M.R.O. 1—20,002—13-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 46.

(2) Date of repair 17-4-67.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1533.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	10-12-1874.	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 121. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th December 1874, No. 3,532 :—

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chittoor, 27th November 1874, No. 602 :—

I HAVE the honor to submit my detailed report on the damages caused to Public Works, etc., in this district by the recent heavy floods in the Palar and other rivers.

2. Very heavy rain fell all over the district on the night of the 23rd and on the 24th, and extraordinary floods came down the Palar, the Poiney, the Cheyar, and other rivers on the 25th and 26th October last. In the Palar the flood commenced during the night of the 24th. The floods were of unprecedented magnitude: at the Palar Anicut, the water rose nine inches above the previously recorded maximums; and would doubtless have been still higher if the anicut had not given way; while at the Cheyar, the water was no less than three feet above the highest level previously recorded.

3. I was at the time of the floods in the Palmanair Taluq, and was for some days completely cut off from all communication with Chittoor and the southern portions of the district; as soon as letters reached me, informing me of the disasters which had occurred, I lost no time in hastening to the south of the district, where I found that intimation of the damages to the various Public Works had been already communicated by telegraph to Government by the local officers. I therefore at once proceeded to visit and inspect each of the important works seriously affected by the floods, in view to my submitting a full and detailed report for the information of Government. I deeply regret to have to inform the Government that the damages sustained by the Public Works of all kinds by the late flood are of the most serious kind, and which will entail a very heavy outlay to repair.

4. The most important Public Works, and which were most seriously injured by the effects of the floods, are as follows:—

I. The bridge over the Palar near Vellore; 16 arches have fallen, and two more are in a precarious condition.

II. The anicut across the Palar near Arcot. About 1,200 feet of the body of this work have been entirely destroyed.

III. The Poiney Anicut across the Poiney or Trivellam River; nearly the whole of the body has been carried away, and the foundations have been shaken.

IV. The Cheyar Anicut across the river of that name in the Wandewash Taluq; the approaches have breached, and the channels have also breached in several places by the head sluice being turned; the anicut and the bridge have been left uninjured.

V. The Kaveripak Tank Channel from the Palar Anicut was badly breached by the overflow of the river, and the water falling into the Govindavady Channel has injured the work done for the restoration of the St. Andrew's Bridge on the trunk road.

VI. The Poondi Large Tank in the Wallajah Taluq breached by the overflow from the Palar, and thereby the tanks of Lumatangi and Kadapperi and Poondi, which are situated lower down, were all breached at once and the same time. These breaches are reported to have carried into the Kaveripak Tank (already quite full) so enormous a volume of water that its two large calingulahs were incapable of discharging the surplus water sufficiently fast, and the tank was in consequence at one time in imminent danger. Fortunately, however, the floods commenced to abate. I may mention that the Kaveripak Tank, which is the largest in this district, contains, when full, about 25 millions cubic yards, and is situated at the head of the Cortilliar River. If, by any calamity, it were to burst, a flood of terrible magnitude would pour down the valley of the Cortilliar and along the Cooum River, bringing with it a constantly increasing volume of water from the hundreds of smaller tanks it would sweep away in its course, and the town of Madras finally would be the scene of frightful disaster and loss of life. Fortunately the tank was thoroughly repaired by Government about two years ago, at a cost of Rs. 4,370, and to that judicious outlay may be attributed the successful manner in which the bund stood the severe trial it so lately sustained.

VII. The Mahendravady Channel has also breached in places by the overflow of the Palar.

VIII. The bridge over the Palmanair River on the road to Bangalore has been greatly damaged; the flood rose $21\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the river-bed in the space of three hours, and swept completely *over* the bridge, which was entirely submerged to a depth of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the roadway. The parapet walls, roadway, filling in over arches, and part of the spandrels have been carried away, and the wings and approaches much damaged, but the main part of the structure has been left uninjured. The bridge in its present state presents an example of magnificently honest work on the part of the much-abused Department of Public Works. Had there been a flaw in its construction, there can be no doubt it would have been completely swept away. Ghirtheri Lall, a Madras Photographer, happened to be in the vicinity, detained by stress of weather on his way to Cuddapah, and I caused him to take photographs of the bridge, of which I now submit copies for the inspection of Government. The first was taken on the afternoon after the flood, and the second the following day. The flood continued to run with great violence for three days, the Palmanair Stream being swollen by the contents of a number of large tanks in the Punganur Zemindari, which breached one after the other, causing great damage to property, and a loss to the Zemindar, which, I am sorry to learn, has been roughly estimated at Rs. 60,000. It was this flood which carried away the Gudiattum Bridge on the South-West Line of Railway. I am now collecting information as to the size, capacity, etc., of the tanks which breached in the Punganur Zemindari, and the result will probably be of interest in calculating the volume of water which passed down in flood.

