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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 14th October 1873.

Read the following:—

No. 117. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th June 1873, No. 1,130.

Read the following letter from Surgeon W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Hon. W. HUDLESTON, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 26th May 1873, No. 974:—

I HAVE the honour to solicit the attention of Government to the subject of the conservancy of certain tanks in the neighbourhood of Madras.

2. The water-supply works undertaken at the cost of the Municipality provides only for the requirements of certain portions of the town. There is no provision for the people of Royapooram, Tondiarpett, and villages in the 1st Municipal division of the town, nor do the distribution works confer any benefit on the residents of Nungumbaukum, Teynampet, Mylapore, and a large portion of the 8th Municipal division of the town. In regard to the 1st division of the town there is usually good water to be obtained in abundance from the wells and tanks excavated in the sandy deposit which furnishes the famous "Seven Wells" supply, and for this portion of the town the present arrangements will suffice pending the extension of the Municipal pipes in this direction.

3. With regard to the suburbs of Nungumbaukum and Teynampet, however, it may be concluded that the Madras Water Works will never be of any benefit to the residents as the level of the ground is too high to permit of the distribution of water from the Municipal pipes by gravitation, and it is especially with reference to the old sources of water-supply of these suburbs that I now do myself the honour of addressing Government.

4. The Nungumbaukum and Mylapore (or Mount Road) Tanks are both ancient reservoirs, of the history of which very little is known, but they were undoubtedly constructed for irrigation purposes. The Nungumbaukum Tank, from our earliest connection with the country, has always been an irrigation work of importance in connection with the old village of that name, and the Mylapore Tank was an important source of water-supply to the villages around Mylapore and St. Thomé long before these villages came into the possession of the British. The area formerly cultivated under the Nungumbaukum Tank has, I infer, been much contracted subsequent to the occupation of many of the village lands by the "garden houses" of Europeans. On the other hand, I think there is evidence to show that the area of land under cultivation below the Mylapore Tank is steadily increasing notwithstanding the fact that the locality beneath the tank-bund was also utilized for the houses and gardens of the European officials of the East India Company.

5. The facilities of water-supply in the villages between the Nungumbaukum and Long Tanks and the sea evidently determined the acquirement of land in these directions for house-building purposes. Many valuable properties have been erected, and native villages have sprung up in all directions on ground which was formerly a desolate tract known to the early English settlers as "Choultry Plain."

6. The conservancy of the tanks, upon the water-supply from which the health, comfort, and convenience of some thousands of inhabitants depend, seems,

so far as I can understand the question, to be nobody's business. I am aware that the matter has been represented by the Board of Revenue, and that an establishment has been applied for to regulate the supply of water for irrigation and other purposes; but there are a few facts coming within my own personal knowledge as a resident on the bund of the Long Tank which may perhaps enable Government to deal comprehensively with the conservancy question.

7. In the first place, then, I would point out that the bunds and sluices only of these tanks are under the control of the Collector of Madras, while the tank-beds are in the Chingleput District and under the Collector of Chingleput. From this division of authority many inconveniences arise. The Mirasidars and others of the Kodumbaukum village who have grazing rights in connection with the tank-beds have no interest whatever in conserving the supply of water in the tanks, and (as happened in February last), when heavy and unusual rain falls, the whole of the surplus water which might have kept the tank full throughout the best weather is allowed to run off in order that the villagers might be able to utilize the grazing or to cultivate in the tank-beds.

8. Frequently during the last year I have found the plugs of the sluices which course through my premises raised secretly in the night by some unknown persons and the water allowed to escape in such quantities that some low portions of my garden and grounds have been flooded. I have reason to believe that this extravagant waste of water was not caused by the cultivators but by persons having a direct interest in drying up the bed of the tank as quickly as possible. Owing to the near neighbourhood of Madras the grazing rights of the tank-beds yield a considerable revenue to the Mirasidars, and it is easy enough to understand their anxiety to get rid of the water with the least possible delay.

9. So long as cultivation is permitted in the tank-beds, and the persons having grazing rights are allowed to let off the water to waste, it is clear that the population living below the tanks are defrauded of their fair share of water.

