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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue.....DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1696	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	26. 11. 1875 196	.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th November 1875.*

No. 297. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 28th October 1875, No. 2,988 :—

Read the following letter from J. HOPE, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 28th September 1875, No. 345 :—

IN G. O., No. 2,489, dated 1st September 1875, Public Works Department, reviewing the Progress Reports of the Conservancy Engineers and of the Chief Engineer, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, for July last, the Government remark that "there are several matters touched upon in these reports which appear to need the attention of the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah". On receipt of the Government Order, I requested Mr. Dodson to inform me in what particular villages he or Mr. Wilks "received complaints against the Curnams of systematically neglecting 'the irrigation work,' 'of unnecessarily delaying the collection of the water-rates,' and of making excess collections without granting receipts for the money paid." I have now the honor to enclose copy of his reply, dated 20th instant, No. 88, for the information of Government.

2. Mr. Dodson now states that "the remarks on this subject" made in his report on the whole canal "apply chiefly to the taluqs in the Cuddapah District." In the letter (copy enclosed) of Mr. Wilks to which allusion is made a few cases of supposed neglect on the part of the Curnams in one taluq are mentioned; but these evidently refer to the season of 1874-75, and not to the period for which the report is intended. They were not reported to the Revenue authorities at the time they were alleged to have occurred, and they would probably never have been heard of but for the discussion raised regarding the payment of remuneration to the Curnams provided in Rule XXI. of the Irrigation Rules. In January 1875, when specially addressed on the subject, Mr. Wilks had no complaints to make against the Curnams in his section, comprising the first 93 miles of canal—*vide* paragraph 5 of my letter, No. 301, dated 27th ultimo.

3. I trust the Government will consider the above explanation satisfactory, and agree with me in the opinion that the Company's officers should refrain from making vague general charges of the kind referred to, unless accompanied by a statement that they have failed to secure proper notice of their complaints from the Local Revenue Officers.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. J. DODSON, Esq., Manager and Acting Chief Engineer of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to J. HOPE, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated 20th September 1875, No. 88.

IN reply to your letter, No. 146, of the 17th instant, I have the honor to state that much of the information you now ask for as to the neglect of certain Curnams to attend to the irrigation work will be found in Mr. Wilks' letter to me respecting the proposed remuneration to be paid to Curnams, copy of which I forwarded to you with my letter, No. 86, of the 17th instant.

2. As to the Kurnool Taluqs in the Lower Division, I expect soon to receive Mr. Dunphy's report of the payments to be made to Curnams, copy of which shall be forwarded to you as far as it relates to the information you ask for.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th November 1875.*

3. The remarks on this subject made in my report on the whole canal as Acting Chief Engineer apply chiefly to the taluqs in the Cuddapah District, for in *this* district the Company has of late years received every possible assistance from the higher Revenue authorities.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HOPE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From C. H. WILKS, Esq., Conservancy Engineer, to A. J. DODSON, Esq., Manager and Acting Chief Engineer of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, dated Kurnool, — September 1875.

I HAVE the honor to enclose a list of the amounts due to Curnams according to Rule XXI. for Nandikotkur Taluq and part of Nundial. I have calculated these sums on the "adjusted gross demand."

1. Although there is no clause in the rule by which Curnams may be exempted from the donation in cases where they were incompetent or unwilling to do the required work, I think it well to point out that in some cases the payment would be unfair to the Company.

2. The Amin of the second range complains that the Curnam of Rudravaram does not come to meet him after sending Form B, consequently the Amin was obliged to do the work without any assistance from the Curnam. The Reddy however came.

Paspal.
Rudravaram.

On one special occasion this Curnam was written to by me to meet the Amin and Overseer about a question of compensation claims in his village, but he did not come. See my letter No. 183, of 4th September 1874, to the Chief Engineer and to the Tahsildar about the same time. I recommend that the money be given to the Reddy who gave the information.

3. The Amins complain and the Overseer also that the Curnam of Poodoor never meets him in the village, but that the Reddy does his best to point out the field boundaries, &c. This Curnam I am told lives in a distant village and seldom visits Poodoor. The Reddy deserves the reward.

4. The Curnam of Satanikota was old and unable to measure fields; hence there has always been confusion in the accounts. I believe a new man has been appointed, but I recommend that the percentage be retained.

5. The Curnam of Jootoor was entirely ignorant of his work. The Tahsildar could not get him to bring his accounts for settlement till the last minute. He should not receive pay.

6. Chellimulla Rudravaram. The Curnam was old and almost totally blind, yet he is supposed to have measured up the large number of fields irrigated in this hamlet. The settlement of this village was very difficult owing to the continual discrepancies between the areas given in the application tickets and the areas actually measured by the Company's officers. Hence the ryots in many cases suffered by the mistakes of this old man. It would not be fair to the Company to pay for such work as this. See the remarks in the Detailed Settlement of this village.

7. Obstructions occasionally occurred in other villages, but mostly said to be from causes beyond the control of the Curnams themselves. Among those who were uniformly attentive and useful I may mention the Curnams of Mochumurry, Paggydial, and Pamulpad.

8. In Nundial Upper Division there was no special complaint, and the Overseer frequently assured me that there was no cause of complaint in reference to the Company's affairs. I have found the same in my inspection tours.

