M.R.O. 1—4,002—16 9-48

(1) Number of pages_____

(2) Date of repair_____

(3) Initials of the Referencer_____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. ~~B.P. No.~~	777 Rev.	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	24-7-	1873.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read th

No. 220. Proceedings of the Bo ated 7th December 1872,
N

Read again Board's Proceedings, dat , No. 1,046, and 29th July
187

Read also th :—

From the Honourable D. ARBUTH g Collector of Madras, to
J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to t nue, dated 11th November
1872, No. 197.

With reference to paragraph 8 eedings, No. 1,437, of 29th
July 1872, I have the honour to for ter from the Deputy-Collec-
tor, furnishing the information call e conservancy of the tanks
in the Town of Madras.

2. There are eight tanks in t an area of 1,497 cawnies,
bearing a quit-rent of Rs. 7,367 pe ne conservancy of all these
tanks the Deputy-Collector propos t of six Nirgantis, at Rs. 7
each per mensem, costing annually r cent. of the revenue from
the area irrigated. I think that th ght be undertaken with this
establishment as an experiment for d of which time, if the estab-
lishment should prove either too ary, the necessary changes
might be made.

3. In the event of the Gover ing the management of these
tanks, I think some legal provisio ssary to enable the Collector to
decide water-disputes (*e.g.*, See Pu Act XXX. of 1871, Part VII.) It
seems also possible that, should a when the tanks are under Govern-
ment management, the Governmen to meet claims for damages, and, if
the Board are of opinion that any is likely to arise, an enactment to
provide for such a contingency wi ry.

4. There is another point w g to the notice of the Board
in connection with the conserva anks are from time to time
ired* by the Department of Public
rks; but the cost of this repair is not
leviable from the ryots, as it has
been customary† to do so. I think
t, whi the Government would have
these tanks, it would only be reason-
cost roportionately from each land-

	Rs.
* 1863-64	1,290
1870-71	270

† Section 6 of Act I. of 1858.

to incur so much expenditure on nt
able to provide in the law for the vy of
holder drawing water from the tanks.

5. The revenue that is likely to b ive by Government from surplus
water in the tanks can only be estima trial, as at present there appear to
be accounts from which the re e obtained.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From R. RAGOONATHA ROW, Deputy Collector, to the Acting Collector of Madras, dated 17th October 1872, No. 865.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 60., of the 6th August last, forwarding copy of Board's Proceedings, No. 1,437, dated 29th July last, I have the honour to inform you that in the taluq of Madras there are eight tanks irrigating land to the extent of 1,497 cawnies and 14 grounds, paying a quit-rent of Rupees 7,367 8-3. In the statement below, I give the names of the tanks, with the extent of land irrigated by each, and the revenue derived on each Ayacut:—

No.	Name of Tanks in the Taluq of Madras.			Ayacut.			Beriz.		
	Divisions.	*Villages.*	*Tanks.*	C.	G.	SQ. FT.	RS.	A.	P.
1	Mylapore	Mylapore	Mylapore Tank	670	15	518	3,811	4	7
2	Egmore	Egmore	Egmore Tank...	19	6	1,648	156	12	9
3	Nungumbakum ...	Nungumbakum	Nungumbakum Tank ...	121	22	2,229	747	2	6
4	Perambore	Vasserpaddy	Vasserpady Tank	372	10	2,113 1/5	1,207	6	9
5	Do.	Perambore	Perambore Tank	202	12	169 1/2	914	6	6
6	Egmore	Chetput	Chetput Tank	23	7	259	78	7	4
7	Porasawakum ...	Porasawakum ...	Porasawakum Tank ...	85	0	0	439	0	0
8	Do.	Kilpaukum	Kilpaukum Tank... ...	2	11	968	12	15	10
			Total..	1,497	14	905 5/18	7,367	8	3

2. The Mylapore tank stands first in the list, and it is partly in the taluq of Madras and partly in the taluq of Sydapet.

3. The Nungumbakum tank is the only other tank in Madras which lies both in the Madras and Sydapet Taluqs.

4. These two excepted, the remaining six tanks are entirely in the Madras Taluq.

5. The necessity for their conservancy and for preventing the great waste of water, which annually occurs in the absence of all control, being fully known to you and the Board, I submit that an establishment, as marginally noted, will be essential to regulate the water-supply, as also to prevent its waste, and to see that the tank-bunds are kept free from injury, and that the trees planted on them or not improperly cut down.

1 Nirgunti for the Egmore, Porasawakum, Chetput, and Kilpakum Tanks.
2 Nirgantis for Mylapore Tank.
1 do Nungumbakum.
2 One do. to each of the other two tanks.
At 7 Rupees each, the total monthly cost is Rupees 42 a yearly Rupees 504.

6. The tanks of Egmore, Porasawakum, Chetput, and Kilpaukum, are all contiguous to each other, and may as well be placed under one con.

7. Next comes the question as to how this cost could be met. It would appear that previous to the year 1818, when the village of Mylapore was rented to certain private parties, the Mirassidars of the village had in their enjoyment all the Porumboke lands, together with the fruit and other trees on the bank of their tanks. Subsequently, however, these sources of revenue are reported to have been resumed by Government. These are the statements of the villagers, and they stand unsupported by any recorded testimony either in their possession or in the records of this office.

8. The records in the Revenue Board's Office may show the extent and revenue of the Manyans, etc., resumed in or about the year 1818.

9. The average annual outturn from the rental of palmyra and other trees and from the sale of fallen timber on the banks of the eight tanks in Madras amounts to Rupees 150, and this sum is now credited to "Land-revenue, Miscellaneous." A water-rate may be collected for the water supplied to house and garden-holders, who have not hitherto used any such water, on their applications, for the purposes of fancy gardens and home-consumption. It may be calculated upon the time the water may flow through a canal of a particular dimension. The demand for water on account of irrigated land in each tank is charged by the extent of ayacut under it; but

making due allowances for incorrectness, w... absence of any sort of village
accounts in this taluq already brought to notic... added to the present ayacut.
The extent in Madras irrigated by tank-water... down at 1,800 cawnies.

