River and reported by the ryots as having been inundated by the Company's water at the time the present sluices in the 73 miles were opened. A short description of the land is here required. Near the junction of the boundary of Vampenta and Gunta Candla with the river a bye stream takes its start and flows South and nearly parallel with the river itself the trait of land between these streams is inclined by numerous flat bedded Vagoos and its general character is such that it is liable to be submerged by an ordinary heavy fall of rain.

I inspected the land from the point above mentioned viz from the junction of the Northern boundary of the Village with the River to the junction of its Southern boundary.

The Kurnam informed me that the inundation of these lands commenced on the 4th August last that the water stood highest about 8" or 10" and that about

about the 15th had subsided to its ordinary flow, this information he gathered from his Official Records or what appeared to be such. The complaint of the Reddy & Kannore condensed is as follows.-

That the floods had been unusually high this year, in evidence of this he shewed one bruchwood which under the action of water had been left three feet above ground level when the water subsided.

That the General Annual flood caused a little inundation but the water never exceeded a depth of one foot. That the water in former years was confined to the tract of land between the Vagoo and Main River above mentioned but this year it had exceeded those bounds and had submerged the lands beyond.

The crops that received the most damage were those standing in the flat Vagoo intersecting the lands. He pointed out also that in some instances the whole crop standing in a Vagoo had been entirely washed away.-

In two instances there were disputes between two ryots, the owners of certain plots of ground and the Reddi and Kannoor. The ryots protested that cholam had been sown in their plot and the reddi and Kannoor either

either denied that this was the case or disclaimed any knowledge regarding the matter.-

The crops in the higher lands are in very good condition, the cholam frequently attaining a height of from 8 to 12 feet and the Ragy from 2 to 3 feet.-

With reference to the statement of the Reddi and Kannoor that in the flat Vagoo the crops had been washed away & observed no evidence of there having been any cholum in some of those Vagoo. In other cases a crop of cholum had evidently been sown, but it is questionable whether (the soil being sandy) the crop had attained a height of above 2 feet when the submerging occurred as at present date the plants remaining in the bed of the Vagoo are scarcely of the height mentioned.-

That the lands have been under water is evident but bearing in mind that they are low lying, bounded by the River on one side, and a large Vagoo on the other, and intersected by small cross streams and further noticing the fact that the rain fall from July last has been extra-ordinarily heavy. It is nothing remarkable that the crops have received some damage.-

The

The land out of the bunds of the Vagoo which according to the statement of the Kunnum were submerged this year only, and never before, were of a much poorer soil than those lying lower. The crops are mostly of Cora and the ryots did not appear very anxious to draw my attention to these crops which very little injured if at all. The crops on the west bank of the Vagoo were also said to have been injured, but the above remark would apply in both cases.

(Sigd) A. Dawson
Assistant Engineer
Velapanoor
19 October
1870.

(True Copy)
(Sigd) E. D. Sclatthem
Assistant to Chief Engineer

Madras Irrigation & C. Co.

No 461. Madras 4th November 1870.

From
The Assistant Manager
To
Madras Irrigation & C. Co.
The Consulting Engineer
Madras Irrigation & C. Co.

Sir

I have the honor to forward
1526 to you copy of a letter I have received
from the Chief Engineer enclosing
translations of a complaint made
by the Villagers of Contagumdala
of alleged damage done to crops
by a flood in the Banakacherla
Vagoo.

It will be seen that the Consulting Engineer was satisfied that the arrangements made by the Company were sufficient to guard against the risk of inundation.

G. O. 3,577 of 14 Dec. 1869.

It appears very doubtful whether for the particular case reported any crops had been destroyed and whether responsibility to pay damages rested with the Company, but as the Company have

Under

No 282.

Madras Irrign & C. Co.
Madras 28th June 1871.

From,

The Agent and Manager,
M. I & C. Co.

To,

Majors I. G. Rymer, R. E.
Chief Engineer for Irrign &
Joint Secretary to Government,
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your predecessor's letter of the 12th November No. 238 suggesting that a careful investigation of the Land referred to in a complaint made by the Villagers of Gontaguntala of alleged damages done to crops by a flood in the Banakacherla Vagu and which they state arose from the Canal being let into the Vagu, I have the honor to inform you that Mr. Latham has caused an Engineer, Mr. Wilks, to visit the spot where the ryots of Goontacondalah wish to have some means of crossing the Vagu which they call Peddavagu.

The latter reports that "about 1/3 of the village lands are situated on the west of the stream and that portion is by far the most fertile.

