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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1848 ~~Press~~
~~B.P. No.~~ Mis.

Dated 1-9-1875 ~~196~~ .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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No. 196. Read the following endorsement of the Officiating Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Ootacamund, 2nd August 1875, No. 35 :—

From A. J. DODSON, Esq., Manager and Acting Chief Engineer, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Major J. O. HASTED, R.E., Officiating Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 21st July 1875, No. 82.

I HAVE the honor to forward, per book post, copies of the Upper and Lower Divisions Reports, together with my own for the month of June 1875.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

UPPER DIVISION.

Monthly Report for June 1875.

WATER was let in on the 24th at 10 A.M., as the silt and rushes were reported to be entirely completed. It reached Kurnool in the evening, but was not allowed to continue beyond Kadrabagh aqueduct owing to some puddle work which the contractor had failed to complete in time. This work was ready for water on the 30th and the water was accordingly passed on. On the 28th a small leak occurred at Yeddaroor, but was immediately stopped.

2. Water did not reach Poodoor till the 3rd of July, when a small leak occurred at Kadrabagh and another in the 10th mile, both were soon stopped and 4½ feet of water again let into the canal. In a few days it will reach the Caulee at Lockinsula, as the large tanks are very full.

3. The weather has been extremely dry; a few showers of rain have fallen, but they were very partial. If the rain keeps off much longer, there will be a great demand for water.

4. Repairs are now all completed as far as Lockinsula; this does not include works which can be carried on when the water is in the canal, such as raising banks, &c., but the unexpected large amount of money spent on the silt excavation leaves very little for further operations this year, and the repairs to the 6th section locks must partly stand over, or fresh sanction must be obtained.

5. I enclose a table showing the totals of irrigation for each taluq in my division for last season. The figures here given are nearly correct, but the official reply concerning certain cases sent in for the decision of Government has not yet been received.

6. It will be seen that the acreage is nearly the same as that of last year. There was a falling off in second crops. The average* amount to be realized per acre is much less than that of last year. This is due almost entirely to the progressive rates. As far as can be seen at present, these rates are a failure.

* NOTE.—The average revenue per acre irrigated is for 1873-74 Rupees 4-15-5, and for 1874-75 Rupees 3-14-7, or nearly one-fifth less.

First.—They cause discontent among the first irrigators, who complain that they ought equally to benefit by the reduction.

Second.—The note fails to induce ryots to sow paddy in the profitable way as was intended, I believe, at the original meeting to make the rules. On the contrary it has drifted into allowing the rate for *all new* land, provided the ryot scratches together a little earth on the outside of his field which is called bunding. Levelling has quite been ignored. In consequence of this, in many villages the ryots intend to take new lands and give up the old irrigated fields, so as to have the benefit of the reduced rate. Several ryots abstained from irrigation last year. I believe this was with the idea of getting the rate of Rupees 3 for this year.

Third.—The opportunities for evading the proper rates will be very great, as the onus of proving any statement to be false lies entirely with the Company's staff, and complications in the settlement accounts, which this new arrangement has introduced, have doubled the work of all concerned in the settlement.

Notwithstanding all these drawbacks, I see no good result in any way. The ryots will continually be changing from field to field, and require fresh sets of channels without any corre-

sponding increase in the total irrigation. The revenue will be very considerably reduced without any advantage accruing in other ways.

7. Another disagreeable feature of this new arrangement is, that the ryots are more and more led to believe that they will have still further reductions if they hold out. There is a report flying about, said to have come from the Government Cutcherries, that the rate of Rupees 6 is to be altered to Rupees 5. So little did the ryots seem to care for the remissions that scarcely a village reddy appeared in the Nundicotkoor taluq, and only a very few ryots came to give evidence in the cases requiring it.

8. New forms of tickets are being prepared and will be shortly issued to the Overseers and Ameens. Some improvements in the forms have been made, as also in the record books of the Overseers. This will, it is hoped, facilitate the work at the settlement, which was extremely heavy this year.

9. The health of the staff has been fair.

10. The usual forms accompany this report.

The staff were paid from 3rd to 11th June 1875.

Abstract of Irrigation Accounts for Season 1874-75, *Fasli* 1284.

Taluqs.	Total Area.	Total Amount of Water-rate.	Remission.	Net Demand.
		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Ramalacottah	1,151 15	5,645 10 0	480 3 6	5,165 6 6
Nundicotkoor	3,263 58	13,074 5 0	335 9 2	12,738 11 10
Nundial (portion)	450 85	1,274 11 5	149 10 0	1,125 1 5
Grand Total ...	4,865 58	19,994 10 5	965 6 8	19,029 3 9

KURNOOL,
10*th July* 1875.

