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# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

## GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

PW DEPARTMENT

**G.O. No.** 297 (W) Press.

**B.P. No.** Mis.

**Dated** 26. 1. 1883 ~~198~~.

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26TH JANUARY 1883, No. 297 W., PUBLIC WORKS.

297/9

# GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buildings and Roads.
Civil Works.

No. 255.

READ—the following papers :—

G.O., dated 23rd September 1882, Mis. No. 3114, Revenue.

*Read*—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th August 1882, No. 2089 :—

Read—again the following Proceedings, dated 5th June 1882, Mis. No. 4062 :—

From J. LEE-WARNER, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th May 1882, No. 2137.

I have the honor to submit, for the orders of the Board of Revenue, the following reference.

2. The Tahsildar of Nellore reports that the toddy renters have been prevented by the Buckingham Canal Overseer from taking toddy from the trees along the bank of the Buckingham Canal. It is the same sort of question which was raised by the Collector of the Chingleput District in his letter embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 1271, dated 5th July 1881.

3. I am myself of opinion that the alleged interference of the Canal Overseer in prohibiting the toddy contractors from drawing toddy there should come under the same rule ordered to be adopted in the Proceedings referred to.

Resolution—dated 5th June 1882, Mis. No. 4062.

The Board agree with the Collector that the principle laid down in the Government Order embodied in their Proceedings, dated 5th July 1881, No. 1271, is applicable to the case of toddy trees growing on the banks of the canal ; but before making a further representation to Government, request that Mr. Lee-Warner will refer the matter to the Executive Engineer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Nellore.

Read—also the following letter from J. LEE-WARNER, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st July 1882, No. 3812 :—

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 4062, dated 5th June 1882, I have the honor to inform you that the Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal, sees no objection to the toddy contractor drawing toddy from the trees on the canal bank, where they have been in existence for a long time, but considers that the proceeds from the produce of those planted for demarcation and other purposes from Canal Funds should be credited to the Public Works Department. Copy of his letter is forwarded.

2. It seems to me that when the newly-planted trees attain maturity it will be somewhat difficult to apportion the proceeds, because the renters do not pay a defined sum upon each tree; and in my opinion the Order of 11th June 1881, No. 369 I., Public Works Department, should be made applicable to these trees also. The toddy-drawers must cut the leaves of the trees upon which they design to bring their pots, and it would be a great restriction upon them to have to make a reference in every case to the Public Works Department officers. It might be generally understood that the leaves which they remove must be left at the foot of the trees for the latter to remove or not at their pleasure.

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### Enclosure.

From Major R. R. E. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, R.E., Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Chepauk, 20th July 1882, No. 865.

With reference to your No. 3482, dated 17th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I have no objection to the toddy contractor drawing toddy from the trees on the canal bank where these have been in existence for a long time, but I consider that the proceeds from the produce of those planted for demarcation or other purposes from Canal Funds should be credited to the Public Works Department. I consider further that if palmyra leaves are required for the purposes of the canal, such as for temporary sheds, &c., this department is entitled to obtain them free of charge from the trees within the canal limits, and the toddy renters should be prohibited from cutting the leaves without ascertaining our requirements first.

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*Resolution*—dated 19th August 1882, No. 2089.

The Board consider that the object of Government in passing G.O., No. 339 I., Public Works Department, of 11th June 1881, was, not the formation of an item of revenue for Public Works, but solely the preservation of the bunds in question. While Engineers therefore should be permitted to remove trees for the security of the work, they should not be allowed to interfere with the drawing of toddy, or the cutting of leaves, on tank or canal bunds.

2. The Board therefore resolve to request Government to extend to all bunds of tanks and canals, whether old or new, the principle laid down in the latter portion of the Government Order referred to.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. SEWELL,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

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*Order*—dated 23rd September 1882, Mis. No. 3114, Revenue.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, with reference to that Department G.O., dated 11th June 1881, No. 369 I.

Ootacamund,
23rd September 1882.

(Signed) E. F. WEBSTER,
Secretary to Government.

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### No. 255-A.

### No. 102 A.I.

*Note by the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

The papers printed with former Government Orders on this subject show clearly the views of the officers of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department, and I see no reason to alter the view I have already expressed, that palmyra and date trees on canal banks should not be at the disposal of the Abkári renters.

2. The canal referred to in the above endorsement is not under the charge of the Irrigation Branch, and part of it is an old canal, on the banks of which there probably are some palm trees not planted by officers of this department, and which the Abkári renters have previously made use of. Where this is the case I think it advisable that the Public Works Department should acquire absolute control of the trees, and I would suggest the Abkári renters should be allowed the use of the trees only until the conclusion of the present Abkári lease.

Ootacamund,
4th October 1882.

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Acting Joint Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.

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### No. 255-B.

From Colonel H. L. PRENDERGAST, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 7th December 1882, No. 3175.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 931 E., dated 23rd October 1882, I have the honor to report that the Overseer on the Buckingham Canal in Nellore did prevent toddy drawers from taking toddy from the trees along the banks of the canal.

2. Correspondence ensued between the Collector and the Executive Engineer, and the latter officer gave his opinion that there was no objection to the contractor having toddy drawn from the old trees on the canal banks; but he considered that the proceeds of the produce of the trees that have been planted for demarcation or other purposes from Canal Funds should be credited to the Public Works Department.

3. The Executive Engineer further considered that the toddy-drawers should not be allowed to cut leaves from the palmyra trees within the canal limits without ascertaining the requirements of the Public Works Department, as when leaves may be required for temporary sheds, &c., they should be taken free of charge by the Public Works Department.

