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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Public Works DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	228 (W)	Press.
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228

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

14th January 1878, No. 228 W.

General.
Establishment

Read the following paper :—

No. 111-C. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th December 1877, No. 5,161.

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Wonipenta, 25th October 1877, Extra No. 2,447 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit my report on the Public Works of this district for the official year 1876-77, and to enclose the usual statements.

2. I trust that the Board will, on account of the work which the famine has created, excuse any shortcomings in the way of the remarks which, under their Proceedings, No. 2,992, dated 25th June last, it appears that Collectors are expected to make. Since I have joined the district I have never had leisure to consider Public Works affairs as I in ordinary times would have done, and any observations which I may make will, I fear, be of but little value and perhaps refer to matters which have been considered and disposed of long ago by officers who, from their local experience, were far more capable of judging of their merits and demerits than I.

3. The total expenditure under the several heads during the year under report was, as particularized in the subjoined statement, Rupees 51,955 on New Works and Rupees 1,34,315 on Repairs, making a total of Rupees 1,86,270, or less by Rs. 52,780 than the outlay of the preceding year. The falling off appears to be attributable to the shortness of provision in the Local Fund Budget under the head of Communications, &c., and to the Order of the Board of Revenue, No. 853, dated 23rd January last, directing a stop to be put to expenditure upon all roads.

Particulars.	1875-76.		1876-77.		COMPARISON.			
	Allotment.	Expendi- ture.	Allotment.	Expendi- ture.	ALLOTMENT.		EXPENDITURE.	
					Increase.	De- crease.	Increase.	De- crease.
<i>Imperial.</i>	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Irrigation { New Works...	7,000	15,040	16,000	16,420	9,000	...	11,830	...
{ Repairs ...	46,000	49,561	53,000	51,638	5,000	...	7,972	...
Buildings... { New Works...	...	...	700	220	700	...	220	...
{ Repairs ...	19	19	240	41	221	...	23	...
Total ...	55,019	49,620	69,940	68,314	14,921	...	18,694	...
<i>Provincial and Special.</i>								
Buildings... { New Works...	19,150	19,003	12,774	11,773	...	6,406	...	7,229
{ Repairs ...	8,056	3,344	9,025	7,739	5,970	...	4,324	...
Total ...	22,206	22,346	21,799	19,511	5,970	6,406	4,324	7,229
<i>Local Funds.</i>								
Communica- { New Works...	68,106	63,637	27,893	20,028	...	37,930	...	43,509
tions... { Repairs ...	95,237	93,078	72,927	70,642	...	11,739	...	22,436
Sanitary and { Repairs ...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous { New Works...	3,218	5,679	3,378	3,514	...	4,840	...	2,165
{ Repairs ...	5,090	4,673	5,090	4,261	90	...	...	412
Total ...	1,77,561	1,67,084	1,09,287	98,445	90	54,509	...	68,629
Grand Total ...	2,54,785	2,39,050	2,00,996	1,86,270	20,931	60,915	23,033	75,868

4. IRRIGATION, NEW WORKS.—Under this head the expenditure was Rupees 16,120, being in excess of the Budget allotment by Rupees 120.

The works consisted of the following:—

- 37 Waste weirs to tanks.
- 13 Sluices to tanks.
- 5 Surplus sluices or waste weirs to channels.
- 6 Other works.

Of these but six waste weirs, four sluices, one surplus sluice to a channel, and three other works were completed.

5. IRRIGATION, REPAIRS.—With the exception of Rupees 1,367, the allotment under this head has been expended upon about 178 works, by far the major portion of these being tanks and sluices. There were 27 of the former and 58 of the latter.

6. The chief repairs were those to the Dayasamudram and Poli tanks and the Kandukur tank calingulah. These were begun in 1875-76. The last was finished, and the District Engineer promises in his report to complete the remaining two at an early date. Estimates for the embankment of the Chayair river, above and below the railway bridge, were sanctioned during the year as famine relief-works, and the District Engineer reports that good progress has been made with that on the right bank above the railway.

7. IMPERIAL BUILDINGS.—The allotment on this account was Rupees 21,763, out of which Rupees 19,511 were spent, the outlay being upon a Post Office and Post Master's residence at Madanapalli which was a new work, and repairs to the Post Office at Cuddapah. Both were completed.

8. PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS, NEW WORKS.—The principal works carried out under this head were the Taluk Cutcheries and Subsidiary Jails at Kadiri, Madanapalli, and Jamalamadugu, the Police Stations at Kazipett and Vallur, and the improvement of the Police Hospital at Cuddapah. Of these, the Cutcherry at Jamalamadugu, the Police Station at Kazipett and the Police Hospital at Cuddapah were completed. The others are reported to be in fair progress. The expenditure upon the Cutcherry at Kadiri having been exceeded a supplemental estimate has been sent in. The completion of that at Madanapalli has been delayed owing to the non-receipt from Madras of the timber required for roofing it.

9. PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS, REPAIRS.—The allotment under this head was Rupees 4,375 and the expenditure Rupees 3,088. Twenty-four works were taken in hand and sixteen completed.

10. LOCAL FUNDS.—The total amount of grant for the year 1876-77 under the several heads was Rupees 1,09,287 and the expenditure was Rupees 98,445, leaving a balance of Rupees 10,842. This decrease, the District Engineer states, is the result of carrying out the order of the Board of Revenue referred to in paragraph 3 of this letter.

