M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1873 Press Mis.

464

Dated 30. 5\ 1864.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th September 1864.

The following papers are ordered to be recorded, dated 30th September 1864, No. 1,813 :—

1. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Financial Department, dated 19th March 1864, No. 183.

Passing orders on a Resolution of the Government of India on the mode of dealing with the purchase or other monies paid on account of lands, whether in the shape of purchase money, rent, compensation, or in any other form.

2. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th August 1864, No. 5,335.

Submitting Comparative Statement from Collector of Bellary, showing cultivation and revenue derived under the Buckapatnam tank in Talook of Pengondah.

3. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th August 1864, No. 5,377.

Submitting letter from Acting Inám Commissioner, intimating that the Kilmanur Inám in North Arcot has since been enfranchised by his Department.

4. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th August 1864, No. 5,382.

Submitting letter from Collector of Tanjore, reporting re-sale of Abkarry Farm of Sheally Talook.

5. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 23rd August 1864, No. 5,424.

Submitting letter from Collector of Bellary, intimating that he has issued instructions to include in his Contingent Bill for audit, certain amount of refund sanctioned in G. O. dated 11th July 1864, No. 1,207.

6. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Ecclesiastical Department, dated 23rd August 1864, No. 233.

Sanctioning the purchase of the land required at Trippatur for a burial ground.

7. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th August 1864, No. 5,479.

Submitting for information letter from Collector of Salem, reporting the sale of certain Travellers Bungalows in the Salem District.

8. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd September 1864.

Communicating to the Collector of Ganjam Proceedings of Government dated 12th August 1864, No. 1,448, Revenue Department, requesting that he will attend to the instructions contained in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, and observing that the mistake in the names referred to in paragraph 4 occurred in printing.

9. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 29th August 1864, No. 2,495.

Calling on the Board of Revenue for the estimate of the expenditure to be incurred from Local Funds during the current year through the agency of Public Works Officers.

10. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th September 1864.

Regretting that the absurdity remarked on by Government in the spelling of the word Tripliçane in the Title Deed forwarded by the Collector of Madras had been overlooked, and directing the Collector to infom his Office subordinates that they are prohibited from altering the established spelling of well known names of places.

11. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Financial Department, dated 8th September 1864, No. 466.

Communicating Resolution of the Government of India relating to charges in the Civil estimates, as distinguished from the Military and Public Works estimates.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 30th September 1864.

12 Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 14th September 1864, No. 2,675.

Passing orders on the subject of introducing an Act in the Local Legislature giving power to the Government to declare from time to time what irrigation and other works shall be kept in repair by the village community.

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13 Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 15th September 1864, No. 2,684.

Sanctioning the two estimates for enlarging and improving the Salt platforms in the District of Tinnevelly.

---

14 Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 17th September 1864, No. 2,712.

Passing orders on the subject of the deficient supply of water in the Cauvery river for irrigation purposes.

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15 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th September 1864, No. 6,025.

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, stating that funds for the repairs of certain tanks and channels are urgently needed.

---

16 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th September 1864, No. 6,123.

Submitting with copy of Board's Proceedings dated 20th August 1864, No. 5,364, letter from the Collector of Salem forwarding Comparative Statement of Public Works expenditure for 1863-64.

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17 Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 20th September 1864, No. 2,747.

Passing orders on certain Salt works in the Madura District.

---

18 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th September 1864, No. 6,165.

Submitting, through the Department Public Works, letter from the Collector of Madura, giving it as his opinion that the Salt Deputy Collector could not take charge of all the salt roads, as the Superintending Engineer believes, but of only the branch lines.

---

19 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th September 1864, No. 6,211.

Submitting, for information, letter from the Officiating Collector of the Godavery District stating that no transfers appear to have been made to Viranna from the original Ryots of the village of Mernipaud.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, 19th March 1864.

No. 57. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, dated 9th February 1864, No. 777.

From the Officiating Chief of the Military Finance Department, to the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, Bengal, dated 28th January 1864, No. 3797.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum, No. 1532, of the 19th January 1864, requesting that the miscellaneous items noted in the margin may be provided for in the Military Budget Estimate for 1864-65.

COMPENSATION FOR THE COST OF LAND TAKEN FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES.

Mymensing,	Rupees	369	Compensation.
Chittagong,	,,	1330	Annual rent.
Hazareebaugh,	,,	6289	Do.
Rupees...		7988	

2. Having included certain miscellaneous charges in the Military Budget Estimates of 1863-64, at the request of the Secretary to the Punjab Government, the Financial Department in Resolution, No. 3059, of the 23rd June 1863, paragraph 7, intimated that such charges had been improperly admitted into the Military Estimates.

3. Under these circumstances, I am precluded from admitting the above-noted items into the Military Budget Estimates of 1864-65 without the previous sanction of Government, in the Financial Department, to whom, I would suggest, a reference on the subject should be made.

No. 1564c.

Endorsed by the Officiating Chief of the Military Finance Department.

Copy of the foregoing forwarded to the Secretary to the Government of India, in the Financial Department, for information.

No. 777, dated 9th February 1864.

RESOLUTION by the Government of India, Financial Department.

The objection of Colonel Broome is well founded. The correct mode of dealing with the purchase or other monies paid on account of lands, whether in the shape of purchase money, rent, compensation, or in any other form, is as follows:—

Land for purposes of Local Funds should be provided for in the Local Funds Estimates under Debt.

Land for Educational purposes should be provided for in the Educational Estimates under FV.

Land for purely Government purposes in every Department, including the Military, should be provided for in the Public Works Estimates under E.

The differential modes are here stated at length in order that the several officers of account may at once advise this Department of any changes that may be necessary in the Budget Estimates of 1864-65, and those officers are requested at once to furnish particulars of any changes that are involved.

The Auditor General of India.
The Accountant General to the Government of India.
The several Deputy Auditors and Accountants General.
The Military Finance Department.
The Home Department.
The Public Works Department.

(A true Extract.)
(Signed) E. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 1405.

Copy forwarded for information to the Government of Fort Saint George.

FORT WILLIAM,
HOME DEPARTMENT,
29th February 1864.

(By Order.)
(Signed) J. W. S. WYLLIE,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
19th March 1864.

No. 58. ORDER THEREON, 19th March 1864, No. 183.

It is observed that the foregoing Resolution of the Government of India has already been published in the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, with a Notification from the Acting Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, No. 87, dated the 26th ultimo, drawing the attention of Treasury officers to the same and furnishing instructions for their guidance.

Page 346.

(True Extract.)

G. J. Cumberlege

Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
„ Educational do.
„ Military do.
„ Public Works do.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

No. 5,335.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th August 1864.

Read the following Comparative Statement from A. HATHAWAY, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated Gooty, 27th July 1864, showing the cultivation and revenue derived under the Buckapatnam Tank in the Taluk of Pengondah :—

FASLIS.	CULTIVATION.				COMPARISON.				REMARKS.
					INCREASE.		DECREASE.		
	Acres.	Assessment.	Fasaljasti or 2nd crop.	Total.	Acres.	Assessment.	Acres.	Assessment.	
1270...	2,634	16,129	3,707	19,836	...	...	...	...	The decrease in the revenue is owing to deficient supply of water in the Tank.
1271...	2,029	12,623	1,471	14,156	...	...	695	5,680	
1272...	2,707	16,552	6,718	23,270	678	9,114	...	...	The increase in the revenue is owing to the Tank having received twice its supply of water which was sufficient to raise both crops.
1273...	2,083	13,100	627	13,727	...	...	624	9,543	The decrease in the revenue is owing to deficient supply of water in the Tank.

Public Works Department, No. 682, dated 6th April 1861,
No. 1,926, dated 13th August 1862.

Ordered to be submitted to Government, Public Works Department, for information, with reference to the Orders of Government noted in the margin.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To Major J. H. M. S. Stewart, R. E., Deputy Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
„ J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to A. Hathaway, Esq., Collector of Bellary.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 5,377.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1864.

Read the following letter from W. T. BLAIR, Esq., Acting Inam Commissioner, dated Coimbatore, 6th August 1864, No. 20:—

"Adverting to my letter of the 26th August 1863, No. 22, I have the honor to inform you that the Kilmanur Inam referred to in the Board's Proceedings under date the 17th idem, has been since enfranchised by this Department."

Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of the Board's Proceedings dated 11th September 1863, No. 5,733.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to W. T. Blair, Esq., Acting Inam Commissioner.

Exd. J. Wright.

6

P. No. 6 April 1864
13 Aug 62 - 1906

Rec. 1864. Department
No. 2239.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 19th August 1864.

No. 5,335.

Submitting Comparative Statement from Collector of Bellary, showing cultivation and revenue derived under the Buckapatnam Tank in Taluk of Pengondah.

RECORDED.

2 minutes 64.

No. 5,382.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1864.

Read the following letter from W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, dated Vellum, 6th August 1864, No. 265 :—

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 25th ultimo, No. 4,692, I have the honor to report that a large portion (Rupees 1,573-7-3) of the arrears due by the late Abkary Renter having been left unpaid, the farm was, in accordance with the sale advertisement already published, put up to public auction before the Assistant Collector, Mr. Hope, on the 1st instant, for the remaining period of five years from Faslis 1271 to 1275, for which the farm in like manner with those of other Talukes in the District, was previously rented, and was knocked down to the highest bidder Vellaia Nadan of Poraiyar for the annual rent of Rupees 35,100, being Rupees 5,000 in excess of the previous lease.

2. The farm has accordingly been made over to him from the 1st instant.

Submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

H Dalgee

Sub-Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to W. M. Cadell, Esq., Collector of Tanjore.

Erd. J. Wright.

Pro 19 Aug 1864 No 2223 & 2227

Department.

No. 2252

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 20th August 1864.

No. 5,377.

Submitting letter from Acting Inam Commissioner, intimating that the Kilmanur Inam in North Arcot has since been enfranchised by his Department.

Ry 1813

RECORDED.

No. 5,382.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1864.

Read the following letter from W. M. CADELL, Esq., Collector of Tanjore, dated Vellum, 6th August 1864, No. 265 :—

1. With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 25th ultimo, No. 4,692, I have the honor to report that a large portion (Rupees 1,573-7-3) of the arrears due by the late Abkary Renter having been left unpaid, the farm was, in accordance with the sale advertisement already published, put up to public auction before the Assistant Collector, Mr. Hope, on the 1st instant, for the remaining period of five years from Faslis 1271 to 1275, for which the farm in like manner with those of other Taluks in the District, was previously rented, and was knocked down to the highest bidder Vellaia Nadan of Poraiyar for the annual rent of Rupees 35,100, being Rupees 5,000 in excess of the previous lease.

2. The farm has accordingly been made over to him from the 1st instant.

Submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to W. M. Cadell, Esq., Collector of Tanjore.

Erd. J. Wright.

Read 19 Oct. 1864. No. 2223 & 2225

Department.

No. 2252

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 20th August 1864.

No. 5,377.

Submitting letter from Acting Inam Commissioner, intimating that the Kilmanur Inam in North Arcot has since been enfranchised by his Department.

Read 24/8/64.

RECORDED.

No. 5,424.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 23rd August 1864.

Read the following letter from A. HATHAWAY, Esq., Collector of Bellary, dated 9th August 1864, No. 132:—

With reference to the Order of Government, No. 1,376, dated 2nd instant, embodied in Board's communication to me, un-numbered, dated 4th idem, sanctioning the refund to the Inamdars marginally noted, of the sum of Rupees 45-15-2; I have the honor to state, for the information of the Board of Revenue, that a similar sanction was made by Government in their Order, No. 1,207, dated 11th July last, communicated to me by the Board in their Proceedings No. 4,367, dated 13th July of this year, and that, on receipt of this letter, I have issued the necessary instructions for the said amount being included in the Contingent Bill for audit, in order that the refund may be made to the parties concerned.

Kistnama Charlu and Sesha Charlu of Adoni Taluk.

Submitted for the information of Government.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to A. Hathaway, Esq., Collector of Bellary.

Exd. J. Wright.

Department.

1864.

No. 2213.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 20th August 1864.

No. 5,382.

Submitting letter from Collector of Tanjore, reporting resale of Abkary Farm of Sheally Taluq, for 1863.

RECORDED.

Rec'd 11th Aug. 1864 A 150-164
2d Aug. — 36-37

Revenue 1864.
Dept.
Rec'd 25th Aug. 1864.
No. 5424.

Dated 23rd August 1864.

Submitting letter from Collector of Bellary, intimating that he has issued instructions to include in his Contingent Bill for Audit, certain amount of refund sanctioned in G. O. dated 11th July 1864, No. 1207.

Rs. 1913

RECORDED.

5 Sept. 1864.

No. 2257.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department, 23rd August 1864.

No. 67. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 29th July 1864, No. 4811 :—

Read letter from the Collector of Salem, dated 21st July 1864, No. 134.

I have the honor to forward copy of a letter from the Head Assistant Collector, dated 9th September 1863, No. 122, stating that there is no separate burial ground for European and other Christians at Tripattur, and that the land where two Europeans and a few Christians have been buried ought to be fenced. There are Europeans and East Indians and Native Christians in Tripattur, and I am therefore of opinion that a Christian burial ground is much required there. The land in which the bodies of Christians are buried belongs to the Pachal Mootah. The Mootadar, it appears from the Head Assistant Collector's last letter (copy enclosed), is willing to sell the land at 50 Rupees an acre. The land required for the burial ground is one and half acres, and the assessment of this land might be deducted from the annual Peishcush of the Mootah. I request that the Board will be good enough to obtain the sanction of Government for deducting the sum of Rupees 1-3-3 from Rupees 1774-8-6, being the Peishcush of the Mootah.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. F. HATHAWAY, Esq., Head Assistant Collector of Salem ; to the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated Tripattur, 9th September 1863, No. 122.

With reference to a letter from your office, dated 16th March 1861, No. 142, and the order there quoted, I have the honor to inform you that there is a piece of land here in which two Europeans and three or four Native Christians have been buried, which I think should be fenced round, and kept as a permanent burial ground. As it happens it is Mootah land, there being very little Government ground near the town, and none that would do so well, but as it is waste and quite useless for cultivation, I think it might be taken from the Mootadar either for a permanent deduction from his Peishcush, or on yearly rent to which he consents, and which perhaps would be all that is required. It is the corner of a large plain ; but two acres would be sufficient.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From W. F. HATHAWAY, Esq., Head Assistant Collector of Salem ; to the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated Tripattur, 11th March 1864, No. 48.

In answer to your letter, No. 162 of the 22nd ultimo, I have the honor to state that the Pachal Mootah having now passed into the hands of a new proprietor, Kandasami Shetti, he is willing to sell the land required for a burial ground. He asks 50 Rupees an acre, but possibly might take less.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Collector.

Submitted for the sanction of Government.
(True Copies and Extract.)
(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Transferred to the Ecclesiastical Department.
(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

13th August 1864.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Ecclesiastical Department, 23rd August 1864.

No. 68. ORDER THEREON, 23rd August 1864, No. 233.

The Governor in Council sanctions the purchase of the ground referred to on the most advantageous terms.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Board.
.. Revenue Department.

Ead. J. Tulloch.

28/6

2 franc copies

M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-34

No. 5,479.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 24th August 1864.

Read the following letter from the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated 30th July 1864, No. 137 :—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board dated the 5th April last, communicating Order of Government sanctioning the sale of certain Travellers' Bungalows in the District, I have the honor to report that the three Bungalows named in the margin were sold for Rupees 2,111.

	Rs.
Natrumpully...	1,570
Muttoor	315
McDonell's Choultry	226
	2,111

2. The Travellers' Bungalow at Salem was made over to the Police Department under the Order of Government, dated 6th June 1861, No. 835.

---

1. Submitted for the information of Government with reference to Government Order, No. 549, dated 2nd April 1864.

2. The Title Deeds will be forwarded by the Collector in due course.

3. The Bungalow at Salem alluded to in the above Government Order was transferred to the Police Department under a subsequent Government Order in the Judicial Department, No. 835, dated 6th June 1864.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to Honorable D. Arbuthnott, Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue Department.

No.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 3rd September 1864.

Final Proceedings of the Madras
Board of Revenue Department dated
Government Claims No. 11448.
12th Sequence 1864 No. 11448.

