M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1364 Press Mis.

376-376

Dated 17 & May 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following:—

No. 374. Endorsement of the Consulting Engineer of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated 8th April 1869, No. 4.

Read the following letter from the Agent and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Consulting Engineer, Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 5th April 1869, No. 5.

I HAVE received a copy of the Order of Government passed upon certain papers having reference to the rate charged for water received for irrigation from the Madras Canal and Irrigation Company, which include—

No. 757 of 9th March 1869.

(1.),—A letter from the Collector of Kurnool, dated 16th December 1867, No. 376.

(2.),—A letter from yourself to the Board of Revenue, dated 15th May 1868, No. 23.

(3.),—A Resolution of the Board of Revenue.

2. The Government leave it to the Company to elect between continuing the present rate of Rupees 6 per acre and *reducing* it to Rupees 4, as suggested by you for the coming Fusly 1279, raising it again to Rupees 5 for Fusly 1280 and to Rupees 6 for Fusly 1281.

3. It appears that the quantity of land cultivated under irrigation supplied from our canal has been—

In Fusly	1273,	... ...	18·36 acres.
Do.	1274,	... ...	192·59 „
Do.	1275,	... ...	739·58 „
Do.	1276,	... ...	1,385·21 „
Do.	1277,	... ...	1,080·85 „
Do.	1278,	... ...	1,172·56 „

That is to say, that in spite of the unfinished and precarious state of the works, there was a rapid increase in the quantity applied for during the first four years, until the area reached 1,385 acres, which, in all probability, comprised a couple of hundred acres of land unfitted for irrigation.

Mr. Chase assumes that there has been a *falling off*, and that that falling off in the area cultivated is due to the enhanced rate; but there is no proof that this assumption is correct. Mr. Chase says that the rate was raised to Rupees 6 *after* land had been brought under cultivation in Fusly 1276; if so, I submit that there may have been negligence *somewhere*, but certainly not with the Company.

4. The rate was fixed at Rupees 4 in 1864 (Fusly 1274), and that rate was raised to Rupees 6 in Fusly 1275 by a G. O., dated 1st June 1866; that is, a month before the commencement of Fusly 1276. Moreover, the question of raising the rate was *long* under discussion; and so early as *March* 1866, I suggested to Government that public notice should be given, *warning* the ryots that the rate of 1864 was subject to modification.

5. I believe Mr. Chase's assumption to be wholly untenable: first, because it seems highly improbable that Ryots, who have gone to the expense of preparing their land for the change from dry to wet cultivation (probably from 10 to 20 Rupees per acre), would incur further expense in *reverting* to dry cultivation, merely

No. 11

Endorsement to a letter, No. 5 of the 5th Instant, from the Agent and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

Submitted for the information of Government with reference to their order No. 757 of the 9th Ultimo.—

2. The Agent, it will be observed, is not disposed to adopt the suggestion to make the water rate for the first year Rupees 4, for the second year Rupees 5, and for the 3rd year the full rate, Rupees 6, and he thinks that, in so rich a District as Kurnool, the aid to the cultivators which this arrangement would afford is not required. This may be the case, but really the point for consideration was whether by such a plan the ryots could be induced to take up the supply more ~~rapidly than it otherwise would~~ they may be expected to do. It is reasonable to suppose that even a saving of 2+1=3 Rupees an acre would be a considerable inducement, but it must be a matter of opinion whether the Revenue results at the end

end of 3 years will be more satisfactory if the full assessment be charged at once, than if the rate were lightened during the time in which the ryot will be put to additional expense in preparing his fields.

3 With regard to paras 6 to 9 of the Agents letter, it may be remarked that there is still very much to be done, in the way of planning and executing distribution channels, before the Company will be in a position to supply water - with the exception of a few channels connected with the extremely limited area under the first 30 miles of the Canal, no distribution works have been got ready; and except for the upper part of the 1st Section, for which distribution Channel estimates have been sanctioned, even this necessary preliminary to pushing forward the work has not been got through. It is nevertheless of much importance that, as the Company become prepared to supply water for irrigation to successive tracts of country, the duty of facilitating its utilization should be taken up by some one, and carried out with all possible judgment and energy; and, as the Government have declined to allow the Agent to organize

× miles 44 63

for the sake of saving *two Rupees* per acre in the cess, or from any objection to pay a rent for the water which is fully within its value. The real value of the water had been thoroughly discussed and assessed, and the Government themselves in their Order of June 1866, had declared that "those who benefit by our works can certainly afford to pay the enhanced rate proposed".

