M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 16

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(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REVENUE.

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 847. Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 8-7-1874 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

S.J

No. 54. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 25th June 1874, No. 1,586:—

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 16th June 1874, No. 291:—

I HAVE just received the Board's Proceedings in manuscript of the 12th instant, communicating G. O. of the 8th instant, No. 704, Revenue Department, and as I was on the point of reporting to the Board the latest information in detail relative to the damage done to irrigation works along the valley of the Ponniar, I take the opportunity of replying at the same time, so far as I can, to the Proceedings above quoted.

2. The District Engineer has sent me in estimates for repairs to roads damaged by the late flood in the Ponniar, amounting to Rupees 15,326, and has shown me letters from the Range Officer in charge of No. 1 Range, reporting the damage done to the Ponniar river-channels. It appears that the flood rose to a height of 6½ feet above the crest of the Ponniar anicut near Trickalore and made a sweep round the northern end, destroying a great length of the embankment and the head sluice of the Pombay channel, and utterly obliterating that channel for a very considerable distance. The heads of the group of southern channels were saved from complete destruction by the activity of the Kottan in charge, but the river swept away the Mallattar embankment, and in its course down this usually dry river-bed it cut away the embankment of the Mallattar channel on the south side of the river for some distance, thus destroying that channel. It is considered by the District Engineer and Range Officer probable that if the Mallattar embankment had not gone and so relieved the rush of water down the Ponniar bed, the big Ponniar bridge close to Manjakuppam would have been destroyed. This is the only grain of comfort in this otherwise most lamentable series of disasters. The Allathur channel was so flooded that the bridge across it on No. 8 trunk road was destroyed, while 71 channel-heads were choked with sand for a considerable distance.

3. The rush of water down the Gaddilam river from the Mallattar was also extraordinary. A Department Public Works subordinate was standing on the northern wing-wall of the Trivadi anicut when the flood came down like a bore and rose, as he says, six feet in two minutes. The wing-walls were nearly topped. Had they been quite topped, the whole of the head works of the Palur channel would probably have been swept away. The southern wing-wall was completely turned.

4. The District Engineer, Mr. Sage, roughly estimates the damage done to irrigation works as follows:—

	Rs.
To the Ponniar anicut-channels	12,000
,, the Allathur channel	4,000
,, the Trivadi anicut	6,000
,, Seventy-one channels which will require repairing and clearing out	35,000
Total...	57,000

to which if the damage done to roads be added, we have a total estimated loss of about 72,000 Rupees caused by this extraordinary flood.

5. As to the loss of cattle in Trinomallay, I have had no applications for relief or compensation, and think it very unadvisable to let any idea get abroad that Government have any intention of giving any until it can be carefully ascertained, as the Board suggest, what losses have really been incurred. I will have inquiries set on foot at once, and will report my opinion on receipt of accurate information in what form compensation, if any is necessary, should be given.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The Board think a reward should be given to the Kottan or man in charge of the sluices, whose activity prevented so much mischief (paragraph 2). His pay is but small (the Board believe less than Rupees 10 a-month), and his duties require considerable promptitude and presence of mind at such a time as the Collector describes. The Board think six months' pay might be given.

3. The arrangements reported in paragraph 5 are approved.

No. 55. ORDER THEREON, 8th July 1874, No. 847.

Miscellaneous

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor in Council approves and sanctions the proposal made by the Board in paragraph 2 of the foregoing Proceedings.

2. He awaits the result of the inquiry referred to in paragraph 5 of the Collector's letter.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 25th June 1874.

Read the following:—

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

C No. 2124

From *Pro: Board of Revenue*

Dated *25th June* 1874.

FOR ORDERS.

I would accept the Contractor's recommendation

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Works along

the valley of the Pownar, I take the opportunity of replying at the same time, as

Revenue.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 25th June 1874.

Read the following:—

No. 291.

From J. H. Garstin Esqr.
Collector of South Arcot

To J. Grove Esqr.
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue.

