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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Rev. DEPARTMENT

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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
25th August 1876. No. 2,256.*

No. 586. Read the following endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Ootacamund, 18th August 1876, No. 152-W :—

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager, Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to Lieutenant-Colonel J. MULLINS, R.E., Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Dhoor, 5th August 1876, No. 75.

June Reports.

I HAVE the honor to forward per Boon the copies of the Upper and Lower Divisional Engineers' Reports together with my own for the month of June 1876.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

UPPER DIVISION.

Monthly Report for June 1876.

1. Until the 10th of the month, water did not rise up to the sill of the head sluices, but at 5 A.M. on that date it began to rise, and reached 11.2 above the canal sluice sill on the 11th. As the water was very muddy it was not let in until the evening of the 16th.

From the 16th to 28th water gradually fell again in the river and consequently in the canal, so that it only reached Ulloor aqueduct at 36½ miles but on the 28th a new fresh came down, and on the 30th it reached 42½ miles.

At present it is near Jupaud.

Owing to the new work at Calingulah No. 1 which is protected by a dam 6 feet high, it was not thought advisable to let in more than 4.8 at the head sluices.

I have no doubt that by the 8th water will reach Lockinsula.

2. The weather has been unusually free from rain. The following is the rainfall at Kurnool during the month :—

3rd June	...	...	...	...	0.50
6th "	...	...	...	...	0.27
7th "	...	...	...	...	0.03
10th "	...	...	...	...	1.36
12th "	...	...	...	...	0.74
19th "	...	...	...	...	0.12
20th "	...	...	...	...	0.41

Total in June ... 3.43

At Soonkesala the total was... 2.10

" Jupaud ... 3.50

" Velapanoor ... 6.50

" Ayaloor ... 3.62

or on the average scarcely 4 inches.

Kurnool.

Rainfall during May and June 1871	...	2.53
" " " 1872	...	5.56
" " " 1873	...	6.36
" " " 1874	...	10.06
" " " 1875	...	4.64
" " " 1876	...	3.43

There are great complaints of want of rain. Many ryots are waiting in expectation of the rain long due, before they sow their dry crops. As it is their practice to sow dry crops first and afterwards commence the irrigated crops, many will be delayed; but fields are being prepared for paddy and other wet crops near Kurnool.

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3. *Repairs to the Canal on Capital Account.—Nidjood Bridge.*—The lower approach has been carried on rapidly.

Bandies can now pass over the bridge.

Bollavaram Bridge.—The masonry retaining wall at foot of the upper approach is completed the parapets have been removed, and masonry rebuilt at an incline of 1 in. 16 to suit a second-class crossing. The coping stones required in order to fix the teak railings and cross beams are not yet completed. The necessary revetments on both sides are finished, and the earthwork near bridge nearly completed.

Moochoomurry Bridge.—The masonry is completed. The roadway is being filled in. The upper approach is completed, except side wall and metalling. The lower approach has been taken in hand by a new contractor and will soon be finished. Foot passengers cross over the bridge as the water is now running.

Singaram Bridge.—One 15-foot arch and 1-30 and 1-32-foot arch were turned before the 30th, but, owing to the depth and velocity of water (more than 4½ feet), considerable difficulty arose in putting up the last 30-foot centring.

It is however finished, and probably all arches will be turned by the 7th July.

Repairs charged to Revenue.

4. The repairs to the head and under-sluice shutters were completed. Two new shutters for head sluices have been made in the workshop and the screws are expected from Madras soon.

The puddle which was laid on the bank 10 chains in the Yeddaroor tank (6th mile) has been completed.

The masonry in the two new sluices at Angulah No. 1 has been brought up to a level of 5 feet above bed or 10 feet above the sill level. The bank in front is strong and effective.

The shutters are in place; the raising gear has been completed, and as soon as the two screws arrive from Madras they will be fitted up ready for building into the masonry.

The Sluice No. 83 at Nagatoor has been completely rebuilt according to the new muster.

Terrigopully leak has been repaired, and various minor repairs and necessary works have been completed.

5. The water-rate settlement was finished on the evening of the 13th. It was held at Kurnool, Velapanoor and Ayaloor, and occupied fifteen days, of which ten days were taken up by the actual work and five days in travelling and preparations. The abstracting and final comparison of the accounts is naturally delayed until references made to the Collector and Chief Engineer have been settled, when the final closing of the accounts will be made.

