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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
24th March 1874.*

No. 644. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Camp at Ahthoor Anicut, 21st February 1874, No. 69-A :—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 13th February 1874, No. 19.

I HAVE the honour to forward Conservancy Engineer's Reports for the Upper and Lower Sections, together with my Report for the month of December 1873.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

Report for the Month of December 1873.

The supply of water to all the distribution channels has been regular throughout the month, and in the Main Canal a depth of 3 feet of water above Rajoly and 2½ below has been maintained continuously.

2. In the taluqs of Nundial, Sirwell, and Koilcoontla, the paddy crops have been nearly all cut, and the yield is considered very satisfactory; in some villages it has reached to three candies per acre—of good rice worth Rupees 30 per candy—which is considered a very high average.

3. In these taluqs second crops of paddy are being sown, and applications for about 100 acres have been received by Mr. Bradbury, who reports that all the ryots are willing to sow second crops of paddy, but are in doubt as to how long they may be sure of receiving water from the canal, and fear preparing their fields for second crops except where they have wells which could supplement the canal supply should it fail.

4. In Prodatoor Taluq they had not cut any paddy by the end of the month, but most of the crops were in excellent condition, and promised a large yield. In Cuddapah Taluq also no crops had been cut before the 31st, but all were in good condition and the ryots anticipate a satisfactory harvest.

5. In these two lower taluqs I do not now anticipate much, if any, second crops of paddy, as the first crops will not all be off the ground until the end of January, which will leave only three months for a second crop, even if water is maintained in the canal until the end of April, which the ryots are naturally doubtful of, never having as yet seen it in the canal after March; but canal water will, I expect, be largely taken as floodings in both taluqs for such crops as indigo, jonna, raggi, and corra.

6. If we are able to supply water down all the channels until the end of April, the ryots of all the taluqs in these lower sections will become satisfied as to the prospect of a ten months' supply during the coming season of 1874-75, and will, I fully anticipate, nearly, if not quite, double the amount of paddy sown; in many villages they are already collecting a large quantity of leaf manure from the hills; the price of village manure is rising rapidly, as is also the value of all lands under our channels which is fit for wet cultivation. Many distant villages are urgently asking for channels to their lands, and the very general failure of the dry crops during this and the preceding season greatly add to their anxiety to secure a supply of water for paddy and other wet crops.

7. Estimates for the annual repairs to Main Canal and to distribution channels, together with those for proposed additions to Main Canal works and distribution channels, were prepared and sent in to the Chief Engineer before the commencement of the Christmas holidays.

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24th March 1874.*

8. No rain fell during December, and the total rainfall for the year 1873 registered at this station amounted to 26.84 inches, being nearly 20 inches less than that recorded during 1872.
DHOR, (Signed) A. J. DODSON,
12th January 1874. Conservancy Engineer.

Upper Section Report for December 1873.

Nothing of note has occurred this month. Good rice crops are being harvested, the supply of water in the canal has been maintained, but the Toombudra is lower than it has been at this time in the last two years.

2. The villagers of the 5th Range (6th Section) have steadily refused to admit that the water can do them any good, and not 100 acres was brought into cultivation in the eleven villages recently reticulated. I enclose an extract from Mr. Dumphy's report to show how the feeling is changing in these villages.

"My staff has suffered from the cold weather, or rather cold mornings and hot days, and fever or colds have been common."

KURNOOL, (Signed) J. H. LATHAM,
24th January 1874. for Consulting Engineer, Upper Section.

*Extract from Mr. Dumphy's Monthly Report for the month of December 1873.
Irrigation.*

The number of applicants during the month were for floodings ...	35
and for ordinary irrigation ...	7
Total area applied and supplied with water for ordinary irrigation ...	9.93 acres.
Do. do. for floodings ...	150.12 "
The total area for the season, ordinary irrigation ...	291.62
Floodings ...	166.83

The probable amount of irrigation next year is very large. The wet crops, some of which were cut before the end of the month, have been entirely successful and convey a good impression on the ryots. Many of whom, including the Reddis and Curnumas, have made statements as to the amount of area they will irrigate next year in excess of present area.

The following statement is founded on their own information:—

Excess of irrigation on present areas as desired by the ryots next year.			
Bojanum	...	50	Channels wanted.
Purmatoor	...	100	.. suffice.
Kurmuddala	...	100	.. "
Dandiatmacoor	...	20	.. "
Kakanoor	...	50	Channels wanted.
Erragontla	...	50	.. "
Regidigoodoor	...	100	.. suffice.
Penchkulpilly	...	50	.. wanted.
Vempunta	...	100	.. "
Banakacherla	...	50	.. "

Total ... 670

In other villages, Velapanoor, etc., there will be a large increase, but the ryots object to give the acreage they intend to irrigate.

