Revenue Department

Cromo 423 Dated 19.3.1878

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

19th March 1878, No. 423.

Read the following paper:—

No. 200. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 12th December 1877, No. 5,216.

Read the following papers:—

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th October 1877, No. 982.

I HAVE the honor to furnish the information called for in Board's Proceedings, dated 16th October 1877, Miscellaneous No. 14,294.

2. The questions are—

(1.) Whether the necessity for appointing a Covenanted Officer of Sub-Collector's standing on canal duty would be obviated, and the object adverted to in paragraph 4, Board's Proceedings, dated 4th August 1877, No. 3,654, attained, so far as this district is concerned, if Deputy Collector A. Ramachendra Row was relieved of all other than canal duty.

(2.) What measures are necessary for ensuring the ascertainment of the areas irrigated under the canal and of the revenue due for water used.

3. As regards the first point, I have no hesitation in saying that the desired object would not be attained by relieving Ramachendra Row of other duty and employing him exclusively on canal work, and with reference to this subject, I beg to refer the Board to my letter to them, dated 11th instant, No. 933, and merely quote its concluding paragraph for easy reference:—

"I entirely agree with the Board of Revenue in the opinion expressed in paragraph 3 of their Proceedings, dated 4th August last, No. 3,654, that nothing short of the appointment of a special European Officer of Sub-Collector's standing will suffice to put the affairs of the Company in their relations with the Madras Government in a right footing, and I think that the sooner the change can be made the better."

4. With reference to the second point, I beg to recommend the adoption of the following measures which I consider will have the double effect of securing the object now sought, and of checking the improper interference of ryots with the water distribution under the canal, regarding which matter a report has been called for in G.O., dated 27th ultimo, No. 348-I, Public [illegible]partment, communicated with Board's Miscellaneous No. 14,385, of the 18[illegible]

(1.) The appointment and pay [illegible]ssistant Curnams in the manner suggested by the Board and [illegible]atham in his letter, dated 7th July, No. 48, copy enclose[illegible]e ordinary Curnams in matters connected with the Com[illegible]s during their absence or employment on other duty.

(2.) The strengthening of the European staff of the Company. The necessity for this has been recognized and partially remedied by the recent addition of two European Officers to the staff, viz., Mr. Dunphy junior, and Mr. Malthy.

(3.) Raising the emoluments of the Native agency, thereby making the appointments greater objects of ambition, and so reducing the temptation to corruption.

(4.) Improving the existing system of distribution channels as observed by Mr. Puckle, Director of Revenue Settlement, on the occasions of his recent visit to this district.

(5.) Requiring the Company's European Officers on their first arrival in this country to serve an apprenticeship for at least a twelvemonth on one of the large Irrigation Works of Government, so that they may become thoroughly acquainted with their duties, and with the manners, customs, and language of the Natives before entering upon their duties here.

(6.) Revision of the ayacut irrigable by canal water sufficient to bring the water-rate to Rupees 4 per wet acre and Rupees 2 per dry acre to be paid, provided water is available, whether it be utilized or not.

(7.) The existing rates charged by the Company, viz., Rupees 6 and 4 respectively per wet and dry acre, are excessive, and have a directly prohibitory effect as evidenced by the fact mentioned by the Board in their Proceedings of the 4th August, No. 3,654, that out of a total irrigable area of 196,227 acres only 14,763 were irrigated in 1875-76, thus showing that the Company's idea of raising a maximum revenue for a minimum area is impolitic.

8. Three additional Revenue Inspectors were specially appointed in Nandikotkur, Nandial, and Sirwell to be employed exclusively on irrigation duties. It may be necessary to continue their services.

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ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Beeravoly, 7th July 1877, No. 48.

AT the request of the Company's Secretary, and in accordance with the order of the Madras Government that modifications proposed in the rules and method of controlling and counting for the use of canal water for irrigation should be first discussed by the local officers, I have the honor to ask you whether you are inclined to support a proposal for the following special staff :—

(1). The appointment by the Collector in every village irrigated of an officer, not the Curnam (but if possible one of his family, and whose interests are identical with his), whose duty shall be to exercise the Curnam's functions during the Curnam's absence from the village, or during the Curnam's occupation in other duties in his village, in reference to the Water Rules passed in G.O., No. 830, of 3rd July 1874 *et seq.* This officer to be paid through the Collector by the Company by a commission of one anna in the rupee on the water-rate chargeable as settled under Rule XIX.

(2). The appointment of a selected Covenanted civilian to take special charge of the Canal Irrigation on the part of the Madras Government, and to act under the Collectors of both Kurnool and Cuddapah Districts without any further duties (other than as a Magistrate). The appointment to continue for three or four years, or until the local Revenue staff and the ryots had learnt to understand, and generally to comply with, the rules of Irrigation. The present settlement has probably gone so far as to convince you of the importance of the object, and I shall be glad to furnish the Secretary with your opinion on the necessity for obtaining it.

(Copy.)

(Signed) C. J. KNOX,
Special Assistant Collector
for Acting Collector.

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chintakunta, 21st October 1877, Extra No. 2,418 :—

REFERRING to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3,654, dated 4th August last, I have the honor to transmit a copy of the General Charge Deputy Collector's letter, No. 47, dated 6th instant, on the subject, and to forward the statement called for by the Board.

2. I send on the Deputy Collector's letter, because during my tenure of office in this district the calls upon my time in connection with famine matters have been so constant and urgent that I have never been able to go fully into the intricate subject of canal affairs.

3. That some one not hampered with other duties should be appointed to look after canal matters alone is a point which is acknowledged upon all hands.

4. The Deputy Collector's proposal to employ an Irrigation Inspector does not commend itself to me, and I think that if a Covenanted Officer is appointed to work under two Collectors, he will never, as there must be diversities of opinion, be able to perform his duties in a manner satisfactory to himself or others.

5. I am strongly in favor of an Irrigation Deputy Collector for each district. One cannot well have an officer of less standing. Each man would then have but one master and, as the ranges are shorter, would be able to go over them more frequently. The length of the canal is, I believe, something like 190 miles, and granting that the one officer in charge was constantly on the move, he could not visit the extreme ends more than once a month, which, for efficient supervision, would not be nearly often enough.

6. The first step towards improving matters is, in my humble opinion, to have a canal officer or two officers appointed.

The scheme for the employment of Assistant Curnams or Curnams substitutes is certainly a good one. One and the same Accountant cannot properly attend to his Government duties and those connected with the canal also, excepting in the case of those villages in which the cultivation from the canal is small and likely to continue so.

7. Mr. Latham, in a letter which he addressed to me some time since, proposed that the remuneration to Curnams should be one anna in the rupee upon the water-rate collected, *i.e.*, double of what it now is. This would, if sanctioned, allow of a separate Curnam, who might be called a Canal Curnam, being employed in all the larger villages, and as his salary would be dependent upon his own efforts, he would probably look more sharply after the canal water, than one who has his Government Inam to fall back upon. The scheme would not cost Government anything beyond their portion of the guaranteed dividend which would be absorbed by increasing the remuneration to Curnams.

8. I would suggest that when the matter of the appointment of a special canal officer and subsidiary Curnams has been settled, a conference of the canal officers and of the Collectors through whose districts the canal passes, should be held and the rules and amendments thereon, which appear to be scattered throughout a considerable number of official papers, should be collated and thoroughly revised, and definite instructions for the guidance of the Revenue Officer in charge and the Curnams drawn up and submitted for the approval of Government.

9. At present, it appears to be pretty nearly a hopeless task to expect punctuality and promptness in the submission to the Collector of the Revenue accounts connected with Canal Irrigation. The [illegible] machinery of this department has been disorganized by the famine, the [illegible]nt men of almost all the taluq and divisional establishments are absent upon [illegible]luty, and their places are in general supplied with anything but efficient [illegible]s. Added to this, the famine has given rise to the necessity for the prep[illegible] numerous extra accounts and returns and the Reddies and Curnams are bein[illegible]y hurried by the work and inspections called for by the administration of [illegible]lief.