Communicated to the Collector
of Salem with the Deeds, and invite
the Government to attend to the
the requests that he will attend to the
instructions of Government contained in
Paras 1. 2. and 3 of the above order.
The receipts are to be remitted to
which the Government refer in Paras 4 etc.
Record and Finishing and are not in the one.
Record and Finishing and are not in the one.
Final draft.

(Mutu Cetty)
Asstt

To
L. D. Ross Esq.
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Pro 2nd April/64 No 32-33
17th June — 228-229

Rev 1864. Department
Bd. of Govt for Lepts

No. 2279.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

Dated 24th August 1864.

Desp 26 Dec
Rec 27th

No. 5,479.

Submitting for information letter from Collector of Salem reporting the sale of certain Travellers Bungalows in the Salem District.

Jud No 1464.

JP Rec 1813

RECORDED.

30th Sept

Rec Sept 24th

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department;
29th August 1864.

No. 620. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel C. V. WILKIESON, R. E., Controller of Public Works Accounts, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 25th August 1864, No. 977:—

SIR,

1. With reference to the requisition in Government Order No. 2,367, dated 18th August 1864, I have the honor to observe that, as the accounting for of expenditure on Local Funds, as well as the audit thereof, are left to the Board of Revenue from the commencement of the current official year, that Department would appear to be the proper channel through which an Estimate of Local Funds to be spent by the agency of the Imperial Public Works Establishment, should be submitted.

2. If the new plan of accounting for Local Funds spent by Imperial Establishments, recommended in paragraph 15 of the Resolution of the Government of India, No. 4A. 1,408 of 24th March 1864, is to be adopted in this Presidency, as would seem to be expected by the Accountant General, Public Works Department, from his call for an Estimate of the kind, with reference to the Resolution in question, in such case accounts of expenditure by Public Works Officers on works undertaken by them out of Local Funds, should be furnished to this Office, either by the Officers themselves, or through the Board of Revenue after the necessary audit thereof in the manner laid down in the new rules for the government of Local Funds. An Estimate like that called for by the Accountant General Public Works Department, but in more detail (giving particulars of works and authority under which sanctioned), will also be required by this Office to enable it to pass the expenditure by Public Works Officers if such expenditure is to be accounted for to this Office.

3. The expenditure on works undertaken from the Income Tax grants for 1864-65 will, it is believed, be laid out wholly by Public Works Officers though coming under the head Local Funds, but on this point information should be obtained from the Superintending Engineers of Divisions before an Estimate of the kind called for can be made up in this Office. This Estimate will have to include the sum of Rupees 77,682, the balance of the grants of previous years, for the re-appropriation of which Superintending Engineers are called upon in Government Order No. 2,195, dated 1st August 1864, to submit detailed Statements.

ORDER THEREON, 29th August 1864, No. 2,495.

No. 621. No. 2,367, dated 18th August 1864. A copy of the Orders marginally noted will be forwarded to the Board of Revenue, with a request that they will obtain and submit the Estimate required to the Accountant General, Public Works Department, of the expenditure to be incurred from Local Funds during the current year, through the agency of Public Works Officers.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with G. O. No. 2,367 of 1864.
Revenue Department

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

1 True Copy
J. Shaw Stewart Major R.E.
Deputy Secretary to Govern

Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Rec'd 12 Aug. 64 Nos. 180-181.
Rec'd 1864 Dispatches
Rec'd 23 Aug.

Transmitted to the Collector
Register Book & Original

8 Sept 1864.

RECORDED.

Revenue Department.

No.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 13th September 1864.

Read Proceedings of the Madras Government Revenue Department dated 5th September 1864 No. 1613.

Communicated to the Collector with the Deeds returned.

2. The Board regret that they overlooked the absurdity remarked on by Government.

3. The Collector will inform his office Subordinates who fill up these deeds that they are distinctly prohibited by order of Government from altering the established spelling of well-known names of places. e.g. Arcot is not to be spelt "Arkat."

(A true Extract)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim. Esq.
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Revenue 1864 Oct. 4th
Copy of Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 13th September 1864.
Forwarding for the information of Government Revenue Department.
By Order &c
Secretary.

Recd 28 Sept 1864
Revenue Department
No. 2495.

Calling on the Board of Revenue for the Estimate of the Expenditure for the removal of Records from the Taluk Cutcherry to the Sheristadar's Office.

RECORDED.
No 1813
30th Sept 1864

Dated 24th Sept 64.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department, 8th September 1864.

No. 27. Read the following Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Financial Department, Simla, under date the 12th August 1864, No. 1739.

Read again the following orders regarding sanctions of fresh charges, and of alterations of salaries and establishments under the several Local Governments and minor Administrations:—

Letter to the Government of Madras, No. 1089 of the 21st June 1862, paragraph 43.

Financial Resolution, No. 579, dated 22nd September 1862.
Do. do. do. 761A., dated 20th October 1862.
Do. do. do. dated 19th November 1862.
Do. do. do. dated 11th December 1862.

RESOLUTION.—The instructions in these orders not having been observed uniformly, the Governor General in Council is pleased to lay down the following rules so far as relates to charges in the Civil Estimates, as distinguished from the Military and Public Works Estimates:—

2. The creation or the revision of the salary of a *Gazetted* appointment requires the previous sanction of the Government of India; and applications relating thereto, or to increases of salary, pay, or charge, which require the confirmation or the previous sanction of the Secretary of State, should be submitted by letter for the orders of the Government of India in the Financial Department, through the administrative Secretariat of that Government, whether Foreign, Home or Public Works Department, which has primary cognizance of the expense.

3. When an increase of charge in a fixed establishment, for other than a *Gazetted*, appointment, is met by an immediate equivalent reduction of permanent charge in the same establishment, or in like fixed establishments in the same Department, the orders of the Local Government directing the revision may take immediate financial effect, without the previous sanction of the Government of India; but all such revisions should be reported to the Government of India in monthly Returns, unless the amount of explanation required in any case may render a report of such case, by letter, more convenient.

4. Petty or moderate increases of fixed establishments without an equivalent reduction of other permanent establishments are sometimes authorized by the Local Governments, in anticipation of the sanction of the Government of India if there be sufficient budget provision for the expense (under the same head of charge), from savings of other than the salaries of *Gazetted* appointments. But as the budget provision lapses with the year, these sanctions are strictly temporary, unless confirmed by the Government of India as permanent charges, which may be included in the budget estimates of ensuing years.

5. The Local Governments will use their discretion in including such provisional increases of fixed establishments in the monthly Return mentioned in the 3rd paragraph, or in reporting them separately by letter for confirmation.

6. The monthly Return mentioned in paragraph 3 will be prepared by the Civil Paymaster for submission, through the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, to the Local Government, the latter officer reporting on the sufficiency of proper budget provision for the items of increase, which have not been met by an immediate equivalent reduction of other permanent expenditure. The Return should show in parallel columns the "present" and the revised scale of charge, in the usual form of Proposition Statements, but with any needful abbreviation of the portions of the sanctioned scale which have not been affected by the revision. A column to the left should be reserved for the number and date of the order of the Local Government directing the alteration of charge, and a column of remarks should be provided on the right hand side for the Local Government's statements of the grounds of the revision.

7. The Return should be classified according to the major heads of the budget, a separate Return being prepared for the heads of service under the control of the Government of India in the Home or Foreign Departments, and another for the Forest Department.

8 The Local Governments will submit the Returns for the Foreign and Home Departments, and for the Public Works Department (Forests), to the Government of India in those Departments, for consideration, prior to the issue of orders on the Returns in the Financial Department. These Returns should be invariably submitted to the Government of India within the month following that for which they are made up.

9. Hitherto the Financial Department has obtained from the Civil Paymaster a duplicate of the Return which he submits to the Local Government. This will now be discontinued, the Financial Department keeping instead a register of the monthly Returns for ascertaining those which may be over-due from the Local Governments.

10. Besides the sanctions of fixed establishments within the existing permanent scale, or (provisionally) within the existing budget provision, the Local Governments now authorize transfers of budget provision in the course of the year, from one sub-division or section to another of the same major head. These transfers are made in order to meet a deficiency of budget provision in some one section of the major head concerned, for charges not fixed, such as allowances payable under established rules, and ordinary contingent charges, which, within the amount of available budget provision, are (according to custom) paid under the orders of the Local Government. The statement of these transfers is prepared by the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General; and in it are included any further transfers of budget provision from one sub-division to another, of the same major head, which may be required to meet the alterations of charge involved in the sanctions that are reported in the monthly Returns referred to in paragraphs 3 and 5.

11. This statement of transfers of budget provision from one to another sub-division of a major head may be submitted direct to the Financial Department by the Local Government, for whom it will be prepared by the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General. The Return being for information merely, with a view to the notice of any items which may call for special remark, no orders will, as a matter of routine, be passed on it in the Financial Department.

12. It is not within the power of the Local Governments to authorize the transfer of budget provision from one major head to another. Application for making such transfers should be submitted to the Government of India in the Financial Department. These transfers from one major head to another should, in no case, be mixed up with those from one sub-division to another of the same major head. The two classes of transfers should be kept distinct, in separate statements, for the one statement will require orders, whereas the other will generally be simply recorded after examination of the items.

13. This statement of transfers from one major head to another, should be made use of to obviate, as far as practicable, applications for additional budget grants for new charges or establishments sanctioned in the course of the year. The estimates are generally in excess of the actual expenditure; and, before an application for an additional budget grant is made, it should be ascertained whether a surplus provision is not available for transfer from another sub-division of the same major head, or, failing that, from another major head, to meet the new charge.

14. Hence, applications for additional grants should not be made during the first half of the financial year, except for such very large expenses, not provided for, as palpably cannot be met from savings in the sanctioned estimates.

15. Under the foregoing instructions, which lay upon the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General the duty of proposing to the Local Government transfers of budget provision and applications for additional grants, the Civil Paymasters will abstain from disallowing a regularly sanctioned, or an usual charge, for no other objection than the want of special budget provision for it. They will pass the charge and report the want of budget provision to the Deputy Auditor and Accountant General, who will take the proper steps for supplying the deficiency by obtaining a transfer of budget provision, or an additional grant, as the case may require.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Financial Department,
8th September 1864.

ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Foreign, Home, and Public Works (Forest) Departments of the Government of India; the several Local Governments and Administrations; the Auditor General of India; the Accountant General, Government of India; and the several Deputy Auditors and Accountants, General and Civil Paymasters.

(True Extract.)
(Signed) E. H. LUSHINGTON,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

(A true Copy.)
(Signed) J. E. COOKE,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 28. ORDER THEREON, 8th September 1864, No. 466.

Communicated to the several Departments of the Secretariat for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

Sad. J. Tulloch.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 14th September 1864.

Read the following papers :—

No. 296. From G. L. MORRIS, Esq., Acting Collector of South Canara, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Mangalore, 8th July 1863, No. 22.

SIR,

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Order of Government, dated 18th June No. 1,599, in which I am requested to state my views as to the feasibility of working such an Act as that proposed in paragraph 6 of the letter from the Committee appointed to report on the re-organization of the Department of Public Works, dated 15th May 1863.

2. In my opinion the proposed Act is quite feasible, and I do not anticipate any difficulty whatsoever in working it, either as regards keeping in repair village irrigation works or village roads.

3. Firstly, with reference to village irrigation works. During the last four years that I have been in Tanjore, I have been deeply impressed with the importance of *compelling* villagers to keep all ordinary irrigation works within their villages in repair, and so strong is my opinion on this point, that I would not confine the rule to village tanks, but would extend it to channels which run through many villages.

4. Often whilst I have been inspecting crops destroyed through drought or inundation, have I had Mirasidars come to me and bitterly complain that their land had not borne half the usual out-turn because villagers higher up or lower down, as the case might be, would not keep their channels in proper order; and personal inspection has convinced me of the truth of these complaints.

5. Again, in villages where there were many Mirasidars, I have known more than a moiety express their willingness to do their share of clearing out the channels which run through their village, or any thing else required, if the remaining villagers would do the same, but add that they were unwilling to work for those who would do nothing for themselves.

6. I think, therefore, that the proposed Act might in many cases be very beneficially extended to many channels running through more than one village, provided skilled labour was not required for keeping them in repair.

7. Secondly, as regards village roads. In this case also I see no difficulty, provided the Act is framed as suggested in paragraph 10 of this letter.

8. I have heard it urged as an objection against this scheme, that villagers know nothing about road-making, that they take little or no interest in it, and that they would only spoil any road handed over to their charge; but I do not consider that this is correct: they certainly do not understand how to metal a road or to keep a metalled road in order, and I would not therefore hand over such roads to them; but as village roads are generally not metalled, and I know from personal experience that the Tanjore Mirasidars used formerly to keep the Tanjore village roads in admirable order, I see no reason why the same should not be done again both there and elsewhere.

9. With reference to the allotment and execution of the works required to be done by the villagers, I am of opinion that there would be very little or no difficulty. The amount of Kist to be deducted from each Ryot's Patta in proportion to his holding would be easily adjusted by the Karnam, and it should be the duty of that officer as well as of the Potail or Manigars to show each villager the amount of work which would fall to his lot.

10. The proposed Act would have to be carefully drawn up, and it should be clearly laid down in it, that all the villagers were responsible for the whole of the village work required; that the Collector at the same time had full power to punish individual cases of neglect whenever he saw fit; that he was empowered to distrain in all cases where a fine was not paid, and that no appeal from his decision would be allowed.

11. Of course much would depend upon the Tahsildar looking after the villagers and seeing that the annual amount of required work was annually performed; but if Tahsildars once perceived that neglect on their part in this particular would be promptly followed by severe

punishment, I am much mistaken if they would not very soon take as much interest in this part of their work as in the collection of the Government demand, or any other of their Revenue duties.

12. I beg to add in conclusion that having been for many years in Tanjore, some of the foregoing remarks necessarily apply more particularly to that District, but that at the same time I know of no reason why they should not be equally true regarding any other District in this Presidency.

No. 297. From P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, in the Department Public Works, dated Coimbatore, 17th July 1863, No. 130.

SIR,

1. I have received Proceedings of Government, Public Works Department, and their Order thereon, dated 18th June 1863, No. 1,599, in paragraph 5 of which I am called on to give my opinion on the suggestions made by the Committee in paragraph 6 of their report regarding the repair of village tanks and roads.

2. About a year ago His Excellency the Governor mentioned the subject of the repair of minor irrigation works, such as village tanks and channels, and asked me whether I thought they might be done by the people, a reduction of assessment on their lands being made by way of compensation. I replied that I admitted the correctness of the principle in theory, but doubted it in practice. My doubts were founded on the knowledge that Natives cannot unite amongst themselves for a specific object, such as the repair of a tank or channel, party spirit and a diversity of interests come in the way. A breach in a tank might curtail the supply of water so as to ruin the crops on the lands at a distance from it, whilst the lands immediately under the bund might not be affected by it. The owners of these latter lands would probably turn out to be the richest Ryots in the village, but unless some extraneous motive power were brought to bear on them, they would not take any steps to get their tank repaired, so long as the supply of water to their lands sufficed. For the last twelve months the subject has engaged my attention, some months ago I called on the Tahsildars to report after due enquiry whether if a reduction of assessment at the rate of 8 Annas per Cawny were made, the Ryots would be prepared to undertake the repair of their tanks. With the exception of the replies from the Coimbatore Tahsildar, all the other replies were in the negative. The conclusion, however, to which I came, was that the people, as a rule, were not so much opposed to the principle proposed, as that they dreaded being left to their own unaided resources when their want of unanimity would act as a bar to the necessary repairs being carried out, and that to remedy this a short legislative enactment rendering the execution of all necessary repairs compulsory was required.

3. I not only advocate this principle, but I think that until it has been brought into very general play, the people of this country will remain in leading strings, and be satisfied to do as their fathers did a thousand years ago. The success of the plan however depends on the remission of assessment made in lieu of the contemplated expenses for repairs: if they are such as to hold out the prospect of good profits well and good, the system will succeed, and after a time be approved of by the people, and may eventually be made applicable to all the ordinary works in a District.

