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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1592

B.P. No. 241

Press

Mis.

Dated 10-1-48

18

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 240. Read the following endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated 19th May 1873:—

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th May 1873, No. 772.

Read the following letter from W. R. ROBERTSON, Esq., Superintendent, Government Farms, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 22nd April 1873; No. 290.

THE value of the Government Estate here would be very greatly increased, and our experimental and educational work on the farms would proceed much more vigorously and be attended with much better results, if we could command a perennial water-supply at anything under 12 feet below the level of the land over about one-third of the area of the estate. This, I confidently believe, could readily be secured if a dam was constructed in a suitable place across the river Adyar, which, I may add, flows around the southern and eastern boundaries of the estate. The quantity of water that flows past to the sea is far beyond our possible wants. If the water-level was raised, say, only 4 feet, we would have a considerable area of land that could be watered with a lift not over 9 feet; indeed, quite within the capacity of a picottah worked by one man. I need scarcely add that, when the irrigation water is at a lower level than the land on which it is to be used, and needs to be conveyed some distance, it is in every way the most efficient and most economical plan to allow the water to flow by *gravitation* in a channel to the place at which it is required, and to raise it to the higher level *there and there only*. Even if we possessed the mechanical contrivance with which we could lift water at a moderate cost, the cost would need to be very small indeed to allow us to raise water at a place seven or eight hundred yards from the land on which the water is required, there is such an enormous waste in sending water long distances along distributing channels at high elevations, as these channels cannot be rendered water-tight except at a very great cost—a cost quite equal to that which would be incurred in excavating a water-channel of 8 or 10 feet in depth; and such a channel would not waste more land, as its sides could be planted with guinea grass and similar crops. Under these circumstances, I have the honour to request that a professional Engineer may be deputed to select a site for a dam across the bed of the river somewhere between the Sydapet crossing and the mouth of the nullah at the Model Farm, and to prepare the necessary plans and estimates.

THE Board resolve to refer the foregoing letter to Government, with a request that the matter may be taken into consideration.

2. They believe that a survey of the Adyar was made when the Chembrambaukum Project was in hand, and that a plan was then entertained for damming the Adyar near the Mount. If this were done, the long tank and other tanks might be fed by channel, and the lands forming the Government Farm commanded.

3. The Board believe that the plans of the old projects were in the office of Mr Fraser, when Engineer of the East Coast Canal.

REFERRED to the Public Works Department.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
18th June 1873.

No. 241. ORDER THEREON, 18th June 1873, No. 1,590.

IRRIGATION, No. 21.

ORDERED that these papers be communicated to the District Engineer, Chingleput, in order that it may be ascertained how the Government Farm at Sydapet can most readily and economically be supplied with water. As at present informed, the Government think that in all probability an extension of one of the irrigation channels from the Chembrambaukum Tank would afford the most reliable supply, and that such an extension would cost less than the construction of a dam across the Adyar, while it would remove almost entirely the necessity for lifting water for the farm irrigation.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. District Engineer, Chingleput.
.. Revenue Department.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies.

7759 Public Works Dept.
Proceedings of the Madras Government
Read the following

of the Board of Revenue - H.E. No. 7723/12th May/73/

Ordered that these papers be communicated to the District Engineer Chingleput, in order that it may be ascertained how the Govt. Farm at Sydapett can most readily and economically be supplied with water. As at present informed, the Govt. think that in all probability an extension of one of the irrigation channels from the Chembrambaukum Tank

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irrigations.

by 2/6/73
hmm

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47
To
The Chief Engr. for H. W.
-a- Dist Engr. Chingleput
-a- Rev. Engr. -
Dated 25/6/73

H-240-41

C/10 3052

Cal. of 1873

PUBLIC WORKS,

The Chief Eng for
Irrigation

18th June 1590

2409241

Foot. Farm at Sydabek

Recd. of the 18th June
Referring letter from the
Appl. suggesting that a
dam be constructed
across the Adyia river
so as to secure a perennial
water supply to the farm,
and of the 18th June
Chief Eng. with in-
structions.