P.S.—Since writing the above a copy of the Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No. 14,294, dated 16th instant, has reached me.

I have already in this letter stated my views, and all that it appears necessary for me to add is that I cannot afford to part with the services, in the Revenue Department, of either of the Deputy Collectors attached to this district. If a special officer is appointed, I think that the present Acting General Charge Deputy Collector, A. Kristna Row, should be detailed for canal work and another Deputy Collector sent in his place.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. KRISTNA ROW, Acting Deputy Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Jamalnadgu, 6th October 1877, No. 47.

WITH reference to your foot-note, No. 1994, 10th September 1877, to Board's Proceedings, No. 3,654, under date the 4th August 1877, I beg to submit herewith a statement showing the irrigable area under the Irrigation Company's canal together with all other particulars required in the above Proceedings, and to state that before the receipt of this order, I have issued the necessary instructions to Tahsildars concerned to give due effect to the scheme of appointing substitutes for Curnams to carry on the work of registration of applications, &c., during their absence from the village; and that I have also immediately after the receipt of the order now under reference instructed them as to their bringing into force the modification of Rule II, approved of by the Board in their Proceedings, No. 2,226 of 876.

2. As regards the increase of remuneration to be paid to the Curnams, I think the system of payment of one anna in the rupee (as suggested by the Board) is most preferable to the grant of monthly or yearly allowance, as this will no doubt operate as an incentive to promote the interests of the Company.

3. In order to overcome the difficulties complained of in regard to the correct preparation and submission of monthly cultivation and other accounts, my experience of last two years, though very limited, strongly induces me to for my humble opinion that the appointment of a special Canal Revenue Inspector who may have sufficient experience and qualifications in canal matters (whether he be a passed candidate or not) is highly desirable (as once suggested by me in my letter No. 42 of 1875, and whose entertainment I hear to have been sanctioned in Kurnool District). It is an undisputed fact that the ultifarious duties of a Tahsildar as well as Revenue Inspector do not permit them to exercise a continuous and efficient close supervision over canal affairs, and their utmost exertions have ever all resulted in failure to secure a thorough efficiency.

4. To check all the irregularities and inconveniences heaped up by the Chief Engineer and Manager and to give effect to the half-yearly settlement contemplated in G.O., No. 2,657, 3rd October 1876, it is certainly quite indispensable (as suggested by the Board) that an officer entrusted *with the administration of canal affairs alone* should be specially appointed. He should always move about the villages commanded by the canal and avail himself of every opportunity in encouraging the ryots to make free use of canal water, in exercising strict supervision over the working of the Curnams, and in checking surreptitious irrigion and other malpractices.

5. In conclusion, I beg to state that these reforms which are greatly needed will tend to place the matters on an efficient footing, and if the sanction of Government be accorded at once to the above arrangement there would be nothing wanting, and on the other hand it would afford greater facilities to ensure regularity in the administration of Canal Irrigation, &c.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Statement showing the information called for in paragraph 6 of Board's Proceedings, No. 3,654, dated 4th August 1877.

	Name of Taluq and Village.	Cultivation as per Settlement of Fasli 1286. Area.	Cultivation as per Settlement of Fasli 1286. Water-rate.	Curnams' present remuneration on Water-rate shown in Column 3 at 6 Pies in the Rupee.	Approximate irrigable Area of future years, i.e., from Fasli 1287.	Name of Curnam at present employed in each village.	Number of Assistants or substitutes required.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		A. C.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.		
Cuddapah.	Raghenapally	45 77	147 4 6	4 9 6	100	Venkiah	1 1
	Goodoor	227 91	862 11 11	26 15 3	300	Vencataramiah	1 1
	Chennoor	1,380 20	5,756 0 10	179 0 0	1,500	Sobriyanarayana	1 2
	Palampally	360 14	1,045 13 11	32 11 0	400	Ramchendriah	1 1
	Koteloor	288 73	1,399 15 2	43 12 0	380	Sashiah	1 1
	Mundlapally	26 70	96 11 1	3 0 3	50	Jogi Razu	1 1
	Thadigotla	5 0	11 14 8	0 5 9	20	Vencatasashiah	1 1
	Tavvaripally	154 20	597 8 8	18 10 9	200	Subbiah	1 1
	Bhoomayapally	267 38	940 13 5	29 6 3	360	Venkatasubbiah	1 1
	Gurrampad	67 35	138 4 2	4 5 0	100	Venkiah	1 1
	Yaitoor	92 23	368 6 11	9 6 2	150	Moorthiah	1 1
	Sirolpally	73 43	188 4 7	5 14 0	100	Sashagiri Row	1 1
	Midthoor	402 89	1,472 8 11	46 0 0	500	Kasaviah	1 1
	Thadumuladinnah	79 66	309 11 8	9 10 9	100	Do.	1 1
	Commaloor	236 45	1,696 13 6	34 4 3	300	Venkatappah	1 1
	Syncasula	89 22	356 13 1	11 2 3	200	Agniah	1 1
	Kockarayapally	152 12	486 10 11	15 3 3	200	Sashagiri Row	1 1
	Kristapuram	5 0	13 5 4	0 5 6	20	Vencatasashiah	1 1
	Peggunapally	102 19	378 11 5	11 12 3	150	Vasiraz Subbiah	1 1
	Nazarbaigpally	8 19	22 14 4	0 11 3	20	Venkiah	1 1
	Chennamachupally	180 57	622 0 2	19 7 0	280	Lutchmiah	1 1
Proddatur.	Machanapally	583 93	1,805 11 8	56 6 9	700	Chalamiah	1 2
	Gudipad	73 26	238 14 0	6 4 3	150	Vencatanarasu	1 1
	Jellalah	321 46	1,057 7 10	33 1 6	420	Dathiah	1 1
	Chiyapad	749 34	2,484 14 2	77 10 3	900	Buchiah	1 2
	Kamagoodoor	209 38	729 13 6	22 11 9	300	Baliah	1 1
	Tangatoor	12 46	51 10 7	1 9 9	40	Buchiraru	1 1
	Marrayapally	65 67	98 3 10	3 0 6	100	Subbiah	1 1
	Fishaped	86 82	145 16 6	4 9 0	160	Kristeharlu	1 1
	Sonar	3 96	13 12 11	0 6 9	20	Vencatanarasu	1 1
	Dheor	579 59	2,166 12 3	67 11 3	700	Seetharamiah and Venkatanarsu	2 1
	Rathavaram	97 39	254 3 4	11 1 0	100	Soorappah	1 1
	Chinnamata	149 56	326 6 2	10 3 2	200	Vencatapah	1 1
	Valasali	4 29	11 7 1	0 5 8	50	Veeriah	1 1
	Bhimpally	77 83	299 1 9	9 1 6	150	Vencatasubbiah	1 1
	Alladapally	127 43	619 14 9	19 5 9	200	Narayanappah	1 1
	Maideoor	341 46	1,356 15 5	42 6 3	500	Vencatasashiah and Pulliah	2 1
	Annaloor	12 53	50 2 0	1 9 0	50	Sashiah	1 1
	Gosayapilly	2 98	17 14 1	0 8 9	50	Vencataramanapah	1 1
	Peddaguruvaloor	60 65	241 8 0	8 14 6	150	Venctanarsu	1 1
	Chinnaguruvaloor	138 74	630 1 2	18 11 0	200	Subbiah	1 1
	Kamanoor	69 7	190 8 7	5 15 3	150	Obalarayadu	1 1
	Nalatoor	..	..	..	50	Veeriah	1 1
	Bhallakevaripalli	..	..	..	50	Obalarayadu	1 1
	Jonnavaram	2 27	9 1 3	0 4 8	10	Bhascariah	1 1
	Venganagaripally	125 72	428 8 4	13 6 3	200	Sirotriemdar	1 1
	Narravada	28 33	114 2 5	3 9 0	100	Vencatasashiah	1 1
	Annapasasturlapally	62 32	214 11 7	6 11 3	100	Sivaramiah	1 1
	Sivapuram	99 2	426 12 11	13 5 3	150	Chethamburam	1 1
	Madoor	762 72	2,703 13 2	87 7 9	1,000	Vencatasubbiah	1 2
Jamalmadgu.	Kotalpally	52 48	99 9 6	3 1 6	100	Obalnarasiah	1 1
	Vuppaloor	4 50	13 8 0	7 8	10	Do.	1 1
	Jangalapally	163 1	523	19 2	200	Ramaswamy	1 1
	Balapanagoodoor	7 26	7		50	Narayanah	1 1
	Suddapally	24 6	80		100	Ramaswamy	1 1
	Vengampally	..	..		20	Dathiah	1 1
	Peddamudiem	..	..		100	Do.	1 1

NOTE.—The ... ed is excluded.

