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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works DEPARTMENT

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th July 1874.*

No. 93. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation,
dated 1st June 1874:—

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 and Joint Secretary to Government,
dated Kurnool, 26th May 1874, No. 55.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Chief Engineer's and Divisional Reports
for the month of April 1874.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

Chief Engineer's Report to accompany Divisional Reports for April 1874.

It will be seen from the Divisional Reports for April that the annual repairs of the canal, the surveys for extending village channels, and, in the lower division, the settlement of remissions for 1873-74, have been concurrently carried on, preparatory to the usual re-opening of the canal next month for the season 1874-75.

2. Since the original opening of the canal in 1871, this annual period available for repairs has been used for the thorough strengthening of such portions of canal bank or works as might appear to threaten ultimate danger, and for stopping percolation of water through the banks or sub-soil wherever it appeared that, if nothing were done, an inconvenient loss of water would occur before the leakage would stop of itself. For this year there remain only two such places which Mr. Wilks thinks worthy of particular mention, viz., the foreshore on the high "puddle core wall" in the 29th mile, and a leak in the bank of the 35th mile. Both places have remained without sensible improvement, and without getting worse since 1871. When they are repaired the whole canal from Soonkasala to Mettakondal, on which the supply of the lower division depends, will have no known weaknesses such as could cause anxiety under any anticipated contingencies of weather. As the canal comes to be filled hereafter to its full level, of course further weaknesses should be expected; but there is no known reason for expecting them to be accompanied with danger, or to involve much trouble or expense.

3. In both divisions a commencement is being made of the removal of silt carried into the canal through the various head sluices from the Toombudra, Koondar, and Pennair. This work is at present experimental, and is expected to show how far such work can be done by ordinary labour, and at what cost.

4. The end of April brought cooler weather, which had continued in both divisions up to the latest advices. In Kurnool the showers seem to have stopped the prevalent fever and small-pox. For myself, I am happy to say, the last period for my fever passed over last week with scarcely a perceptible recurrence of the fever.

5. Copy of rain registers is enclosed

COONOR,
16th May 1874.

(Signed) J. H. LATHAM

UPPER SECTION.

Monthly Report for April 1874.

Water continued to fall during the month until the 26th, when it ceased running into the canal. The head sluices were all closed, and the ten under sluices opened into the river. By the end of the month scarcely a drop of water was running in the Toombudra.

2. Several crops which were sown too late have failed owing to the fall of water in the river. Timely warning had been given to all the villagers that they should sow second crop early, so that full remission cannot be fairly given in these cases.

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3. Water below Kurnool stopped much earlier, and on the 8th the sluices in the 24th mile, calingulah No. 13, were opened in order to hasten the commencement of repairs in the 2nd Section.

4. This section consists of a series of cuttings and deep pools, and as there are no sluices at a low level, it is necessary to cut into the bank and let out the water if heavy repairs are to be executed.

5. In the 29th mile, owing to defects in the puddle elsewhere, it has been determined to re-puddle 840 feet.

6. A cut was made into the dry rubble wall, and nearly all the water in the tank above let out. The shingle was removed, and fresh puddle is being brought. About 1,000 cubic yards have been completed. It is estimated that at the present rate of progress the bank will be ready for water by the time it reaches that point in June. The puddle is brought from distances varying from half a mile to five furlongs by buffaloes.

7. The next important work is an old and obstinate leak in the 35th mile. The bank has been cut into 20 feet deep throughout, and in a few days it is hoped the leak will be entirely stopped.

8. Contractors are ready to remove silt from the first 8 miles of the canal, but until this date it has not been dry enough for the work. This work will be vigorously carried on.

9. Other repairs of minor importance are being commenced, especially the plastering of irrigation sluices which have been found leaky.

10. There is still a supply of water for about ten days kept up by a dam near the town sluice, that is, up to 15th of May. This should last longer, but I fear the gardens in the town take up still a great portion of the supply intended only for drinking purposes. All the gardens belonging to the neighbouring bungalows have been cut off since the 10th of April, but the regulation of the supply is in the hands of the Municipality.

11. Amins are everywhere employed in perfecting the new scheme of channels intended to supply every available village field.

12. When these maps are completed, and we are in possession of the land required, in case of sudden demand, the whole of the country commanded by our canal may be opened up with channels, without infringing on any man's rights.

