

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 283

Press
~~Mis.~~

123 124

Dated

9 2 19 16 3

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th February 1863.*

No. 123. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th January 1863 :—

Read the following letter from R. E. MASTER, Esq., Officiating Director of Revenue Settlement, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 19th January 1863, No. 54/6.

SIR,

1. Referring to the frequently expressed wish of the Government, that the Settlement operations in the Kurnool District should be pushed on as rapidly as possible, with the view of the early re-assessment of the tract that will come under the influence of the Irrigation Company's works, I deem it advisable to report, for the information of the Board and Government, the stage to which the operations have up to this time advanced, the work still remaining to be performed, and the further period required for its completion. They will then be in a position to decide whether the operations should be prosecuted to a close in the ordinary manner or whether extraordinary and exceptional measures are required.

2. The Settlement party employed in Kurnool was at first organized on a limited scale, Mr. Newill having been under the impression that the Government wished the work there to be undertaken by a small party. On the receipt of the Order dated 30th May 1862, No. 1,197, the establishments were as quickly as possible raised to full strength, and the work has since been prosecuted with the utmost vigor and perseverance. My instructions to Mr. Morris, the Deputy Director in charge of the party, were, to confine his attention, in the first instance, to those villages which contained land to be hereafter irrigated from the works, and to postpone till afterwards the demarcation and classification of villages beyond their influence. Mr. Morris carried out these instructions as far as he was able, but he could not do so to their full extent, as the officers of the Company had only surveyed the country as far as Nagatoor, up to which point the area commanded by the proposed channel does not exceed 10,000 Acres. They were consequently unable except in a rough and approximate manner, to state in anticipation of the necessary survey and levels, what tract they would ultimately be in a position to water.

3. Excluding therefore such tracts only as even to a non-professional eye, it was clear, could never be irrigated, the operations were systematically carried on through the four Talooks of Kurnool proper, and, according to the last returns, they have so far advanced, that Mr. Morris anticipates being able to submit a settlement report for all the irrigable villages by the 31st March next, or, if he be allowed to defer the report a month or two longer, for the four Talooks complete.

4. The report on the settlement of an extensive Province is not a document to be lightly skimmed over and hurriedly adopted; nor can the various accounts, statements and calculations which accompany it, be passed without careful scrutiny and examination. It moreover almost invariably happens that the review of the report leads to a call for additional information and explanation on doubtful points. Hence, it follows that a certain time must be allowed for the passing of the report through my own, the Board's and the Government offices, and allowing only a month to each, which will be admitted to be a very moderate estimate, and supposing the original report itself to reach my office by the date already mentioned, it will be impossible for final orders to issue till the very end of the current Fashi.

5. But it is not practicable to introduce a settlement the moment it is sanctioned. Independantly of the improbability of our being in possession of the correct survey field areas by the middle of the year (and without them it is of course impossible to calculate the assessment of each field), the detailed calculations themselves, which cannot be made till the rates have been approved and finally decided on, occupy a considerable time. The Asamiwar account and the individual tickets to be issued to each Ryot showing him the area and assessment of the several fields comprising his holding, must then be prepared, and he must have time before the cultivating season commences, to consider and make up his mind as to the propriety of abandoning, diminishing, or increasing his holding. When moreover, it is remembered that the cultivat-

ing season commences in June, and that under Government Order, 23rd January 1861, No. 161, no notices of relinquishment of land can be sent in after the 15th July, it will be apparent that a settlement sanctioned at the end of June cannot possibly be brought into force in the Fasli commencing on the 1st of the month following.

6. By far the most satisfactory course to adopt, and one which I strongly advocate, will be to permit the Deputy Director to make his report on the four complete Talooks comprising Kurnool proper. He will doubtless be able to do this by the end of May. The papers may pass through the prescribed channels, be duly discussed and considered, and the Government will be able to pass final orders in the September or October following. There will then be ample time for the Deputy Director to get the Fieldwar assessment calculated, to prepare his Asamiwar accounts and to distribute to the Ryots their individual tickets, at the same time personally explaining to them the particulars of the new settlement and disposing of all petitions and disputes. The Ryots will have time to decide on the extent of their future holdings, and the new settlement itself can be brought into play without hurry or confusion from the commencement of Fasli 1274, *i. e.*, 1st July 1864.

