

(1) Number of pages 18

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	823	Press
474-474A-75		Mis.-
Dated	20. 3.	1841.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

16

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
20th March 1871.*

Read the following papers :—

No. 474. From the Acting Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 16th February 1871, No. 3,867.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the orders of Government, copies of correspondence marginally noted, relative to certain breaches in canal banks cut by ryots. It will be seen that the Collector considers himself unable to collect from these individuals the cost of closing them, unless the fact of the breaches reported to have been cut by the ryots is fully proved.

2. In now addressing Government on this subject, I have to observe that it is impossible for us to produce the party, or parties, who committed this mischief, and support our accusation with ample evidence, as it is a usual thing among the ryots to cut breaches during night times, so that their acts might be concealed.

3. In G. O., No. 2,738, dated 19th November 1867, Revenue Department, communicated with G. O., No. 3,639, dated 23rd November 1867 in the Public Works Department, Government had ruled that "the responsibility of the village officers for the care of public property and works within their ranges should be strictly enforced;" but this does not appear to have been understood by the Revenue Officers, and I would therefore solicit orders may be passed, so that steps may be taken for the preservation of our canals.

—
No. 51.

No. 474 A. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

I THINK the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division should require the Delta Establishments to look far more closely after the canals than they do at present. I am not at all satisfied with the way in which the Delta and Navigation Superintendents perform, or rather neglect, their duties, and I have noticed in some cases the absence of attention to the convenience of the navigation, and to the due care of the canals which should not for a moment be permitted. Every mile of very many of the canals is traversed daily by some member of the Delta Establishments, and I think that it would be quite practicable to hold some one responsible for the good order of every part of all the larger canals, even if the smaller channels could not be so completely looked after.

2. While fully aware that Range Officers have it in their power to do much more than has hitherto been accomplished for securing the efficiency of the delta works, I consider that the assistance of the Revenue Officers is required in checking wilful damage of the kind referred to by the Superintending Engineer. I believe such acts as the cutting of channel and river banks cannot be done without the village officials being able to discover the actual perpetrators, even if they are not aware beforehand that such proceedings are in contemplation, and it can hardly be doubted that, if the Collector be determined not to tolerate the wilful

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20th March 1871.*

damage of Government property, such property will be treated with due respect. If village officials do not do their duty, the remedy seems to be obvious. I would require the Public Works Establishments to look very closely after the delta works, and to show within very narrow limits the time during which damage, the doing of which had not been witnessed, had occurred; but I do not think that more can be expected of them, and if villagers, who injure the embankments, and village officers, who either know or can ascertain what has been done, and who have done it, are to be left unpunished until a sufficiency of sworn evidence can be obtained against them by the agency of Public Works Conservancy Establishments, it will be hopeless to expect that practices, the evil of which is great and admitted, will be put a stop to.

3. I do not wish to press the case of the Coringa canal, which is that reported in the Superintending Engineer's letter, in particular. The amount of land drainage at the time was large, and probably the villagers thought that they were doing what was but natural, or at most committing a very pardonable offence in relieving their lands from flood-waters. What they ought to have done was to apply to the nearest Public Works subordinate to remedy the evil which they were experiencing, and they should be made to understand that, while they are entitled to be helped out of their difficulties at the earliest possible moment, they must on no account interfere with works, which belong not to the village but to the Government.

4. As improvements are carried out in the delta the occasion for exceptional treatment of irrigation and drainage will gradually be obviated, but still difficulties must be expected to arise at intervals, and the rule, that, then as now, the regular, instead of the irregular, mode of relief can alone be permitted, requires to be rigidly enforced.

PORT SAINT GEORGE,
25th February 1871.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Major, R. E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 475.

ORDER THEREON, 20th March 1871, No. 823.

IRRIGATION, No. 41.

THE Government notice that, in the opinion of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, the Godavery Delta establishments could do much more for the preservation and efficiency of the irrigation works than they now accomplish. The special attention of the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division will be called to this subject, and he will take care to impress upon the Range Officers the responsibility which rests upon them so to supervise the proceedings of the subordinate establishments as to ensure the thorough performance of their duties.

