(1) Number of pa[illegible]

(2) Date of repair [illegible]

(3) Initial of the Reference[illegible]

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

[illegible] DEPARTMENT

G O No B P No	[illegible]	Press Mis
Dated	[illegible]	197

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

3rd April 1878, No. 292 I.

Irrigation.

Read the following paper :—

No. 21. Endorsement of the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Madras, 28th March 1878, No. 96 I.

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated Kurnool, 21st March 1878.

Monthly Reports.

I HAVE the honor to forward per book post Upper and Lower Division reports, together with the Chief Engineer's, for the month of February 1878.

MADRAS IRRIGATION CANAL COMPANY.

UPPER DIVISION.

Monthly Report for February 1878.

WATER has been steadily falling through the month; on the 1st of February there was 5·2 in the canal at Soonkesala, on the 1st of March 3·0.

2. *Weather.*—This was unusually hot for the time of year. Sickness decreased during this month, but there was still a bad type of fever prevailing.

3. Very little work was done in the way of repairs to main canal, as the sanctioned amount is nearly all expended, and the staff have been employed in preparing for work on the Toorcherla main channel and the main canal between lock No. 1 and lock No. 2.

4. *Capital Account.*—My Surveyor has finished his work on the main canal, and the sections, of which there are about 440, are being plotted. The first mile is ready for work, and has, I believe, been commenced.

On the Toorcherla main channel a number of Juddahs have been employed. By the end of this month (March) I shall be able to give more accurate accounts of the number of coolies, &c., employed on these works.

5. *Irrigation.*—The settlement of Ramalkota Taluq is to take place about the 7th.

Irrigation Form No. 9 has not been sent in by the Overseers of the 1st and 2nd, 5th and 6th Ranges; so that it is impossible to get an accurate account of the present state of the irrigation.

6. Plank-houses have been built at calingulahs Nos. 9, 12, 13, Pudoor point, Ulloor point, Mallyala, and No. 4 calingulah, Jupad; these are all but completed. The others will I hope be finished this month (March).

7. The staff were paid from 3rd to 12th February 1878.

(Signed) O. H. WILKS,
Divisional Engineer.

LOWER DIVISION.

Report for February 1878.

THERE has been a most abundant supply of water throughout the month; a far larger quantity of water has passed through the under-sluices of the Adimayapally head works than has heretofore been recorded. Usually at this time of the year the most careful means are adopted to prevent the escape of water through the under-sluices; but this season, owing to the large discharge down the canal which has not been utilised to the extent anticipated, a large surplus has been passed through the under-sluices.

2. I have found it necessary to reduce the discharge down the canal since the first crops were cut, but shall have to raise it again in the 9th Section for the indigo crop. Since the weather has become warmer, the temperature now being 94° in the shade and 136° in the open at mid-day, the banks have become lighter below the water level, and where there was perceptible leakage a couple of months ago, the grass is now dried up. Above the water line gaping cracks appear almost as fast as the men close them; but they are dangerous only to passengers, the banks below water being firm and moist are perfectly safe.

3. We have had a clear sky, and occasionally very warm winds latterly. The wind since the 26th has come from south, south-west. There has been no rain anywhere.

4. I have noticed that the hills have been fired unusually early this season, about the second week in February, and seem more extensive.

5. The annual estimates and surveys for new lock weirs have occupied much time this month. Sections for the thorough clearing out to bd level of the 9th and 10th Sections have been completed as well as sections of those banks which require restoring to normal dimensions. The full height of banks has also been marked out on the ground with pegs and heaps. Estimates for the thorough repairs of all the distribution works and buildings have been completed.

6. The works on hand were the Mundlapaly Channel diversion — an alteration from a channel in bank to a channel in cutting; the Gurrumad Extension Channel; the Lockmen's huts, and a Tindal's hut, as well as repairs to the existing buildings.

7. Since the first crops have been cut, stored, and divided amongst the shareholders the ryots have had an abundance of leisure for thinking about sowing second crops. There are, however, barely 800 acres of second crops sown in the five taluqs. I give the estimate of irrigation and revenue as usual, and end the account of irrigation up to date:—

Estimate of Irrigation and Revenue up to close of Canal.