10. And, so far as I can understand this question, the people who use water for their lands, and the people who do not use it, are on precisely the same footing as regards the assessment on their holdings—all pay a uniform rate of 5 Rupees per acre. The European residents, as a rule, do not irrigate their holdings, and most of them would prefer to see their share of the tank-water reserved in the tank itself, so that during the prevalence of hot winds the air coming over the tank might be tempered. It seems quite clear that houses would never have been built on the tank-bunds and adjacent thereto but with the object of securing a cooled atmosphere. This object is now frustrated by the careless conservancy, which leaves the tank-beds completely dry for the hottest season of the year.

11. The village of Nungumbaukum has been always a village of wet cultivation; but, so far as my own observation (extending now over a period of fifteen years), goes, I am prepared to state that hundreds of acres of land under the Long Tank, which had originally no claim whatever upon a share of the tank-water, have been levelled so as to share in the water distribution.

12. Within the period of my own personal observation I have seen field after field, originally too high to benefit by the water of the distributing sluices, lowered by excavating the earth for brick and tile-making, and, when enough of

the soil had been removed to permit of irrigation, the area has been converted into a plantation tope or rice-field. This process may be witnessed going on in the fields on the Cathedral Road, and, in some cases, the level of the original soil has to be reduced by three or four feet before the water can be brought to it. If any of the irrigated fields along the Cathedral Road, Luz Road, and Mowbray's Road are examined it will be found that nearly all have been lowered (in comparatively recent times) by excavation in the manner described.

13. My own impression is that the Long Tank (Mylapore) was originally intended for the Mylapore village (it is the feeder of the fine pagoda tank in Mylapore and of some others), and that the extended cultivation under the Long Tank between the Mount Road and the sea is nearly all of recent growth. It is quite clear that when the English began to build on "Choultry Plain" it was an uncultivated tract. The stimulus of a light and settled assessment in this case has been the cause of the extended cultivation of the soil beyond the original area which the tank was intended to supply.

14. The deficiency of water of recent years, therefore, arises from three distinct causes—

(1.) The desire of the Kodumbaukum people to get rid of the water from the tank-bed, in consequence of which they deliberately allow it to run to waste.

(2.) An increase of the area of wet cultivation under the tank-bund.

(3.) The gradual silting of the tank-bed, hastened probably by the permission to cultivate within the high-water line.

15. I need not dwell upon the importance of the keeping up a fair supply of water in these tanks. The wells of the whole district from the Mount Road to the sea depend, in a great measure, on the percolation of tank-water through the soil, and any waste of water from the tanks must necessarily react on the water-supply of the wells so largely employed for cultivation and domestic use. To conserve the tanks and prevent waste it seems essential that there should be no divided authority over the area occupied by the tanks; that the tank-bed should not be used for cultivation; and that the distribution of water for cultivation should be regulated by the Revenue Officers of the Madras District.

16. At present the cultivators go on draining water as long as a drop remains, whether they have had one crop or two. This last year the supply has been nearly enough for two crops, and, but for the wicked waste of water in February last, there might have been sufficient for a third crop.

17. I think, however, that the cultivators are getting more than their fair share of water, considering that they pay only the same assessment as the land-owners who do not cultivate, and I would venture to suggest that water for more than a single crop in a year should not be issued without payment. It is not to be desired that the water in the tanks should be drained dry year after year, and the land-owners who do not use the water (except indirectly from the well-supply) may fairly ask that their portion of water may be stored in the tank to keep up the springs in their wells and to temper the hot westerly breezes in the summer time. It is questionable, moreover, whether the increase of irrigation, and especially of its continuance throughout the year, is not disadvan-

tageous to the public health in districts so badly drained as are Triplicane, Royapettah, and Mylapore.

18. I regret to have to add that the bed of the tank along the Mount Road is resorted to largely as a latrine, and that in this respect some improvement is needed. If an establishment be sanctioned for conservancy I trust that the defilement of the water in the manner alluded to may be prevented. The Municipality have been partly to blame in not providing sufficient places of resort in this direction.

