M.R.O. 14—10,000—21-4-22.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1690 Press ~~Mis.~~

413-416

Dated 22 — 9 — 1860.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 22nd September 1860.

Read the following letters:—

No. 413. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 26th May 1860, No. 2,529.

Read letter from Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 19th May 1860, No. 503.

(In Cons., 21st May 1860, No. 2,338.)

1. The Board have conferred with the Director of Revenue Settlement on the subject of the proposed "Rules for the Water Assessment in the Godavery and Kistna Deltas" and it is only necessary for them to submit the revised draft for the consideration and orders of Government.

2. The only alteration which appears to need remark is that in Clause VI. On consulting with the Director, it appeared that he concurred with the Board that it was inexpedient to allow the Raiyats the full option of converting "Nanja" into "Punja," because such a course would involve annual examination of the fields, would interfere with the irrigation by tracts, and would be at variance with the general practice of the country. Moreover, the Raiyats cannot reasonably expect such a privilege, after Government had incurred all the labor and expense of providing regular and permanent irrigation. The rule has consequently been altered, so as to admit of the conversion, in the only case where it is expedient, viz., when the means of irrigation permanently fail.

3. With reference to the Order of Government, dated 21st May 1860, No. 820, Revenue Department, the Board beg to explain that their Proceedings, dated 16th May 1860, were submitted to Government merely to acquaint them with what was being done on a very important question. It was never intended by the Board that those proceedings should be considered as the final settlement of the question, so far as they were concerned.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 414. From H. NEWILL, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, to J. D. SIM, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated Camp Narsápúr, 4th July 1860, No. 667.

SIR,

1. In reference to the Board's Proceedings of 19th May 1860, No. 2,372, I have the honor to submit copy of a letter from the Collector of Godavery District, giving explanation as to the grounds on which he proposed so early a date as 31st January for the Raiyats to give notice of their intention to discontinue the use of water.

2. As this option has been struck out of the rules as revised in consultation with the Board, this point is disposed of.

3. It will be observed further from paragraph 3 that Mr. Purvis does not object to the date originally proposed (31st March) for the receipt of applications for water for converting dry lands into wet, and if the rules have not yet been finally disposed of by Government it seems, therefore, desirable that the original date, 31st March, should be retained instead of the end of February, as afterwards modified out of deference to Mr. Purvis.

4. A copy of this letter is addressed to the Secretary to Government, as the final orders have not yet reached me.

From A. PURVIS, Esq., Collector of the Godavery District, to H. NEWILL, Esq., Director of Revenue Settlement, dated Cocanada, 21st June 1860, No. 506.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th ultimo, asking for more particular information as to the grounds on which I proposed so early a date as 31st of January for giving notice to the discontinuance or new use of water.

2. The principal rice crop in this part of the country is generally cut by the end of December or quite the beginning of January. It seems to me, therefore, that there will be no hardship in requiring Raiyats who are anxious to give up the use of the water to declare their intentions by the date named by me. This will give time for the Officers of the Public Works Department to make arrangements for diverting the supply from those who no longer want it, to the fields of those who are desirous of benefiting by irrigation.

3. I have no objection to urge the date first proposed by you for the receipt of application for water for the purpose of newly converting dry lands into wet.

No. 415. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th July 1860, No. 3,417.

Read letter from the Director of Revenue Settlement, dated 4th July 1860, No. 667, submitting copy of a letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, relative to the dates to be fixed for the applications for the use or discontinuance of water in the proposed Rules for the Water Assessment.

(In Cons., 9th July 1860, No. 3,314.)

The Board concur with Mr. Newill and resolve to recommend to Government that the 31st March be inserted in No. 7 of the "Rules for the Water Assessment in the Godavery and Kistna Districts" in lieu of the end of February, which is the date entered in the draft submitted to Government with the Board's Proceedings, dated 26th May last, No. 2,529.

(A true Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM, *Secretary.*

No. 416. ORDER THEREON, 22nd September 1860, No. 1,690.

1. After consulting with the Director of Revenue Settlement, the Board of Revenue re-submit the Draft rules proposed by that Officer for the water rate in the Godavery and Kistna Districts, noting but one alteration as worthy of remark, viz., in Rule VI, by which it is now proposed to disallow to the raiyat the option of converting Nanja into Punja, except when irrigation shall permanently fail.

2. The Government now proceed to pass orders on the proposed Rules:—

Rules I and II as proposed by the Board are approved.

Rules III and IV will be noticed below.

Rule V. This rule proposes a charge of one Rupee an acre for temporary irrigation for dry crops where arranged in tracts, and one and a half Rupee for isolated fields thus watered. This appears to the Government to be a needless refinement and complication. This irrigation is equally valuable to the raiyat, whether his field be "isolated," or watered in common with others. It seems undesirable therefore to make a difference in the rate, which will inevitably lead to disputes and evasions. One great advantage of a light assessment is that it makes it practicable to get rid of these nice distinctions; and certainly the proposed rate is light enough for that. The rule will therefore be as follows:

V. "Temporary irrigation for dry crops will be charged for at 1½ Rupee an acre."

Rule VI as modified by the Board and Mr. Newill, is approved, slightly modified as follows:

"Land once classed as Nanja cannot be transferred to Punja unless the means of "irrigation fail permanently."

Rule VII is approved. But, in accordance with the Board's Proceedings of July 25th above recorded, the limit as to date of applications will be the 31st March as originally proposed.

Rule VIII is approved, as modified by the Board, to omit the limitation of time as to applications for temporary irrigation for dry crops.

Rule IX will stand good, without the addition of the words "for trespass."

Rule X is approved, as modified by the Board. But the word "wholly" may be omitted as redundant; and the word "and" should be substituted for "but."

Rule XI. The following will be substituted for that proposed.