6th October 1877.

(Signed) A. KRISTNA ROW,
Acting Deputy Collector.

From A. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th November 1877, No. 1,014.

IN CONTINUATION of this office letter, dated 27th ultimo, No. 932, I have the honor to enclose a statement showing the staff of officers and servants employed in the Upper and Lower Sections of the Madras Irrigation Company's Canal at the beginning and end of the year 1876.

2. The statement compares the water distributing and supervising staff employed by the company at a time when irrigation from the canal was normal with the staff employed at a time when the demand for canal water was unusally heavy.

3. The total area irrigated under the canal in this district in the year 1876-77 was over 78,307* acres against 10,419 in the previous year; and in the two districts of Kurnool and Cuddapah together 94,975 acres were irrigated in 1876-77 against 14,764 in 1875-76†. Yet in spite of this heavy increase in the extent of land irrigated, the increase in the Company's establishment, particularly of bankers and water distributors, was very small.

* *Vide* Mr. Latham's 3 demands embodied in G.O., dated 19th June 1877.

† *Vide* G.O., No. 49-I, 30th May 1877.

4. This may partly explain the difficulty experienced by the Company in coping with acts of aggression on the part of the ryots, such as taking water by force or without permission, damming up channels, &c., which Mr. Latham recently brought to the notice of Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

MEMORANDUM of Staff employed in Company's Canal in January 1876 in comparison with December 1876.

UPPER DIVISION. Grade.	Number in January 1876.	Number in December 1876.	LOWER DIVISION. Grade.	Number in January 1876.	Number in December 1876.
Engineers	2	1	Engineers	1	1
Surveyors	1	1	Surveyors	1	1
Overseers and Sub-Overseers	8	13	Overseers	5	5
Amins	6	10	Amins	5	14
Tindals	3	4	Tindals	3	4
Sluice-keepers	8	15	Sluice-keepers	6	9
Bankers	131	167	Bankers	149	140
Tappalmen	9	12	Tappalmen	11	11
Chainmen	11	7	Chainmen	3	6
Telegraph Signallers ...	2	2		...	...
Total...	181	232	Total...	189	191

(Signed) C. J. KNOX,
Special Asst. Collector,
for Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., dated 2nd October 1877, No. 3,067.

2. The foregoing letters convey the views of the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah on the measures suggested in their Proceedings, dated 4th August last, No. 3,051. As regards the appointment of a special Covenanted Officer

of Sub-Collector's standing to put the affairs of the Company and their relations with Government on a satisfactory footing, Mr. Davidson fully concurs in the Board's recommendation; Mr. Price however anticipates difficulties from the proposed subordination of the special officer to two Collectors, and doubts whether one man could efficiently supervise so extensive a range; he therefore suggests the appointment of an Irrigation Deputy Collector for each district. The Board are however decidedly of opinion, for reasons already stated in their Proceedings of the 4th August, that this plan will not answer; it has proved a failure in Kurnool, and the Board do not attach much importance to the objections raised to the appointment of a single officer. As the matter has been settled by G.O., dated 27th November 1877, No. 3,311, just received, it is unnecessary to pursue the subject further.

3. As regards the other measures of reform necessary for securing more efficient administration, Mr. Davidson makes some suggestions which appear, with the exception of that contained in clause 6 of paragraph 4, to be suitable; both officers admit the necessity for appointing Assistant Curnams, and approve the system of remuneration suggested by the Board, but no definite scheme has been drawn up, and it is not clear what action has been taken in this direction with reference to the authority accorded in G.O., dated 11th July 1877, No. 153-I, Department of Public Works; the nature of the instructions issued by the Deputy Collector in the Cuddapah District is not stated, and the information called for in paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings of the 4th August is not furnished from Kurnool; temporary arrangements must be made as therein directed, and definite proposals submitted after communication with the canal officers in due course. Extra assistance certainly does not seem requisite in many of the villages entered in the Cuddapah Deputy Collector's statement where the area under cultivation by means of the canal is insignificant and the possibility of extension limited.

4. Mr. Davidson's sixth suggestion is not very clearly stated, but it is presumed that he refers to the proposal to fix an ayacut on which water-rate should be compulsorily payable whether water be taken or not. The Board have already in their Proceedings, dated 29th August 1877, No. 4[illegible], briefly expressed their objections to this proposal, but as the measure has been advocated by the Director of Revenue Settlement and is again urged by the Collector, it seems advisable that the grounds of objection should be more fully set forth with a view to a final decision of the question.

5. The proposal to fix an ayacut is really to force the people to convert their dry land into wet against their will in the interest of the Irrigation Company. The terms of the Company's contract imply that at the outset no idea of forcing the water on the people was entertained; the point was however distinctly raised in connection with the question of the adoption of a consolidated punjah assessment or separate water-rate distinct from the land assessment in conducting the settlement of the lands irrigated in Kurnool by the Company. The Secretary of State expressed himself as clearly of opinion that the ryot should be allowed the security against an excessive charge which the option of deciding by a stated period of each year whether he will have water or not will give him, the Government retaining the right of declining to supply any particular tract of country with water unless the cultivator should be prepared to enter into engagements to take the water at the stipulated rate in such numbers and for such terms of years as might warrant the required outlay. The matter was in fact to be one of contract between the company and the body of the ryots. These instructions were to be considered as generally applicable and not as confined only to the district of Kurnool.

Secretary of State's despatch in G.O., dated 16th January 1864, No. 99.

The same policy has been again more [illegible] associated in connection with the passing of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Act, the provisions of which, as it originally stood in regard to compulsory rating, have been disallowed by the Secretary of State; so carefully was this principle [illegible] that in the debate on the amended bill of 1872, the clause which authorized charge for benefits conferred on land adjoining irrigation works and channels [illegible] irrigation or drainage was struck out.

the ground that the benefits conferred on some unasked for must be set against the injuries caused to others, and that as no compensation was paid to the latter so no charge could equitably be levied from the former.

6. Experience, too, has shown that this policy is the right one; the Board need only refer to the long correspondence which took place in connection with the inquiry into the causes of the check to the spread of wet cultivation in the Kistna Delta, and point to the fact that it was found necessary after long experience to relax rules far less arbitrary than the system now proposed, inasmuch as temporarily converted dry lands were not permanently classed as wet unless water was taken for three years in succession, and to give the ryots more perfect freedom of action in the matter of using the water. The rules as they stood were found too oppressive as ryots wishing to reconvert into "dry" lands which proved unsuited to wet cultivation or were imperfectly supplied were unable to do so; the people refused to take water for new land at all, and all increase of wet cultivation ceased. The Government found it necessary to depute a special officer to enquire into the causes of this unsatisfactory state of affairs, the final result of Mr. Master's enquiry being the concession to the ryots of perfect freedom of option as to taking or relinquishing water subject only to the condition that due notice should be given. The whole subject is exhaustively treated in Mr. Master's report, and the papers embodied in G.O., dated 21st August 1872, No. 1,239.

