

(1) Number of pages 16
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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1229	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	6-3-1877	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled.

Tanjore Collector's Office
Tanjore 10th February
1877.

No 562.

From

H. S. Thomas Esqre
(Collector of Tanjore)

To H. C. Stokes Esqre
Secretary to the
Board of Revenue, Madras.

Sir,

Not long ago Tanjore was on the
eve of distress. The rain which fell at
Christmas just tided us over our diffi-
culty, and for the present, harvest ope-
rations are occupying the people. Presum-
ing Mr Pogson's forecasts of the weather to
be correct we may expect that the lapse
of a very few months will bring back
our distress and this time with double
force, because of the long period of im-
provement that has been undergone.
To prepare for such distress the time
before us is short indeed. Proposals other
than those which I made in the former
period of anxiety there are none to be
made. Of them the main ^{the most desirable part} part, were ne-
gated because they were irrigation pro-
jects which had not been duly investigated.

investigated and sanctioned. Though every exertion has I believe been made to push on the investigation of irrigation projects still the Public Works Department Staff is inadequate and unless it is materially strengthened and that immediately the very same difficulty must inevitably overtake us again.

2. I have therefore addressed the District Engineer the letter of which copy is enclosed and having since met him find that he concurs with me and will make application accordingly. I have the honor to inform the Board also, because I suppose the general responsibility for provision against famine and distress rests with the Revenue Administrative Department and because if distress comes upon us I do not wish to be found unready and if the means of making ready are given me both quickly and adequately I see my way clearly to providing that distress money shall be laid out in a way that will both be remunerative to Government and will also go far to guard against ill effects from future famines, which it seems have a certain periodicity. My scheme is roughly this. The parts of this District in which distress is

is sure to come first are Pattukottai, Arunthanghi and Vallam. In the two former there are rivers of waters running to waste in the sea. Large reservoirs with irrigation can be formed thereon. For Vallam, the Tanjore Water Project is being got ready by the Municipality. To secure the irrigated delta of the District, which is our granary in famine, it would be well if the project proposed in my letter No. 4262, dated 24th November 1876, could be investigated at once.

4. In this connection I would as reminded by Captain Brockman advert to Colonel Baker's proposal for a permanent survey establishment and urge the necessity for at once inaugurating the policy commencing by sending to Tanjore such liberal staff as the District Engineer may advise for the time for investigation is short, and several projects should be simultaneously taken up for it cannot be hoped that they will all prove feasible.

5. In Government Order dated 26th December 1876, No. 2170, the Government seemed to think I had not consulted the District Engineer though in truth

truth we had conferred together on every point and I had only not made mention of it because though I had availed myself of his kindly advice still I thought the responsibility for provision against famine lay with me. That there may be no question this time, I have the honor to add that I have sent the District Engineer a copy of this letter. It rests with him to state in the proper quarter what the staff is that is necessary. I hope there may be the least practical delay in providing it.

I have &c

(Signed) H. S. Thomas

Collector

(True Copy)

(Signed) H. S. Thomas
Collector

Ed. H.A.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No.

1299
3

From Rev R

Dated 19th Feb 1877

1877

FOR ORDERS.

G.O. for approval

Two more up the
Cr. irrigation - no water
it is taken of Mr. Pappas
forecast. The utilization of
the Arantay & Patta
cond. streams require
consideration etc.
27/2
Ind. not all the
to this -

I would ask of Mr. Muller
to send with this
report with
the last report
delay - P.H.
up to Col Muller
P.H. 1/3

Mr. Thomas advocates the
formation of reservoirs "with
irrigation" on certain rivers
of water which he states are
wasting to waste in the
Pattukotta & Annanghi
Talugs and the execution
of the Bangalore Water Project
in the Talug of Talug
as being desirable works to
be carried out that serve
the purpose which the
Bangalore Project of Mr.
Pappas forecasts have
counted on Mr. Thomas
presumes they will -
2. To secure the irrigated
Delta the support the
and utility of at once
investigating the project
proposed by him in his
letter No 4262 of 24th Nov/76
and directing to a proposal
one made by Colonel Baker

for a permanent Survey
Establishment & advocate
its immediate adoption.

3. The project alluded
to by Mr Thomas in his
letter above quoted was
referred to the Chief
Engineer for investigation
for report & after any
information regarding it
received - a perusal
report of the Officer
dated 19th Feb 1871
it appears there is some
in his Office.

4. Mr Thomas' letter
will be referred to the
P. W. Dept in view to
the preparation of
plans & sections for
the reservoir to
which he alludes
if the investigation refers
alluded to in his
letter of the 13th Dec
1870 No 4672 are not
considered sufficient
to provide employment
for the distressed poor

in the Tanjore Dist^o in
the event of the season turning
out as the Govt Astronomer
appears to have predicted.

