

(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.	1661	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
390-391		
Dated	26-6-	1873.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 390. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Coimbatore, 22nd May 1873, No. 14A:—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 19th May 1873, No. 14.

System for current season's distribution.

REFERRING to my No. 10 of 8th March, in which I asked what rules should guide the settlement of the last season 1872-73, I have the honour to point out how the difficulty has been met for that settlement, and I hope removed for the next settlement.

2. The difficulty lay in the variety of opinion regarding the degree of knowledge or ignorance of the authorized rules amongst the ryots who cultivated by the aid of canal water last season. The Collector of Kurnool considered that the ryots throughout the district were well acquainted with those rules, and this left the Company's Officers no option but to settle according to them. Yet, in my opinion, the ryots were not sufficiently acquainted with the rules, and I feared that a settlement based upon them would be hard on the ryots, and prejudicial to the revenue of the canal.

3. Mr. Chase's letter of the 3rd March, to the Secretary of the Board of Revenue, printed with G. O., No. 378, of 1st April, has now, I think, received a sufficient answer in the memorandum, a copy of which I enclose. Judging probably from the Ramalcotta Taluq, which was under his immediate observation, Mr. Chase had not made sufficient allowance for the general ignorance of the rules in taluqs which had not been so many years accustomed to the working of the canal. I will briefly state how that memorandum originated.

4. Premising that I have no knowledge of any rules which the Deputy Collector, A. Ramachendra Row, may be preparing for submission to Government, and that he had no knowledge of modifications I was contemplating in my rules to direct the action of the Company's Officers for the season now commencing, I need only say that I met that officer at Nundikotkur on the 12th instant to settle the adjusted claims for irrigation in the Nundikotkur Taluq, and so much of the Nundial Taluq as is under the 6th Section of canal. On my proposing to begin by settling any disputed points in the authorized rules, he stated that he thought modifications of those rules should be made to guide our settlement, since the ryots had cultivated under mistaken impressions regarding the rules in force. I then assented to accept any modification of the rules he desired, provided his reasons for them were generally supported by the evidence to be taken during the settlement; and the result was the memorandum in question, where the rules are drafted on his dictation of the substance or sense he desired, and the reasons justifying them are such of the most prominent ones as came out in evidence, briefly drafted by myself. The whole I sent to the Deputy Collector after the settlement, and he after a few corrections signed it with me.

5. Referring to the last clause of that memorandum, I now pass from the difficulties surmounted to the means for avoiding a similar difficulty in the future. On these, I think, there is unanimous agreement amongst the local officers of the Revenue and of the Company. Mr. Horsley in a letter to me, dated 9th and despatched 14th instant, No. 18, alluding to the refusal of the Curnum of Chennoor

to take applications from his ryots, says:—"This difficulty might be avoided by the ryots applying in person to your officers, who are constantly in the neighbourhood of the villages receiving the water. The obstructiveness of the Curnum would have no effect, while the ryots would be protected against a demand for double water-rate." Lastly, the Acting Collector of Kurnool expressed to me (during the settlement here) his consent to the Company's Officers being provided with forms of application to the Curnum, and taking the signature of any ryot desiring to use the water, in order to transmit the application through my office to the Curnum.

6. In order to carry these views out, and to be ready at the end of this month, or as soon after as possible, I have drawn up a brief statement of the rules (those authorized) under which my Overseers will assist the ryots by taking their applications; and I am also preparing forms for such applications. Of these I will send you proofs as soon as they are printed. I will also send a statement of the cost so soon as that is known. Judging from the estimate of the printer it will be trifling.

