

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1332	Press
		Mis.
	<i>Rev. 265</i>	
Dated	18-7-	19 1863

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
18th July 1863.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 364. Endorsement of the Acting Consulting Engineer Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Saint Thomé, 4th July 1863, No. 31.

Read the following letter from F. AGNEW, Esq., Agent Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel S. O. E. LUDLOW, R. E., Acting Consulting Engineer Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 22nd June 1863, No. 300.

SIR,

No. 14 of 5th March 1863.

2nd. I take this opportunity of submitting for the information of Government copy of a letter* and its accompaniments from the Board of Directors of this Company, expressing an opinion in favor of a separate water rate, distinct from any assessment or other charge to be levied by the Government, and which opinion, it will be seen, is fully concurred in by the Secretary of State in Council.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) S. O. E. LUDLOW, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Acting Cons. Engr. I. & C. Company.

From J. WESTWOOD, Esq., Secretary Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, (Home), to the Under Secretary of State for India, dated 27 Canon Street, London, E. C., 5th March 1863, No. 14.

SIR,

1. The Board of Directors have, in view of the importance and urgency of the subject, desired me to express on their behalf an earnest and respectful request that the attention of the Government of Madras may be at once given to the strong necessity which exists for an immediate settlement of the amount of the rate to be hereafter levied upon land in the District of Kurnool, and to determine which a Revenue Survey has been for some time past in progress, or that at least such rate may be declared in respect of all land in that District which can or may be commanded for the purposes of irrigation by the channels and works now under construction there, as the want of such settlement, they are justified in stating, will alone prevent the application of the Company's water to irrigation during the coming season.

2. The Consulting Engineer of the Government after an inspection of the Company's works in August last reported thus:—"There is every reasonable prospect of all the head works, viz., anicut, sluices and embankments being fully completed by the end of next May, or in good time for the reception of the first freshes of 1863," and "it has been suggested, and the suggestion has, I believe, been adopted, that the arches (i. e., of the Hindry Aqueduct) might be turned in separate and independent ribs, so that a part, say one-third of the breadth of the Aqueduct, may be completed this season. If this plan, which has, in my opinion, other advantages to recommend it, be adopted as much water may be carried across the Aqueduct next season as will amply suffice for all the land lying under that part of the Channel below Kurnool which is likely to be completed," and again, "if one-third in breadth only of the channel be executed this season water may be conveyed as far as the Nagatoor tank, and possibly a little further so as to bring a considerable quantity of land under irrigation during next year's freshes."

3. The Chief Engineer of the Company has also subsequently assured the Directors that he will be prepared to carry water into the Boanassy Division (down to and including which channels, &c., have been planned to supply over 60,000 Acres if not into the Koondaur Valley in July next, "but," he adds, "eager as the people are to commence irrigation not a step has yet been taken to prepare for it, and nothing will be done until it is known what the land assessment is." "No man will clear and level his land on an uncertainty as to the claims of the Government for land tax. No man in England lays out capital which will bind him to a certain course whether at a loss or otherwise, and here speculation is not to be expected. The cultivators believe that if they prepare their land at some expense while the Government is preparing to fix the tax

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18th July 1863.*

"upon it, the result will be their having no choice, but between total loss of their outlay and submission to any rate the Government may then choose to lay upon the land."

4. From the foregoing statements it is manifest that immediate action on the part of Government is imperatively called for, and that such action is all that is required to enable the Company to afford, and the District of Kurnool to receive irrigation during the current year. The Directors, therefore, earnestly trust that no delay whatever will take place in the issue of a public notification of the particulars of the land assessment to be in future attached to that District or to so much of such land as may come within reach or command of the Company's works, especially as the loss of revenue which will be sustained by the Company in the event of such notification not being immediately issued, will be a very serious injury to the Company, a loss to the Government who have guaranteed interest on the capital and who are to participate in the profits realized, and will also cause much disappointment amongst the inhabitants of the locality in question.

From H. MERIVALE, Esq., to J. WESTWOOD, Esq., Secretary Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, 27 Cannon Street, E. C., dated India Office, S. W., 13th April 1863.
SIR,

1. I am directed by the Secretary of State for India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 5th ultimo, urging with a view to the commencement of irrigation from your Company's works during the ensuing season, the expediency of immediate settlement of the assessment to be hereafter levied on land in Kurnool.

2. In reply I am directed to transcribe the following extract from a Despatch just addressed by the Secretary of State in Council to the Government of Madras:—

"After full consideration I have to request that your Excellency will re-consider your proceedings, and unless some difficulty should exist in the case of Kurnool, of which I am not aware, that you will adopt the plan of a separate water-rate, distinct from the land assessment of which Her Majesty's Government have, on more than one occasion, expressed their decided preference. It is most important that means should be at once taken to make it clear to the Ryots that the payment for the use of the water supplied by the Irrigation Company is altogether separate and distinct from the land assessment, and that the latter will, under no circumstances, be liable to be increased on account of the advantages which the land may derive from the supply of water.

(True Copies.)

(Signed) F. AGNEW, Agent.