10. The last question is what quantit... n when the irrigated land has
been supplied. This I am unable to tell in th... nor am I able to say whether
or not the value of the Inams already resum... rees and fruits rented every
year, and the amount of water-rate that may... equal to or greater than the
sum required for the conservancy. The es... is absolutely necessary if the
conservancy of the water in these tanks be... a conservancy is needed has
already been acknowledged by the Board of ...

11. In this year also I have received ... f the waste of water in the
Mylapore and other tanks.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acti... e Chingleput District, to
J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary t... enue, dated Sydapet, 14th
November 1872, No. 463.

WITH reference to the concludin... Proceedings of the Board,
No. 1,437, dated the 29th July last, ... o report that there is only
one tank, partly inside and partly o... ipal limits, and this is the
Mylapore Tank, though, at its southe... calingulah is situated, it is
called the Mambalum Tank. It irri... s district, except about 20
acres included in the Government Fa...

2. With reference to the flow ... calingulah, alluded to at
paragraph 4 in November 1871, cons... rintendent of Government
Farms a great waste of water, I have ... serve that it did not escape
my attention; but Major Hunter, t... the Presidency Division,
reported, when I brought the subj... the stopping the free flow
would risk the safety of the tank.

3. The Tahsildar of Sydapet ... ource of supply to the said
Mylapore Tank can be improved by ... f an anicut on the Virdak-
shiranadi (Cooum) river, which runs ... he village of Maduravoyal,
and by bringing the said water thro... yal Tank and the madugoo
in the limits of Nerkunnam, and so ... Nungumbakum Tank lying
within the limits of the Madras Dist...

4. The necessary instructions ... protection of the calingulah
of Mylapore Tank, on receipt of th... ings under reply, both to
the taluq officials and the Public W...

THESE papers will be submitted ... Government.

2. It scarcely requires argum... conservancy is required for
the protection of tanks situated nea...

3. There are eight tanks, ir... wnies of land, assessed at
Rupees 7,368, in the Town of Ma... been repaired from time to
time by the Public Works Departm... hment has been entertained
to see that the banks are kept in ... that there is no waste in the
distribution of water.

4. In accordance with the recommendation of the Collector, the Board resolve to advise Government to entertain the establishment specified in paragraph 5 of the Deputy-Collector's letter, namely, six Watchmen at Rupees 7 each. The cost per annum will be Rupees 504.

5. Mr. Arbuthnott thinks that by assuming the management of the tanks in this marked way, Government will lay themselves open to an action for damages if a breach ever occurs; but their liability in this respect will not be altered, since they even now repair the tanks and derive a revenue from them.

6. He also thinks that a special law is needed to give the Collector power to determine water-disputes; but the power he derives from the fact that the water belongs to Government will, in the Board's opinion, be sufficient.

7. Mr. Arbuthnott will be good enough to frame rules for charging water-rate when water is supplied for gardens, etc.

No. 221. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd February 1873, No. 148.

Read the following letter from the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Officiating Collector of Madras, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th December 1872, No. 218.

In acknowledging receipt of the Board's Proceedings, dated 7th December 1872, No. 2,344, I have the honour to observe that Government derive no revenue from the Madras tanks, and that the ryots have exercised the immemorial right to distribute the water as they please; and that, although Government have on a few occasions caused slight repairs to be executed to the bunds of these tanks, they have never exercised a single proprietary right as regards the water.

2. For many years past, Superintendents appointed by the ryots have regulated the distribution of water, and when parties require water for gardens, etc., not usually cultivated by irrigation, the orders of these Superintendents are necessary before it can be obtained. It was from a consideration of these facts that I recommended legislation on the subject; for it is clearly useless to frame rules for the distribution of water with which we have no right or at best a very doubtful right to interfere.

In this letter the Collector contradicts two statements made in the preceding correspondence, without even alluding to them. He is requested to explain exactly what he means.

2. The statements are as follow—

(1.) That Government derive no revenue from the Madras tanks.

In the letter recorded in Board's Proceedings, 7th December 1872, No. 2,344, the Deputy-Collector states that the tanks have an "Ayacut" of 1,498 cawnies with a beriz of Rupees 7,368.

(2.) That for many years past Superintendents appointed by the ryots have regulated the distribution of water, and when other parties require water for gardens, etc., * * * the orders of these Superintendents are necessary before it can be obtained.

3. In a letter to the Collector, Deputy-Collector says: "They" (*i.e.*, like a permanent establishment for th to do the needful whenever necessary

4. If such Superintendents real should have been mentioned before, given now.

No. 222. Proceedings of the Bo

Read the following letter from W. Government Farms, to J. Revenue, dated Sydapet,

I REGRET to report that my e water from the Long Tank for the in former years; indeed, I fear th last monsoon having been unusua to a late period in the season, I supply, and planted in December September sowings had been destr for irrigation by the water of the ear when the water-supply cease equal to the quantity of seed sow the resources of the tank, the su or the beginning of July, when pr that time, would have kept up the

SUBMITTED to Government, December 1872, No. 2,344.

No. 223. Proceedings of t

Read again Board's Proce

Read also the following letter Collector of Madras, t Revenue, dated 21st M

I HAVE the honour to ackno

(1.) That Government derive no rev the Madras tanks.
Deputy Collector states that the tank ayacut, etc.

statements there is no contradi Government, quite irrespective certain quantity of land irrigat

vember 1871, No. 906, the ing water) "have nothing n informed, employ coolies

nized permanent staff, they rs regarding them must be

ed 7th June 1873, No. 955.