7. The circumstances of the tract under the influence of the Irrigation Canal do not materially differ from those of the lands in the Kistna Delta; the bulk* of the soil belongs to the Regadu or black cotton series, naturally productive of the finest dry crops, and in submitting his proposals for the taluqs of Cuddapah traversed by the canal, Mr. Banbury remarked as follows: (Paragraph 38)—"Large portions of these taluqs are naturally fine dry grain-producing tracts, and when we remember with how little outlay and with how little risk to the cultivator the rich Regadu lands yield year after year their natural product, jonna—a crop so strengthening and so wholesome for both northern man and northern bullock—we cannot wonder at the ryots hesitating to venture upon a far more laborious and to them hitherto untried mode of agriculture." No wonder the ryots are not particularly desirous of availing themselves of the proffered supply; this reluctance is often attributed to mere caprice, but some very valid reasons for the ryots' preference for dry cultivation on black cotton soil are concisely stated at paragraph 166 of Mr. Master's report on irrigation in the Kistna Delta. Besides these general grounds of preference there are other special causes which operate to retard the spread of wet cultivation by means of the Company's works; these are scarcity of labor and cost of transport of produce to market by the indifferent roads of the country. Rice is not an article of large local consumption, and until the canal can be utilized for transport, its production is naturally limited, any artificial forcing of wet cultivation is therefore to be deprecated, and any measure of compulsion under the circumstances set forth above must be regarded as advocated solely in the Company's interests.

8. There is one more point [illegible] notice in connection with the proposal [illegible] an ayacut, viz., that it will affect [illegible]ts very unequally; Inamdars can- [illegible] compelled to pay for water unless [illegible] voluntarily take it; the Governor- [illegible]al having in giving his assent to

* Statistics for the whole area commanded by the canal are not immediately available, but Statement Z appended to Mr. Morris' Settlement Report relating to Kurnool proper shows that in the section from the anicut to the Nandial tank, the proportion of black soils is 90 per cent. of the irrigable area 76,239 acres out of a total of 84,059—*vide* also map annexed to this report. Further south the Kundair valley comprises the finest Regadu [illegible] district which lies in almost one unbroken expanse of country—*vide* paragraph 50 of report.

Vide page 37 of the Annual Progress Report of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department.

In the section from the anicut to Nan[illegible] the irrigable area held on Inam [illegible] given as 49,174 acres in Appendix [illegible] Settlement Report.

Madras Act VII of 1865, which was pass[illegible] difficulties experienced in working the Kistna and Godavery rules, express[illegible]ed that no water-rates should be levied for water which had not been [illegible]s regards Government ryots, the incidence of a uniform water-rate is [illegible]ual as pointed out over and over again in the correspondence which took [illegible]ve to the question of the adoption of a water-rate in addition to dry assessm[illegible] of consolidated wet rates; and as exemplified for Kurnool proper by the ta[illegible]ph 24 of the Director's report. A uniform water-rate is not fair to all be[illegible]st assessed dry land does not make the best land for nunjah; to make [illegible]idence equal the land must be rated with special reference to its irrigable p[illegible]es; as long as the ryot has complete freedom in the matter of taking water, h[illegible] there is no injustice in adopting the method of calculating the charge which [illegible]d most convenient for administrative purposes.

9. The Board are well aware that [illegible]tate of the Company's affairs is very unsatisfactory, but the remedy, they beli[illegible]s to be found in treating the people with greater confidence and more liberality rather than by imposing further restrictions on their freedom of action. The ryot of Kurnool are fully alive to their own interests, and if the rates are reduced, [illegible] which the Board have persistently advocated, and the people are treated in a liberal and conciliatory spirit, they will readily avail themselves of the irrigation supplied if it is to their advantage to do so; if not, nothing is gained by forcing them.

10. On these grounds the Board str[illegible]ppose the proposition to fix an ayacut. The 3rd Member dissents from the con[illegible]tion of the principle of making the payment of water-rate permanent over [illegible]ed areas when certain conditions have been fulfilled, and has recorded a separa[illegible]e on the subject.

11. Mr. Price's suggestion that [illegible]pecial officer is appointed, a conference of the Canal and Revenue officers to [illegible]ules and prepare a draft of instructions for the guidance of subordinates, [illegible]commends itself to the Board. No instructions have been issued by Gov[illegible] Mr. Gibson's guidance; he should lose no time in making himself tho[illegible]unted with the present position of affairs, and when the practical difficu[illegible]n ascertained should submit definite proposals for meeting them through [illegible] concerned.

(True [illegible]Extract.)

[illegible]gned) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

No. 201. ORDER THEREON, 19th [illegible] 1878, No. 423.

Irrigation, No. 9.

IN regard to the main question [illegible]rred to in the Order to which the [illegible]d reply in the foregoing Proceed[illegible], the Government have intermedi[illegible] passed* final instructions, and the Special Canal Officer is already disch[illegible]is duties which have reference to both the Kurnool and Cuddapah Distri[illegible]

2. The points to which his attenti[illegible] be especially directed are succinctly [illegible]d in paragraph 4 of the Board's [illegible]eedings,† dated 4th August 1877, [illegible]3,654. He should bear in mind that only by the removal of all obsta[illegible]ving all facilities for the use of canal water can the realisation of [illegible]my's dues (which are practically measured by the ryot's liabilities t[illegible]nt for the water) be carried out. The importance to the State of d[illegible]s cannot be over-rated for every increase or decrease in the Compa[illegible]s directly affects the State liabilit[illegible] under the guarantee.

* G.O., 27th November 1877, No. 3,311 Revenue Department.

† Recorded in G.O., 2nd October 1877, No. 3,067.

3. The appointment of A nums has already been approved.*
d detailed arrangements in this behalf uld be reported for approval after Special Canal Officer has thoroughly many cases where the irrigated cr be unnecessary.

* G.O., 11th July 1877, No. 153 Works Department.

investigated the wants of ea irrigable area is insignificant e

4. His Grace the Gove ully agrees with the Board's views as to the compulsory payment r used or not, over a defined ayacut, and declines to reopen the qu tion been fully discussed and deliberately decided in favor of freedom of acti art of the ryots.

5. With reference to paragra e Board's Proceedings, the Governor Council observes that the Company's ater-rate rules have recently been revised,† and that it is unadvisable to make further alterations until an necessity arises. Mr. Lister should, of course, confer with both Revenu Canal Officers in both districts before submitting his scheme of operations and of instructions for his subordinates.

†G.O., 5th December 1877, No. 3,35

6. It will be decided in the Irri Department whether any action should be taken on the suggestions made the Collector of Kurnool relative to strengthening the Company's staff and cognate matters.

(Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

Exd. J. W. Fischer.

No. 5,216.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 12th December 1877.

Read the following papers:—

From E. DAVIDSON, Esqr., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esqr., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 27th October 1877, No. 982:—

I HAVE the honor to furnish the information called for in Board's Proceedings, dated 16th October 1877, Miscellaneous No. 14,294.

2. The questions are—

(1.) Whether the necessity for appointing a Covenanted Officer of Sub-Collector's standing on canal duty would be obviated, and the object adverted to in paragraph 4, Board's Proceedings, dated 4th August 1877, No. 3,654, attained, so far as this district is concerned, if Deputy Collector A. Ramachendra Row was relieved of all other than canal duty.

(2.) What measures are necessary for ensuring the ascertainment of the areas irrigated under the canal and of the revenue due for water used.