IX. Five arches of the Gudiattum Railway Bridge were carried away, and great inconvenience to passengers and traffic as well as serious loss to the Railway Company resulted in consequence.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th December 1874.

5. In the margin is given the number of tanks and channels breached or otherwise damaged by the recent floods in each of the taluqs of the district. Fortunately, however, with but few exceptions, the tanks thus breached are not of very great importance.

Names of Taluqs.	No. of Tanks breached or damaged.	No. of Channels breached or damaged.
1. Wallajah	4	...
2. Arcot	14	3
3. Vellore	...	1
4. Wandewash	60	...
5. Poloor	2	1
6. Gudiattum	...	...
7. Palmanair	4	...
8. Chittoor...	11	1
9. Chendragherri ...	11	13
In 99 villages ...	106	19

6. Almost every road in the district has been more or less damaged, the worst injuries being sustained by those near the Palar at Vellore, and between Arcot, Ranipet, and the Palar Anicut; that from Arnee to Wandewash appears to have suffered heavily as well as those in the Punganur Zemindari, where, as I have stated, a great many tanks breached. I am happy to report that no loss of life took place by these floods, except one man who was drowned in attempting to cross the Palar on a small raft between Vellore and Katpadi, and of four persons in the village of Melatangal in the Wandewash Taluq by the fall of a house. In the town of Gudiattum, thirty-nine houses situated on the bank of the river, and some houses in the villages of Pungodu and Tokkancolam in the Arcot Taluq, situated close by the Palar, were washed away by the flood. The loss of private property does not on the whole appear to have been by any means as great as we might have expected.

7. To a large extent crops are reported to have been damaged by the floods. I have issued orders to the effect that, on receipt of applications for remission from the ryots concerned, the necessary azimaish or survey shall at once be made, and the result reported at the ensuing settlement. On this account some remission will doubtless be necessary during the current fasli. In the absence of information as to the extent to which crops have been lost, I am unable even approximately to estimate the probable amount of such remissions. I am sanguine, however, that they will not be very heavy, for, in several places, I saw myself floods sweeping over fields of growing crops, which, when the water subsided, revived in the most surprising manner, although I had supposed that not a blade would be left on the ground.

8. I enclose an abstract statement showing the beriz for 1283, under the Palar, the Poiney, and the Cheyar Anicuts, in order that the Board may see to what extent the Government revenue will suffer if the damages done to the above anicuts (especially those on the Palar and the Poiney) are not at once repaired. Most fortunately the anicuts did not breach till all the tanks they supplied were completely filled, and for the present, therefore, the crops dependent thereon for irrigation are safe, and there will be no immediate loss of revenue. But the most active measures will have to be taken to ensure a supply of water for next season's cultivation, for otherwise there will be without doubt an enormous loss of revenue to Government, and very great suffering will be entailed on the ryots. I am now in communication with the District Engineer as to the remedial measures he would propose to adopt for the saving of water pending the restoration of the Palar and the Poiney Anicuts, and as soon as

I hear from him, I shall do myself the honor of again addressing the Board on the subject.

9. I beg to forward, herewith, copies of the marginally-noted letters received from the Deputy-Conservator of Forests of this district on the subject of the damages done by the late floods to the several plantations in his charge. Mr. Sheffield so fully reports on the injuries done to the plantations, that I do not re-write them here. The Board will see that the damages as reported by him are most disastrous. I have requested Mr. Sheffield to submit his proposals to remedy the mischief sustained by the plantations, and they will be reported to the Board in due course.

No. 373, dated 27th October 1874.
„ 390 „ 3rd November „
„ 402 „ 6th „ „

10. This report would have been submitted some days back had it not been that I discovered that the information at first sent in to me of the destruction of, or damages to, Public Works was in many respects exaggerated and unreliable. For instance, I was at first positively informed that the Cheyar Anicut had been totally destroyed, but subsequently the information was found to be incorrect, and so also in respect to divers other works of irrigation. This was doubtless owing to the very natural excitement and terror of the local revenue officers; but having discovered that the reports coming in were not thoroughly trustworthy, I considered it advisable to delay this report until I had really reliable information as to what had occurred, but this could not be obtained for some time until after the floods had subsided, and the various works could be visited and inspected, and, as I have mentioned already, I have myself done this in all the most important cases. I have had photographs taken of the ruined bridge over the Palar near Vellore, and forward copies of them, herewith, for the inspection of the Board and the Government; also of the Palar Anicut taken under the orders of the Head Assistant Collector.

