

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
12th October 1875.*

No. 174. Read the following letter from Colonel J. CROFTON, R.E., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Civil Works—Irrigation,) to Lieut.-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, (Irrigation Branch,) dated Simla, 22nd September 1875, No. 334 I. :—

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of the "statement showing the revenue due to irrigation in each district of the Madras Presidency for 1873-74," forwarded under docket No. 2,197-A, dated 28th July 1875, and to say that the Governor-General in Council regrets that there should have been the decrease in revenue as compared with past years, its cause appearing to be in an actual diminution of the area irrigated.

2. I am to convey the recognition, by the Government of India, of the increased information furnished by this return as compared with the former corresponding statements. It is fully understood that until the inquiries which are now being made are much further advanced, it will not be possible to give the information which is so much desired, allocating the revenue to the various works of irrigation.

3. But, in the meanwhile, the Governor-General in Council, I am to say, would be glad to learn the exact meaning of the entries in columns Nos. 3, 5, 7, 12, and 16, especially as to whether they refer to the gross amounts of assessment, or to net amount after making deductions, and, if so, what was the nature and what were the amount of the deductions. If no deductions have been made, I am to inquire what the land revenue of the areas concerned would probably be if there were no irrigation, and also what the charge would under other circumstances be for the irrigation included under columns 13 and 14 of the Board of Revenue return.

4. I am to remark, that this statement is not accompanied by any memorandum from the Controller of Accounts, and it is not certain that it has undergone his scrutiny. The Governor-General in Council would wish that all such statements dealing with revenue, or expenditure, affecting the Public Works Department, should be revised by the Controller in respect of their bearing in, and connection with, its accounts.

Nos. 175 & 176. ORDER THEREON, 12th October 1875, No. 2,911.

IRRIGATION, No. 18.

ORDERED that the following letter be sent:—

(Here enter No. 2,912, dated 12th October 1875.)

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
FORT ST. GEORGE, 12th October 1875.

No. 177.

No. 2,912.

FROM

MAJOR-GENERAL G. W. WALKER, R.E.,
*Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Public Works Department,*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
Public Works Department.

IRRIGATION, No. 19.

SIR,—In reply to the letter, No. 334 I.,
of the 2nd ultimo, from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, I am

directed to state that column 7 of the statement of Irrigation for 1873-74 shows the assessment of the lands irrigated, columns 8 and 9 the deduction on account of remissions connected with water-supply and otherwise, and column 10 the net demand; it is not practicable to say what the land revenue of these lands in most districts would have been had there been no irrigation. Only in those districts in which a new settlement has been made in recent years could any such information be compiled, and for these districts it is not at present available. It may be noticed, moreover, that in the absence of means of irrigation much of the land would have been left uncultivated, but how much it is of course impracticable to determine. The charge for water, column 12, supplied to Inam and Zemindari lands irrigated is a net charge. It is not possible to say what the revenue would be of lands irrigated free of charge, columns 13 and 14, were they liable to pay for their water-supply. In the case of Inam lands every holding would bear a separate assessment, and as regards Zemindari lands there are no data whatever for the determination of assessments which have never been made.

2. I am further to state that the Controller of Public Works Accounts has no means of scrutinizing the revenue information contained in the Proceedings of this

Government, and that the particulars of charges given in the memorandum by the
No. 2,197, dated 28th July 1875.
Officiating Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, were obtained from the Controller.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

fo. 26 July 36: 794-796

12th Oct 75
1845 Sept
No 6545.

Govt of India
Dated 22nd Sept 75
Recd. 18th Oct 75
No 334 J.

Govt
S.A.B.

Order that the following letter be
sent.
No 2911.
18th No 2912 27/12 Oct 75
Always for Engrs
Bd 25-10-75

the letter
22nd Sept 75

Secretary
Regarding the decrease in
of Revenue due to
fation in each district
for 1873-74, as compared
with former years.

6-10-75
12-10-75
Sept 37

of the
columns
8 and 9 the deduction on
account of remissions
connected with water
supply & otherwise, and
column 10 the not demand,
it is not practicable

Ms 174/16

No 2912.

12th Dec 77
S.A.B.
71

To, The Secretary to the Govt.
of India, S.A.B.

Sir, In reply to the letter
No 3341 of the 22nd ultimo
from the Deputy Secretary
to the Govt. of India, I am
directed to state that column
9 of the statement of irri-
gation for 1873-74 shows
the assessment of the
lands irrigated, column
8 and 9 the deduction on
account of remissions
connected with water
supply & otherwise, and
column 10 the net demand,
it is not practicable

MS
11/16

to say what the land revenue of these lands in most Districts would have been had there been no irrigation. Only in those Districts in which a new settlement has been made in recent years could any such information be compiled and for these Districts it is not at present available. It may be noticed moreover that in the absence of means of irrigation much of the land would have been left uncultivated, but how much it is of course impracticable to determine. The charge for water, column 12, applied to Inam and Zemindari lands irrigated is a

net charge. It is not possible to say what the revenue would be of lands irrigated free of charge. Columns 13 and 14, were they liable to pay for their water supply. In the case of Inam lands every holding would bear a separate assessment, and as regards Zemindari lands there are no data whatever for the determination of assessments which have never been made. 2. I am further to state that the Controller of Public Works Accounts has no means of scrutinizing the Revenue information contained in

in the Proceedings of
the Government, and that
the particulars of charges
given in the Memorandum
by the officiating Chief
Engineer, Palih's Dock
Depart^{mt} were obtained
from the Controller.

6 sc + 1 copy of 80

N^o 2197 of 28th July

bro/d 25-10-75

To the Revenue Department.
 " Consulting Engineer for Railways.
 " Examiner of Railway Accounts.
 " Controller of Public Works Accounts.
 Exd. S. T. Austin.
 Spare Copies