

(1) Number of Pages.....18
(2) Date of repair.....19.6.68
(3) Initials of the Referencer.....*27.11.68*

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	302	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	25-2.1875	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th February 1875.*

No. 306. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 4th January 1875, No. 4 :—

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st November 1874, No. 623 :—

WITH reference to Government Proceedings, No. 106, dated 23rd January 1874, I have the honor to report on the work performed from Special Funds in the villages under the Streevaygundum Anicut on the south bank of the river.

2. These villages are twenty-seven in number, and works have been executed from Special Funds in twelve of these. The works executed consist of five tanks calculated to hold an aggregate of 12,000,000 cubic yards of water, fifty-two masonry works, sluices and calingulahs, sixteen miles of roadway, sixteen miles of drainage channel, and forty miles of delivery and branch channel; the last mentioned, however, are but a fraction of what are required; but my approaching departure from the district necessitates winding up the accounts and prevents my commencing the numerous works required on the north bank of the river.

3. The revision of assessment has been carried on in the Tenkarei Taluq throughout the current year, and an opportunity has thus been afforded of studying the requirements of these twenty-seven villages over and over again. It was from the first apparent that but little reliance could be placed on direct irrigation from the channels—the head sluice for the main channel is small, the great Kadamba Tank has to be filled up on the occurrence of every fresh before water can pass further eastward, the soil traversed by the channels is sandy, and the evaporation during the high winds of the south-west monsoon is excessive. Attention was therefore directed to increasing the storage of water in the area about to be irrigated, and several old tanks were restored; but as irrigation without drainage is useless, steps were taken to get rid of the accumulation of water in the low lands towards the coast, and to provide a free passage for the surplus of the Kadamba Tank which used formerly to find its way over the fields. At the same time, the bank of the Kadamba Tank and that of the main channel leading to it were cleared of obstructions and opened out wide enough to carry a roadway for a great part of their length, and earthwork was thrown up for another road through much of the waste land to be irrigated. Finally, small sluices were built in the distribution channels and a large number of minor branch channels were cut from these sluices to carry water to the fields. The estimated cost of these works was Rupees 61,391, and the sale of the right of occupancy of 2,007 acres has realized Rupees 55,575; there still remains as much more waste land to be parted with, but the best has of course been selected and further purchasers hold back until they see the water flow to the fields. All the works commenced have been completed with the exception of the roads, two drainage channels, and some ten branch channels which will be completed by the end of the year.

4. The estimates were prepared by the sub-division officers, Department Public Works, and countersigned by the District Engineer and Collector, and completion certificates have been granted by the sub-division officer for the greater part of the works. The execution of 2,356 cubic yards of masonry and 564,200 cubic yards of earthwork was carried out under the immediate supervision of

Vencatachariar, Special Assistant for Settlement, and Kistnasawmi Ayengar, Head Classifier in the Settlement Department, and these officers have worked day and night and have spared no labor or trouble to get the works finished this year.

5. Besides the lands parted with to purchasers of occupancy, 114 acres were given in exchange for putta lands taken up for tank beds, channels, etc., and the Government have thus been saved compensation to the extent of some Rupees 5,000.

6. Priority of purchase of the right of occupancy was in all cases conceded to the villagers at the upset price fixed, which was usually 30 Rupees an acre, if the villagers did not care to purchase, the lands were laid out in blocks of one acre each, and sold by auction, the average price realized was Rupees 28 an acre. The assessment of the area taken is Rupees 8,778, or an average of Rupees 4-6-0 an acre. All, however, will not be irrigated this year—high levels have to be cut down and hollows filled in; the thorn jungles approaching maturity must be left till fit to cut; branch channels have in many cases yet to be brought to the fields; and agricultural laborers must be induced to settle in a country now thinly inhabited. I have, therefore, thought it better to register as irrigated only such fields as may be irrigated this year, and to enter the rest as dry till such time as they are actually irrigated. The provisions of the settlement allow of such transfer being easily made, as in every case the technical class and sort shown in the register is the class and sort which should stand when the land is brought under irrigation.