19. Before I conclude what I have to say on the Long and Nungumbaukum Tanks I would venture to point out the need of some regular inspection of the bunds so as to ensure their being kept in proper repair. During the late monsoons the bund in two places within my compound was in danger. At one spot, where the bund is very broad at the top, the water actually stood *on the top of the bund* for some hours. In another place near my stables I had to extemporize a gang of servants and coolies to turn up earth to keep the rising waters from effecting a breach. The stone revetment of the bund is in several places damaged within the length of my compound. I may mention as a historical fact that in the year 1820 the bund of this tank breached in *eight* places causing lamentable destruction of property and loss of life. The district now is so thickly populated, and so much more land has been lowered in level for wet cultivation, that an accident would be much more disastrous than in 1820. Had there been a high wind from the north-west, with the flood in October last, I dread to think what might have been the consequences to the Mylapore community.*

* Since this letter was written the repair of the bund has been begun.

20. The only remaining tank which I desire to remark upon in the present communication is the Spur Tank. The area of wet cultivation under this tank is very small, and will shortly be diminished by the occupation of land in connection with the Carnatic Railway. The districts under the tank will be fairly supplied by the Red Hills water of the Municipality. The tank-bed is principally used by dhobies and is no doubt a convenience to them, but as a source of water-supply the tank is so insignificant that if the ground were wanted for other purposes it might be given up without injury to the health or convenience of the inhabitants of Egmore.

REFERRED, through the Revenue Department, to the Board of Revenue for report as soon as possible after consulting the Collectors of Madras and Chingleput.

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Chief Secretary.

OOTACAMUND,
12th June 1873.

REFERRED to the Collectors of Madras and Chingleput for early report.

2. In their Proceedings of the 7th December 1872, No. 2,344, the Board submitted much of the information contained in this letter to Government and recommended the entertainment of a small establishment to watch the tanks.

No. 118. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th September 1873, No. 1,778.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 25th July 1873, No. 1,404.

Read also the following papers :—

Proceedings of the Madras Government, dated 24th July 1873, No. 777, Revenue Department.

ABSTRACT.—*Tanks within the Municipal limits of the Town of Madras.*—Placing the — under the Deputy-Collector of Madras, sanctioning the necessary establishment for their conservancy, and requesting the Board to arrange for a careful inquiry into all alleged rights to water.

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Madras, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 5th August 1873, No. 175.

I HAVE the honour to submit the report called for in the Board's Proceedings, No. 1,130, of 30th June last.

2. The only points contained in Dr. Cornish's letter, which have not been already reported upon in former correspondence, are—

1*st*.—That there should be no divided authority over the area occupied by the Mylapoor and Nungambaukam tanks, and that the tank-bed should not be used for cultivation.

2*nd*.—That water for more than a single crop in a-year should not be issued to the land-holders without payment.

3*rd*.—That the Spur tank may be done away with, and its bed used for building or other purposes.

3. With regard to the first point, I beg to state that, out of the eight tanks in the town, the Mylapore and Nungambaukam tanks alone have their beds in the Chingleput District. It is a fact that the land-holders of the Chingleput District, who cultivate lands within the water-spread of these tanks, cause much waste of water, with a view of drying up the bed and rendering it fit for early cultivation. I enclose copy of a letter from the Collector of Chingleput, No. 151, of 13th February 1872, referring to the bund of the Mylapore tank having been cut for the purpose of letting off the water, on the night of 8th November 1871, by the said land-holders or persons employed by them.

4. The stoppage of cultivation of any kind in the tank-beds seems to me absolutely necessary to prevent such proceedings as cutting the bund and the gradual silting of the bed. I would, therefore, suggest the taking up of all the land in the beds of the tanks under the Land Acquisition Act, and placing it at the disposal of the Collector of Madras. If this proposal is approved of, I can ascertain from the Collector of Chingleput how much land in the tank-beds is now private property, and what compensation will have to be paid. I believe that the compensation will not be large.