4. There are altogether 3,861 trees, including palmyras, dates, and cocoanuts, along the canal bank from the 94th to 196th mile in the Nellore District. The practice of drawing toddy is not found to be detrimental to the banks.

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### No. 256.

Order—dated 26th January 1883, No. 297 W., Public Works.

From the Superintending Engineer's letter read above it appears that there are 3,861 trees on the banks of the Buckingham Canal in the Nellore District. The Executive Engineer sees no objection to the Abkári renter drawing toddy from old trees, but he would not allow him to cut leaves from the trees; and he considers that the proceeds of the produce of the trees that have been planted from Canal Funds should be credited to the Public Works Department.

2. Under these circumstances, the Government resolve to make the Buckingham Canal throughout its entire length an exception to the rule applicable to other canals. The Abkári renter may be permitted to draw toddy with the proviso that the Public Works Department shall have the right to cut leaves when required for Government work. The renter can, of course, cut leaves when necessary for the drawing of toddy.

3. As regards the revenue from trees planted from Canal Funds being credited to the Public Works Department, it is observed that for many years to come this revenue would be trifling and will be definitely given up.

(True Extract.)

Major, R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Revenue Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.
Spare Copies

BUILDINGS AND ROADS.
CIVIL WORKS.

# Govt. of (1883) Madras.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

*Dated January, 26th.*

*Recd.* *Encl.*

**G.O., 26th Jan. 1883, No. 297 W.**

**JANUARY.**
**Nos. 255-256.**

## Buckingham Canal.

*The conditions* on which Abkári renters may draw toddy from the trees on the banks of the —.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*19th November 1874.*

No. 339. Read the following letter from T. MOSS, Esq., Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 23rd July 1874, No. 3,421:—

WITH reference to the 13th paragraph of G. O., No. 1,358, of the 21st May 1874, I have the honor to state, for the information of Government, that the difference between the actual receipts of 1872-73 as entered in Part VII. of the Irrigation Budget for 1874-75, and as entered in the books of this Office, is due to:—

*1st.*—The inclusion in the former of sums not realized by the Public Works Department.

*2nd.*—The inclusion in the former of sums which, though realized by the Public Works Department, were not classed as Irrigation receipts.

2. The chief difference occurs in the first of the two heads above-mentioned. The receipts entered for the Godavery Delta include Rupees 25,261, the amount of pattahs issued to the Revenue Department for collection on account of cattle grazing on canal banks and cattle pounding. In the Kistna Delta sums collected by Tahsildars on account of sales of canal produce were apparently treated in the Treasury books as Local Fund receipts.

In the Nellore district the amount (Rupees 145) entered in Part VII. above referred to was credited to Local Funds, but not through the books of the Public Works Department.

3. Under the second of the two heads mentioned in the 1st paragraph, differences occur in the Kistna Delta and in the Tanjore District. In the Kistna Delta the sum of Rupees 1,364 paid by the Municipality of Masulipatam on account of water supplied is correctly included in Part VII., but was incorrectly credited in the books of this office to "Revenue Miscellaneous Imperial."—*Vide* G. O., No. 1,948 of the 5th August 1873. In the Tanjore District the sum of Rupees 1,917 was treated as Local Fund receipts under the authority of G. O., No. 1,806, of the 8th June 1866.

4. It was by an oversight that Part VII. of the Budget of 1874-75 was not sent to this office for verification in respect to the entries relating to the actual receipts of 1872-73.—*Vide* my letter No. 7,784, of the 4th March 1874, and the reply* of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation thereto.

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* No. 214 of 16th March 1874.

ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1874, No. 3,278.

No. 340.

IRRIGATION, No. 39.
*Account.*

THE Government observe that arrangements have been made for the verification by the Controller of Public Works Accounts of Part VII. of the Budget of 1875-76.

2. The Controller's letter shows that the way in which Miscellaneous items of revenue derived from Irrigation Works are brought to account is very various.

Part VII. of the Budget to be of any real value should exhibit the entire revenue derived from Irrigation Works, whether realized in the Revenue or in the Public Works Department, for the object must be to enable a comparison between revenue and proposed expenditure to be made, and the exhibition of the trifling sums collected by Canal and other Public Works Officers must be altogether useless in this connection.

3. In preparing the Budget of 1875-76 it may not be practicable to make this statement complete, but for 1876-77 and thereafter arrangements should be made for showing all regular and miscellaneous revenue, distinguishing between that collected by Revenue and that realized by Public Works Officers.

4. With regard to the different heads to which items of miscellaneous revenue are credited in different districts, it appears to be necessary, now that a strict account of all irrigation receipts and expenditure is required, that all miscellaneous revenue, of whatever kind, derived from Irrigation Works which are maintained from Imperial Funds should be credited to Irrigation Revenue, and in supersession therefore of all previous orders allowing certain items to be carried to the credit of local or special funds, the above rule will be adopted, and the Revenue Department will be requested to issue the necessary instructions on the subject. No refunds of receipts prior to the 31st March last will be required, when such proceeds have been credited to other than Irrigation Revenue, but the Controller will take steps to ascertain what the items of miscellaneous revenue derived from Irrigation Works in each district have been, in order that they may be taken into consideration in preparing the Capital and Revenue Accounts.

5. The Controller will report what arrangements are necessary to enable him to ascertain that all items of revenue, other than land revenue irrigated and water-rates, connected with Irrigation Works, are duly credited thereto, and so communicated to him as to admit of their being shown in the accounts which he is required to furnish.

