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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / ~~B.P. No.~~ 1853	Press / ~~Mis.~~
Dated 29-11-1876 ~~196~~ .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1853/1

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 29th November 1876.

No. 573. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 24th November 1876, No. 2,962:—

Read the following letter from F. R. H. SHARP, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 21st November 1876, No. 3,212.

I HAVE the honor to request that I may be supplied immediately with three Department of Public Works Overseers for employment on relief works under the Head Assistant Collector, the Assistant Collector, and the Deputy Collector on General Duties, respectively, as the appearance of the weather gives no hope that the necessity for relief works will soon cease in their ranges; on the contrary, we have to provide for a progressive increase in the number of those needing employment.

2. The head-quarters of the Overseer under the Head Assistant Collector will be Udayagiri for the Udayagiri-Seetarampuram and Dootaloor-Bhata Roads, the direct charge of which is too onerous for the Head Assistant in addition to his other duties. This Overseer should be ordered to proceed to Nellore for orders.

3. The second Overseer I propose should have his head-quarters north of Kaligiri under the orders of the Assistant Collector to superintend the laying out of the Kaligiri-Kanigiri Road and the various works in that locality. This Overseer can join viâ Nellore.

4. The head-quarters of the third Overseer under the General Deputy Collector will be probably Naidupet for the present for employment on the Naidupet-Venkatagiri and Naidupet-Dugarazupatam Roads. The officer chosen should be directed to proceed direct to Naidupet, intimating his going by post beforehand to the General Deputy Collector.

5. With reference to the Board's remarks about the improvement of the village roads in their Proceedings, No. 2,764, of 7th instant, I very much regret that I could not feel satisfied in leaving the choice of coolies and their payment to Village Officers as a general rule. Moreover, we have lines of important roads in the district, since surveyed and some marked out upon the earth work, of which the poor may be profitably employed. But all village improvements will be carried out which can be superintended by the higher revenue officials.

6. I ask sanction for allowing the cultivation of beds of tanks on payment of suitable dry rates where there is no prospect of their receiving a supply of water. Many ryots in despair of getting water for their paddy have cultivated cholum instead upon their wet lands. I shall be glad to have this sanction accorded by telegraph, as this is just the season to commence such cultivation.

7. I consider I should now bring forward the subject of a supply of drinking water for human beings for the next hot weather. Last summer, the supply was extremely deficient in many parts of the western taluqs, so much so that cases were reported of travellers dying of thirst. Our rainfall since July has been as per margin, so that we have had little to meet our wants. Most tanks are or will shortly be dry, and the rivers are low. So should we receive no greater supply of rain from the north-east monsoon than that we have already had (viz., 2 inches 4 oz.), I fear we may have

July	1876	... ...	0·96¾
August	„	... ...	3·63½
September	„	... ...	0·80½
October	„	... ...	0·21¼
			5·61¾

a most terrible famine of water next hot weather in the western taluqs. Chiefly to provide against such a calamity, I propose to offer a bonus of Rupees 100 for every new well constructed after the 1st December which shall have a fair supply of portable water in it available to the public during next year, or half the estimated value of the well not exceeding Rupees 100. All such wells to be constructed at sites approved by Collectors or Divisional Officers within half a mile of a public road, and to which the public shall have free access.

8. I propose a discretionary payment, not exceeding half the cost, by Collectors or Divisional Officers for the improvement of existing private wells in sites approved by them where they are satisfied the water-supply has been most materially augmented.

I propose the sinking by Government of new wells in suitable localities on high roads in those places where there is reason to anticipate most distress for water and least prospect of wells being sunk or improved by private enterprise. I would make it a proviso that no Government money is spent on any wells which are within three miles of fair supplies of drinking water.

9. While I desiderate the above improvements chiefly for the supply of drinking water, I anticipate also an augmentation of the food-supply of the district and a material assistance to poor ryots who have suffered from bad seasons and loss of cattle. I am procuring from the Superintendent of the Government Farm a model of the one bullock-lift for wells in use there, and I ask sanction for the cost of setting up the apparatus at a convenient well in Nellore for exhibition to the people to encourage them to the extension of well irrigation at this season.

10. Where feasible I propose charging water-rate at one rupee per acre for the use of the Government wells to be constructed.