11. The following is a statement showing the grant and expenditure under the several heads of Local Funds arranged in accordance with the two circles of the district:—

Names of Circles	COMMUNICATIONS.				IRRIGATION.				SANITARY AND MISCELLANEOUS.				Total	
	New Works.		Repairs.		New Works.		Repairs.		New Works.		Repairs.			
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.
Cuddapah ..	Rs. 22,174	Rs. 14,693	Rs. 43,318	Rs. 41,720	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. 2,712	Rs. 2,712	Rs. 7,000	Rs. 1,700	Rs. 70,724	Rs. 60,940
Madanapalli ..	Rs. 6,716	Rs. 6,340	Rs. 29,609	Rs. 25,927	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. ..	Rs. 646	Rs. 784	Rs. 3,000	Rs. 4,421	Rs. 40,061	Rs. 37,645
Total ..	27,892	29,028	72,927	70,647	..	..	..	..	3,358	3,496	10,000	6,121	1,10,785	98,585

12. LOCAL FUND, COMMUNICATIONS, CUDDAPAH CIRCLE.—Owing to want of funds the whole of the allotment under this head was not expended during the year under report. Fair progress was made with the works taken in hand. Under the remarks made in paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,992, of the 25th June last, it is unnecessary to enter into any account of them.

13. LOCAL FUND, COMMUNICATIONS, MADANAPALLI CIRCLE.—A state of things similar to that indicated above and arising from the same causes existed in the Madanapalli Circle during 1876-77.

14. LOCAL FUNDS.—Sanitary and Miscellaneous.—The grant and expenditure under this head were as per margin.

Grant.	Expenditure.
RS.	RS.
8,468	7,775

15. SANITARY AND MISCELLANEOUS REPAIRS.—A sum of Rupees 4,261 was spent upon the payment of establishment for the maintenance of avenue trees.

16. REMARKS.—I now venture to offer some remarks upon such of the subjects above referred to as seem to call for them.

17. This district appears to have throughout but few irrigation works of any magnitude, and more than one of the largest might, with advantage to the public revenue and to the ryots, be furnished with supply channels, either larger than those which at present exist, or cut from some of the numerous rivers which intersect the country. Why the wide, level, and highly fertile plains of the Proddatur, Jamalamadugu, and Cuddapah Taluqs have not been brought more under the influence of irrigation from the Pennair and Papagni rivers, I am at a loss to imagine. There is, however, probably some very sufficient reason for it, as the idea must have occurred to many others long ago. Still even supposing that other interests require that anicuts should not be placed across these rivers, it seems, when one hears of nine feet of water going over the anicut at Nellore, that this means waste of what might be saved and utilized. To construct tanks along the Pennair is the drifting sand-storms impossible, and the course of the channels would, I fear, as the country is so level, be of the summer which continually and rapidly fill them up. I am surprised that no attempt seems to have ever been made to keep these sands back. Nanul and the bindweed convolvulus ought to grow well enough. The Babul and Bher trees flourish. If water could be only got on to these cotton plains, the country would be an almost evergreen garden, instead of being, in the event of want of rain, a howling wilderness.

18. The project of cutting a supply channel from the Suggilair to the Porumamilla and Budwail tanks is one which has often and long ago been mooted. Had it been in existence when the famine began a great deal of want would have been prevented and Government would probably have saved, twice or three times over, the money which it would have cost. As far back as March, the Suggilair came down in sharp and heavy flood, but neither of the tanks, referred to by me, received any supply. Had an anicut and channel existed they would, and much want and consequent expenditure of money in relief, to say nothing of the loss of revenue in the shape of remissions, would have been saved.

19. As a matter of actual hard return in point of revenue, I do not think that the scheme will ever pay, but as a means of securing Government from loss in the way of remissions and the people, at some future time, from want, I believe it to be of value.

20. Throughout the district there are sundry ancient and some of them good-sized breached tanks. It appears to me that lists of these might be made and those which seem worth doing anything to, carefully examined in view to their being taken in hand when necessary. A stock of estimates of this kind when the famine began would have saved the waste which has occurred in laying out new and useless roads.

21. In the sub-division I have noticed everywhere long strings of wretched little tanks with perhaps a pretty fair one at the bottom of the series. It appears to

me that it would be an advantage to the people and the State if some of these were got rid of by breaching and those retained improved. These tanks in chains are always as source of danger to one another, as the bursting of one may endanger the safety of the others, and all have therefore, though several may not, from a pecuniary point of view, be worth it, have to be kept in order.

22. From what I have seen of the irrigation works of the district, though I must say that I have not inspected them with a view to forming an opinion, they appear to be kept in very fair condition. The revetments are, however, frequently in a bad state owing, I fancy, to unskillful construction in the first instance. One satisfactory feature throughout is the entire absence of any of those very objectionable articles, calingulah stones. Continuing the work of embanking the rivers will, I consider, be of great benefit. The floods of 1874, a repetition of which may, as the history of the district shows, take place at any time, caused a very great loss to Government and the people, which would have been avoided had protective works existed.

23. PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—The public buildings of this district are, without exception, the very worst that I have ever seen. Cuddapah which has the reputation, and I believe justly of having the vilest climate in the Presidency, has, instead of a suitable Cutcherry, one which is scattered over a very large extent of ground and which is utterly inadequate for the accommodation of the native establishment. The Collector's room is a single apartment of the same size as is usually assigned, in other places, to an Assistant Collector, and it is without a retiring room of any kind. The Collector has to work in this place with the whole of the copying establishment sitting behind him and divided from him by an open door-way through which whatever is said in an ordinary tone can be distinctly heard. The room for the Assistant Collector is still worse, and is in at all warm weather a stifling oven.