Acres.	Particulars.	Amount.			Total.		
	Cuddapah District.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
11,808	Crops up to date	46,104	11	6			
2,000	Second crops and indigo after February ...	2,400	0	0			
	Total ...				48,504	11	6
	Karnool District.						
8,597	Crops up to date	26,800	0	0			
300	Second crops and indigo after February ...	600	0	0			
	Total ...				27,400	0	0
	Miscellaneous Revenue	829	8	3			
	Do. after February ...	50	0	0			
	Total ...				879	8	3
22,705	Grand Total ...	...			76,784	8	9

8. The tanks seem to have been filled to no purpose. Chintakunta tank (S.T.) has been filled and kept full, and not even a 2 Rupee crop has been sown with the water. It appears, however, that the ryots had bodily determined not to utilise the water, as the Tahsildar told the Assistant Engineer in the beginning of January that the water was not required.

9. The large Cheypand tank (P.T.) has been filled, and the ryots, though by no means reluctant to take the water, have now it appears elected to leave it alone. The water is, however,

falling quickly by means of leaks near the calin... which the village authorities take no steps to arrest; indeed they paid no attention to the ... notice sent by the Overseer drawing their attention to the waste. The cause of the strike ... nst the water supplied to this tank deserves notice. When water was first supplied to the ... the ryots uneasily asked the Overseer for what object; he replied for second crops if you lik... o sow them. They told him unreservedly that they could not use the water, as they had p... uch an exorbitant and ruinous rate last year, as for instance the total charges for the year ... res 1·05 were Rupees 41-2-7. The new terms upon which the water could be taken were ... plained to them, and they appeared to have made up their minds to sow second crops, but up-to-... ate the fields and the water are neglected.

10. Mittalore (C.T.), a still larger tank, has ... kewise been abandoned probably because the ryots paid a still higher rate. The water in the ot... er tanks with, I think, only one exception is also left untouched.

11. It seems a great pity this water should ... of be utilised, and shows in striking contrast with the private tanks under which the water is ... adily taken. With the water in these abandoned tanks I can do a great deal of good, and th... re are many ryots who would be most eager to take advantage of it. What I propose is to uti... se this water after the canal is closed for the second crops already sown under the canal chann... ls; the water in all the tanks can be discharged into channels under which there is already some valuable crops. This will be better than allowing the water to run to waste; all that is required is temporary permission for the Canal Officers to control the water and the slu... es. I have laid this proposition before the Revenue Department.

12. I am concerned to find that my hopes f... a large extent of second crops are likely to suffer unexpected disappointment. In the Prod... ore and Cuddapah Taluqs the majority of ryots infallibly sow indigo in their fields after the paddy has been reaped and stored; but they have this year, when there was a greater abund... ce of water than ever, allowed a month and a half to elapse without making a beginning. I ... d that one of the causes is this. So soon as the crops were reaped, the ryots were suddenl... bjected to a demand for last season's land assessment and this season's canal water rate. ... ost of them were totally unprepared to meet these demands immediately, so I am told that ... r cattle, utensils, and even clothes were seized. Some ryots from a village complained that orde... ad been issued to collect the rates by force, if necessary, but that being under the impressio... at the rates would not be levied before the canal settlement, they were not prepared to ... They all complained of the obnoxious manner in which the money was being co... The chief complainant of the harsh treatment they were subjected to was the own... betel garden who had paid for his water rate up to December. This is the chief reason ... many ryots have been unable to sow their indigo crop. The estimate for second crop has ... herefore, dwindled down in the Pro...ure Taluq from acres 3,000 to acres 800, the smalle... nt of second crops that has been sown since I have had charge of this division. It seems ... that a more successful method of preventing the sowing of second crops could not have been devised.

13. The complaints against the small atten... tion or none given by the Curnams still reach me. The Curnam of Chepad (P.T.) was absent ... from his village from 15th to 24th February, and the substitute declined to give the Amin any ... assistance or attend to the canal work because he was a relation and there was a feud between ... them. There was no Curnam in Badripully (P.T.) for twenty-four days. There are other ... no means trivial complaints. The Curnam who attends to his work most satisfactorily, and w... o is always ready to work in conjunction with the Amin, is the Curnam of Chennoor (C.T.), but ... is Curnam is appointed specially for the irrigation work.