6. Ordered that a copy of these Proceedings be furnished to the Government of India for information, with reference to paragraphs 23 and 24 of the orders communicated with Colonel Dickens' No. 50 A. I., 27th March 1874.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts.
,, Revenue Department.
To District Engineers.
To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

2193

# Govt. of {1874} Madras.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE OFFG. CONTROLLER OF PUBLIC
WORKS ACCOUNTS,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated November 19th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 19th November 1874, No. 3,278.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 339-340

*Irrigation Budget for* 1874-75.—Passing orders on letter from the Officiating Controller of Public Works Accounts affording explanation as regards the differences between the actual receipts of 1872-73 as entered in Part VII. of the Budget and that entered in the books of his office.

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

No. 219. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Nellore, 12th March 1875, No. 286:—

From Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Kistna, to Lieut.-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Bellamconda, 24th February 1875, No. 148.

1, My letter to Collector, No. 179 of 13th January 1875.
1, His letter to the Revenue Board, No. 211 of 15th February 1875.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for your consideration, copy of correspondence as per margin, between Collector of this district and myself, on the subject of the enjoyment by the Abkari renter of palmyrah and date trees on canal lunkas or bunds.

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From Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, Kistna, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, dated Masulipatam, 13th January 1875, No. 179.

I HAVE the honor to call your attention to a subject which we have already discussed, viz., the enjoyment by the Abkari renter of palmyra and date trees on canal lunkas or bunds.

2. With the exception of a few trees which were planted before the canals were excavated and were included in the land taken up for them, all the trees were planted by officers of this department, and I believe the cost was charged to the works. I am aware that latterly the plantations on canal lunkas were kept up from Jungle Conservancy Funds, but I do not think that any portion of those funds was expended in planting palm trees. I therefore look upon these trees as canal plantations.

3. If the plantations on canal lunkas are to be properly kept up, it is essential, I think, that no one should be allowed to interfere with the trees, and I should therefore wish that no toddy should be drawn from the palm trees at all, but that the fruit should be gathered as in the case of other trees. Should, however, it appear that any serious diminution of the Abkari rent is likely to occur from the palm trees on canal lunkas being reserved (which I cannot think will be the case), I would consent that the Abkari renter should tap the trees under certain conditions, such as that no liquor shop or other building should be erected within the canal limits, and that toddy drawers should be allowed entrance only for the purpose of collecting the toddy, &c.

4. In the latter case, the rent of the trees should be credited, I think, to the Canal revenue and this department should retain its right to cut down such trees as the officers may think desirable.

5. If it is decided, as I think it should be, that the Abkari renter should have nothing to do with the trees, I would undertake that no toddy should be drawn from them, and that they should be retained for the sake of the fruit and leaves alone.

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From G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of Kistna District, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 15th February 1875, No. 211.

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter from Major Hasted, the Superintending Engineer of the District, on the subject of palmyra trees inside the limits of the lands which are included under the canals.

2. We have talked the matter over, but cannot agree about it. Major Hasted claims the produce of the trees for his department as Canal revenue. I wish it credited with the Abkari revenue.

3. Whether he or I be right in our estimate of the effect it might produce with the Abkari revenue to forbid the use of them for toddy matters little. The changes that are to be made in the next sales are so radical that I do not think that it is possible to make a guess at what is likely

to be that the real effect is of comparatively small matter, but there is no doubt that it is likely to influence the bidders.

4. I do not think the question, by what funds were the trees planted? has much to do with the matter; most of the trees are self-sown, and it would be quite impossible to speak for certain of the rest.

5. I object mainly on the ground that Major Hasted's proposal would limit an imperial source of revenue, and give the proceeds to credit to a local one. If it is to be commenced on a main canal, why should it stop there? and why should not a new source of revenue to irrigation be introduced by the extension of the plantation of liquor producing trees?

6. The damage likely to occur by drawers of toddy entering on the banks cannot, I think, be great; it is not as if the bank was a plantation into which no one but the forester could enter; it is really the tow-path of the canal, and is frequently used as a road by the people of adjacent villages.

7. Neither liquor shops nor buildings would of course be allowed in canal limits (I am not aware that any exist now); and if Major Hasted so desired it, I would not object to his cutting down trees without reference to me, though it would be well he should send me a yearly report for my information.

No. 212.

Communicated to the Superintending Engineer for his information.

Masulipatam,
*15th February* 1875.

(Signed) G. D. LEMAN,
*Collector.*

Submitted for the consideration of Government.

The undersigned is of opinion that palmyra and date trees growing on lands appertaining to the canals should for the future be excluded from the Abkari rental. It is the general, and it should be the universal, rule that nothing under the control of the canal officers should be at the disposal of any other authority. The trees of whatever kind must be subordinated to the primary uses of the canals, and their retention or removal should be at the discretion of the officers responsible for the efficiency of the canals.

G. O., No. 3,278, dated 19th November 1874.

2. With regard to the disposal of revenue derived from canal produce, it has already been ruled that all such is to be credited to Irrigation Revenue Miscellaneous, and as no distinction could conveniently be made between the different trees, which the Abkari renter might be allowed to make use of, and no determination of the proceeds of particular trees made, this is an additional reason why the canal palms should not be drawn for toddy.

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lieutenant-Colonel, R.E.,
*Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

No. 220. Order thereon, 12th April 1875, No. 961.

IRRIGATION, No. 26A.