3. As regards the first point, I have no hesitation in saying that the desired object would not be attained by relieving Ramachendra Row of other duty and employing him exclusively on canal work, and with reference to this subject, I beg to refer the Board to my letter to them, dated 11th instant, No. 933, and merely quote its concluding paragraph for easy reference:—

"I entirely agree with the Board of Revenue in the opinion expressed in paragraph 3 of their Proceedings, dated 4th August last, No. 3,654, that nothing short of the appointment of a special European Officer of Sub-Collector's standing will suffice to put the affairs of the Company in their relations with the Madras Government in a right footing, and I think that the sooner the change can be made the better."

4. With reference to the second point, I beg to recommend the adoption of the following measures which I consider will have the double effect of securing the object now sought, and of checking the improper interference of ryots with the water distribution under the canal, regarding which matter a report has been called for in G.O., dated 27th ultimo, No. 348-I, Public Works Department, communicated with Board's Miscellaneous No. 14,385, of the 18th instant:—

(1.) The appointment and payment of Assistant Curnams in the manner suggested by the Board and by Mr. Latham in his letter, dated 7th July, No. 48, copy enclosed, to act for the ordinary Curnams in matters connected with the Company's business during their absence or employment on other duty.

(2.) The strengthening of the European staff of the Company. The necessity for this has been recognized and partially remedied by the recent addition of two European Officers to the staff, viz., Mr. Dunphy junior, Mr. Maltby.

(3.) Raising the emoluments of the Native agency, thereby making the appointments greater objects of ambition, and so reducing the temptation to corruption.

(4.) Improving the existing system of distribution channels as observed by Mr. Puckle, Director of Revenue Settlement, on the occasion of his recent visit to this district.

(5.) Requiring the Company's European Officers on their first arrival in this country to serve an apprenticeship for at least a twelvemonth on one of the large Irrigation Works of Government, so that they may become thoroughly acquainted with their duties, and with the manners, customs, and language of the Natives before entering upon their duties here.

(6.) Revision of the ayacut irrigable by canal water sufficient to bring the water-rate to Rupees 4 per wet acre and Rupees 2 per dry acre to be paid, provided water is available, whether it be utilized or not.

(7.) The existing rates charged by the Company, viz., Rupees 6 and 4 respectively per wet and dry acre, are excessive, and have a directely prohibitory effect [illegible] evidenced by the fact men[illegible] their [illegible] the 4th August, No. 3,654 [illegible] irrigable [illegible] acres only 14,763 were irrigated in 1875-76, thus showing that the Company's idea of raising a maximum revenue for a minimum area is impolitic.

8. Three additional Revenue Inspectors were specially appointed in Nandikotkur, Nandial, and Sirwell to be employed exclusively on irrigation duties. It may be necessary to continue their services.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. H. LATHAM, Esq., Chief Engineer and Manager of the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, to R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, dated Beeravoly, 7th July 1877, No. 48.

AT the request of the Company's Secretary, and in accordance with the order of the Madras Government that modifications proposed in the rules and method of controlling and counting for the use of canal water for irrigation should be first discussed by the local officers, I have the honor to ask you whether you are inclined to support a proposal for the following special staff :—

(1). The appointment by the Collector in every village irrigated of an officer, not the Curnam (but if possible one of his family, and whose interests are identical with his), whose duty shall be to exercise the Curnam's functions during the Curnam's absence from the village, or during the Curnam's occupation in other duties in his village, in reference to the Water Rules passed in G.O., No. 830, of 3rd July 1874 *et seq.* This officer to be paid through the Collector by the Company by a commission of one anna in the rupee on the water-rate chargeable as settled under Rule XIX.

(2). The appointment of a selected Covenanted civilian to take special charge of the Canal Irrigation on the part of the Madras Government, and to act under the Collectors of both Kurnool and Cuddapah Districts without any further duties (other than as a Magistrate). The appointment to continue for three or four years, or until the local Revenue staff and the ryots had learnt to understand, and generally to comply with, the rules of Irrigation. The current settlement has probably gone so far as to convince you of the importance of the object, and I shall be glad to furnish the Secretary with your opinion on a plan for obtaining it.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. J. KNOX,
Special Assistant Collector,
for Acting Collector.

From J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chintakunta, 21st October 1877, Extra No. 2,418 :—

REFERRING to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3,654, dated 4th August last, I have the honor to transmit a copy of the General Charge Deputy Collector's letter, No. 47, dated 6th instant, on the subject, and to forward the statement called for by the Board.

2. I send on the Deputy Collector's letter, because during my tenure of office in this district the calls upon my time in connection with famine matters have been so constant and urgent that I have never been able to go fully into the intricate subject of canal affairs.

3. That some one not hampered with other duties should be appointed to look after canal matters alone is a point which is acknowledged upon all hands.

4. The Deputy Collector's proposal to employ an Irrigation Inspector does not commend itself to me, and I think that if a Covenanted Officer is appointed to work under two Collectors, he will never, as there must be diversities of opinion, be able to perform his duties in a manner satisfactory to himself or others.

5. I am strongly in favor of an Irrigation Deputy Collector for each district. One cannot well have an officer of less standing. Each man would then have but one master and, as the ranges are shorter, would be able to go over them more frequently. The length of the canal is, I believe, something like 190 miles, and granting that the one officer in charge was constantly on the move, he could not visit the extreme ends more than once a month, which, for efficient supervision, would not be nearly often enough.

6. The first step towards improving matters is, in my humble opinion, to have a canal officer or two officers appointed.

The scheme for the employment of Assistant Curnams or Curnams substitutes is certainly a good one. One and the same Accountant cannot properly attend to his Government duties and those connected with the canal also, excepting in the case of those villages in which the cultivation from the canal is small and likely to continue so.

7. Mr. Latham, in a letter which he addressed to me some time since, proposed that the remuneration to Curnams should be one anna in the rupee upon the water-rate collected, *i. e.*, double of what it now is. This would, if sanctioned, allow of a separate Curnam, who might be called a Canal Curnam, being employed in all the large villages, and as his salary would be dependent upon his own efforts, he would probably look more sharply after the canal water, than one who has his Government Inam to fall back upon. The scheme would not cost Government anything beyond their portion of the guaranteed dividend which would be absorbed by increasing the remuneration to Curnams.

8. I would suggest that when the matter of the appointment of a special canal officer and subsidiary Curnams has been settled, a conference of the canal officers and of the Collectors through whose districts the canal passes should be held and the rules and amendments thereon, which appear to be scattered throughout a considerable number of official papers, should be collated and thoroughly revised, and definite instructions for the guidance of the Revenue Officer in charge and the Curnams drawn up and submitted for the approval of Government.

9. At present, it appears to be pretty nearly a hopeless task to expect punctuality and promptness in the submission to the Collector of the Revenue accounts connected with Canal Irrigation. The whole machinery of this department has been disorganized by the famine, the intelligent men of almost all the taluq and divisional establishments are absent upon other duty, and their places are in general supplied with anything but efficient substitutes. Added to this, the famine has given rise to the necessity for the preparation of numerous extra accounts and returns and the Reddies and Curnams are being constantly hurried by the work and inspections called for by the administration of village relief.

P.S.—Since writing the above a copy of the Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No. 14,294, dated 16th instant, has reached me.

I have already in this letter stated my views, and all that it appears necessary for me to add is that I cannot afford to part with the services, in the Revenue

Department, of either of the Deputy Collectors attached to this district. If a special officer is appointed, I think that the present Acting General Charge Deputy Collector, A. Kristna Row, should be detailed for canal work and another Deputy Collector sent in his place.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. KRISTNA ROW, Acting Deputy Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Jamalmadgu, 6th October 1877, No. 47.