24. There is no Sub-Collector's Cutcherry, that which formerly existed having been so badly built as to require pulling down. The Taluk Cutcheries are on a par with that at the head-quarters and some are in a very dilapidated condition. They were, I am told, built in the days of the Nawabs and are utterly unsuited to the requirements of the present time. It is hopeless to expect neatness, cleanliness, and order whilst they exist. The sub-palis are, for the greater part, almost as bad as the Cutcheries to which they are attached. Some attempts to ventilate and improve them have been made, but they are as compared with what I have seen elsewhere very indifferent.

25. The new Cutcheries are a great improvement, but that at Jamalamadugu appears to have been badly constructed. It has only just been handed over to us, but the flagging in the verandah has already become displaced, and there is a most serious crack in the wall in the front and to the north of the tower which has broken the stone at the top and bottom of a door-way and the sill of a window above. There are also minor cracks in other parts of the walls. The cause of this I believe to be that the foundations were not deep enough and that the tower is settling and of course injuring the remainder of the building. The soil upon which the Cutcherry is built is very treacherous black cotton underlain at no great depth by a blue slaty rock in horizontal layers. The water has probably got into the foundations, and the result has been that the walls where the ground is softer than elsewhere have sunk.

26. As regards road and bridges I could make some observations, but to the best of my recollection an order of the Board exists to the effect that mention of them is not to enter into the Public Works reports.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The ordinary operations of the Public Works Department were somewhat interfered with by the famine, and Mr. Price was so much occupied with famine

work that he was unable to examine into the state of the Public Works of the district very closely. The allotments were, however, fairly utilized, the short outlay being mainly under the head of Local Fund, Communications, and being due to the Board's instructions in January last, to curtail expenditure on roads as much as possible.

3. In paragraphs 17 *et seq.* Mr. Price offers some valuable observations. He points out the apparent facility with which a large tract of country could be watered from the Pennair and Papagni rivers if they were supplied with anicuts and brings to notice again an often discussed project for turning the water of the Suggilair into the tanks at Podumamilla and Budwail. These rivers although depending, on comparatively local rains often receive good supplies of water when there is not enough rain to supply tanks dependent on land drainage alone, and the Board consider that these projects, regarding which no correspondence can be traced in their office, should receive careful attention in the Public Works Department with a view to its being decided whether any and what action should be taken in regard to them.

4. Mr. Price does not particularize the ancient breached tanks to which he alludes; possibly some of them may be worth repair and should be examined with that view; but it is not unfrequently the case that old breached tanks have been advisedly abandoned, the beds having silted so much as to render them useless. His suggestion in paragraph 20 that a number of estimates should be kept always ready to be put in hand in seasons of scarcity is deserving of consideration; it is certain that the want of such estimates and the difficulty of obtaining them when existent was a great hindrance to the starting of useful works during the late famine.

5. The question of the best mode of treating the small Dusbandum tanks in the sub-division has already been before the Board, and it was directed that a Committee Board's Proceedings, dated 24th July 1876, consisting of the Collector, District Engineer, Settlement Officer, and Sub-Collector should investigate and report on the subject. This order should not be lost sight of and should be acted on as soon as the officers concerned can find time.

6. The Board can quite support Mr. Price in his condemnation of the public buildings of all kinds in Cuddapah. The climate is perhaps the worst in Southern India, and the accommodation for officers instead of being suitable is of the worst description. It having been at length decided that Cuddapah is to be retained as an headquarter station, the estimates, preparation of which was directed in G.O., dated 10th October 1876, No. 2,094, should be submitted without delay. As regards the Sub-Collector's Cutcherry at Madanapalli the Collector's reply to Board's Proceedings, dated 5th June 1877, Miscellaneous No. 8,064, calling for explanation as to the cause of the delay in erecting the building sanctioned in G.O., dated 4th February 1875, is awaited. It is presumed that the defective construction of the new Taluk Cutcherry at Jamalamadugu will form the subject of inquiry in the Public Works Department.

7. The Collector is mistaken in supposing that he is precluded from making observations regarding communications; the Board are not aware of any order to that effect; all that was intended by the instructions conveyed in Board's Proceedings, dated 25th June 1877, No. 2,992, was that the remarks should be of a general nature, and that it was unnecessary in the report on Public Works to enter into details regarding each of the lines of road in progress.

(A true copy and Extract.)
(Signed)

C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

No. 111-D. ORDER THEREON, 14th January 1878, No. 228 W.

COMMUNICATED to the District Engineer, Cuddapah, who will submit to the Chief Engineer at an early date a report upon the subject of the reputed bad workmanship shown in the new Cutcherry at Jamalamadugu.

Public Works Department, 14th January 1978, No. 218 W.

2. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation will report upon the 2nd and 4th graphs of the Board's Proceedings.

(True Extract)

Colonel R.F.
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

To the District Engineer, Chittagong,
" Chief Engineer for Irrigation,
" Revenue Department.

Encl. E. C. Shunler.
Separate Copies

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th July 1876.

Read the following letter from J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 1st July 1876, No. 164:—

With reference to paragraph 4 of Board's Proceedings, No. 2,112, dated 28th July 1875, I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from me as Sub-Collector, dated 15th November 1875, No. 610, which gives the information called for.

2. The letter has not been forwarded hitherto, as certain information regarding every tank has been called for. This I wish to be as complete as possible, and it will, I fear, be many months before it can be sent.

3. My own opinion is in favor of breaching a large number of these petty tanks, and two years ago I made proposals to this effect to Mr. Horsley. As however the number of Dasabandam tanks in the sub-division is so large, and so many interests are affected, I would recommend that the matter be referred to a Committee consisting of the Settlement Officer, the District Engineer, and myself.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, to W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, dated Kadiri, 15th November 1875, No. 610.