Enclosure No. 1.

From Mr. T. SHEFFIELD, Deputy-Conservator of Forests, to W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Keelminnel, 27th October 1874, No. 373.

It is my painful duty to report the almost entire destruction of the Keelminnel Plantation.

2. The plantation was about 150 acres extent, and I had planted 120,000 plants on it this season and had still about 30,000 to plant, when the Palar River suddenly rose about 10 o'clock in the morning of the 25th instant, flooding the whole plantation to a depth of 3 feet, swept entirely away about 30 acres of land with 30,000 plants on it, cleaned all the fence that remained after the flood in June last, washed down the hut and has buried in sand and rubbish almost the whole of the remaining plants.

3. I have got on to the plantation this morning after a great deal of trouble, and have all the coolies I can persuade to cross the channel between it and the Arcot Road hard at work in uncarthing the buried plants before they die.

4. I have not yet had any reports from the other plantations in consequence of the river being so high, the station road between the toll-gate and the town of Vellore is flooded, and people unable to cross, but I expect them hourly and will submit them directly I receive them.

Enclosure No. 2.

From the same officer, dated Vellore, 3rd November 1874, No. 390.

In continuation of my letter, dated 27th ultimo, No. 373, I have the honor to inform you of the damage done to the following plantations by the flood of 25th October last.

Trirellam Plantation.—The forester reports that 192 yards of the bund thrown up two years ago, to protect the plantation from the Poiney, was swept away; that the water rushing through this gap breached the northern fence of the plantation, continued in one stream through the newly-planted portion of the plantation, then divided; one branch passing through the east of the plantation and joining the Poiney River, the other branch following straight through the plantation from north to south and carried the whole of the southern fencing into the Palar River; and that 2,500 to 3,000 trees were swept away, of which more than 100 were large trees, but the remainder newly planted.

Thengal Plantation.—The whole of the river-side fence of this plantation is reported to have entirely disappeared, and about 200 yards of the land side damaged.

Venavadoo Plantation.—The river-side fence reported to have been washed away and a width of two or three yards of plantation along its whole length also gone, and thirteen large trees thrown down and lost in the flood.

Ammoondy Plantation.—Mr. Newman reports the disappearance of all the fencing, and that the nursery is covered with sand, but as the sand can easily be cleared from the nursery and as most of the fencing went in June last, there cannot be much loss now. The ground is not planted.

Veerinjeepuram Plantation is reported to have suffered great damage. The flood is said to have gone entirely through the plantation, levelling all the fence and thousands of the large trees, and covering all the young trees with sand; but I am doubtful about the first part. I do not think it can be so bad, for some parts of the plantation lie high above the river; besides I have noticed at Keelminnel that trees of twenty feet high stood the rush of water through them without being in the least affected; and that it was only in places where there was a sudden fall in the ground that large trees were rooted up. However, the damage is bad enough on all the plantations; since the Palar Bridge broke, I have not been able to get to these plantations, but the river is now fordable, and they shall be inspected at once.

Enclosure No. 3.

From the same officer, dated Vellore, 6th November 1874, No. 402.

I have the honor to inform you that I have inspected the Veerinjeepuram Plantation, and am sorry to say I found it in almost as bad a state as reported by the forester, and as shown in my letter, No. 390, dated 3rd instant.

2. The plantation stands on the site of the old Mutta Channel, and at the east-south-east end, at the spot where the channel was led from the Palar River, a very high bank stood which kept the water in the river; this bank gave way when the river was in very high flood, and the water came down the centre of the No. 1 Plantation so suddenly and with such force as to bear everything that stood in its way, ripping up the ground into great holes and hills, overturning some hundreds of trees 20 to 30 feet high, breaching the road leading from Veerinjeepuram to the railway station which bisects my plantation, and carried on the same destruction in No. 2 Plantation so bad that I think there is a loss of fully 60,000 plants of 3 to 6 feet high, and those not merely buried in sand as were the Keelminnel plants, but swept clean away, and in the place these plants stood, there is now a broad stream with running water 3 or 4 feet below the surrounding surface of the plantation. The damage done to the large trees is extensive, but not nearly so bad as reported by the forester; there may be about 400 washed out, not more; but the whole plantation is covered with rubbish and prickly-pear. There is a number of Palmyra trees and two large Teak beams stranded in the plantation, and I think it is those coming broadside on that has upset the large trees. The beams belonged to the Railway Company, and I beg to be informed whether I shall give them up. They have caused us much damage.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Statement showing the Beriz under the under-mentioned Anicuts of North Arcot for Fasli 1283.

