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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
8th January 1873.*

No. 31. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 7th December 1872, Miscellaneous No. 8,122 :—

Read the following letter from the Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 5th December 1872, No. 509.

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of the Board that the heavy rains of the past fortnight have not done so much damage as might have been expected to irrigation works in the Principal Division. No information has as yet been received from the Sub-Collector, but I have called for a brief report which I will submit hereafter as soon as it is received.

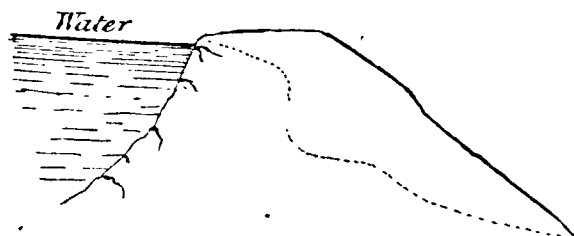
2. The large tanks of Chembrambaukum, Tinnanore, Nennun, Red Hills, and Sholaveram have all been in danger—the first and last especially—but the exertions of Department Public Works, supplemented by the Police and Taluq Revenue authorities, have been successful in averting any actual disaster; the outlay, however, on account of coolies, large bodies of whom were called for under Act I. of 1858, must have been considerable.

3. I was at Chembrambaukum on Sunday the 24th ultimo when the rain providentially held off in the middle of the day; the water had risen to the very top of the stone revetment of the bund, and at the large calingulah west of the bungalow, where the rush of water was terrific, fears were entertained that it might rise over the wing-wall and carry away the embankment. This cessation of rain, which lasted over Monday, saved the tank, though it was in great danger again, I hear, on the 28th and on the morning of the 29th.

4. The reason for the large calingulahs of this tank being inadequate to discharge the surplus water, was owing to the enormous volume poured in from two unexpected causes, *i.e.*, to the partial breaching of the Nennun Tank-anicut recently constructed, and to the water of the Cooum having found its way, after breaching the Trivellore road, into the Chembrambaukum supply channel (New Bungaroo), the head sluice of which had been duly closed. In spite of the danger we have been in, these occurrences were satisfactory from one point of view—the tank did *not* breach, though it was touch and go, and such combined causes, involving a sudden rush of water, are not likely ever to occur again.

5. On the 29th evening Colonel Moberly reported that both the Red Hills and the Sholaveram Tanks were in danger, but that if sufficient coolies could be obtained they could be saved. I ordered the Ponnery Tahsildar to the latter, and despatched the Sydapet Sheristadar (both the Tahsildar and Deputy-Tahsildar being at other tanks) to the former. I found, on my arrival at the Red Hills, that the danger was at the old place, that part of the bund continuing to sink in spite of earth-work continually added to it; sufficient labour was soon obtained, and I and the Sheristadar clearly explained to the ryots the provisions of Act I. of 1858. Owing to the level of the calingulah having been previously lowered, I do not think there was any real imminent danger to this tank lately.

6. The state of the Sholaveram Tank was much more critical; there was a slip at one spot in the bund which can best be understood from the marginal sketch, the ink line of which shows the section of the bund as it was, and the dotted line as it appeared after the subsidence. Mr. Harington, who has been indefatigable in his exertions, has since reported that the Ponnery Tahsildar supplied the necessary labour promptly and the damage has been repaired.



7. I enclose a sketch made on the spot by Colonel Moberly, kindly given to me, which shows at a glance the situation and lie of the country, though the scale is not accurate.

A is the spot where the surplus channel to the Cortelliar from the Sholaveram Tank breached.

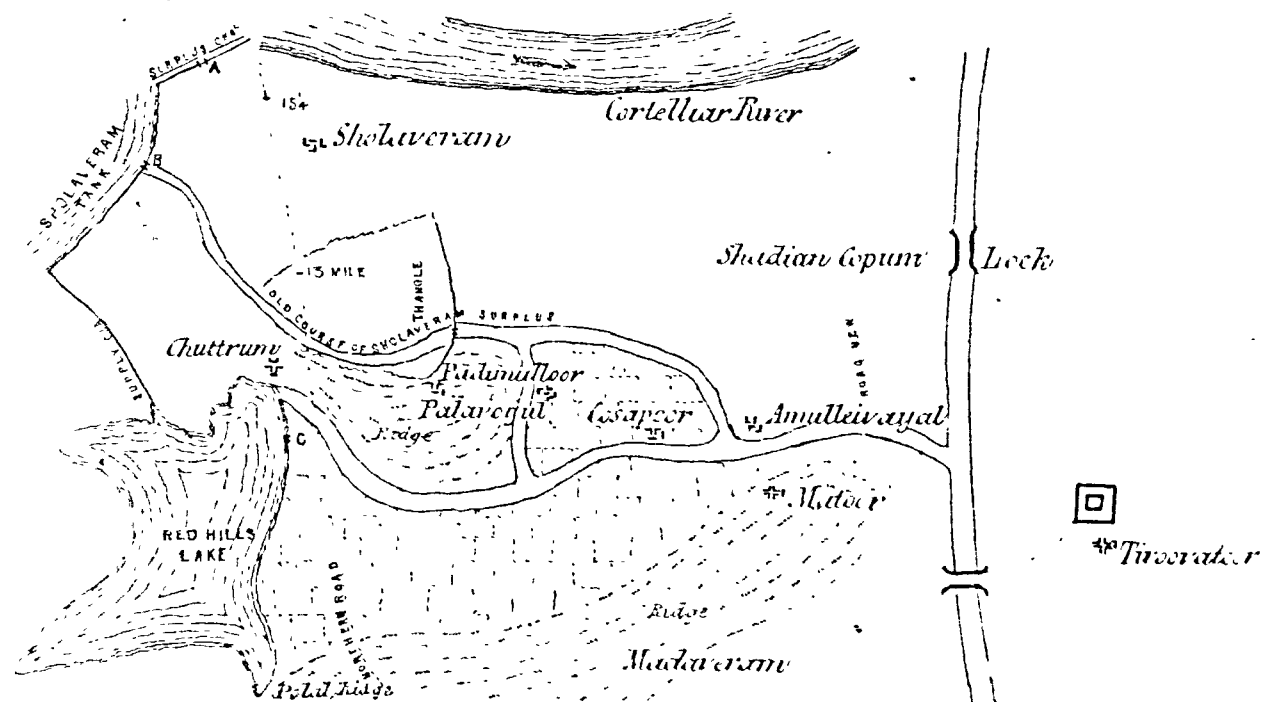
B, the slip in the bund of the Sholaveram Tank.