4. Section 6, Act I of 1858, applies only to work for the purposes of irrigation or drainage, which by local custom are usually executed by the joint labour of a village community, the penalty for non-compliance with its provisions being a fine equal to twice the value of the labour which the party to be fined failed to contribute, and the value of the labour to be determined by a village or District Punchayet according to the provisions of Regulation 5 and 7 of 1816 as remarked by the Committee. I think "that an Act should be introduced into the local legislature, "either amending or supplementing Section 6, Act I of 1858, giving power to the Government

to declare from time to time what irrigation and other works shall be kept in repair by "the village community, and to enforce their execution by imposing" on such Ryots as may fail to contribute their proper share of labour a fine amounting to Rupees 100, or to double the value of the estimated labour. The power to fine should be summary, the local authorities must be able to act at once, otherwise their administration lacks vitality, and what might be done in a few days, takes weeks, and the season passes and perhaps is lost. This is peculiarly the case in matters connected with irrigation. A channel, on which a tank is dependent for its supply of water, has been neglected, the rains are expected, and it is all important that it should be cleared at once, nothing will secure this but a knowledge on the part of the Ryots that the Revenue authorities possess the power to inflict heavy fines on them summarily for disregarding a notice to attend and clean the channel.

5. The Tahsildar has, through the Revenue Inspectors, the Monigars and Curnums, the means of ascertaining the state of every tank in his Táluq, and he should be held personally responsible for their condition, especially in a District like Coimbatore, where tanks and channels are few in number, where the rain-fall is light, and where consequently water is very valuable.

No. 298. From V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 14th July 1863, No. 428.

SIR,

1. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Order of Government No. 1,599, dated the 18th June, I have the honor to report that I do not think it advisable to introduce an Act such as that contemplated by the Committee appointed to report on the re-organization of the Public Works Department, in paragraph 6 of their report.

2. If such an Act be passed and if a certain portion of the revenue of any tank be remitted in consideration of the villagers' obligation to keep the tank in repair, I believe the result would be that the repairs would be either neglected or very imperfectly performed, and that each individual would try to save as much expenditure as possible on his part, and that the bold and influential members of the village would evade their fair share of the duty and put it upon the weaker members, perhaps also procuring the infliction of a fine on them; such men could always produce witnesses to prove that they did their share and that the poor and uninfluential Ryot had neglected his.

3. I think if the Government has any intention of forming conservancy rules and a maintenance establishment, such as that employed for the maintenance of some of the high roads, that the most advisable plan would be for Government not to remit the revenue to the villagers, but set aside a certain sum of it; when necessary, supplementing it by a small cess at so much per Cawny, and to devote the amount to the payment of such establishment as is required for each particular tank to be employed daily in filling up cuts made in the bund by the fall of rain, by cattle, &c., passing over it, and strengthening it when injured by the action of the waves. I believe such timely maintenance repairs would save a great deal of expense to Government.

4. Each tank would require from one to two men according to its size, who should work under the orders of the Natamgar or head man and be paid by the Tahsildar; every land-holder under the tank or channel would watch that the work was duly maintained in order, and would have no interest in saving such an expenditure; the Curnum and Natamgar could be required to certify at foot of the monthly accounts whether the workman had worked properly during the month and at the same time report on the state of the work.

5. Perhaps it will be said the above labor is the duty of the Neranicum or Madian, but in this District they do not execute such repairs; there are 692 of such persons in the District, their average pay is Rupees 7-2-5 each per annum, it is clear that on such pay they cannot do them; besides, such servants are not employed in every tank and channel, and under the new arrangements at present under the consideration of Mr. Pelly it is not intended to employ such servants on every tank.

6. I would not advocate the introduction of such a system into every village, it should only be maintained for the conservancy of works which Government has hitherto repaired; there are 2,984 tanks (and there may be more) watering 8,705 Cawnies of land paying 39,234 Rupees to Government, some* of them the Government have not repaired within the last ten years, while others† they have never repaired; they are kept in order by the villagers themselves, who should still keep them in repair, for which purpose no Act is necessary.

Tanks.	Extent.	Tax.
* 1,791	5,418	25,043
† 1,193	3,287	14,191

7. I believe it would be sheer waste of money to remit revenue to the villagers for conservancy purposes, and that it would probably be accompanied by injustice; if it is necessary to pass any Act it should be one to enable Government to levy a cess for such purposes to be expended by Government Officers.

8. The Collector and Public Works Department should determine what establishment was required for the maintenance of any work, submit their proposal for the orders of Government, who on approval could pass orders for the devotion of a certain portion of the revenue to the purpose to be supplemented by a cess to the same amount, to be levied from the villagers, the money to be paid to the workmen by the Government officers, who also should exact the proper labor through the village officers. This scheme might be tried in a few selected places to see how it would act.

9. I believe that any such Act as proposed by the Commissioners for compelling the villagers to keep roads in repair would only tend to bad work, evasion and oppression, and beg to submit that any thing that is to be done to the roads should be done by Government Officers.

10. The slow progress of public works and the difficulty experienced by the Department in looking after the numerous works requiring their supervision is often owing, I believe, to the insufficiency of the estimates. Instances, I believe, occur in which the time of the officers is exhausted in frequent visits to works slowly progressing, which might have been finished long before, and would have required fewer visits if labor had been procurable and in hunting after cheap labor; it stands to reason that if an Officer is obliged to visit a work three or four times when two visits ought to have been sufficient that he will find it difficult to visit other works; their time being thus often so much occupied they find it impossible to superintend and to do all the work required, vexation and disappointment is the result, and a cry is raised Government ought to compel the villagers to work; it is impossible to expect Government to do all the work and to find Officers to do it; but even if the villagers are compelled to do the work suggested, Government Officers would have to visit the works to see the villagers performed them.

11. Except the Public Works Department no one in Madura Town complains of a want of laborers, the inhabitants get as many laborers as they want, and work is abundant though the labor of many hundred Weavers has been thrown into the market at 3 Annas a day, last year it was only 2 Annas; the Department Public Works cannot get the Town Water project completed for want of labor, a Maistry employed on it the other day told me he could not get men and that he only gave 2 and 2½ Annas a day, which of course was a sufficient reason for the work not being performed, and of course meantime much of this man's labor is lost to Government which might have been made available in other works.

12. The system is, I believe, the cause of this sort of waste of time: estimates are prepared originally at proper rates, they are not carried out for perhaps two years or more, meantime the rates rise, but as the sanctioned estimate has to be adhered to, delay and waste of time is unavoidable.

13. I think the Department of Public Works might be allowed the following assistance and no Act for its enforcement is required. Supposing a tank or channel is to be repaired, an estimate at the fair rates should be made out; the persons to be benefited should be required to find labor to get it executed; if, in consequence of their failure to do so, any loss of revenue occurred, they should not be allowed any remission. I do not think it just that the time of the Government Officer should be taken up in hunting for laborers for such works; by custom it is the duty of the villagers to find such labor, and they should do so on being properly remunerated;

No. 300. From Captain E. A. FOOKD, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Tanjore, 29th July 1863, No. 306.

SIR,

1. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Proceedings of Government, of the 18th of June No. 1,599, calling for a report on the proposal to have the repairs of village tanks and roads done by the Ryots, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, it will not be advisable to adopt that course.

2. If a tank or road is worth repairing, it is worth repairing properly; and neither would be repaired properly by Ryots, who do not know how to do the work, and do not care whether it is done or not.

3. Whenever general repairs are required to a work, large or small, they should be done under good superintendence, but general repairs would not often be required to village tanks and roads if the Ryots were held responsible for their state; were made to take greater care of them and to execute certain works which, if done at once, can be done at merely nominal cost, but which if neglected entail a heavy outlay. These works are enumerated in Chapter XI of what was called the new Code—now obsolete. The cost of repairs rendered necessary by the neglect of these works should be recovered from the Ryots.

4. Although there may be no made-road leading to a village, there is always a track, and this track is often rendered nearly impassable by the encroachments and other acts of the Ryots. They cannot be expected to convert the track into a good road, but they should be prevented from cutting channels across it, or conveying water in it instead of in a channel by the side of it, and from encroaching on the road either by allowing hedges to spread over it or taking portions of it into their fields.

5. Hitherto the Revenue authorities have done little or nothing to prevent injury to irrigation works and roads. Everywhere may be seen tanks and river banks worn away by foot-paths and cattle tracks, and left unrepaired; banks encroached upon, banks cut through; and roads cut across, ploughed up, or encroached on by hedges or bazaars, so that there is not space for a single cart. I do not think any new Act is required, but the Revenue authorities should be made to understand their duty and do it. I do not of course recommend that any repairs properly so called should be done under their superintendence (for that would lead, as it did formerly, to a great waste of money) but they could easily, without neglecting their other duties, prevent roads and banks being encroached and injured in the way they now are.

No. 301. From Captain O. W. S. CHAMBERS, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Waltair, 3rd August 1863, No. 692.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Order of Government No. 1,599, of the 18th June, and more particularly to the call made in paragraph 5 of the same on certain Officers to report their opinion of the feasibility of introducing an Act to make the repair of minor irrigation works compulsory on the Ryots benefiting by them, I have the honor to inform you that I have thought a good deal on the subject, and having besides consulted other Officers (Revenue and Departmental) and that I entertain no doubt of such on Act being workable.

2. Every one knows how desirable an arrangement it would be to transfer in full property to the Ryots their village tanks, entering into an agreement or contract with them that they should, in return for certain reductions in the amount of the rent paid by them, maintain these irrigation works in good order.

3. And in common with the Officers I have consulted, I cannot but think that when the Ryots fully understood that the tanks were theirs, and that on their being allowed to fall into bad order, double the amount of the repairs, in addition to the withholding of the original

6. I would not advocate the introduction of such a system into every village, it should only be maintained for the conservancy of works which Government has hitherto repaired; there are 2,984 tanks (and there may be more) watering 8,705 Cawnies of land paying 39,234 Rupees to Government, some* of them the Government have not repaired within the last ten years, while others† they have never repaired; they are kept in order by the villagers themselves, who should still keep them in repair, for which purpose no Act is necessary.

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10. The slow progress of public works and the difficulty experienced by the Department in looking after the numerous works requiring their supervision is often owing, I believe, to the insufficiency of the estimates. Instances, I believe, occur in which the time of the officers is exhausted in frequent visits to works slowly progressing, which might have been finished long before, and would have required fewer visits if labor had been procurable and in hunting after cheap labor; it stands to reason that if an Officer is obliged to visit a work three or four times when two visits ought to have been sufficient that he will find it difficult to visit other works; their time being thus often so much occupied they find it impossible to superintend and to do all the work required, vexation and disappointment is the result, and a cry is raised Government ought to compel the villagers to work; it is impossible to expect Government to do all the work and to find Officers to do it; but even if the villagers are compelled to do the work suggested, Government Officers would have to visit the works to see the villagers performed them.

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13. I think the Department of Public Works might be allowed the following assistance and no Act for its enforcement is required. Supposing a tank or channel is to be repaired, an estimate at the fair rates should be made out; the persons to be benefited should be required to find labor to get it executed; if, in consequence of their failure to do so, any loss of revenue occurred, they should not be allowed any remission. I do not think it just that the time of the Government Officer should be taken up in hunting for laborers for such works; by custom it is the duty of the villagers to find such labor, and they should do so on being properly remunerated;

No. 300. From Captain E. A. FOORD, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Tanjore, 29th July 1863, No. 306.

SIR,

1. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Proceedings of Government, of the 18th of June No. 1,599, calling for a report on the proposal to have the repairs of village tanks and roads done by the Ryots, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, it will not be advisable to adopt that course.

2. If a tank or road is worth repairing, it is worth repairing properly; and neither would be repaired properly by Ryots, who do not know how to do the work, and do not care whether it is done or not.

3. Whenever general repairs are required to a work, large or small, they should be done under good superintendence, but general repairs would not often be required to village tanks and roads if the Ryots were held responsible for their state; were made to take greater care of them and to execute certain works which, if done at once, can be done at merely nominal cost, but which if neglected entail a heavy outlay. These works are enumerated in Chapter XI of what was called the new Code—now obsolete. The cost of repairs rendered necessary by the neglect of these works should be recovered from the Ryots.

4. Although there may be no made-road leading to a village, there is always a track, and this track is often rendered nearly impassable by the encroachments and other acts of the Ryots. They cannot be expected to convert the track into a good road, but they should be prevented from cutting channels across it, or conveying water in it instead of in a channel by the side of it, and from encroaching on the road either by allowing hedges to spread over it or taking portions of it into their fields.

5. Hitherto the Revenue authorities have done little or nothing to prevent injury to irrigation works and roads. Everywhere may be seen tanks and river banks worn away by foot-paths and cattle tracks, and left unrepaired; banks encroached upon, banks cut through; and roads cut across, ploughed up, or encroached on by hedges or bazaars, so that there is not space for a single cart. I do not think any new Act is required, but the Revenue authorities should be made to understand their duty and do it. I do not of course recommend that any repairs properly so called should be done under their superintendence (for that would lead, as it did formerly, to a great waste of money) but they could easily, without neglecting their other duties, prevent roads and banks being encroached and injured in the way they now are.

No. 301. From Captain O. W. S. CHAMBERS, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 1st Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Waltair, 3rd August 1863, No. 692.

SIR,

1. With reference to the Order of Government No. 1,599, of the 18th June, and more particularly to the call made in paragraph 5 of the same on certain Officers to report their opinion of the feasibility of introducing an Act to make the repair of minor irrigation works compulsory on the Ryots benefiting by them, I have the honor to inform you that I have thought a good deal on the subject, and having besides consulted other Officers (Revenue and Departmental) and that I entertain no doubt of such on Act being workable.

2. Every one knows how desirable an arrangement it would be to transfer in full property to the Ryots their village tanks, entering into an agreement or contract with them that they should, in return for certain reductions in the amount of the rent paid by them, maintain these irrigation works in good order.

3. And in common with the Officers I have consulted, I cannot but think that when the Ryots fully understood that the tanks were theirs, and that on their being allowed to fall into bad order, double the amount of the repairs, in addition to the withholding of the original

remission for maintenance, would be imposed on them as a fine, they would take as much care of them as their houses, or their compound walls, or any other similar property, requiring occasional repairs and renewals.

4. At present tanks are looked upon as the property of another, and a Ryot thinks that as long as he pays his Cist, that other, the Government, must keep the tank under which his fields lie in good order, let the work be ever so much damaged by his indifference or, as often is the case, where there are no sluices, or too few sluices, his positive ill-usage.

5. Again, in some cases where the repairs are carried out by the Ryots themselves, or by their servants and dependants, it is a positive pecuniary advantage to them that the tank should be as much ill-used as possible, in order that it may be repaired as often as possible, and the money for these repairs brought into the village.

6. This will cease when the Ryots fully understand the contract they have made with Government, and that it is their undoubted interest to keep the minor irrigation works in good order, preventing and abstaining from all ill-usage to them, so that they may have to expend upon them as little as possible of their labor, and may continue to receive the benefit of the original remission for maintenance.

7. The Act when passed should, in my opinion, be carried out gradually; no irrigation work, as proposed by the Committee, should be handed over to the villagers unless in undeniably good repair, these should be made fully to understand both the advantages obtained and the liabilities assumed by them on having the tanks handed over to them, and the penalties for neglecting these liabilities should be rigorously enforced.

8. After a few examples in each District, I entertain no doubt that the advantage of the transfer would be apparent to all and that the Act would work.

No. 302. From Lieutenant-Colonel G. W. WALKER, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Bhowany, 1st September 1863, No. 121.

SIR,

1. I have the honor, in compliance with the wishes of Government expressed in paragraph 5 of their Order No. 1,599 of 18th June, of which I am reminded by your Memorandum No. 55 of 12th August, to submit my views as to the manner in which village labor may be made available for the repair of village channels, tanks and roads.

2. I think the object in view might be most easily obtained by empowering Tahsildars and their Revenue subordinates of certain grades to carry out at once and on their own responsibility repairs to the extent of, say, from Rupees 50 to Rupees 200, according to the rank of the sanctioning official. Each such work, if under Rupees 50, to be completed within one week from its commencement, and within one month up to Rupees 200. Payments to be made at once, within those periods, from contingent funds constantly at the disposal of the Revenue officials. The Bills to be made up without fail within the following week or month; and the contingent fund reimbursed either by the Collector or the Public Works Range Officer, or by both, according as the work is assessed by a local Punchayet and the Revenue official executing it, as village, or imperial, or partly of each class

3. The money limits I have named are arbitrary, and may be extended at the discretion of those more versed than I am in revenue and irrigation details. But any legislation or employment of Revenue officials and of village labor, in this matter, to be effectual, should I think be based on the three points which I have endeavoured to fix in the sketch above given, viz.: First.—That the power of undertaking any necessary work may be vested in the Revenue officials according to their rank and responsibility. Secondly.—That the means of prompt payment may be always at their disposal; that they be bound to use them; and that their funds be

there need be no fear of oppression in working such a rate, the days of Metto Peons or Police Peons at the instance of a Meerasidar who has appropriated a part of the funds driving coolies to work has passed by.