Taluqs.	Assessment.	Fasal Jasty.	Tirwah Jasty.	Total Beriz.
Palar Anicut.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Arcot	61,955 6 4	92 14 0	3,185 4 6	65,233 8 10
Wallajah	79,242 12 4	6,651 8 7	4,515 11 11	90,410 0 10
Total	....	....	....	1,55,643 9 8
Poiney Anicut.				
Wallajah	52,732 9 8	5,399 0 7	3,508 5 2	61,639 15 5
Gudiattum	3,769 0 7	363 4 1	416 2 11	4,548 7 7
Chittoor	4,311 15 3	554 4 11	927 13 5	5,824 1 7
Total	....	....	....	72,012 8 7
Cheyar Anicut.				
Wandewash	65,120 0 6	37 4 10	3,202 0 2	68,359 5 6

CHITTOOR,
27th November 1874.

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G. O., 24th November 1874, No. 1,451.

2. The damage done by the floods in North Arcot amounts to a great disaster, which can only be remedied gradually by continuous exertions on the part of the Revenue, Public Works, and Forest Departments, and the Local Fund Boards.

3. The Vellore Local Fund Board will need considerable assistance from Government before they can replace the great Vellore Bridge.

4. Immediate work is necessary to prevent a loss of revenue under the Palar Anicut (Rs. 1,55,644), 1,200 feet of which have been swept away; the Poincy Anicut (Rs. 72,013) which is nearly all destroyed; the Cheyar Anicut (Rs 68,359) the approaches and channels of which have been damaged, and the numerous tanks and channels which are reported to have been breached.

5. The Deputy-Conservator of Forests gives a melancholy account of the state of his plantations which have been very successful until now.

6. Five lives are reported to have been lost.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th December 1874.

No. 122. ORDER THEREON, 10th December 1874, No. 1,533.

Miscellaneous.

THE papers recorded above will be communicated to the Public Works Department in view to the speediest measures possible being taken to carry out the necessary repairs and to obtain funds for the purpose.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.

Ind. W. H. French

Collectors Office,
Chittoor, 27th November 1874

No-602

From,
W. J. Whiteside Esqre,
Collector of North Arcot

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

Sir,

I have the honor to submit my detailed report on the damages caused to Public Works &c. in this District by the recent heavy floods in the Palar and other Rivers.

2. Very heavy rain fell all over the District on the night of the 23d, and on the 24th and extraordinary floods came down the Palar, the Poiney, the Cheyar and other Rivers on the 25th & 26th October last. In the Palar the flood commenced during the night of the 24th. The floods were

were of unprecedented magnitude: at the Palar Anicut, the water rose nine inches above the previously recorded maximums and would doubtless have been still higher if the Anicut had not given way; while at the Cheyar the water was no less than 3 feet above the highest level previously recorded.

3. I was at the time of the floods in the Polamanair Taluk, and was for some days completely cut off from all communication with Chittoor, and the Southern portions of the District, as soon as letters reached me informing me of the disasters which had occurred I lost no time in hastening to the South of the District where I found that intimation of the damages to the various Public Works had been already communicated by Telegraph to Government by the Local Officers. I therefore at once proceeded to visit and inspect

affected by the floods in view to my submitting a full and detailed report for the information of Government. I deeply regret to have to inform the Government that the damages sustained by the Public Works of all kinds by the late flood are of the most serious kind, and which will entail a very heavy outlay to repair.

4. The most important Public Works and which were most seriously injured by the effects of the floods are as follows.

I. The Bridge over the Palar near Vellore; 16 Arches have fallen, and two more are in a precarious condition.

II. The Anicut across the Palar near Arcot. About 1200 feet of the body of this work have been entirely destroyed

III. The Poiney Anicut across the

the whole of the body has been carried away and the foundations have been shaken.

IV. The Cheyar Anicut, across the River of that name in the Mundewaddy Taluk. The approaches have breached and the channels have also breached in several places by the head sluice being turned; the anicut and the Bridge have been left uninjured.