~~5. The Dist Engineer's opinion~~
~~as to the desirability~~

5. The necessity for maintaining
a permanent Survey Estab^t
will be considered at the
same time in the above
Dept.

24/2/71 JH

L. O.
for affix
FOR ORD

Revenue Department
Pros of the Madras Govt.
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 19th February 1877

Read the following:-

No. 562

From

W. S. Thomas Esq.
Collector of Tanjore.

To.

H. E. Stokes Esq.
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir

Not long ago Tanjore was on the eve
of distress. The rain which fell at Christmas
just aided us over our difficulty and for the
present, harvest operations are occupying
the people. Presuming Mr. Pogson's forecasts
of the weather to be correct, we may expect that
the lapse of a very few months will bring back
our distress, and this time with double force, be-
cause of the long period of impoverishment
that has been undergone. To prepare for such
distress the time before us is short indeed.
Proposals other than those which I made in
the former period of anxiety, there are none
to be made. Of them the main part and the
most desirable part were negatived, because
they

they were irrigation projects which had not been duly investigated and sanctioned. Though every exertion has, I believe, been made to push on the investigation of irrigation projects, still the Public Works Department staff is inadequate, and unless it is materially strengthened and that immediately, the very same difficulty must inevitably overtake us again.

2. I have therefore addressed the District Engineer the letter of which copy is enclosed and having since met him, find that he concurs with me and will make application accordingly. I have the honor to inform the Board also, because I suppose the general responsibility for provision against famine and distress rests with the Revenue Administrative Department, and because if distress comes upon us, I do not wish to be found unready, and if the means of making ready are given me both quickly and adequately, I see my way clearly to providing that distress money shall be laid out in a way that will both be remunerative to Government and will also go far to guard against

against ill effects from future famines, which it seems have a certain periodicity.

3. My scheme is roughly this. The parts of this District in which the distress is sure to come first are Pattinakottai, Arundanghy and Vallam. In the two former, there are rivers of water running to waste in the sea. Large reservoirs with irrigation can be formed thereon. For Vallam, the Tanjore water Project is being got ready by the Municipality. To secure the irrigated delta of the District, which is our granary in famine, it would be well if the project proposed in my letter No 4262 dated 24 November 1876 could be investigated at once.

4. In this connection, I would, as reminded by Captain Brochman, advert to Colonel Oakes proposal for a permanent Survey Establishment and urge the necessity for at once inaugurating the policy, commencing by sending to Tanjore such liberal staff as the District Engineer may advise, for the time for investigation is short and several projects should be simultaneously taken up, for it cannot be hoped that they will all prove feasible.

Du.

5. In G.O. dated 26th December 1876
No 2170 the Government seemed to think I
had not consulted the District Engineer,
though in truth we had conferred together
on every point, and I had only not made
mention of it because though I had availed
myself of his kindly advice, still I thought
the responsibility for provision against famine
lay with me. That there may be no question
this time, I have the honor to add that I
have sent the District Engineer a copy of
this letter. It rests with him to state in
the proper quarter what the staff is that
is necessary. I hope there may be the least
practical delay in providing it.

Tanjore Collector's Office
Tanjore 10th February 1877
I have &c
H. S. Thomas
Collector

No 474.

Vallam 5th Feb 1877

To

The District Engineer
Tanjore

Sir,

Though the pain which fell on
Christmas eve has just tired us out of
immediate

immediate difficulty. Still I fear distress
will recur if the April and following rains ^{fail} as
the Government Astronomer anticipates, I
shall be greatly obliged therefore by your
making every preparation by pushing on the
plans and estimates for such irrigation works
as you may think desirable especially in
the Pottukottai and Aranthangy and Vallam
Tirkas as these are the localities likely to
suffer most. If your staff is insufficient
I hope you will apply for its being strength-
ened.

2. You will have observed that the
policy of Government is to work out
sanctioned irrigation estimates, with these
therefore we should be prepared.

I have &c
H. S. Thomas
Collector

(True Copy)

H. S. Thomas
Collector

Submitted to Government.

2. Mr Thomas is right in making
every

every effort to be prepared for an emergency
which may shortly arise, and if the Engineering
Staff is insufficient to mature the projects
within the District, which may have to be
taken up it should be strengthened. The
Board observe however that in his letter
recorded in G.O. 26 December 1876 No 2170
the collector stated that many sanctioned
estimates were ready.

3. The project referred to in para
3 was referred to the Chief Engineer for Irriga-
tion in G.O. 9 December 1876 No 1977.
The Board are under the impression that
it has never been scientifically investigated

(True Copies & Extract)
J. H. C. Stokes
Asst Secretary

2.

The Additional Secretary
to Government R.D.

1229
26

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Recd 1877 Dec 15
7 No 785

From: Board of Revenue

Dated 19 February 1877

Recd 19
No 20

Submitting to Govt with

Manuscript copy of letter
from Sanjiv Chatterjee
regarding certain benagari
rights belonging to the
establishment of 1875.

Wm G. & Co. 117
No 1229

Referred to the Chief Engineer for
Benagari for disposal

(By Order)

March 1877

Wm G. & Co.

1875-76