ON, Esq., Superintendent, Secretary to the Board of o. 360:—

the past season in getting Farm is as disappointing as greater than usual, as the e tank having been full up the duration of the water- rea of land (on which the in the Adyar) with paddy, ad just begun to come into f grain will not, I fear, be been observed in husbanding sted up to the end of June, hich generally falls at about t the year.

oard's Proceedings dated 7th

nue, dated 23rd June 1873,

ebruary 1873, No. 148.

. ARBUTHNOTT, Officiating l., Secretary to the Board of :—

the Board's Proceedings, dated uary 1873, No. 148, in which I ed to explain two alleged con- ns noted marginally.

I submit that between these nds in Madras pay quit-rent to ply. Under each tank there is a ayacut;" but the ryots pay the

same, whether they irrigate their lands or not, or whether there is any supply of water or not. Madras land is not classed into wet and dry as in other places, nor have we any Nunjah or Punjah accounts. Quit-rent appears to have been fixed on each holding, not with reference to its being irrigated or unirrigated land, but with reference to its being a building site or not. Quit-rent is not a tax imposed by Government in lieu of any share of produce to which the Government was previously entitled, but rather a tax on each holding which was considered to be a portion of the Gramanattam or village site, and from this arises the fact that the best irrigated lands are by no means the most highly assessed.

Vide paragraphs 20 to 24 of the rules forming enclosures of Collector's letter to the Board, dated 11th January 1821.

3. The Superintendents referred to by me are not paid servants. In the case of the Mylapore, Nungambakum, and one or two other tanks, there are men who allege that they are appointed by the other Mirassidars, from time to time, to manage the distribution of water. These managers I called in my former letter Superintendents. All the information I can gather is given in the enclosed memorandum, but the exact truth is by no means easily ascertainable. The management seems to be a good deal hap-hazard. There is, however, no doubt that the Mirassidars have from time immemorial managed the distribution of water, and it is equally certain that no payment has ever been made to Government for the use of it. It was on a consideration of these points that in my former letter I recommended legislation on the subject.

(2.) That for many years past Superintendents appointed by the ryots, etc.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

(1.) *Mylapore Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 670 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 3,811 Rupees.
Managers. {Chokku Moodelly for the Southern Section. Veerasawmy Moodelly for the Northern.

There are two vettis and one peon, Adam Sahib. The latter is paid in grain at 4 measures per cawny during the harvest time. The managers are appointed by common consent. All the Mirassidars meet for this purpose when a fresh nomination has to be made.

(2.) *Egmore Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 20 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 157 Rupees.

There is no manager. Each Mirassidar employs his own servant for securing the water required for his land.

(3.) *Nungambakum Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 123 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 747 Rupees.

Managers. {1. Naranayar. 2. Venkat Row. 3. Venkata Subbayar. 4. Venkatachala Moodelly.

When the above managers are absent, the other Mirassidars look after the irrigation.

(4.) *Vas*
Area irrigated .....
Quit-rent .....
Managers. {1. M 2. A 3. A
There are vettis and taliyars employed by

(5.) *Pe*
Area irrigated .....
Quit-rent .....
Some say that Tolasinga Moodelly is man
is no manager, but each ryot manages for him

(6.) *Ch*
Area irrigated .....
Quit-rent .....
Not known. Nobody has come forward

(7.) *Por*
Area irrigated .....
Quit-rent .....
No managers. Each ryot manages for h

(8.) *A*
Area irrigated .....
Quit-rent .....
No manager. Each ryot manages for h

SUBMITTED to Government with
December 1872, No. 2,344.

2. Mr. Arbuthnott brings to
land irrigated by the Madras tanks i
so irrigated, and that men exist who
of water to some extent, and who
Mirassidars.

3. The Board do not agree w
facts show that Government will n
breaches if they assume direct cont

No. 224. Proceedings of the

Read the following letter from J. H
J. GROSE, Esq., Secreta
1873, No. 155:—

WITH reference to the order of
Works Department, a copy of whic

* Wrapper not numbered.

Board that the Government, when

Cawnies.
Rupees.

3 Cawnies.
4 Rupees.
f the lands; others that there

23 Cawnies.
78 Rupees.

85 Cawnies.
39 Rupees.

3 Cawnies.
13 Rupees.

D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Officiating Collector.

d's Proceedings, dated 7th

hat the quit-rent paid on
y reference to their being
uperintend the distribution
re placed in charge by the

t in his opinion that these
ibility for damage done by

ue, dated 4th July 1873,

Esq., Collector of Madars, to
f Revenue, dated 27th June

1,088, of 9th April last, Public
me by the Board, with their
am* of 23rd instant, I have
to bring to the notice of the
order, do not appear to have

had before them the Board's proposals for vesting the conservancy of the tanks in Madras in the Deputy-Collector submitted by them to Government in their

Board's Proceedings of 3rd February 187 No. 148.
From Collector to Board of 21st March 873, No. 69.

Proceedings, No. 2,344, of 7th December last. I therefore beg that the attention of Government may be requested to the above proposals and to the subsequent papers on the subject noted in the margin, with a view to an early settlement of the question.

2. I beg to enclose copy of a letter from the Deputy-Collector, No. 363, of 9th ultimo, soliciting early orders, as complaints in connection with the tanks are addressed to him.

Enclosure No. 1.

From R. RAGOONATH ROW, Deputy-Collector, to B. HORSBRUGH, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, dated 9th May 1873, No. 363.

I beg to state that I have not yet been furnished with definite instructions on the subject of the conservancy of the tanks in this district, which I submitted for orders as per margin. In

No. 264 of 3rd ultimo.

this year Mr. Arathoon has complained to me of the waste of water of the Long Tank, and many of the ryots of this district have brought to my notice that much damage has been done to them by the order of Chingleput authorities renting the catching of fish in the said tank.