C, do. do. Red Hills Lake.

8. The damage reported up to date consists of breaching of minor tanks and tangals, etc., in eighteen villages in the Trivellore Taluq and six villages in the Conjeveram Taluq.

9. As regards the Red Hills Tank it may not be out of place here to remark that the subsidence results, in my opinion, not from any fault in construction but from the character of the ground (quagmire or quicksand) at this particular spot. Everywhere else the bund represents a clear level surface, and even at the slip there is a portion in the middle which retained its original level.

10. The ryots of numerous villages lying under these tanks temporarily deserted their homes, but have since returned. The necessary measures were taken for the preservation of private property. The assistance rendered by Major Cunliffe and the Police generally in keeping order, sending intelligence, etc., deserves much praise.



SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

No. 32. ORDER THEREON, 8th January 1873, No. 16.

Irrigation, No. 1.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Miscellaneous No 8122

Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 7 December 1872

Read the following
No 509.

From

R. W. Barlow Esquire
Acting Collector Chingleput
To J. G. G. Esquire
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to report,
for the information of the Board,
that the heavy rains of the past
fortnight have not done so much
damage as might have been expected,
to irrigation works in the Principal
Division. No information has as yet
been received from the Subcollector,
but I have called for a brief
report which I will submit
hereafter, as soon as it is received.

2. The large tanks of Chembaram
bankum

Lanks were in danger, but that if sufficient Coolies could be obtained, they could be saved. I ordered the Ponnery Tahildar to the latter, and despatched the Sydapel Seristadar (both the Tahildar and Deputy Tahildar being at other Lanks) to the former. I found, on my arrival at the Red Hills, that the danger was at the old place, that part of the bund continuing to sink, in spite of earth work continually added to it; sufficient labor was soon obtained, and I said the Seristadar clearly explained to the Ryots the provisions of Act I of 1858. Owing to the level of the Culargulak having been previously lowered, I do not think there was any real imminent danger to this Lank lately.

6. The state of the Sholavaram Lank was much more critical; there was a slip at one spot in the bund which can best be understood from

from the marginal sketch, the ink line of which shows the section of the bund as it was, and the dotted line, as it appeared after the subsidence. Mr. Harrington, who has been indefatigable in his exertions, has since reported, that the Ponnery Tahildar supplied the necessary labor promptly, and the damage has been repaired.

7. I enclose a pencil sketch made on the spot by Colonel Moberly, kindly given to me, which shows at a glance the situation and lie of the country, though the scale is not accurate. A is the spot where the surplus channel, to the Costelliar from the Sholavaram Lank, breached. B, the slip in the bund of the Sholavaram Lank. C, ditto Red Hills Lake.

8. The damage reported up to date consists of breaching of minor Lanks and Tangals &c in 18 villages in the Tiruvellore Taluk, and 6 villages in

in the Longvicom Lough.

9. As regards the Red Hills Tank,
it may not be out of place here
to remark, that the subsidence,
results, in my opinion, not from
any fault in construction, but
from the character of the ground
(quag mire or quick sand) at
this particular spot. Everywhere
else the bund represents a clear
level surface, and even at the
slip, there is a portion in the
middle, which retained its original
level.

10. The people of numerous villages,
lying under these Tanks, temporarily
deserted their homes, but have
since returned. The necessary
measures were taken for
the preservation of private property.

The assistance, rendered by
Major Cunliffe and the Police
generally in keeping order, sending
intelligence

intelligence &c deserves much
praise.

Chungapat District
Collectors Office
Sydhpell
5 December 1872

I have to

(to) Rev. Barlow
of Chester.

Submitted for the information
of General Sir J. D. B. (see copy extract)

For the Secretary

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with Enclosure

H. M. P.

Copied on May 27/73

Norman 1872. Oct 4

H. 3914

Proceedings of the
S. and J. Lawrence
Oct 7. Dec 1872
Dec 67 — — —
Dec 1914 — — —
sent.

Submitting for the
information of Bureau:
= send Report from
the Collector of Customs
on the effect of the
heavy duties being
the first fortnight
on collections made
in the Principal
Division of the Pacific
Islands
Dec 1872

14 Board of Review 14 Jan 1873
21 Pub. W. Dept

H. 31-32

Dec 1872, P. 185