11. The total amount I ask for expenditure in the above way for the present is Rupees 20,000, which I hope to distribute as follows :—

	RS.
(*a.*) Bonus for 75 new wells...	7,500
(*b.*) Do. for improvement of 150 old ones	7,500
(*c.*) Cost of 15 Government wells on an average of over Rupees 300	5,000
Total ...	20,000

	ACRES.
Benefits—average increased cultivation under 75 new wells at 5 acres...	375
Benefits—additional cultivation under old wells... ...	150
Do. —under 5 Government wells at 5 acres ...	25
Total ...	550

Add to this the benefit or rather the probable necessity of providing drinking water for a large portion of the population.

THE Collector's application for three Department of Public Works Overseers is submitted for the orders of Government with the Board's support.

2. The Board do not think that his objections to village works on the ground that the Village Officers are not to be trusted are well founded. They would be at least as trustworthy as petty maistries, who will have to be employed upon the relief works, and the interest of the ryots as a body in the village improvements would be a strong check upon them.

3. The ryots should be encouraged to cultivate dry grains in their irrigated lands for which a supply of water has failed.

4. The Board do not approve Mr. Sharp's suggestions for the improvement of water-supply. His attention is called to Board's Proceedings, No. 2,897, dated 20th November 1876, informing him that he is at liberty to make advances under the Land Improvement Act and Rules to ryots for the purpose of digging wells. It will however doubtless be necessary to spend some Government money in providing wells in some places for public use, and the Board resolve to sanction a grant of Rupees 5,000 for the purpose; the work to be carried out as relief work. The selection of sites is left to the Collector.

5. The cost of setting up the model water-lift may be met from relief grants. It will be small.

6. The Collector is requested to report what sums provided for expenditure under Local Funds are or can be made available for relief purposes.

(A true Copy and Extract.)
(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 574. ORDER THEREON, 29th November 1876, No. 1,853.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government approve the Board's views in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4. The Public Works Department will be requested to arrange for the supply of the three Overseers required by Mr. Sharp.

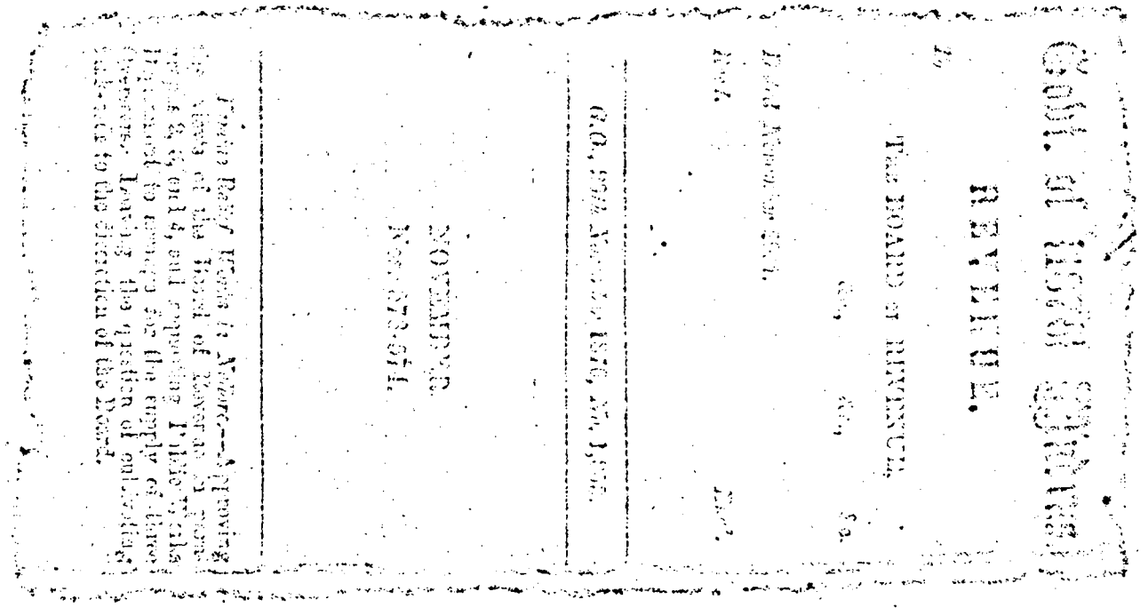
2. There may be some difference of opinion as to encouraging tank-bed cultivation; but the Government will leave the decision of the question to the discretion of the Board.