The recommendations of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation are in accordance with the intentions of Government. There should be no division of authority within the canal boundaries, and, while existing arrangements as regards the use of palmyras and date trees by the Abkari contractor will remain in force until the expiration of his contract, thereafter such trees should be excluded from the rental, and should not be drawn. Care will be taken in the Department Public Works that a revenue is derived from such trees when under their charge.

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(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R.E.,
*Secretary to Government.*

To the Superintending Engineer, Kistna.
To all other Superintending and District Engineers.
To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.

Spare Copies

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Govt. of {1875} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

KISTNA,

&c., &c., &c.

*Dated April 12th.*

*Recd.* *Encl.*

*G. O., 12th April 1875, No. 961.*

**APRIL.**

**Nos. 219-220**

*Palmyra and Date trees.*—Passing orders on papers submitted by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject of the enjoyment by the Abkari renters of — on canal bunds.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,*
*25th May 1875.*

No. 419. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th April 1875, No. 956:—

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, dated 12th April 1875, No. 961, passing orders on papers submitted by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation on the subject of the enjoyment by the Abkari renters of palmyra and date trees on canal bunds.

Copy of the Board's Proceedings on this subject will be submitted to Government in the Public Works Department.

2. Defined trees are not rented out to Abkari renters as seems to be supposed, but they have, according to well-understood and long-standing custom, a right to draw toddy from all trees in Government waste. Except for the production of toddy, a resource not open to the Public Works Department, revenue can be derived from the trees only by renting out the fruit, and for this only a mere trifle—small owing to the very number of the trees—could be obtained, and altogether disproportionate to the injury which would accrue to the imperial revenue from their being denied to the Abkari Contractor.

3. Under the arrangement proposed in the Board's Proceedings there will be no division of authority within the canal boundaries, nor will the retention or removal of the trees be at the discretion of any but the canal officers, who will be at liberty to credit to canal revenue the sale proceeds of trees or leaves cut. The District Engineer does not object to the entry of toddy drawers on the canal banks, and from paragraph 6 of the Collector's letter it is apparent that such entry will do no harm to the canals.

4. The Abkari rents of the district terminate with June next, but the new contracts have been disposed of for three years from that time without any reservation. The Board are strongly of opinion that the arrangement suggested by them should not be disturbed.

5. The Board respectfully submit to Government that, before orders were passed in the matter, their Proceedings on the letter addressed to them by the Collector, copy of which was before Government, might have been asked for or awaited.

(True Extract.)

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

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th April 1875, No. 825.

From G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 15th February 1875, No. 211.

I HAVE the honor to forward a letter from Major Hasted, the Superintending Engineer of the district, on the subject of palmyra trees inside the limits of the lands which are included under the canals.

2. We have talked the matter over, but cannot agree about it. Major Hasted claims the produce of the trees for his department as canal revenue. I wish it credited with the Abkari revenue.

3. Whether he or I be right in our estimate of the effect it might produce with the Abkari revenue to forbid the use of them for toddy matters little. The changes that are to be made in the next sales are so radical that I do not think that it is possible to make a guess at what it is likely to be, that the real effect is of comparatively small matter, but there is no doubt that it is likely to influence the bidders.

4. I do not think the question—by what funds were the trees planted? has much to do with the matter; most of the trees are self-sown, and it would be quite impossible to speak for certain of the rest.

5. I object mainly on the ground that Major Hasted's proposal would limit all Imperial source of revenue and give the proceeds to credit to a local one. If it is to be commenced on a main canal why should it stop there, and why should not a new source of revenue to irrigation be introduced by the extension of the plantation of liquor-producing trees.

6. The damage likely to occur by drawers of toddy entering on the banks cannot, I think, be great; it is not as if the bank was a plantation into which no one but the Forester could enter; it is really the tow-path of the canal, and is frequently used as a road by the people of adjacent villages.

7. Neither liquor shops nor buildings would, of course, be allowed in canal limits (I am not aware that any exist now); and if Major Hasted so desired it, I would not object to his cutting down trees without reference to me, though it would be well he should send me a yearly report for my information.

---

From Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, Kistna, to G. D. LEMAN, Esq., Collector of the Kistna District, dated Masulipatam, 13th January 1875, No. 179.

I HAVE the honor to call your attention to a subject which we have already discussed, *viz.*, the enjoyment by the Abkari renter of palmyra and date trees on canal lunkas or bunds.

2. With the exception of a few trees which were planted before the canals were excavated and were included in the land taken up for them, all the trees were planted by officers of this department, and I believe the cost was charged to the works. I am aware that latterly the plantations on canal lunkas were kept up from Jungle Conservancy Funds, but I do not think that any portion of those funds was expended in planting palm trees; I therefore look upon these trees as canal plantations.

3. If the plantations on canal lunkas are to be properly kept up, it is essential, I think, that no one should be allowed to interfere with the trees, and I should, therefore, wish that no toddy should be drawn from the palm trees at all, but that the fruit should be gathered as in the case of other trees. Should, however, it appear that any serious diminution of the Abkari rent is likely to occur from the palm trees on canal lunkas being reserved (which I cannot think will be the case), I would consent that the Abkari renter should tap the trees under certain conditions; such as that no liquor shop or other building should be erected within the canal limits, and that toddy-drawers should be allowed entrance only for the purpose of collecting the toddy, &c.

4. In the latter case, the rent of the trees should be credited, I think, to the canal revenue, and this department should retain its right to cut down such trees as the officers may think desirable.

5. If it is decided, as I think it should be, that the Abkari renter should have nothing to do with the trees, I would undertake that no toddy should be drawn from them, and that they should be retained for the sake of the fruit and leaves alone.