The Vagu is rather deep having a section of about 250 Sq. ft. and a depth of 6 to 9 feet, the fall in bed of stream is abut 3" per chain.

The

under any circumstances to concur with the Chief Engineer that it is desirable that a distinct understanding should be arrived at as to the liability of the Company.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed. Servant
for Latham & Co.
Agent and Manager

No. 282.
From
The Agent & Manager M. I & C. Co.
To
The Secretary to Govt.
M. & P. W. Dept.

Dated 28th June 1871.
Rec'd 5th July "
No. 4224/71.

Forwarding copy of a letter from the Chief Engineer with a translation of a complaint made by the Villagers of Gontacuntala & Goontacondalah against the damage alleged to have been caused to their crops by a flood which they attribute to the Canal being let into the Vagu and requesting that a distinct understanding may be arrived at as to the liability of the Company.

30 "October 1871 - 2 -

The surrounding land is very flat especially on the village or east side and there are traces of inundation, and bye waters for about 30 Chains. In heavy rains the country has frequently been flooded but these floods soon disappear. Last year in August the Reddy and Curnum and other ryots declare that for 15 days there was a flood in the Vagu so that no one could cross without swimming - according to Mr Wilks' levels there must have been at least 6'-0" and the water spread over about 12 Chs in width.

The Vagu below the crossing is much overhung with trees and bushes, it is also very tortuous so that the water is much impeded in its progress and likely to be backed up.

He thinks a raft would not be of much use as the current would be too strong but proposes that all the bushes and trees which are now on the edge of the stream below the road should be cut down the Vagu widened and straightened and a raised road of cumberon stone be laid down.

To do this effectually Mr Wilks estimates that Rupees 1200 would be required.

It is worthy of remark that the road has not been demarcated and perhaps a deviation might be made to a more favorable point of the Stream.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
your Most Obedt. Servant,
V. Hamilton Nelson
Agent and Manager.

No 276

Subject

Mr White requests to know whether he has 2 or 3 years to pay for Land purchased

Refers to Registered letter to Messrs Shaw Symons & Co dated 7th Augt 1871

Requests that the Rent may be paid in Rupees, & that a receipt in that coin may be forwarded to him

Encloses Copy of the Conveyance & requests that the Deed may be completed & forwarded to him

Contains Survey

8/12/71

To Agent & Sub Div. 76.
To Agent & Sub Div. 69
To Govt. 92 Sub Div. 72

No 282

Regd

From The Agent & Manager
N.D.C.Co

To The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
&c &c &c

Dated 28th June 1871
Received 1st July
P.W. 4224/71.

Replies to No 238 of 12th Oct/70
with reference to damage
done to crops by a flood
in the Banakachcha
Nullah.

30th October 1871 Sub Div 72

Madras Irri: and C.C.

No: 335. Madras 1st August 1871.

From.

The Agent and Manager.
M. I. and C.C.

To.

The Acting Chief Engineer
for Irrigation and
Under Secretary to Government
Madras.

Sir,

As requested in your
Letter of the 8th ultimo No: 76.
I have the honor to forward
a Sketch map shewing the position
of the Scouring Sluice in the
73rd mile..

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obt Servant.
H. Montgomerie
Agent and Manager.

Tondiarpetty 2 Augt 71.

R. 11-30 Aug/71 Ex. Ly 2236

No 76.

To
The Agent
Ms: I. & C.C.

Dated 25th July 1871.

Recd 1.8. Augt 1871.

R. No. 4224/71.

Requests that a general sketch shewing the position of the scouring sluice in the 73rd mile & the Peddunaiken Road and bank may be sent to this Office ——.

No. 109.

The Agent & Manager M. D. & C. C.

Sir,

From agent No. 461-D- 4th Nov: 70
To — do — do No. 238-D. 11th Nov: 70
From do - No. 282-D. 28th June-71
To — do - No. 76-D- 8th July-71
From do — No — 335-D 2 augt-71

With reference to the letters as per Margin I have the honor to request information as to whether full advantage was taken of the facilities for discharging surplus water from the Canal, provided at the 8 escape sluices in the 40 mile, at the time the Beaukaeheka Lagoon was in flood & if not & what was the reason. At the other hand if these sluices were fully open I should be glad to have it explained how there could be such a surplus as 719040 Cub. ft. per hour at the 8 sluices in the 40 mile to be discharged into the Beaukaeheka Lagoon.

