M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1033 Press Mis.

211-212

Dated 13-6-~~19~~ 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 13th June 1863.

No. 211. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel S. O. E. LUDLOW, R. E., Acting Consulting Engineer Irrigation and Canal Company, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Saint Thomé, 20th May 1863, No. 13:—

SIR,

1. With reference to Government Order No. 1,104, dated 1st May 1863, I have been furnished direct by the Chief Engineer with a copy of his letter to the Agent, containing his views on the subject of the proposed transfer of certain tanks in Kurnool to the Company.

2. This paper has not been communicated to me as yet by the Agent in the usual course with his opinion thereon, but I beg to submit it at once for the information of Government, as I am about to leave the Presidency on Thursday next to inspect the Company's works, as ordered by Government in their Proceedings, No. 819, of the 1st April last.

Referred to the Revenue Department, with reference to the orders in that Department, No. 712, dated 25th April 1863.

22*nd May* 1863. (Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel R. E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

From Colonel H. C. COTTON, Chief Engineer, to F. AGNEW, Esq., Agent Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 7th May 1863, No. *A h*.

DEAR SIR,

1. The Consulting Engineer in his letter No. 10 of the 5th instant, referring to the Proceedings of Government No. 1,104, dated 1st May, calls for my views on the subject of the transfer of the irrigation under the Nundial tank, to the Company.

2. The Order referred to contains Mr. Minchin's letter to the Board of Revenue of the 2nd March, and the Board's remarks in laying it before the Government.

3. As in very many of Mr. Minchin's letters, regarding the Company's operations, he makes assumptions which are groundless, and on them builds his suggestions.

4. He assumes in this case, that it would be an advantage to the Company to take the Canal through the tank, and argues that for [illegible]s advantage the Company should pay.

5. He is wrong in his assumption, and had he referred to me for information, as he has more than once been ordered to do, he would have been in possession of something more sound on which to judge of the question before him. So far from its being an advantage, we should lose level by going through the tank, and every foot of level is of value.

6. Mr. Minchin's suggestion was, that all the irrigation of the District should be made over to the Company, on their paying to the Government the present revenue, and recovering perhaps half the amount under the reduced assessment.

7. He says, I "scouted" that suggestion. The expression is not mine, and it certainly does not convey my answer to his suggestion, which was this: that not only would it be unprofitable to the Company to undertake the charge of small detached tanks *on any terms*, but that those not commanded by the main channel would be no part of the scheme sanctioned by the Secretary of State. The only irrigation which can be transferred is that which is commanded by the Company's main channel. The Nundial tank is below the level of the channel, and the land might be transferred if thought desirable.

8. The transfer would benefit the land at least for second crops, as I think Mr. Minchin almost admits, and there seems no reason why a *small* benefit should be lost.

9. It would be no advantage to carry the canal through the tank, and I have not proposed it, but if the subjacent land were made over to the Company, we should be saved a portion of the expense of constructing the large aqueduct by which we cross the supply channel, and the mingling of the waters below the tank, where the land now irrigated, meets that to be supplied from the Company's channel, would not cause contention. They *could* be separated by a bank, and the water from the two s[illegible] would be rigidly devoted to their separate,

Acting Consulting Engineer 1866

purposes, but I think it better there should be no ground of contention or jealousy, and the combined arrangement would have more effect.

10. What I would propose is, that the tank be made over to the Company ; that the area of land at present irrigated by it shall be fairly ascertained, and that the revenue derived from that extent of land by the Company shall be carried to the account of the Government less the cost of the repairs of the tank, which might be fixed at an annual average.

11. The water rate on this land, as Mr. Minchin shows, must be reduced, because the Company will irrigate lands of the same character, and in close proximity at, I believe, one-third the present rate. But it makes no difference to the Government whether the management is transferred or not ; they will receive the reduced revenue directly or indirectly. The revenue returns will show the average extent of land, on which one crop and two crops have severally been raised, and any increase beyond that may be considered due to the Company's water supply and the revenue from it, theirs.

12. Mr. Minchin appears to think that whatever contract may be determined on between the Government and the Company, something should be done here to make the Company relinquish a part of their profits, or make a payment out of their revenues for some supposed advantages afforded them. It is difficult to understand how Mr. Minchin, accustomed as he must be to revenue calculations, can discover any profit the Company could derive from tanks, fed by jungle streams, at a distance from their works, and thus after paying to the Government the existing high returns, while he evidently foresees that the future returns must be less.

13. It is not with a view to profit to the Company that I propose this transfer, but general convenience and some advantage to the land.

14. The terms of the contract between the Government and the Company will be arranged at Home, and it can only be in details that arrangements can be made here, and they must be in accordance with the spirit of the contract.

15. I must mention the Byap Goodoor tank though it has been brought into the question by mistake. Our channel passes through it, and forming a new bund to the tank, simply removes it further up the valley, and leaves a portion of the bed of great value for culture ; the irrigation under this tank might be transferred to the Company in like manner to that under the Nundial tank.

16. The transfer is a mere matter of expediency, and the terms I think plainly declare themselves, viz., that no profits should accrue to the Company but such as are due to their works, and that no loss should be sustained by the Company of revenue created by their works. All the revenue which the Government might raise by the tanks, if left in the Collector's hands, should be considered the property of the Government, and all excess the property of the Company.

17. I still propose the transfer on these principles.

(A true Copy.)

(Signed) H. C. COTTON, Colonel,
Chief Engineer.