7. The accompanying map shows these Special Fund works. The irrigation works in this map are colored blue, and the roadways red.

8. I also enclose a memorandum with rough sketches of the principal works performed.

9. Of the total expenditure, Rupees 4,000 were spent on supervision and petty establishments, Rupees 1,431 on contingencies and sundries, and Rupees 50,144 on masonry and earthwork. The masonry averaged Rupees 3-10-1, and the earthwork Anna 1-2 per cubic yard.

10. The District Engineer accompanied me over the works on various occasions and approved of what was done. The Chief Engineer for irrigation has also recently inspected the works. The sub-division officer, Department Public Works, Mr. Falvey, gave a great deal of his time to these works, and the Revenue Officers employed are much indebted to him for his advice and assistance.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement showing progress of work from Special Funds.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Map.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Memorandum with rough sketches of principal works performed.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G. O., dated 23rd January 1874, No. 106.

2. The work which has been done under the permission accorded to require premia to be paid before giving waste land under the Streevaygundum Anicut to applicants, and to expend the money in distribution works, etc., surpasses even the expectations of the Board, which, knowing as they did the antecedents of Mr. Puckle, were very sanguine. There are few officers in the Presidency who could have shown such results in so short a time and at so small a cost, and they reflect the highest credit both on Mr. Puckle and on Vencatachariar, the Special Assistant for Settlement, and Kistnasawmi Ayengar, Head Classifier, who, Mr. Puckle says, have worked day and night and spared no labor or trouble. It must not be forgotten, also, that the District Engineer, Mr. Rundall, and other officers of the Department Public Works in the district, prepared the estimates, measured the work performed, and assisted in all with hearty good will. A large tract of country has been permanently enriched and made eminently productive, and Government, who under ordinary circumstances would have had to expend fifty or sixty thousand Rupees, have had to pay nothing.

3. The report refers only to the twelve out of the twenty-seven villages on the south bank of the river in which distribution works, etc., had to be constructed. The other fifteen, the Board believe, consisted for the most part of wet land even before the anicut was constructed. In these twelve villages, there were some 4,000 acres of irrigable waste, but about 2,000 of them were better situated than the rest and the Collector had to look to them for the required funds. As is clearly explained by Mr. Puckle, tanks were wanted to store water in different parts of the tract as well as sluices and calingulabs and channels for supply and drainage, and roads were required to connect points, the communication between which had been severed by the new irrigation. The cost of the works was estimated at Rupees 61,391, and Mr. Puckle imposed an upset price of Rupees 30 an acre, and offered the unoccupied land at this rate to the resident villagers. When the resident villagers did not come forward for any of the land, it was sold by auction, and altogether Rupees 55,575 were realized from 2,007 acres, which, when irrigated as some are now, and all will be in a year or two, will yield an assessment of Rupees 8,778.

4. The summary of work done given in paragraph 2 speaks for itself. It was not till the end of January that permission to commence it was given and most is finished now, and all will be finished by the end of the calendar year. The memoranda map and sketches submitted with the report make it very clear and add considerably to its value.

5. The tract on the north bank of the river, which is still untouched, must of course be dealt with in the same manner, or there will be great discontent; but now that Mr. Puckle has been called away from the district for which he has done so much, more will have to be left to the Department Public Works, and the Board do not doubt that it will be in good hands.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
25th February 1875.*

No. 307.

ORDER THEREON, 25th February 1875, No. 302.

Land Revenue, No. 12.

WITH their Proceedings above recorded, the Board submit the report of Mr. Puckle, Collector of Tinnevely, on the results of the sale of waste lands under the Streevayagundum Anicut, and the employment of the proceeds thereof on the construction of useful Public Works for the successful cultivation of those lands, agreeably to the sanction given in the Proceedings of Government, dated 23rd January 1874, No. 106.

