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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

293

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Dated 28.2.1876 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 331. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th February 1876, No. 403 :—

Read the following letter from W. D. HORSLEY, Esq., Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 12th January 1876, No. 9 :—

I HAVE the honor to report on Board's footnote, Miscellaneous No. 822, dated 4th February 1875, to G. O., No. 175,*
* G. O., No. 178, dated 26th January 1875, Revenue Department. dated 21st January 1875.

2. I find it difficult to answer the general question what I have done to further the interests of the Canal and Irrigation Company. I am under the impression that I have done all that was in my power to do. In present circumstances, I must confess it is not possible for me to do very much. I see faults, but I am powerless to correct them. The Company do not consult their own interests when they charge an exorbitant rate for water, but I know for certain that it is utterly useless for me to raise any voice against it from the manner in which the question was treated at the meeting held here last year. Then, again, I am never consulted in any way by the officers of the Company. They apparently endeavour to keep everything as much as possible in their own hands without reference to me. My predecessors were treated precisely in the same way. When I took office, my predecessor informed me that he was in perfect ignorance of canal matters, and that when he assumed charge he could learn nothing from his predecessor. I endeavoured to gain an insight into the working of the canal by settling the annual demand for the Cuddapah Taluq, a duty which has always been left to the Deputy Collector on special duty, but that apparently did not bring me and the canal officers on closer terms. They content themselves with making complaints that they receive no assistance from Government officials, but omit to state that they have not applied for assistance. I know that there are shortcomings on the part of the Tahsildar of Cuddapah, who is, as I have before reported to the Board, an exceedingly bad Revenue officer, but on no occasion have I received any complaints against him from the officers of the Company.

3. Mr. Dodson says that no application forms were issued to the Curnams. The rules regarding applications were published in the District Gazette, and every endeavour was made by the Deputy Collector and Tahsildars to make the rules known to the village officials. Printed forms of applications could not at first be given to the Curnams, as the District Press was full of work, but the Curnams were told to issue manuscript copies. In spite of this, the Deputy Collector found that applications were still received by the Company's Overseers. He wrote to Mr. Dodson requesting him to enforce upon his subordinates "the strict observance of Rule II."

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th February 1876.*

complaining that the Curnams being kept in ignorance of what water had been applied for, they were unable to prepare the canal cultivation accounts. In reply, Mr. Dodson promises to do nothing. He simply says:—"My Overseers and Amins have been giving tickets to ryots, because the Curnams of the villages in your district all stated that they had received no orders to give tickets to the ryots, and had no forms for that purpose." He further said that the Curnams might inspect the books of the Amins. If, as Mr. Dodson says, the Curnams stated that they had received no orders to give tickets, how came it that the Curnams complained to the Tahsildar that the tickets were issued by the Company's Officers. The Deputy Collector wrote to Mr. Dodson on the statement of the Curnams. The fact that the Curnams said anything on the subject makes it quite clear that they had received their orders, and were willing to act up to them, if permitted to do so. I have not the least doubt that the Company's Amins were perfectly willing to continue receiving applications for water in spite of the rule as it then existed to the contrary, because applications of any kind whether for land or for water, and whether made to Curnams or to Company's Amins, are usually accompanied by a small payment of money. This advantage the Company's Amins were unwilling to relinquish until the irregular manner in which the applications were made was brought to Mr. Dodson's notice by the Deputy Collector, when a flimsy excuse was made by the Company's subordinates. This excuse reflected on the conduct of Revenue officials, and was, as I have stated in a former letter, too readily swallowed by Mr. Dodson.

4. I quite admit as I have said in former letters that village officials are capable of every kind of misconduct, but I have not the slightest reason to believe that the underlings of the Company are one whit better than the Curnams. It would be quite unnatural if they were. I was only the other day informed by an Overseer lately in the Company's service that the Amins were not to be trusted, and required to be closely watched. I can find nothing about this in Mr. Dodson's reports. It is always the Curnams who do wrong.

5. If Mr. Dodson wants my assistance he should apply for it, and then he may complain if he does not get it. He has not the slightest grounds for leading the Government to suppose that I neglect the interests of the Company. He knows perfectly well that at the settlement of the demand for Fasli 1282 I did all in my power to further the interests of the Company.

SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to G.O., 26th January 1875, No. 178, Revenue Department.

2. The Board are satisfied that it is the desire of the Collector to give every assistance in his power to the canal officers and to promote the interests of the Company; and they agree with Mr. Horsley that Mr. Dodson, having never sought assistance or indicated in what way it might be acceptable, has no reason to complain of not getting it.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th February 1876.*

No. 332.

ORDER THEREON, 28th February 1876, No. 293.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works
Department with reference to the G. O.
in that department, dated 21st January
1875, No. 175.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Public Works Department.
„ the Board of Revenue.

Exd. J. W. Lewis.

*Irrigation and Canal Company.—Communi-
cating to the Public Works Department Proceeding
of the Board of Revenue submitting report regard-
ing measures taken by the Collector to advance
the interests of the—*

FEBRUARY,
Nos. 331-332.

G.O., 28th February 1876, No. 293.

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

REVENUE.

Boht. of 1876: 331-332.

Dated February, 28th.

Recd.

Recd.

No. 403.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 10th February 1876.

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* G. O., No. 178, dated 26th January 1875, Revenue Department. dated 21st January 1875.

2. I find it difficult to answer the general question what I have done to further the interests of the Canal and Irrigation Company. I am under the impression that I have done all that was in my power to do. In present circumstances, I must confess it is not possible for me to do very much. I see faults, but I am powerless to correct them. The Company do not consult their own interests when they charge an exorbitant rate for water, but I know for certain that it is utterly useless for me to raise any voice against it from the manner in which the question was treated at the meeting held here last year. Then, again, I am never consulted in any way by the officers of the Company. They apparently endeavour to keep everything as much as possible in their own hands without reference to me. My predecessors were treated precisely in the same way. When I took office, my predecessor informed me that he was in perfect ignorance of canal matters, and that when he assumed charge he could learn nothing from his predecessor. I endeavoured to gain an insight into the working of the canal by settling the annual demand for the Cuddapah Taluq. a duty which has always been left to the Deputy Collector on special duty, but that apparently did not bring me and the canal officers on closer terms. They content themselves with making complaints that they receive no assistance from Government officials, but omit to state that they have not applied for assistance. I know that there are shortcomings on the part of the Tahsildar of Cuddapah, who is, as I have before reported to the Board, an exceedingly bad Revenue officer, but on no occasion have I received any complaints against him from the officers of the Company.

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SUBMITTED to Government, with reference to G.O., 26th January 1875, No. 173, Revenue Department.

2. The Board are satisfied that it is the desire of the Collector to give every assistance in his power to the canal officers and to promote the interests of the Company; and they agree with Mr. Horsley that Mr. Dodson, having never sought assistance or indicated in what way it might be acceptable, has no reason to complain of not getting it.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

W. J. Lewis
Acting Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Copy to the Collector of Cuddapah.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

1876
RECEIVED
18th Feb 1876
16

PROCEEDINGS, 10th FEBRUARY 1876, No. 403.

Copy to Govt 17/6

Received

18th Feb 1876

FEBRUARY.

No. 403.

Irrigation and Canal Company.—Submitting to Government report of Collector of Cuddapah regarding measures taken to advance the interests of the —. 1875.

Copy to Govt 17/6
Copy to Govt 17/6
Copy to Govt 17/6

28th February 1876