

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.

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Dated

30-4-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
30th April 1866.*

No. 491. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the
Public Works Department:—

Stating that Government are unable to provide }
Rupees 6,500 for the repair of the Kaniem- } (Here enter 23rd April 1866, No. 1,266.)
poliem Anicut and channel in the Suttiamun-
galam Talook, Coimbatore District.

No. 492. ORDER THEREON, 30th April 1866, No. 1,019.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,

Under Secretary to Government.

No. 491. Read the following Proceeding in the above letter to be immediately April 1866, anicut and channel in the Suttimun.

Read the following letter from the Collector Board of Revenue, dated Suttimungal.

1. The lands of seven villages are irrigated by a report, No. 310, dated 21st March of cultivation from the on the north side, any, is likely to be about fourteen miles that he seems to liem. The accompanijation under exhibits the state of the cultion of an lands should, under ordinary bank.

Danaickencottah.	Honnampolliem.
Basoovapooram.	Pedaripolliem.
Honnampolliem.	Dronagowndenpolliem.
Allandoray.	

stances, yield Rupees 3,414 per annum to Government, instead of which the Col. this year is Rupees 126, and I am informed by the people, the correctness of who views I see no reason to question, that if the channel were in good order, and extended, as it might easily be, the annual return would not fall short of Rupees 6,000. The loss to Government I look on as a small matter compared with the loss of produce so much required at this present time in all parts of the country. If in really good order the channel, I am told, might be made to irrigate 1,200 cawnies of land, or more than twice the quantity it now does, and each cawny should yield 1,200 Madras measures of grain or put the yield at a moderate figure, and say 1,000 measures per cawny. The loss to the country is 1,200,000 measures of grain, the money-value of which, at the current selling price of twelve measures of paddy per Rupee, amounts to the no small sum of Rupees 200,000.

2. In 1864 the Kaniampolliem anicut was considerably damaged by the high flood. For its repair, and for the clearing out of the channel, an estimate of Rupees 6,500 and odd was submitted to me, countersigned and forwarded to the Superintending Engineer; but finally no funds were forthcoming. The natural result is that the condition of the anicut and channel has deteriorated. My letter of the 28th ultimo, No. 57, pointing out the pressing wants of funds for the clearance of the Arkencottah and Shadapully channels will have shown to the Board that the Superintending Engineer is now without funds for repairs of irrigation works—well then, what is to become of the Kaniampolliem anicut and channel if allowed to go for another year without repair? The chances are that for every Rupee now required ten Rupees will be necessary next year, and the land, in the meantime, will be waste to the loss of Government, the people, and the country generally. If this state of things is to be averted, the necessary funds must be granted without loss of time, as after the 20th May, at latest, little can be done, as the freshes will then commence.

3. At present there is but one channel led off from the Kaniampolliem anicut, and I know no reason why a second should not be made on the south bank. There may be some engineering difficulties; but I have not heard that any organized system of levels has been attempted. This, I think, should at once be done, and the whole matter reported on. The people are impressed with the idea that a channel can be carried through the country sufficient to irrigate about 2,000 acres of land. From a conversation I had lately with Mr. Hannet, in charge of the Thadapully and Arkencottah channels, I believe that these channels can be materially improved and extended so as to bring much waste land under cultivation.

the irrigation works in this Province are liable to suffer; but this I affirm cannot be done to one crop, the early crop raised by the freshes which come down during that season of water pass useless through Trichinopoly

a portion of which, if only intercepted in this District, would be a valuable blessing to its poor and hardworking population.

My years' residence in Tanjore, and a fairly intimate acquaintance with the rivers, enables me to speak with some confidence as to the large quantity of water, which during the south-west monsoon find their way into the sea. By one during that period, whilst the freshes are running at the rate of five or six miles an hour, ride from Tanjore to the banks of the Coleroon, the distance can easily be done in a day, and he will cross the Vennar, Vettar, Codamoorti, and Cauvery rivers in the course of his ride, at the end of which let him say whether, by any possibility, Tanjore can utilize the water in the rivers! It cannot, and therefore I say let us in Coimbatore have the benefit of the surplus water.

5. I cannot say exactly what sum will be required for the repair of the anicut, and there is not time to refer to my Head Office for information; but I should say that Rupees 8,000 will be sufficient for the anicut and channel; and if this sum were given at once, a good deal might be done towards the repairs ere the freshes make their appearance.