7. The time in which to make these preparations is so very short if they are to be completed in time to do any good, that I have incurred an expenditure for another purpose, which I thought indispensable if all the usual, and indeed requisite, means are to be taken to secure the efficiency of the subordinate staff upon whom more responsibility will now fall, and to render the canal officers easy to find, besides other obvious advantages. I have engaged weavers to furnish the staff of bankers and sluice-keepers with a simple but distinguishing uniform, which will cost Rupees 2-8-0 a man. I recommend that the Government sanction an expenditure of Rupees 2-8-0 a man for the bankers engaged during the irrigating season; viz., for an undercloth such as Mahomedans wear, but without the red stripe, Rupees 1, and for a turband of light blue Rupees 1-8-0, sluice-keepers and tappal men to have white turbands; and an additional rupee for another undercloth for the men retained during the dry season, who I propose should be one man a mile permanently retained. This will cost, including sluice-keepers—

306 men, at Rupees 2-8-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Rs.
110 " at " 1-0-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	765
										110
Total...										875

Failing the sanction, I will recover the present expenditure from their pay. I am sure the prospect of a cloth would tend to make the men desirous to do well in order to be permanently retained, and the exposed situation of the huts so many of them have to live in throughout the monsoon in charge of banks and sluices, obliges them to incur expense in cumbies and warm clothing beyond what ordinary labourers need to do. On this subject I will remind you that the ryots having been for two years assessed on lax principles, after being puzzled by rumours of all kinds of rules, will never believe that a new and strict system is in force unless they have some ocular indication of increased order and precision.

8. I lose no time in informing you of the measures being taken, though they are not sufficiently complete to enable me to inform you certainly of the details of the expense. I trust they will have the assent of Government, or rather it has been my impression that Government never desired the canal officers to stand aloof during the irrigation, and that such measures as these have their approval already.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

Settlement of 1872-73.

It is intended below to explain, without argument, the rules adopted for settling the adjusted claims of the Government on ryots for canal water supplied for cultivation by the Irrigation Company in 1872-73, and the reasons which prevented a strict adherence to the existing rules agreed upon by the Secretary of State and the Directors of the Company.

I.—If application for ordinary irrigation have been made by the ryot verbally either to his Curnum or to an Overseer or Banker of the Company, then single water-rate shall be charged.

Since the Overseers and Bankers had been ordered, at the request of the Revenue authorities, not to take applications, the onus of proving such an application must be with the ryot; e.g., where the Overseer applied to has left the Company's service and the district.

As a verbal application is rarely made by a ryot with any knowledge of the exact area, and perhaps never with a perfect exhibition of the boundary of the intended irrigation, no change in the rate can be made if his recorded application be exceeded in any field.

The following difficulties which occurred in the settlement led to the abandonment of any further claim than the above as authorized by the rules:—

1. In several large villages (as Pathakota) the ryots were not on good terms with the Curnum.
2. In two or three cases of outlying hamlets the Curnum lives at two or three miles distance from one hamlet. The effect of this has been considered with reference to the illiterate condition of ryots, the busy activity of the short sowing season, the uncertainty of the Curnum being found at home, and the disadvantage under which the ryot would labour if he found him at home.
3. If a shower of rain renders the ploughing of his dry land easy, a ryot finds that he has some pairs of bullocks released at once for his wet cultivation. He cannot keep them eating in idleness, and it is desirable that he push on his cultivation, though the Curnum be absent on Jumma-bandi, or on judicial business, or be sick.
4. The Draft Rules Nos. 1 to 5 have failed to establish any means of testing the intentions of the ryot, whether they be honest or fraudulent (and they are rarely fraudulent) for a large proportion of the formal applications are sent in after the sowing.
5. As to cultivating beyond the extent applied for, the Curnums (as at Pasupula Rudravaram, closest to Kurnool,) and ryots asserted that they understood the rules to be that after application to cultivate any part of a field, they were at liberty to cultivate as much land in it as they chose for a first or second crop, without further application, and there was no documentary evidence in the possession of the village authorities to the contrary. Some ryots considered that such an application authorized them to cultivate as much of their holding as they chose of however many fields.