V. The Kaveripak Tank Channel from the Palar Anicut was badly breached by the overflow of the River, and the water falling into the Govindavady Channel has injured the work done for the restoration of the Saint Andrews' bridge on the Trunk Road.

VI. The Poondy large Tank in the Wallajah Taluk breached by the overflow from the Palar and thereby the Tanks of Lemataugi and Kadapperi and Poondi which

which are situated lower down were all breached at once and the same time. These breaches are reported to have carried into the Kaveripak Tank (already quite full) so enormous a volume of water that its two large Calingulahs were incapable of discharging the surplus water sufficiently fast, and the tank was in consequence at one time in imminent danger. Fortunately, however, the floods commenced to abate. I may mention that the Kaveripak Tank which is the largest in this District, contains, when full about 25 Millions Cubic Yards, and is situated at the head of the Cortilliar River. If, by any calamity, it were to burst, a flood of terrible magnitude would pour down the valleys of the Cortilliar and along the

the Cooum River, bringing with it a constantly increasing volume of water from the hundreds of smaller tanks it would sweep away in its course, and the town of Madras finally would be the scene of frightful disaster and loss of life. Fortunately the Tank was thoroughly repaired by Government about 2 years ago at a cost of Rs4,370—, and to that judicious outlay may be attributed the successful manner in which the bund stood the severe trial it so lately sustained.

VII. The Mahendravady Channel has also breached in places by the overflow of the Palar.

VIII. The Bridge over the Palamanair River on the road to Bangalore has been greatly damaged, the flood rose 21½ feet from the River bed in the space of 3 hours, and swept completely over the bridge, which was entirely submerged to a depth of 1½ feet above the road way. The parapet walls, roadway filling in over arches, and part of the spandrils have been carried away, and the wings and approaches much damaged, but the main part of the structure has been left uninjured. The bridge in its present state presents an example of magnificiently honest work on the part of the much abused Department of Public Works. Had there been a flaw in its construction there can be no doubt it would have been completely swept away. Ghirtheri Lall, a Madras Photographer, happened to be in the vicinity

vicinity, detained by stress of weather on his way to Cuddapah, and I caused him to take Photographs of the bridge of which I now submit copies for the inspection of Government. The 1st was taken on the afternoon after the flood, and the 2d the following day. The flood continued to run with great violence for 3 days the Palamanair stream being swollen by the contents of a number of large tanks in the Punganur Zemindari which breached one after the other, causing great damage to property, and a loss to the Zemindar which, I am sorry to learn, has been roughly estimated at Rs 60,000. It was this flood which carried away the Gudiatham Bridge on the South West Line of Railway I am now collecting information, as to the size, capacity, etc of the tanks which breached in the Punganur zemindaries, & the results will probably be of interest

interest in calculating the volume of water which poured down in flood.

IX. The Arches of the Gudiattum Railway Bridge were carried away, and great inconvenience to passengers and traffic, as well as serious loss to the Railway Company resulted in consequence.

5. In the margin is given the number of Tanks and Channels breached or otherwise damaged by the recent floods in each of the Talugs of the District. Fortunately however, with but few exceptions, the Tanks thus breached are not of very great importance.

	Names of Talugs.	No. of Tanks breached or damaged.	No. of Channels breached or damaged.
1	Wallajah	4	"
2	Arcot	14	3
3	Vellore	"	1
4	Wandewash	60	"
5	Polore	2	1
6	Gudiattum	"	"
7	Palmanair	4	"
8	Chittoor	11	1
9	Chemraglerri	11	13
	In 99 Villages	106	19

6. Almost every road in the District has been more or less damaged, the worst injuries being sustained by those near the

Palar

Palar at Vellore, and between Arcot, Ranipet and the Palar Anicut, that from Arnee to Wandewash appears to have suffered heavily as well as those in the Punganoor Zemindari, where as I have stated, a great many tanks breached. I am happy to report that no loss of life took place by these floods except one man who was drowned in attempting to cross the Palar on a small raft between Vellore and Kattpadi, and of 4 persons in the Village of Melatangal in the Wandewash Taluq, by the fall of a house. In the town of Gudiattam 29 houses situated on the bank of the River, and some houses in the Villages of Pungodu and Tokkanelam in the Arcot Taluq, situated close by the Palar were washed away by the flood. The loss of private property does not on the whole appear to have been by any means as great as

we

10/1533

we might have expected.