7. Were it not for the peculiar circumstances of the District in connection with the Irrigation Company, there can, I think, be little doubt that both the Board and Government would approve the course proposed in the preceding paragraph. The objection to it lies in the statements of the officers of the Company, that though they have been, and are ready to irrigate a large extent of land, none will be prepared for the receipt of water until the Ryots are made acquainted with the permanent total demand upon it. The land is described as undulating and stony, and requiring a large outlay before it can be fitted for irrigation. It is desirable to see therefore what extent of land will be affected by the postponement of the introduction of the new settlement for another year, *i. e.*, what is the greatest extent that can be irrigated in the coming season. As regards the land which might have been watered in the past year, Lieut.-Colonel Ludlow conclusively shows in paragraph 54 of his report dated 29th October 1862, No. 76, that though it would have been quite possible to irrigate a small tract west of the Hindry, to have done so would have been both impolitic and dangerous. In paragraphs 58 and 69 of the same report, the Officiating Consulting Engineer expresses his opinion that though it will not be practicable to complete the Aqueduct over the Hindry before the freshes of next year, a section or rib of one-third of its breadth may be finished, so as to allow of water passing over, and that one-third of the breadth of the channel may also be excavated as far as the Nagatoor tank, or possibly a little farther. From information furnished by the officials of the Company, I learn that the irrigable area to be commanded by the channel between the Anicut at Soonkasala and the Nagatoor tank, including the extent lying west of the Hindry is 10,020 Acres, so that supposing the Aqueduct and channel to be completed by June next to the extent estimated by Lieutenant-Colonel Ludlow, and supposing the minor works and distributing channels to be also by that time in working order, it will be possible in the coming season to admit water over some fifteen square miles, but it may be that only a portion of this area will be irrigated.

8. The question then remains, is it absolutely essential that the 10,000 Acres above alluded to should be permanently assessed before the 1st July next? I do not myself think that it is. I would add to the existing dry rates the temporary water rate of Rupees 4 per Acre on the above area, or on any portion of it that may be irrigated this year, and next year the whole may come under the new settlement. Should, however, the Government be of a different opinion, the only means by which the object in view can be attained will be by sanctioning the following exceptional measure. To allow of a settlement being introduced for next Fasli, the Deputy Director must receive his final orders early in April or barely ten weeks hence. This period will not admit of the submission of a report and its consideration by the several authorities in the usual manner. A discretion must be allowed to the Settlement Department to take as the Government demand a certain proportion of the gross produce and to fix the assessment off hand without further reference either to the Board or to the Government. I have no wish to

adopt this plan which will be a hurried and in many respects an unsatisfactory one. I merely throw it out as a suggestion, in the event of the Government considering it essential to assess the land at once. The course proposed in paragraph 6 is unquestionably the preferable one, and will prove the most satisfactory in the end.

9. I am in communication with Major Priestley on the subject of the supply of the Survey areas. Those for the limited tract to be irrigated this year may possibly be furnished earlier, but it is not likely that the remainder can be ready for another year at least.

1. Ordered to be submitted for the decision of Government.

2. Under the circumstances of the case, and as Mr. Master with whom the Board have conferred is of opinion that a consolidated assessment cannot be fixed satisfactorily by any more summary process than that now employed, so as to be capable of introduction within the limited time before the next cultivating season, The Board advocate the continuance for another season of the temporary water rate as proposed by Mr. Master.

3. The Board observe that until the Company's officers shall have executed the branch channels, the completion of the main channel to a greater or less extent will have but little effect on the irrigation of the tract commanded by the works.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed.) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

No. 124. ORDER THEREON, 9th February 1863, No. 283.