II.—No application should be required for chilly. The 'Chilly Circular,' made public through the Curnums in June and July after much chilly was sown, states that chilly, if irrigated, will pay Rupees 6 an acre, and gives no condition about application. The application, if made, was naturally put off to the last moment and then made to an Overseer.

III.—Where the absence or inability of the Curnum prevented an application being registered till after the crop was sown, on the alternative of abandoning the sowing altogether, no application should be considered necessary.

Thus at Maliyala the Curnum has been sick seven months and unable to transact business. The acting Curnum lives in another taluq, and only occasionally visits the village.

IV.—In cases of flooding, where an application did not precede the flooding, the ryot will have to show ample reason for not applying, and for any delay in subsequent application.

V.—Flooding, after application to the Curnum, carried on without the knowledge of the Company's Officers, shall be allowed.

Even the Tahsildar was not aware that the assent of the Company's Officers was required by the rules before flooding. In Bilculgudur a number of ryots cultivating a patch of above 70 acres

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23th June 1873.*

of land divided it into beds of from one-twentieth of an acre each upwards, with rice, chilies, and garden produce, the Overseer of the Company thinking it was ordinary irrigation. At the settlement the Curum exhibits a complicated list of applications for the same, one patch here and one there; the owners' names, field numbers, and crops being in next to no confusion, and having all except the paddy and chilies off at less than half the ordinary water rate, yet it is unquestionable that water was used without stint.

VI.—If land for which applications are recorded shall have been left waste, then if good reason be shown, and if the application have not caused expense of money or water to the Company, but their water has been supplied so as to be available, still it shall be permitted that the application for the waste portion be withdrawn.

In two cases discovered the Curum had inserted the name and field of his enemy, or the name of his enemy and another man's field into the application lists, where no water had been asked for, nor supplied, nor channels dug. There were several cases of sudden bereavement, or illness, causing abandonment of cultivation, and some of immorality.

VII.—That land irrigated from time immemorial by some free supply be not charged for the use of the Company's water.

VIII.—That the water-rate per acre be—

For ordinary irrigation, per crop, Rs. 6

For flooding, per flooding, „ 1

For baled irrigation, one-third remitted.

Failure of crop on account of excess or defect of canal water, full remission.

For failure of supply not involving loss of crop, but completed from other sources, this, in the absence of sufficient record, cannot be determined, and Rupees 1 per acre per month shall therefore be charged for water supplied.

For water carried to cultivation, free.

The undersigned have a strong impression of the importance of having new and complete rules agreed upon by the Government and the Directors of the Company, and published in every village before the end of the present official year (1st April 1874), but meantime, for the current season, it seems to them necessary under the present rules, that the Company's local officers arrange for immediately recording and forwarding to the local Revenue Officer any applications made to them by the ryots, and also that the Revenue Officers give direct information of any applications made to them to the local officers of the Company. It seems also indispensable that the existing rules should be made known clearly and universally at once for the guidance of the cultivators, and in order to secure the possibility of a more business-like settlement next year.

(Signed) J. H. LATHAM, *Chief Eng. and Manager, Madras I. and Canal Company.*
(Signed) A. RAMACHANDRA RAO, *Dy. Collector of Kurnool.*
Officers engaged in the settlement of water-rate in Nundikothur Taluq and part of Nundial Taluq, Kurnool District.

NUNDIKOTUR,
16th May 1873.

1 Letter with one enclosure.

* G. O., No. 415, dated 7th Feb. 1873.
„ „ 1,230, „ 30th April „

SUBMITTED for the information of Government in continuation of the papers as per margin.*

2. It is recommended that the outlay proposed to be incurred by the Chief Engineer and Manager on clothing for the Conservancy and Distribution Establishments should be sanctioned. It will be seen that the estimate is Rupees 875, the charge will be debitable to Revenue.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
26th June 1873.*

No. 391.

ORDER THEREON, 26th June 1873, No. 1,661.

IRRIGATION, No. 34.

