M.R.O. 1—39,000—16-10-23.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1325 Press Mis.

382-83
Dated 26-8-1820

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 26th August 1870.

No. 382. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th July 1870, No. 4,877 :—

Read the following letters :—

From the Acting Collector of Madras, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 18th May 1870, No. 173.

With reference to the Board's Proceedings of the 23rd April last, No. 2,705, I have the honour to state that the Order of Government, dated 17th March 1869, No. 723, sanctioning the reduction of assessment on old well-lands in this district, not having been received till the settlement of more than four out of six talooks had been completed, Mr. Fane was unable to carry out the reduction during the settlement of Fusly 1278. Orders were, however, issued to the Tahsildars last year to suspend the collection of the amount remitted by Government.

2. The regular fieldwar reduction of assessment was carried out during the settlement this year, and a statement of the financial effect of the reduction conceded is now under preparation in the several talooks, and will be submitted to the Board at an early date.

From the same officer, dated Sydapet, 21st May 1870, No. 177.

With reference to the Order of Government, dated 17th March 1869, No. 723, communicated in Board's Proceedings of the 20th idem, No. 1,929, calling for full information regarding certain wells said to have been constructed and kept in repair at the cost of the State, I have the honour to state that the wells in question are sixteen in number, and are scattered over the district as indicated in the margin.

Sydapet...	1
Chingleput	2
Madrantakam...	11
Trivellore	2

2. The well in the Sydapet Talook is situated in the old Cutcherry compound at Poonamallee. It appears to have been constructed at the same time as the building, and has always been kept in repair at the expense of Government, the land being let out at a fixed rental from year to year. For the last two years the land has not been rented out in consequence of the Commanding Officer having objected on sanitary grounds to any cultivation being carried on within the cantonment limits.

3. It appears from a communication received from the Superintending Engineer's office that in 1864 a sum of Rupees 105 was expended in repairing the well and fixing a pecottah to it.

4. The wells (two) in the Chingleput Talook are situated in the villages named in the margin. That at Kadoombady is stated to have been built some thirty years ago by Government at the request of the ryots, and the records of the Talook Office show that a sum of Rupees 169-4-0 was spent in the repair of this well in the years 1855 and 1864.

Kadoombady.
Kalambakam.

5. It is said to have irrigated about thirty cawnies of land under the tank of that village, whenever the supply in the tank fell short; and that, if it is again put in thorough repair (the cost of which is estimated by the Tahsildar at Rupees 250), it would supply water to a further area of fifteen cawnies.

6. The well at Kalambakam was constructed some forty years ago at the expense of Government. It has no distinct ayacut of its own, but irrigates two cawnies of nunjah land under the tank of that village, besides being useful to the village community for drinking purposes. The record do not show that any expenditure has been incurred on this well by Government. The Tahsildar says that the well requires immediate repair, and estimates the cost thereof at Rupees 55, but I think it may be left to the villagers to execute any repairs that may be necessary.

7. Of the eleven wells in the Madrantakam Talook, eight are situated in Keelamoor. The Tahsildar says that the Pymash account containing no information whatever as to the origin of these wells, he presumed them to be the property of Government, and accordingly included them under the head of Government wells.

8. He states, however, that all these wells are completely out of repair, and may very well be given up, the land under them amounting to acres 19-9-6, assessed at Rupees 56-13-1, being transferred to the head "Dry," and assessed at the first-class punjah rate of the village. I beg to recommend the adoption of the course proposed by the Tahsildar, more especially as there is no record of any expenditure having been ever incurred by Government in the repair of these wells.

9. Of the remaining three wells, two are in the village of Colyalam, and one at Vennamangalam. Those at Colyalam are entered in the Pymash accounts as Government wells, but the records show no trace of any expenditure having been incurred by Government on them. Both the wells are within the high-water line of the tank of the village, and, at the spot where they are situated, water is said to stand to the depth of three yards when the tank is full. The Tahsildar states that the wells are quite useless for purposes of irrigation. I therefore recommend that they be abandoned, and the lands under them, acres 7-33-3, assessed at Rupees 44-8-11, transferred to the head of "Punjah," and assessed at the highest Punjah rate of the district.

10. As regards the one well at Vennamangalam, the Tahsildar states that there is nothing on record to show whether it is a private or a Government well; or whether any expense has ever been incurred by Government in its repair. The Tahsildar further says that it is now out of repair, and that the land under it, viz., acres 0-16-5, assessed at Rupees 1-1-11, has been lying waste for some years.

