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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,
13th March 1874.*

No. 322. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Bezwada, 1st December 1873, No. 53 :—

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, Public Works Department, dated Kurnool, 18th November 1873, No. 174.

I HAVE the honour to forward Conservancy Engineer's reports for the Upper and Lower Sections, together with my report for the month of October 1873.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

Chief Engineer's Report to accompany the Divisional Reports for October 1873.

THE Canal is reported to have been maintained in good working order, notwithstanding a heavy fall of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain on the 21st October in the Cuddapah District. In that district the rain has been excessive, and has damaged much of the growing dry grain. Elsewhere the rain has been moderate, and extended over the month in numerous waterings most favourable to the growing crops. It is estimated that in the Upper Division alone 400 acres of chillies will ripen without water, of those included in my previous estimates of first-crop irrigation.

2. My returns of applications for *ordinary irrigation* are—

Villages commanded.	Taluq.	1873-74.	1872-73.	Increase.	Decrease.
11	Ramalakota ... Acres.	882.31	1,193	...	316
35	Nandikotakur	2,545.54	1,963	583	...
14	Nandial, north	82.62	64	19	...
25 { 60	Total, Upper Division...	3,510.47	3,225	285 average.	...
11	Nandial, south	201.42	219.30	...	18
34	Sirwell	1,142.61	739.19	403	...
9	Koilkuntla	288.40	199.54	89	...
1	Jammalamaddugu... ..	12.42	Nil.	12	...
31	Cuddapah	1,434.63	1,585.18	...	151
28	Proddatur	981.12	570.40	411	...
114	Total, Lower Division...	4,060.65	3,315.30	725 average.	...
174	Grand Total ..	7,571.12	6,570.30	1,001 average.	...

Omitting tanks filled and floodings.

3. There are some curious points in this list :—

(1.)—The only decreases of irrigation in any taluq are in those containing a Collector's head-quarters and *office*, viz., Ramalakota and Cuddapah Taluqs.

(2.)—The largest decrease in any taluq is in Ramalakota, to every village in which the canal water has been supplied all the year round, and not stopped off on the 1st of January.

(3.)—The Nandial Taluq, which contains the Deputy Collector and his office, the canal has successfully pulled off an increase of one acre, but the *total* completely beats any other taluq for *smallness*; it *could* hardly decrease.

4. In the Cuddapah Taluq the Curnums have taken scarcely any applications for water from the ryots. I have not received from the Cuddapah Collector an application for a single acre in Chennur, in which village the Canal Amin has received applications (for transmission to the Curnum) for 641.76 acres. It is really better to leave the Curnums alone, for I fear that if the Collector reprimands them, or even merely lets them know that he expects them to do their duty and take applications, then the result is that they forbid applications to be given through the canal officers, and persecute those who so give them. In Ramalakota Taluq the applications have

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been often made direct to the Curnums. Thus, in Gopala Singavaram, 51.03 acres have been applied for to the Curnum, and 4.84 acres through the Canal Amin, making a total of 55.87, against 120 acres irrigated last year.

5. In the next village of Nizuru, the Curnum has taken applications for 57.63 acres, the Amins for 11.02, making a total of 68.65 acres, against 215 acres irrigated last year. This sort of "assistance" from the Curnums is not one which experience would lead either the Government or the Company to wish increased.

6. It is impossible to explain or fathom the depths of these indications, but this much seems clear that it is desirable for the canal to offer all ryots the means to apply if they wish; and that the rivalry probably existing between the subordinates of the Revenue Department and of the Canal be trained as much as possible towards the question of which shall most win the confidence of the ryots, and most promptly give them correct information and a secure supply of water, and most completely escape all conviction for oppression or double-dealing.

7. In regard to the channels run over many miles of country with a view to supplying water to dry crops in case of drought, which was so generally imminent in September, they will not be needed; but the majority will with a little repair be fit for another year. Meantime the expense will be borne by the general taxes of the country.

Rain-fall in inches for the month of October 1873.