"The rules will also apply to Zamíndáris, except where a composition shall have been "made either for a fixed yearly payment, or according to the quantity of water supplied."

Rule XII. As altered by the Board is approved, slightly modified as follows:

"The arrangement whereby in a part of the Kistna Delta in the Guntoor District a "consolidated water rate of four Rupees an acre has been introduced, will be superseded by the "present rules. But in the other parts of the Delta in that District where the system of Nanja "rates prevails, that system will remain undisturbed till the new Revenue Settlement."

3. It remains to notice Rules III and IV, which relate to the water rate for second crop on fully irrigated land. By Rule III tracts of land fully supplied with water for two crops are to pay a consolidated water rate of four Rupees an acre, to be paid in all years "except in cases "of failure of water;" and by Rule IV the rate for a second crop on land not included in such tracts is to pay 1½ Rupee an acre. Thus the entire charge for a fully irrigated second crop would, under these rules, be either one Rupee an acre or 1½ Rupee. It appears to Government that this is unduly low. The charge for a second crop on ordinary Nanja land is a sum equal to half the Nanja assessment of the first crop, which includes the land assessment as well as the water rate; but it is now proposed that half the latter only shall be paid, and only a third of it, where the land is in "tracts." For the most part also, the whole assessment is much higher in the case of the old Nanja than the new rates in the Godavery and Kistna will be. The difference may be shown by an example. On an acre of old Nanja paying 7 Rupees assessment for one crop, the charge for the second crop will be 3½ Rupees. But in the case of an acre of irrigated land in the Godavery District, paying the same amount for the first crop, viz., 4 Rupees land assessment, and 3 Rupees water rate, the charge for the second crop, on the principle proposed, will not be 3½ Rupees but 1½ Rupee, or only one Rupee if the land is in a "tract." Thus the charge for the second crop will not be half the charge for the first crop, but only one-fifth or one-seventh of it.

4. In the case of inferior land the difference will no doubt be less; for example, in the case of land assessed at 1 Rupee an acre, the land and water rate united will be 4 Rupees for the first crop, and Nanja land under an old consolidated assessment of this amount would pay only 2 Rupees for the second crop. But in point of fact land at so low a rate under the old assessments is very rarely two crop land; because those assessments always included consideration as to the means of irrigation; and if that was copious and certain, the Assessment was high.

5. In the two Deltas now in question, however, the land assessment will be decidedly light, expected by Mr. Newill to average 2 Rupees an acre, though great part of the land is of very good quality, with a moderate uniform water rate. The Government are far from objecting to a light assessment. They think true policy requires it. But there is a limit below which the necessities of the State prohibit reduction; and the Government think that a tract of country so highly favored as these Deltas, ought not to be taxed more lightly than other parts of the country.

6. There is another consideration. The supply of water for a second crop in these Deltas must be very limited without special means taken to provide it; and the means will be the construction of very extensive reservoirs up the river. The cost of such works will properly be chargeable to the second crop, for they will be necessary for that only. But the light charge proposed to be made for the water would hardly pay for the necessary works, and so, by lessening or taking away the inducement to construct them, might prevent their being made. A higher charge than that proposed by the Board seems therefore necessary and proper. The principle of a water rate seems to require that the rate should be the same for both the first and second crop; and three Rupees an acre would probably not be high as the entire charge on the second crop.

7. It is argued that the second crop takes much less water than the first; and also that the crop itself is poorer; and that two crops in a year exhaust the soil. As to the first argument, the Government doubt the fact; it is true the crop is a shorter time on the ground, but from the much greater power of the sun during the hot and dry season, the evaporation* (which in fact constitutes the consumption of water) is much more copious. The second objection is no doubt true as a fact; but even the second crop of an acre of land is probably worth at least 10 or 12 Rupees. The exhaustion of the soil is also true in many cases. But this is for the owner to consider. A Rupee or two less to pay would not make it worth his while to deteriorate his land; nor would it be wise on the part of Government to hold out such an inducement.

* NOTE.—*Evaporation not only from the water itself, but from the plant, which must supply itself from the water.*

8. The question here treated, viz., that of the amount and form of the charge for water on a second crop in these Deltas, is one of very great and permanent importance; and for the foregoing reasons the Government are of opinion that it needs further discussion. They resolve therefore to refer back this point to the Board, with instructions to report further upon it, after consulting with the various officers both of the Revenue and Engineer Departments, best qualified by practical and local knowledge and opportunities of observation, to give an opinion on the subject. They may properly consult the Collectors and District Engineers of both Districts, Captain Rundall, and Messrs. G. N. Taylor, Dykes, Newill and R. E. Master.

9. The Board will communicate the rules so far as now approved for the information and guidance of the officers concerned.

10. They will also report what has been done by the Collectors of the Godavery and the Kistna Districts, in pursuance of the Order of December 7th 1859,† directing that the water rate should be levied immediately on Inám and Zamíndári land, and on Government land where the state of assessment might make it practicable.

† *No.* 1,656, *paragraph* 5.

(Signed) J. D. BOURDILLON,
Secretary to Government.

Proof

~~DRAFT OF PROPOSED~~ RULES

For the water assessment in the Godavari and Kistna Deltas.

I. The new Revenue Settlement will be made in the Godavari and Kistna Deltas on the principle of an assessment of the land according to its natural capabilities without irrigation, (taking into account its irrigable properties), and a separate water assessment to be levied as follows.

