M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

## Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 683 — Press ~~Mis.~~

Dated 17—4—~~19~~1863

***Not to be folded or roughly handled***

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,* 17*th April* 1863.

No. 161. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th April 1863.

Read the following letters:—

From J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated on circuit Vorkarom, 18th March 1863, No. 40.

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter of the 5th instant, No. 33, I have the honor to forward copies of further correspondence* which has past between the Chief Engineer of the Irrigation Company and myself.

* From the Chief Engineer, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated 3rd and 9th March 1863, Nos. 605 and 618.
To Do. dated 14th March 1863, No. 69.

2. It will be seen that Colonel Cotton objects to the Notification, which I published in the District Gazette with regard to cultivating wet crops under the Canal in the ensuing season, though I am unaware in what way I have failed to "embody in my notice the full import and spirit of the Government Order."

3. It is difficult to extract a clear meaning from Colonel Cotton's letter of the 9th March; he has not stated up to what point in the Canal he has confident expectation of bringing water this season, but appears to consider it my duty to announce authoritatively to the Ryots that water will this season be available as far as Nagatoor, because that village is named in the Government Order, founded upon a suggested possibility, brought forward by the Consulting Engineer.

4. I would now only further trouble the Board by drawing attention to the closing paragraph of my letter to the Chief Engineer, under date the 14th instant, as far as regards the necessity for completing the bridge over the Gootty and Nundial roads, before permitting any water to be carried further than Kurnool.

5. It has been determined to supply one bridge for both these important roads, which are to be diverted for a short distance from the present lines in order to carry both across the Canal at the same point.

6. I believe that to the present moment no preparations have been made for the construction of this most important bridge, and must point out that to permit water to be let into the Canal before such bridge be completed, will cut off the whole traffic of Kurnool to the south and east, and close the high roads from Bangalore, Madras, Cuddapah and Nundial.

7. The extraordinary inconvenience that would ensue to the whole public of Kurnool, were it possible to bring water to Nagatoor this season, through not insisting upon the previous completion of this bridge, would, I am sure, not be permitted by Government, on account of the small returns that might be obtained by irrigation in the few villages eastward of Kurnool.

8. I have only to state further that the Deputy Collector Ragoonadha Row has pointed out personally to the villagers between Soonkasala and Kurnool, that there can be no reasonable doubt as to their receiving water in this season, and has urged on them the necessity for at once preparing their fields for irrigation.

9. My own experience concurs with his report that there is perfect willingness on the part of the Ryots to prepare their lands for wet cultivation, as soon as they can have a reasonable assurance that their labor will not be thrown away.

10. The confidence placed by the Ryots in the statements of the Revenue authorities, makes it the more necessary that I should abstain from abusing that trust by indulging in premature promises.

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From J. I. MINCHIN, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort Saint George, dated on circuit Vorkarom, 27th March 1863, No. 44.

SIR,

1. With reference to previous correspondence on the subject, I have the honor to forward copy of a further letter received from the Chief Engineer dated 21st instant.

for the water which passes the Regulator

## *Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 17th April 1863.*

2. This communication does not call for any reply from me, but I forward it to complete the correspondence submitted for the consideration of the Board.

3. With reference to paragraph 2, I have only to repeat that with the exception of the various letters now received from the Chief Engineer and submitted to the Board, I have received no information from that gentleman as to his operations.

4. With reference to paragraph 5, it has been reported to me from Kurnool by the Deputy Collector, Ragoondha Row, under date 23rd March, that no beginning has yet been made for the construction of the bridge across the Gootty and Nundial roads, referred to in paragraph 4 of my letter of the 18th instant.

5. In paragraph 4 Colonel Cotton objects to my being guided by my own observation in any notices that I may make to the Ryots concerning their preparations for irrigation. He expects apparently that I am to publish his statements to the people in my own name, so as to invest them with Government authority.

6. I am quite prepared to publish as his, any statements made by the Chief Engineer, but were I to make them my own, the statements of the Revenue Officers of the District would be received with the same distrust by the people, as is evinced by them towards those of the Officers of the Company.