To Colonel S. O. E. Ludlow, Consulting Engineer
Irrigation and Canal Company, for information.

No. 212. ORDER THEREON, 13th June 1863, No. 1,033.

The Government await the Agent's opinion on the subject.

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

No 13. Consulting Engineers Office
D 466
Saint Thome 20th May 1863

From
Lieutt Coll S O E Ludlow R E
Acting Consulting Engineer I & C

To
The Secretary to
Government D P W.

Sir,

1. With reference to Government Order No 1104 dated 1st May 1863, I have been furnished direct by the Chief Engineer with a copy of his letter to the Agent containing his Views on the Subject of the proposed transfer of certain tanks in Kurnool to the Company

2 This paper has not been communicated to me as yet by the Agent in the usual course with his opinion thereon but I beg to submit it at once for the information of Government as I am about to leave the Presidency on thursday next to inspect the Company's works as ordered by Government in their Proceedings No 819 of the 1st April last.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedt Servant
S O Ludlow Lieutt Coll
Acting Consulting Engineer I & C

Compd
HM Watts

Rev.

Colonel Lindsay
forwards for the
information of Govt
copy of two letters
from Colonel Cotton dated
respectively 20th & 22nd
ultimo, addressed to the Agent
for the Navigation of the Godavery
& Kistna Rivers, on the subject
of the proposed transfer of
certain Tanks in Kurnool to the
Company.

Proc: of Govr Dept
Rev: 1787
Dated 29 May 1863.
No 13

Enclosure one.

With reference to the
Proceedings of Government
dated 1st instant No 1104,
submits copy of letter
to the Agent containing
the Chief Engineer's views
on the subject of the
proposed transfer of
certain Tanks in
Kurnool to the Company
G.O. No 1033. 6/13 June

Thomas Lindsay Esq
Madras dated 20th
instant (172)

2 Letters from Messrs
by Col Cotton - Kistna
& Godavery Anicut
dated - 20th & 22nd
May - 1863
Referred to the Chief
Engineer for Report
& opinion
Col Cotton's letter
to Agent
Col Lindsay's letter
to Govt

Referred to the Revenue Department with
reference to the orders in that
Department No 712 dated 25th
April 1863.

Secretary to Govt

22nd May 1863.

X 287

No 211.

25 April 63 Nos 219-220
" 1 May " " 819
" 1 May " " 7-8

Copy in a letter to Govt
dated 13 June 64 No 32 Mis

6 June 63 88

Govt annually the average net revenue after deducting the annual cost of repairs.

Mr. Minchin, while willing to make over all the existing irrigation of the Talooks of Kurnool proper to the Company on these terms, recommends, as to the Rundyall tanks that the Company should be allowed to carry their Canal through them on condition of the bad supply never being deficient and of their being filled gratis from the last freshes of the Combhudra - and as to the Ryaps Goodoor tank he said the Canal would in effect destroy that the Company be to supply Govt without charge

large with water for the cultivation of the existing Ryakut.

As regards the proposal to take over all the irrigation works of the original districts Colonel Cotton states that the plan is impracticable as the Company can only assume works commanded by their own works. This seems clear.

As to the Rundyall Tanks, Colonel Cotton says that he would lose by carrying the Canal through them instead of gaining so largely as Mr. Minchin supposed when he named his terms. Some expense will

will be admits the
in an aqueduct and
e transfer will be
great convenience.
His proposal is that
the average annual
area irrigated should
be the basis of calc
-lation - and that the
Company should pay
Govt the money which
may hereafter be rec
-ived from that sce
-lent of land, less the
average annual cost
of repairs.-

Government
will lose by this ar-
rangement but it
seems the first one
the present assess-
ment is declared
be much higher

can be expected hereafter and
the Company of course could
not be asked to make it good.
They are clearly bound to
supply irrigation to all lands
now irrigated and may
reasonably claim the option
either of continuing to supply
the water on paying what that
water may be worth at the
valuation hereafter put
put on it by the Govern-
ment. They may fairly,
I think demur to paying here-
after when water will be
plentiful what it is worth
now when it is scarce -
The "transfer" as it is termed
in fact amounts to no more
than this, that the Tanks
become the property of the
Company who will include
the proceeds of the Water in
their general account, after
crediting Government with
the annual payment fixed
as the value of the present
irrigation - It will sim-
plify matters greatly and
be a mutual convenience.

The

The Government will equa
ise in other cases collect th
assessment and water rate.

The position of the
s will not be in any
way affected - if water fa
fails they will be entitled
remission of assessment
and if the Company perma
nently withdraw the
means of irrigation the
ryots whose lands may
be effected will be entitl
to compensation from the
Company for the deteriora
tion of their property -

J B S.

No. 1033.

Ordered in Council 8th
The Govt. are unit
the Opinion in the Subject
as the Subject

L D.

From Dr. George
13th June 1838

Dr. Morton

Copy Letter 19 Consul Esq. 1866. 24 Feb 25
20 — Mr Cobden
14 — Rivl Boards

Copy in a letter to Court dated 2 September 64 No 32 Mis.

Revenue 1863 Dept.
Pro: of Govt for June.

No 1033

Pro: of the Madras Govt
Dated 13th June 1863.

Pro: of the Madras Govt in the Pub. Works. Dept. dated 17th Sept 63
& No 7116 — in Gen.

From Consulting Engr dated 9 Sept 63
No 2172.

Opinion of the Agent of the E I & C. Company called for on the subject of the transfer of the Mundial Tank to the Company.

No 211 & 212.

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