II. A water rate of three Rupees an acre will be charged in addition to the land assessment (Punjai tirwa) on all land fully irrigated for a single crop of paddy of whatever description and however cultivated, or for any other crop grown in the place of paddy on Nunjai lands, except sugar-cane and other crops requiring water for the whole season, which are specially provided for. In case of lands ~~[illegible]~~ newly brought under irrigation, one half of the above rate of three Rupees will be charged for the first year and the full rate in the subsequent years; *provided that if the land is thrown up at the end of the first year, the full rate will be charged for it, and also that one ryot may transfer his land to another without forfeiting the favorable rate for the first year.*

III. All tracts of land fully supplied with water for another crop of any description in addition to the single paddy crop will be charged with a consolidated water-rate of four Rupees an acre, the same to be paid in all years (except in case of failure of water), whether two crops are grown or not. Sugar-cane lands and gardens requiring water for the same period as a double crop of paddy, &c., to pay four Rupees an acre water-rate.

IV. Where water is supplied for a second crop to fields not included in the tracts classed as two crop lands chargeable with the consolidated rate of four Rupees an acre, a water rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ Rupee an acre will be levied for such second crop.

V. Temporary irrigation for dry crops where arranged in tracts will be charged one Rupee an acre; but all isolated fields thus watered will be charged 1½ Rupee an acre.

VI. ~~When ryots desire to discontinue the irrigation of~~ land classed as Nunjai, ~~and chargeable with the three Rupees or four Rupees water-rate, notice of the same must be given to the Collector in writing on or before (31st March)~~, who will, after enquiry from the Engineer officers as to the nature and sufficiency of the supply of water and investigation of other causes which may have given rise to the application, arrange for the ~~discontinuance of the water and order the transfer of the land in the accounts from Nunjai~~ to Punjai, if such a course is required. This transfer will not be allowed for isolated fields, which are necessarily benefitted by the surrounding irrigation, although not ostensibly supplied directly with water, and the cases will be considered with reference to the general wishes and interests of the community rather than the caprice of a few individuals.

VII. When ryots desire to irrigate dry land, and to convert it permanently into Nunjai cultivation, application is to be made to the Collector, either direct or through the Tahsildar, on or before ~~(31st March)~~. The Collector will then arrange with the Public Works' Department for the supply of water, and will direct the entry of the land under the head of Nunjai or irrigated. The arrangements for the supply of water to lands to be newly irrigated will be regulated by tracts and not by detached fields.

VIII. Where water is temporarily required for dry crops, application may be made in a similar manner ~~up to (31st March,) or if necessary at a later period~~, and the Collector will arrange with the Public Works' Department for the supply, if other exigences will admit of it.

IX. Where water is surreptitiously taken by ryots, double the water rate which would be chargeable according to these rules will be rigidly exacted, and the parties thus taking it will be further liable to a criminal prosecution.

X. These rules apply to all Inam lands, ~~with the following exceptions. Lands~~ which have ~~not~~ been granted as Nunjai Inams ~~and~~ fully and irrigated accordingly ~~fully~~ at the Government cost will not be charged with ~~cost~~ water assessment, but such Nunjai Inams as were formerly imperfectly irrigated and have since been fully supplied with water from the Anicut works will be charged at half the above water rates.

XI. The water-assessment as above described will form the basis of calculation for settlement with Zemindars and Proprietors for the use of water for their estates; but preference will be given to a consolidated payment for a whole tract, or to a charge according to the quantity of water supplied, as most conducive to the interests of all parties.

XII. In ~~he~~ parts of the Kishna Delta in the Guntur District ~~in which~~ a consolidated water-rate of four Rupees an acre has been introduced, ~~the same will continue undisturbed, but all lands, not engaged under the rules hitherto in existence for the progressive imposition of the water-rate, will, on being hereafter brought under irrigation, be charged with water assessment in a way similar to that adopted in other parts of the Kishna and Godavari Deltas, viz., Rupees 1½ the first year, Rupees 3 the 2nd year, and Rupees 4 the 3rd year~~. In other parts of the Delta in that District where the system of Nunjai rates prevails, ~~it~~ will remain undisturbed till the new Revenue Settlement.

Revenue Settlement Office,
Madras, ~~18th December 1859.~~ 13th May, 1860

Director of Revenue Settlement.

Copy in a Letter to England
of 10th October/60 No. 110.

No 1096/60.

Bangalore
5th Jany 60

My dear Brudenell,

As I have not yet received the orders of Govt or the Rules for the Water assessment this penalty may ~~be~~ be in time - You mentioned that the Govt were not disposed to allow the water rate of Rs 3 to be gradually imposed in the two first years as I proposed. I have considered this & the 1st year it will cause much

our views. so that the
ryots will grumble at having
the temporary exemption
altogether cancelled, while
the rate is at the same
time raised from Rs 2 to 3.
Raising the rate of course
is not very agreeable to the
people, and it seems safe
to do this as smoothly as
in case; and without
giving up the principle
involved, an exception
may be allowed for
the next year or two —
in order to make the
transition easy. —

+ in the Proclamation of 1st Nov. 1858.

dis couragement, and
there are some special
circumstances connected
with the subject which
require consideration.
The original rule was
for waste to be given
free for 2 years, half
the charge to be made
in the 3rd year & the
whole in the 4th year.
The first is also at one
time was satisfied
with Rs 2 an acre
& this has been the
maximum rate before
the application of the

taking only half the rate,
& if you like R2 for
all lands newly taken
up written that time
for the first year & the
full assessment in the
following year.

I still however hold
that the best policy
is to impose the rate,
for some years to come at
least, gradually as proposed
in the rules, for there
is considerable village
in the change from dry
& regular cut lands,
the farming stock

13

being generally changed
& substituting bullocks for
bullocks, the fields
being ridged & laid out
for irrigation, while the
crop in the first year
of change is generally
said to be indifferent.
I have talked over the
matter with Purvis &
others & just give you
what occurs on the
subject, tho' I am not
sure that it will be
in time for consideration

In my mind

Merrill

2 Oems.

A draft on the subject of the wales rate in the Godavery and Kistna Districts has been prepared according to the last orders, and is circulated. A decision having been thus arrived at by the Government I am very unwilling to open the subject again; but there is one point viz. the rate to be levied on second crop, on which I cannot forbear to offer a few remarks, as it is of very great importance and it seems to me that the decision of Government was based under some misapprehension as to the facts. I speak of the matter as so important because the rate once fixed can scarcely be raised, and because the decision in this case will no doubt be the rule in all

all future settlements.