No. 293. From A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Acting Collector of Bellary, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Bellary, 21st July 1863, No. 30.

1. With reference to paragraph 5, Order of Government 18th June 1863, No. 1,599, requesting me to state my opinion regarding the suggestion of the Committee, that the minor repair of tanks and channels of a local nature, should be made obligatory on local agency, as well as the repair of local cross or village roads.

I have the honor to state that in Cuddapah there had been no *custom* of Ryots contributing labor, and in Bellary also the same default exists. Labor is all that they could well contribute, any masonry repair would be beyond their ability.

Whether there be a custom (of which I am sceptical) or not, I think that the sooner one is introduced the better, for providing for petty local repairs (which of course must be defined both as to description and amount) by local agency.

Local irrigation repairs.

2. When a reduction of the assessment has been made on wet lands, I think a contribution to the charge of keeping the irrigation works in repair may fairly be demanded. I would make Ryots cultivating irrigated land, of which the assessment has been reduced, as in Bellary, liable to a cess of 6¼ per cent. on their wet Puttahs, or one Anna in the Rupee, this would amount to Rupees 45,600, and where the assessment on wet lands in cultivation has *not* been reduced, as in Cuddapah, I would set apart the same quota out of the assessment for annual repair, about Rupees 50,000. I would call this the "Local Irrigation Fund," the earthwork expenditure of which might be entrusted to the heads of villages, subject to the revision of the Tahsildars and Collector, when on circuit, and liable to the inspection of the Superintending Engineers and his subordinates. I think this plan of local taxation would have this advantage, that the Ryots who contributed, would have an interest in seeing that their money was not misapplied, whereas, when the work is conducted under an Overseer of the Department Public Works, they console themselves for bad work, quota of profits to Maistries, or the like, by the reflection that "Circar pays." I remember seeing a suggestion of Mr. Dykes, the Collector of Nellore, regarding the advantage of a popular local control over the expenditure on tank repairs, only it referred to the Imperial and not to the local cess expenditure, the control over the latter being perhaps more appropriate. Of course, works, that are to be kept up as to minor repairs, which I conclude to be the wear and tear, or damage, by weather, cartage, and traffic over bunds, and the like, and not by floods breaching banks, or masonry work, must be put in order first; the bunds must be properly revetted, and sufficient supply and waste channels provided. It would be absurd and unjust to make Ryots repair a tank bund which had been neglected for many years, and whose repair would amount to above 6¼ per cent. of the rent paid for the land.

The reduction on *Ayacut* was Rupees 82,957, on actual cultivation Rupees 59,600.

3. Looking at the wear and tear of earth, and dry stone work, I do not think that 6¼ per cent. is too much to charge for annual deterioration. As to average expenditure for a series of years being taken as a general guide, I cannot see how this would answer, for the expenditure has hitherto been limited, by the means at the disposal of Government, and to the works which have actually been repaired.

4. A very good argument was used to me by a Ryot who paid Rupees 20 per acre for his land for one crop, and Rupees 10 additional if he had water to raise a second; why should he, who paid such a high cess, have to contribute when he rented the land on the understanding that water was to be found him. But when, as in Bellary, the wet assessment has been reduced

from a maximum of Rupees 26 to a maximum of Rupees 12, and the other rates also considerably, the same reasoning would not be cogent.

5. When reductions of assessment are made, a proviso of the reservation of a certain amount for local maintenance should always be made, as it is not so easy to convince parties afterwards of the justice of the measure. But as the justice of this measure is clear, I do not think that opposition can well be made. The means of taxation are easy, and the amount due by each is ascertainable, which is more than can be said of the Income Tax which has been submitted to without open opposition, but with much covert evasion.

6. In short, where the irrigation cess is heavy, and unreduced, as in Cuddapah, or elsewhere, I would deduct from the gross *wet* revenue Rupees 6¼ for maintenance; where a new survey and re-construction of assessment is in progress, I would reserve from the reduction (if any) a like sum; where the wet assessment has been revised and reduced, as in Bellary, I would impose a similar local cess.

Cross roads.

7. With regard to local or village roads, I would set apart any fund which may be collected by a tax on carts, or whatever may be decided upon as a fit subject of taxation, and expend it like the other Local Fund under the supervision of the Superintending Engineer, who would employ village labor for ordinary road-work, under the superintendence of the village head; bridges and the like would have to be done under the Departmental supervision of the Public Works.

8. For work done under the village Potel, I would give him 10 per cent. for supervision. For the credit of his village, with all its eyes upon him, and for the safety of his appointment, I think there would be more check on him than against a Maistry hiring idle coolies, easily satisfied with the work done, and perhaps recording double the number actually employed.

9. The introduction of the system would be a good lesson for the people in the art of self-government. They are not slow in comprehension of their own interests, but "Circar" has always been a word of fear and suspicion, and there is a disinclination to complain against a Department, which would be removed when they found that they had a remedy in their own hands, and were seeing their own money wasted before their eyes, and had none but themselves to lay the blame and responsibility on.

10. We shall wait long in this country before we see public spirited individuals making a village road at their own expense. A local cess for irrigation repair, and for village roads would be a permanent fund; unexpended surplus in one quarter might be directed to another; considering the great requirements everywhere for local improvement, there will be little embarrassment as to what to do with the surplus money.

11. For the information and guidance of Potels supervising ordinary earth or road-work, a few simple directions might be drawn up by the Engineer Department, and translated into the Vernacular, published in the local Gazette, and spare copies given to each village. The suggestions cannot be too few or simple, and I shall give a specimen which I should wish had been always observed by the subordinates of the present system:—

For tank repair.

Choose clay wherever procurable for the bund; tamp well, and puddle to prevent leakage; give a good slope of 1 in 2, where the water is deep, and there is pressure; do not use silt if it can be avoided; gravel the top of the bund if used for traffic.

For road work.

When on a slope, cut a catch-water drain on the upper side of the road *only;* do not let the drains be too long so as to accumulate too much water, but provide for its crossing by either a tunnel, or an upper pavement; do not put earth on the road to raise it, unless an embankment be required; metal with three sizes of gravel, first large, then medium, and lastly, small stones, as three layers will fit into each other, which two would not and so points will not crop up to be loosened. Make a new line over high and dry land, rather than raise a road, which has become a drain, take care to leave space for cross drainage, the extent of which is locally well known.

immediately replenished. Thirdly.—That the villagers themselves shall have a voice in this audit of their accounts, and that such audit shall immediately follow the execution of the work and its payment.

4. On such a basis I believe that the knowledge and influence of the Revenue officials and local labor may be utilized, and the Public Works Department relieved of irrigation work and accounts to a very considerable extent; and the same principles are applicable to the formation and maintenance of village as distinguished from District roads. Perhaps with reference to the latter it might be as well to ascertain how the Labor Contribution Act is worked in the Island of Ceylon.

5. It may be as well to note with regard to paragraph 6 of the re-organization Committee's report that village labor is not necessarily enforceable only on small channels or tanks. It may be legitimately called upon to a certain extent (capable of being well defined from the old Revenue records) on the clearance of channels affecting a considerable irrigation acreage or number of tanks; and if my information be correct, on transfer of the executive from the Revenue to the Engineer Department, the ignorance of such Revenue records and customs on the part of most members of the latter establishment, caused a great deal of extra expense to be thrown upon the Government, by which many villages largely and directly profitted for the time; though probably they lost eventually from the new Department not supplementing the want of maintenance labor that ensued. Either the old practice should be looked to and revived under the new Act now proposed, or each large river and its system of irrigation should be formed into a separate Executive Range. Since I have had to do with the District of Coimbatore it has struck me that it might be possible to work its now really efficient Executive staff (so far as it is completed) more advantageously than at present, by dividing irrigation from other work to a certain extent warranted by the peculiar distribution of the main works of the former class.

No. 303. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. ANDERSON, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Masulipatam, 2nd September 1863, No. 430/77.

1. Referring to G. O. No. 1,599, dated 18th June 1863, paragraph 5, requesting my opinion as to the feasibility of working an Act such as was proposed by the Committee appointed to report on the re-organization of the Public Works Department, in paragraph 6 of their letter dated 15th May, I have the honor to offer the following remarks.

2. The mass of the repairs of irrigation works in this Division are carried out by the Executive Agents of the Public Works Department, with such labor as they can find; and consequently Section 6, Act I of 1858, which provides for the enforcement of a supply of labor for the execution of a work, which according to local custom is annually carried out by the joint labor of the villagers interested, is not applicable to them; nor would it be desirable in my opinion to amend or supplement it by a first Act, or in short to use coersive measures at all.

3. Such an Act would be very unpopular; its object would probably be misunderstood and mis-represented, and further be liable to be turned into a handle of oppression by those who might have to enforce it. Were there no other means of getting the necessary repairs of irrigation works carried out, these objections might be avoided; but I do not think that such is the case; and I believe that if Government were to make it clearly known to the Ryots what assistance they expected of them, and how without such assistance the irrigation works, in the maintenance of which the Ryots are as much interested as the Government, must inevitably deteriorate, they would not be found unwilling to contribute the required supply of labor. They do so, as it is, to a certain extent, but in an irregular, inconstant way, and generally at the last moment, when they see there is no chance of having the annual repair carried out without them. They see that a certain amount of labor is to be had in the market, and the Ryots of each village, in the hope that it will be applied to their particular channel or tank, will hang back as long as they can from contributing a further supply. The cultivation of a tract of land under a tank or channel is a perfectly voluntary act on the part of a Ryot. It must be

assumed that he derives profit from it, and according as the profit is great or small it may also be assumed that he will display a greater or less interest in the maintenance of the irrigation works. Prices have risen so much of late years, and continue to rise, without any increase in the Government demand, or proportionate increase in the expenses of cultivation, that the Ryots must be getting more and more wealthy every year: and if the alternative were put before them of losing the source of their prosperity, or of displaying some active interest in it, I cannot but think that they would choose the latter.

4. I know that in the Kistna District Ryots have on several occasions undertaken to excavate small channels, not only by labor collected by themselves, but at their own expense, when they found there was no other way of getting them done, and were the sanction for all village channels which may henceforward be applied for, fettered with the condition that the Ryots should not pay for them, but contribute the labor required to carry them out in the first instance, and afterwards to maintain them. I do not believe that the extension of the wet cultivation would be thrown back in the slightest degree. I regret much that this system was not adopted from the first; though doubtless owing to the ignorance of the people as to the benefit they could derive from the Kistna water, the irrigation of the Delta would have been delayed for a time in consequence. It is very different now, when the produce of an acre* of wet cultivation fetches from 40 to 45 Rupees, yielding a profit to the Ryot of between 20 and 30 Rupees and when the people are petitioning on all sides for channels to enable them to take up fresh land. I am quite satisfied that when profits are so high, and there is reason to anticipate they will continue to increase, the Ryots would gladly contribute their quota of labor for the excavation of news channels, and for their annual clearance, and also for the clearance of all existing village channels, if they are made to understand clearly, once for all, that neither the original work nor the repairs will otherwise be carried out at all; and what would hold good for channels would be equally applicable to tanks, at least to those of the minor class.

* At one Pooty an Acre.

5. It would be necessary that some one should be responsible for the execution of the works. I believe it was customary, when the Maramut was in the charge of the Collectors, to have the works carried out by the agency of the village authorities, and I would think there could be no objection to reverting to that system. The procedure I would recommend is as follows:—

(1.) The officers of Public Works Department to have the annual repair estimates of minor works classified under their proper heads, such as branches of a particular main channel. Tanks in a particular Táluq prepared immediately after the close of the irrigation season.

(2.) The estimates of such works to be drawn up in communication with the Tahsildars and countersigned by them, before being submitted by the Range Officer, Department Public Works, to the Collector. This would save the delay which is now occasioned by the Collector having to refer the estimates to the Tahsildars for report, after receipt from the Public Works Department.

(3.) The Moonsiff of the village affected by a minor channel or tank, or when there may be several villages under a single channel or tank, the Moonsiff of the village yielding the highest revenue, to be charged with the execution of the repair, and to receive 2½ per cent. on expenditure as an allowance for superintendence, and half a Rupee per cent. for stationery.

(4.) The Officer of Department Public Works to advance to the village Moonsiff half the amount of the estimated cost of the work on its commencement.

(5.) The work to be closed by a certain date, some time before the average time of commencing the cultivation, to be measured by the Public Works Officers, and accounts closed for the season.

(6.) Should the works have been left partially or wholly undone, the Ryots should not be entitled to any remission of revenue; and if the work is badly done, or not in the manner provided for by the Estimate, a deduction from the payment, to be made to cover the loss or waste so occasioned.

(7.) The works, on completion, to be brought forward in the Executive Officer's Progress Reports, the *total* amount of each *list* of Estimates, and the *total* amount expended, only being shown.

(8.) A Bill to be made out for each list of such Estimates, showing details of expenditure on each minor work, and a list of the latter to be sent to the Collector for entry in the Register.

6. A great objection to the system now in force is the amount of Office work occasioned by the insertion of every petty work in the Progress Report. In a single Range there may be one, two, or three hundred works, estimated to cost perhaps in the average 150 Rupees, each work has now to be entered in the monthly Progress Report; the amount of Estimate, date of sanction, past expenditure, current expenditure (although it may be blank), total expenditure, has to be shown. The Progress Report compiled by the Range Officer, from the details of expenditure furnished by his subordinates, has to be copied out in triplicate (one copy for Range Officer, one for Superintending Engineer, one for the Collector), and with all this Office work the expenditure on the whole of these petty estimates will for months together be almost entirely stopped.

7. It will be observed that I would have the annual repairs carried out within a certain fixed time, that is, the time when agricultural operations are suspended, and that I would close the accounts on a certain date, whether the work should have been completed or not, and I would allow of no fresh estimates being submitted until the following season.

8. On the Ryots would rest the responsibility of any loss that might be incurred from imperfect execution of the work, and with this knowledge and the knowledge also that the work must be done at the proper season, or not at all, they would, I have no doubt, very soon get into the habit of contributing their proper share of labor, and for executing the annual repairs regularly as a matter of course, while the duties of inspection would be simplified and Office work much reduced.

9. I do not think it would be possible to do away altogether with Departmental agency in regard to the maintenance of minor irrigation works, unless it be acknowledged that the people are to be trusted to carry out the repairs without any check. But I believe if Government were to reduce the assessment of the land under an irrigation work by the average annual expenditure on repairs, or to hand over the work to the Ryots, they could not be trusted to do it. Some inspection on the part of Government would be necessary, and as an inspection to be worth any thing, must be tested by measurement, it would come to be nothing more than the old plan under a new name.

10. But if the Ryots are led into the habit of executing the annual repair on payment and under the supervision of the Government Officers, a step would be gained in the proper direction, and after a time it may be found expedient to hand over the works bodily to them.

11. I believe that coercive measure for obtaining the required supply of labor would be particularly ill-timed at present. In the Kistna District several Contractors have lately come forward to carry out earthworks on a tolerably large scale, and two individuals have undertaken the whole of the agricultural repairs in the two sub-divisions of the Bundar Táluq; the Estimates being upwards of 7,000 Rupees. They have received no advances but are paid on measured work at weekly intervals. I am informed that they have made satisfactory progress, indeed much more satisfactory than had been customary in former years when the repairs were carried out by our own agents.

12. I have not encouraged competition as yet, as the Contractors have had no previous experience, and cannot estimate their own powers; nor have I endeavoured to beat them down below the current rates. But, as it is, a considerable saving in superintendence is effected, and after a time, when it becomes known that the Contractors make a profit from the works, I have nodoubt that some competition will spring up; and I do not despair of seeing many of the Ryots themselves come forward to contract for the execution of the works connected with their

own villages. But in localities, where there may be no opportunity of employing Contractors, I would recommend, as above stated, that the village Moonsiffs be charged with the execution of the ordinary repairs.

No. 304. From Colonel S. O. E. LUDLOW, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Saint Thomé, 12th September 1863.

SIR,

1. As directed in paragraph 5 of the Proceedings of Government No. 1,599, dated 18th June 1863, I have the honor to submit my views on the plan suggested by the Committee in paragraph 6 of their report for the conservancy and repair of minor works of irrigation by the Ryots themselves.