13. The settlement of irrigation accounts has not yet taken place, but acreage remains as given in my last report.

14. There was a heavy shower of rain during the night of the 28th, and for the last week thunder and slight showers have been prevalent.

15. The health of the staff has been very good.

KURNOOL,
11th May 1874.

(Signed) C. H. WILKS,
Conservancy Engineer.

UPPER SECTION.

Register of Rainfall during the month of April 1874

Days of Week.	Days of Month.	Rainfall at Soonkasala.		Rainfall at Kurnool.		Rainfall at Jupaud.		Rainfall at Velapanore.	
		INCH.	DECL.	INCH.	DECL.	INCH.	DECL.	INCH.	DECL.
Wednesday	1st	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thursday	2nd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Friday	3rd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saturday	4th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
7th July 1874.*

Register of Rainfall during the month of April 1874.—(Concluded.)

Days of Week.	Days of Month.	Rainfall at Soonkasala.		Rainfall at Kurnool.		Rainfall at Jupaud.		Rainfall at Velapanore.	
		INCH.	DECL.	INCH.	DECL.	INCH.	DECL.	INCH.	DECL.
Sunday	5th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Monday	6th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuesday	7th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wednesday	8th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thursday	9th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Friday	10th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saturday	11th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sunday	12th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Monday	13th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuesday	14th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wednesday	15th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thursday	16th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Friday	17th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saturday	18th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sunday	19th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Monday	20th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuesday	21st	...	25	...	03	...	...	...	...
Wednesday	22nd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thursday	23rd	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Friday	24th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saturday	25th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sunday	26th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Monday	27th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuesday	28th	...	30	...	25	...	...	...	20
Wednesday	29th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thursday	30th	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	.....	...	55	...	28	...	...	...	70

KURNOOL,
9th May 1874.

(Signed) C. H. WILKS,
Conservancy Engineer.

SEASON 1873-74.

Memorandum showing the extent of land applied for up to date to the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company for irrigation flooding, etc.

Districts.	B.		C.	D.	Total.
	Irrigation, Ordinary.		Flooding.	Exceptional supplies.	
	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.
	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.			
Up to July 1873	456-05	.....	5-83	.....	461-88
Supplemental for July 1873	1,178-04	.....	.....	.....	1,178-04
August 1873	893-61	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sept. "	1,610-13	.....	124-12	.....	1,734-25
Oct. "	223-60	.....	130-06	.....	353-66
Nov. "	249-44	19-21	89-07	.....	357-72
Dec. "	.....	414-17	269-41	.....	683-58
January 1874		135-71	207-79		343-50
Feb. "		198-84	287-43		486-27
March "		64-20	18-12		82-32

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7th July 1874.*

Memorandum showing the extent of land applied for up to date to the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company for irrigation, flooding, etc. — (Continued.)

Districts.	B.		C.	D.	Total.
	Irrigation, Ordinary.		Flooding.	Exceptional supplies.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
	1st Crop.	2nd Crop.			
<i>Cuddapah</i>					
Up to August 1873	84.51	.....	213.15	.....	297.67
September "	47.11	.....	80.79	.....	127.90
October "	335.13	.....	141.33	.....	476.46
November "	36.46	.....	30.28	.....	66.74
December "	218.60	.....	50.18	.....	268.78
January 1874	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
February "	.....	.....	51.59	.....	51.59
March "	80.98	.....	203.33	.....	284.31
April "	4.56	283.60	15.99	.....	304.15

Lower Section.

Report for the month of April 1874.

The supply of water from the Toombuddra and Cauvery Rivers ceased to flow into the canal at Jutour about the 10th of this month, but owing to the silt deposited at Rajoly head sluices very little water was flowing in the 9th Section after the 4th, and by the 5th it had completely dried up and left all the channels without water.

2. *Repairs to Main Canal.*—At Jutour the under sluices having been partially washed away as mentioned in my last report, the repairs needed to make them permanently secure have been commenced and will be soon completed. The water-cushion will also need repair, but at the end of the month the water was still too deep for me to be able to judge of the nature or amount of injury done, but I believe it is inconsiderable.

3. The six-arch culvert in the 103rd mile has been cleared of silt, and it was found that one of the arches had so much sunk as to render its removal necessary, which has been done; parts of the others also are full of holes and must be partially rebuilt, this is now being done, but the repairs needed will not be so extensive as I feared they would be.