2. The order is that the water rate charged for the second crop shall be half that for the first crop; and the chief reason given for this in Mr. Maltby's Minute is that on ordinary nunjah land the assessment of the second crop is half that of the first. It was overlooked, however, that there is a material difference between the two cases. The charge for a second crop on ordinary nunjah land is a sum equal to half the nunjah assessment of the first crop, which includes the land assessment as well as the water rate; but in the case in question it is proposed that half the latter only shall be paid. For the most part also the whole assessment is much higher in the case of the old nunjah than the new rates in the Godavery & Kistna will be.

3. The difference may be shown by an example. Suppose an acre of old nunjah paying 7 Rupees assessment for one crop; the charge for the second crop will be 3½ Rupees. But take an acre of irrigated land in the Godavery Dist., paying the same amount for the first crop, viz 4 rupees land assessment, and 3 rupees water rate. The charge for the second crop on this land, under the rule approved by Government, will not be 3½ Rupees but ½ Rupee; viz not half the charge for the first crop but one fifth of it only.

4. In the case of inferior land the difference will be less; for example in the case of land assessed at 1 rupee an acre, the land and water rate united will be 4 Rupees for the first crop. And nunjah land under an old consolidated assessment of this amount would pay only 2 Rupees for the second crop.

But in point of fact land at so low a rate under the old assessments is very rarely two crop land; because those assessments always included consideration as to the means of irrigation, and if that was certain and certain the assessment was high

5 In the two dellas now in question, however, the land assessment will be decidedly light, expected by Mr Newill to average 2 Rupees an acre, though great part of the land is of very good quality, with a moderate uniform water rate.

6 I am far from objecting to a light assessment. I think base policy requires it. But there is a limit below which the necessities of the state prohibit reduction; & I think a tract of country so highly favored as these dellas ought not to be taxed more lightly than other parts of the country.

New para

7 There is another consideration. The supply of water for second crop in these Deltas must be very limited, without special means taken to provide it; and the means will be the construction of very extensive reservoirs up the river. The cost of such works will properly be chargeable to the second crop, for they will be necessary for that only. But the light charge proposed to be made for the water would hardly pay for the necessary works, and so by lessening or taking away the inducement to construct them, might prevent their being made.

8 It is argued that the second crop takes much less water than the first; and also that the crop itself is poorer; and that two crops in a year exhaust the soil. As to the first

first, I must say I doubt the fact: it is true the crop is a shorter time on the ground, but from the much greater power of the sun during the hot and dry season, the evaporation (which in fact constitutes the consumption of water) is much more copious. —

Note — I mean evaporation not only from the water itself, but from the plants which must supply itself from the water. —

9. — The second objection is no doubt true as a fact, but even the second crop of an acre of land is worth I suppose at least 12 Rupees, or four times the proposed demand. —

10. — The exhaustion of the soil is also true in many cases. But this is for the owner to consider. A rupee and a half less to pay would not make it worth his while to deteriorate his land, nor would it be wise on the part of Government to hold out such an inducement. —

11. — For the foregoing reasons I should be very glad if the Government would defer passing orders as to the charge for the second crop, without further information. It appears to me that the proper course, both with reference to the particular circumstances of the case, and also as being consistent with the principle of a moderate rate, would be to levy the same rate for the second crop as for the first, viz 3 rupees an acre for rice, allowing a composition at 5 rupees an acre for the two crops, if thought expedient. But as the fund

Govt. are not prepared to approve that course at present, the Board might be desired to obtain the opinions of those who have practical and local knowledge, both Engineers and Revr. officers, with reference to the considerations above offered, and then report to Govt. They might properly consult the Collrs of both Districts, the Dist. Engrs, Captain Rundall, and Mejrs. G. A. Taylor, Dyther, Nevill and Master.-

12.— If it should not be ultimately determined to raise the demand on the second crop, I think it will be necessary to exercise discretion as to what lands in villages shall be allowed water. If all are allowed who ask, great numbers will desire it, in order to cultivate dry crops needing half watering, and the supply being thus wasted, cultivation of sugar cane which requires free irrigation and for a long time, will be impossible

13.— I ought to explain why this paper has been so long delayed. The cause is that above referred to. I was unwilling that the order should go out without being once more considered on this important point, but yet felt hesitation as to the propriety of bringing the matter forward again, an order having once been passed on

on it - I have also had my time much taken up by other matters. —

D. W. Aug 24.

Sept - Since the foregoing was written I have had an opportunity of speaking to Mr Merritt on the subject - He considers the rate fixed by the Rules to be very high; & says that he did not at all suppose them as final - He thinks the question needs further careful consideration, in various aspects - He considers that some delay on this point will be unimportant; as other limits the decision of Govt might be ignored -

D. W. Aug 25.

as the States Govt he did not mean to take positions to be final - which we desire it to be - and as the Rules must be laid before Congress it was supposed they would be altered if found objectionable - I am of opinion the suggestion made by Mr Bourchier in this respect should be acted on - I must however remark - that the tonnage per head of the instance is far too low - & had it not been for the case mentioned upon the question of the Boundaries the Govt would have acted in a manner that must have led to serious loss of the claims - I agree with the President JG