1. With these Proceedings the Board of Revenue submit a letter from the Acting Director of Revenue Settlement in which he explains that the operations of his Department in Kurnool have been primarily directed to the villages likely to be irrigated from the works of the Irrigation and Canal Company so far as the survey of the Company rendered it practicable, but that with all possible effort the orders of Government as to the Settlement cannot be obtained before the close of the current Fasli and the commencement of the cultivating season, when it will be too late to give immediate effect to the Settlement without great embarrassment to the Ryots. Mr. Master and the Board therefore concur in recommending that the Deputy Director be permitted to make his report on the four complete Talooks comprising Kurnool proper in May next, so that the Settlement itself may be introduced without hurry or confusion from the commencement of Fasli 1274 (1st July 1864). Mr. Master suggests also in the event of Government considering it essential to have the tract capable of irrigation from the Company's works this year immediately settled, that discretionary authority be given to him to take as the Government assessment certain proportions of the gross produce and at once to declare that to be the Government demand.

2. Under all the circumstances stated the Government resolve to wait and introduce the new assessment in due course. They see no sufficient cause for taking any extraordinary and inconvenient measures for hastening the settlement as neither the Hindri Aqueduct nor the branch channels will be completed, and it is very doubtful how far irrigation will be really available.

3. The Government resolve, however, in order to encourage the people to level and prepare their lands in the particular villages alluded to by Mr. Master for wet cultivation, to declare, that the new assessment will not exceed the existing dry assessment *plus* the water cess of Rupees 4 an Acre for the first crop and Rupees 2 for the second, or a consolidated water rate of 5 Rupees for both crops.

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

both the Press and Government would approve the course proposed in the preceding para. The objection to it lies in the statements of the Officers of the Company, that though they have been, and are ready to irrigate a large extent of land, none will be prepared for the receipt of water until the ryots are made acquainted with the permanent total demands upon it. The land is described as undulating and stony, and requiring a large outlay before it can be fitted for irrigation. It is desirable to see therefore what extent of land will be affected by the postponement of the introduction of the new settlement for another year, i.e. what is the greatest extent that can be irrigated in the coming season. As regards the land which might have been watered in the past year, Lieutenant Colonel Dudson conclusively shows in para 54 of his report dated 29th October 1862 No 76, that though it would have been quite possible to irrigate a small tract west of the Hindry, to have done so would have been both impolitic and dangerous. In paras 58 and 69 of the same report, the Officiating Consulting Engineer expresses his opinion that though it will not be practicable to complete the aqueduct over the Hindry before the freshet of next year, a section or rib of one third of its breadth may be finished, so as to allow of water passing over, and that one third of the breadth of the channel may also be excavated as far as the Nagatoo tank, or possibly a little further. From information furnished by the Officers of the Company, I learn that the irrigable area to be commanded by the channel between the Anikhet at Sonkasala and the Nagatoo tank, including the extent lying west of the Hindry is 10,020 acres, so that supposing the aqueduct and channel to be completed

3. The question then remains, is it absolutely essential that the 10,000 acres above alluded to should be permanently assessed before the 1st July next? I do not myself think that it is. I would add to the existing dry rates the temporary water rate of Rs. 4 per acre on the above area, or on any portion of it that may be irrigated this year, and next year the whole may come under the new settlement. Should however the Government be of a different opinion, the only means by which the object in view can be attained will be by sanctioning the following exceptional measure. To allow of a settlement being introduced for next July, the Deputy Director must receive his final orders early in April or barely ten weeks hence. This period will not admit of the submission of a report and its consideration by the several authorities in the usual manner. A discretion must be allowed to the settlement Department to take as the Government demand a certain proportion of the gross produce and to fix the assessment off hand without further reference either to the Board or to the Government. I have no wish to adopt this plan which will be a hurried and in many respects an unsatisfactory one. I merely throw it out as a suggestion, in the event of the Government considering it essential to assess the land at once. The course proposed in para 6 is unquestionably the preferable one, and will prove the most satisfactory in the end.

Same in communication with Major Priestley on

- I think that under all the circumstances we must wait & introduce the new specimen - in due course - To give authority to a member of the Board to open the 10,000 acres in question would lead to discrepancies & embarrass the Commission Settlement. In incurring these inconveniences no sufficient cause appears, whether the kindie Agreement or the branch chartered, will be completed, & it is very doubtful how far irrigation will be really successful ^{in these particular places}. To encourage the people to level & prepare their lands for wet cultivation one measure seems to me practicable - viz to declare that the new settlement will not exceed the existing dry rate plus the water cap of Rs 4/- The average specimen of wet land in Tanjore is about Rs 5, & good night! Therefore the water caps of Rs 4/- for the "mullating & uttong" band of Marudoor, but I do not know whether the Sirisuly price the guarantee for the same Mullating & Uttong band as Marudoor.

