Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 23rd May 1871.

No. 312. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd May 1871, No. 1,856 :—

Read the following letter from the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Masulipatam, 15th March 1871, No. 843.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith translation of a petition presented to me by Rajah Vasireddi Bhavani Mukteswera Prasada Naidu, Zemindar of Muktiyala, stating that he has already laid out Rs. 5,000 on improvements in irrigation on his estate, and praying that Government would be pleased to grant him a loan of Rs. 10,000 for prosecuting these works, which he offers to repay at the rate of Rs. 1,000 a-year. As the question of Agricultural Loans has lately been taken up by the Imperial Government, I beg to submit this application, through the Board of Revenue, for the consideration of Government.

2. The present Zemindar was in 1862 replaced in possession of his estate by order of Government contained in Government Order, dated 27th September 1862, No. 2,106, Revenue Department.

3. On the application of the Zemindar the Board of Revenue, in their Proceedings, dated 31st October 1866, No. 7,868, requested the Collector to inform him that he was at liberty to excavate a channel from the Muneyer river at his own cost for the improvement of his estate, and to make his own terms with the holders of land in the Government portion of Nandigama for any water that he might supply to them on the understanding that the permission was not to debar the Government from extending the works and improving the supply at any future time, in which case the Government would reimburse the Zemindar with the proper proportion of the cost incurred by him, but would not guarantee him against loss of income derived from the holders of Government land, to which in the interval he may have led a supply.

4. From the information I have been able to procure, it appears that by the excavation of this channel, the Zemindar has been able to irrigate nearly about 4½ katties = 63 acres of dry land in his Zemindari, which he proposes to assess at the rate of Rs. 50 per katti. He has also supplied the means of irrigation to about 35 acres of Government land which he proposes to charge with water-rate at Rs. 2 an acre.

5. The Zemindar also obtained sanction for the excavation of another channel for the irrigation of his village of Chintalapad—See Government Order, dated 4th August 1866, No. 1,957, Revenue Department. This sanction was accorded on the following conditions :—

First.—That the works be performed to the satisfaction of the Public Works Department in order to ensure the safety of the lands in the neighbourhood.

Second.—That the cost of execution of the works be deposited with Government before the commencement of the channel.

Third.—That the Zemindar should make his own arrangements with persons through whose lands is proposed to be excavated, satisfying the Collector that they have all agreed to his terms before the work is commenced.

Fourth.—That an addition be made to the Zemindar's peishcush equal to assessment now paid on the lands through which the channel is carried.

6. On receiving the Zemindar's application for a loan of Rs. 10,000, I referred it to the Superintending Engineer requesting the favour of his opinion on the scheme. I beg to enclose copy of his reply, dated 3rd March 1871, No. 344. Colonel F. J. Moberly has furnished a sketch showing the portion of the channel excavated and of that proposed to be excavated, and protests against the Government making any loan for such a project until it is properly prepared and considered, which he considers would be casting a slur upon the professional department who are not at liberty to commence works on behalf of Government without previously sanctioned estimates. He suggests that a regular plan and estimate should be prepared for the work, and that the Zemindar should be invited to take it up on contract, as the Department Public Works find it difficult to procure labour.

7. I cannot think that the Zemindar would approve of any such arrangement as this. Government have already sanctioned *his execution* of the proposed channel, one of the conditions being that the works shall be carried on to the satisfaction of the Department of Public Works. The Government may perhaps think it advisable to call on the Department of Public Works for a plan and estimate, and then hand the same over to the Zemindar to work out for his own benefit; but the question of the loan must be decided on other principles. If it be thought desirable to encourage landed proprietors to improve their estates by advancing them money on favourable terms on good security, then the present seems exactly one of those cases where there is a good prospect that the money will be advantageously laid out.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Translation of an Arzee.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From Colonel F. J. MOBERLY, R. E., Superintending Engineer, 2nd Division, to the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, dated Ogili, 3rd March 1871, No. 344.

IN reply to your No. 76, 7th January, I have the honour to forward a sketch showing the work executed by the Muktiyala Zemindar to procure a supply of water from the Muneyer. The channel marked D. E., which we understand to have been that approved by Government, has not been touched.

2. I should most earnestly protest against the Government making any loan for such a project until it was properly prepared and considered. The Government will not admit such a request on the part of their professional officers, and it seems to me that it would be a great slur on us if the vague proposal of the Zemindar were thus easily sanctioned.

3. I would suggest that if the work be worth doing, the project should be regularly prepared and sanctioned, and the Zemindar, who doubtless has influence, be invited to execute the work by contract. Labour is difficult to procure generally in the Nandigama Taluq.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—A rough sketch of Muneyer river.

SUBMITTED for the favourable consideration of Government, and for registration if they approve of the application, with reference to the Bill for Land

Improvement Loans which is now under consideration, and will probably be passed soon.

2. The Board take this opportunity to remark that it will be useful if the Bill provides for taking up land required for improvements executed in accordance with its provisions under Act X. of 1870.

No. 313. ORDER THEREON, 23rd May 1871, No. 911.

Miscellaneous.

WHEN the proposed Bill passes into law, the present application may be renewed.

2. The 2nd paragraph of the Board's Proceedings will be considered in the Legislative Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

23rd May/71

No 911.

Bds Pro. 3rd May/71
No 1856

When the proposed Bill passes into Law, the present application may be renewed.

2. The 2d Para of the Bds Pro will be considered in the Legislative Dept.

J. P. S

13/5/71

14 Folios B's Proc. with No 2 Incls Dept. 25
5 — Legislative Dept.

4/4

Govt. of Bengal.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c.,

Dated May 23rd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 23rd May 1871, No. 911.

MAY.

No. 312-313.

Channel proposed to be excavated by Zemindar in Kistna District.—Application a loan of Rs. 10,000 to meet its cost ordered to renewed when the proposed Land Improvem Loan Bill passes into law.

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Affidavit for
Loan to meet cost of
certain Claims
Prepared to be sent
attach in Kind [illegible]

Penn. R.R.

Lbs

e c Bayfield Rly