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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 810	Press
~~B.P. No.~~	~~Mis.~~
Dated 15 · 6 · 1876 196 .	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 178. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th June 1876, No. 1,512 :—

Read the following letter from J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Audimmayapally, 23rd May 1876, No. 118.

I HAVE the honor to reply to Board's* Proceedings, dated 16th May 1876.

* Foot-note to G.O., Public Works Department, dated 30th March 1876, No. 810, and G.O., Revenue Department, dated 22nd April 1876, No. 922.

2. On taking charge of the district, I had already noticed from the correspondence on the records that matters between the Canal and the Revenue authorities were not on a satisfactory footing, and had arranged for a meeting with the Conservancy Engineer at the time of the Jammabundy, in order to see exactly how matters stood. On my way to this meeting, I received the Board's order under reply. I have been spending some days at Audimmayapally, and have made inquiries from the villagers, the Amins, the Overseer, and the Deputy Collector. I have been present whilst the settlement was going on, and I have had the advantage of talking on the spot with Mr. Latham, the Chief Engineer, and Mr. Dumphy, the Conservancy Engineer, both of whom have showed themselves most ready to give me every information.

3. Colonel Mullins draws a comparison between the state of things in Cuddapah and in Kurnool, which is considerably in favor of the latter district. This is what Mr. Dumphy, who has conducted the settlement of the present year personally, and was present at that of the last year, informs me. Instead of matters being worse in this district than in Kurnool, they are, to use his own words "incomparably better." There are fewer disputes, the Canal Officers receive more assistance from the Revenue authorities, *the villagers and ryots are better acquainted* with the rules, and there is a greater readiness to make use of the canal. It is possible that there may have been a time when matters in this district were more backward, but Colonel Mullins writes in March of this year regarding canal matters as they now are; and it is, I think, greatly to be regretted that Mr. Horsley's action should have been (inadvertently of course) thus misrepresented, especially as this memorandum was written almost on the day that Mr. Horsley left India.

4. Colonel Mullins complains that no steps were taken to publish the rules except in the District Gazette "if, indeed, they were printed there." It could surely not have been difficult for Colonel Mullins to find out whether they had been printed or not. The rules *were* printed in their entirety in the Supplement to the Gazette, dated 19th September 1874, or only one month after they were issued. Not only were they published in the Gazette, but they were also distributed to the village officials, and every endeavour was taken to explain them, with what good result is apparent from what Mr. Dumphy says.

5. In paragraph 4, alluding to Mr. Horsley's action, Colonel Mullins says: "It would appear to be fair to conclude that he did nothing in regard to them (the new rules) beyond the mere routine work which was unavoidable, and that, so far as the application forms were concerned, was very badly done." There is no doubt that at first there was considerable delay in issuing the application

forms; but this, I beg to urge, was in no manner Mr. Horsley's fault. The District Press has been long over-worked, so much so that the most important current work is greatly in arrears. The Board of Revenue will be aware that I am correct in this, because it is only within the last few weeks that the district has been supplied with a new Press. Pending the printing of the application forms, however, written forms were ordered to be issued. The Company's subordinates continued for some time to issue tickets instead of the Curnams, but I have no hesitation in saying that this was owing to the corruptness of the canal subordinates. From my own inquiries, I have heard of instances in which double rates were charged for no fault of the ryot, in which a fee had been levied before a ticket was issued, and in which the bankers had cut off water whilst a crop was growing, and refused to go on with the supply until a fee had been paid. These things happened under one Overseer a man who was fully trusted by the late Mr. Dodson, but who, a few months ago, only escaped his dismissal by sending in his resignation. What the effect of these malpractices was may be judged from the fact that when he was Overseer the first-crop cultivation of this year in one village (Chennoor) was only 300 acres, but when he was succeeded by another Overseer, the second crop rose at once to 670 acres. Mr. Dodson's imputations against the village officials were frequent. Mr. Horsley has admitted, as any one with a knowledge of this country must admit, that they are often corrupt; but it would seem from these statements made to me by the canal subordinates, and to which I challenge contradiction, that the canal su[illegible]ave been equally to blame.

