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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev DEPARTMENT

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B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	11-8-1873	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1,334.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 19th July 1873.

Read the following letter from A. WEDDERBURN, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th June 1873, No. 113:—

I HAVE the honour to submit my annual Report on Imperial and Provincial Public works for 1872-73.

2. OUTLAY FROM THE FUNDS.—The expenditure incurred is shown in the subjoined abstract, viz:—

Items.	Allotment for 1872-73.	Expenditure in 1872-73.	Expenditure in 1871-72.	Difference between the expenditure of 1871-72 and 72-73.
New Works.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Irrigation {By P. W. Department ...	7,604	7,628	3,033	+ 4,595
I. Irrigation {By Revenue Department	224	223	87	+ 136
II. Buildings {By P. W. Department ...	47,156	38,485	31,254	+ 7,231
II. Buildings {By Revenue Department	47	47	...	+ 47
II. Buildings {By Police Department ...	146	146	235	— 89
Total...	55,177	46,529	34,609	+11,920
Repairs.				
I. Irrigation {By P. W. Department ...	74,905	70,681	56,229	+14,452
I. Irrigation {By Revenue Department	591	591	...	+ 591
II. Buildings {By P. W. Department ...	3,398	3,304	2,562	+ 742
II. Buildings {By Revenue Department	50	50	710	— 660
II. Buildings {By Police Department ...	400	400	207	+ 193
Total...	79,344	75,026	59,708	+15,318
III. Tools and Stores, etc., ...	901	901	223	+ 678
Grand Total...	1,35,422	1,22,456	94,540	27,916

The expenditure was met from the Imperial and Provincial Funds in the proportions shown below:—

	Imperial.	Provincial.
	RS.	RS.
1. Irrigation New Works	7,851	...
2. Do. Repairs...	71,272	...
3. Buildings New Works	1,232	37,446
4. Do. Repairs...	372	3,382
5. Tools and Stores	546	355
	81,273	41,183
	1,22,456	

The total expenditure exceeded the previous year's by Rupees 27,916, though it was still Rupees 12,966 below the aggregate sanctioned allotments.

3. AGRICULTURAL NEW WORKS.—The chief works executed during the year under New Works Agricultural are the following:—

	Rs.
1. Restoring the Nellumbur Tank andsclosing breaches, etc.	4,010
2. Minor Items	2,570
3. Demarcating land required along Calingaroyen Channel...	248
4. Surveying a proposed new Branch from Calingaroyen main Channel	258
5. Experimental cultivation	210
6. Fixing water Guages and water Registering establishment	332
Total...	7,628

4. The Nellumbur Tank breached in 1871, causing damage to the Railway; with reference to the small revenue derived by irrigation under the tank, it was once thought advisable to abandon the work, and give the tank-bed for cultivation; but as the Railway bridges were not designed for passage of water as diverted by the breach, and the ryots having wished for the restoration of the tank which benefitted their garden wells by percolation, an estimate of Rupees 4,300 was sanctioned in G. O., No. 946 of 11th April 1872, Public Works Department, for restoring this work, and Rupees 735 were appropriated from grants at the disposal of the District Engineer, for closing breaches and strengthening banks. Of the total cost of Rupees 5,035, Rupees 1,025 were met by ryots' contribution, and the balance Rupees 4,010 by Government.

5. Item 3 is a charge necessitated by the defective state of the demarcation of channel banks in this district, already brought to notice by me—*Vide* Revenue Board's Proceedings, No. 759 of 10th May 1872. Rupees 243 were spent during the previous year on this work which, and the outlay incurred this year, aggregate Rupees 491, on a single irrigation channel.

6. With the expenditure* shown against Item 4, about eight miles of proposed new branch from the Calingaroyen Channel is reported to have been surveyed, levelled, etc., this project is probably one ordered in G. O., No. 3,712 of 27th November 1868.

	Rs.
* In 1871-72	29
In 1872-73	258
	289

7. AGRICULTURAL REPAIRS.—The repair of Irrigation works has cost Rupees 71,272, or Rupees 15,043 more than during the previous year. More than half of the total outlay was incurred on the following works, the remainder in maintaining irrigation works—

	Expenditure.	Revenue of Fasli 1281.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Repairing Sooloor Anicut	2,776	4,387
2. Improving Periacolum Tank on estimate of Rupees 8,770	1,699	4,920
3. Repairing Samalapuram anicut and Calvay...	1,714	1,858
4. Improving Comarasawmy Tank and Calingula	3,150	492
5. RepairingCoorchy Tank, Anicut, and Channel	2,920	1,453
6. Repairs and improvements to Singanalloor Tank	2,833	3,530
7. Annual Repairs to Thadapully Channel ...	8,593	1,04,415
8. Do. Arkencottah Channel including repairs to aqueducts	4,468	26,927
9. Do. Calingaroyen Channel	7,630	88,413
10. Do. Caniempolliem Channel	3,079	458
	38,862	2,36,853

The first five works were completed, the sixth is in progress. The next four items are of an annually recurring character.