2. The extent of land sold in twelve villages was acres 2,007, and the proceeds thereof amounted to Rs. 55,575. The whole of this sum was spent in constructing five tanks calculated to hold an aggregate of 12,000,000 cubic yards of water, in building fifty-two masonry works, sluices and calingulahs, in making sixteen miles of roadway, and in excavating sixteen miles of drainage channel and forty miles of delivery and branch channels. The lands which have been taken up at the sales will yield to Government in a year or two an annual assessment of Rs. 8,778.

3. The successful manner in which the sales have been conducted and the amount of work done within a comparatively short time are highly satisfactory, and the thanks of Government are due to Mr. Puckle and his Assistant Vencatachariar, as also to the District Engineer Mr. Rundall, and Mr. Falvey, sub-divisional officer of the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. W. H. French.

3/11/84 ✓
4-2-90 ✓
Govt of 1875: Madras

REVENUE.

The BOARD OF REVENUE.

do. do. do.

Dated February 25th.

Read.

Encl.

G. O., 25th February 1875, No. 302.

FEBRUARY.

No. 306-307.

Villages under Streevaygundum Anicut in
Tinnevely District. Reviewing the report of the
Collector on the state of lands in the — and the
works executed from the proceeds thereof, and not-
ing with satisfaction the successful manner in
which this work was carried out by the officers of
the district.



No. 4.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 4th January 1875.

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely,
to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st
November 1874, No. 623 :—

With reference to Government Proceedings, No. 106, dated 23rd January
1874, I have the honor to report on the work performed from Special Funds in the
villages under the Streevaygundum Anicut on the south bank of the river.

2. These villages are twenty-seven in number, and works have been executed
from Special Funds in twelve of these. The works executed consist of five tanks
calculated to hold an aggregate of 12,000,000 cubic yards of water, fifty-two
masonry works, sluices and calingulahs, sixteen miles of roadway, sixteen miles of
drainage channel, and forty miles of delivery and branch channel; the last
mentioned, however, are but a fraction of what are required; but my approaching
departure from the district necessitates winding up the accounts and prevents my
commencing the numerous works required on the north bank of the river.

3. The revision of assessment has been carried on in the Tenkarei Taluq
throughout the current year, and an opportunity has thus been afforded of studying
the requirements of these twenty-seven villages over and over again. It was from the
first apparent that but little reliance could be placed on direct irrigation from the
channels—the head sluice for the main channel is small, the great Kadamba Tank
has to be filled up on the occurrence of every fresh before water can pass further
eastward, the soil traversed by the channels is sandy, and the evaporation during
the high winds of the south-west monsoon is excessive. Attention was therefore
directed to increasing the storage of water in the area about to be irrigated, and
several old tanks were restored; but as irrigation without drainage is useless, steps
were taken to get rid of the accumulation of water in the low lands towards the
coast, and to provide a free passage for the surplus of the Kadamba Tank which
used formerly to find its way over the fields. At the same time, the bank of the
Kadamba Tank and that of the main channel leading to it were cleared of obstruc-
tions and opened out wide enough to carry a roadway for a great part of their
length, and earthwork was thrown up for another road through much of the waste
land to be irrigated. Finally, small sluices were built in the distribution channels
and a large number of minor branch channels were cut from these sluices to carry
water to the fields. The estimated cost of these works was Rupees 61,391, and the

sale of the right of occupancy of 2,007 acres has realized Rupees 55,575; there still remains as much more waste land to be parted with, but the best has of course been selected and further purchasers hold back until they see the water flow to the fields. All the works commenced have been completed with the exception of the roads, two drainage channels, and some ten branch channels which will be completed by the end of the year.

4. The estimates were prepared by the sub-division officers, Department Public Works, and countersigned by the District Engineer and Collector, and completion certificates have been granted by the sub-division officer for the greater part of the works. The execution of 2,356 cubic yards of masonry and 564,200 cubic yards of earthwork was carried out under the immediate supervision of Vencatachariar, Special Assistant for Settlement, and Kistnasawmi Ayengar, Head Classifier in the Settlement Department, and these officers have worked day and night and have spared no labor or trouble to get the works finished this year.