2. Yesterday I received a letter from the Superintendent of the Government Farm at Sydapet, asking me "Who has charge of the sluices of the Long Tank".

3. Early orders on the subject are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

(True Copy.)
(Signed) J. HUNTER-BLAIR,
Collector.

Submitted to Government.

2. The order in the Public Works Department, to which the Collector refers, was not communicated to the Board.

3. Government have just referred a letter from Surgeon W. R. Cornish, F.R.C.S., on the subject of these tanks for report; but the Board doubt if much further information than is now before Government will be thus obtained.

No. 225. Order thereon, 24th July 1873, No. 777.

Miscellaneous.

Of the eight tanks, which lie within the Municipal limits, several are of but little importance as works of irrigation, but as they are undoubtedly of great public convenience, the Government are of opinion that they should be maintained in an efficient state, and that all reasonable economy should be exercised in the use and supply of water.

2. Orders have already been issued for these tanks being placed in a proper state of repair, and for measures being taken to secure their stability; and the Government now resolve to place them

Department Public Works, G. O., No. 1,088, dated 2th April 1873.

under the Deputy-Collector of
conservancy.

3. The employment
seems doubtful whether mere
which, by general admission,

4. The Board should
alleged rights to water, and for

make him responsible for their

5

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

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

Exd F. R. Bantleman.

No. 2,344.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 7th December 1872.

Read again Board's Proceedings dated 20th June 1872, No. 1,046, and 29th July 1872, No. 1437.

Read also the following letters:—

From the Honourable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Officiating Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 11th November 1872, No. 197.

WITH reference to paragraph 8 of the Board's Proceedings No. 1,437 of 29th July 1872, I have the honour to forward copy of a letter from the Deputy-Collector furnishing the information called for regarding the conservancy of the tanks in the Town of Madras.

2. There are eight tanks in the town irrigating an area of 1,497 cawnies, bearing a quit-rent of Rupees 7,367 per annum. For the conservancy of all these tanks the Deputy-Collector proposes an establishment of six Nirgantis at Rupees 7 each per mensem, costing annually Rupees 504, or 6¾ per cent. of the revenue from the area irrigated. I think that the conservancy might be undertaken with this establishment as an experiment for one year, at the end of which time, if the establishment should prove either too large or the contrary, the necessary changes might be made.

3. In the event of the Government undertaking the management of these tanks, I think some legal provision will be necessary to enable the Collector to decide water-disputes (*e.g.*, See Punjab Canal Act XXX. of 1871, Part VII). It [illegible] possible that should a breach occur when the tanks are under C[illegible]

	RS
* 1863-64	1,290
1870-71	270

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Works, but the cost of this repair is not now leviable from the ryots as it has not been customary† to do so. I think that, while the Government would have cur so much expenditure on account of these tanks, it would only be reason- to provide in the law for the levy of the cost proportionately from each land- er drawing water from the tanks.

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R. RAGOONATHA ROW, Deputy-Collector, to the Acting Collector of Madras, dated 17th October 1872, No. 865.

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	Divisions.	*Villages.*	*Tanks.*	C. G. SQ. FT.	RS. A. P.
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5	Do.	Perambore	Perambore Tank	292 12 169½	914 6 6
6	Egmore	Chetput	Chetput Tank	23 7 259	78 7 4
7	Porasawakum	Porasawakum	Porasawakum Tank ...	85 0 0	439 0 0
8	Do.	Kilpaukum	Kilpaukum Tank	2 11 968	12 15 10
			Total ...	1,497 14 905½	7,367 8 3

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3. The Nungumbakum tank is the only other tank in Madras which lies both in the Madras and Sydapet Taluqs.

4. These two excepted, the remaining six tanks are entirely in the Madras Taluq.

5. The necessity for their conservancy and for preventing the great waste of water, which annually occurs in the absence of all control, being fully known to you and the Board, I submit that an establishment, as marginally noted, will be essential to regulate the water-supply, as also to prevent its waste and to see that the tank-bunds are kept free from injury, and that the trees planted on them are not improperly cut down.

1 Nirganti for the Egmore, Porasawakum, Chetput, and Kilpaukum Tanks
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At 7 Rupees each, the total monthly cost is Rupees 42, and a year, Rupees 504.

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7. Next comes the question as to how this cost could be met. It would appear that previous to the year 1818, when the village of Mylapore was rented to certain private parties, the Merassidars of the village had in their enjoyment all the Porumboke lands, together with the fruit and other trees on the bank of their tank. Subsequently, however, these sources of revenue are reported to have been resumed by Government. These are the statements of the villagers, and they stand unsupported by any recorded testimony either in their possession or in the records of this Office.

8. The records in the Revenue Board's Office may show the extent and revenue of the Manyams, etc., resumed in or about the year 1818.

9. The average annual outturn from the rental of palmyra and other trees and from the sale of fallen timber on the banks of the eight tanks in Madras amounts to Rupees 150, and this sum is now credited to "Land Revenue, Miscellaneous." A water-rate may be collected for the water supplied to house and garden-holders who have not hitherto used any such water, on their applications, for the purposes of fancy gardens and home-consumption. It may be calculated upon the time the water may flow through a canal of a particular dimension. The demand for water on account of irrigated land in each tank is gauged by the extent of Ayacut under it, but making due allowances for incorrectness, which may result from absence of any sort of village accounts in this taluq already brought to notice, 20 per cent. may be added to the present Ayacut. The extent in Madras irrigated by tank-water may therefore be set down at 1,800 cawnies.