7. In a large extent crops are reported to have been damaged by the flood. I have issued orders to the effect that, on receipt of applications for remission from the ryots concerned, the necessary Azimaish or Survey shall at once be made, and the result reported at the ensuing Settlement. On this account some remission will doubtless be necessary during the Current Fasli. In the absence of information as to the extent to which crops have been lost, I am unable even approximately to estimate the probable amount of such remissions. I am sanguine, however, that they will not be very heavy, for, in several places I saw myself floods sweeping over fields of growing crops, which when the water subsided, revived in the most surprising manner

although

although I had supposed that not a blade would be left on the ground.

8. I enclose an abstract Statement shewing the Berij for 1283 under the Palar, the Poiney and the Chegar Anicuts in order that the Board may see to what extent the Government Revenue will suffer if the damages done to the above Anicuts (especially those on the Palar and the Poiney) are not at once repaired. Fortunately the Anicuts did not breach & tell all the tanks they supplied were completely filled, and for the present, therefore, the crops dependent thereon for irrigation are safe, and there will be no immediate loss of Revenue. But the most active measures will have to be taken to secure a supply of water for next season's cultivation, for otherwise there will be without doubt an enormous loss of Revenue to Government,

and very great suffering will be entailed on the ryots. I am now in communication with the District Engineer as to the remedial measures he would propose to adopt for the saving of water pending the restoration of the Palar and the Poiney Anicuts, and as soon as I hear from him, I shall do myself the honor of again addressing the Board on the subject.

9. I beg to forward herewith copies of the marginally noted letters received from the Deputy Conservator of Forests of this District on the subject of the damages done by the late floods to the several plantations in his charge. Mr. Sheffield so fully reports on the injuries done to the Plantations, that I do not consider them here. The Board will see that the damages as reported by him are most disastrous. I have requested Mr Sheffield to submit his proposals to remedy the mischief

x No 373 dated 27th Octr 1874
" 390 dated 3rd Novr 1874
" 402 dated 6 Novr 1874

mischief sustained by the plantations and they will be reported to the Board in due course."

13. This report would have been submitted some days back had it not been that I discovered that the information at first sent in to me of the destruction of or damages to Public Work was in many respects ex-aggerated and unreliable. For instance, I was at first positively informed that the Chegar Anicut had been totally destroyed but subsequently the information was found to be incorrect, and so also in respect to divers other works of Irrigation. This was doubtless owing to the very natural excitement and terror of the local Revenue officers, but I discovered that the reports coming this could not be obtained until after the floods had subsided, and the various works could be visited and inspected, and, as I have mentioned above, I have myself done this in all the most important cases. I have had Photographs taken of the ruined bridge over the Palar near Vellore, and forward copies of them herewith for the inspection of the Board and the Government, also of the Palar Anicut taken under the orders of the Head Assistant Collector.

I have &c.

South Arcot Collector's Office, Chittoor 27th November 1874.

(sgd) W. S. Whitecombe
Collector.

To J. Grose Esquire
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue Madras

(True Copy)

J. Grose

No 373

From Mr. J. Sheffield
D.Y. Commissioner of Forests
North Shore.

To W. F. Whitcombe Esquire
Collector of North Shore.

Sir

I do my painful duty to report the almost entire destruction of the Kaimanawa Plantations.

2 The Plantations was about 150 acres in extent and had planted 12,000 plants on it this season and had still about 30,000 to plant, when the Polar River rose suddenly rose about 10 o'clock on the morning of the 25th Instant, flooding the whole plantation to a depth of 3 feet, swept entirely away about 30 acres of lands with 30000 plants on it, cleaned all the fence that remained after the flood in fact left the land, washed down the hut and fence, has buried in sand and rubbish almost the whole of the remaining plants.

I

Enclosure in Proceedings of the Board of Revenue to the Ag Secretary to Government, Revenue dept. dated 5th December 1874.

1

Rev 4290/74

Copy of Collector's letter dated 27th November 1874. No 502, reporting on the damages caused to Public Work &c in that District by the recent heavy floods.

GO 12/1533

5/12 December 1874

In Box 9/121

14
1553

3. I have got on the Plantation this morning after a great deal of trouble and have all the Coolies. I can persuade to cross the channel between it and the Great road, hard at work in unearthing the buried plants before they die.

4. I have not yet had any reports from the other Plantations in consequence of the river being so high, the station road between the Toll gate and the town of Bellow is flooded, and people unable to cross, but I expect them hourly and will submit them directly I receive them.