Sir,

I have just received the Board's Proceedings in manuscript of the 12th Instant, communicating Government Order of the 8th Instant No. 904, Revenue Department, and, as I was on the point of reporting to the Board the latest information in detail relative to the damage done to Irrigation Works along the valley of the Ponniar, I take the opportunity of replying at the same time, so

far as I can, to the Proceedings above quoted.

2. The District Engineer has sent me six Estimates for repairs to ponds damaged by the late flood in the Pounian amounting to Rupees 15,326, and has shown me letters from the Range officer in charge of No 1 Range reporting the damage done to the Pounian river channels. It appears that the flood rose to a height of 6½ ft above the crest of the Pounian Anicut near Trikalore, and made a breach round the northern end, destroying a great length of the Embankment and the head sluice of the Poulbay channel and utterly obliterating that channel for a very considerable distance. The heads of the group of Southern Channels were saved from complete destruction

destruction by the activity of the Kottan in charge, but the river swept away the Mallatar Embankment, and, in its course down the usually dry river bed, it cut away the embankment of the Mallatar channel on the south side of the river for some distance, thus destroying that channel. It is considered by the District Engineer and Range officer probable that if the Mallatar Embankment had not gone and so relieved the push of water down the Pounian bed, the big Pounian bridge close to Manjakuppam would have been destroyed. This is the only grain of comfort in this otherwise most lamentable series of disasters. The Mallatar channel was so flooded that the bridge across it on No 8 Trunk Road was destroyed while 11 channel heads

were choked with sand for a considerable distance.

3. The push of water down the Gadalam river from the Mallatar was also extraordinary. A.D.P.W. subordinate was standing on the northern wing wall of the Privadi Anicut, when the flood came down like a bore and rose, as he says, 6 feet in 2 minutes. The wing walls were nearly topped. Had they been quite topped the whole of the head works of the Palur channel would probably have been swept away. The Southern wing wall was completely turned.

4. The District Engineer Mr. Sage roughly estimates the damages done to Irrigation Works as

as follows:—

	Rupees
To the Pannian Anicut Channel	12,000
" the Allathur channel	4,000.
" the Privadi Anicut	6,000
" 11 Channels which will require repairing and clearing out	35,000
	57,000.

to which if the damages done to roads be added, we have a total estimated loss of about 72,000 Rupees caused by this extraordinary flood.

5. As to the loss of cattle in this neighbourhood I have had no applications for relief or compensation, and do think it very inadvisable to let any idea get abroad that Government have any intention of giving any until it can be carefully ascertained, as the Board suggest, what losses have really been incurred. I will have enquiries set on foot at once, and will

to report my opinion on receipt of accurate information, in what form compensation, if any is necessary, should be given.

South Street Collector's office Cuddalore 16th June 1874.

(Signed) J.H. Garstin Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Board think a reward should be given to the Pattam(or man in charge of the sluices) whose activity prevented so much mischief. (para 2). His pay is but small (the Board believe less than Rupees 10 a month) and his duties require considerable promptitude and presence of mind at such a time as the Collector describes. The Board think 6 months' pay might be given.

3. The arrangements reported in para 5 are approved.

I. True copy & Extract

J. Love

Secretary.

To The Secretary to Government Revenue Department.

Read

Recorded

No. 2124

Revenue 1874 Dept.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 25 }
Despd 25 } June 1874.
Recd 26 }

For orders on para 3

Subject

Irrigation Works — along valley of [illegible] river in South Arcot district — Report of Collr on damages done to — by late rains — submitted for information of Government — Payment of reward of six months' pay to [illegible] in charge of sluices — recommended and arrangements proposed by Collr relative to grant of compensation for loss of Cattle in [illegible] — approved.

8 June 74 No. 73-74
to Proceedings
PW Dept.
Acct. Genl.

H. E. the Govr. in C. approves and sanctions the proposal made by the Board in paragraph 3 of the foregoing Proceedings.

He awaits the result of the enquiry referred to in paragraph 5 of the Collector's letter.

C. 1st July /74