G. O., No. 415, dated 7th Feb. 1873.
„ „ 1,230, „ 30th April „

THESE papers will be communicated to the Revenue Department in continuation of the orders in this department as per margin.

2. The estimate, Rupees 875, of the Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, of the cost of providing the native conservancy and distribution establishments with clothing, which will serve to distinguish them as servants of the Company, is sanctioned as a charge against Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Revenue Department.
„ Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.
„ Government Examiner do. do.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies.

Since Engineers are not in the
 Service of the Government

17/14/73
 50

Lieut. Colonel S. Williams, C.B.
 Chief Engineer for Irrigation
 Madras.

Sir,
System for current season's distribution

1. Referring to my No 10 of 3rd March in which
 asked what rules should guide the settlement
 of the last season 1872-3. I have the honour to
 point out how the difficulty has been met for
 that settlement, and I have removed for the
 next settlement.

2. The difficulty lay in the variety of opinion
 regarding the degree of knowledge or ignorance
 of the authorised rules amongst the rayats who
 cultivated on the bank of Canal water last season.
 The Collector & I considered that the
 rayats throughout the district were well
 acquainted with those rules; and this left the
 Company's officers no option but to settle
 according to them. Yet in my opinion, the
 rayats were not sufficiently acquainted with
 the rules; and I feared that a settlement based
 upon them would be hard on the rayats and
 prejudicial to the revenue of the Canal.

3. Mr. Chase's letter of the 3rd March to the
 Secretary of the Board of Revenue, printed with

By Mr. 1873 10th March
 Division of Madras for 1873
 The Chief Engineer for
 Irrigation

By Mr. Secretary to Government
 Public Works Dept.

Date 22nd }
 Dec 28th } May 1873.

To Mr. H. C. D.
 Engineering - 2.

Submits for information of
 Government papers from
 the Chief Engineer and
 Managing Madras Division
 - Jaffier and Canal Engineering
 on the subject of the
 rules regarding the
 settlement of the
 season 1872/73.
 C/O 1661. 26th Dec 1873.

(1873)
 1873/74 28/12/73

6.0 4530 M. About 1000 men were present
in the morning on the mountain. The
which I saw. Judging from the
Lamabrook Lake, which was very
observation that there had been an immediate
allowance for the general increase of the
in Lake which had not been in the
accounted to the morning of the day. I
saw that now that the mountain was in the

4. Premising that I have in hand these many rules which the Debata Collection, a Hindustani Rajah, may be preparing or submission to Government and that he had no knowledge or modification I was contemplating in my rules to direct the action of the Company's officers for the season now commencing, I need only say that I met that officer at Hunkitokan on the 23 instant to settle the adjusted claims for Irrigation in the Hunkitokan taluk and so much of the Hindustani taluk as is under the 5th section of Canal. In my hastening to begin by settling and discussing points in the authorized rules, he stated that he thought modifications of those rules should be made, to guide our settlement, since the reports had cultivated under mistaken impressions regarding the rules in force. I then assented to accept any modification of the rules he desired, provided his reasons for them were generally supported by the evidence to be taken during his settlement; and the result was the memorandum in question, where the rules are drafted on his dictation of the substance or sense he desired, and the reasons justifying them are such of the

most interesting. It came out in excellent
condition in itself. The whole I sent to
the Library of Congress after the settlement, and the
after a few corrections signed it with me.

5. Referring to the last clause of that instrument wherein I was asked from the difficulties encountered to the means for avoiding a similar difficulty in the future. In case I think there is unanimous agreement amongst the local officers of the Revenue and of the Company. Mr. Fowler in a letter to me dated 9th and despatched 14th instant, F. O. referring to the refusal of the Curmm of Chermoor to take applications from his rayats says "The difficulty might be avoided by the rayats appearing in person to your officers who are constantly in the neighbourhood of the villages receiving the water. The determination of the Curmm would have no effect, while the rayats would be protected against a demand for double water rate." Lastly the Acting Collector of Chermoor expressed to me (during the session here) his consent to the Company's officers being provided with forms of application to the Curmm and taking the signature of any rayat desiring to use the water in order to transmit the application through my office, to the Curmm.