2. With regard to the assistance in the preservation of Government works from wilful injury for which the department in charge of those works must look to the Revenue Officers, His Excellency the Governor in Council concurs with the Chief Engineer in considering that it would be useless in many cases to expect that legal proof can be adduced by the conservancy establishments that wilful

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20th March 1871.*

damage has been done by particular individuals, and as the Government are determined that such damage shall not be inflicted with impunity, which it will continue to be unless measures are adopted for punishing those who alone can prevent it or for ascertaining the actual perpetrators of such damage, these Proceedings will be communicated to the Revenue Department for the issue of such specific orders as may be necessary to ensure information and prompt inquiry directly injuries to Government works are brought to notice.

3. These Proceedings will also be communicated to all the Superintending Engineers, in order that they may take care that the conservancy establishments in their divisions pay due attention to the good order and efficiency of the works on which they are employed, and that Range Officers may be instructed to inquire into and remedy such defects as may have a tendency to lead to improper interference on the part of the villagers with such works.

(True Extract.)

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

N^o 51

Note by the Chief Engineer for Navigation

I think the Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division should require the Delta establishments to look far more closely after the canals than they do at present. I am not at all satisfied with the way in which the Delta & Navigation Superintendents perform, or rather neglect, their duties, and I have noticed in some cases the absence of attention to the convenience of the navigation, and to the due care of the canals which should not for a moment be permitted. Every mile of very many of the canals is traversed daily by some member of the Delta establishments, and I think that it would be quite practicable to hold some one responsible for the good order of every part of all the larger canals, even if the smaller channels could not be so completely looked after.

2. While fully aware that River Officers have

done was to apply to the nearest Public Works
subordinate to remedy the evil which they were
experiencing, & they should be made to understand
that, while they are entitled to be helped out of
their difficulties at the earliest possible moment,
they must on no account interfere with works, which
belong not to the village but to the Government.

4. As improvements are carried out in
the Delta the occasion for exceptional treatment
of irrigation & drainage will gradually be obviated,
but still difficulties must be expected to arise
at intervals, and the rule, that, then as now,
the regular, instead of the irregular, mode of relief
can alone be permitted, requires to be rigidly enforced.

Fort St. George
25th February 71

W. Cunningham
Major
Chief Engineer for Irrigation
The Secretary to Government
C. H. S.

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[Faint handwritten notes and signatures in the right margin]

Recd 23rd November/67 No 515
516.

1871
From the Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
To The Secretary
to Government

Dated 25th
Depr 27th February 1871
Recd 28th
No 51
Encl: 6

Note on the correspondence
submitted by the Superintend-
ing Engineer 1st Division relative
to certain breaches in
canal banks cut by
Ryots
No 2883-20 March/71
Rev. Secy - 23-3/71

No 474a

6 3rd March 71 No 67

No 3867 11th Supg. Engineer's Office 1st Div.
Dowlaisluam 16 February/71

From.

Major J. H. Fisher P.R.
Ag. Superintending Engineer
1st Division.

To.

Colonel C. A. Orr P.R.
Secretary to Government W. M. D. H.
Madras.

Sir,

1871
No 1015 of 5 Jan'y/71
from Collector
No 64 of 19th Jan'y/71
from Asst. Engineer
to Asst. Engineer
No 502 of 27th Jan'y/71
from Asst. Engineer
to Asst. Engineer
No 347 b and
3592 dated 16th 24th
January 1871 from
Superintending
Engineer.

I have the honor to forward for
the Orders of Government, Copies of correspon-
dence herewith noted, relative to certain
breaches in canal banks cut by Ryots. It
will be seen that, the Collector considers
himself unable to collect from these indi-
viduals the cost of closing them, unless
the fact of the breaches reported to have
been cut by the Ryots, is fully proved.
2. On now addressing Government on
this subject, I have to observe that, it
is impossible for us to produce the party,
or parties, who committed this mischief
and

and support our accusation with ample evidence,
as it is a usual thing among the Ryots to
cut breaches during night times, so that their
acts might be concealed.