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THE Board observe that the Superintending Engineer is prepared to remit the Abkari renter to tap the trees on condition that no liquor shop or other building should be erected within canal limits; that toddy-drawers should be allowed entrance only for the purpose of drawing toddy; and that the Department Public Works should retain the right to cut down such trees as the officers of the Department may think desirable.

2. They are of opinion with the Collector that to declare the trees reserved and not at the disposal of the Abkari renter like other trees on Government waste lands for toddy-drawing might have an injurious effect on the Abkari sales; and therefore think that it is advisable that Major Hasted's proposals should be accepted. The revenue which might be derived from renting out the fruit and leaves would, the Board imagine, be very trifling, and it is not advisable to risk on account of it the interests of a branch of Imperial revenue so important as the Abkari.

3. From paragraph 4 of his letter, the Superintending Engineer seems to be under the impression that Government trees are rented out to the Abkari renters for specific sums. This is not the case; but the Board think that if the levy of any rents for fruit and leaves is not inconsistent with the use of the trees for Abkari purposes, such rents should be credited to the canals.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

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ORDER THEREON, 25th May 1875, No. 1,423.

No. 420.

IRRIGATION, No. 50.

THE Honorable the Governor in Council thinks that the Board of Revenue attach undue importance to the trees on the canal lunkas capable of yielding toddy, and that their value is extremely small. The Board apparently refer to the lunkas in paragraph 2 of their Proceedings of the 17th April as Government waste. This is a mistake, and it should be understood that ground occupied by irrigation works is not waste.

2. As it is stated that new contracts for the Abkari rental have been disposed of without reservation for three years from June next, the privilege of drawing toddy as hitherto will be continued for that period under the conditions noted in paragraph 1 of the Board's Proceedings, No. 825, of the 6th April, thereafter the trees will be excluded from the rental.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Major, R.E.,
*Offg. Joint Secretary to Government.*

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ District Engineer, Kistna.
„ „ „ Godavery.
„ „ „ Nellore.
„ „ „ Tanjore.
„ „ „ Trichinopoly.
„ „ „ Madura.
„ „ „ Vizagapatam.
„ „ „ Ganjam.
„ „ „ Chingleput.
„ „ „ North Arcot.
„ „ „ South Arcot.
„ „ „ Salem.
„ „ „ Coimbatore.
„ „ „ Tinnevelly.
To the Board of Revenue.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Austin.
Spare Copies

Govt. of {1875} Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 25th.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 25th May 1875, No. 1,423.

MAY.

Nos 419-420

*Palmyra and Date trees on Canal bunds.*—Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue remarking on G. O., No. 961, of 12th April 1875, Public Works Department, regarding — in the Kistna District.

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29/7

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

11th June 1881, No. 369 I.

Irrigation.

Read the following paper:—

No. 29. Endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 27th May 1881, No. 1,415.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th April 1881, No. 720.

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Conjeeveram, 9th April 1881, No. 164.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the orders of the Board of Revenue, an original letter* and its enclosures* received from the Executive Engineer of the Chingleput Division.

2. These papers relate to the question as to whether, with reference to G.O., Revenue Department, No. 411, dated 6th April 1880, a Toddy-renter is to be permitted under the terms of his agreement to take toddy from trees on the bunds of tanks, &c., in the charge of Public Works Department Officers without their permission.

3. Paragraph 2 of Standing Order No. 83 refers only to Government *waste*, but the custom from time immemorial has been that the Toddy-renters have been allowed to draw toddy from the palmyra trees which abound on the bunds of tanks in this district. The toddy rents at present existing were certainly taken with this understanding, and the Government Order quoted above was passed during the currency of the leases which are still running.

4. I consider therefore that whatever arrangements may be made in the future no interference with the present renters should be allowed.

5. I think that as placing the power of meddling with renters drawing toddy from palmyra trees in the hands of the officers of the Public Works Department will be a source of much inconvenience and annoyance to the renters and may eventually lead to the revenue from toddy being materially affected, and as drawing palm juice cannot possibly do any harm, orders that the Public Works Department should not prohibit toddy-drawing by the renters on tank and channel banks and should claim no payment for this should be issued.

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ENCLOSURE Nos. 1 and 2.—Letter from Executive Engineer, Chingleput Division, and its enclosures.

* To be returned.

10

SUBMITTED for the orders of Government, with reference to G.O., dated 6th April 1880, No. 4 1.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Secretary.

TRANSFERRED to the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, with Honorable W. Hudleston's note for disposal.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secy. to Government.

No. 30. ORDER THEREON, 11th June 1881, No. 369 I.

UNDER the rules laid down in G.O., No. 411, dated 6th April 1880, trees on tank bunds are under the control of the officers of the department who have charge of the tank, and the officers of the Public Works Department were therefore justified in objecting to palmyra trees on tank bunds being leased without reference being made to them on the subject; but the Government consider that palmyra trees on old tank bunds should be an exception to the general rule to this extent, viz., that while the officers of the department having charge of the work are at liberty to remove any trees which endanger its safety, the Toddy-renters should be allowed to draw toddy from them, as the custom has hitherto been, without reference being made to such officers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Joint Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Revenue Department, with two enclosures.
" Superintending Engineers, First, Second and Third Circles.
To all Superintendents of Works.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.
Spare Copies

8/262

11

IRRIGATION.

# Govt. of [1881] Madras.

## PUBLIC WORKS.

*To*

THE REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

*Dated June, 11th*

*Issued*

*Recd.* *Encl.*

---

G. O., 11th *June* 1881, *No.* 369 I.

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JUNE.