I have
taken Gougham would be satisfied with such an arrangement.

See this letter Mr
Master, the of Dr of
Re: Settlement
reports on the present
period within which
the Survey & Settlement
shall now in progress
in the Kurumoot District
will be completed

He explains that the operations of the Dept. have been primarily directed to the village likely to be irrigated from the works of the Irrigation Co., so far as the Survey of the Co. rendered practicable -

The Dept. & Bureau

expects to be
able to submit
his little men's
scheme ~~to~~ ^{for} ~~as far as~~
the irrigable villages
~~are concerned~~
by the 31 March
next, and for
the whole four
Zaloks, constituting
the old Kurumuk
District (inclusive
of the villages above
referred to) by the
end of April
or May next.

Supposing the
Deputy Director's
expectations of the
fulfillment of his
scheme are to be
considered by
the As Director, the

Bt of the 2nd of the 1st
and a 2nd of the 1st
has to be introduced.
There is on this is
a very moderate
period indeed
for all these purposes,
and yet that
period will bring
us to the close of
the current year
and the com-
mencement of
the cultivating season,
and will give
the ryots no time
for deciding as
to the changes which
the new settlement
may induce them
to make in their
holdings & for pre-
paring their lands
for irrigation, where

necessary.

All the hurry
therefore will only
end in making
us just too late.

Such being the
case the Bd & Mr
Master concur in
recommending that
the Govt. should
wait for the ~~above~~
Scheme of settle-
ment for the whole
of New York proper
which can un-
-doubtedly be easily
introduced in
the course of the
current year, to
take effect in 7.
1274 or from the 1st
July 1864.

There can be
no doubt that the

27

is the safest course
but it will involve
difficulties & dis-
cussions with the
Irrigation Co. which
within certain
limits, it is de-
sirable to present.

From Col. Ludlow's
report of the 29 Oct
last & from informa-
tion furnished by
the officers of the
Irrigation Co. Mr.
Master states that
there are a capital
of irrigation ^{things} ~~year~~
~~season~~ ^{year} ~~will be~~
about 10,000 acres.
and that if Govt
consider it essential
to have this tract
immediately settled

the only course is
to give him discre-
tionary authority
to take as the ^{pr}
assessment as
certain proportions
of the gross produce
and then I there
declare that to
be the ^{pr} demand.
He does not seem
minded this course,
naturally preferring
the sure, though slower,
process.

I do not myself
see the slightest
difficulty or danger
in assessing these
10,000 acres ^{at hand}.
Mr. Morris is an ex-
cellent officer & his
data will, any how,
form the ultimate
basis of settlement.

Mr. Minchin knows
the District & is well
up to his work - so
that all the local
knowledge requisite
is available. There
is nothing peculiar
about these lands,
their tenure &c. I can
see no reason at
all why a member
of the ^{pr} should
not be deputed
to do the work &
hand in commu-
nication with Mr.
Master. The area
is so small that
the risk of loss is
not worth considering.
The proportion of gross
produce might be
the standard - viz
30 per cent as a
maximum & 25
cent as the average.

Proceedings of the Madras Government Held on the 9th February 1863.

Read the following Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting report from the
offg. Director of Revenue Settlement on
the Settlement operations in the Kurnool
District and advocating the continuance
for another season of the water
rate as proposed by Mr. Master
(Here dated 20th January 1863)

It seems to me that
in an exceptional
case like this, the
govt. may with per-
fect propriety dele-
gate this power to
a member of the
Board - But, it
is for gov. to decide
whether the occasion
warrants Exceptional
treatment.

Order is passed.

LD 21/1.

It is very desirable
to deprive a Magistrate of
all pretext for saying
that the Govt. in any man-
ner stands in the way of
him getting the earliest
return from his work,
that I should be incli-
ned to take a course
indicated by Mr. Sir.
Horsman I do not object
to Mr. Maltby's proposal
viz that the ryots shall be
assured that his survey is not
an end but a means to
ascertain the Punjab Revenue & 4 R an acre for one
crop.