6. *Irrigation.*—No definite information as to the coming season has been obtained, but it is hoped that the present scarcity of rain may turn the minds of the ryots to the advantages held out by the using of canal water. The channels in use are all being cleared out and improved so as to supply water as may be required. The arrangements of the staff have been revised, and especially as to the bankers, who have been distributed in the manner which seems most to further the proper control of the water, as experience points out.

7. The health of the staff has been good, no serious cases of illness have occurred.

8. The staff were paid from 9th to 22nd June 1876. The delay was occasioned by the settlement work which takes up much of the time of my office staff.

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

LOWER DIVISION.

Monthly Report for June 1876.

1. The weather has been exceptionably dry, as the enclosed table of rainfall during this month, for this and the five preceding years shows.

This was exceedingly fortunate, as a heavy shower of rain would have considerably retarded the unusually heavy silt operations.

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2. In the 9th Section, the canal from the Rajoly head sluices (mile 145, chains 60) to Canagoodoor (mile 155, chains 29) has been thoroughly bottomed out to bed level so that so soon as the water reaches the head sluices it can be admitted into the canal.

The bottoming of the 10th Section from the head sluices at Adamapully (mile 180, chains 56) to the Punkala Vunka aqueduct (mile 183, chains 49) was completed on or about the 25th June: the remainder will be finished shortly; I hope to open these sluices on the 10th.

3. Nearly all the other earthworks are finished as I believe no weak banks have been neglected, and all earth above bed has been retained. The canal will be in a very efficient state so far as the earthwork is concerned.

4. This year I have been fortunate in securing earthwork labor at a far cheaper rate than previously; where 7 cubic yards per Rupee were formerly worked, 10 cubic yards were offered, and where 12 cubic yards per Rupee were worked, 16 cubic yards were offered.

5. The masonry works are in an advanced state, and will be completed before the water reaches the Lower Division. The twenty-six locks, some of which have been supplied with new cills, have been thoroughly over-hauled, and will be as thoroughly fit for navigable purposes as they were last season. Every piece of woodwork which is now composed entirely of teak is as sound as when first put together.

6. The channel works and extensions as much as needed will be completed in time for the water. The Maideoor channel cannot be so efficiently restored as I intended, as owing to the prevalence of cholera in the surrounding villages, labor cannot be procured at any price.

7. It is to be hoped that the valuable Gurra aqueduct will be used during the coming season. It was constructed at a great cost solely on the suggestions and petitions of the ryots of Gurrampad.

Last season when I opened it, there was not a single application for water made. The ryots gave as their reason that the land, commanded by the new works, was not made over to them. This I was informed by the Revenue authorities was not correct. If this be the case there can be no possible reason for allowing 200 acres (or more) of the most suitable soil for the growth of wet crops to lie waste this season, as it has been many years back.

8. *Irrigation.*—The final returns for the Cuddapah District demand for 1875-76 have been sent in. I enclose a condensed abstract of it. I have just received a letter from the Collector, Mr. Gribble, in which he concurs entirely with my views regarding the only claim which was disputed by the Deputy Collector at Settlement.

The early settlement and speedy closing of the accounts have given great satisfaction to the ryots. The collections, I hear, already are being made and readily paid. The postponement and deferring the collection of the water-rate is very objectionable to the ryot who has always protested against being called upon to settle his account some time after he has disposed of his crops and money, or at times when he is laying out his money in preparing his fields for the ensuing season.

9. The returns for the Kurnool District are still incomplete, owing to the numerous references which it was thought advisable to make to the Chief Engineer and Collector on many points which the Deputy Collector and myself were unable to agree upon with the existing rules.

10. The revised framed rules and placards have been posted in the villages, and wherever else required. It is to be hoped that the village authorities will apply for them, if not yet supplied, or if extra ones be required.

11. Health of staff is generally good. Dhoor still continues unhealthy, and those of my staff who live there are frequently laid up with fever. Cholera is very prevalent in some villages near the canal in the Cuddapah District.

OOTACAMUND,
7th July 1876.

(Signed) J. O. DUNPHY,
Acting Conservancy Engineer.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
25th August 1876. No. 2,256.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

LOWER DIVISION.

Table of Rainfall Readings in previous years at Dhoor.

Total Rainfall in June 1869.	Total Rainfall in June 1870.	Total Rainfall in June 1871.	Total Rainfall in June 1872.	Total Rainfall in June 1873.	Total Rainfall in June 1874.	Total Rainfall in June 1875.	Total Rainfall in June 1876.
4.30	3.80	1.91		3.53	8.33	2.48	0.27

DHOOR,
30th June 1876.

