Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 6th December 1873.

No. 77. Read the following Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Public Works Department, dated 22nd September 1873, No. 2,344 :—

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation regarding remissions of assessment made in fasli 1281.

No. 78. ORDER THEREON, 6th December 1873, No. 1,362.

Irrigation, No. 5.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue who will be good enough to urge upon all Collectors the necessity of communicating freely with District Engineers on all matters relating to the improvement of irrigation and protection of the revenue derived therefrom, and of drawing their early attention to all cases of remissions on wet land apparently attributable to causes susceptible of removal or caused by failures on the part o the department.

2. It is observed, however, with reference to the remarks of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation in paragraph 3 of his Note, that, so long as the great bulk of the irrigated land in the country is dependent upon tanks for its water-supply, there must invariably be large remissions for lands left waste owing to want of water in all districts where the season has been unfavourable, and the fact of such remissions being granted will be no proof that the tanks are out of *repair*. Under these circumstances, any hasty re-classification of the land might have the effect of causing a heavy loss of revenue in a favourable season, and would have no practical result.

3. The Government further observe, with reference to paragraph 4 of the Note, that the Collector, and not the District Engineer, is the officer to whom they look for a review of remissions made under all heads; but, with a view to the completeness of that review, they desire that the Chief Engineer for Irrigation will bring to the notice of Collectors any suggestions or remarks which he or the District Engineers may have to make relating to remissions so far as they concern his department.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Read the following papers :—

No. 344. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th July 1873, No. 1,446.

From Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ootacamund, 1st July 1873, No. 396 H.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Proceedings, Board of Revenue, No. 1,069, of the 20th ultimo, I have the honour to request that the remissions and deductions may be divided for districts under the two classes, remissions due to excess or failure of water, and remissions and deductions Miscellaneous or unconnected with the water-supply. The former require to be looked into, and the necessity for them, if possible, removed; apparently the first four or five items shown in the margin of the Board's Proceedings, and amounting to Rupees 3,98,662 or 4,23,137, alone belong to this class.

A STATEMENT showing the remissions and deductions divided for districts under the two classes, remissions due to excess or failure of water, and deductions and remissions unconnected with the water-supply, is herewith forwarded. The remissions shown in the statement are those granted on cultivated lands, and besides these there are remissions, amounting to Rupees 6,11,061,* granted on entire fields of wet lands left waste for excess or failure of water.

2. The revenue due to irrigation shown in column 17 of the Statement forwarded with the Board's Proceedings, dated 17th April 1873, No. 580, is exclusive of the remissions (Rupees 6,11,061) above indicated.

	Acres.	Rs.
* Ganjam	4,859	10,139
Vizagapatam ...	5,154	23,684
Godavery	8,835	23,170
Kistna	12,905	64,622
Nellore	19,679	84,808
Cuddapah	18,944	1,05,811
Bellary	11,987	50,885
Kurnool	2,940	13,406
Madras	...	...
Chingleput	2,835	8,397
North Arcot	1,459	6,369
South Arcot	900	4,314
Tanjore	637	2,568
Trichinopoly	679	15,703
Madura	15,093	51,474
Tinnevelly	16,748	1,20,338
Coimbatore	3,246	29,244
Nellgherries	...	...
Salem	2,170	10,279
South Canara	...	...
Malabar	...	...
Total ...	1,38,049	6,11,061

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

Statement showing the amount of Remissions and Deductions due to excess or failure of water and to other Miscellaneous causes unconnected with water-supply in each District for Fasli 1281.

	Districts.	Remissions and Deductions from the Assessment of Nunjah or wet lands.			Remarks.
		Remission and Deduction on account of excess or failure of water.	Miscellaneous Remissions and Deductions unconnected with water-supply.	Total.	
	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Ganjam	87,033	794	88,727	
2	Vizagapatam	50,714	248	50,962	Column 2 includes remission on account of Shamilat Banger or portions of fields left waste, Slacy or wet-dried crops, Putnamputtoo or loss of produce, Payamalay or land injured by water, Pantheepathy or land flooded, and Fasil Gunnoor or second crop not cultivated.
3	Godavery	40,601	16,214	56,815	
4	Kistna	13,564	16,583	30,147	
5	Nellore	2,890	15,720	18,750	
6	Cuddapah	12,255	18,530	30,785	
7	Bellary	300	5,506	4,271	
8	Kurnool	2,620	10,037	12,663	
9	Chingleput	7,547	22,788	30,135	
10	North Arcot	2,258	01,491	03,749	
11	South Arcot	4,048	1,42,207	1,46,255	
12	Tanjore	6,049	2,45,822	2,51,871	
13	Trichinopoly	12,683	81,107	93,790	
14	Madura	10,214	13,373	61,587	
15	Tinnevelly	1,78,821	69,411	2,47,232	
16	Coimbatore	68,220	64,991	73,240	
17	Nellgherries				
18	Salem	1,771	33,776	35,547	
19	South Canara				
20	Malabar	3,060	1,428	4,518	
	Total	4,09,115	8,04,879	12,73,994	

No. 346.

No. 6414. *Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

In paragraph 1 of my Note, No. 307 B., dated 2nd ultimo, submitting to Government a Revenue Statement for the whole Presidency for 1871-72, it was intimated that the Board of Revenue had been asked to furnish particulars of the remissions of revenue shown in that return, distinguishing between those due to excess or failure of water, and those appertaining to other causes. The Board's Proceedings now received show that of the remissions in all districts, amounting to Rupees 12,73,994, exhibited in column 13 of the above Statement, Rupees 4,09,115 are due to excess or failure of water, and the information thus given may with advantage be communicated to District Engineers, who should obtain from the Local Revenue Officers such further details as may be necessary, and then ascertain in each case what can be done to reduce or do away with remissions on this account in the future.