10. The last question is what quantity of water will remain when the irrigated land has been supplied. This I am unable to tell in the absence of accounts, nor am I able to say whether or not the value of the Inams already resumed, the value of the trees and fruits rented every year, and the amount of water-rate that may be collected, may be equal to or greater than the sum required for the conservancy. The establishment proposed is absolutely necessary if the conservancy of the water in these tanks be ordered, and that such a conservancy is needed has already been acknowledged by the Board of Revenue.

11. In this year also I have received various complaints of the waste of water in the Mylapore and other tanks.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Officiating Collector of Madras.

From R. W. BARLOW, Esq., Acting Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 14th November 1872, No. 463:—

With reference to the concluding paragraph of the Proceedings of the Board No. 1,437, dated the 29th July last, I have the honour to report that there is only one tank partly inside and partly outside the Municipal limits, and this is the Mylapore Tank, though, at its southern end where the calingulah is situated, it is called the Mambalum Tank. It irrigates no land in this district, except about 20 acres included in the Government Farm.

2. With reference to the flow of water over the calingulah alluded to at paragraph 4 in November 1871, considered by the Superintendent of Government Farms a great waste of water, I have the honour to observe that it did not escape my attention, but Major Hunter, then in charge of the Presidency Division, reported, when I brought the subject to his notice, that stopping the free flow [illegible] of the Madras District to this tank.

4. The necessary instructions were issued for the protection of the calingulah of Mylapore Tank, on receipt of the Board's Proceedings under reply, both to the taluq officials and the Public Works Department.

These papers will be submitted for the orders of Government.

2. It scarcely requires argument to show that conservancy is required for the protection of tanks situated near a populous town.

3. There are eight tanks irrigating 1,498 cawnies of land, assessed at Rupees 7,368, in the Town of Madras. They have been repaired from time to time by the Public Works Department, but no establishment has been entertained to see that the banks are kept in proper order, or that there is no waste in the distribution of water.

4. In accordance with the recommendation of the Collector the Board resolve to advise Government to entertain the establishment specified in paragraph 5 of the Deputy-Collector's letter, namely, six Watchmen at Rupees 7 each. The cost per annum will be Rupees 504.

5. Mr. Arbuthnott thinks that by assuming the management of the tanks in this marked way Government will lay themselves open to an action for damages if a breach ever occurs, but their liability in this respect will not be altered since they even now repair the tanks and derive a revenue from them.

6. He also thinks that a special law is needed to give the Collector power to determine water-disputes, but the power he derives from the fact that the water belongs to Government will, in the Board's opinion, be sufficient.

7. Mr. Arbuthnott will be good enough to frame rules for charging water-rate when water is supplied for gardens, etc.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J Grote

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copies of Board's Proceedings Nos. 1,046 and 1,437 of 1872
and copies of correspondence.

,, the Collector of Madras.
,, the Collector of Chingleput.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Rec'd 1872. Dep
Board of Revenue
MADRAS.
No 39

Proceedings, 7th December 1872, No

Deputy Collr

Received 14 "

DECEMBER.
No. 2,344.

Tanks in Town of Madras.—Letter from Collector regarding distribution and control of water in—submitted to Government with recommendation that an establishment of Watchmen on Rupees 7 each should be sanctioned for the purpose.

No. 148.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd February 1873.

Read the following letter from the Honourable D. ARBUTHNOTT, Officiating Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 13th December 1872, No. 218 :—

In acknowledging receipt of the Board's Proceedings, dated 7th December 1872, No. 2,344, I have the honour to observe, that Government derive no revenue from the Madras tanks, and that the ryots have exercised the immemorial right to distribute the water as they please, and that although Government have on a few occasions caused slight repairs to be executed to the bunds of these tanks, they have never exercised a single proprietory right as regards the water.

2. For many years past Superintendents appointed by the ryots have regulated the distribution of water, and when parties require water for gardens, etc., not usually cultivated by irrigation, the orders of these Superintendents are necessary before it can be obtained. It was from a consideration of these facts that I recommended legislation on the subject, for it is clearly useless to frame rules for the distribution of water with which we have no right or at best a very doubtful right to interfere.

In this letter the Collector contradicts two statements made in the preceding correspondence without even alluding to them. He is requested to explain exactly what he means.

2. The statements are as follow :—

(1). That Government derive no revenue from the Madras Tanks.

In the letter recorded in Board's Proceedings, 7th December 1872, No. 2,344, the Deputy Collector states that the tanks have an "Ayacut" of 1,498 cawnies with a Beriz of Rupees 7,368.

(2). That for many years past Superintendents appointed by the ryots have regulated the distribution of water and when other parties require water for gardens, etc., * * * the orders of these Superintendents are necessary before it can be obtained.

3. In a letter to the Collector, dated the 29th November 1871, No. 906, the Deputy Collector says: "They" (*i. e.*, the parties requiring water) "have nothing like a permanent establishment for the purpose but, I am informed, employ coolies to do the needful whenever necessary."

4. If such Superintendents really exist as an organized permanent staff they should have been mentioned before, and full particulars regarding them must be given now.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J Grote

Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, the Officiating Collector of Madras.

Exd. G. A. Turton,

Revenue 1873. Pl. 2.

Board of Revenue
MADRAS.

R. 375

PROCEEDINGS, 3RD FEBRUARY 1873, No.

Dep. 7 Feb/73

Encl.

Received 8 Feby

FEBRUARY.
No. 148.

Tanks—in town of Madras.—Collector requested to explain certain statements made by him regarding—

24 July 73 R 777

No. 955.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 7th June 1873.