2. I fully concur with the Committee as to the desirability of the introduction of such a system. It would not only relieve the Government Officers of a large amount of superintendence of trivial works which they necessarily carry out at a heavier expense than they could be done for by the people themselves, but would have a strong tendency to foster habits of industry among the Ryots, and create in them a spirit of self-reliance and corporate action which does not at present exist.

3. The system would not, however, be unattended with some defects and risks against which it is desirable as much as possible to guard.

4. Labor might under it be misapplied, and the more ignorant and less influential of the cultivators be compelled by the more powerful to contribute more than their fair share in labor or money to the works.

5. It would be necessary to establish some regulations both regarding the mode in which and the parties under whose authority the repair of works should be carried out, and how the expenses of such repairs should be distributed and the money or labor levied.

6. Every Ryot should have the option, as far as practicable, of contributing his share either in labor or money.

7. The mode in which the Committee propose to carry out this system seems to me to be upon the whole, under the peculiar circumstances of the country, the best that could be suggested. There may however be cases (although I fear they are not likely to be numerous) in which it would be practicable to capitalize the Government water assessment, and whenever this is possible it ought, in my opinion, to be done. The necessity even of an inspection of the works by Government servants would thus be obviated as also that of enforcing penalties.

8. But whether the system advocated by the Committee or that of capitalizing the water revenue be adopted, the terms on which the concession is made should be liberal, as the Government will gain not only by the contraction of their establishment but almost certainly by an extension of the area cultivated on the diminished rate of assessment, and it must not be forgotten that the large majority of those small works are undergoing a slow but certain process of deterioration, which will eventually have the effect of diminishing their value and enhancing the cost of their repair.

No. 305. From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to Colonel W. I. BIRDWOOD, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Calicut, 15th August 1863, No. 91.

SIR,

With reference to your Official Memorandum, dated 12th instant, No. 55, I have the honor to state that my reply to G. O., dated 18th June 1863, No. 1,599, was sent to the Board of Revenue on the 4th instant, a copy is herewith forwarded by which you will perceive that I do not think that an erdnent or extension of Act I of 1858 would work satisfactorily in Malabar.

No. 306. From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madras, 6th June 1864, No. 3,418:—

SIR,

1. Adverting to Government Order, dated 18th June 1863, No. 1,599, Public Works Department, paragraph 5, I am directed by the Board to forward the letters of the Collector of Malabar noted in the margin, which it has only now been observed are originals addressed to the Board, instead of copies of the Collector's letters to Government, with which the Board requested the Collectors called on by Government for their opinion to favor the Board.

From the Collector of Malabar, dated 4th August 1863, No. 163, and 19th idem, No 176.

2. The Board's remarks on the very important subject under reference will be submitted to Government separately.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 4th August 1863, No. 163:—

SIR,

1. Adverting to the Government Order noted,* I have the honor to submit the following remarks on the suggestion of the late Committee, for the re-organization of the Department Public Works, to introduce a local Act supplementing or amending Section 6, Act I of 1858.

* No. 1,599, dated 18th June 1863.

2. That Act renders a village community liable by law to execute any irrigation or drainage work which it was already bound to execute by local custom.

3. I do not think it has hitherto been sufficiently clearly and practically understood what was the Ryot's work, and what that of the Department Public Works.

The Ryots of course will not do for themselves what they think the Department Public Works may do for them gratis, and the line has not been very distinctly drawn.

Hence Act I of 1858 has been of comparatively little use.

4. But there are many irrigation works that undoubtedly can be executed more efficiently, easily, and cheaply by village labor, than in any other way.

The return from water applied to land is so direct and apparent that every man *feels* his labor in an irrigation work is benefiting himself.

As far as I am aware customary village labor has not hitherto been remunerated by the State in any way.

5. I think, therefore, that in *irrigation* works village labor may be more extensively and systematically made use of than hitherto with great advantage: and if when increasing the labor to be executed by the Ryots, the amount of expenditure thereby saved the State is deducted from the assessment, I believe the arrangement will be as popular as it will be beneficial.

It appears to me that the arrangements sketched by the Committee are simple and practical, and that there will be no difficulty in detailing and carrying them out.

6. But in this province we have no irrigation works to speak of, and when we leave *irrigation* works and come to *communications*, the aspect of the question materially alters; and the more so when considered with reference not to the more or less united communities of the Eastern Coast, but to the more scattered population and independent landed proprietors of Malabar.

7. As before said in an irrigation district the people will know the value of water and the return from it. They realize their interest in works connected with its supply; but in works of communication they only do so to a very limited extent. Ryots will turn out with comparative willingness to bank up a tank bund, or clear out a tank, or channel. But it requires positive driving to make them perform very simple though very necessary road repairs.

8. In Malabar as in other Districts a good deal (in a rather desultory way) used to be done when the execution of the public works rested with the Revenue Department, and the local Officers were energetic, and properly interested themselves in the up-keep of the roads.

The system and the times when much was done by village labor in respect to communications have passed. It was when the Tahsildars were Executive Public Works' Officers, and when a Tahsildar's order was sufficient for any thing. If a Tahsildar now tells a Ryot to repair a piece of road, the latter probably inquires what Section of the Penal Code he will be punished under if he does not obey.

Since the works have been placed under another Department, the custom of executing local repairs by the villagers has almost entirely dropped, very little has of late years been done, and that of the most paltry nature.

9. A legislative enactment might make village labor on roads compulsory; but clear provisions as to the respective shares of labor to be apportioned on individuals would be absolutely necessary.

A system half legal and half voluntary is sure to fail, what is everybody's work is nobody's. The law would have to be clear and detailed as to individual responsibility, or it would be inoperative.

Such a law would be difficult to frame, and troublesome to work.

10. Moreover, by no enactment compelling village labor on roads can we efficiently provide for the construction of bridges or masonry works, and without a frequent succession of these in Malabar lines of earth-work are almost useless.

Even if a so-far-satisfactory and workable enactment could be provided for the compulsion of village labor it would not supply our wants.

It might very probably be positively injurious; for the local Officers would be referred to it for their district communications, and be denied efficient assistance, which they would otherwise obtain.

11. On these considerations I unhesitatingly deprecate the introduction of a law compelling village labor in Malabar.

The district communications, as well as the Government lines, must, in my opinion, be maintained and extended by funds regularly collected and expended by the Officers of Government.

12. The district communications imperatively demand attention, and as Government has definitely declared that the district roads cannot be charged to the Imperial Funds, we must provide others.

13. It is highly desirable that the lines of communication should be distinctly classed as "Government" and "District," *i. e.*, as chargeable to Imperial or Local Funds, without further delay, and on this subject I am in communication with the Superintending Engineer.

It is, however, unnecessary to postpone the consideration of raising funds until the details of classification are settled.

It is desirable to have arrangements matured so that when we know what are district roads, we may have money to spend on them.

14. From a lac to a lac and a half annually should, if possible, be provided.

15. We now realize about Rupees 55,000 annually from leases of ferries, &c. I must say, after a good deal of conversation, I do not see how we can dispense with existing tolls and with occasional additional ones as communications open. The tax is well suited to this province, and not objected to (more than any tax must be) by the people. Our returns of late years have greatly increased, and in a satisfactory way, for the result is due rather to increased traffic on tolled lines, than to increase in the number of tolls.

16. Tolls, however, will not suffice for our wants. To supplement their returns I venture to suggest a house tax, and I feel that some remarks are necessary to explain my doing so.

17. We start with a necessity for money for local communications. From no present sources can we get enough.

The allotment of 2 per cent. on the land revenue was proposed. As we wanted money, I advocated that this should be given; but it was very clearly pointed* out by Government that such a grant would be merely an allotment of Imperial Funds under a different guise, and that probably imperial grants would be lessened proportionably if it were accorded.

* Vide G. O., dated 3rd February 1863, No. 246.

18. There are objections to an extra cess for Local Funds calculated on the Land Revenue. in Malabar; for the assessments, though not generally too high, are irregular in their incidence; and thus an extra cess calculated on them would fall proportionately unevenly.

19. An extra cess on the acreage throughout would fall unevenly; from the want of accurate measurements it would be almost impossible to calculate, and would be unpopular and out of accordance with the custom of the country and the feelings of the proprietors.

20. A wheel tax would be insignificant in its results at present, and is undesirable in other respects as pointed out in the letter noted.

Vide letter from Collector to Board, dated 26th June 1863, No 124.

21. No feasible method other than a house tax of raising Local Funds suggests itself to me.

22. A house tax has several considerations to recommend it.

It is not unknown to the people. It formed a considerable, and certainly the least objectionable, part of the Moturpha.†

We have a tangible taxible subject to start with. A Collector and his whole Cutcherry may inquire for a week about a man's income, and be little wiser after all. But whether a man has a house or not, and about what value it may be fairly assessed at, are questions of easy solution.

† The Moturpha, I know, has a bad name; and no one could condemn many of its features more than I do. But some of its provisions were excellent. Good and bad were swept away alike to be followed not long after by what most of the people of this province assert to be worse than the Moturpha's worst feature, viz., the Income Tax

With a few plain rules opportunities alike of evasion, and oppression, may be reduced to a small compass.

By fixing a few simple rates the incidence of the tax may be rendered very even. It will fall not directly on the agriculturists alone, but on the class of merchants, traders, and shopkeepers whose interests will be much advanced by the application of its proceeds.

The proceeds, with moderate rates, and excluding the houses of the very poor, will realize a considerable sum. I roughly estimate from Rupees 50,000 to 75,000 per annum. This can be contributed with ease, and when scrupulously applied to District communications will be repaid tenfold by the benefit to the people.

23. I have for several months back been discussing the question of raising Local Funds with intelligent natives, official and non-official, and I feel justified in saying that no other method has met with such general approval, or with so little objection, as the measure I now propose.

I beg therefore to commend it to the earnest consideration of the Board, and I cannot but entertain sanguine hopes that if its details are judiciously arranged, and the funds raised by it judiciously and energetically expended, the results to this province will be eminently important and beneficial.

From G. A. BALLARD, Esq., Collector of Malabar, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Calicut, 19th August 1863, No. 176:—

SIR,

1. In continuation of my letter of the 4th instant, No. 163, I beg to inform the Board that the result of my communications with the Superintending Engineer, 7th Division, is briefly that we concur in the following views with regard to the roads in Malabar:—

1. Cannanore to Coorg (Trunk Road No. 4.)
2. Do to Mysore (viâ Peria and Manantoddy.)
3. Manantoddy to Gudalur (viâ Sultan's Battery.)
4. Calicut to Manantoddy (viâ Tamberacherry.)
5. Ariakod to Mysore (viâ Karkur.)
(Line water communication from Ariakod to Calicut and Beypoor, &c.)
6. Calicut to Palghaut (viâ Maliapuram, Manat, and Mundur.)
7. Trunk Road No. 5.

1*st*.—That the lines noted should be considered "Government" lines, and be completed and maintained from Imperial Funds. The aggregate length is about 420 miles.

2*nd*.—That all the other lines in the District should be "District" lines, and completed and maintained from Local Funds. The aggregate length of roads to be taken on hand at present may be about 1,100 miles. Some of these are of little less importance than the Government lines. They will be classified as may be found desirable. Some few are in pretty fair order, others hardly traced; bridging is urgently required throughout. Other roads will be added as funds allow and the development of the country requires them.

3*rd*.—That minimum annual mileage allotments be sanctioned.

2. The Superintending Engineer will address Government in detail as to the sums required on the Government lines. But as an approximation to what will be required on "District" roads, and in exemplification of the system proposed, we may take an average of Rupees 100 per mile per annum on the 1,100 miles of "District" roads above-said. Say an average of Rupees 40 per mile per annum is required for maintenance, or Rupees 44,000; we have Rupees 66,000 per annum for bridging to be expended on estimates previously prepared and sanctioned. More money can be advantageously expended if obtained.

3. If this system is steadily pursued, we may look for very marked results and improvement of no ordinary character. I trust therefore that the scheme I lately submitted to the Board for raising Local Funds may receive their cordial support, and that it, or some more approved method of providing supplies, may be speedily adopted. I am convinced that the proceeds of taxation, judiciously applied in this direction, will be repaid many fold to the payers.

No. 307. From W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to the Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Madras, 23rd July 1864, No. 4,653:—

SIR,

1. I am directed by the Board of Revenue to submit their reply to the Government Orders noted in the margin, which has been delayed longer than they could have desired, under the mistaken impression that the subject could be best disposed of in connection with other references from Government, which had also for their object the relief either of Imperial Funds or Imperial Establishments, from the charge or responsibility for minor works of repair or maintenance.

D. P. W., G. O dated 14th November 1862, No. 2,743.
Do. do. 1st December „ „ 2,862.
Government Order, dated 18th June 1863, No. 1,599.

2. In paragraph 6 of the Report of the Committee on the re-organization of the Department Public Works, the Committee remark that they are disposed to look to the mode suggested by His Excellency the Governor for supplementing the agency of the Department, by imposing on the Ryots the duty of keeping in repair what may be called Village Tanks in contra-distinction to those which supply water to a considerable number of villages, and perhaps also the Village Roads, and they go on to suggest that an Act should be introduced in amendment or extension of Section 6, Act I of 1858, giving power to Government to declare from time to time what irrigation and other works shall be kept in repair by the village community, and to enforce their execution by imposing a fine on such of the Ryots as may fail to contribute their proper share of labor, to double the estimated value of such labor; with the condition that the Act should not any where be enforced until the irrigation works have been put into good repair, and that in each case on the transfer of the work a portion of the Land Revenue shall be remitted in consideration of the State being saved the cost of putting (? *keeping*) the work in repair, this

lon being settled by taking the average expenditure on the work concerned for a series

The feasibility of working such an Act was referred in paragraph 5 of the Government n the Report for the opinion of the Board among others.

The Board may observe at once on the proposal as it regards Village *Roads* that they see at difficulties in the way of working such a system, and some serious objections to the of the proposal.

In the first place Village Roads never have yet been repaired or maintained at Governst, and to put them in repair would require an enormous expenditure of money for a ed period. It would, moreover, be exceedingly difficult to define what should in each e brought under the operation of the system, and it does not appear just or equitable to he *Ryots* with the responsibility of maintaining such roads to the exclusion of all other f the community.

The Board would as regards roads prefer the system of a fixed cess on the land which y in existence in some Districts, and may easily and gradually be extended to all, the derivable from this cess being reserved as Local Funds for expenditure in the Districts raised.

Whether it is desirable to combine with this any system of forced labor on roads such ieved to be in successful operation in Ceylon, is a question that may deserve consider- it with which the Board, in the absence of detailed information on the subject, feel tent to deal. They, however, consider that Mr. Ballard's proposal of a house tax for d improvements, is deserving of consideration.

The Board propose therefore to consider the Committee's proposal in connection solely ge Tanks, and at the same time to submit the information called for by Government Board's former proposal for the relinquishment to the Ryots of all tanks watering an area of not more than 10 Kanis (equal to 13·22 Acres) of land, on the condition of their he Punjah assessment on the entire cultivable Ayacut below the tank.

The accompanying Statement and file of replies from Collectors furnish full information probable results of the Board's proposal, and the following abstract exhibits them in

of	Total extent of land occupied under them.	Average occupation under such Tank.	Ten years' average of annual revenue (Nunjah) derived from the Tanks.	Total Nunjah assessment on the whole Ayacut under the Tanks.	Estimate of Punjah assessment on do., calculated at 25 per cent. of Nunjah do.	Ten years' average of actual annual expenditure on the Tanks.	Average annual *net* Nunjah revenue.	Difference between Columns 6 and 8.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Acres. 50,730	A. G. A. 5 17 12	Rupees. 1,53,270	Rupees. 2,82,248	Rupees. 70,562	Rupees 10,298	Rupees. 1,42,972	Rupees. 72,410

On the above showing, the Government would be relieved of the charge of putting and ing in repair upwards of 9,000 petty tanks by an estimated sacrifice of revenue amounting me Rupees 72,500, but the Board observe that this sacrifice is certainly over-estimated, as the actual money expenditure on the works (column 7) by no means represents the to Government of the little that has been done to them, as the most expensive item, cost of professional and trained superintendence of the work is not included, and cannot ated, and an equally important consideration to Government (to which the recent change epartment adds weight) is the extent to which the time and attention of a highly trained nt is diverted from most important and pressing duties, to these petty matters. Moreover, not improbably be found that the estimate of the Punjah revenue (column 6), which is r arbitrary, is under the mark, and it must also be remembered that these tanks are

annually deteriorating according to all evidence, and that the present Nunjah revenue cannot be deemed permanent unless far larger expenditure be made on the works.

