M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1854 Press ~~Mis.~~

208. 209

Dated 10 — 8 — 18 67

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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(54)

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th August 1867.

No. 208. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department:—

Communicating to Revenue Department copy of letter from Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, regarding the state of the irrigation works in Meyloor Talook, Madura District } (Here enter 6th August 1867, No. 2,382.)

No. 209. ORDER THEREON, 10th August 1867, No. 1,854.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Revenue Board for the information of the Collector of Madura.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue, with Proceedings Public Works Department, No. 2,382.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

No. 147. Read the following letter from the Officiating Superintending Engineer, 8th Division, to the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Sharmadavy, 25th July 1867, No. 828 :—

1. With reference to G. O. No. 2,018, of the 6th July 1867, I have the honor to report that the expenditure on irrigation works in the Meyloor talook has been small in comparison with that in other talooks; in the past official year there was less spent on this talook than any other in the Madura District, excepting the Dindigul talook. These are both particularly dry talooks, and there is not cultivation from wells in Meyloor to the same extent as in other parts.

2. There is much that may be done to improve the Meyloor talook, and if more had been done hitherto the late bad season would doubtless not have been so severely felt; but when there are works demanding attention in all parts of the district, and the funds available are sufficient to admit of only a few works out of the many being taken in hand, it is certain that parts of the district must be neglected. The first consideration is to maintain the present ordinary revenue, the next to improve it; the larger tanks and those that receive the best supply of water naturally are the most looked after; the breaching of a large tank involves the loss of extensive crops, heavy remissions, and may cause other tanks below to breach, with the same result; hence it is absolutely necessary that a considerable portion of irrigation funds should be devoted to the more favoured tracts of a district, and only the most pressing wants in the other parts be attended to. The Meyloor talook is chiefly on a high level, beyond the reach of the present supply of water in the Vigay river, and the tanks, mostly small ones, are rain-fed, and under the influence of a small annual rain-fall, hence the other more promising talooks have received more attention.

3. The fall of rain in the past year was less than usual, there were one or two heavy bursts of monsoon that came on suddenly and lasted but a short time there was thus no replenishing of the tanks at intervals, and a great failure of crops ensued. In the present year, however, it cannot be said that the interests of the Meyloor talook have been overlooked. Early in April I made a special application for a grant of Rupees 2,400, under the head Minor New Works, Agricultural, based on the great want of sluices and calingulahs in the small tanks, which led to the villagers cutting the bunds to let out the water for cultivation, and leaving them in danger of being breached by a sudden influx from heavy rain. The funds were given me in G. O. No. 1,437, of the 11th May 1867, and I have made an appropriation of Rupees 2,580 up to date for Minor New Works; estimates for repairs were forwarded to the Range Officer for execution at the commencement of the year, to the amount of Rupees 4,977; a further sum of Rupees 1,895 was sanctioned during the present month, and I find I have also a batch of estimates, amounting to Rupees 2,413, which will be sent out for the works being put in hand. There is thus a sum of Rupees 11,865 devoted to the Meyloor talook out of the amount at my disposal, Rupees 45,200, for Minor New Works and Repairs in the six talooks of the district. This is all that I can do at present, but if later on in the year the Government are enabled to assign me a further grant, I shall be prepared to utilize the money.

4. Under present conditions the Meyloor talook, though capable of improvement as to its irrigation works, must always be liable to scarcity unless the

Perryaur project is carried out. A command of water can be obtained from one of the anicuts on the Vigay river, which will irrigate a considerable portion of the talook, and if the unfailing supply of water which is now running to waste through the Travancore country be successfully diverted into the Vigay river, there is every prospect of both the Meyloor talook and other dry tracts of the Madura District yielding annually a double crop, and being protected from future drought and famine.

No. 148. ORDER THEREON, 6th August 1867, No. 2,382.

IRRIGATION, No. 3.

1. Communicated to the Revenue Department, with reference to the Order in that Department of the 2nd July 1867, No. 1,468.

2. The Superintending Engineers of the 1st and 6th Divisions are requested to report whether, in their opinion, the whole of the Agricultural *Repair* allotments for the Vizagapatam* and Tanjore† Districts respectively is likely to be expended, and if not, how much can be surrendered for appropriation to other districts requiring additional funds.

* Rupees 41,000.
† Rupees 1,25,000.

(True Extract.)

F. Mantlemont
Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Revenue Department.
,, Superintending Engineers, 1st, 6th, and 8th Divisions.

No. 1854-
Commund to the Revenue Dept. for the info. of the Board of Revenue.
L.B.
10th August 1867.

Ead. S. T. Augustin. 114- To the Board of Revenue Para 2 of No. 2382 dt

Reported to England
Dy 26th Augt. No 57 of 1867
Mos:

Revenue 1867 - Dispt
Pro J. Court Hon Argue
No. 2112.

Proceedings in the
C. W. Dispatch

Dated 6th August
Received 9th 1867.
No. 2382.

7.

Communicating
to Revenue Depart: Copy
of Letter from Offg. Supt.
Engr. 8th Dn. regarding the
State of the Irrigation works
in Meyloor, Tulook, Madura
District.

No. 1864 - 10 August

No. 208. 209
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