Read the following letter from W. R ROBERTSON, Esq., Superintendent, Government Farms, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 20th May 1873, No. 360:—

I REGRET to report that my experience during the past season in getting water from the Long Tank for the use of the Model Farm is as disappointing as former years; indeed, I fear that the loss will be greater than usual, as the monsoon having been unusually heavy, and the tank having been full up late period in the season, I put more faith in the duration of the water-ply, and planted in December a considerable area of land (on which the ember sowings had been destroyed by the floods in the Adyar) with paddy, rrigation by the water of the tank. The crop had just begun to come into when the water-supply ceased, and the yield of grain will not, I fear, be al to the quantity of seed sown. Had any care been observed in husbanding resources of the tank, the supply would have lasted up to the end of June, ie beginning of July, when probably the rain, which generally falls at about time, would have kept up the supply throughout the year.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to Board's Proceedings dated 7th mber 1872, No. 2,344.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

H Goodrich
Acting Sub-Secretary.

The Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
Copy to the Superintendent of Government Farms.
,, to the Collector of Madras.
,, to the Collector of Chingleput.

Hrd. F. R. Bantleman.

1873.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 7TH JUNE 1873, No. 955.

Encl.

Received

JUNE.

No. 955.

Model Farm—at Sydapet in Chingleput District.—Letter from Superintendent, Government Farms, reporting on failure of supply of from Long Tank, submitted to Gov.

No. 1,083.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 3rd June 1873.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 3rd February 1873, No. 148.

Read also the following letter from the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Officiating Collector of Madras, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st March 1873, No. 69 :—

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Board's Proceedings, dated 3rd February 1873, No. 148, in which I am ordered to explain two alleged contradictions noted marginally.

(1.) That Government derive no revenue from the Madras tanks.
Deputy Collector states that the tanks have an ayacut, etc.

2. I submit that between these statements there is no contradiction. All the lands in Madras pay quit-rent to Government, quite irrespective of any water-supply. Under each tank there is a certain quantity of land irrigated, which is the "ayacut;" but the ryots pay the same, whether they irrigate their lands or not, or whether there is any supply of water or not. Madras land is not classed into wet and dry as in other places, nor have we any Nunjah or Punjah accounts. Quit-rent appears to have been fixed on each holding, not with reference to its being irrigated or unirrigated land, but with reference to its being a building site or not. Quit-rent is not a tax imposed by Government in lieu of any share of produce to which the Government was previously entitled, but rather a tax on each holding which was considered to be a portion of the Gramanattam or village site, and from this arises the fact that the best irrigated lands are by no means the most highly assessed.

Vide paragraphs 20 to 24 of the rules forming enclosures of Collector's letter to the Board, dated 11th January 1821.

3. The Superintendents referred to by me are not paid servants. In the case of the Mylapore, Nungambakum, and one or two other tanks, there are men who allege that they are appointed by the other Mirassidars, from time to time, to manage the distribution of water. These managers I called in my former letter Superintendents. All the information I can gather is given in the enclosed memorandum, but the exact truth is by no means easily ascertainable. The management seems to be a good deal hap-hazard. There is, however, no doubt that the Mirassidars have from time immemorial managed the distribution of water, and it is equally certain that no payment has ever been made to Government for the use of it. It was on a consideration of these points that in my former letter I recommended legislation on the subject.

(2.) That for many years past Superintendents appointed by the ryots, etc.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

(1.) *Mylapore Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 670 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 3,811 Rupees.
Managers. {Chokku Moodelly for the Southern Section. Veerasawmy Moodelly for the Northern.

There are two vettis and one peon, Adam Sahib. The latter is paid in grain at 4 measures per cawny during the harvest time. The managers are appointed by common consent. All the Mirassidars meet for this purpose when a fresh nomination has to be made.

(2.) *Egmore Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 20 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 157 Rupees.

There is no manager. Each Mirassidar employs his own servant for securing the water required for his land.

(3.) *Nungambakum Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 123 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 747 Rupees.
Managers. {1. Naranayar. 2. Venkat Row. 3. Venkata Subbayar. 4. Vencatachala Moodelly.

When the above managers are absent, the other Mirassidars look after the irrigation.

(4.) *Vasarpadi Tank.*

Area irrigated .....
Quit-rent .....
Managers. {1. Mariappa M 2. Arconachal 3. Ariyappa M

There are vettis and taliyars employed by the ryots.

(5.) *Perambore T.*

Area irrigated ..... 203 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 914 Rupees.

Some say that Tolasinga Moodelly is managing the irrigation of the lands ; others that there is no manager, but each ryot manages for himself.

(6.) *Chetput Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 23 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 78 Rupees.

Not known. Nobody has come forward to give information.

(7.) *Porasawakum Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 85 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 439 Rupees.

No managers. Each ryot manages for himself.

(8.) *Kilpak Tank.*

Area irrigated ..... 3 Cawnies.
Quit-rent ..... 13 Rupees.

No manager. Each ryot manages for himself.

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
Officiating Collector.

1873.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 23RD JUNE 1873, No. 1,083.

Dep. 30 June 73
Enc

Received 3 July 73

JUNE.
No. 1,083.

Tanks—in town of Madras.—Letter from Collector furnishing certain information regarding—submitted to Government.

24 July 73 Re 777

Submitted to Government with reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 7th December 1872, No. 2,344.

2. Mr. Arbuthnott brings to notice the facts that the quit-rent paid on land irrigated by the Madras tanks is not fixed with any reference to their being so irrigated, and that men exist who may be said to superintend the distribution of water to some extent, and who assert that they are placed in charge by the Mirassidars.

3. The Board do not agree with Mr. Arbuthnott in his opinion that these facts show that Government will incur a new responsibility for damage done by breaches if they assume direct control over the tanks.

(True Copies and Extract.)

J. Grose
Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, the Collector of Madras.

No. 1,046.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 20th June 1872.

Read the following letter from J. B. PENNINGTON, Esq., Acting Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 29th May 1872, No. 93:—

I have the honour to submit, for the orders of the Board, the Deputy-Collector's letters (with enclosures) of the 7th February 1871, No. 93, 27th November 1871, No. 898, and 29th November 1871, No. 906, with reference to the distribution and conservancy of water in the tanks in the town of Madras.