WITH reference to your foot-note, No. 1,794, 10th September 1877, to Board's Proceedings, No. 3,654, under date the 4th August 1877, I beg to submit herewith a statement showing the [illegible] able area under the Irrigation Company's Canal together with all other particulars required [illegible] above Proceedings, and to state that long before the receipt of this order, I have issued the necessary instructions to Tahsildars concerned to give due effect to the scheme of appointing substitutes for Curnams to carry on the work of registration of applications, &c., during their absence from the village; and that I have also immediately after the receipt of the order now under reference instructed them as to their bringing into force the modification of Rule II, approved of by the Board in their Proceedings No. 2,226 of 1876.

2. As regards the increase of remuneration to be paid to the Curnams, I think the system of payment of one anna in the rupee (as suggested by the Board) is most preferable to the grant of monthly or yearly allowance, and this will no doubt operate as an incentive to promote the interests of the Company.

3. In order to overcome the difficulties complained of in regard to the correct preparation and submission of monthly cultivation and other accounts, my experience of last two years, though very limited, strongly induces me to offer my humble opinion that the appointment of a special Canal Revenue Inspector who may have sufficient experience and qualifications in canal matters (whether he be a passed candidate or not) is highly desirable (as once suggested by me in my letter No. 42 of 1875, and whose entertainment I hear to have been sanctioned in Kurnool District). It is an undisputed fact that the multifarious duties of a Tahsildar as well as Revenue Inspector do not permit them to exercise a continuous and efficient close supervision over canal affairs, and their utmost exertions have after all resulted in failure to secure a thorough efficiency.

4. To check all the irregularities and inconveniences heaped up by the Chief Engineer and Manager and to give effect to the half-yearly settlement contemplated in G.O., No. 2,657, 3rd October 1876, it is certainly quite indispensable (as suggested by the Board) that an officer entrusted *with the administration of canal affairs alone* should be specially appointed. He should always move about the villages commanded by the canal and avail himself of every opportunity in encouraging the ryots to make free use of canal water, in exercising strict supervision over the working of the Curnams, and in checking surreptitious irrigation and other malpractices.

5. In conclusion, I beg to state that these reforms which are greatly needed will tend to place the matters on an efficient footing, and if the sanction of Government be accorded at once to the above arrangement there would be nothing wanting, and on the other hand it would afford greater facilities to ensure regularity in the administration of Canal Irrigation, &c.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Statement showing the information called for in paragraph 6 of Board's Proceedings, No. 3,654, dated 4th August 1877.

	Name of Taluq and Village.	Cultivation as per Settlement of Fasli 1286. Area.	Water-rate.	Average present remuneration per water-rate shown in Column 3, as 6 Pies in the Rupee.	Approximate irrigable Area of future years, i.e., from Fasli 1287	Name of Curnam at present employed in each village.	Number of Assistants or substitutes required.
1		2	3	4	5	6	7
		A. C.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	ACRES.		
Cuddapah.	Bachennayapally	43 77	147 4 6	4 2 6	100	Venkiah	1 1
	Goodoor	227 91	862 11 11	26 15 3	300	Vencataramiah	1 1
	Chennoor	1,360 20	5,756 0 10	179 0 0	1,500	Sooriyanarayana	1 2
	Palumpally	360 14	1,035 13 11	32 11 0	400	Ramchendriah	1 1
	Koteleor	288 73	1,309 15 2	43 12 0	380	Sashiah	1 1
	Mundlapally	26 70	96 11 1	3 0 3	50	Jogi Razu	1 1
	Thadigotla	5 0	11 14 8	0 5 1	20	Venkatasashiah	1 1
	Tavvaripally	154 20	597 8 8	18 10 9	200	Subbiah	1 1
	Bhoomayapally	267 38	940 13 5	29 6 3	360	Venkatasubbiah	1 1
	Gurrampad	67 35	138 4 2	4 5 0	100	Venkiah	1 1
	Yaitoor	92 23	868 6 11	9 6 2	150	Moorthiah	1 1
	Sivalpally	73 43	188 4 7	5 14 0	100	Sashagiri Row	1 1
	Midthoor	402 89	1,472 8 11	46 0 0	500	Kasaviah	1 1
	Thudumaladinnah	79 66	309 11 8	9 10 9	100	Do.	1 1
	Commaloor	236 45	1,096 13 6	34 4 3	300	Venkatappah	1 1
	Suncasula	89 22	356 13 1	11 2 3	200	Aguiah	1 1
	Kookarayapally	352 12	486 10 11	15 3 3	300	Sashagiri Row	1 1
	Krishapuram	5 0	13 5 4	0 5 6	20	Venkatasashiah	1 1
	Duggunapally	103 18	876 11 0	11 12 3	150	Vasiraz Subbiah	1 1
	Nazarbaigpally	8 19	22 14 4	0 11 5	20	Venkiah	1 1
	Tripuravaram	152 86	688 14 6	21 8 3	200	Subbiah	1 1
	Chennamachupally	180 57	622 0 2	19 7 0	280	Lutchmiah	1 1
Proddatur.	Machanapally	588 93	1,808 11 8	56 6 9	700	Chalamiah	1 2
	Gudipad	78 86	238 14 6	8 4 3	150	Venkatasubbiah	1 1
	Jallaiah	321 46	1,057 7 10	33 1 6	420	Dathiah	1 2
	Chiyapad	749 34	2,484 14 2	77 10 3	900	Buchiah	1 1
	Kanagoodoor	209 38	729 13 6	22 11 9	300	Baiah	1 1
	Tangatoor	12 45	51 10 7	1 9 9	40	Buchiraza	1 1
	Marrayapally	65 67	98 3 10	3 0 6	100	Subbiah	1 1
	Pichapad	86 82	145 15 0	4 9 0	100	Kristacharlu	1 1
	Somapuram	3 96	13 12 11	0 6 9	20	Vencatanarasu	1 1
	Dhoor	379 59	2,166 12 3	67 11 3	700	Seetharamiah and Venkatanarsu	2 1
	Kathvaram	97 39	354 5 4	11 1 0	100	Soorappah	1 1
	Chintacunta	149 56	326 6 2	10 3 2	200	Vencatapah	1 1
	Valavali	4 29	11 7 1	0 5 8	50	Veeriah	1 1
	Sirvipally	77 83	299 1 9	3 1 6	150	Vencatasubbiah	1 1
	Allaslapally	127 43	619 14 9	19 5 9	200	Narayanappah	1 1
	Maideoor	341 43	1,356 15 5	42 6 3	500	Vencatasashiah and Pullah	2 1
	Annaloor	12 53	50 2 0	1 9 0	50	Sashiah	1 1
	Gonuyapilly	2 98	17 14 1	0 8 9	50	Vencataramanapah ...	1 1
	Peddaguruvaloor	60 65	241 8 0	6 14 6	150	Vencatanarsu	1 1
	Chinnaguruvaloor	133 74	630 1 3	19 11 0	200	Subbiah	1 1
	Kamanoor	69 7	190 8 7	5 15 3	150	Obalarayadu	1 1
	Nalatoor	...	...	...	50	Veeriah	1 1
	Bhallakevaripalli	...	...	...	50	Obalarayadu	1 1
	Jonnavaram	2 27	9 1 3	0 4 6	10	Bhascariah	1 1
	Venganagaripally	125 52	428 8 4	13 6 3	200	Shrotriemdar	1 1
	Narravada	28 53	114 2 5	3 9 0	100	Vencatasashiah	1 1
	Annapanasturlapally	62 32	214 11 7	6 11 3	100	Sivaramiah	1 1
	Sivapuram	99 2	426 12 11	13 5 3	150	Chethambaram	1 1
	Madhoor	752 72	2,769 13 2	97 7 9	1,000	Vencatasubbiah	1 2
Jamalmadgu.	Kotalpally	52 48	99 9 0	3 1 6	100	Obalanarasiah	1 1
	Yuppaloor	4 50	13 8 0	0 7 8	10	Do.	1 1
	Jingalapally	163 1	526 6 5	15 10 2	200	Ramaswamy	1 1
	Balapanagoodoor	7 26	7 4 6	0 3 6	50	Narayanah	1 1
	Suddapally	24 8	80 15 11	2 8 6	100	Ramaswamy	1 1
	Vengampally	...	...	...	20	Dathiah	1 1
	Peddamudiem	...	...	...	100	Do.	1 1

NOTE.—The area of dry crops irrigated is excluded.

