M.R.O. 14-5450-22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1150 Press Mis.

Dated 14-5- 1866

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 257. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th April 1866:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Coimbatore, 11th April 1866, No. 92.

1. With reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd February 1866, No. 1,289, I beg to submit the following remarks.

2. The season is bad in many respects.

3. The wet crops have in several localities been short—the result, in a great measure, of want of rain during the north-east monsoon, and partly the fault of remediable causes, such as the sad condition of many of our irrigation works, which are deteriorating from day to day, as funds are not provided for their repair.

4. The dry crops, except in those parts of the District which lie within the influence of the south-west monsoon, have yielded not more than two-thirds of their usual produce. The consequence is that prices are high, and the poor suffer a good deal.

5. Fodder for cattle is so scarce that straw and cholum stalks are carried fifty and sixty miles in bullock bandies, and then sold at a profit. Grass is no where to be seen.

6. The gardens are in fair condition, and may, I think, be looked on as the mainstay and support of man and beast in the province; for although very many wells are dry, it is to those in which water exists that human beings and animals look for their daily supply of water. It is quite common for persons to have to go two and three miles for the water required for ordinary household purposes.

7. Plantains, betel-vines, and sugar-cane dependent on channel irrigation are in a bad way.

8. The ploughing of the lands for the early dry crops should be in active progress at this time of the year, but the want of rain up to the present date has prevented it. Two showers of rain fell last week, but they were of little use; and unless the usual rains fall soon, the condition of the country must naturally excite apprehension.

9. As to remedial measures, it is useless to talk of them, unless Government is prepared to advance money for the construction and repair of works of irrigation, which alone can supply the wants of a population increasing from year to year at a rapid rate. Why do our people emigrate yearly by thousands? Simply because we don't utilize the water which a bountiful Providence supplies us with for their maintenance. This is, I believe, the solution of the question.

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1. Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The urgent needs of the Coimbatore irrigation works have been repeatedly brought by the Board to the notice of Government.

No. 258. Order thereon, 14th May 1866, No. 1,150.

Land Revenue.

Communicated to the Department of Public Works.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the ~~Revenue~~ Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

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of

N. 1150

Com & A. M.

Dept of P. Wks

Mad

Sir, I. D. Shea

N. 14th May 68

21 Folds Encl Dupl Order 14th May

14 " Abstract &c &c

Office of Collector of Customs
Coimbatore, 11th April 1868.

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith a Statement of the Receipts and Disbursements on account of the Road Fund for the year ending 31st March 1868, and to request that the sum of Rupees 2,000 may be granted from the Road Fund for the maintenance of the Coimbatore Collectorate Road during the year 1868-69.

2. The Road is in good order and the Bridges are all in a state of repair. The Road is much used by Bullock Carts and Carriers, and requires a large annual outlay for its maintenance. I have, &c.

(Signed) P. Grant
Collector.

Coimbatore,
Collr's Office,
Coimbatore, 11th
April 1868.

Statement for the information of Government.

The annexed account of the Receipts and Disbursements on account of the Road Fund for the year ending 31st March 1868 is forwarded by the Board to the Government.

(True Copy &c &c &c)

for Secretary.

To
The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort St. George

Dec. 1866. Dublin
Prov. of Connaught. No. 1090.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 16th
Decr 10th } April 1866.
Rec'd 17th.

Subscribing for in
Forma Com Collen Floren
Coll. of Connaught, rec.
Sterling on Jersey & ans.
favorable State of the
Navigation in Dublin
and the Midland
Great Western

No. 287-288.