ENCLOSURE NO. 1.

ABSTRACT.—Statement showing the extent of Nunjah lands cultivated under the Kaniampolliem channel in the Danaickencottah portion of the Suttimungalum Taluq from Fasly 1272 to 1275.

1. Submitted for the consideration of Government, with the Board's recommendation that, as an altogether exceptional case, the Collector be authorized to advance to the Superintending Engineer, from the Cash Balances, the sums absolutely necessary for the emergent repair of the irrigation works, on which the public revenues are so largely dependant: the amount to be replaced from the Budget provision for the official year commencing 1st May.

2. The intervening period, however short, is most valuable, and it appears to the Board positively suicidal policy to insist on the strict maintenance, in such a case, of the rules of the Account Department, with the inevitable result of immediate serious loss of revenue and produce, and ultimate increase of expense.

Transferred to the Department of Public Works.

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

No. 492. ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1866, No. 1,266.

ACCOUNT, No. 64.

ment during the current year, are unable now to provide the Rupees 6,500 which

are stated by the Collector of Coimbatore in the above letter to be immediately required for the repair of the Kaniampolliem anicut and channel in the Suttimungalum Taluq of that District.

2. It is observed from Colonel Walker's report, No. 310, dated 21st March 1866, that he appears to be of opinion that no improvement of cultivation from the present Kaniampolliem channel, on the left bank of the Bhowany, is likely to be caused by any repairs that may be carried out to that work, and that he seems to

Extract from Colonel Walker's Report.

"The left bank of the river is very jungly, and has become so unhealthy as to be abandoned by the cultivators who all live on the right bank, on which it is proposed to open a new channel under which a great deal of land may be brought. The new work will re-act favorably on the old, together with its own repair and that of the anicut, and very good returns may be expected in a few years from this work which is quite within the competency of the agency at hand, should special funds be made available."

look for any increase of cultivation under the anicut, to the construction of an entirely new channel on the right bank. It is not clear, therefore, from the Collector's letter, on what data he has estimated the returns which he mentions as likely to be derived from the repair of the present channel, the left bank being, it is understood, so unhealthy as to deter the Ryots from occupying it.

3. Should Colonel Walker, however, concur with the Collector in the advisability of carrying out the proposed repairs, he will be at liberty to take measures for doing so at once with any agricultural repair funds that he may have at his disposal, or as soon as possible after the commencement of the next official year, at the same time as the clearance of the Arkencottah and Thadapully channels, for which he reports being unable to spare any funds during the present year, is undertaken.

(True Extract.)

Colonel, R. E.,

Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

- .. Board of Revenue.
- .. Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
- .. Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Ed. S. T. Augustin.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
23rd April 1866.

No. 491. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th April 1866, No. 2,315:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Suttimungalum, 20th March 1866, No. 76.

1. The lands of seven villages are irrigated by the Kaniampolliem channel, on the north side of the Bhowany river,

Danaickencottah.	Honnampolliem.	fourteen miles below Matoopol- liem. The accompanying Statement exhibits the state of the cultivation. The lands should, under ordinary circum- stances, yield Rupees 3,414 per annum to Government, instead of which the return this year is Rupees 126, and I am informed by the people, the correctness of whose views I see no reason to question, that if the channel were in good order, and extended, as it might easily be, the annual return would not fall short of Ru- pees 6,000. The loss to Government I look on as a small matter compared with the loss of produce so much required at this present time in all parts of the country. If in really good order the channel, I am told, might be made to irrigate 1,200 cawnies of land, or more than twice the quantity it now does, and each cawny should yield 1,200 Madras measures of grain or put the yield at a moderate figure, and say 1,000 measures per cawny. The loss to the country is 1,200,000 measures of grain, the money-value of which, at the current selling price of twelve measures of paddy per Rupee, amounts to the no small sum of Rupees 200,000.
Basovapooram.	Pellaripolliem.	
Honnampolliem.	Dronagowdenpolliem.	
Allanderay.		