5. With regard to the second point, viz., that water for more than a single crop in a-year should not be issued without payment, the Deputy-Collector thinks it would not be legal to demand a water-tax from those who have hitherto obtained water for two crops, and that such a course might involve Government in litigation. The law which enables Government to impose and levy a separate cess for the use of water from Government works is Act VII. of 1865 (Madras), and I am of opinion that it applies to all lands in the Town of Madras which pay a uniform rate of quit-rent, whether they are irrigated or not, and there would be no difficulty in assessing the water-rate for one or two crops. If it is not applicable, a special Act should be passed, making it applicable to the tanks in Madras which are now not under the control of any Government officer as regards water conservancy, etc.

6. With regard to the third point, viz., the doing away with the Spur tank, I beg to state that the President, Municipal Commission, proposed last year to remove its bund and open out roads through the ground. The gentlemen noted in the margin were then consulted by the Deputy-Collector, and they were of opinion that, if the tank were removed, the neighbourhood would become less healthy, the wells in its vicinity might become dry and their water brackish, and landed property under it would also become less valuable. Dr. Cornish, however, is now of a different opinion as regards the sanitary effect of the change, and states that, if the bed of the tank were wanted for other purposes, it might be given up without injury to the health or convenience of the inhabitants of Egmore. From the Deputy-Collector's report on the subject, it would appear that the compensation, which would have to be awarded for removing the bund and drying up the tank, would be large. The area irrigated, which would suffer by the change, is 37 cawnies, paying a quit-rent of Rupees 317. There are 65 wells and ponds partly depending upon this tank, which is also much used by travellers and cattle passing by the Poonamallee road. Under these circumstances, the Deputy-Collector strongly recommends the retention of the tank, and I am disposed to agree with him.

Mr. Busteed.
The Hon V. Ramiengar.
Potham Vencatachalla Chetty.
Dr. Cornish.

No. 171 of 6th March 1873.
,, 503 of 14th July ,,

7. Copies of the reports from the Deputy-Collector noted in the margin are herewith sent.

Enclosure No. 1.

From C. VENKATASIAH, Officiating Deputy-Magistrate, to R. A. DALYELL, Esq., Magistrate of Chingleput, dated Saidapet, 9th February 1872, No. 17.

In returning the enclosures of Mr. Barlow's letter of the 16th November 1871, No. 295, I have the honour to report that, from the inquiries made by the Tahsildar of Saidapet, the particular individuals who broke open a portion of the Mylapore tank-bund on the night of the 8th November 1871 could not be ascertained. There are 62 persons of Mambalam village, holding land in the bed of the above tank, and which of them did commit the mischief was not known. The villagers of Mylapore themselves expressed their inability to name any particular individuals as the offenders, and the case could not, therefore, be criminally prosecuted. The breach was closed at once by the Public Works Department; the earth required for it having been supplied gratis by a ryot of Mambalam village from his putta land.

2. I take this opportunity of bringing to your notice that the rules for the protection of irrigation works during rainy weather have not been properly attended to by the villagers of Mylapore. By their own statement made before the Tahsildar of Saidapet, it appears that the Mylapore Taliar went away to his house at 6 P.M., and was absent from the tank-bund the whole night instead of watching it as he ought to have done. If he had done his duty properly, the real cause of the breach could have been ascertained, and the offenders detected at once.

Vide orders appended to the Board's Standing Circular No. 53.

3. The Village Munsif of Mambalam explains that as the villagers of Mylapore had already proceeded to the Taluq Cutcherry to complain about the breach, he did not think it necessary for him to report it again. This explanation is unsatisfactory, and I have fined him in the sum of one rupee for his remissness.

4. The Urzees* from the Tahsildar of Saidapet Taluq are herein enclosed.

* Nos. 538 and 556.

No. 151.

Fowarded to the Deputy-Collector of Madras, with reference to his letter (enclosure returned) of the 10th November 1871, No. 854.

Saidapet,
13th February 1872.

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Collector.

No. 93 of 9th February 1871.
,, 898 of 27th November ,,
,, 906 of 29th ,, ,,

Submitted to the Acting Collector of Madras, in continuation of the Deputy Collector's letters as per margin.