Secondly, there are other reasons for *fluctuation* upon the early experiments of that which is a novelty to the ryots. As suggested by the Revenue Board, cultivators may have taken up land which proved unfit for wet cultivation; the state of the markets may have affected the experiment; but above all I believe that the most serious impediment to the development of the system is the absence of any machinery for promoting it. When I was at Kurnool in August I found that intrigues, disputes, and false information mischievously circulated had prevented or deterred some ryots from using the water, and I therefore applied for sanction for a very small establishment which might enable me, in some degree, to check these evils, and to remove some of the impediments to the free use of the water.

Sanction was granted, and the establishment constructed; but subsequently that sanction was cancelled, which was the cause of serious inconvenience.

6. It is, however, obvious that some machinery must be provided. When the Madras Railway was first opened the Agent was not left to wait for a Traffic Revenue before he organized traffic arrangements. Without Station-Masters, Traffic-Managers, and their subordinates, to set the machinery in motion, no revenue could be created; nor do I suppose that, in the first instance, the *Engineers*, whose business is construction, were called upon to act as Station-Masters and Traffic-Managers. In any similar undertaking it is obvious that revenue will not flow in spontaneously without the organization of some kind of machinery to utilize the results of capital expended.

7. My Irrigation Establishment was cancelled upon the representation of the Board of Revenue, that the Company is not allowed to deal with the ryots. Admitting this principle, it follows that the indispensable machinery must be supplied elsewhere; and the only alternative appears to be that the Government should take the matter seriously in hand, and supply what is needed.

8. Now that we have succeeded in delivering Toombuddra water at Nellore, and have thus brought the whole of the rich valley of the Koondaur under the influence of our canal, it is obvious that no amount of cold water thrown upon the work by individual prejudice can prevent it from floating and asserting its value and importance; it ceases to be a mercantile speculation, and becomes a great national work—an instrument in the hands of Government for the welfare of the people; an instrument which Government will certainly not neglect and undervalue, but will instruct its Officers to utilize with care and diligence and judgment. It will be for the Government to determine how this is to be done; and with the experience already gathered in the districts irrigated by Government works, there can be no difficulty, nor need there be any delay, in issuing the most judicious orders.

9. In connection with this subject, I venture to urge upon Government the importance of at once issuing instructions to the local authorities with reference to the subsidiary channels.

Rule XII. which declares that the Company are bound to deliver the water on the land to be irrigated; also provides the alternative that the Government, in order to facilitate the distribution, shall undertake to execute the minor works at the Company's expense.

The Rule, which forbids the Company to deal with the ryots, seems to make the former alternative nugatory; for, before the minor works can be made, the village authorities and, indeed, the village populations must be consulted; and besides after the Company's Officers have learned upon what lands the water is to be delivered, a further process becomes necessary of applying for the transfer of the land needed for channels.

It appears to me that all these difficulties will be obviated if the Government will be pleased to accept the latter alternative, and direct that, without loss of time, arrangements may be made by the local authorities for organizing the general distribution of the water.

10. It is to be regretted that the question of *reducing* the water-rate has been agitated. Once raise hopes of a reduction, and the ryots will naturally hang back as long as they can to force the reduction. Nothing is so inimical to the collection of revenue in whatever shape, as change and vacillation; and it would be extremely bad policy to exhibit any vacillation upon a question which has received so much consideration as that of our water-rate, and which the best judges have decided upon the soundest grounds. If it could be shown that any ryots, having the desire to convert their cultivation, really lack the means for providing the preliminary outlay, it might be worthy of consideration whether some trifling aid might not be extended to them in the way of remission; but in so rich a district as Kurnool has become, it is extremely improbable that any such would be found.