4. The locks in the 8th Section have been carefully examined, and, with one or two exceptions, will need very little repairs to the masonry; but many of the timbers which support the raising gear will have to be renewed, and all the gates need tarring.

5. In the 9th Section the three aqueducts at Dhoor, Balupully, and Peechapand are being covered with plaster to stop the leakage, which was considerable; the other masonry works in this section need but trifling repairs. I have not yet been able to examine the locks of this section, but one or two of them will require considerable repairs to stop leakage.

6. The silt banks at Rajoly are still too wet for removal, but a contractor is making preparations for their excavation.

7. *Repairs to Bungalows.*—The roof of Dhoor bungalow has been entirely removed (except the upper room) and replaced with new and well burnt tiles, and will, I hope, now prove water-tight, and the floors of verandah and rooms are being covered with new plaster.

8. At Adimipully bungalow the roof has also been removed and replaced with new tiles, and the floors plastered again, so that the whole building will now be in sound repair.

9. The bridge over the Nulla Vagoo has been commenced, and will be completed before the rains. At Adimipully the supply of water to the 10th Section ceased on the 15th April, but

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on the 30th the silt was still too wet to allow of its being excavated; but the bankers have been employed in repairing subsidiary channels to the extent of over five miles.

10. The deviation of the Yaitoor Channel to prevent the lands of Komaloor being flooded, has been commenced and is more than half done.

11. On the 29th instant, having met the Deputy Collector of Kurnool at Ayaloor, I commenced with him the Irrigation settlement for 1873-74 for the taluqs of Nundial and Sirwell.

12. On the 28th instant, I received the Government Order sanctioning the repairs in the lower sections, and at once took steps to commence them; but this sanction having been so long deferred, I shall not, I fear, be able to complete all the proposed repairs and additional works before the rains, but will do my best to finish all those which are most likely to promote the safety of the main canal, and the extension of irrigation during next season.

13. No rain fell at Dhoor during April, but at Ayaloor we had rain on the 28th, 29th, and 30th, in all 0.41 inches, accompanied with thunder storms among the hills, which caused a slight fresh down the Cauvery on the 30th.

DHOOR,
8th May 1874.

(Signed) A. J. DODSON,
Conservancy Engineer.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

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

No. 94.

ORDER THEREON, 7th July 1874, No. 1,807.

IRRIGATION, No. 11.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

Season 1873-74
 Memo showing the amount of land applied
 for up to date to the Mr. Webb for Irrigation Floodings.

Districts	B		C	D	Totals	Remarks.
	Irrigation Ordinary	1 st Crop	Floodings	Exceptional supplies.		
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres		
<u>Kearney Co.</u>						
Up to July 1870	456.05	"	5.83	"	461.88	
Sept 1870	1178.04	"	"	"	1178.04	
" August	893.61	"	"	"		
Sept 1871	1610.13	"	124.12	"	1734.25	
October	223.60	"	130.96	"	353.66	
November	249.44	19.28	89.07	"	357.72	
December	"	416.57	269.41	"	685.88	
January 1874	"	135.71	207.79	"	343.50	
February	"	98.84	117.43	"	486.27	
March	"	64.20	18.12	"	82.32	
<u>Quiddapah</u>						
Up to August 770	84.51	"	213.16 1/2	"	297.67 1/2	
Sept 770	47.11	"	89.79	"	136.90	
October	325.13	"	161.39	"	486.52	
November	36.46	"	33.26	"	69.72	
December	228.60	"	50.18	"	278.78	
January 1874	"	"	"	"	"	3228.75
February	"	"	51.59	"	51.59	
March	80.99	"	203.33	"		
April	4.36	285	16.92	"	284.31	
					306.96	

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18. 99 July 1/94
18 18 11 93

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With an enclosure

With Order

188

Volunteers detd. by
Chief Engineer for training

1765

[illegible]

Ca 4 June

J. C. Christie

3465

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Chief Engr.
for Irrigation

Dated

Recd

Recd. B

7th July 1874 No 1807

Nos 93-94.

Madras Irrigation &
Canal Company.

Endorsement of the
Chief Engr. for Irrig.
submitting Reports on
the Madras Irrigation &
Canal Co's works for
April 1874, recorded.