2. In 1864 the Kaniampolliem anicut was considerably damaged by the high floods. For its repair, and for the clearing out of the channel, an estimate of Rupees 6,500 and odd was submitted to me, countersigned and forwarded to the Superintending Engineer; but finally no funds were forthcoming. The natural result is that the condition of the anicut and channel has deteriorated. My letter of the 28th ultimo, No. 57, pointing out the pressing wants of funds for the clearance of the Arkencottah and Shadapully channels will have shown to the Board that the Superintending Engineer is now without funds for repairs of irrigation works—well then, what is to become of the Kaniampolliem anicut and channel if allowed to go for another year without repair? The chances are that for every Rupee now required ten Rupees will be necessary next year, and the land, in the meantime, will be waste to the loss of Government, the people, and the country generally. If this state of things is to be averted, the necessary funds must be granted without loss of time, as after the 20th May, at latest, little can be done, as the freshes will then commence.

3. At present there is but one channel led off from the Kaniampolliem anicut, and I know no reason why a second should not be made on the south bank. There may be some engineering difficulties; but I have not heard that any organized system of levels has been attempted. This, I think, should at once be done, and the whole matter reported on. The people are impressed with the idea that a channel can be carried through the country sufficient to irrigate about 2,000 acres of land. From a conversation I had lately with Mr. Harriet, in charge of the Thadapully and Arkencottah channels, I believe that these channels can be materially improved and extended so as to bring much waste land under cultivation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.
23rd April 1866.*

There is, I believe, an impression that if the irrigation works in this Province are extended, the Districts to the east will be liable to suffer ; but this I affirm cannot take place if the people here are restricted to one crop, the early crop raised by the waters of the south-west monsoon. The freshes which come down during that season are not half utilized ; vast bodies of water pass useless through Trichinopoly and Tanjore into the sea, a portion of which, if only intercepted in this District, would prove an inestimable blessing to its poor and hardworking population.

4. Eight years' residence in Tanjore, and a fairly intimate acquaintance with all its tanks and rivers, enables me to speak with some confidence as to the large bodies of water, which during the south-west monsoon find their way into the sea. Let any one during that period, whilst the freshes are running at the rate of five or six miles an hour, ride from Tanjore to the banks of the Coleroon, the distance can easily be done in a day, and he will cross the Vennar, Vettar, Codamoorti, and Cauvery rivers in the course of his ride, at the end of which let him say whether, by any possibility, Tanjore can utilize the water in the rivers! It cannot, and therefore I say let us in Coimbatore have the benefit of the surplus water.

5. I cannot say exactly what sum will be required for the repair of the anicut, and there is not time to refer to my Head Office for information; but I should say that Rupees 8,000 will be sufficient for the anicut and channel; and if this sum were given at once, a good deal might be done towards the repairs ere the freshes make their appearance.

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2. The intervening period, however short, is most valuable, and it appears to the Board positively suicidal policy to insist on the strict maintenance, in such a case, of the rules of the Account Department, with the inevitable result of immediate serious loss of revenue and produce and ultimate increase of expense.

Transferred to the Department of Public Works.

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

No. 492.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1866, No. 1,266.

ACCOUNT, No. 64.

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
23rd April 1866.*

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2. It is observed from Colonel Walker's report, No. 310, dated 24th March 1866, that he appears to be of opinion that the movement of cultivation from the present Kaniempolliem channel, on the left of the Bhoyany, is likely to be caused by any repairs that may be carried out to that work, and that he seems to

Extract from Colonel Walker's Report.

“ The left bank of the river is very jungly,
“ and has become so unhealthy as to be aban-
“ doned by the cultivators who all live on the right
“ bank, on which it is proposed to open a new
“ channel under which a great deal of land may
“ be brought. The new work will re-act favor-
“ ably on the old, together with its own repair
“ and that of the anicut, and very good returns
“ may be expected in a few years from the work
“ which is quite within the compass of the
“ agency at hand, should special funds be
“ available.”

look for any increase of cultivation under the anicut, to the construction of an entirely new channel on the right bank. It is not clear, therefore, from the Collector's letter, on what data he has estimated the returns which he mentions as likely to be derived from the repair of the present channel, the left bank being, it is understood, so unhealthy as to deter the Ryots from occupying it.

3. Should Colonel [redacted] concur with the Collector in the advisability of carrying [redacted] repairs, he will be at liberty to take measures for doing so at once [redacted] al repair funds that he may have at his disposal, or as soon as possible [redacted] disbursement of the next official year, at the same time as the clearing [redacted] of the next official year, at the same time as the clearing [redacted] he reports being unable to spare any funds during the present year, is undertaken.

(Pure Extract)

(Signed) CHARLES A. ORR, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.

„ Board of Revenue.
 „ Superintending Engineer, 7th Division.
 „ Controller of Public Works Accounts.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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