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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1754	Press
B.R. No.		Mis.
Dated	24. 7 - 1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 1,721.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 6th July 1876.

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 29th July 1873, No. 1,433.

Read also the following letter from H. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 6th June 1876, No. 154 :—

With reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 29th July 1873, No. 1,433, I have the honor to submit herewith a report from the District Engineer, which reached me only lately.

2. The whole piece that goes by the name of Adappampallam consists of 357.3 acres of *wet land*. Of this extent 9.25 are classed as 6th taram and assessed at Rupees 27-12-0 at Rupees 3 an acre, while the rest, 347.78 acres, are classed as 7th taram and assessed at Rupees 869-15-0 at Rupees 2-8-0 per acre.

3. The whole piece was taken up by the villagers as a wealthy neighboring villager competed for it. The lands

Fasli.	Taram.	Extent cultivated.	Assessment.		
			RS.	A.	P.
1281	6	1.84	5	9	0
	7	4.87	12	3	0
	...	6.71	17	12	0
1282	6	.66	2	0	0
	7	36.20	90	8	0
	...	36.86	92	8	0

After the lands were made over to the headmen of the village in 1866, they had it proportionately divided among all the ryots, and when the ryots found it not worth the trouble of cultivating, each of them sold his portion to the villagers in the vicinity, to whom the prospect of securing wet lands at so low a rate as Rupees 15 and Rupees 20 was too tempting. It was thus that the lands were sold and bought.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From Major J. VERTUE, R.E., District Engineer, Trichinopoly, to H. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, dated 6th April 1876, No. 25.

I HAVE the honor to furnish the information called for in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 1,433, of 29th July 1873, regarding the drainage of the Adappampallam in Trichinopoly Taluq.

2. The foregoing is a natural hollow, to drain which a channel was many years ago cut by (then) Captain Lawford. How far this channel fulfilled its purpose I cannot say, but at all events it is now throughout silted up almost to ground level, and is, therefore, utterly useless. To restore the channel to a state of efficiency a heavy cutting (9½ maximum) is required, and the cost for earthwork alone will be Rupees 3,500.

3. The flooding is due partly to natural drainage and partly to the backwater of the Vennar in high floods. The latter can be almost entirely kept out by the provision of self-acting shutters to a surplus sluice in the Vennar embankment, which, while they will admit of a partial discharge from the flooded lands when the Vennar is low, will at the same time prevent the ingress of water from it when in flood. I may mention that these shutters are being now provided.

4. To effectually drain the land the foresaid channel must however be cut, two aqueducts for the passage of irrigation channels must be rebuilt, and aqueducts for the passage of eleven small

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jungle streams must be provided. Putting it at the very lowest figure, the cost of this will not be less than Rupees 5,000. I must leave you to say whether Government will be sufficiently remunerated for such an outlay.

5. I would only remark in conclusion that the channel is one that has silted up with great rapidity. This will no doubt be partly obviated by the construction of masonry works for the passage of the many jungle streams intercepted by the channel; but under any circumstance it is one that will be costly to maintain; and, even supposing the outlay forementioned will permit of the realization of a fair profit, I would not be disposed to recommend the carrying out of the scheme unless those interested agree to pay a certain proportion of the cost of keeping the channel clear. I cannot ascertain whether the channel was ever cleared after its completion, but to me it seems as though it were found to silt up so rapidly as to render the cost of keeping it clear unremunerative.

(True Copy.)

(Signed)

H. SEWELL.

Acting Collector.

The foregoing papers relate to a claim for remission of assessment put in by certain ryots holding a plot of land known as "Adappampallam" in the Trichinopoly Taluq, the ground upon which the claim is based being that the land is not cultivable owing to excess of water.

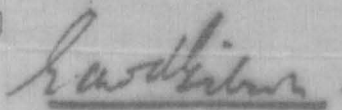
2. It appears that the petitioner's statement is true, and that the lands, which bear a "wet" assessment of Rupees 2-8-0 and Rupees 3 an acre, are practically worthless. The total annual revenue derived from the plot amounts to Rupees 869-15-0. The District Engineer appears to have no doubt as to the possibility of rendering the land valuable by drainage, but says the work would be costly in execution, and that when completed further expense of a permanent nature would be entailed in keeping the drainage channel clear.

3. If Major Vertue's rough estimate of Rupees 5,000 is at all correct, it is evident that the work would be remunerative, returning, even at the present low rate of assessment, about seventeen per cent. upon the outlay. Whereas, if the work be not carried out, the lands will necessarily be waste from year to year and remission will be claimable.

4. In these circumstances the Board are of opinion that the land should be drained, and resolve to submit the matter to Government with their recommendation that orders be issued in the Public Works Department for the preparation of estimates for opening out the drainage channel and subsidiary works and of the probable annual cost of maintenance. When this last item is known, a muchilka might be taken from the ryots interested to contribute kudi-maramut or a portion of the cost of annual clearance.

5. Meanwhile the puttadars are entitled to remission upon such portions of the land as remain waste owing to excess of water which they cannot control.

(True Copies and Extracts.)



Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with copies of

Board's Proceedings, 5th Feb. 1873, Mis. No. 682, & 29th July 1873, No. 1,433.

Copy to the Acting Collector of Trichinopoly.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

The Govt agree with the Board
and resolve to transfer the papers to the
Public Works Dept, in view to estimate
for clearing the drainage channel
to be being called for.

W. Jay 20.7.76
Transferred to
for Govt report
20/7 20 July 1876

1 Loke Old Dept on 20 July
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1876.

Board of Revenue,
MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 6TH JULY 1876, No. 1,721.

20 July 1876

Encl 2
G. M.
D. M.

Received 19 July.

JULY.
No. 1,721.

Adappampallam—a plot of land in Trichi-
nopoly District, which is not cultivable owing
to excess of water.—Submitting to Government
Board's opinion that—should be drained; re-
commending that orders be issued in Public
Works Department for preparation of necessary
estimates; and stating that putadars are enti-
tled to remission on such portion of the land as
remain waste.

With order.

1754-also 27 July

2.20. July 1876. P. 24.18