I HAVE the honor to reply to your Docket No. 467, dated 15th and despatched 18th September 1875, calling for certain information with reference to Board's Proceedings, No. 2,112, dated 28th July 1875.

2. The total number of tanks above the Ramarazu Cheruvu referred to is not twenty-four as stated by the District Engineer, but twenty-six, of the following classes:—

	No.
Shrotriem tanks	5
Dasabandam tanks	15
Baggar ayakat tanks	4
Government tanks	2
Total ...	26

There does not seem to be of any Inam tanks as stated.

3. Baggar ayakat tanks are not tanks used merely for drinking purposes as the Board suppose, but are, as the name implies, tanks without registered ayakats. Some years they receive water, but frequently they get none, or not sufficient to be of any use for irrigation. When they do receive a good supply, the water is taken to dry land, which then pays tirwajasti. These tanks are very numerous over the sub-division, and I do not think that there is any correct account of their number. In stating the total number of tanks to be 3,675, I know that none of the Baggar ayakat tanks are included. The revenue derived from these tanks in good seasons, like the last, is not inconsiderable. They are, however, generally very small; a great many have been constructed without any authority whatever, and they are invariably built above the drainage of other tanks. I have seldom seen one provided with a calingulah or sluice. They are therefore objectionable, first, because they obstruct the supply of other tanks, and, second, because being unprovided with weirs and sluices, and having no one who is responsible for the construction of such works, they are a continual source of danger to the tanks beneath. I have not as yet ascertained the wishes of the Local Fund Board on the subject (though I will do so if it is

was a legal necessity, but I do not think that the Local Board would be prepared to take them over for drinking purposes, and thus become responsible for the loss they often cause.

4. The repairs to the four Rappert syahat tanks are estimated to cost Rupees 121-3-0. The money is required for contingents and salaries, and it is a question whether it would not be advisable to breach these tanks instead of spending any money on them. One, the Katta Tippankota, has already a breach near the shore, and it would surely seem to be worth while to go to any expense to repair it. The ryots who hold lands under these tanks are said to be willing to undertake the repairs at their own cost.

5. The repairs to the Dasabandam tanks are estimated to cost Rupees 730-10-0. The details will be found in the accompanying list. The greater part of this sum, viz., Rupees 430, is required for the sluices and calligulahs; Rupees 293-6-0 is required for repairing the bunds; and Rupees 11-4-0 for filling in a breach. For the two latter items, the Dasabandam rans, of course, be held answerable, but the Board of Revenue have ruled in the Proceedings under reply that they cannot be compelled to construct weirs and sluices. I presume, therefore, that these will have to be built by the Department of Public Works, in which case the estimate will probably be considerably increased.

The whole of the Government syahat under these fifteen Dasabandam tanks amounts only to Rupees 5-11-3-0. The Dasabandam Inam is assessed at Rupees 232-14-3, and the personal and other Inams at Rupees 138-0-1; so that Government receive Rupees 4 in excess of the half share. The percentage which the Dasabandam Inams bear to the Government land is very high, and is probably greatly in excess of the original grant, for, as the name implies, one-tenth is the proportion which the Dasabandam Inam should bear to the Government land. It would not seem unreasonable, after the Dasabandam farmers have been for so many years enjoying so large an Inam without expense, to call upon them now to bear all the cost required to make the tank safe. The two Government tanks above the Ramarazu Cheruvu irrigate land assessed only at Rupees 45-1-10; so that it does not seem to be advisable to spend any money upon them.

The Ramarazu Cheruvu itself is now breached. Its registered syahat is assessed at Rupees 240-2-10, of which Rupees 79-3-6 is minor Inam land. Unless all the tanks above are made safe no amount of money spent upon it would remove it from danger, and when repaired, the water supply is so effectually cut off by the numerous tanks above, that it is questionable whether the expenditure would be remunerative. If however it is decided, as I venture to hope will be the case, that the Dasabandam tanks above are to be breached and relinquished, there can be no doubt that the repairs of the Ramarazu Cheruvu will be remunerative, as it would receive a much larger supply, and more land could be irrigated.

From the sketch herewith submitted, it will be seen that the five tanks just above the Ramarazu Cheruvu, viz., two on each side and one in the middle, are shrotriern tanks: the repairs to these tanks are estimated to cost Rupees 261-8-0 as per detailed list submitted. With only these tanks above the Ramarazu Cheruvu and each in a good state of repair, it would, I think, be worth while to restore the Ramarazu Cheruvu. I do not, however, feel prepared to say that the repairs as now proposed are sufficient to render the shrotriern tanks safe, and I beg to suggest that it first be decided how many and which tanks are to be retained, and then that the District Engineer be requested to submit a statement showing the requisite height of bund and length of calligulah to make the shrotriern tanks safe. The shrotrierns should be allowed to carry out the work themselves at their own rates, and when this is done we can decide whether it will be worth while to restore the Ramarazu Cheruvu or not.

(True Copy)

(Signed) M. RAMASWAMY,
Deputy Collector.
For Acting Collector.

It is clear that some measures must be taken for the security of the Government tanks, and Mr. Gribble's proposal that a Committee should be appointed to consider and report fully on the subject is approved.

2. The Collector is requested to associate himself with the District Engineer, Settlement Officer, and Mr. Gribble, and to report the conclusions arrived at in due course.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Cuddapah.

Copy to the District Engineer.

" to the Director of Revenue Settlement,

with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 28th July 1875, No. 2,112.

