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(1) Number of pages_____

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(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1866 Press / Mis.
102–103

Dated 7. 8. 1842.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th August 1872.

No. 102. Read the following —

Extracts from a letter from Captain T. BECKLEY, R.E., to Captain R. F. OAKES, R.E, circulated for information

THE embankments and roads about Russelcondah and Goomsoor have suffered a good deal, and the Mahanuddy embankments at Aska were topped and breached. A good many works up in the Mahahs above Russelcondah have gone, but we have nothing to do with them.

I hear a great deal of damage has been done to works in Cuttack · three miles of one high level canal swept away, and all canals damaged.

We had at Chetterpore 20 inches* in June, quite an unprecedented fall, and we have had a good lot this month. At Baleguda, where the Rooshkoolia rises, there were 30 inches in June, and July commenced with 19 inches on the 1st in 24 hours In 10 days they report 56 inches.

* Rainfall.

* * *

The most serious item of damage is that the seed-beds and early sowing has been destroyed; it can be done over again, but the harvest will be a late one. A *late* season is the first condition necessary for a total loss of crop.

There are no stores of grain in Orissa I believe, and the seed-beds and irrigation works there also have suffered The people in Vizagapatam and Ganjam bought large quantities of grain, but only sufficient, if sufficient, to carry them on to the harvest time; so, if the north-east monsoon fails, we shall be in a bad way; there must be a famine in Ganjam and Vizagapatam, both from want of money and want of grain; this ought to be impressed on the Government, the risk that has been run will not be less a fact, though we have good rain in October and an abundant harvest.

* * *

The odds in favour of a monsoon in October appear to be only 3 to 2; suppose there is none, the Government will have to make a great effort to save life, and the cost in the two districts cannot be set down at less than 30 lakhs, and as the odds are 3 to 2 against the expenditure having to be incurred, the value or liability of the chance is $\frac{2}{5} \times 30 = 12$ lakhs—a sum that would be a good lump in an Irrigation Project Estimate, but the actual loss of a famine to the country would be much more than 50 lakhs I think.

(True Extracts)

(Signed) R F. OAKES, Captain, R.E.,
Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 103. ORDER THEREON, 7th August 1872, No. 1,866.

CIVIL WORKS, No 6.

ORDERED to be communicated to the Collectors of Ganjam and Vizagapatam for information, and with a view to elicit their opinions on the subject.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Ganjam
,, Collector of Vizagapatam.
,, Revenue Department.

Exd. T. O'Connor.

Extracts from a Letter from Captain J. Becher RE to Captain A. Fraser RE Orissa, circulated for information

The Embankments and Roads about Russelcondah and Gomsoor have suffered a good deal and the Mahanuddy-embankments at Aska were topped and breached. A good many works up in the Mahals above Russelcondah have gone, but we have nothing to do with them

I hear a great deal of damage has been done to works in Cuttack: 3 miles of the high level canal swept away and all Canals damaged

We had at Chatterpore 20 inches in June, quite an unprecedented fall and we have had a good bit this month

x Rainfall

at Ballenda where the Toashikola
rises there were 30 in June and July
Commenced with 19" on the 1st, in 24 hours
In 10 days Heavy Report 56 inches

× × ×

The most serious item of damage
is that the seed beds and early sowing
has been destroyed, it can be done over
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tion necessary for a total loss of Crop.

There are no Stores of Grain in Orissa,
I believe, and the seed beds & irrigation
works there also have suffered. The
people in Vizag and Ganjam bought
large quantities of Grain but only suffi-
cient, if sufficient, to carry them on to
the harvest time - so, if the North East
Monsoon fails, we shall be in a bad way.
There must be a Famine in Ganjam &
Vizag - both from want of money & want
of Grain - This ought to be impressed on the
Government

Government - the first will
still not be less a fact, though
Good rain in October saved an abundant
harvest