11. Although I am happy to learn that the Soud has been found to be by no means so injurious as was at one time feared, still it is possible that some of those lands, which were withdrawn from wet cultivation in Fusly 1277, were Soud lands; and I regret that I have received no instruction from the Board on this subject, which I brought under their notice early in 1865, with a recommendation that remission should be made on such lands. I have again addressed the Directors on the subject.

12. I agree with you that there will be considerable fluctuations in the demand for water for the first few years after irrigation, has commenced; but its intinsic value must assert itself; and if proper aid, protection, and encouragement be afforded to those who are desirous of availing themselves of it, and proper means adopted to defeat intrigue, fraud, and ignorance, there can be no doubt that without any weak tampering with the rates, the results will be satisfactory to the Government.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government, with reference to their Order, No. 757, of the 9th ultimo.

2. The Agent, it will be observed, is not disposed to adopt the suggestion to make the water-rate for the first year Rupees 4, for the second year Rupees 5, and for the third year the full rate, Rupees 6; and he thinks that, in so rich a district as Kurnool, the aid to the cultivators which this arrangement would afford is not required. This may be the case; but really the point for consideration was,

whether by such a plan the ryots could be induced to take up the supply more rapidly than without such inducement they may be expected to do. It is reasonable to suppose that even a saving of 2 + 1 = 3 Rupees an acre would be a considerable inducement; but it must be a matter of opinion whether the revenue results at the end of three years will be more satisfactory, if the full assessment be charged at once, than if the rate were lightened during the time in which the ryot will be put to additional expense in preparing his fields.

3. With regard to paragraphs 6 to 9 of the Agent's letter, it may be remarked that there is still very much to be done in the way of planning and executing distribution channels, before the Company will be in a position to supply water. With the exception of a few channels connected with the extremely limited area under the first thirty miles of the canal, no distribution works have been got ready; and estimates have been sanctioned, even this necessary preliminary to pushing forward the work has not been got through. It is nevertheless of much importance that, as the Company become prepared to supply water for irrigation to successive tracts of country, the duty of facilitating its utilization should be taken up by some one, and carried out with all possible judgment and energy; and, as the Government have declined to allow the Agent to organize an establishment for this purpose, it would seem necessary to require the Revenue authorities of the district to undertake this duty in communication with the Chief and Divisional Engineers.

* Miles 44th to 51st.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Captain, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for I. and C. Company.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department, with reference to the Orders in that department, Nos. 526 and 959 of the 1st March and 8th April 1869, respectively.

12*th April* 1869.

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

No. 375. Endorsement of the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 15th April 1869, No. 9.

From the Agent and Manager, Madras Irrigation Canal and Company, to the Consulting Engineer, Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Madras, 14th April 1869, No. 28.

I REFERRED your letter, No. 259, of the 29th January, (suggesting that notice should be given to ryots of the area which we should be able to irrigate in the approaching season,) to Mr. Latham who was too much occupied, previous to his going on leave, to notice the subject. Mr. Gordon has, however, written to me, and concurs in a proposal which I had for some time had under consideration for the lower divisions, specially the Koondaur Valley, of giving the villagers notice that water will be let down the stream channels, and that they will be permitted to use it at their own risk, free of charge for one season; and I should be glad to know whether the Government see any objection to this course. Taking into consideration the uncertainty when a full supply can be admitted into the canal,

and the want of experience of the *time* water would occupy in getting down, Mr. Gordon does not seem prepared to recommend any further steps.

2. I am inclined to think that, if the Government see fit to adopt the suggesn which I made in my letter of the 5th instant, No. 5 of directing the local horities to organize the general distribution of the water, the object in view would nuch more likely to be attained at an early date.

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l the following letter from the Consulting Engineer, Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Agent and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Dhoor, 29th January 1869, No. 259.

I HAVE the honor to suggest that measures should be taken for notifying to all llages, which have not hitherto had the opportunity of irrigating under the Comany's Canal, but for which water will be available during the coming season, the reas which the Chief Engineer will be prepared to supply, and the date on which water can be given.