Office of the Dy Comrs of Forests
North Arcot
Camp Kelumimel
27th October 1874

I have &c
(sd) T. Sheffield
Dy Comrs of Forests.

(True Copy)

(signed) W. S. Whiteside
Collector

(True Copy)

J Grote

No. 402

1533

From Mr. T. Sheffield
Dep.t Conservator of Forests
North Arcot

To
W. S. Whiteside Esquire
Collector of North Arcot

Sir I have the honor to inform you that I have inspected the Veeranjeepuram Plantation and am sorry to say I found it in almost as bad a state, as reported by the Foreaker and as shown in my letter No 390 dated 3rd Instant.

2 The Plantation stands on the side of the old Mutta Channel and at the East, South East end at the spot where the Channel was led from the Palar River, a very high bank stood which kept the water in the river, this bank gave way when the river was in very high flood, and the water came down the Centre of the No 1 Plantation so suddenly and with such force as to bear every thing that stood in its way, ripping up the ground into great holes and hills overturning some hundreds of trees 20 to 30 feet

Enclosure in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 6th Dec.r 1874 to the Secretary to Government R.D.

Rec.d 2/Dec 4290/74
G.O. No. 1533
Copied
Entered
Ex 15 No 121

feet high, breaching the road leading
from Veringepurum to the Railway
station which bisects my plantation
and carried on the same destruction
in No 2 Plantation, so bad that I
think there is a loss of fully 60,000 plants
of 3 to 6 feet high and these not merely
buried in sand as were the Kelumme
plants, but swept clean away and
on the place these plants stood,
there is now a broad stream with
running water 3 or 4 feet below the
surrounding surface of the plantation
The damage done to the large
trees is extensive, but not nearly so
bad as reported by the Forester,
there may be about 400 washed out,
not more, but the whole plantation
is covered with rubbish and prickly
pear. There is a number of Palmyrah
trees and two large Teak beams stranded
in the Plantation and I think it is

these

16/1533

these coming broadside on that has
upset the large trees. The beams
belonged to the Railway Compa
and I beg to be informed, whether
I shall give them up. They have ca
us much damage.

I have &c

(sd) T. Sheffield
Dept Conservator of F

Office of the Dept Conservator of Forests
North Arcot. Vellore.
6th November 1874

(True Copy)

(signed) W. S. Whiteside
Collector

(True Copy)

J Grose
Secretary

Colo P Varadachariar

Office of the Dy Conservator of Forests
North Street Vellore 3rd November 187

No 390

Gen 1/133

From

Mr. S. Sheffield
Dy Conservator of Forests
North Street

To

W. S. Whiteside Esqre
Collector of North Street

Sir

In continuation of my letter dated 27th Ultimo No 378 I have the honor to inform you of the damage done to the following Plantations by the flood of 21st October last. Trincolam Plantation. The Foreste reports that 182 yards of the bund throughout two years ago to protect the plantation from the Poiney, was swept away, that the water rushing through this gap, breached the rav- thern fence of the Plantation con- tinued in one stream through the newly planted portion of the plan- tation and there divided, one branch passing through the east of the Plan- tation, and joining the Poiney River the other branch following straight through the Plantation from North to South and carried the whole of the Southern fencing into the Palar River and that 2000 to 3000 trees were swept

Conservator in Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 6th December 1894 Circular No 6

Head Quarters to Government Revenue Department.

No 3
Rate 1291/94

G.O. No 1118
Forests
Dated 13th Nov 1894

swept away, of which more than
100 were large trees, but the remainder
newly planted.

Bengal Plantation. The whole of the
river side fence of this plantation
is reported to have entirely disappeared
and about 200 yards of the land
side damaged.

Vauxhall Plantation. The river
side fence reported to have
been washed away and a width
of 2 or 3 yards of plantation along
its whole length also gone, and
13 large trees thrown down and
lost in the flood.

Ammondy Plantation. Mr Norman
reports the disappearance of all the
fencing and that the nursery is
covered with sand but as the sand
can easily be cleared from the
nursery and as most of the fencing
went in June last, there cannot
be much loss now. The ground is
not planted.