11. The wells in the Trivellore Talook are situated in the villages of Agaram and Siyananjery. That at Agaram appears to have been sunk by the Shrotriemdar long before the shrotriem had reverted to Government. It seems to have been kept in repair by the ryots themselves. Since the date when the return of private and Government wells was submitted to the Board, this well has been treated as a private well, and the land under it, acres 5-38-13, assessed at Rupees 29-6-2, transferred to the head of "Punjah" by the Special Deputy-Collector, who was deputed to revise the Manavary rates in this district.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th August 1870.

12. The well at Siyananjery was constructed by the Zemindar when the village was held under Permanent Settlement.

13. In the Pymash accounts it is entered as a Government well, though no expenditure seems to have been incurred by Government in keeping the well in repair.

14. The Tahsildar says that it is in good order at present, and the ayacut under it is acres 14-28-9, assessed at Rupees 88-8-0.

15. From the foregoing explanation it will be seen that the only wells that need be maintained in repair at the expense of Government are those situated in Poonamallee, Kadoombady, and Siyananjery.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to Government Order, dated 17th March 1869, No. 723.

2. In this letter the Collector reports on the condition, etc., of the sixteen wells said to have been constructed at Government expense in the Chingleput District. Of these sixteen wells it appears that only three are considered worth keeping up at Government expense. One at Kadoombady, in the Chingleput Talook, requires repairs to the extent of 250 Rupees; but by its means thirty cawnies of land are watered when the tank fails, and it is stated that fifteen additional cawnies may be irrigated from it if it is repaired. A second at Poonamallee was put in repair in 1864, but it is now disused as the Military authorities object to irrigation in the cantonment.

3. The third at Siyananjery, in Trivellore, is said to be in good order and to irrigate fourteen cawnies, assessed at 88 Rupees. The remaining wells are either out of use or are kept in order by the villagers, and the Acting Collector considers they may properly be given over to the villagers, and the land assessed at the highest *Punjah* rates. So far as can be gathered from Mr. Blair's letter, the lands under the wells proposed to be abandoned are about 32 acres in extent, assessed at Rupees 137-8-0; he does not give the assessment which will be due on them when transferred to Punjah. The loss, however, will be very trifling in amount, and the Board recommend that the Acting Collector's proposals be sanctioned. They also concur with him in thinking it desirable to retain the remaining three wells under Government control.

No. 383. ORDER THEREON, 26th August 1870, No. 1,325.

Land Revenue.

THE Right Honourable the Governor in Council concurs with the Board of Revenue in considering that thirteen of the sixteen wells referred to in the foregoing papers should be made over to the holders of the lands irrigated by them, the assessment of the lands being fixed at the highest dry rate of the village. The Collector is accordingly authorized to adopt this course, the financial result being incorporated in the report on the general measure which is about to be submitted.

2. The remaining three wells should be included in the Public Works Department's list of Government irrigation works, and measures should be taken for the execution of the necessary repairs.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

No. 1325

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 26th August 1870.

Read the following. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Subng: letters from Coll. reporting on condition &c., of certain wells in Chingleput District, said to have been constructed & kept in repair at cost of Govt. & recommending that some of these wells be given over to villagers, that lands under them be assessed at highest Ryotwar rates.

R. Lr. 14th July 1870, No. 4877

The Right Honble the Governor in Council concurs with the Board of Revenue in considering that 13 of the 16 wells referred to in the foregoing papers should be made over to the holders of the lands irrigated by them

Govt. of 1870 Revenue.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

&c., &c., &c.

Dated August, 26th.

Read.

G. O., 26th August 1870, No. 1,225.

AUGUST.
Nos. 382-383.

Government wells in Chingleput District.—Sanction granted for 13 of the 16 wells referred to in Board's Proceedings being made over to the holders of the lands irrigated by them, the assessment of the land being fixed at the highest Ryotwar rate.

threw, the assessment of the lands being fixed at the highest dry rate of the village. The Collector is accordingly authorized to adopt this course, the financial result being incorporated in the report on the general measures which is about to be submitted.

2. The remaining three wells should be included in the P.W. Dept's list of Govt irrigation works & measures should be taken for the execution of the necessary repairs.

14 Jo to 18 of Rev Dept 21
21 — Com Dept 4