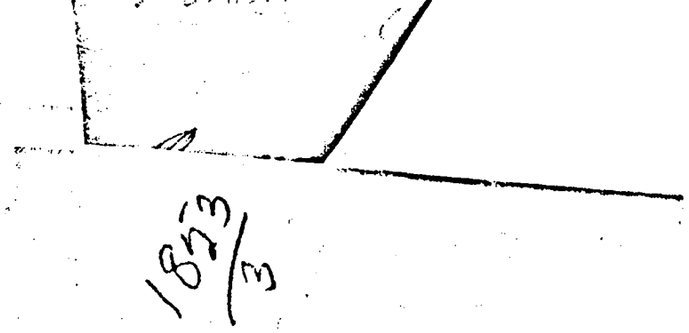
(True Extract.)
(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Inspector-General of Police.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

1853/2





1853/3

Copy
Lieut Col
Cullen's
Letter dated
14th Novr 1853
with Estimate
for the Repair
of the Grand
Trunk Road

Revenue Department

1863/4

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 24 Nov^r/76.

No. 2962:-

Read the following

No: 3212.

From.

Z. R. H. Sharp Esquire

Acting Collector of Action

To H. E. Stokes Esquire

A^s Secretary to the Board of Revenue

—Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to request that I may be supplied immediately with three Depart-ment Public Works Overseers for employment on relief works under the Head Assistant Collector, the Assistant Collector & the Deputy Collector on General Duties, respectively as the appearance of the weather gives me hope that the necessity for relief works will soon cease in their ranges; on the Contrary

Contrary we have to provide for a progressive increase in the number of those needing employment.

2. The Head quarters of the Overseer under the Head Assistant Collector will be Gudayagiri for the Gudayagiri - Sulavaram - Juvvam and Dowtalur Bhota roads, the direct charge of which is two enemus for the Head Assistant in addition to his own duties - This Overseer should be ordered to proceed to Nellore for orders -

3. The Second Overseer I propose should have his head quarters north of Kalingiri under the orders of the Assistant Collector to Superintend the Laying out of the Kalingiri - Kanigiri Road & the various works in that locality - This Overseer can join with Nellore.

4. The head quarters of the third Overseer under the General Deputy Collector will be probably Naidupett for the present for employment on the Naidupett - Venkatagiri & Naidupett - Dugarazupatnam Roads - The officer chosen should be directed to proceed direct to Naidupett intimating his going by post before hand to the General Deputy Collector.

1853/5

5. With reference to the Board's remarks about the improvement of the Village Roads in their Proceedings Rc 2764 of 7th instant, I very much regret that I could not feel satisfied in leaving the choice of Coolies & their payment to Village officers as a general rule - Moreover, we have lines of important roads in the District, some surveyed & some marked out

upon

upon the earth work of which the poor may be profitably employed. But all Village improvements will be carried out which can be superintended by the higher revenue officials

6. Last Sanction for allowing the cultivation of beds of tanks on payment of suitable dry rates where there are no prospect of their receiving a supply of water. Many ryots in despair of getting water for their lands have cultivated Cholam instead upon their wet lands. I shall be glad to have this Sanction recorded by telegraph as this is just the season to commence such cultivation.

7. I consider I should now bring forward the subject of a supply of drinking water for human beings for the next hot weather. Last

Sanction by telegraph

Last Summer, the supply was extremely deficient in many parts of the western talugs, so much so that cases were reported of travellers dying of thirst. Our rainfall since July has been as per margin so that we have had little to meet our wants. Most tanks are, or will shortly be dry, & the rivers are low. So should we receive no greater supply of rain from the North East Monsoon than that we have already had (viz 2 inches 4 cts) I fear we may have a most terrible famine of water next hot weather in the western talugs. I chiefly to provide against such a calamity, I propose to offer a bonus of Rs 100 for every new well constructed after

1853/6

July 1876. 0.96 3/4
August. 3. 63 1/2
Sept. 0.80 1/4
Oct. 0.21 1/2.
5. 61 3/4

after the 1st December which shall have a fair supply of potable water in it available to the public during next year, or half the estimated value of the well not exceeding Rs 100. All such wells to be constructed at sites approved by Collectors or Divisional Officers within half a mile of a public road & to which the public shall have free access.

8. I propose a discretionary payment not exceeding half the cost by Collectors or Divisional officers for the improvement of existing private wells in sites approved by them where they are satisfied the water supply has been most materially augmented.