2. It would appear that as the revenue is in no way affected, the Revenue authorities have nothing to do with the matter; and it is evident there has never been any attempt made to regulate the distribution of water from these tanks. Moreover, the Board, in their Proceedings, dated 20th March 1868, No. 1,996, have observed that the payment of a Nirgunti Cess being always optional, if the parties interested will not consent to pay that cess, they must be content to suffer the inconveniences stated to be felt from the want of an establishment to distribute the water.

3. I venture to point out, however, that the proper distribution and conservancy of water is a sanitary as well as a revenue question (see paragraph 4 of Mr. Fane's letter, embodied in Board's Proceedings, No. 4,726, dated 10th July 1866,) and the people who chiefly profit by the water and would have to pay a cess, are not those who are chiefly injured by its irregular distribution. It is desirable also that the allotment of water to applicants should be under the control of some public officer, and should not be at the option of a number of irresponsible Mirassidars, who, though they have no doubt a right to the use of such water as they may require for cultivation, can certainly have no right to waste or refuse to others what they do not require.

4. Considering their prior claims, it would perhaps be advisable to entrust the Deputy-Collector with power to distribute the water, though in many respects its conservancy as a sanitary measure would appear to appertain more properly to the Municipality; and if the Board are still unwilling to sanction the necessary establishment, the Municipality might be asked to undertake the charge, a small fee being levied on applications for water such as Mr. Lodwick's.

Enclosure II. of Deputy-Collector's letter, No. 93, dated 7th February 1871.

Enclosure No. 1.—Correspondence.

Before addressing Government on this subject the Board resolve to inquire how the distribution of water from the long tank and other tanks in Madras was arranged and how waste of water was prevented when the town was under the control of the Collector at Sydapett.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Madras.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

1872.
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 20TH JUNE 1872, No. 1,046.

Encl.

Received

JUNE.

No. 1,046.

Tanks in town of Madras.—With reference to proposed entertainment of an establishment for distribution and conservancy of water in —. Collector requested to state how distribution of water was arranged, and how waste was prevented when the town was under the control of the Collector at Sydapet.

13 10 80 13

No. 1,437.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 29th July 1872.

Read the following letter from R. RAGOONATHA ROW, Deputy Collector, to the Acting Collector of Madras, dated 4th July 1872, No. 558 :—

WITH reference to your docket, No. 432 of the 27th ultimo, communicating Board's Proceedings, No. 1,046, dated 20th idem, on the subject of distribution of water from the tanks in Madras, I have the honour to inform you that when the town was under the control of the Collector at Sydapet the conservancy of the tanks in the taluq of Madras was not attended to by the officers of the Revenue or the Public Works Departments. It was then in the same unsatisfactory state as it is now, or at the time I wrote my letter of the 29th November 1871, No. 906. The distribution of water, and the prevention of its waste, have always been left to the ryots of the several villages, who have been doing the work in a most unsatisfactory manner.

—

No. 136.

Submitted to the Board of Revenue with reference to their Proceedings quoted by the Deputy Collector.

MADRAS,
8th July 1872.

(Signed) J. B. PENNINGTON,
Acting Collector.

IT is evident that some arrangement must be made for distributing water from tanks within the jurisdiction of the Collector of Madras.

2. The water-supply is at present under no control whatever. There seem to be irrigated lands which have a right to the water, and the owners take it how or when they please. Some persons have land in the beds of the tanks and let off water by opening the calingulahs or otherwise without hindrance. Others having no right to the water, but being in want of water for their own convenience, take it wastefully from channels constructed at their own will and pleasure.

3. In 1866 Mr. Fane reported that the calingulah of the Mylapur tank had been opened by night, that much water had been lost, and that the grounds around a gentleman's house had been inundated for several days.

4. In November 1871 the Superintendent of the Government Farm noticed great waste of water from the Mambolam tank. It was flowing away in a broad and deep stream and it was no one's business to stop the escape.

5. In January a gentleman reported a great waste of water in channels leading from the Mylapur tank.

6. Mr. Pennington makes two proposals, viz., that the tanks should be given up to the Municipality, or that they should be placed under the Deputy Collector, maintaining a small establishment from fees levied on applications for water.

7. The Board think it desirable to keep under the Deputy Collector such of the tanks (the Collector does not mention how many there are) as irrigate land. The chief of them, viz., the Mylapur tank, is partly inside and partly outside the Municipal limits and the calingulah is in the Sydapet Taluq. A sufficient establishment must be maintained to enable the Deputy Collector to exercise an efficient control, and it must be ascertained how the cost can be repaid.

8. The Collector of Madras will therefore make a careful inquiry as to what establishment will be required, what demand for water there is on account of irrigated land, what quantity of water will remain when the irrigated land has been supplied, and what sum would be realized by levying a reasonable fee on all applications for such surplus water.

9. The Collector of Chingleput will report how many acres of land in his district are irrigated from these tanks, and whether their sources of supply, especially in the case of the Mylapur tank, can be improved. Pending the issuing of final orders on the subject he will arrange to protect the calingulah of the Mylapur tank.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

To the Acting Collector of Madras.
,, the Collector of Chingleput.

Exd. J. Tulloch.

1872.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 29TH JULY 1872, No. 1,437.

Encl.

Received 5

JULY.
No. 1,437.

Tanks—in Madras District.—Collector requested to report as to establishment that will be required by Deputy Collector for conservancy of water in such of—as irrigate land, demand for water on account of irrigated land etc. Collector of Chingleput requested to report how many acres of land in his district are irrigated from these tanks and whether their sources of supply, especially in the case of Mylapur tank, can be improved.

MISCELLANEOUS No. REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No 224

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated 4 14 July 1873: Inwd 19 —

Read the following

No 155.