6th October 1877.

(Signed) A. KRISTNA ROW,
Acting Deputy Collector.

From R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Kurnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 10th November 1877, No. 1,014.

In continuation of this office letter, dated 27th ultimo, No. 982, I have the honor to enclose a statement showing the staff of officers and servants employed in the Upper and Lower Sections of the Madras Irrigation Company's Canal at the beginning and end of the year 1876.

2. The statement compares the water distributing and supervising staff employed by the company at a time when irrigation from the canal was normal with the staff employed at a time when the demand for canal water was unusally heavy.

3. The total area irrigated under the canal in this district in the year 1876-77 [illegible] acres against 10,439 in the previous year*, and in the two districts of Kurnool and Cuddapah together 94,975 acres were irrigated in 1876-77 against 14,764 in 1875-76†. Yet in spite of this heavy increase in the extent of land irrigated, the increase in the Company's establishment, particularly of bankers and water distributers, was very small.

* *Vide* Mr. Latham's 3 demands embodied in G.O., dated 19th June 1877.

† *Vide* G.O., No. 49-I, 30th May 1877.

4. This may partly explain the difficulty experienced by the Company in coping with acts of aggression on the part of the ryots, such as taking water by force or without permission, damming up channels, &c., which Mr. Latham recently brought to the notice of Government.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.

MEMORANDUM of Staff employed in Company's Canal in January 1876 in comparison with December 1876.

Upper Division. Grade.	Number in January 1876.	Number in December 1876.	Lower Division. Grade.	Number in January 1876.	Number in December 1876.
Engineers	2	1	Engineers	1	1
Surveyors	1	1	Surveyors...	1	1
Overseers and Sub-Overseers	8	13	Overseers	5	5
Amins	6	10	Amins	5	14
Tindals	3	4	Tindals	3	4
Sluice-keepers	8	15	Sluice-keepers	6	9
Bankers	131	167	Bankers	149	140
Tappalmen	9	12	Tappalmen	11	11
Chainmen	11	7	Chainmen	8	6
Telegraph Signallers ...	2	2		...	...
Total...	181	232	Total...	189	191

(Signed) C. J. KNOX,
Special Asst. Collector,
for Acting Collector

SUBMITTED to Government with reference to G.O., dated 2nd October 1877, No. 3,067.

2. The foregoing letters convey the opinions of the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah on the measures suggested by the Board in their Proceedings, dated 4th August last, No. 3,654. As regards the appointment of a special Covenanted Officer of Sub-Collector's standing to put the affairs of the Company and their relations with

Government on a satisfactory footing, Mr. Davidson fully concurs in the Board's recommendation; Mr. Price however anticipates difficulties from the proposed subordination of the special officer to two Collectors, and doubts whether one man could efficiently supervise so extensive a range; he therefore suggests the appointment of an Irrigation Deputy Collector for each district. The Board are however decidedly of opinion, for reasons already stated in their Proceedings of the 4th August, that this plan will not answer; it has proved a failure in Kurnool, and the Board do not attach much importance to the objections raised to the appointment of a single officer. As the matter has been settled by G.O., dated 27th November 1877, No. 3,311, just received, it is unnecessary to pursue the subject further.

3. As regards the [illegible] necessary for securing more efficient administration, Mr. Davidson makes some suggestions which appear, with the exception of that contained in clause 6, of paragraph 4, to be suitable; both officers admit the necessity for appointing Assistant Curnams, and approve the system of remuneration suggested by the Board, but no definite scheme has been drawn up, and it is not clear what action has been taken in this direction with reference to the authority accorded in G.O., dated 11th July 1877, No. 153-I, Department of Public Works; the nature of the instructions issued by the Deputy Collector in the Cuddapah District is not stated, and the information called for in paragraph 6 of the Board's Proceedings of the 4th August is not furnished from Kurnool; temporary arrangements must be made as therein directed, and definite proposals submitted after communication with the canal officers in due course. Extra assistance certainly does not seem requisite in many of the villages entered in the Cuddapah Deputy Collector's statement where the area under cultivation by means of the canal is insignificant and the possibility of extension limited.

4. Mr. Davidson's sixth suggestion is not very clearly stated, but it is presumed that he refers to the proposal to fix an ayacut on which water-rate should be compulsorily payable whether water be taken or not. The Board have already in their Proceedings, dated 29th August 1877, No. 4,020, briefly expressed their objections to this proposal, but as the measure has been advocated by the Director of Revenue Settlement and is again urged by the Collector, it seems advisable that the grounds of objection should be more fully set forth with a view to a final decision of the question.

5. The proposal to fix an ayacut is really to force the people to convert their dry land into wet against their will in the interests of the Irrigation Company. The terms of the Company's contract imply that at the outset no idea of forcing the water on the people was entertained; the point was however distinctly raised in connection with the question of the adoption of a consolidated nunjah assessment or separate water-rate distinct from the land assessment in conducting the settlement of the lands irrigated in Kurnool by the Company. The Secretary of State expressed himself as clearly of opinion that the ryot should be allowed the security against an excessive charge which the option of deciding by a stated period of each year whether he will have water or not will give him, the Government retaining the right of declining to supply any particular tract of country with water unless the cultivator should be prepared to enter into engagements to take the water at the stipulated rate in such numbers and for such terms of years as might warrant the required outlay. The matter was in fact to be one of contract between the company and the body of the ryots.

Secretary of State's despatch in G.O., dated 16th January 1864, No. 99.

These instructions were to be considered as generally applicable and not as confined only to the district of Kurnool. The same policy has been again more recently enunciated in connection with the passing of the Northern India Canal and Drainage Bill, the provisions of which, as it originally stood in regard to compulsory rating having been disallowed by the Secretary of State; so carefully was this principle adhered to that in the debate on the amended bill of 1872, the clause which authorized a charge for benefits conferred on land adjoining irrigation works and channels by percolation or drainage was struck out on

the ground that the benefits conferred on some unasked for must be set against the injuries caused to others, and that as no compensation was paid to the latter so no charge could equitably be levied from the former.

6. Experience, too, has shown that this policy is the right one; the Board need only refer to the long correspondence which took place in connection with the inquiry into the causes of the check to the spread of wet cultivation in the Kistna Delta, and point to the fact that it was found necessary after long experience to relax rules far less arbitrary than the system now proposed, inasmuch as temporarily converted dry lands were not permanently classed as wet unless water was taken for three years in succession, and to give the ryots more perfect freedom of action in the matter of using the water. The rules as they stood were found too oppressive as ryots wishing to reconvert into "dry" lands which proved unsuited to wet cultivation or were imperfectly supplied were unable to do so; the people refused to take water for new land at all, and all increase of wet cultivation ceased. The Government found it necessary to depute a special officer to enquire into the causes of this unsatisfactory state of affairs, the final result of Mr. Master's enquiry being the concession to the ryots of perfect freedom of option as to taking or relinquishing water subject only to the condition that due notice should be given. The whole subject is exhaustively treated in Mr. Master's report, and the papers embodied in G.O., dated 21st August 1872, No. 1,239.