(Signed) C. H. WILKS,
Conservancy Engineer.

LOWER DIVISION.

Report for the Month of June 1875.

THE Main canal having been dry during this month, the works of repair have been pushed on rapidly so as to secure their being all properly completed before the water from the Upper Division should again reach the Caulee.

The anicut at Jutoor and all its head works have been put into thorough repair, and the extra works necessary to secure safety to the Main canal from such floods as those of last year (caused by the bursting of Government tanks) have been completed, they consist of two small extra flood calingulahs in the 93rd and 95th miles and No. 9-A calingulah in the 90th mile, consisting of twenty openings of 8 feet each; also several culverts under the canal have had their outlets cleared and lowered so as to make them more efficient.

In the 8th section all the locks have been put into thorough repair, and only need a few decayed junglewood balance beams to be replaced by teak ones, to make them in all respects ready for navigation. And several works of precaution against floods, such as diverting nullas from cutting into toe of banks, revetment to outer banks, &c., are in progress and will soon be completed. Between Rajoly head sluices and Iddymuddica, many silt banks have been removed which impeded the passage of water, and the whole bed of the canal has been cleared of rock or stones rising above normal bed level.

In the 9th section works of a similar nature have been carried on as far as the Pennair, and all the locks carefully repaired.

Beempaud bridge is only waiting for the completion of the centres when the arch will soon be turned. Much delay with the centres has been caused by the difficulty of getting skilled carpenters, but I hope all will be finished by the middle of July. In the 10th section the silt has all been removed from the first 3 miles so as to leave a clear passage for the water 36 feet wide, and the masonry works and banks have been put into good repair.

Distributaries.

All the main distribution channels and their masonry works have been put into thorough repair, and many additional road bridges, calingulahs, rooms and sluices have been built or are in progress, and silt has been excavated to a large amount.

The aqueduct over a bye-wash of the Pennair to carry an extension of the Chennoor channel across to the village of Goorumpaud has been commenced, and will, I hope, be completed in time for the first crops sown in August; this work will open an entirely new district for irrigation.

As far as we can judge at present, the uncommon dryness of the weather makes it very probable that we shall have a large increase in the wet crops during the approaching season, for it is certain that in many villages the ryots have been unable to plant their usual dry crops from want of rain, and are in consequence preparing their fields for paddy, and are eagerly asking when the water will reappear in the lower sections.

General.

On the 8th instant I left Dhoor to join Mr. Latham, Chief Engineer, at Cuddapah, and accompanied him to Kurnool, where on the 15th instant he made over to me the duties of Manager and Acting Chief Engineer during his absence on sick leave, but though necessarily now residing in Kurnool I continue to act as Conservancy Engineer for the Lower Division, with Mr. Dumphy as my Assistant.

The rainfall during the month has been less than it has been for many years, and up to date the very few showers which have fallen have been partial and slight.

(Signed) A. J. DODSON,
Conservancy Engineer.

KURNOOL,
9*th July* 1875.

Acting Chief Engineer's Report to accompany the Divisional Reports for June 1875.

WATER was admitted into the canal at Soonkesala on the 24th of June, and owing to a passage having been cleared through the silt and all the reeds having been cut away, it reached Kurnool in nine hours, and by the end of the month had reached the 25th mile, although its progress had twice to be checked owing to some slight leaks, due to sun-cracks just at water-level.

Unfortunately I am still unable to give the total amount of irrigation during the past season owing to the neglect of the Revenue authorities in the Cuddapah taluq, who have not yet sent in the applications for water in several villages, and the settlement cannot commence until all the village accounts have been made up. In the Upper Division Mr. Wilks reports that the acreage which was irrigated was nearly the same as that of last season (1873-74); but that, owing to the reduction of the rates, the revenue is on the average one-fifth or 20 per cent. less than that of the previous year. No doubt this decrease is due to the reduction of the rates sanctioned in the new rules, but it does not follow that this will be a permanent decrease of revenue per acre; for, if the same fields are planted with paddy again they will pay Rupees 4 per acre, an increase of 33 per cent., and now that the ryots are allowed to apply to the Company's Overseers for tickets, I anticipate a considerable increase in the amount of acres irrigated and, consequently, with the increased rates of revenue to be realized.