Verangie Purans Plantation. It is reported
to have suffered great damage.
The flood is said to have gone
entirely through the Plantation
levelling all the fence, and thousands
of the large trees, and covering all
the young trees with sand. I am
am doubtful about the first
part, I do not think it can be
so bad, for some parts of the
Plantation lies high above the
river besides I have noticed
at Kielminnel that trees of 20 feet
high stood the rush of water
through them without being in the
least effected, and that it was
only in places where there was a
sudden fall in the ground, that
large trees were rooted up. However
the damage is bad enough on all
the plantations. Since the Palast
bridge broke, I have not been able
to get to these Plantations but the
river is now fordable and they
shall be inspected at once.

I have &c
Sd/ D. Sheffield
Conservator of
Forests

/True copy/
Sd/ W.S. Whiteside
Collector
/True copy/

J Grose
Secretary Board of Revenue

Enclosure in Collr's
Proceedings dated
5th December 1874
to the Secretary
Board of Revenue
Settlement &
Agriculture

Rec'd 6290 Dt

Statement shewing the heriz under the undermen-
tioned Anicuts of North Arcot for Fasli 1283

Talugs	Assessment	Fasal jasty	Tirwah jasty	Total Beriz
Palar Anicut				
Arcot	61,955 6 4	92 14 •	3,185 4 6	65,233 8 10
Wallajah	79,242 12 4	6,651 8 7	4,515 11 11	90,410 • 10
			Total	1,55,643 9 8
Pounery Anicut				
Wallajah	52,732 9 8	5,399 • 7	3,508 5 2	61,639 15 5
Goodiattum	3,769 • 7	363 4 1	416 2 11	4,548 7 7
Chittoor	4,341 15 3	554 4 11	927 13 5	5,824 1 7
			Total	72,012 8 7
Cheyar Anicut				
Wandewash	65,120 • 6	37 4 10	3,202 • 2	68,359 5 6

North Arcot Collector's Office
Chittoor
27th November 1874

(signed) W. S. Whiteside
Collector

(True Copy)

J. Grose
Secretary

Copy to Captain Hutchinson
Asst Commissioner in charge
of Chittoor Division
Present respecting the
Pennaur Anicut
Chittoor 28th Decr 1874

29/533

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 5th December 1874.

Read letter from the Collector of North Arcot dated 27th November No 102 Submitting the report on the damage caused to Public Works by the recent heavy floods.

Submitted for their information of Government with reference to Government Order 24th November 1874 No 1451.

The damage done by the floods in North Arcot amounts to a great disaster, which can only be remedied gradually by Continuous portions on the part of the Revenue Public Works and Forest Departments and the Local Fund Boards.

The Villaru Local Funds Board will need considerable assistance from Government before they can replace the great Villaru bridge.

Immediate work is necessary to prevent a loss of revenue under the Salar Amini (Rupees 155144) 200 feet of which have been swept away.

the

Enclosure in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 5th December 1874 to the Addl. Secretary to Govt. Revenue Dept.

5

Allan 4290/74

Statement shewing the heavy underermentioned anicuts of North Arcot for Fasli 1283

Collr's letter dated 27th November 1874 No 102

the Pinery Ancient (Refer 7a 013) which
is nearly all destroyed & the Chapain
Ancient (Refer 13259) the approaches
and channels of which have been
damaged, and the numerous
tombs and channels which are
reported to have been breached.

The Deputy Conservator of Forests
gives a melancholy account of
the state of his plantations, which
have been very successfully
form.

Five lines are reported to
have been lost.

Time & Date

Secretary

To the Agent General
Government Railways
Departments
with copies of Collectors Statis-
and Abstract Statements and
7 photographs

Revenue Department.

No. 1533

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 10th December 1874.

READ the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting, with remarks, for information of Govt. letter from Collector of North Arcot reporting on the damages caused to Public Works &c. by the recent heavy floods. } H. E. 5th December 1874

The papers received above will be communicated to the Public Works Department in view to the speediest measures possible being taken there to carry out the necessary repairs and to obtain funds for the purpose.

To Board of Revenue. Dec 11 Dec
14 " " " " Dec
21 (P) H. E. S. Dept. Letter to order Council

No. 1290
Board's Proceedings, Revenue Dept.
Dated 5th December 1874.
Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot, dated 12th instant, reporting on the damages caused to Public Works &c. by the recent heavy floods.

Submitting, with remarks, for information of Government letter from Collector of North Arcot reporting on the damages caused to Public Works &c. by the recent heavy floods.

Resolved that the papers be communicated to the Public Works Department in view to the speediest measures possible being taken there to carry out the necessary repairs and to obtain funds for the purpose.

To Collector of North Arcot
Copy to Board of Revenue

121-122.