Exd. A. Grubart.

Despatch from Tracts—in Cuddapah District.—
Passing orders on letter from Mr. J. D. B. Gribble
the engineering that matter of affording security
to Government tanks adjoining—be referred to
a Committee consisting of Settlement Officer,
District Engineer, and himself.

JULY.
No. 1,895.

Received.

Encl.

PROCEEDINGS, 21ST JULY 1876, No. 1,895.

1876.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

No. 2,112.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th July 1875.

Read the following letter from J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madanapally, 29th May 1875, No. 120:—

In forwarding the correspondence as per margin, I have the honor to request the Board's instructions.

- No. 1. Letter from the District Engineer to Sub-Collector, Cuddapah, dated 13th March 1875, No. 2,392 of 1874-75.
No. 2. Letter from the Acting Sub-Collector to Collector, dated 19th April 1875, No. 187.
No. 3. Letter from Collector to Acting Sub-Collector, dated 4th May 1875, No. 228.
No. 4. Letter from the District Engineer to the Acting Collector, dated 24th May 1875, No. 25-B of 1875-76.
2. Letter No. 1 is from the District Engineer to the Sub-Collector, bringing to notice the case of a Cirkar tank requiring repairs, but above the supply-channel of which are situated fourteen Dasbandam, five Inam, three Baggar Ayacut, and two Government tanks.

The Dasbandam, Baggar, and Inam tanks are said to have no calingulas and no sluices, and water is taken to the fields by means of deep narrow cuts in the bunds which are filled in when the tank is empty and before the next rainy season. The District Engineer points out that this system is of great danger to the tanks, that they often breach at the part thus cut; and that, until the tanks above the water-supply of the lowest tank are all put in a safe condition, it would be unwise to execute any repairs to the lowest tank. He requests that a notice may be published requiring all Dasbandamdars, &c., to construct weirs and sluices to their tanks and prohibiting the practice of cutting the bunds.

3. This letter was referred to the Collector for his orders in letter No. 2. In letter No. 3 the Collector approves of making the erection of waste weirs compulsory, but is of opinion that we cannot compel the Dasbandamdars to construct sluices.

4. A copy of this letter was communicated to the District Engineer by the Sub-Collector, who, in letter No. 25 to the Collector, forwards a copy of a circular order from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, in which, alluding to proprietary tanks, it is stated that "the Government have decided that it is requisite that this department should ascertain and inform the Collectors what waste weirs and other works are needed to render such tanks safe, in order that the Collectors may be in a position to call upon the owners to carry out definite measures to that end. Range officers should, therefore, be instructed to inspect proprietary tanks forming parts of groups and to determine for these in common with Government

tanks, and upon the same principles the requisite conditions of safety. In his letter the District Engineer points out the exceptional conditions of this district and in particular of the sub-division, where alone there are "about 3,000" tanks (the actual number is 3,675); he says that it will be almost impossible to inspect each tank; that, in his opinion, a sluice and a weir is necessary for the safety of the tank (and *a fortiori* of those beneath it); and that he still thinks a general notice is necessary.

5. It is a fact that the tanks in the sub-division consist for the most part of numerous petty Dasbandam works, forming a string of tanks, at the bottom of which is the Government tank. It will probably, in many cases, not pay the Dasbandamdar to construct a weir and a sluice; but, if it is essential for the safety of the tanks below that they should be constructed, it would seem necessary that the revenue authorities should have the power either of compelling the construction or of resuming the tank and inam. As a matter of fact, I know of many instances where tanks have breached precisely at the spot where the bund has been cut to irrigate the ayacut fields.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 to 4.—Copies of Correspondence.

THE question raised in this correspondence is of grave importance, but the Board cannot sanction the proposal that a general notification should be issued calling on all Dasbandamdars to provide the tanks with weirs and sluices.

2. These tanks are not private but public tanks, the repair and maintenance of which have been provided for by the grant of an Inam. The duty of the Inamdar extends to keeping the tank in the condition in which it was made over to him, but he cannot be required, by virtue of his tenure, to construct additional works, such as weirs or sluices, intended to make it more secure or efficient. He is bound to repair the bund if it breaches, and the weir and sluice will no doubt diminish the risk to him of loss in this way; but he cannot be held bound to effect insurance against this risk by constructing them.

3. At the same time it would doubtless be often to his interest, and he would often be found willing to contribute a considerable portion of the cost of such works; and when the tank is of sufficient magnitude to make it worthwhile, some arrangement of this kind might be made. In other cases it is probably open to Government to abandon the tanks altogether as irrigation sources, resuming or enfranchising the Inams. The Collector is requested to report fully on the subject.

4. In the particular case now brought to notice the Collector will furnish particulars of the Ayacuts and Inams under the Dasbandam tanks, and state roughly what the cost of the works necessary is likely to be. The Board do not know what Baggar Ayacut tanks are, but presume that they are tanks for drinking purposes only and not for irrigation. If they are required for charitable purposes, they might be made over to the Local Fund Board; if not, and they are not required for irrigation, they should be breached so as to prevent their endangering works below them. The Inam tanks should be dealt with under the orders of

Government referred to by the District Engineer, i.e., their requirements should be exactly ascertained and the proprietors called on to do what is needful, assistance of Public Works Department officers being offered if required.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Cuddapah.

Edw. J. W. Fischer.

No. 5,161.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th December 1877.

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Wonipenta, 25th October 1877, Extra No. 2,417:—

I HAVE the honor to submit my report on the Public Works of this district for the official year 1876-77, and to enclose the usual statements.