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Ordered that the above papers be submitted to Government, with reference to their Proceedings dated 24th and 25th March 1863, Nos. 573 and 578, Revenue Department.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON, *Secretary.*

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No. 162. ORDER THEREON, 17th April 1863, No. 683.

Paragraphs 4 to 8 of Mr. Michin's letter will be communicated to the Department Public Works for disposal. On the other questions discussed by Mr. Minchin, the Government have already passed orders.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

*Secretary to Government.*

Madras Irrigation & Canal Company

No. 655. Chief Engineer's Office

Kurnool 23rd March 1863.

From

Colonel R. C. Cotton

Chief Engineer

To

J. D. Minchin Esqr.

Collector.

Sir,

I observe in the Kurnool Gazette an echo of the Government Order regarding the rates for land to be irrigated this year, and I think with the exception of the last paragraph the notice is encouraging to the landholders although there is a mistake in the 7th paragraph which implies, that one third of the Channel water is in progress. This remark would not affect the cultivators and probably it will not be read out of the District but the last paragraph by contract has a direct tendency to prevent any preparation of land below Kurnool which I think is not borne out by the Government order and may do much to dissuade from preparations and therefore to diminish the area of land prepared for the water which passes the regulators

No 618.

Madras Irrigation and Canal Company
Chief Engineer's Office Kurnool
9th March 1863.

From

Colonel F. C. Cotton
Chief Engineer.

To

J. A. Sinclair Esquire
Collector of Kurnool.

Sir,

The 4th Paragraph of your letter of the 5th Instant calls for information from me and I have no hesitation in saying, that it is my "decided intention" to carry water in the Company's Main Canal this season from Soonkasala to Kurnool, and for some miles below Kurnool. I will not say "under any circumstances" because unforeseen circumstances may arise to prevent it.—

I do not myself appreciate your arguments for not embodying in your Gazette notice the full import and spirit of the Government Order, which palpably has the important object of encouraging the preparation of land as far down as Nagatore.—

The 4th Paragraph of your Gazette notice is decided discouragement to the Cultivators below Kurnool

I trust you will take steps to counteract this tendency.—

I have &c.
Signed F. C. Cotton
Chief Engineer.

(True Copy)

James Lumsden Sinclair
Collector.

Rec'd 8th/63.

No 1813 Dated
Kurnool 20th March

Kurnool, and this is not traceable in the Government Order. —

No officer of the Company's Establishment holds Government "authority" to promise water under any circumstances, they could only draw attention to the Government Order which would incur no risk of a Civil action, but your Gazette notice places quite a different interpretation on the Government Order, and I am driven by the authority recognized in the Collector's Official Notification to refer to that alone — & cannot use my influence in support of the encouragement held out by the Government without strengthening or discouragement which your official Notice promulgates. I can however only express to yourself and the Government my objection to the course you are pursuing, and this correspondence will be forwarded to the Consulting Engineer. —

I have &c.

(Signed) H. C. Cotton

Chief Engineer

(True Copy)

James Innes Minchin

Collector. —

Copy

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Kurnool Collector's Office

No. 69. Camp Cuddapah

11th March 1863.

From

James Innes Minchin Esqr.

Collector of Kurnool

To

Colonel H. C. Cotton.

Chief Engineer Madras Irrigation

and Canal Company.

Kurnool.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 605 of the 3rd Instant, commenting on the Notification which appeared in the District Gazette of the 28th February, concerning the Irrigation rates to be charged on cultivation under the Canal.

2. You state that there is a mistake in the 1st paragraph, which implies that one third of the Channel only is in progress, the statement was taken from the Report of the Consulting Engineer, as I possessed no other information upon which to found my published Notice.

3. I am unaware whether I am to gather from your letter under reply that it is your expectation to complete the Canal as far as Nagalapur before the month of June.

