Revenue Department

G.O No 1274 dt 17.9.1858

Back No 39-40

Diary 21.9.1858

No. 39. Read the following letter from J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., on Special Duty; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary, dated Vigaiswarum 4th September 1858.

SIR,

In the last para. of my letter of the 27th Ultimo, I reported my having written to the District Engineer of the Kistnah Division to request that the Survey of the four villages, to be measured in the Kistnah Delta* might be commenced at once, so as to take full advantage of the break between the Moonsoons; I have now the honor to submit for the consideration of Government, a copy of the reply which I have received from the District Engineer, stating that a Survey at present is out of the question, in consequence of the fields being more or less under water, and that if made, it would be necessary to trust to the village Officers for the extent of last year's cultivation, as the fields have all been ploughed up, and fresh dry land brought under irrigation for the current Fusly.

* *Minutes of Consultation Revenue Department No. 329, 12th March* 1858.

2. The Survey of the four villages would doubtless be troublesome, but could, I presume, be made in the same way as it has been here; whilst the Subordinate Officers charged with the distribution of the water, would be able to point out with considerable precision, what were the limits of last year's irrigation; and a Survey made now would be no small assistance to the Collector at the coming Jummabundy. I therefore beg to be favoured with further instructions on this point, and with a view to receiving an early reply, as the time now available for Survey operations is short, have communicated the substance of this letter by Telegraph.

3. I much regret to be obliged to state, that there is still one of the eight Godavery villages for which I have not yet received the result of the Survey, which however, as regards operations in the field, has been concluded.

From Mr. O. W. S. CHAMBERS, Acting District Engineer Kistnah Division; to J. W. B. DYKES, Esq., on Special Duty, dated Bezoarah 1st September 1858, No. 303.

SIR,

In reply to your communication of the 27th Ultimo, I have the honor to observe that a Survey made at present of the area watered in 1857-58 by the Kistnah, in the villages of Cowtarum and Temersa, is quite out of the question; the wet lands in these villages have been ploughed up, planted with paddy, and are now, more or less under water, and in this state they will remain until the end of the year; any attempt to ascertain what was cultivated in 1857, must be based upon information supplied by kurnums and other Revenue servants, who are exactly the persons whose returns the Government is desirous of checking.

2. I shall be ready immediately after the N. W. Monsoon to Survey the villages of Cowtarum and Temersa for the Collector, and of Dogepurroo† and Cowlaiswarapooram ‡ for myself, and request that you will obtain from the former Officer, a statement showing the areas under irrigation in these 4 villages, during the present year 1858-59.

† *Goodevadah Talook.*
‡ *Noozeed Purganah.*

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. B. DYKES,
On Special Duty.

No. 40. ORDER THEREON, No. 1274; dated 17th September 1858.

1. The object of Mr. Dykes' deputation to the Northern Circars as stated in Extract Minutes Consultation 12th March 1858, No. 329, was actually to measure the irrigated area of four villages watered from the new channels from the Godavery and Kistna, and to compare the measurements so taken with the returns of Irrigation sent in by the Tahsildars. He was also to cause to be reaped and measured a small portion of the crop in each of the villages and to calculate the value of the whole crop on one acre and the net profit to the Ryot. The enquiry as

regards the villages watered from the Godavery would appear to have been concluded. As respect the villages under the Kistna the District Engineer objects that a survey at present is out of the question in consequence of the fields being more or less under water, and that if made, it would be necessary to trust to the village officers for the extent of last year's cultivation, as the fields have all been ploughed up and fresh dry land brought under irrigation for the current fusly.

2. The Governor in Council observes that it is certainly impracticable to ascertain the value of the produce in those villages as was originally intended, as the produce has been removed; and that the cultivation of the past year can only be known from the statements of the village officers and the village accounts. The information thus derived would be confessedly imperfect and untrustworthy, but it should be obtained as far as it can be. For the current year all that Mr. Dykes can do is in concert with the District Engineer to ascertain by survey the actual extent of land in the villages now under irrigation from the Kistna. A comparison of the area so determined with that returned in the accounts of the corresponding period of the preceding fusly, will afford some indication of the value of these last accounts, and the information obtained as to the present state of things will furnish some idea of the benefit derivable from the anicut, as well as be serviceable to the Collector in the ensuing settlement. When this has been done and the result reported to Government, Mr. Dykes will proceed to take up his acting appointment at Cuddapah.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Revd 16th/58

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Mr Dykes telegraphed to me about this and I answered him by Telegraph to go on with the survey until further orders —

Land under irrigation may I presume be surveyed as with the unirrigable land and the survey will at least show what is the extent of land under irrigation and thereby afford some indication of the value of the anicuts

The work postponed by Mr Dykes for ascertaining the cultivation is doubtless imperfect but is the only way practicable & will give some information

As in writing until after the season, the Land will be let for pulling much under water this as it is now & Mr Dykes cannot be determined with Certainty -

I have postponed it for that he be sent to act as Sub Collector of Cuddapah, which Lord Harris has assented -

GJP

10-9-58

The object of Mr Dykes Visitation was to obtain accurate data for the settlement of a much disputed point & if he found his conclusions on that subject to differ from the native returns or those of both parties to call upon him to explain his data & we shall then be better able to form a correct opinion as to the objections are entitled to on this part of the subject. Mr D must go

of course & we can adopt the one or the other as we see fit

There is nothing to be done & can be done till the Report is made after the Collectors, & the Engineers & the Makers, & the Engineers & the Makers,

The survey made now - of land under cultivation - would hardly be of use to compare with the Estimate of last years cultivation - as we do not want to know what was cultivated last year - but how much we require to know what is now cultivated - & if it is found to be greatly in excess of the Estimate for last year - it will afford

a fair criterion for judging of the benefits of the Godavari Delta irrigation?

I remain &c &c

Rev: Dept.

No. 1274

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Under date the 17th September 1858.

Read the following letter from J. W. B. Byres Esqre.

(Here enter 14th September 58.)

The object of Mr. Byres deputation to the Coast from Circars as stated in Pp: Mins: Cons: 12th March 1858 No. 329 was actually to measure the irrigated area of four villages watered from the new Channels from the Godavery and Kistna and to compare the measurements so taken with the returns of Irrigation sent in by the Tahsildars.

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Para 32

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20 Aug 1855 Read
5 to 8

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will proceed to take up his
acting appointment at
Cuddalore.

3 Copies to the Bd. of Rev. Dated 18th
10 " " Offg Chief Engr. " "
1 " " Canl Audr "
1 " " J.H. Dykes, Esqr. Collr

Cudd. Sept. 1817

Cons 14th September 58 R 68 & 69

Revenue 1858 Departt.
Dy. to Cons: 21st. September

No. 1274.
Extract Mins. of Cons.
Dated 17th. Septr. 58.

Issuing Instructions to Mr. Dykes, as to how the Survey of the Villages under the Kistna, is to be conducted; as soon as this is done, the result to be reported, & he to proceed to take up his appointment at Cuddapah.

R 2.09 & 40.