3 In G. O No 2738 dated 19th November 1867,
Revenue Department, communicated with G. O No.
3639 dated 23rd November 1867, in the Public Works
Department, Government had ruled that
"the responsibility of the Village Officers for the
care of Public Property and Works within their
Manjees, should be strictly enforced," but this
does not appear to have been understood by the
Revenue Officers, and I would therefore solicit
Orders may be passed, so that steps may be
taken for the preservation of our canals.

I have the honor to be

Sr

Your Most Obedt Servt

W. T. Tichin Major M. O.

Ag. Superintending Engineer 1st Div.

1871 Dept
 No 386 No 822
 From the S. S. S. Engineer
 1st Division

To the Secretary
 to Government
 P. M. S. Madras
 Dated 15th February 1871
 Recd 23

Forwarded for orders of
 Government Copies of
 Correspondence relating
 to certain breaches in
 Canal banks cut by dyots.

1871 905/71

No 823. 20 March 71

474.
 C. 3u March 1871 D. 64

29 Superintending Engineer 1st Div

No 823. 15th P. M. S.
 Proceedings of the Madras Government
 Read the following
 (H. E. L. 51 7 23 July 71)
 (H. E. L. 386 7 16 00)
 The Government notice
 that, in the opinion of the
 Chief Engineer for Irrigation,
 the Godavery Delta es-
 tablishments could do
 much more for the pre-
 servation and efficiency
 of the irrigation works
 than they now accomplish.
 The special attention of the
 Super Engineer of the 1st Div
 will be called to this
 subject, and he will
 take care to impress
 upon the Range officers
 the responsibility which
 rests upon them so to
 supervise
 the works in the
 villages in the
 district in which
 they are situated
 that if he does
 not do so he will
 be liable to be
 convicted in his
 official capacity
 of neglecting his
 duty.

2. With regard to the assistance, in the preservation of Government works from wilful injury, for which the Department in charge of those works must look to the Revenue officers, His Excellency the Governor in Council concurs with the Chief Engineer in considering that it would be useless in many cases to expect that legal proof can be adduced by the Conservancy establishments that wilful damage has been done by particular individuals, and as the Govt.

the detection of the actual
offenders, ~~in case of default of~~
~~this, the punishment of~~
~~the village officers who~~
~~must~~

~~must be held responsible~~ he made to do its duty
~~for the damage sustained~~ and strong threat if ne.
~~at the hands of those after~~ cessary to admit of that
~~when it is their duty to look~~ duty being performed by her.
 furnished.

3. These Proceedings are bound to aigh in
 will also be communicated the prevention of these injuries
 to the Sup^{all} Engineers, in bful property and to ad.
 order that they may take for every assistance in
 care that the conservancy detecting the perpetrators of
 establishments in their such injuries. But they are
 Divisions pay due atten- cient. and to assume that
 -tion to the good order and they are fairly as these inju-
 efficiency of the works on ries - and to hold them
 which they are employed, as liable for
 that Range officers may be that of which they may
 instructed to enquire into be as innocent and if
 and remedy such defects as want as we are, in trouble
 may have a tendency to lead in justice. Why should not
 to improper interference on the Police - on this principle
 the part of the villagers with be held responsible? The
 such works. - State must, like the private
 in Disinicals, be content to
 have these as business and
 they are printed with
 The Village not attached

So. The Sup^{all} Engrs. 132
 all other Sup^{all} Engrs. 3
 the Chief Engrs. for District
 21. Rev. Secy of Public Works
 Secy. to Govt. of India

My. 1/3/71

Wb

1/29/15

Gobt. of {1871} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Superintending Engineer
1st Division

Printed by the Govt. Press 35 of 12-4-77

Dated

Recd.

Recd.

G. O. 20th March, No. 823

Nos. 474 & 475

Canal banks. Issuing in-
structions for the preservation
of canal banks from
superfluous damage.