5. Besides the lands parted with to purchasers of occupancy, 114 acres were given in exchange for putta lands taken up for tank beds, channels, etc., and the Government have thus been saved compensation to the extent of some Rupees 5,000.

6. Priority of purchase of the right of occupancy was in all cases conceded to the villagers at the upset price fixed, which was usually 30 Rupees an acre, if the villagers did not care to purchase, the lands were laid out in blocks of one acre each, and sold by auction, the average price realized was Rupees 28 an acre. The assessment of the area taken is Rupees 8,778, or an average of Rupees 4-6-0 an acre. All, however, will not be irrigated this year—high levels have to be cut down and hollows filled in; the thorn jungles approaching maturity must be left till fit to cut; branch channels have in many cases yet to be brought to the fields; and agricultural laborers must be induced to settle in a country now thinly inhabited. I have, therefore, thought it better to register as irrigated only such fields as may be irrigated this year, and to enter the rest as dry till such time as they are actually irrigated. The provisions of the settlement allow of such transfer being easily made, as in every case the technical class and sort shown in the register is the class and sort which should stand when the land is brought under irrigation.

7. The accompanying map shows these Special Fund works. The irrigation works in this map are colored blue, and the roadways red.

8. I also enclose a memorandum with rough sketches of the principal works performed.

9. Of the total expenditure, Rupees 4,000 were spent on supervision and petty establishments, Rupees 1,431 on contingencies and sundries, and Rupees 50,144 on masonry and earthwork. The masonry averaged Rupees 3-10-1, and the earthwork Anna 1-2 per cubic yard.

10. The District Engineer accompanied me over the works on various occasions and approved of what was done. The Chief Engineer for irrigation has also recently inspected the works. The sub-division officer, Department Public

Works, Mr. Falvey, gave a great deal of his time to these works, and the Revenue Officers employed are much indebted to him for his advice and assistance.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement showing progress of work from Special Funds.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Map.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.—Memorandum with rough sketches of principal works performed.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government with reference to G. O., dated 23rd January 1874, No. 106.

2. The work which has been done under the permission accorded to require premia to be paid before giving waste land under the Streevaygundum Anicut to applicants, and to expend the money in distribution works, etc., surpasses even the expectations of the Board, which, knowing as they did the antecedents of Mr. Puckle, were very sanguine. There are few officers in the Presidency who could have shown such results in so short a time and at so small a cost, and they reflect the highest credit both on Mr. Puckle and on Vencatachariar, the Special Assistant for Settlement, and Kistnasawmi Ayengar, Head Classifier, who, Mr. Puckle says, have worked day and night and spared no labor or trouble. It must not be forgotten, also, that the District Engineer, Mr. Rundall, and other officers of the Department Public Works in the district, prepared the estimates, measured the work performed, and assisted in all with hearty good will. A large tract of country has been permanently enriched and made eminently productive, and Government, who under ordinary circumstances would have had to expend fifty or sixty thousand Rupees, have had to pay nothing.

3. The report refers only to the twelve out of the twenty-seven villages on the south bank of the river in which distribution works, etc., had to be constructed. The other fifteen, the Board believe, consisted for the most part of wet land even before the anicut was constructed. In these twelve villages, there were some 4,000 acres of irrigable waste, but about 2,000 of them were better situated than the rest and the Collector had to look to them for the required funds. As is clearly explained by Mr. Puckle, tanks were wanted to store water in different parts of the tract as well as sluices and calingulahs and channels for supply and drainage, and roads were required to connect points, the communication between which had been severed by the new irrigation. The cost of the works was estimated at Rupees 61,391, and Mr. Puckle imposed an upset price of Rupees 30 an acre, and offered the unoccupied land at this rate to the resident villagers. When the resident villagers did not come forward for any of the land, it was sold by auction, and altogether Rupees 55,575 were realized from 2,007 acres, which, when irrigated as some are now, and all will be in a year or two, will yield an assessment of Rupees 8,778.