2. I trust that the Board will, on account of the work which the famine has created, excuse any shortcomings in the way of the remarks which, under their Proceedings, No. 2,992, dated 25th June last, it appears that Collectors are expected to make. Since I have joined the district I have never had leisure to consider Public Works affairs as I in ordinary times would have done, and any observations which I may make will, I fear, be of but little value and perhaps refer to matters which have been considered and disposed of long ago by officers who, from their local experience, were far more capable of judging of their merits and demerits than I.

3. The total expenditure under the several heads during the year under report was, as particularized in the subjoined statement, Rupees 51,955 on New Works and Rupees 1,34,315 on Repairs, making a total of Rupees 1,86,270, or less by Rs. 52,780 than the outlay of the preceding year. The falling off appears to be attributable to the shortness of provision in the Local Fund Budget under the head of Communications, &c., and to the Order of the Board of Revenue, No. 853, dated 23rd January last, directing a stop to be put to expenditure upon all roads.

Particulars.	1875-76.		1876-77.		COMPARISON.			
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	ALLOTMENT.		EXPENDITURE.	
					Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
<i>Imperial.</i>	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Irrigation — { New Works...	7,000	5,420	16,000	16,120	9,000	...	11,880	...
{ Repairs...	45,000	44,561	55,000	51,633	5,000	...	7,072	...
Buildings... { New Works...	...	...	700	220	700	...	220	...
{ Repairs...	12	19	240	41	221	...	...	...
Total...	52,012	49,980	69,940	68,014	14,921	...	18,094	...
<i>Provincial and Special.</i>								
Buildings... { New Works...	19,155	19,003	12,774	11,773	...	6,406	...	7,229
{ Repairs...	3,004	2,311	9,025	7,738	6,020	...	4,394	...
Total...	22,159	21,314	21,799	19,511	6,070	6,406	4,394	7,229
<i>Local Funds.</i>								
Communications... { New Works...	25,104	25,217	27,808	20,028	...	87,970	...	43,609
{ Repairs...	20,537	22,573	72,327	70,648	...	11,739	...	22,483
Edificational... { Repairs...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sanitary and... { New Works...	9,218	5,879	4,328	3,514	90	...	...	...
Miscellaneous { Repairs...	5,000	4,573	5,000	4,201	...	...	...	...
Total...	1,07,004	1,07,094	1,09,157	98,449	90	54,502	...	65,659
Grand Total...	1,59,016	1,57,074	1,71,137	1,66,570	20,881	66,915	23,024	75,888

4. IRRIGATION, NEW WORKS.—Under this head the expenditure was Rupees 16,120, being in excess of the Budget allotments by Rupees 420.

1875.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 28th JULY 1875, No. 2,112.

End.

Received

JULY.
No. 2,112.

Dasbandam, Inam, and Dogur Tanks—
above Government works of Irrigation.—In-
structions issued to Collector of Cuddapah with
reference to District Engineer's proposal to issue
a notification calling on Dasbandamdaras to pro-
vide the tanks with weirs and sluices. Further
report called for on certain points in connection
with the subject.

The works consisted of the following:—

- 37 Waste weirs to tanks.
- 13 Sluices to tanks.
- 5 Surplus sluices or waste weirs to channels.
- 6 Other works.

Of these but six waste weirs, four sluices one surplus sluice to a channel, and three other works were completed.

5. IRRIGATION, REPAIRS.—With the exception of Rupees 1,367, the allotment under this head has been expended upon about 178 works, by far the major portion of these being tanks and sluices. There were 97 of the former and 38 of the latter.

6. The chief repairs were those to the Davasamudram and Poli tanks and the Kandukur tank calingula. These were begun in 1875-76. The last was finished, and the District Engineer promises in his report to complete the remaining two at an early date. Estimates for the embankment of the Cheyair river, above and below the railway bridge, were sanctioned during the year as famine relief-works, and the District Engineer reports that good progress has been made with that on the right bank above the railway.

7. IMPERIAL BUILDINGS.—The allotment on this account was Rupees 21,769, out of which Rupees 19,511 were spent, the outlay being upon a Post Office and Post Master's residence at Madanapalli which was a new work, and repairs to the Post Office at Cuddapah. Both were completed.

8. PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS, NEW WORKS.—The principal works carried out under this head were the Taluq Cutcheries and Subsidiary Jails at Kadiri, Madanapalli, and Jamalamadugu, the Police Stations at Kazipett and Vallur, and the improvement of the Police Hospital at Cuddapah. Of these, the Cutcherry at Jamalamadugu, the Police Station at Kazipett and the Police Hospital at Cuddapah were completed. The others are reported to be in fair progress. The expenditure upon the Cutcherry at Kadiri having been exceeded a supplemental estimate has been sent in. The completion of that at Madanapalli has been delayed owing to the non-receipt from Madras of the timber required for roofing it.

9. PROVINCIAL BUILDINGS, REPAIRS.—The allotment under this head was Rupees 4,375 and the expenditure Rupees 3,088. Twenty-four works were taken in hand and sixteen completed.

10. LOCAL FUNDS.—The total amount of grant for the year 1876-77 under the several heads was Rupees 1,09,287 and the expenditure was Rupees 98,445, leaving a balance of Rupees 10,842. This decrease, the District Engineer states, is the result of carrying out the order of the Board of Revenue referred to in paragraph 3 of this letter.