× × ×

The odds in favour of a Monsoon in
October appear to be only 3 to 2 - suppose
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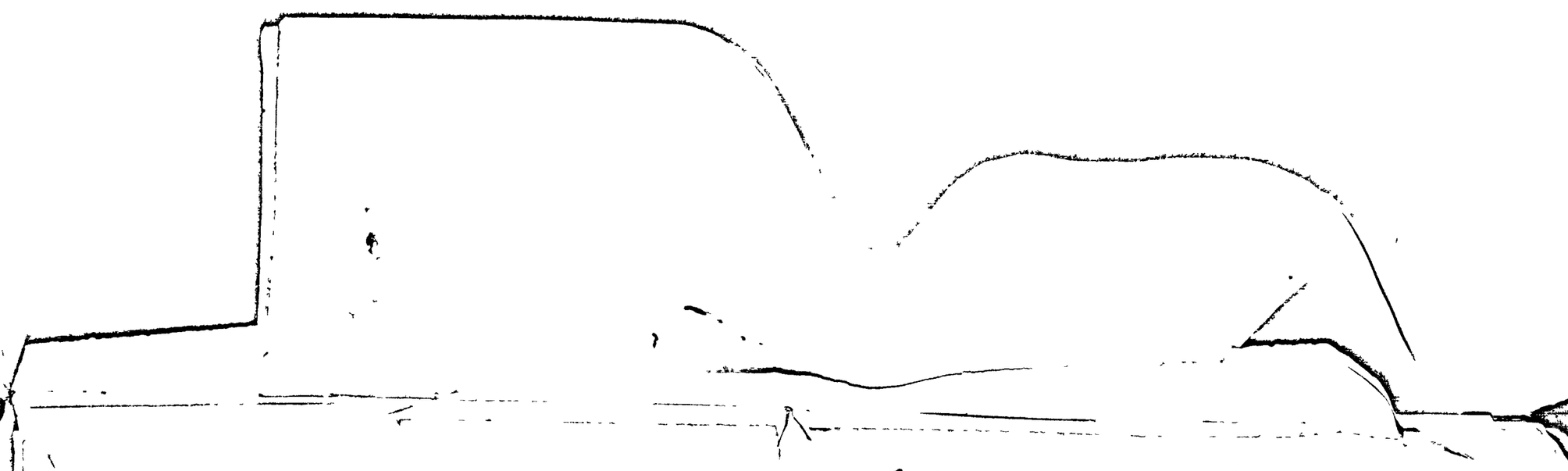
to be incurred, the value & liability of the
chance is $\frac{2}{5} \times 30 = 12$ lacs a sum that
would be a good lump in an Irrigation
Project Estimate - but the actual loss
of a Famine to the Country would be
much more than 50 lacs - I think.

(True Extracts)

H. D. Acton Capt RE
Ag. Chief Engineer for Irrigation



No 1864.

Colonial Office communication
to the Colleagues of Sergeaunt &
Wingfield Esqrs for response:
: time, name with a view to
: election thereto &c.

The marginal notes -

Lotus Colleagues of Sergeaunt &
: Sanders Esqrs

Copied
Ld-S-Supt Gen 7/10/72. Colonial Secretary
C-C 12/8/72 Gen.

Ld-S-Supt Gen
C-C 12/8/72 Gen.

I do not know what to say
anything in this way
if precaution can be
done in this case.
The disease
of a great calamity
in Jamaica & Yokohama
affected the 2, & 3
we had letter
direct the Colonial
Council -

we can discuss this
subject on Friday
I must & would
think Council a very

of this communication & the
two Solicitors & ask for their
opinion.

Yes - The only two cases we can
we can admit now is to make &
in force the work to be done by
this Colonies on the coast & for the
by which - if necessity a penal
Enactment - for this will come in to
the Country -

L.D.S.

P. W. 1872 Depart.
No. 3824.

From.
The Ag. Chief Engineer
for Irrigation.

Dated
Camp 7th August 1872.

Submitting
Extracts from a
letter from Capt.
Bentley, R.E. relative
to the steps to be
taken in consequence
of expected distress
in the Ganjam
& Vizagapatam
Districts -
No. 1866. 7th Aug. 72

No. 3827

Govt. of 1872 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Collector of Ganjam

Date
Rec'd Encl
10 Oct 1866.

Nos. 112 & 113

Distress - Letter from the Chief Engr. for Roads submitting extracts from a letter from Capt. Beckley R.E. relative to the steps to be taken in consequence of expected distress in the Ganjam & Vizagapatam Districts. Comd. to the Collr. of Ganjam & Vizagapatam