4. The summary of work done given in paragraph 2 speaks for itself. It was not till the end of January that permission to commence it was given and most is finished now, and all will be finished by the end of the calendar year. The memoranda map and sketches submitted with the report make it very clear and add considerably to its value.

5. The tract on the north bank of the river, which is still untouched, must of course be dealt with in the same manner, or there will be great discontent; but now that Mr. Puckle has been called away from the district for which he has done so much, more will have to be left to the Department Public Works, and the Board do not doubt that it will be in good hands.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

J. G. Cole

Secretary.

To the Acting Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with three original enclosures.

the Collector of Tinnevely.

Copy to the Director of Revenue Settlement.

Exd. W. H. French.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 104

No. 104

From B. of Rev.

Dated 4 January

1875.

FOR ORDERS.

Certainly
12/2
also go to
Mr. 7 along
who is speaking
noticed by
Thank that the Rank & Income
of Mr. Puckle are due & Mr. Puckle
& his assistant in the matter
and propose that suitable
honoraria (Mr. P. old state salary)
to his assistant.
Satisfactorily all he has
done - distinctly accept
the principle that the work
done of the County are a-
vailable under the system
but he has so effected

23 January 1875 No 104 - 202

3/11/88

Rev: 1875 - 204

No. 104

1875.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 4TH JANUARY 1875, No. 4.

Order 11/15

Encl. 3

Col 302. 23 February 1875

Received 12th

JANUARY.

No. 4.

Villages under Sreevengadam Ament-
in Tinnevely District. - Letter from Collector,
reporting on works performed from Special
Funds in - on the south bank of the river, sub-
mitted for information of Government with
remarks.

24 204/15 12 12 12/15

9-306

for order. 11/15

manipulate an available
for such work & direct all
Col. Report is that way by
or emulate the success
what has attended Mr P's
actions & develop the same

W.B.

See further note in Mr P's memo
of the date - I am within the
8/4/91 powers of the
M

7
yes: but the circumstances when
quite exceptional: and the
collisions should be made clearly
to understand them, and then
they need limits their action
to strictly envelopes can

12/2

FOR ORDERS.

Villages under
Streevayagendram
Amicit. in
Tinnevely, &c.

✓ In plant for
the above revenue
new duties &
report. but they
should first be
admitted for
the Tinnevely
Cultivation &c.

Revenue Department.

No. 302

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Under date the 25th February 1875.

Read the following Proceedings of
the Board of Revenue.

Subm^d letter from Collector of
Tinnevely reporting on works for
formed from Special funds in
villages under Streevayagendram
Amicit.

H. E. 4th January 1875. N. 11.)

With their Proceedings
above recorded, the Board submit
the report of Mr. Puckle, Collector
of Tinnevely on the results of the
sale of waste lands under the
Streevayagendram Amicit and
the employment of the proceeds
thereof on the construction of
useful Public Works for the
successful cultivation of those
lands agreeably to the sanction
given in the Proceedings of Govt.
dated

dated 23rd January 1875 N. 106.

2. The extent of land sold in twelve villages was acres 2007 and the proceeds thereof amounted to Rs 55,575. The whole of this sum was spent in constructing five tanks calculated to hold an aggregate of 12,000,000 cubic yards of water, in building fifty-two masonry works, sluices and Calingulabs, in making sixteen miles of roadway and in excavating sixteen miles of drainage channel and forty miles of delivery and branch channels. The lands which have been taken up at the sales will yield to Govt. in a year or two an annual assessment of Rs 8,778.

3. The successful manner in which the sales have been conducted and the amount of work done within a comparatively short time are highly

highly satisfactory and the thanks of Govt. are due to Mr. Puckle and his Assistant Cencatachariars as also to the District Engineer Mr. Randall, and Mr. Talbot, Sub-divisional Officer of the Public Works Department.

gull

19/2/75

14 Board of Revenue Des. 26 Feb
21 Public Works Dept. 5

76

List from orders in Council.
16.2.75

Robert

90.

Carton Public Works
in villages under
Strayagundam
Ancient, Tennally
District.