11. The following is a statement showing the grant and expenditure under the several heads of Local Funds arranged in accordance with the two circles of the district:—

Names of Circles.	COMMUNICATION.				EDUCATION.				SANITARY AND MISCELLANEOUS.				Total.	
	New Works.		Repairs.		New Works.		Repairs.		New Works.		Repairs.			
	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.	Allotment.	Expenditure.		
Cuddapah ..	RS. 22,176	RS. 14,628	RS. 43,318	RS. 41,720	RS. ..	RS. ..	RS. ..	RS. ..	RS. 2,732	RS. 2,732	RS. 2,000	RS. 1,750	RS. 70,228	RS. 60,949
Madanapalli ..	5,716	5,230	22,602	23,922	..	..	..	..	615	782	3,030	2,471	39,061	37,896
Total ..	27,892	20,028	71,927	70,642	..	..	..	..	3,347	3,514	5,030	4,221	1,09,287	98,445

12. LOCAL FUND, COMMUNICATIONS, CUDDAPAH CIRCLE.—Owing to want of funds the whole of the allotment under this head was not expended during the year under report. Fair progress was made with the works taken in hand. Under the remarks made in paragraph 5 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 2,992, of the 25th June last, it is unnecessary to enter into any account of them.

13. LOCAL FUND, COMMUNICATIONS, MADANAPALLI CIRCLE.—A state of things similar to that indicated above and arising from the same causes existed in the Madanapalli Circle during 1876-77.

Grant.	Expenditure.
Rs.	Rs.
8,408	7,775

14. LOCAL FUNDS.—Sanitary and Miscellaneous.—The grant and expenditure under this head were as per margin.

15. SANITARY AND MISCELLANEOUS REPAIRS.—A sum of Rupees 4,261 was spent upon the payment of establishment for the maintenance of avenue trees.

16. REMARKS.—I now venture to offer some remarks upon such of the subjects above referred to as seem to call for them.

17. This district appears to have throughout but few irrigation works of any magnitude, and more than one of the largest might, with advantage to the public revenue and to the ryots, be furnished with supply channels, either larger than those which at present exist, or cut from some of the numerous rivers which intersect the country. Why the wide, level, and highly fertile plains of the Proddatur, Jamala-madugu, and Cuddapah Taluqs have not been brought more under the influence of irrigation from the Pennair and Papagudi rivers, I am at a loss to imagine. There is, however, probably some very sufficient reason for it, as the idea must have occurred to many others long ago. Still even supposing that other interests require that ancient should not be placed across these rivers, it seems, when one hears of nine feet of water going over the ancient at Nellore, that this means waste of what might be saved and utilized. To construct tanks would, I fear, as the country is so level, be impossible, and the course of the channels along the Pennair is the drifting sand-storms of the summer which continually and rapidly fill them up. I am surprised that no attempt seems to have ever been made to keep these sands back. Nanul and the bindweed convolvulus ought to grow well enough. The Babul and Bher trees flourish. If water could be only got on to these cotton plains, the country would be an almost overgreen garden, instead of being, in the event of want of rain, a howling wilderness.

18. The project of cutting a supply channel from the Suggilair to the Porumamilla and Badwal tanks is one which has often and long ago been mooted. Had it been in existence when the famine began a great deal of want would have been prevented and Government would probably have saved, twice or three times over, the money which it would have cost. As far back as March, the Suggilair came down in sharp and heavy flood, but neither of the tanks, referred to by me, received any supply. Had an ancient and channel existed they would, and much want and consequent expenditure of money in relief, to say nothing of the loss of revenue in the shape of remissions, would have been saved.

19. As a matter of actual hard return in point of revenue, I do not think that the scheme will ever pay, but as a means of securing Government from loss in the way of remissions and the people, at some future time, from want, I believe it to be of value.

20. Throughout the district there are sundry ancient and some of them good-sized breached tanks. It appears to me that lists of these might be made and those which seem worth doing anything to, carefully examined in view to their being taken in hand when necessary. A stock of estimates of this kind when the famine began would have saved the waste which has occurred in laying out new and useless roads.

21. In the sub-division I have noticed everywhere long strings of wretched little tanks with perhaps a pretty fair one at the bottom of the series. It appears to me that it would be an advantage to the people and the State if some of these were

got rid of by breaching and those retained improved. These tanks in chains are always as source of danger to one another, as the bursting of one may endanger the safety of the others, and all have therefore, though several may not, from a pecuniary point of view, be worth it, have to be kept in order.

22. From what I have seen of the irrigation works of the district, though I must say that I have not inspected them with a view to forming an opinion, they appear to be kept in very fair condition. The revetments are, however, frequently in a bad state owing, I fancy, to unskillful construction in the first instance. One satisfactory feature throughout is the entire absence of any of those very objectionable articles, calingula stones. Continuing the work of embanking the rivers will, I consider, be of great benefit. The floods of 1874, a repetition of which may, as the history of the district shows, take place at any time, caused a very great loss to Government and the people, which would have been avoided had protective works existed.

23. PUBLIC BUILDINGS.—The public buildings of this district are, without exception, the very worst that I have ever seen. Cuddapah which has the reputation, and I believe justly of having the vilest climate in the Presidency, has, instead of a suitable Cutcherry, one which is scattered over a very large extent of ground and which is utterly inadequate for the accommodation of the native establishment. The Collector's room is a single apartment of the same size as is usually assigned, in other places, to an Assistant Collector, and it is without a retiring room of any kind. The Collector has to work in this place with the whole of the copying establishment sitting behind him and divided from him by an open door-way through which whatever is said in an ordinary tone can be distinctly heard. The room for the Assistant Collector is still worse, and is in at all warm weather a stifling oven.