Month and date.	Soonkasala	Kurnool.	Jupad.	Velapanoor.	Iyaloor.	Dhoor.
1st October 1873 ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
2nd do. " ...	0.05	0.04	...	...	0.73	2.86
3rd do. " ...	...	...	...	0.45	...	...
4th do. " ...	...	0.92	...	...	...	0.34
5th do. " ...	0.70	0.34	...	...	...	0.12
6th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7th do. " ...	...	...	0.09	...	...	...
8th do. " ...	0.02	0.10	0.05	...	...	0.10
9th do. " ...	...	...	...	0.92½	...	0.08
10th do. " ...	0.02	0.10	0.85	...	0.80	1.83
11th do. " ...	...	0.09	...	...	0.20	0.02
12th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13th do. " ...	0.05	0.07	1.25	1.00	...	0.09
14th do. " ...	...	0.27	0.40	...	1.20	0.08
15th do. " ...	...	...	0.15	0.35	...	0.67
16th do. " ...	...	...	0.90	0.15	...	0.33
17th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	0.10
18th do. " ...	...	...	...	0.25	...	...
19th do. " ...	...	...	...	0.40	...	...
20th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	0.01	...
21st do. " ...	0.50	0.64	0.15	0.20	0.06	4.51
22nd do. " ...	0.40	0.44	...	0.12½	...	1.39
23rd do. " ...	...	...	...	0.20	...	0.02
24th do. " ...	0.40	0.50	0.30	...	...	0.06
25th do. " ...	...	0.03	0.05	0.40	...	0.17
26th do. " ...	...	...	...	0.70	0.06	0.04
27th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30th do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31st do. " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	2.14	3.54	4.19	5.15	3.06	12.86

KURNOOL,
13th November 1873.

(Signed) J. H. LATHAM,
Chief Engineer.

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KURNOOL,
13th November 1873

Monthly Report for the Upper Division for October 1873.

THE requisite supply of water has been maintained in the canal without any difficulty.

2. The quantity of rain which fell during October in the Kurnool District has been just what the ryots could have wished. The registered ordinary irrigation is now 3,510.47 acres; and it is estimated that about 100 acres of irrigation have still to be registered, and that 100 more acres of chillies will yet require irrigation. It is too early yet to learn the intentions of the ryots regarding second crop. Extraordinary irrigation by flooding has been given to 155.24 acres.

3. The slip in the Terrigopully bank still goes on, but has been made up again this month. It is not extensive nor dangerous, being merely the continued subsidence of a couple of chains length of the rear of a bank standing on rock.

4. The surveys for next year's estimates have been in progress during the month.

5. Fever has been very prevalent, few of the staff have escaped it, except in Kurnool; and at one time the majority of the bankers in the 5th and 6th Sections were incapacitated by fever. We have latterly had hot dry days, cold mornings, and heavy dews.

(Signed) J. LATHAM,
for Conservancy Engineer.

LOWER SECTION, CONSULTING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
Dhoor, 7th November 1873.

Report for the Month of October 1873.

THE supply of water for irrigation has been abundant throughout the whole month. In the three upper taluqs of these sections, that is from Jutoor to the 134th mile just below Chintacoonta, the rainfall has been slight, amounting at Ayaloor to only 3.06 inches, and no injury has been done to any of the Main Canal works or irrigation channels, but as the canal continues southwards the rainfall increased, and at Dhoor my register showed a total of 12.86 inches during the month, and at Adimappully and Cuddapah the fall has been even greater; judging by the effects on the crops and irrigation works however, the only injury to the banks of the Main Canal has been a slip in 180th mile of no great consequence. The rivers Caalee and Koond have been in flood most of the month, the amount of water over the crests of the two anicuts averaging about 2½ feet; but the Pennair river rose on the 21st of the month to 15½ feet above the head sluice at Adimappully, running 6½ feet over the anicut crest, but by the end of the month it fell to only a few inches, so that we were able to ascertain that the only injury done to the anicut was that a few of the coping stones of the lower wall were thrown over upon the rubble apron. Many of the irrigation channels in this neighbourhood have been breached by the repeated floods, especially by that of the 21st October, when 4.51 inches fell during the night; but they were all repaired in time to prevent any injury to the paddy crops under them, except to a few acres under the Maideoor channel, which breached frequently just where the overflow channel from the tank above crosses under it. A calingulah must be built at this spot to prevent such injuries occurring again.