8. IRRIGATION WORKS, INSPECTED.—I have inspected several tanks and irrigation channels. The Caniempolliem anicut seems never to get properly repaired, and was out of order though not positively breached, when I inspected it in January, the channel was in fair order, and at last planks had been put into the sand sluice instead of its being blocked up with branches of trees and rubbish. I noticed this defect in one of the fine channels off* the Ambravutty near Dharapuram, the sand sluice without panks and blocked with branches, while the channel water was pouring over a breach in the channel bank close by. The Tahsildar said he had written on the subject to the Overseer, there being no sand sluice in the Calingula, the bed of the river above it was silted up nearly to the crest of the anicut by a spit of sand.

* Colinjeevady Channel.

9. IRRIGATION WORKS. INJURY TO,—Much injury has been gradually caused to the banks of channels and tanks by the insidious encroachments of ryots cutting into banks, and the Revenue Survey have demarcated according (it is said) to old marks. This has been separately reported on, under date, the 18th April 1873—*Vide* Revenue Board's Proceedings, quoted in paragraph 5. For a few yards of extra soil within his demarcation stone, the ryot does not care whether he endangers an embankment. The old pymash or survey was by no means an exact measurement of putta lands, so the encroachments may possibly be supported by it, and the Revenue Survey, on being requested by the D. P. W., to amend the demarcation, replied that it was not their province. Steps are being taken to rectify this unsatisfactory state of things. I regret to notice an unsatisfactory work in connection with the Arkencottah Channel. This is crossed by a mountain stream which comes down with much rapidity. Formerly (and still) this water is allowed to flow at right angles into the curved channel, a side breach being prevented by a strong revetment. To obviate this arrangement, which causes silting in the channel, an acqueduct to carry the channel in a straight line over the stream was constructed, and had been twice breached before my inspection of it.

On my inspection of the work after its second restoration, 1st February last, the cause of the breaches was evident; aqueduct walls six feet in height and with a base of less than three, were apparently expected to stand the pressure of five or six feet of water, and no proper escape had been made for the surplus water. A few days afterwards, 6th February 1873, it was breached again, and I believe has

since been repaired, but unless the jungle stream is turned off completely, and an escape made to prevent an over-supply, the breach will be re-current.

10. Buildings, new.—Under the head of New Buildings, the following works were executed :—

												Rs.
1. Improving the Collector's Cutcherry at Coimbatore... ...												5,004
2. Taluq Cutcherry and Sub-jail at Errode												9,505
3.	Do.	do.	Oodumulpetta									6,847
4.	Do.	do.	Dharapuram...									5,559
5.	Do.	do.	Pollachy									449
6. Taluq Cutcherry, Collegal...												1,746
7. Sub-jail and Out-houses at Palladum												433
8. Additions and alterations to the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry at Avenashy...												298
9. Post Office, Caroor												432
10. Range Office, Ramapuram, Collegal...												1,107
11. Police Buildings...												2,328
12. Other Minor Works												4,970
											Total...	38,678

Except the Taluq Cutcherry at Pollachy and Sub-jails at Palladum and at Oodumulpetta, the revenue buildings have not been completed and handed over to this department. The Post Office at Caroor has been partly occupied; the out-buildings have yet to be built; Rupees 8,671, out of the allotments for the new buildings, seem to have been allowed to lapse.

11. The outlay under "Repairs of buildings" aggregating Rupees 3,754 was incurred in executing annual Repairs to Revenue, Judicial, Public Works, and Police, etc., buildings.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. In 1871-72 the expenditure was Rupees 94,540; during the year 1872-73 Rupees 1,22,456 were spent of an allotment of Rupees 1,35,422.

3. Rupees 79,123 were spent on Irrigation works. The most important new work was the restoration of the Nellumbur Tank (Rupees 4,010) the ryots contributing Rupees 1,025. The repairs, comprised amongst others ten anicut channel and tank works, on which Rupees 2,36,853 revenue depends, at a cost of Rupees 38,862.

	Rs.
New works	7,851
Repairs	71,272
	79,123

4. The remarks of the Collector in paragraph 8 deserve the attention of the local officers as also his observations in paragraph 9 on the Arkencottah Channel.

5. Of Rupees 42,432* spent on buildings, Rupees 1,604 were contributed from Imperial, and Rupees 40,828 from Provincial Funds. The chief expenditure was on Taluq offices (Rupees 24,837); the Collector's office was improved at a cost of Rupees 5,004.

	Rs.
* New works...	38,678
Repairs	3,754
	42,432

79/3

6. The Board observe with regret that Rupees 8,671 of the allotment was allowed to lapse.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J Grose
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department.

Copy to the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
,, to the Collector of Coimbatore.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Revd 1873 dept
No 2330

1873.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 19TH JULY 1873, No. 1,334.

Dept 1 Aug 1873.

Encl.

Received 4 August 73

JULY.

No. 1,334.

Public Works—Imperial and Provinci
—in Coimbatore District.—Collector's repo
on—for 1872-73, submitted to Governmen
with remarks.

No 979
11 Aug 73