I propose the sinking by Government of

Rejected

1853/7

of new wells in suitable localities on high roads in those plains where there is reason to anticipate most distress for water & least prospect of wells being sunk or improved by private enterprise.

I would make it a proviso that no Government money is spent on any wells which are within three miles of fair supplies of drinking water.

9. While I desiderate the above improvements chiefly for the supply of drinking water, I anticipate also an augmentation of the food supply of the District and a material assistance to poor ryots who have suffered from bad seasons & loss of cattle. I am procuring from the Superintendent of Government Farms a model of the one-

one-bullock-lift for wells in use there,

4th I ask Sanction for the cost of fitting up the apparatus at a convenient well in Nellore for exhibition to the people to encourage them to the extension of well irrigation at this season. 400

5th Where feasible I propose charging water-rate at 1 Rupee per Acre for the use of the Government wells to be Constructed. Nil

6th The total amount I ask for expenditure in the above way for the present is Rs. 20,000 which I hope to distribute as follows:-

	Rs.
a. Bonus for 75 new wells ———	7,500
b. —a— for improvement of 150 old ones -	7,500
c. Cost of 15 Government wells on an average of — over Rs 300 —	5,000
	20,000

Benefit

(65/8)

	Acres
Benefit:- Average increased cultivation under 75 new wells at 5 acres ———	375
Do Additional Cultivation under old wells -	150
Do under 5 Government wells at 5 acres	25
Total Acres	550

Add to this the benefit or rather the probable necessity of providing drinking water for a large portion of the population.

Nellore Collr's Office
21 November 1865.

I have &c
(sd) H. Sharp
Asst Collector

The Collector's application for three D. P. W. Overseers is submitted for the orders of Government with the Board's Support.

2. The Board do not think that his

his objections to village works on the ground that the Village officers are not to be trusted. are ill founded. They would be at least as trustworthy as petty Dais. - tries who will have to be employed - upon the reliefworks, and the interest of the ryots as a body in the village improvements would be a strong check upon them.

Jayes

3. The ryots should be encouraged to cultivate dry grains in their irrigated Lands for which a Supply of water has failed.

4. The Board do not approve Mr. Sharp's Suggestions for the improvement of water Supply - His attention is called to Board's Proceedings No - dated 20 November 1876 informing

free of assessment

1853/9

informing him that he is at liberty to make advances under the Land Improvement Act & rules to ryots for the purpose of digging wells - It will however doubtless be necessary to spend some Government money in providing wells in some places for public use, & the Board resolve to sanction a grant of (Rs 5000) Rupees five thousand for the purpose, the work to be carried out as reliefworks. The Selection of Sites is left to the Collector -

5. The cost of setting up the Model water lifts may be met from relief grants. It will be small.

6. The Collector is requested to report what Sums provided for expenditure under

under Local funds are or can be made
available for relief purposes.

I have &c

A Clothier

A/g Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government N.D.

Encl Endorsement

Rec: 1876: Dept. No: 5163
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
Dated 24 Nov. 76.
Dept 24 —
Rec. 25 —

No 1853 - 29th November 1876

Famine Relief Works — in Chittoor

Dt. — Submitting to Govt Collr's application for 3 D.S.H. overseers for employment on — Sanctioning Rs 5000 for providing wells in Lime places for public use & requesting Collector to State what Sums, provided for expenditure under Local funds are available for relief purposes.

With order —

Rec'd 25 Nov 1876
Dept 24 Nov 1876
Rec'd 29 Nov 1876
Dept 29 Nov 1876
Rec'd 1 Dec 1876
Dept 1 Dec 1876
Rec'd 2 Dec 1876
Dept 2 Dec 1876
Rec'd 4 Dec 1876
Dept 4 Dec 1876
Rec'd 5 Dec 1876
Dept 5 Dec 1876
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Dept 30 Dec 1876
Rec'd 31 Dec 1876
Dept 31 Dec 1876

25-Nov/76. R 25: Nov

W. 1548 29th Nov 76.

The Govt approve the Board's views in paras 2, 3 and 4. The Public Works Dept will arrange for the supply of the 3 Overseers required by Mr. Sharpe.

Govt. to be requested to remit to Collector a list of Tanks in his district which require repairs

2. There may be some difference of opinion as to encouraging Troubled cultivators, but the Govt will leave the decision of the question to the discretion of the Board.