From J. WESTWOOD, Esq., Secretary, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to F. AGNEW, Esq., Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, Madras, dated 27 Canon Street E. C. London, 25th April 1863, No. 20.

SIR,

Water Rates.

1. Attached to this I send you copy of a letter addressed by me to the Under Secretary of State for India* and also a copy of his reply.† This latter document is of a most satisfactory character, and should finally settle the question hitherto discussed regarding the establishment of a separate water rate, and also authoritatively determines that from henceforth no Governmental charge will be made or allowed for improvements effected by the application of the Company's water to the land.

2. You will at the earliest moment inform the Government of Madras that, the Directors of this Company entirely and cordially agree with the desire of the Secretary of State that the rate to be charged for the water which may be supplied from their works for irrigation shall be a distinct charge, unconnected with, and altogether separate from any tax, rent, or rate which the Government may be entitled to levy on the land. They are convinced that this separation will be found to work more satisfactorily and to be without those elements of discord and constant

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18th July 1863.*

dissatisfaction which would inevitably attend a consolidated Nunjah assessment; and seeing that a separate water rate has already been recommended by the local Officers of Government they (the Directors) are assured the Madras Government will not hesitate to issue the necessary orders forthwith to establish such separate and distinct water rate or charge, not however dealing with the amount of such rate further than has been already done by the publication of a temporary charge of 4 Rupees per Acre for the first crop, which charge has the approval of the Directors.

3. There is every reason to believe that a contract defining legally and finally the rights of the Government and the Company is about to be settled and executed, and immediately after this has taken place I purpose sending you full instructions and information setting forth the views and wishes of the Directors as to the amount of the permanent rate to be charged for the water supplied for irrigation for each crop. In the meantime you will be good enough to use your best and close exertions to secure the favorable and immediate action of the Government upon the Despatch of the Secretary of State referred to in the letter of the Under Secretary of State to me, and also the publication of a plain and positive notification in accordance with the last paragraph of that letter.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) F. AGNEW, Agent.

Submitted to Government for information:

(Signed) S. O. E. LUDLOW, Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Acting Cons. Engr. I. & C. Company.

Referred to the Revenue Department.

Chepauk,
7th July 1863.

(Signed) W. I. BIRDWOOD, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government, P. W. D.

No. 365.

ORDER THEREON, 18th July 1863, No. 1,332.

Ordered to be recorded with reference to G. O. dated 13th July 1863, No. 1,272.

(Signed) P. P. HUTCHINS

Acting Deputy Secretary to Government.

N^o 300.

Madras Brigade and Local Com.

Madras 22nd June 1863.

From,

J. Agnew Esquire.

Agent M. S. C. B.

To,

Lieut. Col. S. O. C. Ludlow R.E.

Sir Acting Surveying Engineer M. S. C. B.

X X X X X X X

I take this opportunity of submit-
ting for the information of Government
copy of a letter and its accompaniments
from the Board of Directors of this
Company, expressing an opinion in favor
of a separate Water rate, distinct from
any Assessment or other charge to be im-
posed by the Government, and which
opinion if will be seen is fully concurred
in by the Secretary of State in Council.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Signed J. Agnew

Agent

(True Copy)

J. O. C. Ludlow R.E.

Acting Surveying Engineer M. S. C. B.

N^o 14 of 5th March 1863.

Per Agnew

1863 & 1864
Rev. Prof. G. B. Vail
The Consulting Engineer
So.
14 Feb.

The Secretary to Govt.
(D. P. M.)

Dated 19 July 1863.
Rec'd 8.5
No. 31.

Enclosure - 1 viz.
Agent's letter with 2 Encl.
D.

Forwards for the
information of Govt.
men a letter from the
Agent and also com-
pariments regarding
Waterpale.

No. 1332-18 July

L Witham Order

Submitted to Government
action.

No. 31

155

1st July 1863

For Order

No. 364 + 365.

We are sending to the
Governor of the State a copy
of the amended Statute
which the Board of
Mineral is about to
to pass and forward
my copy of a letter
from the Board re-
specting the same.

Original of the
Statute of 1863.

No. 31
The Secretary to Government
Acting Consulting Engineer
19 Feb.

Dependence of Public Works

No. 1332.

reference to a. of 13 July 1863

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Received of the
 Secretary of the
 Board of Engineers

Frederick A. Hall
 Secretary of the Board of Engineers

1st July 1863
 1863

For Order
 No. 364 & 365

That we can
 be sure as before
 they will be put in
 of the Board of
 Engineers.

No. 300
 1863
 From, Charles M. Hall
 To, Charles M. Hall

Date 22nd
 No. 23 June 1863
 2nd

Regarding to the
 purchase of a copy
 of the amended report
 which the Board of
 Engineers is directed
 to send and forward
 my copy of a letter
 from the Board re-
 garding the Board of
 Engineers.

1332

No. 31

Submitted to Government
 for information.

Consulting Engineer
 Acting for the
 Secretary of the Board of Engineers

The Secretary of the Board of Engineers
 Department of Public Works

Received at the
 reference to a copy 13 July 1863

From W. George
 1863 July 13. 83