(Signed) J. O. DUNPHY,
Acting Conservancy Engineer.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

LOWER DIVISION.

Table of Rainfall Readings during the Month of June 1876.

Month and Date.	Yaloo.	Chintamani.	Rajoly.	Dhoor.	Adimipully.
2nd June 1876	0.75			0.10	
3rd "					
6th "			1.10		
7th "			1.10		
11th "				0.07	
12th "	0.40				
13th "				0.06	
14th "					0.40
17th "				0.02	
24th "		0.06			
25th "		1.16			
28th "					0.05
Total	1.15	1.22	2.20	0.27	0.45

DHOOR,
30th June 1876.

(Signed) J. O. DUNPHY,
Acting Conservancy Engineer.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

Chief Engineer's Report to accompany the Monthly Divisional Reports for June 1876.

The only matters of interest this month were the progress of repairs and the rainfall.

2. The repairs of the main canal have been fairly executed, notwithstanding that the absence of both Engineers on privilege leave and the unusually tedious settlement occurred during the short season available for repairs. In the Lower Division the masonry works required on channels have had to be postponed, and the lock repairs (masonry) have been inefficiently done by the Overseers.

3. This has been very much due to the uncertainty of the finances, which prevented the proceeding of stone and carting it to the sites in time to get the building done before probable rain.

4. The rainfall has been very light, and up to this date (2nd) no crops are sown here, and not half the ground ploughed yet.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
25th August 1876. No. 2,256.

5. The water has now (22nd) reached all the irrigating sluices, unless it be a sluice near the Pennar (north side) about which I have not heard.

6. I enclose a table showing the extent of various crops cultivated under the canal, 1875-76.

DHOOR,
24th July 1876.

(Signed) J. H. LATHAM,
Chief Engineer and Manager.

MADRAS IRRIGATION AND CANAL COMPANY.

Table showing the Extent of various Crops cultivated under the Canal, 1875-76.

Class.	Crop.	Up Ac.	Division.		Lower Division.		Total.	
			Per cent.	Acres.	Per cent.	Acres.	Per cent.	
1st Class	Sugar	...	0.15	...	...	7.89	0.06	
	Betel	...	0.37	61.76	0.79	81.88	0.63	
	Fruit trees	...	1.01	19.75	0.25	73.96	0.53	
	Rice	...	78.52	3,783.29	48.21	8,013.23	60.63	
	Turmeric or Saffron	...	0.23	2.49	0.03	17.64	0.13	
	Chilly	...	8.29	227.29	2.30	673.97	5.09	
2nd Class	Indigo	...	2.38	1,789.71	22.81	1,917.89	14.49	
	Cummin	...	0.04	384.86	4.90	886.92	2.90	
	Korra	...	0.35	320.14	4.08	388.95	2.56	
	Ragrees	...	1.05	943.79	12.02	1,000.54	7.60	
	Vegetable	...	1.61	78.52	1.00	165.16	1.25	
	Miscellaneous	...	4.73	128.16	1.63	282.83	2.39	
3rd Class	Cholum	...	0.49	68.19	0.87	94.77	0.72	
	Oil	...	...	3.70	0.05	3.70	0.03	
	Miscellaneous	...	39.31	0.73	36.11	0.46	75.42	0.57
		5,386.99	100.00	7,847.76	100.00	13,234.75	100.00	
		834.26	...	409.59	...	1,337.14	...	
		91.29	...	...	...	...	...	
		Under Tanks Supply	...	...	...	...	...	
		Grand Total	6,319.54	...	8,257.35	...	14,571.89	...

(Signed) J. H. LATHAM,
Chief Engineer and Manager.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

(Signed) J. MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

No. 587.

ORDER THEREON, 25th August 1876, No. 2,256.

IRRIGATION, No. 61.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
Colonel,

Off. Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

" Chief Engineer and Manager, Irrigation and Canal Company.

" Revenue Department.

Exd. W. H. French.

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PUBLIC WORKS.

To ✓
THE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR IRRIGATION,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated August 25th.

From

Sept. 26th Encl.

G.O. No. 1000, 1076, No. 2200.

AUGUST.
Nos. 586-587.

Madras Irrigation and Canal Company
Report of the Chief Engineer and Manager
of the Upper and Lower Divisions of
the for the month of June 1876, recorded

Ch 2207
Communicated to the
Regd.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE