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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue . DEPARTMENT

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
15th July 1874.*

Read the following papers:—

No. 281. From Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. FISCHER, R.E., District Engineer, Godavery District, to Colonel G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, dated Dowlaishweram, 9th April 1874, No. 72.

ADVERTING to paragraph 2 of the Acting Collector's letter, printed in the Revenue Department. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 665, dated the 24th March 1874, I

have the honor to solicit the attention of the Government to that officer's remark:—
"The Public Works Department should point out the course which they think the channel should take, but it should not be left to them to decide whether justice is done both to the Government and the Mansubdar by the course they propose to adopt," plainly implying we are not to be trusted to do justice in such a case. In the next paragraph Mr. Foster complains of Mr. Hannan, that "he appears to insinuate that the translation may not be correct, such insinuations would not," etc. As this is the Acting Collector's deliberate opinion, and he considers that if acted up to would be of benefit to the public service, surely the best thing he could do would be to avoid making such insinuations himself, as that a whole body of public officers cannot be trusted to treat people in a fair, equitable, and honorable manner; it is preposterous to make a complaint that something may appear to be something offensive, and in the very same letter to condemn a whole body of officers on no grounds whatever.

2. I really cannot undertake to say what Mr. Hannan actually wished to convey, but I am certain he did not intend to give offence in any way; and it would have been far more considerate to demand an explanation before taking the serious step of submitting the matter to Government.

3. As regards paragraph 4 of the letter under reference, I beg to observe no member of this department has refused to give the Mansubdar water. I distinctly refused to allow him to cut a channel through the irrigated fields of Kothapilly village (a Government village) and destroy his cultivation; but it would appear nothing else will satisfy the man; for, after letting my refusal, I heard no more about the matter for two or three years; but as usual with these people, as soon as a change takes place amongst the Revenue officers, the old complaints are revived by the Tahsildars, and I only wonder the Mansubdar has not re-constructed the bund which Mr. Horsfall had removed. Mr. Hannan in 1869, and again attempted to take all the water away from Government villages altogether as he had before done on an order issued by a Mansildar who had been for many years in charge of the taluq; this proceeding called an error of judgment, as it only involved the loss of all the supply of water to several Government villages; but the Range Officer who acted promptly decided to prevent the perpetration of this gross wrong and injustice is immediately reported to Government, because in the heat of the moment, when the gross injustice being done

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with the connivance of the Tahsildar, he refused to listen to the cavillings of a Vakil in the matter, and a whole body of officers are impugned in order that the pretensions of this one Mansubdar may be supported without its ever being shown that he has any right to the water at all; that Mr. Hannan's conduct did not merit any serious notice or reprobation is apparent from the fact that the Sub-Collector and Magistrate of the district was present on the spot at the time of the occurrence and did not consider it necessary to interfere.

No. 282. From the same Officer, dated Dowlaishweram, 18th April 1874, No. 197.

With reference to paragraph 2 of this office letter No. 72, dated 10th instant, I have the honor to add, for the information of Government, that I have since spoken to Mr. Hannan on the subject of the Acting Collector's complaint, and he explains that the Board of Revenue demanded of him if the translation was a true one, and this he could not certify to as the original was sent to him without the translation the Board referred to; the papers were sent from this office exactly as received in it from the Acting Collector. I trust then the Government will be pleased to accept the explanation afforded by Mr. Hannan, as I was quite sure all along he did not intend to insinuate anything against Mr. Foster.

No. 283. Proceedings of the Madras Government in the Revenue Department, dated 5th May 1874, No. 554.

ABSTRACT.—*Water-supply from Buradacalva, Godavery District.*—Considers that Mansubdar of Rampah is entitled to —; requests immediate adoption of measures for determining quantity of water, and for its supply; and directs that the conduct of the Range Officer, Mr. Hannan, be considered in the Public Works Department.

No. 284. ORDER THEREON 5th July 1874, No. 1,901.

IRRIGATION, No. 25.

water to the Mansubdar as well as further that all his Assistants and sub-tain to them but to the Revenue C. All they have to do is to plan and distribution decided on.

2. The Tahsildar's proceeding-tion of a bund which the Sub-Coll-

THE District Engineer will arrange for a survey being made and a channel cut so as to give the proper share of the Government villages. He will see inates understand that it does not apper- to settle questions of right to water. ecute the works necessary to effect the

ssuing an order allowing the reconstruc- had caused to be removed was highly.

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15th July 1874.*

improper. But Mr. Hannan's proceedings in tearing up that order, and still more his written arguments in justification of them, to say nothing of his tacit insinuation that such arguments may have been misrepresented, are so unjustifiable as to require marked expression of the displeasure of Government, which the District Engineer will convey to him with a suitable warning.

(True Extract.)

W. Mather Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Godavery.
.. Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
.. Revenue Department. ✓

Exd. S. T. Austin.

20 Spare Copies *will follow for*

N^o 2411-

Revenue 1874 Department

Govt. of 1874 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE DISTRICT ENGINEER, GODAVERY.

cc. cc. cc.

Dated July 15th.

Recd. July 20th

Encl.

G. O., 15th July 1874, No. 1,901.

JULY.

Nos. 281-284

179/247
2017

Dr. Mr.

To B. P. M. 27-7

Water supply from Buraducalon, Godavery District.—A survey of the — ordered to be made and a channel cut so as to give the proper share of water to the Mansubdar of Rampah. The proceedings of the Tahsildar in ordering the reconstruction of a bund considered highly improper, and the marked expression of the displeasure of Government to be conveyed to Mr. Assistant Engineer Hannan in connection with the matter.

N^o 179 Communicated to the Board of Revenue.

21/July/74. C. J. L.