Memo 25 Aug

Water assessment on the Godavery & Kistna Dists

I conceive that further enquiry is necessary regarding the water rate for a 2nd crop - To charge merely half of the water rate for the first crop is clearly not enough as the Boundary points out - Half the land tax must be added to make the charge for the second crop bear the accustomed proportion to that for the first - I ought to have observed this when the papers came round before but the water rates had been determined by Sir Charles Trevelyan after a long local conference with the Revenue & Engineer Officers - When therefore the great point of levying a separate water tax for the 2nd crop was decided on (a decision which I must regret) I accepted the proposed rates as a matter of course, presuming that they had been fully & carefully considered. I still object to the tax for a 2nd crop being affected by any idea that water costs more to Govt in the hot than in the cold months, but that a second crop ought to pay, by established usage, half as much as the first crop - It must therefore pay a heavy both of the Water rate & the Land tax

5th Sept

Ellis

Copy Regd 5th Sept

Rev: Dept

Quarter

№

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the

Read the following papers

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting for consideration and orders with the Board's remarks the revised Draft Rules for the Water assessment in the Godavery and Kistna Deltas. (Here enter 26th May 1860 №2529)

From the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Reporting that the Collector of the Godavery District has no objection to the 31st March being fixed as the limit for applications to convert dry into wet land. (— Do. — 4th July 1860. №667)

Proc: of the Board of Revenue - Recommdg that the 31st March be inserted in №VII of the rules for the water assessment in the Godavery & Kistna districts in lieu of the end of Febry. (— Do. — 25th July 1860 №3407)

After consulting with the Director of Revenue Settlement, the Board of Revenue re-submit the draft rules proposed by that officer for the water rate in the Godavery and Kistna districts, noting but one alteration as worthy of remark, viz in Rule VI, by which it is

now

now proposed to disallow to the raiyat the option of converting nanjai into punjai ~~except where there is regular and permanent irrigation, but to allow it only~~ when irrigation ~~may~~ shall permanently fail.

2. The Government now proceed to pass their orders on the proposed rules.

Rules II, III and IV, as proposed by the Board, are approved.

Rule V. This rule proposes a charge of one rupee an acre for temporary irrigation for dry crops where arranged in tracts, and one and a half rupee for isolated fields thus watered. This appears to the Government to be a needless refinement and complication. This irrigation is equally valuable to the raiyat, whether his field be "isolated" or watered in

in common with others. It seems undesirable then to make a difference in the rate, which will inevitably lead to disputes and evasions. ~~What is to constitute a "tract"? Will it be two fields, or three fields, or will it need ten fields together~~? One great advantage of a light assessment is that it makes it practicable to get rid of these nice distinctions, and certainly the proposed rate is light enough for that. The Rule will therefore be as follows.

"V. Temporary irrigation for dry crops will be charged for at 1½ Rupee an acre."

Rule VI as modified by the Board and Mr. Newill is approved, slightly modified as follows.

"Land once classed as ~~han~~ jai

-jai cannot be transferred to Punja unless the means of irrigation fail permanently."

Rule III is approved. ~~The~~ limit as to date of applications will ~~become~~ be the 31st March as originally proposed.

Rule VIII is approved, as modified by the Board to omit the limitation of time as to applications for temporary irrigation for dry crops.

Rule IX will stand good, without the addition of the words "for trespass."

Rule X is approved, as modified by the Board. But the word "wholly" may be omitted as redundant; and the word "and" should be substituted for "but."

Rule XI. The following will

that, in accordance with the Boards Proc^s. of July 25 ~~1911~~ above recorded, No. 3417, the

will be substituted for that proposed.

"The rules will also apply to Zamindaris, except where a composition shall have been made either for a fixed yearly payment, or for a payment according to the quantity of water supplied."

Rule XII as altered by the Board is approved slightly modified as follows.

"The arrangement whereby in a part of the Kistna Delta in the Guntoor District a consolidated water-rate of four Rupees an acre has been introduced, will be superseded by the present Rules. But in the other parts of the Delta in that District where the system of Nunjai rates prevails, that system will remain undisturbed till the new

new Revenue Settlement.

The Board of Revenue will circulate the rules as now approved, for the information and guidance of those concerned. They will also be communicated to the Chief Engineer for the information of the officers of the Public Works Department.

The Board will also report what has been done by the Collectors of the Godavery and the Kistna Districts, in pursuance of the order of December 7th ult. + &c, directing that the water rate should be levied immediately on Inam and Zamindári land, and on Government land where the state of assessment might make it practicable.

+ No. 1656 para 5

To The Board of Revenue
Director of Rev: Settlement.

Water assessment in the
Godavery & Kistna Districts

If the draft is to be mere
to suit Mr. Maltby's views, it appears
to me that the whole of the observations
on Rule III will have to be omitted;
in which case Rules I to IV may
be simply approved, as now noted in
pencil in the draft.

The remark on Rule VII is altered
to suit Mr. Neville's letter of the 4th July.

Mr. Maltby says that the
wording of Rule XII will depend upon
that of Rule III. But I do not see how
the Rule (XII) as modified by the Board
militates against the wording of
Rule III as it meets with Mr. Maltby's

to not concur in the Draft with respect to Rule III

It being admitted in the Draft that "all Ryotwar
"land is chargeable when there is water, and
"is exempt when there is not" I think the
Board were right to provide in their rule
for the contingency of failure of water - I do
not also see how they can be thereby said to
lower the 2nd crop Assessment, or nullify the
composition for a 2nd Crop. - The object of the
composition was not (as I understand it) to make
for a 2nd crop even in years when there was no water, but to
the ryots pay the
save enquiry as to whether they had cultivated
a second crop or not. - Sometimes it may also
be convenient to a ryot to cultivate a 2nd
crop, in consequence of his family occupations, or for want
having cattle & seed in readiness & sometimes
he may wish to give his land some rest -
It was, as I understood, to meet cases of this
kind, & also to prevent complaints of short
produce, that a favorable consolidated Ryot-
-wari was offered by Govt. - If there is no water
for a 2nd crop, Govt must give up its charge
for a 2nd Crop, & the Boards proviso seems therefore
right.

