

(1) Number of pages _____

(2) Date of repair _____

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Public Works

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1720	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	15-7	C876
		195

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 243. Read the following letter from J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to Major-General G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madanapully, 21st June 1876, No. 20 :—

I HAVE the honor to reply to G.O., No. 16, dated 4th January 1876.

2. I am glad to be able to state that but few cases of surreptitious irrigation have been reported, and that those which have been reported have been successfully detected. The case of the tank near Maidkoor alluded to by Mr. Dodson has been detected, and three men punished with three months' imprisonment, a fourth having absconded. Excuses were at first made regarding the difficulty of detecting the case, &c. ; but I insisted upon the Sub-Magistrate and Deputy Collector making a personal local inquiry, and this proved effectual. The same parties had cut the canal channel in the previous year, and had got off scot free ; they probably expected the same good fortune this year.

3. One case of surreptitious irrigation was also reported, detected, and convicted in the Cuddapah Taluq.

4. Regarding the growth of coarse-paddy complained of in paragraph 4 of Mr. Dodson's report, I have made some careful inquiries, and I have come to the conclusion that there is much to be said on both sides. In the first place, (probably owing to the flat beds of rock spoken of by Mr. Dodson) the land is naturally marshy, and it has long been the custom to grow coarse paddy in it, even previous to the introduction of water into the canal. In the second place, the assessment of these marshy lands is high, much higher than would have been imposed on ordinary dry lands, showing therefore that they are supposed to be capable of raising a wet crop. The rates per acre on the eastern side are Rupees 3-10-7 and Rupees 2-0-7, and in the case of one acre, 8 Annas. On the western side the rates are Rupees 2-8-0, Rupees 1-2-6, and Rupees 1-0-6 per acre. Thirdly, whereas the canal at this village can only supply water to the *western side*, this coarse paddy is grown on *both* sides of the canal. It is clear therefore that, however it may be on the lower side of the canal, the coarse paddy raised on the eastern or *higher* side, is grown owing to the naturally marshy nature of the soil, and though it is quite possible that this portion may in some degree benefit by sub-soil leakage from the canal, it is impossible that on this side the ryots "select spots where our channels are likely to leak, or in the midst of fields taking canal water by application, so that they can obtain the surplus water from their neighbour's fields to irrigate their own" (*vide* concluding sentence of paragraph 3 of Mr. Dodson's report). I have not as yet had an opportunity of personally inspecting this spot during the rainy season, but intend doing so at the next opportunity. In the mean time this information has been furnished by the Deputy Collector in charge of Canal duties.

5. In proof of my assertion that coarse paddy has been grown on both sides of the canal previous to the introduction of the water, I submit a statement for five years compiled from the village accounts.

	East Side.		West Side.	
	Area.		Area.	
	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.
1276...	1	...	0	50
1277...	...	...	...	...
1278...	12	53	5	25
1279...	...	...	...	...
1280...	40	54	11	95

This shows that during favorable years some 70 acres, assessed at Rupees 148, have been grown with coarse paddy before there was any water in the canal.

6. On the other hand, on the lower or western side of the canal, there is no doubt that, since there has been water in the canal, the cultivation of coarse paddy has greatly increased, as will be seen from the following statement:—

Western side of the Canal.

	Close to Canal.		Within one Mile.		Above one Mile.		Total.	
	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.
1281 ...	...	...	14	94	...	...	14	94
1282 ...	2	35	32	26	...	...	34	61
1283 ...	...	...	58	58	...	...	58	58
1284 ...	23	21	24	86	...	...	48	7
1285 ...	11	37	73	62	...	...	84	99
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	241	19

In this cultivation it is of course quite possible that the ryots have enjoyed not only sub-soil leakage, but have also, as Mr. Dodson says, taken drainage water from other fields, or perhaps stolen the water from the channels. Even if they have not done so, there can be no doubt, looking to the increase of cultivation since the canal, that the land has benefited greatly by canal water. But again on the other hand it is noticeable that the cultivation on the eastern side, which is not commanded by the canal water, has also greatly increased during these five years, as is proved by the following statement:—

East side of Canal.

	Adjacent to Canal.		Within one Mile.		Above one Mile.		Total.	
	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.	A.	CTS.
1281 ...	...	...	9	25	37	30	46	55
1282 ...	3	67	2	39	4	27	10	33
1283 ...	2	60	4	39	18	51	25	50
1284 ...	8	12	4	49	34	97	47	58
1285 ...	19	33	...	...	31	2	50	35
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	31

It would therefore be unfair to say that the increase on the western or lower side is entirely due to the canal water, and I am of opinion that Mr. Dodson's anticipation in paragraph 4 that this cultivation "if not checked will continue to increase until it will form about 20 per cent. of the whole irrigation," is scarcely correct, and still less so his statement that whereas "in the village of Canagoodoor (the figures I have given are those of that very village) last season we had no such cases of coarse paddy grown

by aid of canal leakage water, this season 68 acres have been sown," because, as I have shown, this cultivation has been going on for at least ten years.

