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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public Works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 455 (9)	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated 8-2-	1877.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

16

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
8th February 1877. No. 455.*

No. 268. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Financial Department, dated 5th February 1877, No. 414:—

ABSTRACT.—*Municipal—Water Supply.*—Referring, for consideration, letter from Sanitary Commissioner, submitting observations on the water-supply of the town of Madras.

No. 269. ORDER THEREON, 8th February 1877, No. 455.

IRRIGATION, No. 29.

COMMUNICATED to the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput, who will furnish information at once as follows:—

1st.—What has been the discharge from the sluices for irrigation purposes since the Red Hills Tank water surface stood at 31.31, and what was the date on which it stood at that level.

2nd.—What is the water level on the latest date (to be stated) for which information is available?

3rd.—What has been the diminution in the contents of the tank between the above two dates?

4th.—What were the contents of the tank on the later date?

2. Colonel F. Moberly will understand that this information is urgently required.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Superintending Engineer, Chingleput.

„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

„ Financial Department.

Erd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

Financial Department

Received by the Members of
Government on letter from the
Sanitary Commission for Madrid
dated 1st February 1877

The Honble Sir W. Stansfeld Bart. &c. I would
ask the Collector for an immediate
report on the expediency of giving
effect to the Sanitary proposals
and also on the President Municipal
Commission for a report on what he
is doing and intends to do in the
direction of Dr. Lomachi suggestion.

N.B. I observe that the matter of
closing the sluices has already en-
gaged attention in D.H.W. 1877 W.R.

Yours faithfully
W. Stansfeld
His

His Grace the Governor

I think a definite and immediate report should be called for from collectors showing average under usual wet crop - how much more time needed for maturing -

What with newly planted crop and the time required for maturing - it is difficult to

obtain from the white point top water is actually being run out for irrigation and how much is utilized also whether any leakage up to what extent round sluices or under them - I would obtain this before closing sluices as the result of my visit the other day. I will add more of the same kind in the future.

The Honble R. S. Ellis C.B.

I think this matter is very serious. I would close the sluices for irrigation and grant compensation.

I beg to call attention to the Sanitary Commissioners, para. 7, on wells in the Town. I think Burrows should be urged most strongly to systematically clear and if necessary deepen the best wells in the Town. They will before long be urgently necessary.

By R. S. E.

or

R.W.D.

8 FEB 77

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

5th February 1877, No. 414.

Municipal—Water Supply.

Read the following paper:—

No. 97. From Surgeon-Major W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 1st February 1877, No. 78.

I have the honor to submit, for the consideration of Government, the following observations regarding the water supply of Madras.

2. The Red Hill Lake is now quite as low as it used to be at this season of the year before its enlargement for the Madras Water Works supply, and, judging from my experience of former years, when I was well acquainted with the neighbourhood, I should estimate that the quantity of water remaining is not likely to last more than three or four months at the rate of present consumption for irrigation.

3. Government are aware that, owing to the low state of the tank, the supply for the Municipality for some months past has been raised by pumping. The volume of water thus brought into the supply channel for the use of the town is not equal to that escaping from one irrigation sluice near Mr. Teed's house. The quantity of water issuing from the other sluices I cannot state as I had no time in my visit to the famine camp yesterday to inspect them, but I may remark that there is a very considerable amount of cultivation going on in the area irrigated from the Red Hills Lake, and that, if this distribution of the water is not put a stop to, there will very soon be none left to supply the town.

4. It was considered by the late Mr. Fraser, C.E., who designed the supply works, that the reservoir would in ordinary seasons hold enough water for the use of the town without interfering with the rights of cultivators, but it is now perfectly plain that wet cultivation below the tank-bund and the maintenance of an adequate supply for municipal uses are incompatible in seasons so abnormal as the present one.

5. A water famine in the town would add very much to the difficulties of dealing with the existing distress, but this may certainly be looked for if measures are not speedily concerted to arrest the use of the lake water for irrigation. The value of the growing crops must be insignificant in comparison with the distress and inconvenience to the population of Madras, and on these grounds I venture most respectfully to urge on Government the necessity of closing the irrigation channels without delay.

6. It is a fortunate circumstance that the wells and tanks which supplied the population of Madras before the introduction of water from the Red Hills are still in existence, for, if rain should not fall, even they will have to be brought again into use in the course of the coming hot season—indeed many of the wells are already largely resorted to.

