

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
4th June 1872.*

No. 19. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th May 1872, Miscellaneous No. 3,525:—

Read Board's Proceedings, 13th March 1872, Miscellaneous No. 1,951.

Read also the following letter from the Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated 23rd April 1872, No. 127.

In reply to Board's Proceedings dated 14th March 1872,* Miscellaneous No. 1,951, I have the honour to inform you that, according to my letter No. 66, dated 9th March 1871, paragraph 10, the number of plans and schedules then in hand for verification by measurement was thirty, and there were besides thirteen more plans which had been either returned to the Chief Engineer's Office for revision, or had been distributed among the taluqs for measurement. The plans in hand at the date of last year's report, as also those received and disposed of during the year, are noted in the margin. Sixty-nine plans were disposed of during the year:

Board's Proceedings dated 15th April 1871, No. 1,574.	
Plans in hand	30
Do. either distributed among the taluqs for measurement or sent to Chief Engineer for revision...	13
	43
Received during the year—	
For Sections 4 and 6	15
Do. 7 and portion of 8...	53
	68
Total...	111
Verified by measurement and certified as correct	69
Balance in hand...	42

2. Each of these plans has undergone the various processes of measurement, examination, and re-measurement in certain cases, described in paragraph 4 of my letter above quoted, and the average duration for the disposal of a plan of ordinary difficulty may be assumed at three months from the date of receipt to the date of certificate, should every process be performed at the proper time by each of the officers concerned.

3. The number of English letters received and sent by the Deputy-Collector during the last year is 342, reports from Tahsildars and other officers 486, and Vernacular orders and memorandums issued 317. The periodical accounts rendered by the special department are detailed in paragraph 8 of my letter. The number of miles travelled by the Deputy-Collector during the year principally on irrigation duty is 1,354, and the number of days he was absent on duty was 184. A deduction must be allowed for general revenue and sanitary duties in his division.

4. The strength of the special establishment is now much less than half of what it was five years ago. It has been subjected to periodical reduction, and when it was deprived of its Surveyor and his staff in 1867, it lost the advantage of securing speedy measurement of lands. Probably, therefore, sixty-nine plans disposed of during the year was as much work as could have been expected. Where great discrepancies are found to exist between the plans and the lockspitting the inspection of the localities jointly by the engineer officers of the Company and a Revenue-officer is often rendered necessary, and such was the case with some of the plans already disposed of.

5. The next branch of duty connected with special department is the preparation of land registers or compensation accounts of lands shown in the approved plans and taken up by the Company. At the date of last year's report the number of plans, for which compensation accounts had to be prepared, was forty-four; the subsequent accumulation of work under this head and the extent of its disposal is shown below:—

Number of plans for which compensation accounts had to be prepared at the date of last year's report. <i>Vide</i> paragraph 10 of my letter dated 9th March 1871, No. 66	44
Do. since certified and finally passed by the Consulting Engineer or Chief Engineer for Irrigation	69
Total...	113
<i>Deduct</i> —	
Number of plans for which accounts have been completed	85
Balance...	28

6. There are yet twenty-eight plans for which compensation accounts have to be prepared, and to this will have to be added forty-two, the number of plans in hand which remain to be verified in the usual course. The total number is thus raised to seventy. If fresh plans are received the work is multiplied, and the same routine of measurement, examination, and verification, and subsequent preparation of land registers is gone through, so that it is clear that so long as there is a demand for land on account of distribution-channels, the work of the special department cannot cease. The principle upon which subsidiary channels are excavated is such that no fair guess can be made as to the limit of the demand. As soon as a few villages in any neighbourhood near the canal apply for canal-water, a plan or set of plans is prepared and despatched to the Deputy-Collector by the Company. There is every probability that such applications will increase yearly as the advantages of wet culture are appreciated and as confidence in the steadiness of supply of canal-water gains ground.

7. It is clear, therefore, that the work of the special department is similar to that connected with "Land Durkasts" in the Revenue Department, but attended with a much more intricate and difficult examination and scrutiny, requiring a trained agency for its satisfactory performance. The period of six months applied for in my letter No. 61, dated 27th February 1872, for the continuance of the special establishment is for the performance of the work in hand. But subsidiary works will necessitate the retention of the department for a further term far exceeding that time, as mentioned in paragraph 8 of my letter above quoted, as the peculiar nature of the duties connected with it precludes me from specifying a limit to its operations.

As it appears that business yet remains to be done with regard to the 8th section of the canal, the Board resolve to submit the Collector's application that the special establishment for giving over land to the Irrigation Company may be continued for six months for the favourable consideration of Government.

2. There is one point, however, in which the Collector's views require distinct approval or disapproval. He contemplates the necessity of continuing the special establishment for many years to come, as long, in fact, as new applications are made for water and new subsidiary channels are constructed.

3. If a special establishment is really required on this account in Kurnool, it is equally required in Godavery, Kistna, Nellore, and Tinnevely, where irrigation works are in progress, to say nothing of other districts where new roads are being laid out.

4. The Board think it should be laid down that the special establishment shall be disbanded as soon as demands for compensation in connection with the main canal have been satisfied. After that the work should be done by the ordinary Revenue Establishment.

5. The work as described in paragraph 4 of the Collector's letter, recorded in the Government Order, 16th May 1871, No. 860, is too elaborate, unless very large tracts of land are being dealt with. The carefully prepared plans, the measurement twice, or, in some cases, three times over, and the valuation calculated on special grounds in each single instance are methods which have not been found necessary in cases of railway compensation.

No. 20. ORDER THEREON, 4th June 1872, No. 866.

Miscellaneous.

THE retention of the special establishment for a further period of six months from the expiration of the last sanction is approved.

2. The further matter discussed in the Board's Proceedings will be considered in the Department of Public Works before orders are passed.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Public Works Department.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 16th & 17th May 1872.

Read letter from Board's Proceedings 13th March 1872 & Miscellaneous No. 1951.

Read also letter from the collector of Karnool dated 23rd & April 1872 No. 127.

As it appears that business yet remains to be done with regard to the 8th Section of the Canal the Board resolve to submit the collector's application that the Special Establishment for giving over land to the Irrigation Company may be continued for 6 months for the favourable consideration of Government.

There is one point however in which the collector's view require distinct approval or disapproval. He contemplates the necessity of continuing the Special Establishment for many years to come, as long in fact as new applications are made for water and new subsidiary channels are

are constructed.

If a Special Establishment is really required on this account in Kurnool it is equally required in Godavery, Raichur, Nellore and Timmevelly where irrigation works are in progress, to say nothing of other Districts where new roads are being laid out.

The Board think it should be laid down that the Special Establishment shall be disbanded as soon as demands for compensation in connection with the main canal have been satisfied. After that the work should be done by the ordinary Revenue Establishment.

The work as described in para 4 of the Collector's letter recorded in the Government Order 16th May 1871, No 860 is too elaborate unless very large tracts of land are being dealt with. The carefully prepared plans, the measurement twice, or in some cases three times over and the valuation calculated on special grounds in each single instance are methods which have not been found necessary

Necessary in case of railway compensation
[True Extract]

J. G. Cole
Secretary
To The Chief Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with Collector's original letter (to be returned) and
Copy of Board's Minutes, Proceedings 13th March 1872 No 100

Ch. J. G. Cole
J. G. Cole