9. In a Government Order number to which I cannot refer at present, and which is not in my office, it was, I think, made clear that in case of the Curnam failing to do his work the money should be paid to the Reddy or the individual who acted for him.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th November 1875.*

10. Generally I recommend that all Curnams should be reminded of the necessity for attending to Rule XI., "that no remission shall be admitted unless written timely notice is given" to the Government and Canal authorities, so that the ryots may not suffer by any neglect on the part of the village authority. I believe the Deputy-Collector, Ram achender Row, if referred to will acquiesce in what I have here written.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. HOPE,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The complaints of the Company's Engineers appear to have had but little foundation as regards the Kurnool District.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 298.

ORDER THEREON, 26th November 1875, No. 1,696.

Irrigation, No. 10.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works
Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

D. E. CARMICHAEL

Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department.
,, the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

No. 2,988.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 28th October 1875.

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2. Mr. Dodson now states that "the remarks on this subject" made in his report on the whole canal "apply chiefly to the taluqs in the Cuddapah District." In the letter (copy enclosed) of Mr. Wilks to which allusion is made a few cases of supposed neglect on the part of the Curnams in one taluq are mentioned; but these evidently refer to the season of 1874-75, and not to the period for which the report is intended. They were not reported to the Revenue authorities at the time they were alleged to have occurred, and they would probably never have been heard of but for the discussion raised regarding the payment of remuneration to the Curnams provided in Rule XXI. of the Irrigation Rules. In January 1875, when specially addressed on the subject, Mr. Wilks had no complaints to make against the Curnams in his section, comprising the first 93 miles of canal—*vide* paragraph 5 of my letter, No. 301, dated 27th ultimo.

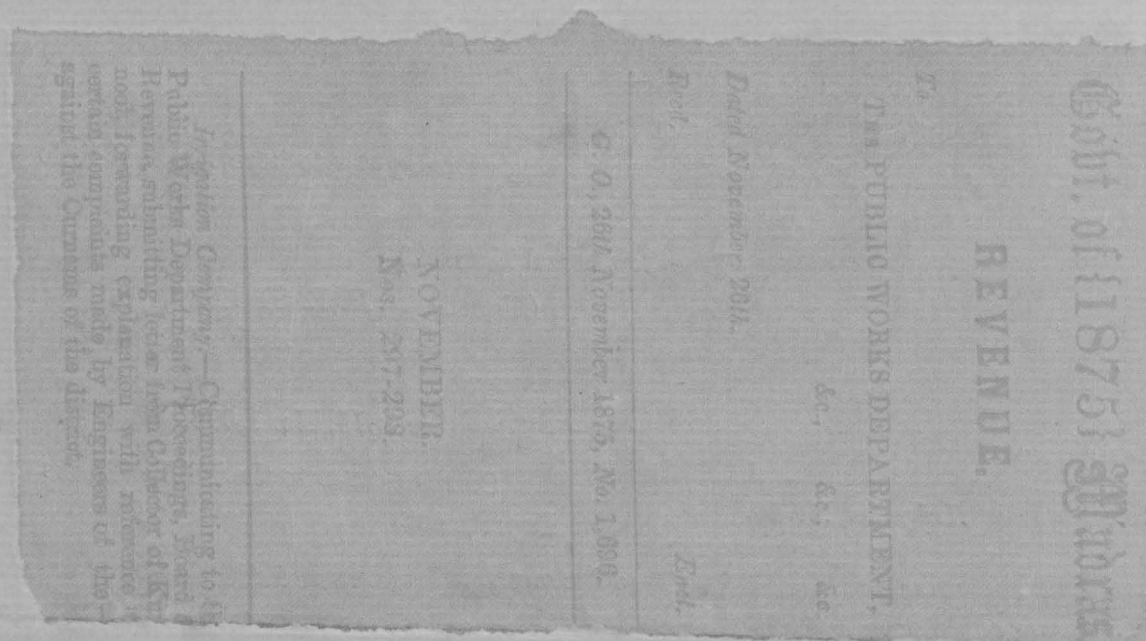
3. I trust the Government will consider the above explanation satisfactory, and agree with me in the opinion that the Company's officers should refrain from making vague general charges of the kind referred to, unless accompanied by a statement that they have failed to secure proper notice of their complaints from the Local Revenue Officers.

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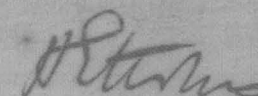
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(Signed) J. HOPE,
Acting Collector.

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(True Copies and Extract.)



Acting Secretary.

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

LC 3 July 1875 No 22-23
29th July 1875 - 2000.00

MD

No 1696
Communicated to the Public Works
Department.

MM

26 Nov 1875

21 To the P.W. Dept. Secy Secy
14 The Board of P.W.

No 4325
Passed 1875. Secy Secy
Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 28TH OCTOBER 1875, No. 2,988.

24/249100/175

Encl.

Received 5 Nov 1875

OCTOBER.
No. 2,988.

Irrigation and Canal Company.—Submitting
to Government letter from Collector of Kurnool
forwarding explanation with reference to cer-
tain complaints made by landowners of — against
the Curators of the district.

No 1696 - 26 Nov 1875

with order

LC 3 July 1875 No 22-23