Madras,
20th February 1872.

(Signed) R. RAGOONATHA ROW,
Deputy-Collector.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector.

Enclosure No. 2.

From R. RAGOONATHA ROW, Deputy-Collector, to J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Madras, dated 6th March 1873, No. 171.

Adverting to your Endorsement, No. 814, on the letter (its enclosure returned) from the Officiating President of the Madras Municipality, dated the 29th October last, I beg to submit the report called for by you.

2. The Spur tank, the removal of the bund of which is proposed, covers cawnies 134-7-45. Of this extent, cawnies 82-3-199, held under Indentures, Bills, etc., have been declared by Mr. Cunliffe to have lapsed to Government, simply because the quit-rent thereon had not been paid and the registered proprietors or their heirs failed to appear before him and prove their right to the land at the time of the survey, and the rest, measuring cawnies 52-3-821, is Government Poramboke. Cawnies 37-1-1909 depend on this tank for their wet cultivation, and pay a revenue of Rupees 317-4-1 (the amount I mentioned in the Jummahbundy report having now been found incorrect). The market value of these lands amounts to Rupees 92,500.

3. As many as sixty-five wells and ponds are replenished by this tank. It is said to be completely full for three months, half for six months, and dry for three months. Its water is much used for washing clothes, for bathing, as well as for drinking purposes. It is very useful for travellers and cattle passing by the Poonamallee road. In the absence of this tank, these will be put to great inconvenience and hardship for want of water.

4. The people in the neighbourhood protest against the reclamation of its bed for building purposes. Mr. Busteed, the Hon. V. Ramiengar, M.R.Ry., Potham Chetty Vencatachalla Chetty Gar, P. Rungiah Naidu Gar, and Dr. Cornish, whom I consulted, do not approve of the measure, and think that, if the tank be ruined, the neighbourhood would become less healthy, if not unhealthy, and the deterioration of value of the land will be considerable, and all the wells and other sources of water would be materially injured, and their water made brackish. If compensation were to be awarded for all these losses, the amount payable would be immense.

5. Under these circumstances, I do not think it is desirable to interfere with this tank.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector.

Enclosue No. 3.

From R. RAGOONATHA ROW, Deputy-Collector, to J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Madras, dated 14th July 1873, No. 503.

In acknowledging the receipt of your Endorsement, No. 372, dated the 7th instant, I beg to submit my remarks on the letter of Dr. Cornish of the 26th May last, No. 974, proposing certain arrangements for the conservancy of some of the tanks of this district.

2. It is unnecessary for me to recapitulate that upon the water-supply from the tanks "the health, comfort, and convenience of some thousands of inhabitants depend," and that the bunds and sluices of these tanks are under nobody's control.

3. It is a fact that the tank-beds of the Mylapore and Nungambaukam tanks are in the Chingleput District; that the Mirassidars of the Kodambaukam village have been cultivating the lands within the contour line of the tank-beds, and have often stealthily let open the sluices and allowed the water "which might have kept the tank full" throughout the hot weather, to run waste. They have, indeed, often interfered with the calingulahs, and thus wasted the water of these tanks.

4. I fully share the views expressed in the 9th paragraph of Dr. Cornish's letter, and think that for the good of Madras no part of the tank-bed within the contour line should be allowed to be cultivated.

5. So completely do I agree with Dr. Cornish as to what he considers should be done that I will quote his own words to express my ideas upon the subject.

"To conserve the tanks and prevent waste, it seems essential that there should be no divided authority over the area occupied by the tanks; that the tank-bed should not be used for cultivation; and that the distribution of water for cultivation should be regulated by the Revenue-officers of the Madras District."

6. With reference to paragraph 17 of his letter, I beg to observe that, before making any rules for the collection of water-rate, it shall be necessary to obtain information on the existing state of things; that is, how much of the area irrigable under these and other tanks is now cultivated with wet crops, and what extent of this has hitherto borne double crops. Having done this, if the Government would undertake to conserve these tanks at some cost, it would, I think, be legal to demand a water-tax from those who might obtain more water than they hitherto used to get. Any such rule as is suggested by Dr. Cornish, that water for more than a single crop in a-year should not be issued without payment of additional tax, would be harsh and may perhaps involve Government in litigation.

