M.R.O. 1—30,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2463 Press / ~~Mis.~~

356-55
Dated 23-9- No 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

MS

No. 354. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th August 1868, No. 6,074 :—

Read the following letters :—

From the Collector of Salem, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ahtur Talook, 7th February 1868, No. 38.

1. I have the honor to forward the enclosed Statement, called for in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings, under date the 18th November last, No. 7,514. The Statement shews works, the restoration or construction of which will prove beneficial both to Government and to the country. The probable cost and the probable return are shewn. Some of the works in the Statement are those which have already been before the Board and Government, but which have been laid aside for want of funds or other cause. The chief of these is the anicut across the Cauvery at Poolamputty. Objections raised in the Tanjore District against the restoration of this fine anicut has been one of the causes of its having been put off. There is not, however, I am inclined to think, much cause for supposing that its restoration would diminish the supply to Tanjore, and I would, therefore, strongly urge on Government adopting steps for inquiring into the truth of the complaint on the part of the Tanjore District. The project would, I have no doubt, yield to Government nearly a lakh of Rupees both in this and in the Coimbatore Districts.

2. It is not to be supposed that the Statement now sent contains all the works which might be undertaken by Government in the district. There are several other remunerative projects. Some fine rivers running right through the district, such as the Penar, might, with great advantage, be utilized by anicuts being built. These will be examined both by myself and by the Divisional Officers, and each brought forward as soon as it is in a fit state to report on.

3. The statements, called for in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Board's Proceedings, will be sent as soon as the information, which I have asked the Superintending Engineer to furnish, is received.

Enclosure No. 1. Statement.

From the same Officer, dated 20th April 1868, No. 100.

1. In continuation of my letter, under date the 7th February last, No. 38, I have the honor to enclose the Statement, called for in paragraph 4 of the Board's Proceedings of the 18th November last, No. 7,514, shewing the ayacut and cultivation under each irrigation work in this district for the last three years, together with a Memorandum shewing the amounts proposed to be expended on irrigation repairs in each year, contrasted with the sum annually granted in the Budgets.

2. That the annual grants hitherto made for irrigation works, specially repairs, are insufficient is beyond question. There are numerous works, the restoration or repair of which will prove beneficial both to the State and to the people. Want of funds has deterred us from bringing forward many of these works. The annual grants for irrigation repairs, during the last three years, have been, on an average, Rupees 23,154, or scarcely five per cent. of the nunjah revenue. These grants have been hardly sufficient to keep up the existing works, and closing breaches, which very frequently occur in this district, in consequence of the want of large

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and proper calingulahs. In 1866-67 the breaches have been so numerous that the Superintending Engineer and myself had to sanction estimates to the amount of Rupees 32,852; but we were, however, compelled to put the works off though they were emergent, as the Budget had tied us down to the limited sum of Rupees 20,500.

3. In the shape of new works very little has been done during the last three years. Some five or six projects were sanctioned in the last Budget for execution during the current year; but these are at a standstill, owing, either to objections on the part of the inhabitants of certain villages on the ground of priority of right to the water of the river across which it is proposed to throw anicuts, or to the unwillingness to give up the lands on the part of those whose lands will be submerged by the proposed works. Steps have, however, been taken to overcome these difficulties by applying Act No. VI. of 1857, and it is hoped that the works will be completed during the ensuing official year.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 1 to 9.—Statements.

ENCLOSURE No. 10.—Memorandum.

1. Submitted for the information of Government. The list seems to have been carefully made.

2. The Collector has omitted to give references to previous correspondence with regard to the proposed anicut at Poolamputty, though he evidently intended to do so. This omission should now be rectified.

No. 355. ORDER THEREON, 23rd September 1868, No. 2,463.

Irrigation, No. 15.

1. The original Talook Statements, received with the foregoing letter, will be returned to the Board of Revenue, with the request that they may be re-submitted in a convenient abstract form, giving the total ayacut and cultivation of the Government lands in each talook in acres, with the assessment leviable. The information in regard to Inam lands appears to be incomplete, so that it had better be altogether omitted.

2. Statement F, giving the irrigation projects of the district, should be printed, with an abstract appended, giving the rough estimate of the necessary expenditure on new works for each talook with the probable receipts, and works in regard to which it has been impossible to estimate either the cost, or the probable receipts, should be entered in a foot note.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

23d Septr 1868

Inam 2807 No. 2463.

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Revenue 1868 Despte
Pro of Govt on Sepr

No 2463

Pro of the Madras Govt
Dd 23d September 68

Pro of the Board of Revenue
of 24 November 68 No 3774.

Pro of the Board of Revenue of
18 July 1869 No 382.

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