Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th March 1873.

No. 88. Read the following Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Fort St. George, 1st March 1873:—

Read the following letter from the District Engineer, Godavery District, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Dowlaishweram, 17th February 1873, No. 887.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Acting Collector of Godavery, in which I am informed that, as the collection of grass-rents by Revenue-officers on puttas issued by the Department Public Works is not in that officer's opinion legal, he cannot allow the Tahsildars to put the provisions of the Arrears Recovery Act II. (Madras) of 1864 into force.

One copy of a letter No. 17, dated 13th February 1873.

2. With reference to this opinion of Mr. Foster I beg to observe that, although the Act referred to is dated so far back as 1864, the former Revenue-officers made no objection to collect the grass-rents, etc., on the puttas sent to Tahsildars by Range Officers. This proceeding is, now only, declared to be illegal, and, as we have no means of collecting this revenue, and no time to devote to such work, I beg that you will be good enough to obtain early orders of Government on the matter now brought to notice to save loss of revenue, which will doubtless have to be incurred by us when the renters come to know that the Department Public Works has no power or authority to collect these rents.

3. I beg, in conclusion, to suggest that the Revenue authorities be instructed to do as heretofore, and thus save the trouble and loss which will most probably be experienced by us if dealing with the ryots which we can only do by means of the Delta Superintendents, a class of subordinates to whom I should not like to entrust this duty.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From W. S. FOSTER, Esq., Acting Collector of the Godavery District, to the District Engineer, Godavery, dated Ellore, 13th February 1873, No. 17.

IN reply to your letter of the 20th ultimo, No. 538, I have the honour to state that, as the collection of grass-rents by Revenue officers on puttas issued by the Department Public Works is not, in my opinion, legal, I cannot allow the Tahsildars to put the provisions of the Arrears Recovery Act II. of 1864 (Madras) into force. I have given orders to the Tahsildars to receive the amount of rents if voluntarily paid by renters.

SUBMITTED to Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
27th February 1873.

(Signed) C. J. SMITH, Captain, R.E.,
For *Chief Engineer for Irrigation.*

REFERRED for consideration in the Revenue Department.

(Signed) G. W. WALKER, Colonel, R. E.,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th March 1873.

No. 89. ORDER THEREON, 10th March 1873, No. 284.

Miscellaneous.

REFERRED to the Board of Revenue for report.

2. The District Engineer should have requested the Collector to refer the matter for the orders of the Board of Revenue. He will carefully take that course in future.

(True Extract.)

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

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

District Engineers Office G
Dowlaiswaram 17th February 1

No. 887

From

Lieutenant Col. W. Fischer RE
District Engineer Godavery Dist

To

Lieutenant Col. E. Mullins RE
Chief Engineer for Irrigation
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to forward herewith copy of a letter from the Acting Collr of Godavery, in which I am informed that as the Collection of grass rents by Revenue Officers on puttahs issued by the D.P.W. is not in that Officers opinion legal, he cannot allow the Tahsildars to put the provisions of the arrears recovery Act II / Madras / of 1864 into force.

2. With reference to this opinion of Mr. Forster, I beg to observe that although the Act referred to, is dated so far back as 1864, the former Revenue Officers

Officers made no objection to collect the grass rents &c. on the puttahs sent to Tahsildars by Range Officers - This proceeding is now only declared to be illegal, and as we have no means of collecting this Revenue, and no time to devote to such work, I beg that you will be good enough to obtain early orders of Government on the matter now brought to notice to save loss of Revenue which will doubtless have to be incurred by us, when the renters come to know that the D.P.W. has no power or authority to collect these rents -

3. I beg in conclusion to suggest that the Revenue Authorities be instructed to do as heretofore, and thus save the trouble and loss which will most probably be experienced by us if dealing with the Ryots which we can only do by means of the Delta Superintendents a class of subordinates to whom I should not like to entrust this duty -

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obed.t Serv.t

Lieut. Hutchinson R.E.
Asst. to Col. R.B.
District Engineer Godavery

Dr. 88-89

Referred for consideration in the Revenue Department.

Chas. Lushington
Secretary to Govt.
Fort St. George
P. W. Dept.

1873 No. 284
Read the letter from the Chief Engr. in P. W. Dept. requesting he will refer him how far in order of the Govt. of India he will now take that course in the matter.

D. L. C. 4/3.

10th March 73.
140 B. of Rev. Des 11 March 73
20. Pub. Wks. Dept.
C - 5th. March 73 R 6. March

From
The District Engineer
Godavery
No 601.
Thro'
The Chief Engineer
for Irrigation
Madras.

Dated 17th February 1873.
Received 24th
Rec'd 27. No. 887

Subject
Enclosure One
Suggests that the Revenue Authorities be instructed to collect grass rents and as before on pattahs issued by the Department Public Works.

Refer
Submitted
With an order No 284 - 10 March 73

Submitted to Government.
Chief Engr. R.C.
Fort St. George
27th Feby. 73.
Asst. Engr. for Secy.

Govt. of {1873} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March 10th.

Recd. Encl.

G. O., 10th March 1873, No. 284.

Fwd the CC 1313/73
" CC 2766/73

MARCH.

No. 88-89.

Grass Rents.—Letter from District Engineer, Godavery, suggesting their collection by the Revenue authorities, referred to the Board of Revenue for report.