Nos. 29-30.

*Trees on Tank Bunds.*—Orders on the subject of Toddy-renters being allowed to draw toddy from — without reference to officers of the Public Works Department.

Ooty

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[5th July 1881, No. 1,271.

292
12

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 5th July 1881, No. 1,271.

*Read*—the following Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 22nd June 1881, No. 1,668.

*Read*—Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 11th June 1881, No. 369 I:—

Read—the following paper :—

Endorsement of the Revenue Department, dated Ootacamund, 27th May 1881, No. 1,415.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th April 1881, No. 720.

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Conjeeveram, 9th April 1881, No. 164.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the orders of the Board of Revenue, an original letter* and its enclosures* received from the Executive Engineer of the Chingleput Division.

* To be returned.

2. These papers relate to the question as to whether, with reference to G.O., Revenue Department, No. 411, dated 6th April 1880, a Toddy-renter is to be permitted under the terms of his agreement to take toddy from trees on the bunds of tanks, &c., in the charge of Public Works Department Officers without their permission.

3. Paragraph 2 of Standing Order No. 83 refers only to Government *waste*, but the custom from time immemorial has been that the Toddy-renters have been allowed to draw toddy from the palmyra trees which abound on the bunds of tanks in this district. The toddy rents at present existing were certainly taken with this understanding, and the Government Order quoted above was passed during the currency of the leases which are still running.

4. I consider therefore that whatever arrangements may be made in the future no interference with the present renters should be allowed.

5. I think that as placing the power of meddling with renters drawing toddy from palmyra trees in the hands of the officers of the Public Works Department will be a source of much inconvenience and annoyance to the renters and may eventually lead to the revenue from toddy being materially affected, and as drawing palm juice cannot possibly do any harm, orders that the Public Works Department should not prohibit toddy-drawing by the renters on tank and channel banks and should claim no payment for this should be issued.

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ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 and 2.—Letter from Executive Engineer, Chingleput Division, and its enclosures.

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SUBMITTED for the orders of Government, with reference to G.O., dated 6th April 1880, No. 411.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Secretary.

12

Transferred to the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, with Honorable W. Hudleston's note for disposal.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

---

Order thereon, ____________ 11th June 1881, No. 369 I, Public Works.

Under the rules laid down in G.O., No. 411, dated 6th April 1880, trees on tank bunds are under the control of the officers of the department who have charge of the tank, and the officers of the Public Works Department were therefore justified in objecting to palmyra trees on tank bunds being leased without reference being made to them on the subject; but the Government consider that palmyra trees on old tank bunds should be an exception to the general rule to this extent, viz., that while the officers of the department having charge of the work are at liberty to remove any trees which endanger its safety, the Toddy renters should be allowed to draw toddy from them, as the custom has hitherto been, without reference being made to such officers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. O. HASTED, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Joint Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

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*Order thereon,* ____________ 22nd June 1881, No. 1,668, Revenue.

Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. N. OVERBURY,
Acting Under Secy. to Govt.

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**Resolution—**

Communicated to all Collectors.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Secretary.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) S. SRINIVASA RAGHAVAIYANGAR,
First Assistant.

To the Collector of Chingleput, with two original enclosures returned.
„ all other Collectors.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

13

CHIEF ENGINEER
27 SEP
1882
FOR IRRIGATION

4/ Sub/6561/82

# 1881.
# Board of Revenue,
## MADRAS.

*To*

THE COLLECTOR OF
CHINGLEPUT,
&c., &c., &c.

7974

*Printed July 21st*

*Received*

PROCEEDINGS, 5TH JULY 1881, No. 1,271.

Rev: 5748/82

*Toddy* — from trees on old tank bunds in charge of the Public Works Department Officers. — Communicating to Collectors Government Order regarding title of Toddy-renters to draw —.

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BOARD OF REVENUE, 19TH AUGUST 1882, No. 2089.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

READ—again the following Proceedings, dated 5th June 1882, No. 4062, Mis.

*Read*—the following letter from J. LEE-WARNER, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th May 1882, No. 2137 :—

I have the honor to submit for the orders of the Board of Revenue the following reference.

2. The Tahsildar of Nellore reports that the toddy renters have been prevented by the Buckingham Canal Overseer from taking toddy from the trees along the bank of the Buckingham Canal. It is the same sort of question which was raised by the Collector of the Chingleput District in his letter embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 1271, dated 5th July 1881.

3. I am myself of opinion that the alleged interference of the Canal Overseer in prohibiting the toddy contractors from drawing toddy there should come under the same rule ordered to be adopted in the Proceedings referred to.

*Resolution*—dated 5th June 1882, No. 4062, Mis.

The Board agree with the Collector that the principle laid down in the Government Order embodied in their Proceedings, dated 5th July 1881, No. 1271, is applicable to the case of toddy trees growing on the banks of the canal; but before making a further representation to Government request that Mr. Lee-Warner will refer the matter to the Executive Engineer.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Nellore.

READ—also the following letter from J. LEE-WARNER, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st July 1882, No. 3812 :—

With reference to the Proceedings of the Board, No. 4062, dated 5th June 1882, I have the honor to inform you that the Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal, sees no objection to the toddy contractor drawing toddy from the trees on the canal bank, where they have been in existence for a long time, but considers that the proceeds from the produce of those planted for demarcation and other purposes from Canal Funds should be credited to the Public Works Department. Copy of his letter is forwarded.