14. I append a *Nil* return of criminal case... or the month.

15. Also a return of the village raticulatio... so which nothing has been done this month owing to pressure of other work.

16. The health of staff has been very good. Fever has almost vanished.

17. The staff was paid between 6th and 10th idem 1878.

(Signed) J. [illegible]

Chief Engineer's Report for February 1878.

THIS month has been hotter than usual, and ... the second crops though fewer than usual have in proportion to their area been more than usually irrigated. It seems certain that the canal will pay its working expenses.

2. The works of construction in progress ... the Tsundeda Extension on which I have above 400 laborers engaged and the comple... tion of navigation, the sanction for which

reached me within the last week. I hope [ly] to be working cargo boats on the canal early next season (this autumn). The progress [of bu]ildings and works must depend on the labor market.

3. On the subject of labor there are [grou]nds for anxiety. The most unfortunate taluqs of this district have had scanty crops, e[specially] Karnalkota in which Kurnool lies is estimated to have but one-third an average crop. In [such] cases it is estimated that high prices will be necessary to draw forth the grain harvested. [Pro]ceeding with so important a work as the buildings required for convenient navigation, it would not be [well] to hurry them on at rates which would exhaust the money available before the works were [com]plete. It is not possible, therefore, at present to foretell how far they will be ready for next season.

4. The Madras Government are providing aid which is doubly valuable at this juncture. The Sub-Collector of Kurnool (Mr. Lister) is considering the whole subject of irrigation, and has also commenced the settlement of 1877-8 in a way to release the Engineers and Officers of the Company to the fullest practicable extent, and so to leave their time free for repairs and construction. I am also indenting on their workshop in Madras for all the woodwork required for the buildings for navigation. Of course, the assistance given me there must depend upon the quantity of Government work on hand, which, of course, takes precedence of the Company's.

5. Isolated cases of hardship to ryots have occurred in working the present rules, though they were most carefully framed with a view to make all changes fair. To remove liability to these no plan could have been taken having better promise than that of appointing an officer having experience and authority, who will be able to bring under departmental control petty disorders for which the water-rate rules and the criminal code afforded an imperfect and some times a harsh remedy.

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

Abstract of Irrigation recor[ded] up to end of February 1878.

Districts.	Taluqs.	Class of [Land] irrigated. First Class.	Second Class.	[Third] Class.	[Irrigation.] Monthly.	Total.	Tanks supplied.	Estimated Unrecorded Irrigation.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
		Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	c. yds.	Acres.	
Kurnool	Ramalkota ..	1,240·43	695·06	1,05[3·19]	7·67	3,031·52	..	6·00	
	Nandikotkur ..	8,139·53	1,236·14	10,36[2·96]	27·16	15,019·83	..	80·00	
	Nandial ..	2,920·67	818·81	2,72[3·43]	336·77	6,197·69	..	1,124·00	
	Marvell ..	2,031·48	753·31	2,74[1·]		one	..		
	Koilkunda ..	284·67	181·17	5,1[7·]	78·72	5,657·96	2,178,000	..	Chintakunta tank.
	Total ..	5,307·07	3,883·52	19	25·21	2,612·13	..	..	
					283·43	32,619·16	2,178,000	1,216·00	
Cuddapah.	Jamalamadugu.	36·05	36·31	5[8·00]	25·41	697·04	..	..	
	Proddatore ..	2,521·14	1,832·23	1,1[·]	468·03	5,399·72	Two	124·00	
	Cuddapah ..	3,447·10	1,044·65	9[·]	709·31	5,213·10	Four	..	Chennad, Mittalore, Burracoonta, Chennacoonta, Ramcoonta, and Bachawpelly tanks.
	Total ..	6,075·20	2,960·19	2,32[·]	1,249·76	11,304·86	..	124·00	
	Grand Total ..	14,363·17	6,843·71	27,56[·95]	1,558·19	44,424·02	2,178,000	1,340·00	

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

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

(Signed) JOHN M^CLLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

To the Joint Secretary to Government, Public [Wo]rks Department, Irrigation Branch.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 3[RD] APRIL 1878, No. 292 I.