6. Mr. Dumphy assures me that in this district there is less surreptitious irrigation, that thefts of water are more easily detected, and that complaints are promptly attended to. Mr. Horsley states that his ignorance of canal matters was mainly owing to the manner in which he was kept in the dark, and there can, I think, be no doubt that the late Mr. Dodson's conduct was unwisely sensitive and obstructive. Speaking for myself, I can only say that my present relations with the canal officers are perfectly satisfactory, and it shall not be my fault if they do not remain so; they show every wish to give me all the information I require, and I intend to keep myself fully informed of canal matters. In the mean time, I trust, in justice to Mr. Horsley who is not here to defend himself against the imputations which have been made against him, that the Board of Revenue and the Government will admit that the present satisfactory state of affairs in Cuddapah, as compared with Kurnool, is due, in a great measure, to Mr. Horsley's endeavours to publish the rules and promote the interests of the Company.

7. In conclusion, with reference to paragraph 1 of the Board's order under reply, I beg to state that Mr. Dumphy informs me that he is at present in receipt of all the assistance he requires *in every branch of the department*; and that the only obstacle he encountered since he has been in charge has been the absence and inattention of the officials principally in *one* village, which obstacle, however, under recent arrangements, has been entirely removed.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., dated 22nd April 1876, No. 922.

2. The Board are glad to find that Mr. Horsley is not fairly chargeable with the apathy imputed to him in the Memorandum by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation. He seems to have done all that he could under the circumstances in furtherance of the interests of the canal, and the result is the very satisfactory state of affairs reported by Mr. Gribble. The canal officers express themselves perfectly satisfied, and the Board do not consider, therefore, that any further measures are necessary to ensure a proper knowledge of the rules, and to secure their being carried out.

3. The Board respectfully beg to remonstrate against the assumption on the part of Colonel Mullins that the Collector had, in all respects, neglected his duty, and the tone of his remarks which, in their opinion, is as uncalled for as it is discourteous.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

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

No. 179. ORDER THEREON, 15th June 1876, No. 810.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Public Works Department with reference to the G.O. in that department, dated 30th March 1876, No. 810. It is clear from the report submitted that the Collector of Cuddapah deserved no blame for apathy or irregularities in connection with the working of the canals in that district.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of India. Madras
REVENUE.
To be PRINTED IMMEDIATELY.
Dated 7th June, 1876.
Read
Ordered, that 250 copies be printed for the use of the Board of Revenue.
G.O., 1876, No. 810.
JUNE.
Nos. 173-179.

Post Note to G.O.
Public Works Dept
dated 30th March 1876
No. 810 G.O. R.D.
dated 22nd April 1876
No. 922.

Revenue Department.

In 1513:-

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 8th June 1876;

Read the following

No. 118

From, J. D. B. Gribble Esqre,
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

To, C. A. Galton Esqre,
Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir

I have the honor to reply to Board's Proceedings dated 16th May 1876.

2. On taking charge of the district I had already noticed from the correspondence on the records that matters between the canal and the revenue authorities were not on a satisfactory footing; and had arranged for a meeting with the Conservancy Engineer at the time of the Jamabundy, in order to see exactly how matters stood. On my way to this

meeting

meeting, I received the Board's order under reply. I have been spending some days at Audimmayapally and have made enquiries from the villagers, the ameens, the overseer, and the Deputy Collector. I have been present whilst the settlement was going on, and I have had the advantage of talking on the spot with Mr Latham the Chief Engineer, and Mr Dumphy the Conservancy Engineer, both of whom have showed themselves most ready to give me every information.

3. Colonel Mullins draws a comparison between the state of things in Cuddapah, and in Kurnool, which is considerably in favor of the latter District. This is what Mr Dumphy, who has conducted the settlement of the present

present year personally and was present at that of the last year informs me: Instead of matters being worse in this District than in Kurnool they are, to use his own words, incomparably better. There are fewer disputes, the Canal Officers receive more assistance from the revenue authorities, the villagers and ryots are better acquainted with the rules, and there is a greater readiness to make use of the canal. It is possible that there may have been a time when matters in this district were more back-ward, but Colonel Mullins writes in March of this year regarding canal matters as they now are, and it is, I think, greatly to be regretted that Mr Horsley's action should have been inadvertently

(inadvertently of course) thus mis-
-represented especially as this Memo-
-randum was written almost on the
day that Mr Horsley left India.

4. Colonel Mullins complains
that no steps were taken to publish
the rules except in the District Gazette
" if indeed they were printed there".
It could surely not have been diffi-
-cult for Colonel Mullins to find out
whether they had been printed or not.
The rules were printed in their entirety
in the supplement to the Gazette dated
19th September 1874, or only one month
after they were issued. Not only were
they published in the Gazette, but they
were also distributed to the village
officials and every endeavour was

taken

taken to explain them, with what good
result, is apparent from what Mr
Dumphy says.

