Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations.

27th April 1858.

Back nos 49 & 50

Order no 534 D 27th April 1858.

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள்

சரிபார்க்கும்	ஆராய்ந்து உதவியாளர்
மு. நி. பா. எ.	
கையொப்பம்	கையொப்பம்

532/2

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 27th April 1858.

No. 49. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th April 1858, No. 1307.

In Con. 15th April 1858. Read again Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 12th March 1858, No. 329, R. D.

In these Proceedings Government notice the steps which have been taken by the local Officers in Masulipatam to charge a water-tax on the lands brought under irrigation by the Godavery and Kistnah Anicuts. These measures have called-forth an expression of the marked dissatisfaction of Government, and on this part of the question the Board will abstain from observation, but as in para. 30 the Government remark that " the subject of the Acting Collector's re-" port has hardly been treated by the Board with the attention it deserved," and regret that the Board confined themselves to general observations on the necessity of sound measures of administration instead of proposing specific remedies where the interests of the State were so deeply concerned, they venture to offer a brief explanation on this point.

2. The Board would have entered fully and deeply into the subject had its settlement appeared to rest with them, but Officers had been just appointed to carry out the Survey and Reassessment of the Presidency, and it was known that their operations were to commence on the lands influenced by these Anicuts. Under this consideration, and as the early correspondence and arrangements connected with these irrigation works had passed direct between Government and their Revenue Commissioners in the Northern Circars, the Board confined themselves to a few remarks on the Acting Collector's report. That report was forwarded to Government to shew what revenue had hitherto been collected. It was manifestly imperfect and erroneous in its principles, but as the Board were to be in communication with the newly appointed Director of Settlements on the subject of introducing a sound assessment, they purposely abstained from any needless discussion of principles and views which were never likely to be acted on.

3. With respect to the error into which Mr. Knox had fallen and which Government in para. 24 observe is passed unnoticed by the Board, they would beg a reference to their Proceedings of 19th May 1857, No. 1667 para. 29 et seq. which shews that they were alive to the importance of making the Anicut contribute duly to the resources of the State. On that occasion the Board were discussing a point mooted by Government, viz. whether the State had any right to obtain more revenue from its irrigation works than was sufficient to keep the works in order, and give the ordinary rate of interest on the capital employed. In contradiction to this view the Board argued on the justice and policy of collecting all that additional revenue, which represented the Government portion of the produce as increased by the new irrigation. They considered that this course ought to be followed, to enable Government to construct new works in other localities, reduce taxation where too high, and carry out other measures of administrative improvement. In short they expressed the views which Government now prominently enunciate.

4. The Board will only add that although they did not consider it their place, with a scientific survey in immediate prospect, to propose any special measures, they feel all the importance of ascertaining the area of the lands newly irrigated, and fixing a suitable assessment and water-tax and will give their cordial aid. The comparative brevity of their remarks on the occasion under review arose from their wish to avoid complicating the work about to be undertaken by the Director of Settlements, and not from any want of interest in the subject.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) G. S. FORBES, *Secretary.*

No. 50. ORDER THEREON, No. 534; dated 27th April 1858.

Ordered that the foregoing Extract be recorded.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

532
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No. 1079.

From

G. S. FORBES, Esq.
Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

To

H. FORBES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government R. D.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit for the information and orders of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, the accompanying letter from the Collector of Bellary explaining that the sanction of Government conveyed to him in Extract Minutes Consultation 28th Nov. 1857, No. 1234, Revenue Department, for certain alterations in his Moyenzabitah with a view to providing an Establishment for the Printing Press, proceeds on a misapprehension of the arrangements which he proposed to carry out, and that it will be necessary either to postpone the reductions described in his letter of the 24th March 1857 and alluded to in the above mentioned Extract Minutes Consultation, or to sanction a separate Establishment for the press to be paid by Government until the conclusion of the revision of assessment enables him to provide otherwise for its expenses.

Dated 12th February in Con. 25th March 1858.
In Con. 1st December 1857.
In Con. 12th August 1857.

2. The Board request the permission of Government to postpone the reductions referred to; this being as it seems to them the simplest way of meeting the difficulty.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

REVENUE BOARD OFFICE,
Fort Saint George,
25*th March* 1858.

Secretary.

Revenue Department

No 537

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation
Under date the 27th April 1858

Read the following
Letter from the Secretary to
the Board of Revenue

Dated 25th March 1858
No 1079

The Board of Revenue
submit a letter from the
Collector of Bellary re-
questing permission to
postpone the reduction in
the Hoozoor Establishment
recently sanctioned, until
the revision of assessment
is completed, and to continue
the arrangements already
made till that time, or to
propose a separate Es-
tablishment for the Press
for distinct sanction.

The

Revenue 1858 April
Cons 27th April 537

From The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
To The Secretary Government
of Fort St George
Revenue Department

Dated 25th March 1858
Rec'd 26th do
Cons 27th April 1858

Letter from Collector of Bellary
No 532 dated 27th April 1858

Submitting a letter from
Collector of Bellary
requesting to be allowed
to postpone the reduction in
the Hoozoor Establishment
sanctioned in Revenue
Proceedings of 31st December
1857 No 1234 until the Re-
vision of Assessment is
completed, and to continue
the arrangements already
made till that time, or to
propose a separate Es-
tablishment for the Press
for distinct sanction.

No 145.

2 The Board recommend that the reduction in the Collector's Establishment may be postponed, but they do not state how they propose ~~to that end~~ to work the Prep[n] and it is not clear what the arrangements already made for the purpose are. At all events the Government cannot allow the Prep[n] to be an extra charge to the State, and any arrangement the Collector may propose to meet its expenses without departing from this principle will receive consideration.

J.D.

2 Copies to Bd of Rev.
with an Endo
Disp[ch]
Civil Audr

No. 1207.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 15th April 1858.

In Cons. 15th April 1858. Read again Extract Minutes Consultation, dated 12th March 1858, No. 320, R. D.

In these Proceedings Government notice the steps which have been taken by the Local Officers at Masulipatam to charge a water tax on the lands brought under irrigation by the Godavery and Kistna Anicuts. These measures have called forth an expression of the marked dissatisfaction of Government and on this part of the question the Board will abstain from observation, but as in para. 30 the Government remark that "the subject of the Acting Collector's report has hardly been treated by the Board with the "attention it deserved," and regret that the Board confined themselves to general observations on the necessity of sound measures of administration instead of proposing specific remedies which the interests of the State were so deeply concerned, they wish it to offer whatever explanation of this appears

2. The Board would have entered fully and carefully into the subject had its settlement appeared to rest with them, but Officers had been just appointed to carry out the Survey and Assessment of the Presidency, and it was known that their operations were in commencement on the Canals supplied by these Anicuts. Under this consideration, and after early correspondence and arrangements connected with these irrigation works had passed directly between Government and their Revenue Commissioners of the Northern Circars, the Board confined themselves to a few remarks on the Acting Collector's report. That report was forwarded to Government to show what revenue had hitherto been collected. It was manifestly imperfect and erroneous in its principles, but as the Board were to be in communication with the newly appointed Director of Settlements on the subject of introducing a sound assessment, they purposely abstained from any needless discussion of principles and views which were never likely to be acted on.

3. With respect to the error into which Mr. Knox had fallen and which Government in Para. 9 observe is passed unnoticed by the Board, they would beg reference to their Proceedings of 18th May 1857 No. 1667 para. 29 et seq. which shews that they were alive to the importance of making the Anicut contribute duly to the resources of the State. On that occasion the Board were discussing a point mooted by Government, viz. whether the State had any right to obtain more revenue from its irrigation works than was sufficient to keep the works in order, and give the ordinary rate of interest on the capital employed. In contradiction to this view the Board argued on the justice and policy of collecting all that additional revenue, which represented the Government portion of the produce as increased by the new irrigation. They considered that this course ought to be followed, to enable Government to construct new works in other localities, reduce taxation where too high, and carry out other measures of administrative improvement. In short they expressed the views which Government now prominently enunciate.

4. The Board will only add that although they did not consider it their place, with a scientific survey in immediate prospect, to propose any special measures, they feel all the importance of ascertaining the area of the lands newly irrigated, and fixing a suitable assessment [illegible] rate tax and will give their cordial aid. The comparative brevity of their remarks on the present [illegible] review arose from their wish to avoid complicating the work about to be undertaken by the Director of Settlements, and not from any want of interest in the subject.

(A true Extract.)

Secretary.

To

H. FORBES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government, R. D.

Revenue 1858 Sept.
No 504
Court 27th April

Extract from the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 15th
Rec'd 16th April 1858.

No 1307.

Submitting explanation with reference to the remarks contained in E. Indians dated 12th June 1858 in regard to the Madras system of the supervision formerly practised by the Collectors of Moorshedabad for the levy of water rate on lands brought under irrigation by the Godavari & Kistnah Anicuts

No 534
Registered