But there is another & important point to be
considered. - Hitherto the charge for a 2nd Crop
has been usually half of the 1st - & the Govt
Order 17 Dec 1859 No 1656 which directed the

approval. I do not know therefore
therefore whether the Rule is to be
approved as modified by the Board
or whether Mr. Maltby must submit
to return to the rule is originally
stood.

W.S.

basis of a separate water cess was framed upon this principle - (viz Rs 3 for a 1st crop & 1½ for a 2nd crop - with a consolidated rate of Rs 4 for two crops when the irrigation was certain)

The present draft however completely alters this arrangement by proposing to frame Rule III in such a manner that Rs 3 are to be charged for a 2nd as well as for a 1st crop. - and I do not think that such a resolution should be made, if made at all, without consulting the Rev. Board & the Director of Revenue Settlement on the point. -

My opinion is however in favor of altering the first order of Govt. - A 2nd crop is almost always of less value than the 1st Crop, it consists of an inferior grain - it is raised with more toil, field work being harder in the wet season - & it tends to exhaust the land. For these reasons extra taxation would discourage it, & on this account the old general rule, founded upon long experience has been to tax it at one half of the 1st. -

The argument in the draft for raising the tax is that "the water (for a 2nd crop) is much more expensive to supply" - but the Board's enquiries have shewn that this argument has no weight. - The cost of water used for agricultural purposes is measurable to the ryot, not in proportion to what it costs the Govt, but in proportion to the quantity & the value of the produce which it enables him to raise - & grain raised in the hot weather does not fetch more in the market than grain raised in the cold weather when water is more plentiful. -

The draft has the anomaly of altering Rule III in the above manner, while Rule II is approved, though it carried out the same principle of half charge for a 2nd crop - But this is probably an oversight -

I concur in the remainder of the draft but the wording of Rule XII will depend on the course decided upon for Rule III.

30 June. Ellis

Papers with Mr Neill's & Howell's letters & draft returned herewith. Rule III has been passed as originally decided

Ellis

Rev. & Dept.

27

Proceedings of the Madras Government

(Under date the June 1860.

Read the following

Proceedings of the Board of

Revenue.

From the Board of Revenue, papers

Submitting for consideration and orders with the Board's remarks the revised Draft Rules for the Water assessment in the Godavery and Kristna Deltas.

From Messrs. Dr. Read, Cotterell, & Master, Acting Collector of the Godavery District, dated 31 March last, forwarding his application for the conversion of certain wet lands into garden lands.

(Here enter 26th May 1860 No. 2529)

(Here enter 4 July 60, No 60

After consulting with the Director of Revenue Settlement, the Board of Revenue re-submit the draft rules proposed by that officer for the water rate in the Godavery and Kristna districts, noting but one alteration as worthy of remark, viz in Rule VI, by which it is now proposed to disallow to the ryot the option of converting nanjai into punjai where there is regular & permanent irrigation, but to allow it only when irrigation may permanently fail.

The first now proceed to pass their orders on the proposed rules.

Rule I is approved.

Rule II. ~~The first would omit~~ The provision at the end of the rule for charging only half rate, ~~one and a half rupee~~, in the first year on lands ~~to be newly~~ brought under irrigation, should be omitted; ~~and for the term of land from one rupee to~~ ~~one~~ their ~~without forfeiture of the~~ ~~privilege~~, ~~as it makes composition~~ ~~two~~, ~~and the~~ rate is certainly light.

This indulgence is not usual elsewhere, & the water

Rule III. This rule proposes a consolidated rate of four annas per acre for land supplied with water for two crops, ~~whether they be grown or not~~, to be paid in all years "except in case of failure of water." This exception wholly nullifies the composition for the second crop. The basis of the

the composition is that sometimes there will be a short supply of water for the second crop. But if on all such occasions the second crop assessment is to be remitted, there is no composition; for all Ranjah land is chargeable when there is water, and is exempt when there is not. The effect is simply to lower the second crop assessment, which is already low in the extreme. On reconsideration the Government think it expedient to raise the charge for water for the second crop. At present the ~~two~~ full charge, both for land and water, is only one and a half rupee, being half the water rate of the first crop

on land under ordinary ryotwari assessment,
crop. It is true that the charge for
~~extraordinary~~ the second crop
~~ordinary~~ ~~Fooyjah~~ ~~land~~
is usually ~~taken at~~ half
that of the first; but that
includes half the land
assessment also. The water
rate is charged for the water
supplied; a second crop
takes less water than a first,
but that water is much
more expensive to supply.
It appears to Government
then that the full water
rate of three rupees should
be charged on a second
crop of rice. The value of
the crop is probably not
less than fifteen Rupees;
so that the charge will
be only one fifth of the
produce. The ~~charge~~ water rate for a crop of sugar cane will be six Rupees an acre.
Rule IV is approved.
Rule V. This rule proposes
a charge of one rupee an
acre

acre for temporary irrigation
for dry crops where ar-
-ranged in tracts, and one
and a half rupee for iso-
-lated fields thus watered.
This (again) appears to the
Government to be a need-
-less refinement and com-
-plication. This irrigation
is equally valuable to the
raiyat, whether his field
be "isolated," or watered in
common with others. They
~~then~~, make a difference in
the rate, which will in-
-evitably lead to disputes
and evasions? What is to
constitute a "tract"? Will
it be two fields, or three
fields; or will it need ten
fields together? One great
advantage of a light assess-
-ment is that it makes
~~the~~

To seem understood Thus

~~it practicable~~
~~the authorities~~ to get rid of
these nice distinctions; and
certainly the proposed rate
is light enough for that.