2. In addition to lands under the upper part of the 4th Section, for which it is to be hoped distribution channels will be ready in good time, some land in the immediate neighbourhood of the sluices in the lower part of that section, and near those of the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 9th Sections can no doubt, without difficulty, be irrigated; and though the applications may and probably will, in the first year, be very limited, it is of importance that a commencement should be made in every village willing to take water.

3. I would also beg to point out that the canal and large tanks in the 57th and 58th miles will afford a supply throughout the year, and that consequently a considerable area of sugar-cane cultivation would be practicable. It would be worthwhile, under these circumstances, to point out to the villages commanded that such is the case, with a view to inducing those ryots who understand that cultivation to make a beginning next season.

SUBMITTED to Government in continuation of this Office No. 4, dated 8th instant. A copy of the letter, No. 259, of the 29th January last to the Agent is also enclosed.

2. The undersigned does not see any objection to the adoption of the arrangement proposed by the Agent experimentally for one season in all the country below the 72nd mile (Mittacondal cutting) of the canal; but he does not think that it would be applicable to the upper divisions in which there was water last year for a considerable time. It is thought that this season the Company and also the Government should expect some considerable increase of irrigated area and revenue, and the Government will see on referring to the letter, No. 83, dated 4th November 1868, paragraph 4, from this Office, with which the Budget statements for 1869-70 were transmitted, that the Chief Engineer anticipated a very large increase indeed.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Captain, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer Irrigation and Canal Company.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
17th May 1869.

TRANSFERRED to the Revenue Department, in continuation of the Endorsement from this Office, dated April 1869.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
21*st April* 1869.

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

No. 376. ORDER THEREON, 17th May 1869, No. 1,364.

Irrigation, No. 7.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue who will instruct the Collector of Kurnool to facilitate the distribution of the water of the Canal by every means in his power. The construction of the distribution channels must, however, still be left in the hands of the Company. The Revenue authorities should be in constant communication with the Officers of the Company on the subject, and should keep them accurately acquainted with the wishes of the villagers.

2. The Government have already decided to leave it to the Company to lower the water-rate, or to retain it at the present figure. They have no objection to the adoption of so much of the proposal made by the Agent and Manager of the Company in his letter, dated 14th April 1869, as is approved of by the Consulting Engineer in his memorandum, dated 15th April 1869, No. 9.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

No 1364

Proceedings of the Madras Govt
under date the 17th May 1869

Read the following
letter from the
Secretary Engr. Lt. Colonel
Cumming -

Submitting letter
from the Agent for the
Kurnool Irrigation Company -
submitting letter
from the Agent forwarding
the adoption of the prayer -
of the petitioners for the
removal of certain restrictions
imposed by him on persons
irrigating from the
Kurnool Canal -

(H.L. 8th April 1869.
No 4.)

Submitting letter
from the Agent forwarding
the adoption of the prayer -
of the petitioners for the
removal of certain restrictions
imposed by him on persons
irrigating from the
Kurnool Canal -

(H.L. 15th April 1869.
No 9.)

Communicate
to the Board of Revenue
who will instruct the
Collector of Kurnool to
facilitate the distribu-
tion of the waters of the
Canal by every means
in his power - The com-
munications of the Irriga-
tion Company must
however, still be left
to

Govt. of [1869] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c, &c, &c

Dated May, 17th.

Read.

G. O, 17th May 1869, No. 1,364.

MAY.

Nos. 374-376.

Irrigation Company's water. Collector of Kurnool to facilitate its distribution by every means in his power.

in the hands of the Company - The Revenue authorities should be in constant communication with the officers of the Company on the subject, and should keep themselves accurately acquainted with the wishes of the villagers -

2. The Govt have already decided to leave it to the Company to lower the water-rate, or to retain it at the present figure - They have no objection to the adoption of so much of the proposal made by the Agent and Manager of the Company in his letter, dated 14th April 1869 as is approved of by the Consulting Engineer in his Memo: dated 15th April 69 No 9 -

14 Copies to Rev. Dept. of Revenue Department
7 " Cradock, Supt. Jumna Canal (Company)
1 " Dy Secretary
1 " Chief Engr for Irrigation

G.C.

Hastings College
General Catalogue
Number One

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Council

Leeshultz

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