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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1111	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	28.2.1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

No. 136. Read the following letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. M. SHAW-
G. W. WALKER, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways, to Major-General
G. W. WALKER, R.E., Secretary to Government, Public Works Depart-
ment, dated Madras, 20th January 1877. No. 45.

In their Order, No. 1,847, dated 21st July 1876, the Government directed that the Proceedings should be communicated to this office with a view to its being ascertained whether there is any reason against the debit to the railway of the cost of certain improvements and repairs in connection with the Tadpatri Upper Channel in the Bellary District.

2. The Deputy Consulting Engineer has lately inspected the locality referred to, and his note is herewith submitted.

3. It is clear that the railway embankment has interfered with and redistributed the drainage water in the several small tributaries which fall into or cross the irrigation channel; but, before further addressing the Railway authorities, I venture to submit that, while on the one hand such interference could hardly be avoided, and might fitly have involved an outlay from the railway estimates if brought forward at the time, it cannot be expedient, where the sum at issue is small and must practically be paid by the Government in either case, to raise a question for the decision of which but little evidence could at this date be adduced, and where that little is sure to be contested.

4. There must be many similar cases along the lines of railway in this Presidency, and I would venture to submit that the principle once established as regards lines to be constructed, now under construction, or recently constructed, it is inexpedient to raise the issue in the case of lines made under different conditions at a time when water rights were ill-defined and poorly if at all represented.

NOTE.

Tadpatri Upper Channel.

AFTER a careful inspection of the channel and the Railway, I have come to the conclusion that the drainage was in all probability collected by the excavations both above and below the line, and that the easternmost weir has been called upon to discharge water that once passed over the next weir above it, which is now said to be silting up from disuse.

2. The extent to which this transfer of water has taken place is difficult, if not impossible; to estimate, and, before a claim against the Government in the Railway Department could be established, it would be necessary for the Government in the Public Works Department to show that the provision for drainage on the whole was sufficient.

3. The whole question, however, involves such an insignificant sum that I cannot suppose the Government would wish it further investigated. It cannot for a moment, under the circumstances, be regarded as a contest for the "principle involved;" there have been hundreds of such re-distributions of the drainage of the country on a small scale unavoidably, and the investigation of the legal or actual rights of the case would cost far more than the sum involved.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
5th February 1877. No. 384.*

4. Under the present system, if the Consulting Engineer's Office be permitted to investigate the so-called "details," (but which really are the details of the administration,) these points will receive attention when the location and original estimates are sanctioned, and it doubtless forms one of the most important and useful functions of the Government control.

In the present case the work was done and the mischief effected seven years ago, and, in my opinion, the claim should be set aside on these grounds.

MADRAS,
19th January 1877.

(Signed) C. J. SMITH, Major, R.E.,
Dy. Consq. Engr. for Railways.

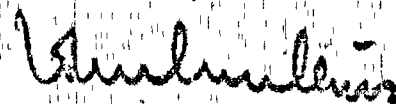
No. 137. ORDER THEREON, 5th February 1877, No. 384.

IRRIGATION, No. 12-A.

Account.

THE lapse of time which has occurred since the construction of the Railway and the diversion of the drainage renders it inexpedient to claim for Irrigation relief from the charge incurred in providing for the present distribution of the water.

(True Extract.)



Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

To the District Engineer, Bellary
„ Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
„ Examiner of Public Works Accounts
„ Consulting Engineer for Railways.
„ Revenue Department.

Exd A. Grubert.

Spare Copies

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THE LITTLE THING

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Ac. 20. 12.

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26 February

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7-15-57

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Room
Communicated to the
Board of Revenue in con-
-sideration of G.O. 11 Augt 1876.
No 18790. —

28 Feb 47

I have been under contract in the Navy
District and am now on temporary duty
to the date in the Navy up to the cost of
contracting with the Navy and in order to
that will be -