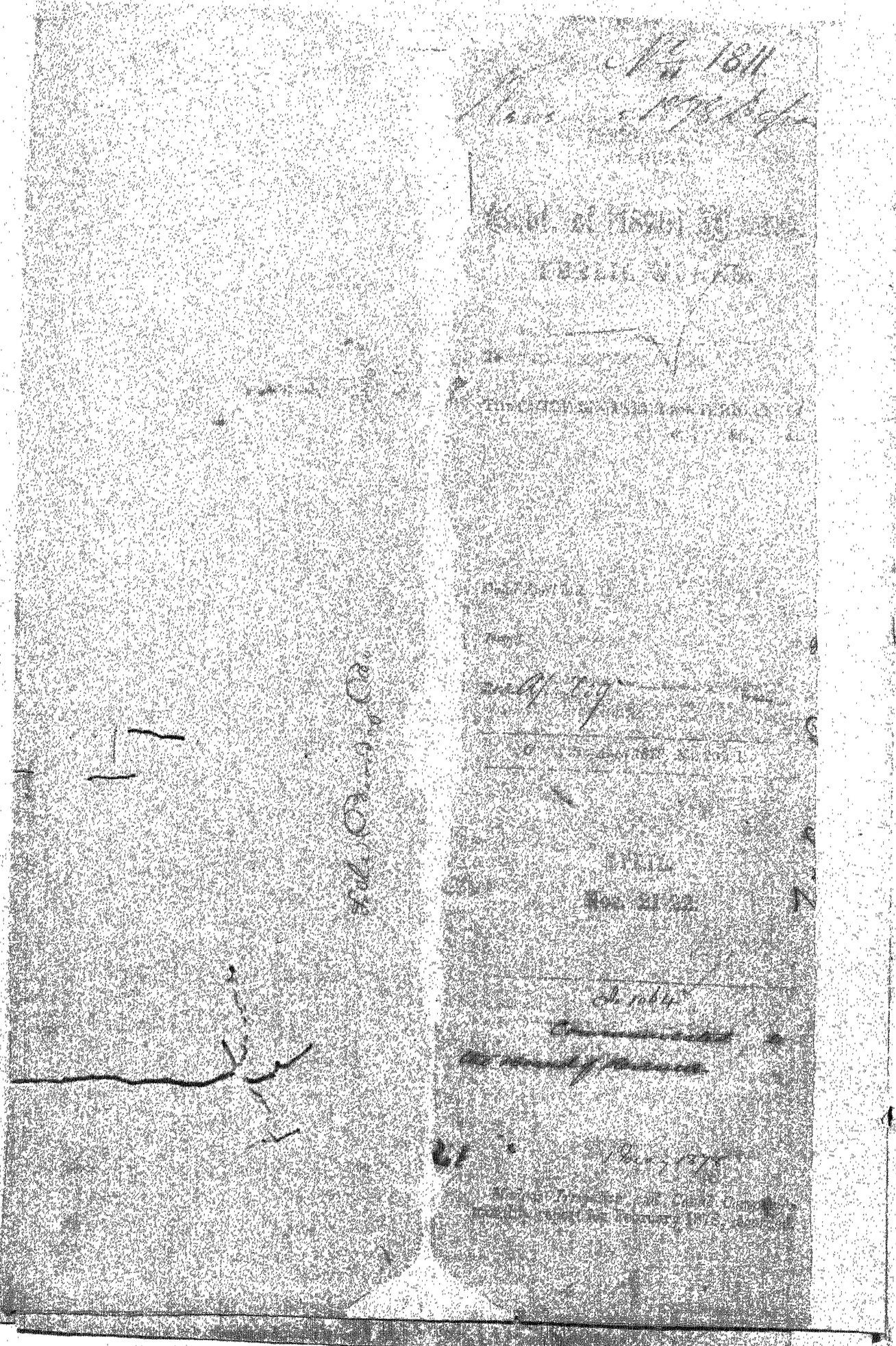
ORDERED [that the above be] recorded.

(True [extract].)

(Signed) JOHN MULLINS, Lt.-Col., R.E.,
Joint Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

(True [copy].)

[illegible], R.E.,
Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
" Chief Engineer and Manager of the [Ir]rigation and Canal Company.
" Examiner of Irrigation Company's A[ccounts].
" Revenue Department.
To Mr. Lister.

Exd. T. D. Ryan.
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