7. Dr. Cornish in the last paragraph of his letter says that, if the bed of the Spur tank were wanted for other purposes, it might be given up without injury to the health or convenience of the inhabitants of Egmore. This opinion of his is at variance with that expressed by him to me when I consulted him on the advisability or otherwise, in a sanitary point of view, of having water in the Spur tank. He was then of opinion that the keeping up of that tank was very necessary for the preservation of the health of the neighbourhood. No doubt its water-supply for irrigation is insignificant, but the vested interests, the health, and convenience of the people in its neighbourhood, require that it should not be interfered with. The Government would be financially a loser in recovering the tank-bed. I am, therefore, still of the same opinion as is enunciated in my letter of the 6th March last, No. 171.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector.

THESE papers refer to the conservancy of the eight tanks in the town of Madras, the beds of two of which (Mylapore and Nungambaukam) are in the Chingleput District.

2. Government suggest that Nirgantees may not be able to prevent the waste of water which has been complained of in the case of the two large tanks just mentioned. The Board think they will if the beds of the tanks are placed under the control of the Collector of Madras, and cultivation in them stopped. The motives which now prompt the surreptitious opening of sluices, etc., will then be wanting.

3. The investigation of the rights to water directed by Government in paragraph 4 should be carried out at once. The Board have ascertained from their Acting Head Sheristadar, whose permanent appointment is that of Deputy-Collector of Madras, and who is well acquainted with this subject, that he is willing to perform the duty, and hopes to get the work done before October. He is accordingly requested to proceed with the investigation, first placing himself in communication with the Collector of Madras, as areas must be checked, and the positions marked on the Survey Map. He should note whether the land is single crop or double crop, and whether it is irrigated by flow or by baling. The register must be fieldwar, and copies must be kept by the Curnam, Tahsildar, Deputy-Collector, and Collector, and be readily accessible to the ryots.

4. The first of the points reported on by Mr. Blair is the control and conservancy of the beds of the Mylapore and Nungambaukam tanks. The Board are decidedly of opinion that these beds must be placed under the control of the Collector of Madras, and that all cultivation in them must be stopped. Besides the usual grounds for objecting to such cultivation, there is the special one in this case that the water-supply in the wells of a populous portion of Madras depends, in a great measure, on the period during which water is kept in the tanks. The Collector of Chingleput will prepare a draft Notification, transferring the beds or such portions of them as are in the Chingleput District to the Madras District. He will further report what rights of cultivation in the beds exist, what compensation the owners demand, and what they would probably be paid if the Land Acquisition Act were put in force. Mr. Blair thinks the amount will be small.

5. The Collector of Madras will report whether it is necessary to stop cultivation by similar measures in the beds of the other six tanks, and, if so, what the expense will be.

6. Mr. Blair thinks a water-rate should be charged whenever a second crop is irrigated. The Board do not think this can be done in opposition to immemorial custom; but they think that when the Deputy-Collector's register is once prepared, no new irrigation should be allowed under any considerations, unless a water-rate is paid.

7. The expediency of doing away with the Spur tank is not a pressing question. If public feeling as well as the Sanitary Commissioner's opinion were in favour of it, the value of the land reclaimed would no doubt over balance the sum which would have to be paid as compensation.

No. 119. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th September 1873, Miscellaneous No. 6,523.

Read the following letter from R. RAGOONATHA ROW, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd September 1873, No. 1.

ADVERTING to the Board's Proceedings of the 9th instant, No. 1,778, communicated to me on the 19th idem, I beg to report that I have commenced the local inquiries necessary for the preparation of the Pauchelwary or Irrigation Registers for the district of Madras.

2. I see that two hands are necessary to note down the results of my inquiries and prepare the registers accordingly. They would at least cost 40 Rs. a-month. I beg that I may be allowed to draw this sum till the work is finished. As it has been put into my hands a month later than I expected, I am afraid I will not be able to finish the work before I go on leave. On my return on the 15th January next, I will resume the work, and hope to finish it before the end of February next.