(Signed) J. O. DUMPHY,
Assistant Conservancy Engineer.

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24th March 1874.*

Chief Engineer's Report to accompany the Divisional Reports for December.

The apparent result of the season so far is as follows, omitting irrigation under tanks:—

Division.	No. of Villages.	SEASON, 1873-74.				SEASON, 1872-73.				
		First Crop.	Second Crop.	Flood-ing.	Total.	First Crop.	Second Crop.	Flood-ing.	Total.	Increase.
Upper ...	574	3,608.97	151.20	712.35	4,472.52	3,341.83	411.92	327.60	4,081.35	391.17
Lower ...	1204	4,425.76	25.52	4,416.13	8,867.41	3,284.47		1,551.51	4,835.98	4,031.43
Total...	178	8,034.73	176.72	5,128.48	13,339.93	6,626.30	411.92	1,879.11	8,917.33	4,422.60

Showing an increase of 4,422.6 acres, or about 50 per cent., over last year. The irrigation under tanks has increased possibly to an equal extent. The increase of wet direct cultivation seems only to be from 7,038.22 to 8,211.45; and, though applications are still coming in, it is not likely that any large area will now be added. This direct irrigation is enough to produce between 16,000 and 24,000 cart loads of grain, requiring 100 carts to 150 a day for every fifteen miles it is transported, to work during the 150 days when the roads are passable.

The first crops are reported very good, especially in the Cuddapah District, and in Nundikotakur Taluq of Kurnool District.

The usual tables accompany this Report.

KURNOOL, (Signed) J. H. LATHAM,
24th January 1874. Chief Engineer.

*Return of Rainfall in the Kurnool and Cuddapah Districts for December 1873.
To accompany December's Report.*

Station.	Rainfall.		Remarks.
	I.	D.	
Kurnool	...	...	} Nil.
Velapanoor	...	...	
Ayaloor	...	...	
Dhoor	...	...	

(Signed) J. H. LATHAM,
Chief Engineer and Manager.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

The account of the season's irrigation, as given by the Chief Engineer and Manager in the Report for December, is more satisfactory than the information available at an earlier period appeared to indicate to be likely; the general results up to date were—

	Season 1873-74.	Season 1872-73.
First crop	8,034.73	6,626.30
Second do.	176.72	411.92
Flooding	5,128.48	1,879.11
Total, Acres...	13,339.93	8,917.33

Proceedings of the Madras Government. Public Works Department.
24th March 1874.

According to the latest returns received from the Revenue Officers, viz., up to December for Cuddapah, and to November for Kurnool, the areas, for the irrigation of which application had been made, were—

	1873-74.	1872-73. as per Demand Statement, Form E.
Kurnool ... { First crop ...	4,610 87	7,510 33
Second do. ...	19 21	
Flooding ...	349 03	
Cuddapah { First crop ...	721 81	3,518 33
Second do. ...		
Flooding ...	527 78	
	6,228 75	11,028 65

The difference for the current season is very great, the area being in Mr. Latham's Report more than double that shown in the Collector's statements. It has already however been ascertained that in Cuddapah, at any rate, the machinery for recording in the Revenue Department the applications received does not work, so that the discrepancies are not of such moment as they would otherwise have seemed to be.

2. Probably the Chief Engineer and Manager's anticipations for the season of 1874-75 will be more than realized if the new rules and regulations recently submitted to Government be approved and made public at an early date, the alterations of rates, and their reduction for lands newly converted for rice cultivation, being likely to make the use of the canal water far more popular than it has hitherto been.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 645.

ORDER THEREON, 24th March 1874, No. 822.

IRRIGATION, No. 48.

THE Government are glad to learn that the prospects of the current year's irrigation under the Madras Irrigation

and Canal Company's Canal have improved, and that the area is likely to materially exceed that irrigated in 1872-73.

(True Extract.)

Chamberlain Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

.. Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

.. Revenue Department.

.. Examiner of Accounts of Irrigation and Canal Company.

Erd. S. T. Austin.

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Revenue Dept.

Cal. of 1874

PUBLIC WORKS.

No. 1017

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San Francisco

U. S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR

March 27

San Francisco

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San Francisco

MARCH.

No. 611-645

Under Investigation and Careful Consideration
of the Board of Revenue on report on the
Company's Canal for December 1874.

No. 207
Comm. to the

Board of Revenue.

27 March 74 C. L. H.

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