11. The majority of the Collectors approve the Board's proposal, and the Board continue of opinion that it is well deserving of consideration, for the tanks are not really maintained in order by Government at present. It will be observed that the average annual expenditure is about Rupees 1¼ on each Tank.

12. To resume the consideration of the Committee's proposal as regards Village Tanks. The principle on which it proceeds is nearly identical with that of the Board's proposal above discussed, and has their approval; for when the Committee say that the repair of a breach in a village tank bund or channel bank "*ought* to be left to local agency," the Board assume them to mean that on considerations of public convenience and of an equivalent compensation for the labor and responsibility involved, such works should be left to local agency, and *not* that the villagers are under any greater obligation to execute the work when the tank is small in size than when it is large, unless allowance has been made in the assessment on the land. But while approving the principle, the Board cannot conceal from themselves that there are serious obstacles to the satisfactory working of the system in practice.

13. In the first place it is to be remarked that a very large amount of public revenue will be made dependant on the honest performance by private individuals of a duty which it will not be easy to enforce, and in connection with this point it is not irrelevant to remind Government of the result of the decennial village leases, on the expiration of which it was almost every where found that the private interest of the Ryots had not been a sufficiently powerful motive to ensure the necessary attention to the works of irrigation on which private rents as well as public revenue were dependant. The system of Dusbundum has also very generally broken down in actual practice.

14. The fact that it is proposed to take powers for compelling the necessary attention does not deprive this consideration of all weight, when it is perceived that the constant exercise of those powers to the fullest extent would be probably no less necessary than difficult. Some system of responsible superintendence must be organized if the public revenue is to be maintained. It will not do merely to punish for default as evidenced by loss of revenue and proved on subsequent inquiry. In the interests of the people as well as of the State it would be necessary that the regular performance of the stated duty be strictly enforced, for maintenance is far more economical than restoration. But to secure this result will add to the cost of the system, and this consideration leads to that of the amount of remission which will probably be necessary to attain success.

15. It will not do to estimate the cost of future maintenance on the average of past expenditure. No doubt the villagers can, if they will, perform the necessary work far more economically than Government could do, but prices have risen so greatly of late years that any estimate based on an average of past years would be fallacious even had the expenditure been more nearly in proportion to the needs of the case; and, moreover, while it does not admit of question that the minor works in question have not been maintained by Government in an efficient state, it is equally certain that much of what has been done was effected by means of unpaid labor.

16. It may be argued that unpaid "customary labor" may, under the proposed system, be exacted as legitimately as under existing arrangements, and the Board do not wish to dispute the assertion, but they are of opinion that the theory of "customary" liability to execute repairs to irrigation works has been strained far beyond what facts warrant.

17. The Board readily admit that where a work essential for the well being of the whole community is of so petty a nature that it can be far more effectively and economically executed by a private individual than by the Government, as the representative of the general community, it is no less equitable than expedient to require that it shall be so executed; and where the immediate advantage of the individual is directly promoted by the work, the argument is strengthened, and the equity of requiring him to bear much of the petty cost of doing what benefits him in a higher *ratio* than it benefits the State, while its neglect by a large number of

individuals would injure the State more than it would injure individuals, may also be admitted. These arguments would apply to the cases of periodically clearing minor channels from deposits of silt, the prevention or speedy repair of petty injuries to earth-works by cattle, and such like, but the case is far different when extensive injuries to tank bunds or channel banks involving expensive operations, and some amount of skilled labor or superintendence are concerned.

18. The Board do not consider that in such cases any relief as to expense can be derived from "customary labor," although they would require that the localities immediately concerned should furnish all available assistance for sufficient remuneration.

19. If then it be desired to transfer the responsibility for such work to the villagers, as a permanent arrangement, full compensation must be given in the shape of a remission of taxation equal to the cost of the work thus transferred, and remuneration must be provided for responsible superintendence involving liability to penalties for neglect of duty. It is open to much question whether such an arrangement would be a politic and economical one for Government.

20. The conclusion then at which the Board arrive is that to make the Committee's proposal reasonable and practicable, and to give it a fair chance of success, the accompanying remission of taxation must be so large as to render the measure economically inexpedient, and the Board consider that the utmost that can safely be done is to define and enforce by legislative enactment "customary labor" to its legitimate extent, and to facilitate the performance of more extensive works by village contracts at the market rate for labor, the liability of each individual to furnish a certain quantity of labor at this rate being also defined.

21. Such a measure they believe would be quite practicable, and by no means unacceptable to the people, who have often manifested their readiness to aid in carrying out such an arrangement, provided that means could be found for compelling all to share alike.

22. Measures are now in operation for transferring to individuals, on fairly remunerative terms, ruined irrigation works which it is not considered worth the while of Government to repair at the public cost. The Board's proposal in the former part of these Proceedings would still further relieve Government. The suggestion contained in the foregoing paragraph would, in the Board's opinion, go far to complete what is desirable in the matter, on considerations of sound policy and real economy. There is nothing in it that is incompatible with the commutation of "customary labor" for a money payment, or with the levy of a Maramut cess to supplement customary labor, if accurately assessed in conjunction with the revision of the land assessment.

No. 308. ORDER THEREON, 14th September 1864, No. 2,675.

1. The Committee appointed to report on the re-organization of the Department of Public Works suggested, as a means of supplementing the Agency of that Department, that the duty of keeping in repair village tanks and village roads should be imposed on the Ryots. With this view it was proposed that an Act should be introduced into the local legislature, either amending or supplementing Section VI, Act I of 1858, giving power to the Government to declare from time to time what irrigation and other works shall be kept in repair by the village community, and to enforce their execution by imposing a fine on such of the Ryots as may fail to contribute their proper share of labor; the conditions being that the Act should not any where be enforced until the irrigation works shall have been put into good repair, and that, on the transfer of each work, a portion of the land revenue should be remitted in consideration of the State being saved the cost of putting it in repair.

2. The Government, considering it very desirable that some such plan as that suggested by the Committee, should be adopted, requested the Board of Revenue and the Officers named in the margin to state their views on the feasibility of working such an Act as that contemplated.

Mr. P. Grant.
" A. Wedderburn.
" G. L. Morris.
" G. A. Ballard.
" V. H. Levinge
Colonel S. O. E. Ludlow.
" O. W. S. Chambers.
" J. C. Anderson.
" G. W. Walker.
" E. A. Foord.
"

3. The reports recorded above are the replies to this requisition.

4. The Government observe a great diversity in the opinions which have been expressed upon the subject. Some of the Officers consulted consider the arrangements proposed by the Committee to be so simple and practical that they anticipate no difficulty whatever in carrying them out; whilst others are of opinion that the working of the Act will be positively injurious in its tendency to the interests of Government. The reasons in support of this latter view are, that the remission of the revenue of a tank, in consideration of the obligation imposed upon the villagers to keep it in order, would lead to repairs being either neglected or very imperfectly performed, and that each individual would try to save as much expenditure as possible on his part, whilst influential members of the village would improperly evade their fair share of labor or money. It is, moreover, contended that the villagers either do not know how to execute the works which it is proposed to entrust to them, or do not care whether they be done or not.

5. The Board of Revenue consider the proposal of the Committee, so far as regards village roads, to be objectionable. They see very great difficulties in the way of working the system as well as some serious objections to the principle of the proposal. They prefer the system of a fixed cess on the land, which is already in existence in some Districts, and may easily and gradually be extended to all.

6. As regards village tanks, the conclusion at which the Board have arrived is that to make the Committee's proposal reasonable and practicable, and to give it a fair chance of success, the accompanying remission of taxation must be so large as to render the measure economically inexpedient. They therefore consider that the utmost that can safely be done is to define and enforce by legislative enactment "customary labor" to its legitimate extent, and to facilitate the performance of more extensive works by village contracts at the market rate for labor, the liability of each individual to furnish a certain quantity of labor at this rate being also defined. As a further relief, the Board press on the consideration of Government the expediency of relinquishing to the Ryots all tanks watering an unoccupied area of not more than ten Cawnies of land, on the condition of their paying Punjah assessment on the entire cultivable Ayacut below the tank. The probable results of this proposal are exhibited in a figured Statement, from which it appears that the Government would be relieved of the charge of putting and keeping in repair upwards of 9,000 petty tanks, by an estimated sacrifice of revenue amounting to Rupees 72,500.

7. On a review of the papers before them, the Government are of opinion that the most expedient course would be to introduce the Act proposed by the Public Works Committee, which should empower the Government to carry out its provisions whenever it may seem to them expedient. The Act may then be enforced in a District where the Collector is favorable to the measure, and if it succeed, there seems no reason why it should not be extended to other Districts.

G. O. 18th June 1863, Nos. 435—441.

8. The correspondence, as per margin, will accordingly be referred to the Judicial Department, in view to steps being taken for the preparation of the Act referred to and its introduction into the local legislature.

(True Extract.)

J. Macdonald

Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Judicial Department.
„ Board of Revenue.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Superintending Engineers.
„ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue 1864 Vol.
Pro: of Govt Fort Lett.
No. 2466.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt. in the P.W.D.

Dated 14th Sept. 1864.
Received 17th "

No. 2675.

12

12 Sept. No 464.

Passing order on the subject of introducing an Act in the local legislature giving power to the Govt. to declare from time to time what irrigation & other works shall be kept in repair by the village communities

No. 1813.

RECORDED.

30th Sept. 1864

30

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 15th September 1864.

323. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Department Public Works, dated Camp Kodakanel, 27th August 1864, No. 961 :—

SIR,

Enclosures 2.

1. Herewith I have the honor to forward for sanction the two following Estimates for ging and improving the Salt platforms in the District of Tinnevelly :—

1. Repairing bund and enlarging Salt platforms at Coilpatam Rupees 2,000
2. Improving the Palayakoyel Salt pan bund ... ... " 584

2. The original estimates were signed by the Collector, but were not drawn up in proper n.

3. Work has been commenced as emergent on the Coilpatam Salt pan, and is already in an anced state, upon the request of the Collector. See paragraph 2 of his letter No. 205, 26th May 4, recorded in G. O. No. 1,088, 23rd June last, Revenue Department.

324. ORDER THEREON, 15th September 1864, No. 2,684.

The estimates, amounting to Rupees 2,000 and Rupees 584 respectively, are sanctioned; the Superintending Engineer will report the manner in which he proposes to provide the essary funds, the Reserve being exhausted. An application will be made to the Government India for an extra grant to meet emergent demands ~~for money~~; and, if sanctioned, the Govern-nt will be in a position to supplement the allotment for the 8th Division in order to cover the t of the Salt works now sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

J. Mac Stewart

Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

the Revenue Department.
" Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Board of Revenue.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Revenue 1864 Oct 1st
Pro: of Govt Ry Letr.
No. 2466.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt. in the P.W.D.

Dated 14th Sept. 1864.
Received 17th "

No. 2675.

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(True Extract.)

J. Thos Stewart

Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

o the Revenue Department.
" Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Board of Revenue.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 17th September 1864.

No. 387. Read the following letter from Captain J. BEAN, R. E., Officiating Superintending Engineer, 6th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Tanjore, 9th July 1864, No. 652:—

SIR,

One Map.

G. O. No. 1,573, dated 31st May 1864.
G. O. „ 1,616, „ 6th June „

1. I have the honor to reply to Order of Government No. 2,430, dated 26th August 1863, which is also referred to in Orders as per margin, regarding the deficient supply of water in the Cauvery river for irrigation purposes in the eastern Táluqs of the Tanjore District. I regret that my present knowledge of this District and its system of irrigation is so limited, and that I am able to draw but little from the experience of others (who have prior to myself lived a considerable period in the Province, and who have known its wants,) owing to there being scarcely any papers on the subject of the irrigation from the Cauvery and its branch rivers amongst my records.

2. There can be no doubt that the Sheally and Mayaveram and partially the Combaconum Táluqs suffer from want of water, and that the difficiency in this respect is gradually increasing. Some years ago, I understand, that the Cauvery bed was deepened to a certain extent, and that accumulations which had formed were cleared away to give the river a freer course. Nothing however has been done lately, and evidences of the bed of the river having silted up, beyond the separation of the Arselaur river, are quite clear. The Collector himself on his late tour had the depths of sand accumulated on the floorings of the Combaconum and Mayaveram bridges measured, when 2' 9" were found on the former and a proportionate depth on the latter work. On my late visit to the portions of the District irrigated by the river, I found that below Mayaveram the Cauvery rapidly silted up, and became narrow in its course, bearing the character of a small stream, and this is especially the case eastwards of a spot where three large irrigation channels branch off, four miles eastwards of Mayaveram. It is well known that, excepting in very high freshes, the effects of the flood are not much felt near the end of its course, and at Nadarajah Pillay Chuttrum bridge, five miles from the mouth, indications are evident of the non-existence of floods in the river's bed. This state of things, however, indicating a want of water to the eastwards, is far from being entirely attributable to the silting up of the bed.

3. The fall of the bed of the Cauvery, also, appears to have altered somewhat of late years, owing to there being no very regular flow through it from head to mouth. The levels which I have referred to may not be entirely reliable, especially as one or two of the sections were taken by Sub-Overseers, but they are sufficiently so to state general results. The bed of the Agunda Cauvery above the Upper Anicut has a fall of 2·89 per mile, and below it 1·3 per mile for a short distance. Captain Mullins' levels from Permaul Coil Lock, near the Arselaur river head, to the junction of Papanassem road 4¼ miles, show a fall of 3 1' per mile. From Cootalum bridge to Mayaveram bridge, 6 miles, the fall is 3 feet per mile, and below this eastwards from Mayaveram bridge for a distance of 5 miles, the fall is shown to be 1 foot per mile.

4. Mr. Cadell was very anxious this season to have had a portion of the Cauvery cleared out, and the Mirassidars were willing to render their unpaid assistance to the extent of one-third the value of work performed by Government, but the project was entertained too late, and the freshes have filled the rivers for a month past. I acquiesced in Mr. Cadell's proposal, because I thought it desirable to expend a small sum towards remedial measures, pending the sanction of works for much larger schemes, but as I had no accurate survey of the present state of the bed, I was not sanguine of any permanent benefit; the clearing would only have afforded temporary relief, and with the present state of the river beds branching from the Cauvery, its own bed after a few high freshes would have again soon silted up.

5. Captain Mullins' reports state that the Cauvery when in full flood supplies a fair share of water, and only then, for the eastern Táluqs, but that the river when in this state does much mischief to the westwards and breaches and damages the embankments of the rivers. This state

of things, which I believe to be true, is caused, as he says, by the supply of water not being regulated, and that the discharge of the surplus flood into the Coleroon, beyond the wants for irrigation, is not properly attended to. The proper regulation of the distribution of water in the Cauvery appears to me a difficult matter to undertake, but there is no doubt that at present the numerous surplus sluices and calingulahs into the Coleroon do not regulate the bed of the Cauvery as they ought to do, and I have noticed the silting up of the river near these works in the Tanjore District, which silting up, considering it occurs throughout the course of the river's bed beyond the branching of the Arselaur river, is partly the cause of the state of things pointed out by Captain Mullins, that, when the cultivators in the eastern Táluqs, get their full supply, the river to the westwards is doing damage from its state of high flood.

6. I would not, however, as a primary project, adopt Captain Mullins' scheme of having regulating works three miles below the head of the river with a powerful surplus escape into the Coleroon, but I would rather, in the first instance, regulate the heads of the larger rivers and allow the Cauvery a fairer share of water than at present in the dry season, when I think it will be found that the present capacity of its bed from long inattention is insufficient, and that extensive work is required below Combaconum, not only to this river, but to the Veerasholen, Vickramanaur, &c., and especially the latter river which has silted up.

7. I come now to the regulation of the supply of the Cauvery water in connection with the rivers branching from it, especially the Codamoorty and the Arselaur. I find from the reports of Colonels H. C. and Arthur Cotton, as well as of Colonel Lawford, twenty years ago, it was always in contemplation to regulate the heads of the larger rivers by degrees and as funds became available for the works. With this intention, the Cauvery dam at the upper Coleroon Anicut was first built, and subsequently the regulating dams at the heads of the Vennaur and across the Cauvery. Now that these have been completed, I think it highly desirable that the next river the Codamoorty should be so acted upon and then the Arselaur.