SUBMITTED for the sanction of Government to the entertainment of two temporary hands, on 25 Rs. and 15 Rs., for two months in all, commencing from the 22nd September 1873.

2. The Board also consider that, while Acting Sheristadar to the Board and employed on this duty, R. Ragoonatha Row should be allowed carriage allowance of 3 Rs. per diem, and request sanction for this charge.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
14th October 1873.

No. 120. ORDER THEREON, 14th October 1873, No. 1,107.

Miscellaneous.

THE proposal to transfer to the district of Madras those portions of the beds of the Mylapore and Nungumbaukum tanks, which are now within the limits of the Chingleput District, is approved, and a draft Notification should be submitted at an early date.

2. The Sanitary Commissioner suggested that w[illegible] should be charged for. The Board do not consider [illegible] immemorial custom, but think that no fresh irrigation [illegible] paid for. Before coming to a decision on this matter, [illegible] furnished with a history of all the Madras tanks from [illegible] it can be ascertained. The purpose for which each w[illegible] extension of irrigation, the system under which water has been charged for, or been used free of charge, should all be noted.

3. The Government await the Collector's reports as to the cultivation in the tank-beds, and agree with the Board that there is at present no urgent necessity for abandoning the Spur Tank.

4. The entertainment of two Clerks for two months, at a cost of 40 Rs. per [illegible]sem, to assist in the preparation of the Irrigation Registers is sanctioned, as [illegible] as a carriage allowance of 3 Rs. per diem to the Board's Acting Sheristadar [illegible]le employed on this special duty.

(True Extract.)

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

[illegible]e Board of Revenue.
[illegible]e Public Works Department.
[illegible]e Public Department.
[illegible]e Accountant-General,

F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department

Read the Reference 13 1

Miscellaneous No 6523.

No 119 Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 30th September 1873

Read the following.

No 1

To H. E. Stokes Esquire
Acting Secretary to the Board
of Revenue

Sir,

Adverting to the Board's Proceedings of the 9th Instant No 1778, Communicated to me on the 19th Idem, I beg to report that I have commenced the local enquiries necessary for the preparation of the Panchelwary or Irrigation Registers for the District of Madras.

I see that two hands are necessary to note down the results of my enquiries and prepare the Registers accordingly. They would at least

Cost

cost 40 Rupees a month. They that I may be allowed to draw this sum till the work is finished. As it has been put into my hands a month later than I expected, I am afraid I will not be able to finish the work before I go on leave. On my return on the 15th January next, I will resume the work, and hope to finish it before the end of February next.

I have &c

23d September 1873
Madras

Sd/ P. Raghunath Row

Submitted for the sanction of Government to the entertainment of two temporary hands on 25 Rs and 15 Rs for two months in all commencing from the 22d September 873

2 The Board also consider that while acting Shristadar to the Board and employed on this duty, P Raghunatha Row should be allowed Carriage allowance of Rs 3 per diem, and request sanction for this charge

/True Copy & Extract/

H Elliott
Ag Secretary.

To The Ag Secretary to
Government Revenue Department

Sd/ G W Locker
Sd/ Illegible Bd Secretary

Note.

24 July 73 No. 777.

In the S.O. noted in the margin the Government disposed of various reports as to the Banks within the limits of the Madras Municipality by placing them under the Madras Deputy Collector: Sanctioning a Mirgunti establishment and ordering an inquiry into & legality of right to water.

2. It may last Dr. Cornish wrote a letter to the Government on the subject of these Banks which was referred to the Board who now notice certain points

1st. that those portions of the Buckingham Canal Bank lies that are

+ Prog 5 Sept. 1778

Rec'd 1873 Sept
Proceedings No 3990
Board of Revenue

Rec'd 30 Oct 1873
Read 2 Nov

5523

SR 14 Oct 73 No 1107
Collr

Requesting opinion of Govt on certain questions connected with the Buckingham Canal

C. No 2825/73

119

C. 11 Oct 73 & 11 Oct

are in Chingleput should be transferred to Madras:

2nd that cultivation in the Tank beds should be stopped, the rights of present cultivators being purchased:

3rd that water taken for a second crop should be charged for:

4th that the Upper Tank may be done away with.