Irrigation.

IN the sections under Mr. Bradbury's charge, the four Government tanks of Ivarcoodoor, Nundial, Chintacoonta and Canala, have all received a two months' supply of water from the canal, according to the Deputy Collector's applications; he also requested a similar supply to be sent into Byupcoodoor tank, which however could not be done as it is above the level of our canal; but there are about 150 acres of paddy below it, which can be supplied from our channels, which would raise the total amount of acres the canal will supply with two months' water under Government tanks to 1,730 acres, and Mr. Bradbury expects that all these tanks will need a full supply of water from our canal for their second crops. In my last report I put down 374 acres of second crop of paddy under the tanks in the 10th Section as likely to take canal water, those tanks at the time I wrote being completely dry, but the rains of October have filled them to overflowing, so that item of revenue will not be realized. I also stated in my last report that about 2,000 acres

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of indigo were flooded early in the year ; this was a mistake of mine ; the real area of those fields was only 814.69 acres, but they received more floodings than I stated, so that the amount of revenue to be collected from them will be Rupees 2,809.

2. I am not able yet to give an accurate statement of the wet crops under irrigation from our canal, as the ryots have in many villages made their applications through the Curnums, and the official account of those applications have not all reached my office ; but as near as I can estimate the amount of applications at a 6-rupees rate is 4,700 acres and of floodings 2,081 acres. As to the prospect for second crops, I am unwilling to make any definite statement, as it depends on so many contingencies over which I have little or no control, but I am still hopeful that the full amount of revenue which will be collected from these lower sections will, as stated in my last report, equal, if not exceed, Rupees 50,000.

3. The rains of the last month have greatly injured the dry crops in the low lands ; in many parts they have totally failed, and except on some of the sandy soils which lie high, the crops of cholam will be very much below the average. To the paddy and other wet crops the rains have been beneficial, and they all promise a full crop of good quality.

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

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. It will be seen that the applications received by the canal officers are for 7,571.12 acres in 174 villages. The returns received from the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah show the applications to the Revenue Officers to have been as follows :—

	Irrigation, Ordinary.	Floodings.	Total.
Kurnool	4,361.43	260.01	46,21.44
Cuddapah	457.47	444.34	901.81
Total...	4,818.90	704.35	5,523.25

most of the difference in the two accounts is in the Cuddapah District, where as before noticed the applications recorded by the Curnums give no indication of the area actually irrigated.

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

No. 323.

ORDER THEREON, 13th March 1874, No. 687.

IRRIGATION, No. 32.

ORDERED to be communicated to
the Revenue Department in continu-
ation of Government Order, No. 686,

dated 13th March 1874, on the report for September.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

- .. Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.
- .. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

P. W. 1873 Department
No. 6728.
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
The Secretary to
Govt M. D.
N-53.
Dated 1st Decr 78.
Recd to S Decr 78.
Recd 12th Jan 1879.
Submitted with
remarks Report
on the Madras
Irrigation Canal for
October 1878.
With an order
322-323.
G. W. Walker
13/3/74
Ordered to be communicated to the Revenue Department
in continuation of Government Order No. 686 dated 13th
March 1874 on the report for September.
G. W. Walker
13/3/74
Recd to S Decr 78.
Recd 12th Jan 1879.

Che 6728
Govt. of 1874 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

The Revenue Dept.

Dated

Recd.

Encl.

G. O.

1874

Nos. 322 & 323

M. S. for Canal.

Report on the Canal
for 1873, Com^d to
the Rev. Secy.

Sept 10 1874