

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	106	Press
B.P. No.		~~Mis.~~
	211212	
Dated	15-1-1874	195.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

August and
September

Enclosed 3.

statement

Original me.

no 125964

8 6 Sep 73

from the Cff.

Supp. for Mr.

with 17 encls.

x to be returned.

I recently inspected a considerable number of the Arients and Channels connected with the irrigation under the Ambraunthy river in the Coimbatore District and the subjoined statement of areas irrigated, revenue and Public works outlay in the 5 years 1867-68 to 1871-72 may be considered of interest.

2. The new works expenditure has in that period amounted to 3.62 per cent, and the cost of maintenance to 5.13 per cent on the revenue, which latter amounted to Rupees 146 544 on the average.

Estimates sanctioned in G. O. No. 3824 dated 1st Dec 66

3. Nearly four fifths of the outlay on new works was for improvements to the Colinjeevady Channel and headworks, and of these a new cut for the channel was not really necessary, while provision for the requisite masonry works to dispose of cross drainage was omitted, and consequently hitherto no advantage has been derived from the expenditure, as the new cut cannot be used. Estimates for completing the new cut and for improving the old line, so as to make that thoroughly efficient, have been called for, and it can then be decided which line it will be.

be most advantageous to adopt permanently.

4. The Ancients and Channels generally are efficient old native works, yielding a steady revenue, and well worthy of being efficiently maintained and improved - The method adopted for limiting the quantity of water entering the channels was not to construct regulating sluices, but to prolong the Ancient to form one bank of the channel, and this has been done in some cases for very great distances. This method is an expensive one, as the maintenance of the long walls costs a good deal, but it answered its purpose very well, so long as the floods were moderate and the water below the dams was lower than the crest of the Ancient, but in extreme, and even in high, floods this condition is not present, and then the arrangement is of little practical value. The surplus works are numerous, but for the most part not of suitable design, being very difficult to close, and many of them being dry stone work without raised sills, the leakage through them is great, and breaches at them are not infrequent. Many irrigation sluices are necessary at the open heads of the numerous small channels.

5. A memorandum of observations on these works, and of instructions as to the way,

Ms. 5968 dated
6th Sep: 73

in which they should be treated, has been sent to the District Engineer, Coimbatore.

b. All clearances and the regulation of the surplus and other sluices are performed by the ryots, and the expenditure on repairs is the outlay on the Ancients and masonry works only. Much water is wasted, and there are complaints from the cultivators at the lower ends of some of the channels that they cannot get enough water, and this may readily be credited, for the numerous streams of surplus water from the fields, which fall into the river, show that the supply taken from the main channels is generally much in excess of the actual requirements of the cultivation, and it is not surprising therefore that a deficiency should be experienced lower down. This can without difficulty be remedied.

Office of the Lieut. Gov.
" Land Migration
Ramlalshikharan 27th Oct/73

Wendell C. Smith
Chief Engineer for Irrigation

To The Secretary of Govt
P. H. D.

The Chief Justice

10 The Secretary

12-15-18

Feb 13

Dec 13.

[illegible]

Mitz

Q. 26-15-73
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26-15-73

Ch. 6214
Govt. of 1873 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To the District Engineer
Coimbatore

Dated

Recd

Encl.

G. O. 15th Aug. 1874 No 106

Nos. 211 & 212

The Coimbatore Dist. Commr.
to the Dist. Eng. Coimbatore
+ to the Rev. Secy.

Irrigation. Memo. by the
Chief Eng. for Irrigation Sub.
Committee with remarks
statement of areas irri-
gated, Revenue and Pub-
lic Works Outlay, during
1867/68 to 1871/72, under
the Amravatty River in