3. The Board approve of the 1st & 2nd & have called for a draft notification of transfer and a report as to the cultivation & probable cost of compensation.

For the 4th they see no necessity and on the 3rd they remark that water now taken can probably not be charged for but that it should thereafter be taken.

† 30th Sept. 1890.

They also report having deputed their Acting Assistant Engineer to hold the inquiry ordered by Government

4 In the later † Proceedings they recommend sanctioning allowed an establishment of two clerks for two months at a cost of 40 Rs per mensem and also carriage allowance at 3 Rs per diem.

5. As the inquiry has already commenced these Proceedings seem to require early orders and appended for approval is a draft sanctioning the establishment & carriage allowance; approving the proposed transfer & the retention after

Spur Bank; awaiting
the report as to the
cultivation of the lands;
and calling for a
history of the Tanks &
other System under
which water has
been charged for or
supplied free of cost

Lee

21

1107

Received 14 Oct

Revenue Dept.

22

No. 1107.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.
Under date the 14th Octr. 1873.

Read the following
Proc. of the Bd of Revenue

Referring to Collectors of Madras & Chingleput for report letter from Secy. Govt. drawing attention of Govt to conservancy of certain tanks in neighbourhood of Madras.	H.C. 30 June 1873, No. 1130
Passing certain remarks regarding Conservancy of tanks in town of Madras; &c.	H.C. 9 Septr 1873, No. 1778
Requesting sanction of Govt for entertainment of two temporary hands by Dy Collr Ragoonatha Row in connection with spl duty of preparing Irrigation Registers of Madras; &c.	H.C. 30 Septr 1873, No 6523.

1107

The proposal to transfer to the District of Madras those portions of the beds of the Mylapore and Nungambaukum Tanks which are now within the limits of the Chingleput District

11

c. 11 Oct 73 a. 14 Oct

is approved, and a draft notification should be submitted at an early date.

2. The Sanitary Commissioner suggested that water taken for a second crop should be charged for. The Board do not consider this feasible in the face of immemorial custom but think that no fresh irrigation should be permitted unless paid for. Before coming to a decision on this matter the Govt desire to be furnished with a history of all the Madras tanks from the earliest times as far as it can be ascertained.

ascertained. The purpose for which each was constructed; the extension of irrigation; the system under which water has been charged for or been used free of charge, should all be noted.

3. The Govt await the Collectors reports as to the cultivation in the tank beds and agree with the Board that there is at present no question as to the propriety of retaining the Spur Tank.

4. The entertainment of two clerks for two months at a cost of 40 Rs per mensem to assist in the preparation of the Irrigation

Irrigation Registers so sanction=
=ed, as well as a carriage
allowance of 3 Rs per diem
to the Board's acting Heris=
=tadar while employed on
this special duty.

Sd

To Bo/Mem
PW-Dept
Public —
Acct Genl
Sep 23-10-72

70
5

60

Conservancy of Estates
Lands in Madras

c. 11 Oct 93 k. 18 Oct

14/10/86
31/12/09

Further Cr 3867/73.
16.1.20
16/11/82 11

(M)

[illegible] of [1873] Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c. &c.

Dated October 14th.

Read. Encl.

G. O., 14th October 1873, No. 1,107.

OCTOBER.
Nos. 117—120.

Mylapore and Nungumbaukum Tanks, in the Chingleput District.—Approving the proposal to transfer those portions of the beds of the — to the district of Madras, and requesting the submission of the necessary Notification at an early date. Desiring to be furnished with a history of all the Madras tanks, in view to the proposal to charge for second crop being considered, and sanctioning the entertainment of two Clerks for the preparation of Irrigation Registers, as well as a carriage allowance of 3 Rs. per diem to the Board's Acting Sheristadar while employed on this duty.