Rule VII as modified
by the Board and Mr. New-
-ill, is approved, ~~with the~~
following slightly modified as follows.
~~-cations~~

"Land once classed as
Ranjah cannot be trans-
-ferred to Punjah unless the
means of irrigation fail
permanently"

Rule VIII is approved, ~~as~~
~~The limit as to date of applications~~
~~modified by the Board to~~
~~rule, however, be the 31st March~~
~~make the end of February~~
~~as originally proposed.~~
~~the limit instead of the~~
~~31st March.~~

Rule VIII is approved,
as ~~also~~ modified by the
Board to omit the limita-
-tion of time as to applications
for

No Rate will thereafter be
as follows "Rs IV. Temporary
irrigation for dry crops
will be charged for at
the rate of 1½ Rupee an acre."

for temporary irrigation
for dry crops.

Rule IX will stand
good, without the addi-
-tion of the words "for
trespass". ~~after "criminal~~
~~protection".~~

Rule X is approved,
as modified by the Board.
But the word "wholly"
may be omitted as re-
-dundant; and the word
"and" should be substi-
-tuted for "but."

Rule XI. The following
will be substituted for that
proposed.

"The rules will also
apply to Zamindaris, ex-
-cept where a composition
shall have been made
either for a fixed yearly
payment, or for a

"payment

payment according to the
quantity of water supplied.

Rule XII ~~stands~~ attend as ~~modified~~
by the Board is approved, ~~with~~ with modifications
or forms.
(A. E.)

3. The Board of Revenue
will be good enough to
amend the draft rules
in accordance with the
foregoing ~~observations~~ instructions, and
will submit a revised
draft for the approval
of Government.

4. They Board will also ~~be~~
~~good enough to~~ report what
has been done by the
Collectors in pursuance
of the order of December
7th 1859 directing that
the water rate should
be levied immediately on
Inam and Zamindári
land

convert the Rules
as now altered, to
the information & guidance
of the Collectors. They
will also be comd. I
the Ch E. for the info. of
the Opinion of the B. of R.

of the forthcoming settlement of the Inam Districts,

† No. 1656. para 5.

land, and on Government
land where the state of
assessment might make
it practicable.

I have &c.

To

The Board of Revenue.
Director of Rev: Settlement.

Rev: Dept
32

No 1690.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 22d Sept. 1860

Read the following Papers

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting for consideration and orders with the Board's remarks the revised Draft Rules for the Water assessment in the Godavery and Kristna Deltas.

From the Director of Rev: Settlement.

Reporting that the Collector of the Godavery District has no objection to the 31st March being fixed as the limit for applications to convert dry into wet land.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Recommending that the 31st March be inserted in No VII of the rules for the Water Assessment in the Godavery and Kristna Districts in lieu of the end of February.

Here enter 26th May 1860 No 2529

— Do — 4th July 1860 No 667

— Do — 25th July 1860 No 3407

1. After consulting with the Director of Revenue Settlement, the Board of Revenue re-submit the Draft rules proposed by that officer for the water rate in the Godavery and Kristna Districts, noting

noting but one alteration as worthy of remark, viz, in Rule VI, by which it is now proposed to disallow to the raiyat the option of con-verting Nanja into Punja, except when irrigation shall permanently fail.

2. The Government now proceed to pass ~~their~~ orders on the proposed Rules.

Rules I and II as proposed by the Board are approved.

Rules III and IV will be noticed below.

Rule V. This rule proposes a charge of one rupee an acre for temporary irrigation for dry crops where arranged in tracts, and one and a half rupee for isolated fields thus watered. This appears to the Government to be a needless refinement and complication. ~~This irrigation is equally valuable to the raiyat, whether~~ ~~his field be~~

This irrigation is equally valuable to the raiyat, whether his field be "isolated," or watered in common with others. It seems undesirable therefore to make a difference in the rate, which will inevitably lead to disputes and evasions. The great advantage of a light assessment is that it makes it practicable to get rid of these nice distinctions, and certainly the proposed rate is light enough for that. The rule will therefore be as follows:

V. "Temporary irrigation for dry crops will be charged for at 1½ Rupee an acre."

Rule VI as modified by the Board and Mr Neville, is approved, slightly modified as follows.

"Land once classed as Nanja "cannot be transfered to Punja except the

the means of irrigation fail
"permanently."

Rule VII is approved. But, in accordance with the Board's proceedings of July 25th above recorded, the limit as to date of applications will be the 31st March as originally proposed.

Rule VIII is approved, as modified by the Board, to omit the limitation of time as to applications for temporary irrigation for dry crops.

Rule IX will stand good, without the abortion of the words "for trespass"

Rule X is approved, as modified by the Board. But the word "wholly" may be omitted as redundant; and the word "and" should be substituted for "but."

Rule XI. The following will be substituted for that proposed

"The rules will also apply to

"a composition shall have
"been made either for a fixed
"yearly payment, or according
"to the quantity of water sup-
"plied."

Rule XII as altered by the Board is approved slightly modified as follows.

"The arrangement whereby
"in a part of the Kaistava
"Delta in the Guntoor District
"a consolidated water rate
"of four Rupees an acre has
"been introduced, will be
"superseded by the present
"rules. But in the other
"parts of the Delta in that
"District where the system
"of Punjai rates prevails,
"that system will remain
"undisturbed till the new
"Revenue Settlement."