The departure of Mr. Latham to England on sick leave, my having to undertake new duties and the alterations necessary in the arrangement of staff have caused some delay in the progress of general work, but I hope now all will go on without further delay or difficulty.

The usual table of rainfall accompanies this report.

(Signed) A. J. DODSON,
Manager and Acting Chief Engineer.

KURNOOL,
20*th July* 1875.

Register of Rain-fall in Inches and Decimal[s] for the following Stations during the Month of June 1875 *at* [8] A.M. *daily* :—

Month and Date.	Soonkesala.	Kurnool.	[Cuddapah.]	Jutoor.	Ayaloor.	Chintacoonta.	Dhoor.	Remarks.
1st June 1875 ...	...	...	[0]·00	...	...	0·26	...	
2nd do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3rd do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
4th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
5th do. ..	0·40	0·11	...	...	...	0·03	...	
6th do. ...	...	...	0·20	0·05	...	...	...	
7th do. ...	...	...	...	0·45	...	0·10	...	
8th do. ..	0·90	0·11	...	...	...	...	...	
9th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	0·12	0·56	
10th do. ...	...	0·05	0·30	...	...	...	1·42	
11th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
12th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
13th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
14th do. ...	...	...	...	...	0·68	...	0·02	
15th do. ...	1·10	0·07	0·30	0·05	0·21	0·10	0·08	
16th do. ...	0·05	...	...	...	...	...	...	
17th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
18th do. ...	...	0·28	...	0·05	0·02	...	...	
19th do. ...	0·20	...	0·10	0·30	...	...	...	
20th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
21st do. ...	0·05	0·06	0·10	0·26	0·14	...	...	
22nd do. ...	...	...	...	...	0·01	...	...	
23rd do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	0·02	...	
24th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
25th do. ...	0·30	0·09	...	...	...	...	...	
26th do. ...	1·00	0·41	0·10	0·25	...	...	...	
27th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
28th do. ...	1·80	1·74	0·25	0·05	0·01	...	...	
29th do. ...	0·10	...	...	0·05	0·24	...	0·40	
30th do. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Total ...	5·90	2·92	3·55	1·51	1·31	0·63	2·48	

KURNOOL,
20th July 1875.

(Signed) A. J. DODSON,
Manager and Acting Chief Engineer.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

The repair of locks of the 6th section, referred to in paragraph 4 of the report on the Upper Division may, it is considered, stand over until it is decided whether arrangements are to be made for opening the canal for navigation.

2. Some of the remarks of Mr. Wilks on the working of the new rules in the Upper Division may, with advantage, be considered by the Collector of Kurnool. Some of the difficulties noticed will disappear on the ryots becoming more familiar with the rules; the proper levelling and banding of fields to entitle to the reduced rates should be strictly enforced; it is not likely then that changing land to be irrigated in order to pay the lower rates will be found profitable.

3. With regard to the Acting Chief Engineer's remark at the end of the report for the Lower Division, that he is still in executive charge of the lower sections,

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it may be noticed that Mr. Crawford should take up the conservancy duties there. His employment in the Central Office on the duties of Chief Accountant was to be only a temporary arrangement, and he should resume his proper duties as early as possible.

Proceedings, Madras Government, No. 1,772, dated 24th June 1875, and No. 1,047, dated 23rd April 1874.

(Signed) JOHN [H]ILLINS, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Officiating Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

No. 197. ORDER THEREON, 11th August 1875, No. 2,321.

IRRIGATION, No. 5.

RECORDED, and communicated to the Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, and to the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah.

(True Extract.)

Major-General, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" " and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.
" Collector of Kurnool.
" " of Cuddapah.
" Revenue Department.
" Examiner of Accounts.

Fxd. E. C. Shunker.
20 Spare Copies will follow

Rev: 1875: Sept
N. 334

Govt. of [illegible] Madras

PUBLIC WORKS.

To

THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION

&c., &c., &c.

Dated August 11th

Issued

Recd. 25th

Read

G. O., 11th August 1875, No. 2821.

Res Rlso

AUGUST.

Nos. 196-197

Report on the Works of the Upper and Lower Divisions of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company for June 1875.— The recorded, and communicated to the Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation an[illegible] Canal Company; and to the Collectors of Kistna and Nellore.

No 1848

Comm[illegible] Board of Revenue

1st September 1875

M. Tolls Board's Proc. Dated 8th Sept