It seems to me from the terms of the Consulting Engineers letter of the 24th Nov: 1864 No: 158 that before recommending for adoption the proposals of the Chief Engineer of the

* See Chief Engineers report.

G.O. No 3577-D/
14th Dec: 1864.

To Agent dated 2nd Augt-71 No 2109
Forwarding Copy of Letter No 335 dated 2nd Augt 71
From The Agent & Manager Kaw. & C.
To The Chief Engineer
For Information
Recd. 2nd August 1871
Answered.

P.P. 4224/71

Forwards Sketch book showing the position of Escape Sluices in 40th Mile

30th Sketch book Recd 4th Augt 72

Madras Irri: and Canal (O)
Madras 30th September 1871.

No. 370.

From.

The Agent and Manager.
M. I. & C. C.

To.

The Acting Chief Engineer
for Irrigation and
Under-Secy to Government.
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that according to your letter of the 9th instant No. 109. the Chief Engineer has given instructions to the Engineer in Charge of the 70 and 73 miles Sluices to avoid letting more than 35,000 Cubic yards per hour down the Ramachenla Vagoo from the Canal at times when the Vagoo is otherwise flooded, and this order will be adhered to except in case of any extraordinary flood endangering the Canal.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient Servant
T. Stewart Wilson
Agent and Manager.

Company — he was led to suppose that the sluice would be used to discharge into the 70th mile Channel when the Canal that there would better be any greater surplus than 35,000 Cubic ft per hour to discharge into the Vagoo at the 73rd mile & that he did not suppose it ever could carry off much more in addition to its own flood discharge.

I have the honor

Inclosed

7/9/71

Transmitting copies of papers as per list.

To No 109.

The Agent &
Chief Engineer
M.C. Company.

Dated 7th Oct 1871
Copied 10th Oct 1871

O.P. No. 4224/71
30 Cols. Foolscap
Requests information as to what the full discharge was of Nakkaw of the facilities for discharging surplus water into the canal during the rising of the 70 mile & 73 mile sluices in the Ramakachela Vagoo was in flood

No 2542

16

33

These papers relate to a complaint made by the Villagers of Ontasumkha through the Collector of Kurnool, of alleged damage done to crops by a flood in the Bhimakachelva drain, and which they state arose from the water of the Indian Irrigation and Canal Company's Canal having let into the drain. It does not appear that any actual claim has been preferred, but the Canal is preserved, that the Collector forwards the Complaint with a view to

A.

Jo Govt 92 Sept 73 No 72

C&A No 410

No 370

From

The Acting Madras

To The Acting Chief Engr
for Irrigation
&c &c &c

Dated 30th August

Rec'd 31st "

P. W. 4224/71

States with reference to his No 109 of 7th met the facilities for discharging surplus water with be attended to as states

Pro 30th October 71 Ex 1472

arrangements being made for discharging the surplus water in the Canal at a more convenient position.

The arrangements proposed to remove the risk of inundation to which it seemed likely that the Company's works would expose the land near Barakacherla were enquired into by the Consulting Engineer and approved by Govt. in G.O. No. 3577 dated 14th December 1864. It seems clear, however, from the papers now laid before Government that those arrangements, which contemplated the surplus being devided between the sluices in the 70th and 73d Miles, were not followed, and that while a discharge of 35,000 Cubic yards per hour was allotted to the sluice in the 73d Mile, no less than 119,040 Cubic yards are stated to have been allowed to escape through it into the Barakacherla Vagoo. Although it may be difficult to decide whether the damage of which the Villagers of Contagunta complain was caused by local floods or by the water out of the Canal, the failure of the Company's Officers to work the sluices in accordance with sanctioned arrangements renders them liable to make good any loss

sustained, but, as above
stated, no claim to com-
pensation has been ac-
tually preferred, and it
is to be hoped that the
instructions which the
Agent has now issued
for those arrangements
being conformed to in
future will obviate
the necessity for any
further complaints.

66 Oct.

21

Ch. Cuyp. for Insp.r ✓
Asst. Insp.r M. D. H. Cl. ✓
Revd Dispt ✓

Desp.d 31/10/71

C. No. 1224

Govt. of {1871} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To
The Chief Engineer for
Irrigation

Dated

Read. Ext. 8

G. O. 30 Octr. No. 2742.

Nos. 172 & 173

Lumsden &c

Bundobust na para - Pabling
dens on the Endaveram
Pub Chief Engr. for Irrigation
submitting cases of Gaudiers
respecting damage done
thereto by floods
August 1870.