8. As regards the levels of these different river beds, they are most unsatisfactory, and from this evil arise the complaints of the Mirassidars that the water is drawn off from the main river, before a supply can be secured for the lands of the Combaconum, Mayaveram, and Sheally Táluqs. From comparative levels which have been taken at the head of the Codamoorty and across the Cauvery, the average level of the beds and the breadth were found to be the same, the deepest section only of the Cauvery being nearly three feet below the other river. Sections on the same datum line of these rivers, again, taken near the head of the Arselaur, show the breadth the same and the average depth of the Codamoorty to be half foot below the Cauvery, though the deepest bed of the latter was one and half feet below the former river. If we come to the Arselaur river, which branches 20 miles below the Codamoorty, we find that its average bed two and a half miles below its head is one and a half feet below the Cauvery at the same spot, though the deep bed of the latter is lower by a foot. Sections of the same river, again, taken at its head, show it to be deeper throughout than the Cauvery, and others, taken at the same spot as recorded above, give a greater depth again for the Arselaur over the Cauvery, both in the average and deep bed. These rivers, therefore, which have a much less extent of irrigation than the Cauvery, draw off a much larger share of water than they are entitled to in the dry season, and the result is that, if the cultivators interfere, when there is a foot of water in the Cauvery at the Vennaur head, it frequently happens that the Codamoorty and Arselaur receive a supply, whilst none reaches the Combaconum Táluq by the main river. The only longitudinal sections of the rivers Cauvery and Arselaur which I possess, taken for a distance of three and two and half miles, show the fall* of the bed of the Arselaur to be nearly the same as the Cauvery, and I find that the distance from the head of this river to the sea is about fifty-seven miles, whilst the Cauvery from the separation of the Arselaur to its mouth is about the same. The sections of these rivers also show that they take off a large proportion of the Cauvery water. At the Vennaur dam in the month of October it was calculated by the late Lieutenant Moore that with a depth of two feet two inches over the dam and a velocity of

* 3' to 2'-8" per mile.

1·4 miles per hour in this river, and 1·3 miles in the Cauvery, the discharge per hour in the Cauvery river was 1,400,000 cubic yards per hour, and half this or 7,50,000 cubic yards in the Arselaur. The breadth of the Codamoorty river at its bifurcation is equal to that of the Cauvery river, and is the same, from comparative sections taken, from twenty to thirty miles below its head.

9. The head of the Codamoorty is in a very bad state, though a good deal of work was carried out last year in the way of planting Nanal grass and throwing out hurdle groynes or Vanganies, but without a masonry dam at its head such a river becomes naturally widened out and irregular in its course, and much could be done; and this remark applies to most of the other rivers, in planting Nanal grass to accumulate sand, and so confining the stream to its proper limits. The Arselaur river disembogues at the French settlement of Karikal, and the ample and extra share of water which it gets is found most useful in regulating the bar at the mouth, and in keeping open the cut which the French have made, and which is accessible to small craft. I have no doubt that if we regulate and thereby diminish the supply, the French Government will complain, and I do not know if they have any treaty rights in connection with the water supply.

10. In the Budget of 1864-65, prepared in this Office, an entry was made by Lieutenant-Colonel Foord of an estimate for erecting four bridges over the Cauvery, Codamoorty, Trimulrajen, and Arselaur rivers, on the road from Papanassum to Cabistallum, and it was proposed to take advantage of these works so as to construct regulating dams across the bridge openings, but the head of the first river is very many miles above the bridge, and that of the second and third one and two and half miles respectively. I think a better project would be secured by erecting masonry works at the heads of the rivers themselves. At the request of Lieutenant-Colonel Foord, Supervisor Bateman did prepare plans and estimates, which are in my Office, for such works at the head of the Arselaur in connection with the Cauvery, and for arched bridges over them, but I do not advocate the erection of these dams prior to those required in connection with the Codamoorty.

11. I think it is desirable to have careful surveys, with the fall of bed of these rivers, made as soon as possible, and accurate returns of the cultivation under each river ascertained which, I am afraid, cannot be obtained from the records at present. After these surveys have been taken, plans and estimates might be prepared for the Codamoorty dam, and I would raise the body two feet, diminishing from the wings, and have more powerful sluices than in the Vennaur dam, where their effect is inappreciable. The present season is not very favorable for taking preliminary surveys, as the freshes have already passed down the Cauvery, and all that could be done would be the levelling along the banks of the rivers, instead of the beds, whereby bench marks could be erected at intervals, and cross sections taken from them after the monsoon. To carry out this work, I have no one to depute, as I am still short-handed, and have now one Range held by Táluq Overseers.

12. If the better regulation of the supply of water in the Tanjore rivers is not provided for, there is an almost certain probability of great disasters occurring at intervals, as pointed out by Captain Mullins, whenever extraordinary floods may enter the Province. The banks of the Cauvery and other rivers are not high enough to retain the extraordinary floods of certain years, and I have only to refer to Lieutenant-Colonel, then Captain, Foord's report* of the 11th August last, paragraph 3, to Government on this subject, wherein he remarks on the probable heavy cost of strengthening such embankments, and which I believe could be, in a great measure, avoided by a proper attention being given to, and a scheme elaborated for the proper regulation of the flood supply in the Cauvery and its branch rivers.

* No. 376.

No. 388. ORDER THEREON, 17th September 1864, No. 2,712.

1. The condition of the Cauvery river below the upper Anicut, and the alleged deficient supply of water in the eastern Táluqs of the Tanjore District, have been brought to the notice

of Government several times during the past year. The subject was referred to the Superintending Engineer for thorough investigation, and the issue of orders has been delayed pending the receipt of his report.

2. In the foregoing letter, which is in reply to that reference, the Superintending Engineer represents the condition of the Cauvery to be very unsatisfactory. He reports that in the eastern Táluqs of the Tanjore District the river has dwindled into a comparatively small stream, and that the want of water is felt more and more every year; that this portion of the District receives a fair supply of water only in very high floods, and then at the expense of the western Táluqs, where much damage is done by the river when in this state: and that the bed of the river, eastward of the point where the Arselaur leaves it, has silted very considerably of late years.

3. This disastrous state of things is attributed by the Superintending Engineer to two causes; first, to the absence of regulating dams at the heads of the Codamoorty, the Arselaur, and other large streams which branch from the Cauvery, and which, owing to their beds having gradually become deeper than that of the main river, receive, during the dry season, and even during ordinary freshets, far more than their fair share of water; and second, to the inadequacy of the present arrangements for the discharge of the surplus waters of the Cauvery into the Coleroon, to which is due the damage caused in the western part of Tanjore by extreme floods in the former river.

4. Captain Bean states that, from former reports, it is clear that the gradual construction of dams at the heads of all the larger rivers, with the view of regulating the supply of water in proportion to their irrigable areas, was always contemplated; that this has been done in the case of the Cauvery and the Vennaur; and that the Codamoorty, the Arselaur, and other large streams should now be treated in like manner.

5. Lieutenant-Colonel Foord, the late Superintending Engineer, when entering in his Budget for the current year an estimate for constructing bridges, along the short road between Paupanassum and Kabistallum, over the Cauvery, the Arselaur, the Codamoorty, and the Trimulrajen rivers (the last being a large branch from the Codamoorty), proposed to take advantage of these works, and to combine with them dams to regulate the distribution of water in the several rivers.

6. The present Superintending Engineer, however, objects to this project; urging that the usefulness of the regulating dams would be in a great measure lost, owing to the great distance from the heads of the respective rivers to the proposed sites of the bridges. Another project which has been prepared, for the construction of regulating works at the head of the Arselaur, Captain Bean would postpone until the Codamoorty shall first have been dealt with.

7. At present, before deciding upon the exact works to be undertaken, the Superintending Engineer states that careful surveys must be made, the section of each river, the fall of its bed, and the extent of cultivation under it, being accurately ascertained. When this has been done, the plans and estimates of the works required to regulate the discharge into the Codamoorty can be prepared.

8. In considering this important subject, there are two points to which the Government wish especially to direct the attention of the Superintending Engineer:—

First.—The general protection of the country against floods: the thorough repair of the river embankments throughout Tanjore being included under this head.

Second.—The more equable and fair distribution of the water for irrigation.

Although it may possibly be the case that the works required for the latter object may, to a certain extent, assist in preserving the country from floods, yet the steps proposed to be taken, viz., placing regulating dams so as to check the rush of the water down certain waste channels, would be more likely to add to the height of floods above those outlets.

9. Bearing this in mind, the Superintending Engineer is requested to go fully into the general question, and, in any scheme which he may lay before Government, to provide for both the points above specified.

10. The Government trust that every effort will be made to insure the early completion of the necessary surveys. The Superintending Engineer will report, without delay, whether, now that Lieutenant Smith has joined the District, he will be able to carry them out without additional assistance. If extra hands are required, full particulars must be given.

11. The Government observe that in England, when river walls or embankments are built for the protection of the adjoining country from floods, it is customary to levy a tax upon the whole of the land so protected, the proceeds of the tax being applied to the maintenance of the wall. The Superintending Engineer will report, after communication with the Collector of Tanjore, whether it will not be advisable to introduce a similar tax, to provide for the maintenance of the Tanjore river embankments.

12. The latter part of paragraph 9 of the Superintending Engineer's letter has been referred* to the Public Department.

* Memorandum No. 81, dated 16th July 1864.

(True Extract.)

Major, R. E.,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 6th Division.
„ Revenue Department.
„ Public Department.
„ Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 6,025.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th September 1864.

ead the following letter from P. GRANT, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 7th September 1864, No. 189 :—

1. I beg to forward for the information of the Board of Revenue, original Proceedings of overnment, Public Works Department, dated 1st September 1863, received this day. The oard will observe that funds are not forthcoming for the repair of certain Tanks and Channels hich cannot be neglected, without the risk of materially affecting the Land Revenue, as well as e private interests of the people concerned. The north-east monsoon is now approaching, and the works are left in their present condition, the chances are that they will be very much maged, and that their future repair will entail a heavy outlay. The subject deserves early tention.

2. I beg that the Proceedings of Government may be returned.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Proceedings of Government.

1. . Ordered to be submitted to Government, with reference to their Order in the Depar - ent Public Works, dated 1st September 1863, No. 2,530.

2. The Board trust that means may be devised for providing the trifling amount required r these works on which revenue is dependant.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

o Major J. H. M. S. Stewart, R. E., Deputy Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
, J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore,
with enclosure returned.

ted. J. Wright.

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, J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore,
with enclosure returned.

ed. J. Wright.

(Presented 18th Dec. 1863.)
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 13th Sept. 1864.
No. 6,025.

Read & ordered
Recorded 20th Dec. 1864.
No. 27/12.

Ordering order to be submitted to Government for the sanction of the necessary funds for the repairs of tanks in the Coimbatore District.

Registered Sanctioned

20th Dec. 1864.

RECORDED.

14 inclosures.

No. 6,025.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 13th September 1864.

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Sub-Secretary.

o Major J. H. M. S. Stewart, R. E., Deputy Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
, J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to P. Grant, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore,
with enclosure returned.

ted. J. Wright.

Reference Book No. 1.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Proceedings Dated 13th Sept. 1864.
No. 6,025.
Received 20th Sept. 1864.
No. 2,712.

Printing ordered for the information of Government and the Collector of Arcot.

14 Nov. 1864.

20 Feb. 1865.

RECORDED.

Public Department
Received 29th September 1864.
No. 2501.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 13th September 1864.
Despatched 19 *Sept.*
Received 20*th*

No. 6,025.

Submitting with remarks letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, stating that funds for the repairs of certain Tanks and Channels are urgently needed.

Trichy 14 *Sept.* 64.

Rs. 18/2
20 Rupees

RECORDED

No. 5,364.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th August 1864.

Read the following letter from the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, dated Senkaridrug, 9th August 1864, No. 142:—

1. I have the honor to report upon the operations of the Department of Public Works for the Official year 1863-64, together with two Statements, the one showing the expenditure on "New Works," and the other on "Repairs," during the year under report.

2. From the above Statements it will be observed that the total expenditure on the public works for this District during the year amounted to Rupees 1,29,062-14-2, which is less than the 1st year's expenditure (viz., Rupees 1,41,353-2-6) by Rupees 12,290-4-4.

Irrigation.

3. No large and important works under the head "Irrigation" were either undertaken, or were in progress during the year save the construction of two new stone vaganays for the protection of Moganur Channel in the limits of Manapulli and Komarapolayam, and a stone vaganay in lieu of the mud one near Velur. The cost of the former work was Rupees 2,149-14-8, and that of the latter Rupees 1,357-14-6. Rupees 4,497 on new works, and Rupees 20,179 on repairs were spent during the year.

Communications.

4. Under the head "Communications," Rupees 16,333-15-7 were spent on new works, and Rupees 60,130-8-8 on repairs. The important works under this head, are the widening of Ahtur Ghaut between the foot of the Shervaroy Hills, and the Taylor's Saddle on the Hills, from six to nine and twelve feet, as also the improving of Salem and Yerkad Ghaut and that of the Nagalore branch of the Ahtur Ghaut. Another work of importance under this head is the construction of a cart road between Suramangalam and Taramangalam, greatly facilitating traffic between these places. Rupees 4,461 have been spent on this work during the year.

Bridges.

5. The important works in progress during the year under the head "Bridges," are

1. One on Trunk Road No. V near Darampuri.
2. One on the Usur and Adamankotah road near Palcode.
3. And one across a jungle stream near Namcul on the Salem and Trichinopoly road.

Of the above, the first two were commenced about the latter part of the year, and the third was completed during the year.

Buildings.

6. Under the head "Buildings" were spent Rupees 25,168-5-7 on new works, and 2,675-11-2 on repairs. Under this head it may be mentioned that the building for the Deputy Collector's Cutcherry at Namcul, which was commenced about the close of the last year, was completed with the exception of painting and plastering. The upper story to the Jail at Salem was in course of construction, as also the market shed, which was commenced about the latter part of the year under report.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Expenditure upon "New Works" during the year 1863-64.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

ABSTRACT.—Expenditure upon "Repairs" during the year 1863-64.

The Collector has not furnished the Comparative Statement desired in Board's Circular Order, dated 27th September 1860, No. 4,412, and has altogether omitted to notice the general condition of the Irrigation Works, Roads, and Public Buildings in his District; to obtain independent testimony on which points, is the main object of these annual reports. The Collector's letter conveys no idea whatever of the position and requirements of his District in respect of Public Works of all kinds. He will be good enough to supply these omissions.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

To Honorable D. Arbuthnott, Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

Requesting him to furnish certain further information regarding progress of P. W. D. in district during 1863-64.

No. 5,364.

Dated 20th August 1864.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

No.

1864. Department.

Rec: 2572/64.

No. 6,123.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 16th September 1864.

Read Board's Proceedings, No. 5,364, dated 20th August 1864.

Read also the following letter from the Honorable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Salem, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st August 1864, No. 161:—

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board, dated the 20th instant, No. 5,364, I have the honor to submit the Comparative Statement showing the Public Works expenditure, which should have accompanied my report for the official year 1863-64.

2. The road between Ossoor and Salem (towards the Ossoor side) was out of repair, and on the representation of the Sub-Collector steps were taken to put it in order.

3. At the Jummabundy of the Uttengiri Taluk, I found two or three anicuts lying in a breached state in that Taluk, and I requested the Superintending Engineer to have estimates framed for their immediate repairs.

4. With these exceptions the condition of the Irrigation works, roads, and buildings was good.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

COMPARATIVE Statement of Public Works expenditure from the year 1863-64.

Description of works.	Expenditure of 1862-63.	Expenditure of 1863-64.	DIFFERENCE.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
New Works.				
Irrigation	2,674 1 5	4,496 15 3	1,822 13 10	.....
Communications	13,004 5 7	16,333 15 7	3,329 10 0	.....
Buildings	16,873 13 10	25,246 8 6	8,372 10 8	.....
	32,552 4 10	46,077 7 4	13,525 2 6	.....
Repairs.				
Irrigation	38,823 4 5	20,179 3 0	.....	18,644 1 5
Communications	66,422 1 3	60,130 8 6	.....	6,291 8 7
Buildings	3,555 8 0	2,675 11 2	.....	879 12 10
Total...	1,03,800 13 8	82,985 6 10	.....	25,815 6 10
Grand Total...	1,41,353 2 6	1,29,062 14 2	13,525 2 6	25,815 6 10

SALEM,
31st August 1864.