3. It remains to notice Rules III and IV, which relate to the water rate for second crop on fully irrigated land. By Rule III tracts

tracts of land fully sup-
-plied with water for two
crops are to pay a consolid-
-ated water rate of four pu-
-pees an acre, to be paid in
all years "except in cases of
failure of water," and by
Rule IV the rate for a se-
-cond crop on land not in-
-cluded in such tracts is to
pay 1/2 Rupee an acre.
Thus the entire charge for
a fully irrigated second
crop would, under these
rules, be either one Rupee an
acre or 1½ Rupee. It appears
to Government that this is
unduly low. The charge for
a second crop on ordinary
Jhanjai land is a sum equal
to half the Jhanjai assess-
-ment of the first crop, which
includes the land assess-
-ment as well as the water
rate, but it is now proposed
that half the latter only shall
be paid, and only a third
of it, where the land is in
"tracts." For the most part
also, the whole assessment is much higher
in the case of the old
Jhanjai than the new
rates in the Godavery
and Kaitna will be.
The difference may be
shewn by an example.
On an acre of old Jhanja
paying 7 Rs. assessment
for one crop, the charge
for the second crop will
be 3½ Rupees. But in
the case of an acre of
irrigated land in the
Godavery District, pay-
-ing the same amount for
the first crop, viz. 4 Ru
-pees land assessment,
and 3 Rupees water rate,
the charge for the second
crop, on the principle
proposed, will not be

3½

3/4 Rupees but 1/2 Rupee,
or only one rupee if the
land is in a "tract." Thus
the charge for the second
crop will not be half
the charge for the first
crop, but only one fifth
or one seventh of it.

* The Board will report what has been done by the Collectors of the Godavery and the Kristna Districts, in pursuance of the order of December 7th 1859 directing that the water rate should be levied immediately on Inam & zamindari land and on Government land where the state of assessment might make practicable.

* Letter paragraph 5.

In the case of inferior land

no doubt
the difference will be less,
for example, in the case of
land assessed at 1 rupee
an acre, the land and
water rate united will
be 4 Rupees for the first
crop, and manjai land
under an old consolidated
assessment of this amount
would pay only 2 Rupees
for the second crop. But
in point of fact land at
so low a rate under the
old assessments is very
rarely two crop land; and
because those assessments
always included consider-
ation as to the means of
irrigation, and if that was
copious and certain, the
assessment was high.

5. On the two deltas now
in question, however, the
land assessment will be
decidedly light, exceeded

Mr. Newell to average 2 Rupees an acre, though great part of the land is of very good quality, with a moderate uniform water rate. The Government are far from objecting to a light assessment: they think true policy requires it. But there is a limit below which the necessities of the State prohibit reduction; and the Government think that a tract of country so highly favored as these Deltas, ought not to be taxed more lightly than other parts of the country.

6. There is another consideration. The supply of water for a second crop in these Deltas must be very limited without special means taken to provide it and this must all be

A higher charge than that proposed by the Board seems therefore necessary and proper. The principle of a water rate seems to require that the rate should be the same for both the first and second crop; and three Rupees an acre would probably not be high as the entire charge on the second crop.

the construction of very extensive reservoirs up the river. The cost of such works will properly be chargeable to the second crop, for they will be necessary for that only. But the light charge proposed to be made for the water would hardly pay for the necessary works and so, by lessening or taking away the inducement to construct them, might prevent their being made.

7. It is argued that the second crop takes much less water than the first, and also that the crop itself is poorer; and that two crops in a year exhaust the soil. As to the first argument, the Government doubt the fact; it is true the crop is a shorter time on the ground but

but from the much greater power of the sun during the hot and dry season, the evaporation* (which in fact constitutes the consumption of water) is immeasurably more copious. The second objection is no doubt true as a fact, but even the second crop of an acre of land is probably worth at least ten or 12 Rupees, ~~a fourteenth the proposed duty.~~ The exhaustion of the soil is also true in many cases. But this is for the owner to consider. A rupee or two less to pay would not make it worth his while to deteriorate his land; nor would it be wise on the part of Government to hold out such an inducement.

* Note. ~~The~~ Evaporation not only from the water itself, but from the plant, which must supply itself from the water.

8. The question here treated, viz, that of the amount and form of the charge for water on a second crop in these Deltas, is one of very great & permanent importance, and for the foregoing reasons the Government are of opinion that it needs further discussion. They resolve therefore to refer back this point to the Board, with instructions to report further upon it, after consulting with the various officers both of the Revenue and Engineer Departments, best qualified by practical and local knowledge and opportunities of observation, to give an opinion on the subject. They may properly consult the Collectors and District Engineers of both Districts, Capt. Rundall, and Messrs.

G.

G. N. Taylor, Dykes, Newill
and R. C. Master.

9. The Board will report what has been done by the Collectors of the Godavery and the Kistna Districts, in pursuance of the order of December 7th 1859, directing that the water rate should be levied immediately on Inam and Zamindari land, and on Government land where the state of assessment might make it practicable.

communicate the Rules so far as now approved for the information and guidance of the officers concerned.

10. They will also

+ No 1656 paragraph 5.

12 Copies
Board of Rev: Disp: 24th
13 Dr Roxburgh ✓
10 Chief Engineer ✓
5 Inam Comr ✓
1 Mr R. C. Master ✓
1 Captain T. Rundall ✓

Copy in a Letter to Govt.
Dt 10th Octr. 1860 No. 120.

Water Assessment on the Godavery & Kistna deltas

Revenue 1860, Separate
Pro: of Govt for September.

No 1690.

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Dt 22d September 1860.

From Dirs of Rivers Settlement
& Surveys Dt 4th & 15th (2 Corr. Cultivation on the Godavery & Kistna Delta)

Further Pro of 5th March 1861 No 500

Passing orders on the proposed Rules for the water rate in the Godavery and Krishna Districts.

No 413 at 416.

20/11/28 M

2/3/39 II

~~1460/R14/84~~