2. It seems to me that when the newly-planted trees attain maturity it will be somewhat difficult to apportion the proceeds, because the renters do not pay a defined sum upon each tree; and in my opinion the Order of 11th June 1881, No. 369 I., Public Works Department, should be made applicable to these trees also. The toddy-drawers must cut the leaves of the trees upon which they design to bring their pots, and it would be a great restriction upon them to have to make a reference in every case to the Public Works Department officers. It might be generally understood that the leaves which they remove must be left at the foot of the trees for the latter to remove or not at their pleasure.

### ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Major R. W. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, R.E., Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal, to the Collector of Nellore, dated Chepauk, 20th July 1882, No. 865.

With reference to your No. 3482, dated 17th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I have no objection to the toddy contractor drawing toddy from the trees on the canal bank where these have been in existence for a long time, but I consider that the proceeds from the produce of those planted for demarcation or other purposes from Canal Funds should be credited to the Public Works Department. I consider further that if palmyra leaves are required for the purposes of the canal, such as for temporary sheds, &c., this department is entitled to obtain them free of charge from the trees within the canal limits, and the toddy renters should be prohibited from cutting the leaves without ascertaining our requirements first.

---

RESOLUTION—dated 19th August 1882, No. 2089.

The Board consider that the object of Government in passing G.O., No. 369 I., Public Works Department, of 11th June 1881, was, not the formation of an item of revenue for Public Works, but solely the preservation of the bunds in question. While Engineers therefore should be permitted to remove trees for the security of the work they should not be allowed to interfere with the drawing of toddy, or the cutting of leaves, on tank or canal bunds.

2. The Board therefore resolve to request Government to extend to all bunds of tanks and canals, whether old or new, the principle laid down in the latter portion of the Government Order referred to.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) R. SEWELL,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 5th July 1881, No. 1271.

Copy to the Collector of Nellore.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers.

15/22

15

No. 5148

1882.

# Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

CHIEF ENGINEER 27 SEP 1882 FOR IRRIGATION

W.C. No. 6561

Recd. 13th Septr.

Proceedings, 19th August 1882, No. 2089.

No. 931 Edf. 13/9/82

P.A. for orders
A.S.R.
1.10.82

The file is not complete [illegible]

File complete [illegible] 8/9.82

Requesting Government to extend to all *bunds of tanks and canals*, whether old or new, the principle laid down in the latter portion of G.O., 11th June 1881, No. 369 I., Public Works Department, regarding drawing of *toddy* from trees on such bunds.

Procs. No. 3114.

Transferred to the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch, with reference to that Department's G.O. dated 11th June 1881, No. 369 I.

[illegible]

23rd September 1882

Secretary to Board

---

A.W.

Vide note by Dy. Secretary on draft G.O.

It was decided today that the proposed G.O. should stand over until reply had been received from the S.E. to the reference ~~made~~ to him, — which should now be made without delay.

20-10-82

3. I was not a G.O.

---

C. No. 6561
19.8.82.

Transfer Endorsement by the Revenue Dept. No. 3114 d/ 23 Septr. 1882.

Note. No. 102 A.

The papers printed with former G.Os on this subject shew clearly the views of the officers of the Irrigation Branch of the D.P.W. workers, and I see no reason to alter the view I have already expressed that palmyra & date trees on canal banks should not be at the disposal of the Abkari renters.

2. The canal referred to in the above G.O. ~~No. 3114 dated~~ ~~23d Sept/82~~ is not under the charge of the Irrigation Branch, & part of it is an old canal on the banks of which there probably are some palm trees not planted by Offrs. of this Department & which the Abkari renters have presumably made use of. Where this is the case I think it advisable that the D.P.W. should acquire absolute control of the trees, and I would suggest that

the Abkari renters should be allowed the use of the trees only until the conclusion of the present Abkari lease

Order.

Govt. are not prepared to extend the ruling laid down in G.O. 344 I. D.P.W. 11th June 1881, to canals, and approve the suggestion of the Actg Chief Engr for Irrn. that Abkari renters should be allowed the use of the old trees on the Buckingham Canal banks only until the conclusion of the present Abkari lease.

Jh
4/10/82.

Memo

I have [illegible] initialled ~~the~~ order which seems to me correct, but as I cannot recall the subject having hitherto come up in connection with the Buckingham Canal I think it desirable to call on the S.E. to state the position of matters in reference to ~~the work~~ what trees there are &c.

This call need not of course in any way delay the issue of the order.

6/10/82

I. I.

The required reference will be made on return of the papers.

R.S.
7-10

Jh
7.10.82.

p. 4

Transfer Endorsement by the Revenue Dept No. 3114 dated 23rd September 1882.

No. 102 A-I.

Note by the Ag. Chief Engineer for Irrg.

The papers printed with former G.Os. on this subject show clearly the views of the officers of the Irrigation Branch of the P.W. Department, and I see no reason to alter the view I have already expressed, that palmyra and date trees on Canal banks should not be at the disposal of the Abkari renters.

2. The Canal referred to in the above endorsement is not under the charge of the Irrigation Branch, and part of it is an old Canal on the banks of which there probably are some palm trees not planted by officers of this Department and which the Abkari renters have previously made use of. Where this is the case I think it advisable that the P.W. Department should acquire absolute

16

control of the trees, and I would suggest the Abkari renters should be allowed the use of the trees only until the conclusion of the present Abkari lease.