It is most desirable that the
Govt. should proceed without
further delay to consider the
question involved in the Revenue
Survey Scheme - a minute of
some kind has been circulated on
this subject as connected with the
Richmond & Ayrton's for more
than two months and further
delay only serves to add to the con-
fusion and to complicate the arrange-
ments which have to be made -
Since I wrote that minute I have
made various enquiries from
deputy Collectors and others, and
am convinced that if the Govt.
were to notify its intention to
take as a basis of settlement a
proportion of the crop (I believe on
fourth or one fifth would be an
ample amount) and would
further state that the number
of bushels or measures one find
should be a permanent charge
for ever upon the land, to be
commuted into money at the
average rate of the last two years.
The money charge need be only
for two years - the whole of the
ryots would feel such an
announcement with pleasure
and the determination of the
proportion of produce might
be left to the Collector to
determine assistance being
afforded to him in the shape
of surveyors or an aid by
Collectors or so till the work
was done -
With reference to the particular
case of the Kurnool appor-
tment I think will do
- must I think will do
- I think that it is needful to
do anything extraordinary
the people may be told that
the apporment will not exceed
the existing day rate + 4
paise per water rate -
They choose to sit & work upon
that a permanent well a good
point the Govt. cannot com-
pel them to take water
at a rate.

With these Proceed-
ings the Board of Revenue
submitted a letter from the Acting
Director of Revenue Set-
tlement in which he explains
that the operations of his
Department in Kurnool
have been primarily directed
to the villages likely to be
irrigated from the works of
the Irrigation and Canal
Company

MR
GHE
JP

Company so far as the Sur-
vey of the Company rendered
it practicable, but that
with all possible ^{effort} ~~power~~
orders of Government ^{to} the
Settlement cannot be ob-
tained before the close of the
current July and the com-
mencement of the cultivating
season when it will be too
late to give immediate effect
to the Settlement without
great embarrassment to the
ryots. Mr. Master
and the Board therefore
concur in recommending
that the Deputy Director
be permitted to make his
report on the four complete
talukhs comprising Kurnool
proper in May next so that
the Settlement itself may
be introduced without hurry
or confusion from the com-
mencement of July 12/4

(1st July 1864.) Mr. Master
suggests also in the event of
Government considering it
essential to have the tract
capable of irrigation from
the Company's works this
year immediately settled,
that discretionary authority
be given to him to take as
the Government assent
ment certain proportions
of the gross produce and at
once to declare that to be
the Government demand.

2. Under all the circum-
stances stated the Govern-
ment ~~propose~~ to wait
and introduce the new as-
sessment in due course.
They see no sufficient
cause for taking any ex-
traordinary and inconvenient
measures for hastening the
Settlement as neither the
Zindiragund nor the
branch channels will be
completed, and it is very
doubtful

doubtful how far irrigation
will be really available.

3. The Government resolve
however in order to encourage
the people to level and prepare
their lands in the particular
villages alluded to by the
Master for wet cultivation,
to declare, ~~on behalf of the officers~~
~~of the Irrigation Company~~
~~having no objections to the~~
~~measure~~, that the new as-
sessment will not exceed
the existing dry ^{assessment} plus
the water rate of Rupees
4 an acre for the first crop
and Rupees 2 for the second
or a consolidated rate of 5 Rs. for
both crops.
The opinion of the Agent and
Chief Engineer of the Com-
pany on the subject will
be ascertained through the
Public Works Department.

L.S.

14 copies, Letter B of Public Dept. 10
13 — Do of Public Dept. 11
21 — Do of Public Dept. 12

Copy in a Letter to England
24th March 1827 of 1863

Revenue 1863 Sept 10
Pro: of Govt for February

N^o 283.

Pro: of the Madras

27th February 1863.

Pro: of the Board of Rev.
of 1 Sept 63 C No 212 vii

Pro: Board of Rev.
submitting a report of the
Dⁿ of Rev. Settlement res
regarding the progress of the
Hurnool Settlement
operations and the further
period that would be
required for its completion,
with orders thereon.

N^o 123 + 124.