From

J. Hunter Blair Esqre,
Collector of Madras.

To

J. Grose Esqre,
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to the order of Government No 1088 of 9th April last, Public Works Department, a copy of which was furnished to me by the Board with their Memo of 23rd ult instant, I have the honor to bring to the notice of the Board that the Government when passing the said order do not appear to have had before them the Board's proposals for vesting the conservancy of the Tanks in Madras in the Deputy Collector, submitted by them to Government in their Proceedings No 2344 of 7th December last. I therefore beg that the attention of

Not yet numbered.

of Government may be requested to the above proposals; and to the subsequent papers on the subject noted in margin with a view to an early settlement of the question.

Board's Proceedings of 3rd February 1873, No. 148.
From Collector to Board of 21st March 1873, No. 67.

2. I beg to enclose copy of a letter from the Deputy Collector No. 363 of 9th ultimo, soliciting early orders as complaints in connection with the tanks are addressed to him.

Madras Collector's Office
24th June 1873.

I have &c
(sd) J. Hunter Blair
Collector of Madras

No. 363.

From,

The Deputy Collector of Madras.

To,

The Acting Collector of Madras.

Sir,

I beg to state that I have not yet been furnished with definite instructions on the subject of the conservancy of the tanks in this district, which I submitted for orders as per margin. In this year Mr. Arthoon has complained to me of the waste of water of the Long Tank and many of the ryots of this district have brought to my notice that much damage has been done to them by the orders of Chingleput authorities renting the catching of fish in the said tank.

†No. 264 of 3rd Ultimo.

2. Yesterday I received a letter from the Superintendent of the Government Farm at Saidapet asking me "who has charge of the sluices in the Long Tank".

3. Early orders on the subject are therefore respectfully solicited.

Deputy Collector's Office
Madras 9th May 1873.

I have &c
(sd) R. Rajoonath Rau
Deputy Collector

(True Copy)
(sd) J. Hunter Blair
Collector of Madras.

Submitted to Government.

The order in the Public Works Department to which the Collector refers was not communicated to the Board.

Government have just referred a letter from Surgeon W. R. Cornish F.R.C.S. on the subject of these tanks for report, but the Board doubt if much further information than is now before Government will be obtained

True Copies Enclosed

J Gole
Secretary

for the Actg. Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

E Thompson
Coll. & Magte. Chingleput

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
OF REVENUE.

Dated 4 Sept 1873.

Despatched —— "

Received —— "

SUBJECT.

Petn. Collr. of Chingleput praying for enquiry into certain charges preferred against Petnr. by certain persons

Ga 24 Sept 73 777

4/1/73

My dear Carmichael,

I cant do anything with this letter (Collector Madras 13 Dec 72, 218) without the enclosures to the former letter (BD Pro 18 Dec 72, 2344) which are in circulation in your office; but as the letter ought to be taken into consideration before orders are passed I send it for perusal

B

17

No 29 Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the January 1873.

Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Submitting letters from Collrs regarding distribution and conservancy of water in Tanks in Town of Madras.

H. E. 4 Decr 1872. No 234

+

	Ayacut			Bering		
	C.	G.	Sq. ft.	Ch.	ch.	lks
Egmore	19.	6	1648	156	12	9
Chetpet	23	7	259	78.	7.	4
Veilpauk	2	11	968.	12.	15.	10

I think it would be a pity to give up the use of the Tanks. They are a great convenience in a populous town & the Cranken water

These of the eight Tanks referred to in the Board's Proceedings are almost useless as irrigation works. The Board will place themselves in communication with the Municipal Commissioner and Sanitary Commissioner and report if these Tanks cannot be abandoned and

a

1st Sept.

Please let this does not make any difference in note from draft yesterday? If so - we must get the draft back.

16

their beds sold for building allotments subject to quit rent.

2. Sanction is granted for the employment of 5 watchmen at 7 Rs each per mensem for the other tanks named in the margin. Parsawakam Tank can be included in the charge of the Peramboor watchman

build fire the necessary est: and desire the Pt to arrange for allowing light to water being ascertained & they retained Executed in the case & Publicly

2 for Mylapore Tank
1 for Nungumbaukam &c
1 for Vepperpady — do —
1 for Peramboor — do —

of the water. The water tax is very great. & Ryots if more Reservoirs, like be able to rent it

Ga 24 July/73
Rs 774

R.C. 18 July/73 Revisely
C. 8 Jany/73. R 13 Jany/73

Revenue Department.

No. 777

Proceedings of the Madras Government
of 24 July 73.

Read the following Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue

Regarding distribution
and conservancy of water in tanks
in town of Madras.

} No. 7 7th Dec/72 No. 2344 4th July/73
No. 955, 23rd June/73 No. 1083, 4th July/73

Of the eight tanks which
lie within the Municipal limits
several are of but little importance
as works of irrigation; but as they
are undoubtedly of great public
convenience, the Government are
of opinion that they should
be maintained in an efficient
state and all reasonable economy
be exercised in the use and
supply of water.

D. P. W. G. 1088 dated 9th April/73

2 Orders have already
been issued for these tanks
being placed in a proper state
of repair and for measures
being taken to secure their
stability

stability; and the Government now resolve to place them under the Deputy Collector of Madras and to make him responsible for their conservancy.

3. The employment of the necessary establishment is sanctioned, but it seems doubtful whether mere investigations will be able to prevent the waste of water which all agree is now very great.

4. The Board should arrange for a careful inquiry being made into all alleged rights to water and for the registry of those that appear sound.

Lal

To P. Secy
PW Dept
Accts Genl
~~Fort~~ ~~Pub~~ Dept

Desp 5/8.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government Records.

Revenue Department.

G. O. (Printed).

Dated 24-7- 1873

No. 777.