Yours

4. You state that the last paragraph of my Notification has by contract a direct tendency to prevent any preparation of land below Kurnool.—

5. In my letter of the 5th Instant No. 58 I have explained the reasons which render it necessary for me to decline in any statements put forth officially for the information of the Ryots of the District.—

6. I have received no report from yourself stating expressly that the Canal will be completed as far as Pagetoor before the month of June, and my own opinion founded on personal observation, is that the completion of the Canal together with the bridges across the Cadiy and Nadia roads, and the diversion of the Cadidamadgoor road cannot possibly be completed by that date, and that I should not consequently be justified in leading the Ryots to rely upon being supplied with water for irrigation during the current season.—

I have &c.

(Signed) J. C. L. Minchin
Collector

(True Copy)

James Anur Minchin
Collector

Copy with a letter from Capt. Cotton dated 9th March 1863

Recd 11th Ditto

No. 634.

Madras Irrigation & Canal Co.
Chief Engineer's Office Kurnool
9th March 1863.—

From

Colonel C. K. Cotton
Chief Engineer M. I. & C. Co.

To

J. C. L. Minchin Esquire
Collector
Kurnool

Sir,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th Instant.—

No. 60.

2. With reference to the 2nd Paragraph, I would beg you in future not to promulgate without reference to me any information connected with our modus operandi. Colonel Cadbaur's information was at least of old date, and our work varies from day to day according to circumstances. As said in my former letter, no one out of the District is likely to see the Kurnool Gazette, and the 1st Paragraph of your notice is therefore not likely to mislead any one, and it does not in any way affect the Contractors, as I am always

Yours

most happy to give you any information on the subject of our operations, and must beg you to act on none but what you receive from my Office. —

5. That I have objected to is the 4th Paragraph of your Gazette notice, which implies not merely that water is not certain to reach the Vigatore, but that below Furnoal, it is not safe to the Cultivator to make any preparations.

4. The small number of Workmen still procurable makes it doubtful whether water can be conducted in the Main Channel, but with reference to the 6th Paragraph of your Letter, I subject it to your being guided by your own observation. —

5. The Canal when it may be in a completed state could carry abundant water for this District, as far as we are able to open it at all, and all the communications are provided for. —

6. The 4th Paragraph of the Gazette notice seems to be opposed to the spirit, and not at all drawn from the Government Order. —

7. I am unable to discover that any preparations are being made, and of course it will be in vain to pass water over the

Aqueduct

6

Aqueduct, if it will not be used. —

I have &c.

(Signed) F. C. Cotton —

Chief Engineer

(True Copy)

James Dunn Swinton

Collector. —

Lt. Col. Wood R.E.
Fort Pitt Chatham

Copy sent as Letter to C.O. Royal Engrs. Chatham 5th Feby 1863

Read 8th Feb 63

W. 683.

Paras 4 & 8 of Mr Minchin's letter will be communicated to the D.W.W. for his report. On the other questions discussed by Mr Minchin, the Govt. have already passed orders.

L. B. S.

Govt. St. George's
17th Apl. 1863
14 Copies to be Dft Roll Exempted Offrs
M.C. — Q. D. Works with Paras. 4 & 8 of Mr Minchin's letter

own, the Statements of the Revenue Officers of the District would be received with the same confidence by the people, as is evinced by them towards those of the Officers of the Company.

Harmot Collr's Office
on Circuit Berhampore
the 29th March 1863.

I have &c &c
(sd) J. S. Menchin
Collector

Ordered that the above papers be submitted to Government with reference to their Proceedings dated 24th and 25th March 1863 Nos 573 and 578 R. D.

(sd) Hare Dpy Sy. Extract

Secretary

To
J. P. Sim Esqre
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Ec. Ps
Copy to Balakistnamah.

Rec.d 24th March /63 No. 2526
" 25th " " " 2624-2655

Revenue 1863 Vol.
Pro: of Govt for April
Proceedings of the Board
of Revenue.

Copy on a Letter to Govt
dated 5th May A.L.O. of 1863

Dated 13th April 1863.
Rec.d 13
Rep.d 14th
P.-2-Cl

Submitting papers on the subject of carrying on wet cultivation under the canal of the Irrigation and Canal Company at Hansi &c.

No 161 & 162.

No 683- 17th April