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Collector.

Ordered that the foregoing papers be submitted for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To Major J. H. M. S. Stewart, R. E, Deputy Secretary to Government, P. W. D., } with copy of Board's Proceedings,
„ J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D., } dated 20th August 1864, No. 5,364.

Copy to Honorable D. Arbuthnott, Collector of Salem.

Exd. J. Wright.

Rev. Dept. 1864. Department.

No. 2572.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 16th September 1864.

No. 6,123.

Submitting with copy of Board's Proceedings dated 20th August 1864, No. 5,364 letter from the Collector of Salem forwarding Comparative Statement of Public Works expenditure for 1863-64.

RECORDED.

37

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department, 20th September 1864.

No. 465. Read the following letter from Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Colonel C. A. ORR, R. E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Madura, 8th September 1864, No. 1,055 :—

SIR,

1. In G. O. No. 1,946, 5th July, Rupees 3,640 were sanctioned for certain Salt works in the Tinnevelly District, but as Rupees 2,700 were expended during the previous official year only Rupees 940 are now wanted.

2. I would, however, point out that estimates for 2,584 Rupees were forwarded on the 27th ultimo, of which Rupees 392-5-4 were expended in last year on emergency. I would beg the transfer of the balance, Rupees 2,700, from the three works first mentioned to the following works, viz. :—

Repairing bund and enlarging Salt platform at Coilpatam ...	Rupees	1,608
Improving Palaykayel Salt pan bund	„	584
Total Rupees...		2,192

The balance Rupees 508 might be transferred to Satur bridge : see my No. 1,031 of 7th instant.

No. 466. ORDER THEREON, 20th September 1864, No. 2,747.

1. Of the sum of Rupees 2,700, referred to in paragraph 1 of the foregoing letter, the Government sanction the diversion of Rupees 2,192, to the works noted below :—

Repairing bund and enlarging Salt platform at Coilpatam, Estimate Rupees 2,000	*1,608
Improving Palaykayel Salt pan bund, Estimate Rupees 584	*584

* Sanctioned in G. O. No. 2,684, dated 15th September 1864.

2. The difference, viz., Rupees 508, will be carried to the credit of the Reserve under "Civil Buildings."

No. 2,746, dated 20th September 1864.

3. The Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, will observe, from the orders marginally noted, that the Government of India have sanctioned the expenditure on the Satur bridge, of Rupees 4,034, from the allotment for the road from Palamcottah to Tuticorin.—

(True Extract.)

J. Stewart
Major, R. E.,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Superintending Engineer, 8th Division.
" Accountant General.
" Controller of Public Works Accounts.
" Revenue Department.
" Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

No. 6,165.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th September 1864.

Read the following letter from V. H. LEVINGE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Kodakanel, 15th August 1864, No. 218:—

1. With reference to paragraph 5 of the Order of Government, No 126, dated the 21st January 1864, conveyed in the Board's Proceedings of the 1st February 1864, No. 678, I have the honor to report that the Superintending Engineer has no objection to the Salt Deputy Collector taking charge of all the salt roads, whether main or branch. I am of opinion, the Salt Deputy could only look after the branch lines, and that the main lines must be under the Department Public Works. A copy of Captain Moberly's letter* to Mr. McDonell on the subject is submitted for the information of the Board.

* Dated 16th March 1864, No. 2,114.

2. I have just returned from a tour of all the salt pans, and append a list of all the branch and main salt roads.

Branch Salt Roads.

3. No. 1 branch salt road in the list has been made at a cost of 500 Rupees, and is in good order; it is for the Superintending Engineer to make an estimate for its maintenance, the carrying out of which the Salt Deputy Collector can superintend.

4. The above branch road requires to be connected to the north and south, with Nos. 1 and 2 main salt roads in my list. If estimates for the same are made, they can be carried out by the Salt Deputy Collector, who also can superintend the maintenance of the same.

5. No. 2, Sholiagoody salt pan is on the coast road, which road should be repaired up to its junction with the main road from Madura to Tondi; the Salt Deputy can carry out this repair, and keep the road in order.

6. To No. 3 branch salt road nothing has been done; the road though sandy is not very heavy in my opinion; the road had better be left in its natural state; in one place it wants draining; this the Salt Deputy could do on the Engineer's estimate; the expense would be trifling. There is no good soil near to make a perfectly hard road; if trenches are dug and the soil thrown on the road, it will powder into fine sand, which will make the road heavy, and therefore I think it had better be left in its natural state; the coast road from where this branch road meets it, should be repaired up to the Sholiagoody pan, which the Salt Deputy could superintend.

7. No. 4 branch salt road has been partially made; it requires raising and some tunnels; it is in bad order; the Salt Deputy can carry out these repairs.

8. No. 5 branch salt road is very sandy; there is no good soil any where near to make a good road. I think it had better be left in its natural state, or it will only be made more heavy.

9. No. 6 branch road is in a very bad state. Estimate should be made for joining this pan to the main road from Madura to Ramnad at Yettivial. The Moorecolum pan is close to the sea-port of Keelakarai; return empty bandies from that port buy salt at the Morecolum pan, and take it away into the interior, but the difficulties of the branch road are great; were it put in order, the sales at that pan would largely increase.

10. No. 7 Mootoeragoonadapatam branch salt road to its junction with the coast road is naturally a good road, and is better left in its natural state; near the pan only slight repairs are required, which the Salt Deputy can carry out.

11. From the junction of this branch salt road with the coast road to where the main salt road from Camoody to Tiroochuly meets it, the coast road requires draining, which repair the Deputy Collector could perform on being furnished with an estimate. On this portion of the coast road, two bridges are required, one a small one, and the other across the Goondaur would cost

some 5,000 Rupees; it is absolutely necessary the Goondaur be bridged; all the traders complained bitterly of it. I visited the Goondaur, its banks are deep, and heavy black cotton soil forming for months a serious obstacle to traffic; this bridge being on the coast line would also benefit the general traffic of the District as well as the salt revenue.

Main Roads.

12. Captain Moberly is under the impression that what is required is one first class main road to the coast, bridged and metalled throughout, along which at all seasons of the year salt could be easily transported into the interior, and in the last paragraph of his letter he says he has ordered an estimate to be prepared for road No. 15, which is the road from Ramnad to Madura, and No. 4 in my appended list, and in the previous paragraph of his letter he says he has no data for maintaining a cross country track.

13. I cannot find from the records that Mr. McDonell asked for any thing of the sort when corresponding with Captain Moberly on the subject of these salt roads; in accordance with the Government orders, Mr. McDonell gave a list of the main salt lines intending that estimates for their repair and maintenance should be made, to which Captain Moberly returned as answer the letter, a copy of which is herewith sent.

Vide paragraph 1.

14. It will be seen Captain Moberly has only selected for estimate one of the roads mentioned by Mr. McDonell, and I demur to what he says of the other lines; large sums of money have been spent on some of them. I have just passed along nearly the whole length of the northern salt road from Vuttanum viâ Davacotta, Tripatttur to Cottamputty, and drove a dog cart over most of it, and found the road for most part in good order, long reaches of the road have been made, and are rendered useless for want of the completion of bridges, at many places. I saw a quantity of material, bricks and stone lying at the site of the bridges, which had evidently lain there a long time; these bridges I understand had been sanctioned and advances made for their construction, that a defalcation had occurred, and therefore they could not be completed; these bridges should be finished and some others built to enable traders to use the long portions of the road which have been finished. Captain Moberly must be directed by Government to have estimates made for economically improving all the salt main roads in my list appended, and for a maintenance allowance for each of them.

15. It would be no doubt very desirable to have a first rate road to the coast, and to have all the roads in first rate order, but the cost of such is beyond what Government could afford, and I do not think even one first rate road to the coast is required, or that the trade to and from the coast along it requires it; it would be most expensive to make a first rate road to Ramnad; along its whole length of 70 miles neither gravel nor stone is to be found except at one village, for a short distance, the road passes through an alluvial country.

16. Captain Moberly objects to that line, because it crosses the Viga river thrice. I find there is no necessity to cross the river. I passed down the south bank, the whole way from Madura to Ramnad, without once crossing the river, and found on the south bank between Manamadura and Permagoody the remains of an old road partially made and bridged, and passing through a large village called Partipanur; there is no difficulty about making the road so as to avoid crossing the river.

17. All that is required for the Ramnad road and the other main salt roads is to build bridges over the nullahs and irrigation channels, and to provide for the proper drainage of the road; if this be done the roads will be passable enough in the wet weather, and be very fair in the dry and hot weather, which is the greater part of the year in this District; of course such roads in the wet weather without metal would get cut up by the cart wheels and form into deep ruts, all that would be required would be an establishment to fill them in, beat them down, and level them as the surface began to dry, and to attend to cuts made in the sides of the roads by water running off. I am sure if such only is done, the salt revenue will be benefited at no exorbitant cost.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Captain F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to Æ. R. McDONELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Madura, dated Sattoor, 16th March 1864, No. 2,114.

1. In reference to your No. 245 of the 12th instant, I have the honor to observe that I have not the slightest objection to your Salt Deputy Collector undertaking the charge of all the roads you mention whether main or branch. I take the opportunity of again assuring you that they do not exist, there are avenues, tunnels and mile stones, but as the first overhang the road, and the second have no approaches, the bandies generally prefer the adjoining fields which are really more easily traversed.

2. I have no data on which to frame an estimate for maintenancing a cross country track, and should say it was simply waste of money, to expend any in endeavouring to do so—see paragraphs 66, 67, and 68, Chapter V, Department Public Works Code.

3. I have ordered estimates to be prepared for the construction of road No. 15, and the branch roads that you name.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. NELSON,
Acting Head Assistant Collector, for Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Branch Salt Roads.

	Miles.
1. From Vuttanum salt pan to coast road	¼
2. Sholiagoody salt pan is situated on coast road	1½
3. Manakoody salt pan to coast road	¼
4. Vyravanathapatam to coast road	5
5. Athankaray to Ramnad	8
6. Morecolum to Yettivial on No. 15 road from Ramnad to Madura ...	3
7. Moottooragoonadapatnum to coast road	3

Main Salt Roads.

1. Northern road from Vuttanum junction with No. 8, *viâ* Devacotta, Tripattur to Nuttam.
2. Tondi to Madura.
3. Vyravanathapatam to Permagoody or Manamadura.
4. Ramnad to Madura.
5. From Mootturagoonadapatnum by Kamoody and Tiroochooly to Madura.

(Signed) H. NELSON,
Acting Head Assistant Collector, for Collector.

The foregoing letter will be submitted to Government through the Secretary in the Department Public Works with reference to the order quoted by the Collector. The Board consider that the main roads ought certainly to reman under the charge of the Department Public Works. Mr. Levinge's remarks regarding the branch roads will be taken into consideration after the 3rd Member of the Board has visited the salt pans of the District.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To Major J. H. M. S. Stewart, R. E., Deputy Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
„ J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura.

Exd. J. Wright.

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35

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(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. NELSON,
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(True Copies and Extract.)

Sub-Secretary.

To Major J. H. M. S. Stewart, R. E., Deputy Secretary to Government, P. W. D.
„ J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.
Copy to V. H. Levinge, Esq., Collector of Madura.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 6,211.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 20th September 1864.

Read the following letter from J. FRASER, Esq., Officiating Collector of the Godavery District; to W. HUDLESTON, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cocanada, 7th September 1864, No. 231 :—

1. In reply to the last part of paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd August 1864, No. 5,422, I have the honor to state that the Taluk Records do not show that any transfers were made from the original Ryots of the village of Mernipaud to Viranna. The consent in writing of the Ryots was never taken by the Collector, or by the Tahsildar, before the village was made over to Viranna R. B. He only became possessed of the village under the Takid of the late Collector Mr. Purvis. Muchilkas were presented by the Ryots to Viranna R. B. binding themselves to cultivate the lands in their occupation for the first year, Fasli 1271, on condition of giving a share in kind. In the same Muchilkas the Ryots have also agreed that Viranna may give the lands to any one for the next year, and that they would not throw any impediments in his way, saying that the land had been improved by them. A copy and translation of a Muchilka executed by a Ryot is herewith forwarded.

2. The Muchilkas given by the other Ryots contain exactly the same terms as in the above.

—

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

TO MAHARAJASTRI VINE VIRANNA RAI BAHADER GARI DIVANAM.

Muchilka executed by Reddi Venkataswami, inhabitant of the village of Velagatodu.

I agree to cultivate in full for one year Fasli 1271, on sharing system, with the exception of the fruit trees the Jirayati land (as below mentioned) which belongs to your Jaghire village of Mernipad, and which was under my occupation up to last year, employing my own bullocks and implements of husbandry, to take as my share, at 8 Tooms per candy of wet produce, namely, transplanted paddy, and at 10 Tooms per candy of Meraka or broadcast paddy, allowing you an Ambaram (landlord's share) of at 12 and 10 Tooms per candy respectively, and to store in pits in the village site and deliver your Ambaram.

	P.	T.	M.	G.
Buruga Pampu (field)	0	16	4	0
Mushini Garuvu	0	13	9	11
Moduga Chenu (field)	0	11	0	0
Vadda Banda	0	12	6	9
Nandamurivari Garvu	0	3	1	13
Gulla Dibba	0	2	8	0
Pedapati Pampu (field)	0	17	8	0
Pati Peradu (backyard)	0	1	4	0
	3	17	10	1

I further agree to take my share and to deliver yours or Ambaram in the above manner from the remaining produce only after deducting the quantity that may be consumed from the gross produce on account of cutting and thrashing of the crop. The expences for putting the Irrigation Channels in the village in repairs must be defrayed by yourself.

I bind myself to pay any loss that may arise from my omission in bringing the whole extent of land under plough as engaged by me, *minus* the land of 3¾ Tooms set apart for erecting sheds on for cattle. I shall be liable to the punishment which may be inflicted by the Circar, in the event of any misappropriation of crop on my part and my people and cattle while it is standing on the ground, and in reaping, heaping and thrashing. As I agreed to cultivate the said land

Fin. 21 Sept/64 Ns 243-244.

Revenue Department.
Proc. of Govt. for Sept.

No. 2529.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 19th September 1864.

Rec'd 23 Sept.
Ans. 26 Sept.

No. 6,165.

Submitting through the D. P. W. letter from the Collector of Madura giving it as his opinion that the Salt Deputy Collector could not take charge of all the salt roads, as the Superintending Engineer believes, but of only the branch lines.

18 Nov. No. 4,647.

RECEIVED.

for one year you should at the end of the year, *e. i*, the 30th decreasing moon month Phalgunam of the Cycle year Durmati, give it for Amarakam to any one you like; but I would not throw any impediments that the land was improved by manure, &c. This Muchilka was executed of my own accord.

19th April 1861. (Signed) VENKATASWAMI.

Witnesses.

(Signed) NADAKUDITI BUCHERAZ.
(,,) GUNDUMALLA RAMANAYA.

This was written in the hand-writing of Nanduri Chinnamraz Kulkarni, or Kurnum.

(True Translation.)

(Signed) J. FRASER,
Officiating Collector.

---

1. Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to the Board's Proceedings quoted by the Collector and the Government Order thereon, dated 12th September 1864, No. 1,673, Revenue Department.

2. The Board cannot believe that such a Muchilka can have been freely executed by any one of the former occupants of the Mernipad lands. The effect of it being that the whole private rights of the Ryots are absolutely relinquished to Viranna at the expiration of the first season after the grant, or Fasli 1271.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To J. D. Sim, Esq., Secretary to Government, R. D.

Copy to J. Fraser, Esq., Officiating Collector of the Godavery District,

Exd. R. H. Lee.

Revenue Department 1864.
Recd. 12 Sept. 1864.

No. 2530.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 20th September 1864.

No. 6,211.

Submitting, for information, letter from the Officiating Collector of the Godavery District, stating that no transfers appear to have been made to Viranna from the original Ryots of the village of Mernipaud.

RECORDED.

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(True Copies and Extract.)

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Copy to J. Fraser, Esq., Officiating Collector of the Godavery District,

Exd. R. H. Lee.

Revenue Department.
1864.

No. 2530.

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RECORDED.