2. The Board likewise bring to notice that, besides the remissions on cultivated lands above referred to, there were other remissions, amounting to Rupees 6,11,061, on entire fields of wet lands left waste for excess or failure of water. It is not explained what the circumstances of these remissions are, and probably they are chiefly the unrealized assessment of lands which have been seldom, if ever, cultivated, such as lands included in the Ayacut of tanks but for which no water supply is available, lands in the beds of tanks which in fairly favourable seasons are submerged and cannot be cultivated, etc. However District Engineers will be able to find out the particulars, and their attention should be given to devising measures for ensuring the means of irrigation to all lands which are classed as wet, and for which, by the improvement of the sources of supply or the means of storage, it may be practicable at a reasonable cost to provide water.

3. It would seem to be advisable in cases in which it is found that water cannot be made available, to reclassify the lands by transferring them from wet to dry.

4. The annual Revenue Report of the Irrigation Department, which has been called for by the Government of India, will be the proper place for reviewing year by year the extent and causes of remissions of Irrigation Revenue, and for bringing to notice how far these causes can be removed.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

CAMP CUNNUTHOOCUDDAPOO,
22*nd August* 1873.

No. 345. ORDER THEREON, 22nd September 1873, No. 2,344.

IRRIGATION, No. 25.

ORDERED that these papers be communicated to all District Engineers, who will obtain from Collectors the details of remissions of revenue due to excess or failure of water, and then ascertain what can be done to render such remissions unnecessary. It is observed that of the remissions in all districts, shown in the Statement enclosed in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1,446, of the 30th July last, and amounting to Rupees 4,09,115, those granted in Tinnevelly were no less than Rupees 1,78,821. Again, the particulars of remissions on uncultivated land, given in the margin of the Board's Proceedings just referred to, and amounting to Rupees 6,11,061, show that about one-fifth were allowed in Tinnevelly, and rather more than one-sixth in Cuddapah; the District Engineers concerned should therefore, in communication with the Collectors of those districts, give this subject early and careful attention.

2. The Government consider that it is very desirable that nominal remissions of revenue which is not likely to be earned, should cease to appear in the accounts, and the attention of the Revenue Department will therefore be called to the remarks contained in paragraph 3 of the Note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. It may also be noticed that, in many cases, were land, which cannot be irrigated, classed as dry instead of wet, it would be cultivated, and the dry assessment realized.

3. These Proceedings will be communicated to the Board of Revenue in the Revenue Department with a view to Collectors being instructed to communicate

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
22nd September 1873.

freely with the officers concerned in order to advance the inquiry and remedy desired by Government.

4. Ordered also that these Proceedings be communicated to the Government of India in continuation of those of the 21st August 1873, No. 2,050.

(True Extract.)

Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Joint Secretary to Government.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the preceding Proceedings
7 Oct. 1873.

Receipt noted on Note by the
Chief Engineer for Irrigation Reporting
Prevalence of Assessment & records thereof
1281

} G. O. 22nd September 1873. No. 2344

Communicated to the
Board of Revenue, in reference to the
Collector of Trichinopoly's
request to give the Divisional Engineers
all the necessary powers
in the prosecution of their Engineering

2 It is observed, however,
with reference to the remarks of
the Chief Engineer for Irrigation
in para 3 of his Note dated
[illegible]
that no steps should be taken
to [illegible]
[illegible] until the
[illegible] upon [illegible]
[illegible] have been [illegible]
[illegible]

useful purpose. Any such pos-
should be strictly limited to cases
in which the possessions are known
to have been owing to the defective
state of the sources of irrigation
and to suggestions for such im-
provements as would be likely
to procure a larger and more cer-
tain water-supply.

I think that the
G. O ought to be sent
in another form.
I would direct
Officers to draw the
Early attention of their
respective Districts
Engineers in the Irrigation
Department to all
cases of encroachment
of encroachment on wells,
which may be obstructed
to cause which they
think may be susceptible
of removal by their
Civil or Criminal Courts
failure on the part of
the Department concerned
to

Revenue Department.

No. 1362

87

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 6th December 1873.

Read the following Proceedings

of Govt. P.W.D.

Sanctioning certain rules laid down by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation regarding remission of assessment under the Code 1881. (G.O. 25th September 1873 No. 2514.)

Communicated to the Board of Revenue who will be good enough to urge upon the Collectors the necessity of communicating freely with District Engineers in all matters relating to the improvement of irrigation and the protection of the ryotwari interests therefrom and of obtaining their early attention to all cases of petitions and references and to report upon

= frequently attended to &

Carried

causes perceptible of removal
or caused by factures on the
part of the department.

2. It is observed, however,
with reference to the remarks
of the Chief Engineer for Bel-
gaum, in para 3 of his Note,
that so long as the great bulk
of the irrigated lands in the
country is dependent upon
tanks for its water supply,
there must inevitably be
large remissions for remote
fields must owing to want of
water in old tanks during their
lowest supply & most unfavorable
year, the fact of such remissions
being granted will be no proof
that the tanks are out of repair.
Under these circumstances any
hasty re-classification of the
lands might have the effect of
causing in many cases of remissions
in a favorable season would
need have an immediate
result.

The

3. The Government further
observe, with reference to para
4 of the Note that the Col-
lector and not the District
Engineer is the officer to whom
they look for a review
of remissions made under ad
hoc, but with a view to the
completeness of that review, they
desire that the Chief Engineer
of Irrigation will bring to the
notice of Collectors any suggestions
or remarks which he may
District Engineer may have
to make relating to remissions
so far as they concern the
Department

Sd.

14 Encl. of Revenue
21 P.W. dept
5 Chf. Engr. for Irrigation

B5

A4