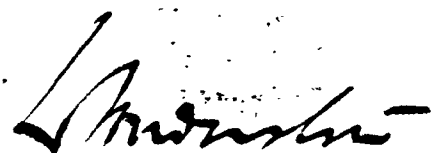
7. I am making observations in regard to the level of the subsoil water in different parts of the town, and shall soon address Government on the subject, but in the mean time I think it would be a wise precautionary measure if Government were pleased to call the attention of the municipal authorities to the probable failure of the Red Hill supply and to the necessity of cleaning out those public wells and tanks which formerly supplied potable water, so that the people may have these reserves to fall back upon in case of need.

8. In the early part of the year 1869, after two years of deficient rainfall, the subsoil water of this locality fell lower than I have ever known it. A large number of trees died in consequence of the moisture sinking away from their roots. Water for drinking purposes was so scarce that the people often had to get up in the middle of the night to await their turn at the wells. Notwithstanding the scarcity of water at this period, the public health was good, and the deep subsoil water then obtained with great labor and difficulty was not injurious to the people. On this occasion the public and private wells throughout the town were cleaned and deepened. There has been no necessity for a similar cleansing and deepening since, but the present low level of the water (not yet so low as in March and April 1869) all over the town area affords a convenient opportunity for the employment of some of the wudder (tank-diggers) population on what may prove to be a very necessary public work.

No. 98. ORDER THEREON, 5th February 1877, No. 414.

Ordered that the Sanitary Commissioner's letter be referred for consideration in the Revenue and Public Works Departments with copy of the remarks of Members of Government.

(True Extract.)



Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department,
,, Public Works Department, } with copy of the remarks.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

805-1-76 ho 22
 .. 8-2-76 .. 342
 .. 12-4-76 .. 112
 .. 25-4-76 .. 165
 .. 26-4-76 .. 125
 .. 1-5-76 .. 1790
 .. 10-5-76 .. 178
 .. 12-5-76 .. 1189
 .. 7-6-76 .. 1415
 .. 7-7-76 .. 1728

Municipal—Water Supply.—Referring, for con- sideration, letter from Sanitary Commissioner sub- mitting observations on the water supply of the town of Madras.

FEBRUARY.
 Nos. 97-98.

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 .. 12-1-77 .. 131. origl
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1268
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P.W.D.
 8 FEB 77
 No 1318

Govt. of 11877 Madras

FINANCIAL.

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated February, 5th.

Issued 7

Recd.

Encl. 2

G.O., 5th February 1877, No. 414.

No 435 Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the 8th July 1877.

Read the following:—

Proceedings of Government
 Financial Dept } (A.R. No 414 dt 5th July 1877)

Communicated to the
 Superintending Engineer
 Chingleput who will furnish
 information at once as follows:—

1st What has been the discharge
 from the sluices for irrigation
 purposes since the Red Hill
 Tank water surface stood
 at 31.31, and what was the
 date on which it stood at
 that level.

2nd What is the water level
 on the latest date (to be stated)
 for which information is available.

3rd What has been the

1/2 of 21/2
 2/3 of 21/2
 3/4 of 21/2
 4/5 of 21/2
 5/6 of 21/2
 6/7 of 21/2
 7/8 of 21/2
 8/9 of 21/2
 9/10 of 21/2

diminution in the contents
of the tank between the
above two dates.

1st What were the contents
of the tank on the later
date.

2. Colonel F. Moberly
will understand that this
information is urgently re-
quired.

W. L. C. 8-2-77

1 copy furnished to Mr. L. C. 8-2-77

S. L. Chingpat. in Mfr
Ch. fa. Ing.
Finl. Dept.
MS drpd to SE
Chingpat
8-2-77

W. L. C. 8-2-77

1318
Govt. of 1877 Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

To Mr S. S. Chingleput

Dated

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 8 Feb 1877, No. 455

Nos. 268-69

Water supply of the Town
of Madras. Mr S. S. Chingleput
referring for consideration, letter
from Sanitary Commissioner
submitting observations on
the —, Comd to the Supy
Mr S. S. Chingleput with
remarks.

End no Reg.

1318
13-2-77.

13-2-77
8-2-77