7. There can be no doubt that a ryot will raise a crop of fine paddy in preference to coarse paddy if he has equal advantages of soil and water. If he only grows coarse paddy it is probably because the soil, though marshy, is undrained and inclined to be *choudu*. Fine paddy will yield him a profit far in excess of coarse paddy. I am therefore inclined to think that it is unfair to impose a water-rate on coarse paddy, equal to that on fine paddy. Where the land cannot be commanded by canal water, it is of course unfair to charge a rate at all. Where, however, the land is commanded by the canal, I feel little doubt that it benefits to a greater or lesser extent by the water in the canal, though not to the same extent as fine paddy, sugar-cane, &c. I would therefore suggest that a special rate for coarse paddy of say Rupees 1-8-0 be fixed, *provided it is grown on land commanded by the canal*.

8. In the mean time the Deputy Collector reports, "during the settlement of canal demand for the current fasli all surreptitious irrigation, reported by the Company's subordinates and which was objected to by the ryots, has been duly charged under the rules in the case of coarse paddy, and the water-rate including the fines, &c., amounted to about Rupees 286."

No. 244. ORDER THEREON, 15th July 1876, No. 1,790.

IRRIGATION, No. 20.

HIS GRACE the Governor in Council is glad to find that the Acting Collector of Cuddapah has made careful inquiries into the circumstances which led the Officer in charge of the Lower Division of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company's Canal to conclude that advantage was being extensively taken of the canal water for purposes of cultivation without payment. Mr. Gribble has shown that the extent to which the irregular practices referred to prevailed was probably much less than was supposed, and the attention which has been given to the subject, and to the investigation of cases of the surreptitious use of water, will doubtless produce the desired result of preventing the improper use of the canal water.

2. The suggestion at the latter part of paragraph 7 of Mr. Gribble's letter will be referred to the Board of Revenue, and to the Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, for their opinion and report.

(True Extract.)

Colonel,

Offg. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Revenue Department.

" Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

" Chief Engineer and Manager, Irrigation and Canal Company.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

Received at the Juddapah Collector's Office on
the 21st June 1876.
No 20.

From J. D. H. Fribble Esquire
Acting Collector of Juddapah

To
Major General G. H. Walker
Secretary to Government
Public Works Dept.
Fort St. George.

Sir,
I have the honor to reply to L. O. No 16
dated 4th January, 1876.

I am glad to be able to state that but
few cases of surreptitious irrigation have
been reported, and that those which have been
reported have been successfully detected.

The case of the tank near Maid Road alluded
to by Mr. Dodson, has been detected, and three
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ment, a fourth having also convicted. Expenses
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5
Juddapah Collector's Office on
Arcut at Chasnahally
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2-4-7, and in the case of one acre, 8 annas.
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	acres		acres		acres		acres	
	cents		cents		cents		cents	
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1282	2	35	32	26	0	0	34	61
1283	0	0	58	58	0	0	58	58
1284	23	21	24	86	0	0	48	7
1285	11	37	73	62	0	0	84	99
Total	241		19					

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was objected to by the ryots, has been
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of course hady, and the water rate
including the fines for amounts to
about Rs 256-"

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant

J. W. B. Fubole

Sp. Collector.

E. C. Ch

12th Apr 1878

13

S.O. 4/Jan'y/11 6. No 16

2. H. 1876 Department
88-5081

1876.
From the Acting Collector
of Cuddapah
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Cottacamund.
Dated 21
Sept. 23
Received 1st July 1876
36.20
Report of the Engineer
G. C. dated 24 January 1876
16. Public Works Dept. the
agitated in various letters
to wards checking the
irrigation from the canal
by the Ryots of certain villages.

No 243

Recd. 8.5.76
Recd. 7.7.76 Ptd. 7.7.76
Cii. 30.6.76 Ptd. 7.7.76
O.L. Shurt 8.2.76

Form No. 22.

No 1790

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 15 July 76

Read the following:—

From the Acting Collector of
Cuddapah 3 H. No 20 of 21 June 76

His Grace the
Governor in Council
is glad to find that
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2. The suggestion at the latter part of para 7 of Mr. Gribble's

and report

For Mr. Gribble to express his opinion on the subject of the proposed change in the rate of water for the canal.

Very respectfully,
Wm. Gribble
P.M.

Rev. Secy
C. E. for I.C.C.
C. E. & Eng. I.C.C.

Decd 29/7/16

letter will be referred to the Board of Revenue and to the Chief Engineer and Manager, M.S. & C.C. for their ^{and report} opinion ~~on~~ the imposition of a suitable water rate on coarse paddy grown on lands commanded by the canal in situations in which such cultivation was not usual before the canal was constructed will probably be found to be desirable, and may lead to the abandonment of this kind of cultivation and the substitution of fine paddy with benefit both to the ryots and to the canal.

May 30/16

G.M.

ready the 4th inst.

$$T_0$$

The Revenue Dept.

Dated

Issued

Lied

Encl

G. O., *July* 1876, No. 177

Nos. 243-244

4
Sent no Reg
21-7-46

Corruptitious irrigation from
the Madras Irrigation &
Canal Company's Canal.

Passing orders on
letter from the As Collector
of Cuddalore reporting the
slips taken for checking
the —

L. Shurt 32 fine