5. In para 4 alluding to Mr Horsley's
action Colonel Mullins says "It
would appear to be fair to conclude
that he did nothing in regard to them
(the new rules) beyond the mere routine
work which was unavoidable, and
that, so far as the application forms
were concerned, was very badly done".
There is no doubt that at first
there was considerable delay in
issuing the application forms; but
this, I beg to urge, was, in no
manner Mr Horsley's fault.
The District press has been long

overworked

overworked, so much so that the most important current work is greatly in arrears. The Board of Revenue will be aware that I am correct in this, because it is only within the last few weeks that the district has been supplied with a new press. Pending the printing of the application forms, however written forms were ordered to be issued. The Company's subordinates continued for some time to issue tickets instead of the Cowrums, but I have no hesitation in saying that this was owing to the corruptness of the Canal subordinates. From my own enquiries I have heard of instances, in which double

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rates were charged for no fault of the ryot; in which a fee had been levied before a ticket was issued; and in which the bearers had cut off water whilst a crop was growing, and refused to go on with the supply until a fee had been paid. These things happened under one overseer, a man who was fully trusted by the late Mr Dodson, but who a few months ago only escaped his dismissal by sending in his resignation; what the effect of these malpractices was, may be judged from the fact that when he was overseer the first crop cultivation of this year, in one village (Chennoor) was only 300 acres, but when

when he was succeeded by another Overseer, the second crop rose at once to 670 acres. Mr Dodson's imputations against the village officials were frequent, Mr Horsley has admitted, as any one with a knowledge of this country must admit that they are often corrupt, but it would seem from these statements made to me by the canal subordinates, and to which I challenge contradiction, that the canal subordinates have been equally to blame.

6. Mr Dunphy assures me that in this District there is less surreptitious irrigation; that thefts of water are more easily detected, and that complaints are promptly attended to.

Mr

Mr Horsley states that his ignorance of canal matters was mainly owing to the manner in which he was kept in the dark, and there can I think be no doubt that the late Mr Dodson's conduct was unwisely sensitive and obstructive. Speaking for myself I can only say that my present relations with the canal officers are perfectly satisfactory, and it shall not be my fault if they do not remain so; they show every wish to give me all the information I require, and I intend to keep myself fully informed of canal matters In the meantime, I trust in justice to Mr Horsley who is not here to defend himself against the imputations which

which have been made against him,
that the Board of Revenue and the
Government will admit that the
present satisfactory state of affairs
in Cuddapah as compared with
Kurnool is due, in a great measure to Mr Horsley's endeavours
to publish the rules and promote the
interests of the Company.

7. In Conclusion, with reference
to para 1 of the Board's order under
reply I beg to state that Mr Dempsy
informs that he is at present in
receipt of all the assistance he requires
in every branch of the department;
and that the only obstacle he encoun-
tered since he has been in charge
has been the absence and non attention

of the officials principally, in one
village, which obstacle, however, under
present arrangements has been entirely
removed.

Cuddapah Collector's Office,
On Circuit, Audimmayapully
23d May 1876

I have &c
(Signed) J. D. B. Gribble
Acting Collector.

Submitted to Government with
reference to Government Order dated
22d April 1876 No 922.

2. The Board are glad to find
that Mr. Horsley is not fairly
chargeable with the apathy im-
puted to him in the Memorandum
by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
He seems to have done all that
he could under the circumstances
in furtherance of the interests of the Canal

and

and the result is the very satisfactory state of affairs reported by Mr. Gribble.

The Canal officers express themselves perfectly satisfied and the Board do not consider, therefore, that any further measures are necessary to ensure a proper knowledge of the Rules and to secure their being carried out.

3. The Board respectfully beg to remonstrate against the assumption on the part of Colonel Mullins that the Collector had in all respects neglected his duty and the tone of his remarks which, in their opinion, is as uncalled for as it is discourteous.

(True Copy & Extract)

Ag Secretary

To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

No 810

Communicated to the Public Works Department, with reference to the G.O. in that Department dated 30th March 1876 No 810. It is clear from the report submitted that the Collector of Cuddapah deserved no blame for the irregularities in connection with the working of the Canals in that District.

15th June 1876

21 Forbes Bridges on 5th July
14 Thos Brandreth 5

Rec'd 8th June 1876
Desp'd 8th —"— —"—
No 12

Public Works Department
Proceedings &c &c
Board of Revenue.

No 2343
Revenue Department

Letter from Collector of Cuddapah regarding action taken & furnishing explanations & explaining rules relating to application for water from Irrigation and Canal Companies —

British Under

Ex 13th June 1876 R 15th June

No 810 - 19 June 1876