24. There is no Sub-Collector's Cutcherry, that which formerly existed having been so badly built as to require pulling down. The Taluq Cutcheries are on a par with that at the head-quarters and some are in a very dilapidated condition. They were, I am told, built in the days of the Nawabs and are utterly unsuited to the requirements of the present time. It is hopeless to expect neatness, clearness, and order whilst they exist. The sub-jails are, for the greater part, almost as bad as the Cutcheries to which they are attached. Some attempts to ventilate and improve them have been made, but they are as compared with what I have seen elsewhere very indifferent.

25. The new Cutcheries are a great improvement, but that at Jamalamadugu appears to have been badly constructed. It has only just been handed over to us, but the flagging in the verandah has already become displaced, and there is a most serious crack in the wall in the front and to the north of the tower which has broken the stone at the top and bottom of a door-way and the sill of a window above. There are also minor cracks in other parts of the walls. The cause of this I believe to be that the foundations were not deep enough and that the tower is settling and of course injuring the remainder of the building. The soil upon which the Cutcherry is built is very treacherous black cotton underlaid at no great depth by a blue slaty rock in horizontal layers. The water has probably got into the foundations, and the result has been that the walls where the ground is softer than elsewhere have sunk.

26. As regards road and bridges I could make some observations but to the best of my recollection an order of the Board exists to the effect that mention of them is not to enter into the Public Works reports.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The ordinary operations of the Public Works Department were somewhat interfered with by the famine, and Mr. Price was so much occupied with famine work that he was unable to examine into the state of the Public Works of the

District very closely. The allotments were, however, fairly utilized, the short outlay being mainly under the head of Local Fund, Communications, and being due to the Board's instructions in January last, to curtail expenditure on roads as much as possible.

3. In paragraphs 17 *et seq.* Mr. Price offers some valuable observations. He points out the apparent facility with which a large tract of country could be watered from the Pennair and Papagai rivers if they were supplied with anicuts and brings to notice again an often discussed project for turning the water of the Suggilair into the tanks at Podumamilla and Budwail. These rivers although depending on comparatively local rains often receive good supplies of water when there is not enough rain to supply tanks dependent on land drainage alone, and the Board consider that these projects, regarding which no correspondence can be traced in their office, should receive careful attention in the Public Works Department with a view to its being decided whether any and what action should be taken in regard to them.

4. Mr. Price does not particularize the *ancient breached tanks* to which he alludes; possibly some of them may be worth repair and should be examined with that view; but it is not unfrequently the case that old breached tanks have been advisedly abandoned, the beds having *eroded* so much as to render them useless. His suggestion in paragraph 20 that a number of estimates should be kept always ready to be put in hand in seasons of scarcity is deserving of consideration; it is certain that the want of such estimates and the difficulty of obtaining them when existent was a great hindrance to the starting of useful works during the late famine.

5. The question of the best mode of treating the small Dusbandum tanks in the sub-division has already been before the Board, and it was directed that a Committee consisting of the Collector, District Engineer, Settlement Officer, and Sub-Collector Board's Proceedings, dated 24th July 1876, No. 1,895, should investigate and report on the subject. This order should not be lost sight of and should be acted on as soon as the officers concerned can find time.

6. The Board can quite support Mr. Price in his condemnation of the public buildings of all kinds in Cuddapah. The climate is perhaps the worst in Southern India, and the accommodation for officers instead of being suitable is of the worst description. It having been at length decided that Cuddapah is to be retained as an headquarter station, the estimates, preparation of which was directed in G.O., dated 10th October 1876, No. 2,094, should be submitted without delay. As regards the Sub-Collector's Cutcherry at Madanapalli the Collector's reply to Board's Proceedings, dated 5th June 1877, Miscellaneous No. 8,061, calling for explanation as to the cause of the delay in erecting the building sanctioned in G.O., dated 4th February 1875, is awaited. It is presumed that the defective construction of the new Taluq Cutcherry at Jamalamadugu will form the subject of inquiry in the Public Works Department.

7. The Collector is mistaken in supposing that he is precluded from making observations regarding communications; the Board are not aware of any order to that effect; all that was intended by the instructions conveyed in Board's Proceedings, dated 25th June 1877, No. 2,992, was that the remarks should be of a general nature, and that it was unnecessary in the report on Public Works to enter into details regarding each of the lines of road in progress.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department,
with two original statements to be returned and copies of
Board's Proceedings, dated 24th July 1876, No. 1,895,
and 28th July 1876, No. 2,112.

Collector of Cuddapah.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Ed. A. Grubert.

1877.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 5TH DECEMBER 1877, No. 5,161.

Encl.

Supd. January 1878.

Received

DECEMBER.
No. 5,161.

Public Works — of Calicut District. — Submitting to Government Collector's report on — for 1876-77.

Min 1 Dec 1876 T. 24.

*x 2 Enclosures rec'd to Registrar
Rev D. 2 - 24-2-78
No. 228 Wd/14*

*Communicated to
Mr. D. S. Laddupah,
who will submit to
the Chief Magistrate at
an early date a
report upon the
subject of the
reported bad work =
= masonry shown in
the new building at
Jammalagar.*

Wd. 22-1-78

*2. The Chief Magistrate for
the District will report
to the Board of Revenue
the 3rd of the paragraph
of the Board's Proceedings.
The 1st of 17*

24/1/78

Ca 11-1-78

Copy

1878
PUBLIC WORKS.

To *Res. H. B. Cuddapah*

Dated *11*

Issued

Recd. *12*

G. O. *H. B. Cuddapah* No. *2284*

No.

Public Works in Cuddapah
Dr. Prop. D. of Res. Cudd.
submitting Collateral report on
for 1876-77. commd to the
officers concerned with
remarks.

Enter in Reg.