6. In order to carry these views out, and to be ready at the end of this month, or as soon after as possible, I have drawn up a brief statement of the rules (those authorized) under which my Overseers will assist the rayats by taking their applications and can also arrange loans for such

such applications. Of these I will send you as soon as they are written. I will also send a statement of the cost as soon as the same have been judged from the estimate of the printer it will be trifling.

7. The time in which to make these arrangements is so very short, if they are to be completed in time to do any good, that I have incurred an expenditure for another purpose, which I thought it incumbent upon me to take to secure the efficiency of the Canal. I have now all staff upon whom more remunerative work will now fall, and to render the Canal officers easy to find, besides other obvious advantages. I have engaged weavers to furnish the staff of Bankers and Scribe-keepers with a simple but distinguishing uniform which will cost Rupees 2-0-0 a man. I recommend that the Government sanction an expenditure of Rupees 2-0-0 a man for the bankers engaged during the irrigating season, viz, for an undercloth such as Mahomedans wear but without the red stripe Rupees 1, and for a turband of light blue Rupees 1-0-0. Scribe-keepers and tapalmen to have white turbands - and an additional rupee for another undercloth for the men retained during the dry season, who I propose should be 1 man a mile permanently retained. This will cost, including Scribe-keepers

306 men @	Rs 2-0-0	=	Rs 765-0-0
110 men @	Rs 1-0-0	=	" 110-0-0
			<u>Rs 875-0-0</u>

Fairling

During the season, I will recover the recent expenditure from their hands. I am sure the prospect of a cash would tend to make the men desirous to do well in order to be permanently retained: and the exposed situation of the huts so many of them have to live in throughout the monsoon, in charge of banks and sluices, obliges them to incur expense in blankets and warm clothing beyond what ordinary labourers need to do. On this subject I will remind you that the rates having been for two years assessed on tax branches, after being puzzled by rumours of all kinds of rules, will never believe that a new and strict system is in force unless they have some similar indication of increased order and precision.

8. I have no time in informing you of the measures being taken: though they are not sufficiently complete to enable me to inform you certainly of the details of the execution. I trust they will have the assent of Government: or rather, it has been my impression that Government never desired the Canal officers to stand aloof during the irrigation, and that such measures as these have their approval already.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant

John H. Latham
Chief Engineer and Manager

P. N. Dept.

1661

Exchange of the Madras Government
Under date the 1st June 1873
Read the following

From the Chief Engineer / S. S. 14th & 22nd May 1873

These papers will
be communicated to the
Revenue Dept, in continua-
tion of the orders in
this Dept, as per m^r.
giv.

2 The estimate, Rupees
875, of the Chief Eng^r &
Manager Madras Irriga-
tion & Canal Com-
pany of the cost of
providing the native
conservancy & distribution
establishments with
clothing, which will
serve to distinguish
them as servants
of the Company,
is sanctioned as

a.

* G. O. No. 415 dated 7th
February 1873.
G. O. No. 1230 dated 30th
April 1873.

C. E. No. 120
Res.

The Chief Engineer,
Manager

81044

No. 14

Read 19th
Dec 22 & May 1873

Secy.

Regarding the item

of Rs. 1000 1873/5.

P. N. 3144/73.

a charge against
Revenue. May 23/73
G.M.W.

N-390-91

Revised to Colby 28 May/73

The charge for migration
has been settled
charge for migration in 1871
Sent to the
2070 documents
Dec 24/73

25/64
PUBLISHED BY
THE PUBLIC WORKS

The Chief Engineer's Office

2

26th June, 1861.

3901291

Mr. J. H. Thompson.

Where relative to the
Settlement of Seaman
1872/73, Comd. The Ber-
rill Dept., Estimate
for Clothing for Con-
servancy Staff, San-
tized.