Chr called [illegible] 8/10 [illegible] 303

Ootacamund
4th Octr 1882

[illegible] Colonel R.E.
Ag Chief Engineer for Irrign

G.O. 1423 d/ 25.5.75
281 d/ 3.5.80
369 d/ 11.6.81

No. 931 E d/ 23rd Octr 82

To

The Ag: Joint Secretary to Govt
P.W.D. Irrgn Branch.

[illegible] 9.10

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No 2513

No. 3175

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
5TH CIRCLE, MADRAS,
Chepauk, 7th December 1882.

292
17

From

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
5TH CIRCLE,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P.W.D.

P 5

Enclosures.

SIR,

With reference to your Memorandum No. 931 E dated 23rd October 1882, I have the honor to report that the Overseer on the Buckingham Canal in Nellore did prevent toddy drawers from taking toddy from the trees along the banks of the Canal.

2. Correspondence ensued between the Collector and the Executive Engineer, and the latter officer gave his opinion that there was no objection to the

17

the Contractor having toddy drawn from the old trees on the Canal banks; but he considered that the proceeds of the produce of the trees that have been planted for demarcation, or other purposes from Canal Funds, should be credited to the P W Department

3 The Executive Engineer further considered that the Toddy drawers should not be allowed to cut leaves from the palmyrah trees within the Canal limits without ascertaining the requirements of the P W Department; as when leaves may be required for temporary Sheds &c they should be taken free of charge by the P. W. Department —

4. There are altogether 3861

trees

f6

trees including Palmyrahs, Dates and Cocoanuts, along the Canal bank from the 94th to 196th mile in the Nellore District. The practice of drawing toddy is not found to be detrimental to the banks

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obedt Servt
Hew Prendergast Col. R.E.
Superintg Engineer
S. Circle —

237/f6

From

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
5TH CIRCLE,

To

THE Chief Engineer
P.W. Deptt

Dated 7th } December 1882.
Recd.

ENCLOSURES.

Eo 3278 - 19.11.74
" 951 - 12.4.75
" 1423 - 25.5.75
" 281.F - 3.5.80
No 931 E. 23.10.82

No. 3175.

Buckingham Canal

Reports that the practice of drawing toddy from the trees along the bank of the —— is not found to be detrimental to the banks.

---

No 297

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 26 Jany 83

Read the following

Endorsement in the Rev. Dept (R.O. No 3114 of 25 Sept 1882)
Note by the Ag. Chief Engr for Irrign (No 1107 I. dd 4 Oct 1882)
From the Supdg Engr Fifth Circle (" 3175 d/ 7 Decr 1882)

From the Superintending Engineers letter read above it appears that there are 3861 trees on the banks of the Buckingham Canal in the Nellore District. The Executive Engineer sees no objection to the Abkari Renter drawing toddy from old trees, but he would not allow him to cut leaves from the trees; and he considers that the proceeds of the produce of the trees that have been planted from Canal funds should be credited to the Public Works Dept.

2. Under these circumstances the Government resolve to make the Buckingham Canal throughout its entire length an exception to the rule applicable to other Canals. The Abkari Renter may be permitted to draw toddy with the proviso that the Public Works Department shall have the right to cut leaves when required for Government work. The Renter can of course cut leaves when necessary for the drawing of toddy.

3. As regards the Revenue from trees planted from Canal funds being credited to the Public Works Department, it is

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P 8

observed that for many years to come this revenue would be trifling ~~Should however it become desirable to bring it to account, it may be adjusted in transfer by the Revenue Department of a fixed sum per 100 mature trees.~~

And will be definitely given up

23

22

RH

5/1/83

Note. The Rev. Dept. has no objection to the principle of this order, but I note (1) that these 3800 trees are in Nellore alone & the order sd. embrace the whole canal, (2) with reference to para 3 that it will hardly be possible hereafter to distinguish old from new trees & that the claim to a credit may perhaps be definitively given up at once. It is not known even now how many new trees now exist.

8 Jan

Supply Engineers
C.E. for I.S.
Rev Dept

Despd 30/1/83

To
The Revenue Secretary
for Counterinitials

RS

21

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

UNDER date the

Read the following :—

Transfer Endorsement by the Rev. Dept. } No. 3114 dated 23rd September '82 }
Note by the Ag: Chief Engr. for I. } " I " 4th October '82 }

292/21

Thro' W.

I regret that I am unable to agree to this draft. As long as the officers of the P. W. D. remain vested with authority to remove any trees that are likely to injure the work. I do not think there can be any reason to apprehend mischief by allowing toddy drawers to climb Palmyras for the purpose of looking after a few toddy pots or cutting a few leaves. A very harmless & ancient privilege which obtains in all parts of the Presy.

Every tree taken from the toddy Renter ~~[illegible]~~ is a loss to ~~[illegible]~~ Abkary Revenue.

E. F. W.
10/10/82

The Government are not prepared to extend the ruling laid down in Go. P. W. D. No. 369-I-11th June 1881 to Canals, and approve the suggestion of the Acting Chief Engineer for Irrigation that Abkari renters should be allowed the use of the old trees on the Buckingham Canal banks only until the conclusion of the present Abkari lease.

Jon
7/10/82

Seen 22

6/10/82

(To The Secty. to Govt. Rev. Depts. for counter initials.)

0410

Govt. of (1882) Madras.
PUBLIC WORKS.

71

Recd [illegible]

Dated

23

Recd

Encl

G.O. 26 Jany 1883 No. 297-W.

Nos. 255-256

Buckingham Canal

The conditions on which Abkari renters may draw toddy from the trees on the banks of the —

135

10

Entd. in Receipt Regr