7. The circumstances of the tract under the influence of the Irrigation Canal do not materially differ from those of the lands in the Kistna Delta; the bulk* of the soil belongs to the Regadu or black cotton series, naturally productive of the finest dry crops, and in submitting his proposals for the taluqs of Cuddapah traversed by the canal, Mr. Banbury remarked as follows: (Paragraph 38)—"Large portions of these taluqs are naturally fine dry grain-producing tracts, and when we remember with how little outlay and with how little risk to the cultivator the rich Regadu lands yield year after year their natural product, jonna—a crop so strengthening and so wholesome for both northern man and northern bullock—we cannot wonder at the ryots hesitating to venture upon a far more laborious and to them hitherto untried mode of agriculture." No wonder the ryots are not particularly desirous of availing themselves of the proffered supply; this reluctance is often attributed to mere caprice, but some very valid reasons for the ryots' preference for dry cultivation on black cotton soil are concisely stated at paragraph 166 of Mr. Master's report on irrigation in the Kistna Delta. Besides these general grounds of preference there are other special causes which operate to retard the spread of wet cultivation by means of the Company's works; these are scarcity of labor and cost of transport of produce to market by the indifferent roads of the country. Rice is not an article of large local consumption, and until the canal can be utilized for transport, its production is naturally limited, any artificial forcing of wet cultivation is therefore to be deprecated, *and any measure* of compulsion under the circumstances set forth above must be regarded as advocated solely in the Company's interests.

* Statistics for the whole area commanded by the canal are not immediately available, but Statement Z appended to Mr. Morris' Settlement Report relating to Kurnool proper shows that in the section from the anicut to the Nandial tank, the proportion of black soils is 90 per cent. of the irrigable area 76,239 acres out of a total of 84,059—*vide* also map annexed to this report. Further south the Kandair valley comprises the finest Regada in the district which lies in almost one unbroken expanse of country—*vide* paragraph 50 of the

Vide page 37 of the Annual Progress Report of the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department.

8. There is one more point which calls for notice in connection with the proposal to fix an ayacut, viz., that it will affect the ryots very unequally; Inamdars cannot be compelled to pay for water unless they voluntarily take it; the Governor-General having in giving his assent to

In the section from the anicut to Nandial tank the irrigable area held on Inam tenure is given as 49,174 acres in Appendix Z to Mr. Morris' Settlement Report.

Madras Act VII of 1865, which was passed to meet difficulties experienced in working the Kistna and Godavery rules, expressly stipulated that no water-rates should be levied for water which had not been used. As regards Government ryots, the incidence of a uniform water-rate is very unequal as pointed out over and over again in the correspondence which took place relative to the question of the adoption of a water-rate in addition to dry assessment in lieu of consolidated wet rates; and as exemplified for Kurnool proper by the table at paragraph 24 of the Director's report. A uniform water-rate is not fair to all because the highest assessed dry land does not make the best land for nunjah; to make its incidence equal the land must be rated with special reference to its irrigable properties; as long as the ryot has complete freedom in the matter of taking water, however, there is no injustice in adopting the method of collecting the charges which is found most convenient for administrative purposes.

9. The Board are well aware [illegible] unsatisfactory, but the remedy, they believe, is to be found in treating the people with greater confidence and more liberality rather than by imposing further restrictions on their freedom of action. The ryots of Kurnool are fully alive to their own interests, and if the rates are reduced, a step which the Board have persistently advocated, and the people are treated in a conciliatory spirit, they will readily avail themselves of the irrigation supplied if it is to their advantage to do so; if not, nothing is gained by forcing them.

10. On these grounds the Board strongly oppose the proposition to fix an ayacut. The 3rd Member dissents from the condemnation of the principle of making the payment of water-rate permanent over determined areas when certain conditions have been fulfilled, and has recorded a separate minute on the subject.

11. Mr. Price's suggestion that when a special officer is appointed, a conference of the Canal and Revenue officers to revise the rules and prepare a draft of instructions for the guidance of subordinates should be held commends itself to the Board. No instructions have been issued by Government for Mr. Gibson's guidance; he should lose no time in making himself thoroughly acquainted with the present position of affairs, and when the practical difficulties have been ascertained should submit definite proposals for meeting them through the Collectors concerned.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with copies of Collectors' letters and enclosures.
" Acting Collector of Kurnool.
" Acting Collector of Cuddapah, with copy of Board's Proceedings, dated 29th August 1877, No. 4,020.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

and

ID

1877.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 12TH DEC. 1877, No. 5,216.

Encl.

Received

DECEMBER.

No. 5,216.

Madras Irrigation and Canal Company.—Submitting to Government opinions of Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah as to measures necessary to put the affairs of the — and their relations with Government on a satisfactory footing.

Govt. of {1878} Jharna.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March 10th.

Read. Read

Circular Company.—Passing orders on Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting Opinions of the Collectors of Cuddapah and Kurnool as to measures necessary to put the Ryots of the — and their relations with Government on a satisfactory footing.

☆

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 5,216.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated 12th December 1877.

Read the following —

No. 982.

From The Acting Collector,
Chingleput.

To The Secretary to the Board of Revenue,
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to
the information called for in Board's
Proceedings dated 16th October 1877 No. 4294.

2. The questions are:

(1) Whether the necessity for appoint-
ing a Covenanted Officer of Sub Collr
n Co. can
obviated and the object adverted to
in Paragraph 1 Board's Proceedings
dated 4th August 1877 No. 3654 attained
so far as this District is concerned if

13

Deputy

Deputy Collector N. Ramachendra
Row was relieved of all other than
Canal duty.

(2). What measures are necessary
for securing the ascertainment of
the areas irrigated under the Canal
and of the Revenue due for water used.

3. As regards the first point I
have no hesitation in saying that
the desired object would not be
attained by relieving Ramachendra
Row of other duty and employing
him exclusively on Canal work,
and with reference to this subject
I beg to refer the Board to my
letter to them dated 11th Instant
No. 933 and merely quote its con-
cluding paragraph for easy reference.

"I entirely agree with the"
Board

(2)

"Board of Revenue in the opinion"
"expressed in Para 3 of their"
"Proceedings dated 4th August"
"last No. 3654 that nothing"
"short of the appointment of a special"
"European Officer of Sub Collectors"
"Standing will suffice to put"
"the affairs of the Company in"
"their relations with the Madras"
"Government on a right footing,"
"and I think that the"
"the change can be made the better."

4. With reference to 2nd point
I beg to recommend the adoption
of the following measures which
I consider will have the double
effect of securing the
sought, and of checking the im-
proper interference of ryots with
the water distributions under the Canal,
regarding

IH

regarding which matter a report has been called for in G.O. dated 27th ultimo No. 348 I P.W.D. communicated with Board's Mis: No. 4385 of the 18th Instant.

(1) The appointment and payment of Assistant Curnams in the manner suggested by the Board and by Mr. Latham in his letter dated 7th July No. 48 copy enclosed to act for the ordinary Curnams in matters connected with the Company's business, during their absence or employment on other duty

(2) The strengthening of the European Staff of the Company The necessity for this has been recognized and partially remedied by the recent addition of two European Officers to the staff

Viz

(3)

Viz Mr. Dunphy Junior & Mr. Maltby.

(3) Raising the emoluments of the native Agency thereby making the appointments greater objects of ambition, and so reducing the temptation to Corruption.

(4) Improving the existing system of distribution channels as observed by Mr. Puckle Director of Revenue Settlement on his recent visit to this District.

(5) Requiring the Company's European Officers on their first arrival in this Country to serve an apprenticeship of at least a twelve month on one of the large Irrigation works of Government so that they may become thoroughly acquainted with their duties and with

with the manners Customs and
Language of the Natives before
entering upon their duties here.

(6) Revision of the Ayacut
irrigable by Canal water sufficiently
to bring the water rate to Rs 4
per wet acre and Rs 2 per dry
ditto to be paid provided water
is available whether it be utilized
or not.

(7) The existing rates charged
by the Company viz Rs 6 and 4
respectively per wet and dry Acre
are excessive and have a directly
prohibitary effect as evidenced
by the fact mentioned by the
Board in their Proceedings of the
4th August No 3654 that only
of a total irrigable area of 196227 Acres

only

(H)

only 14763 were irrigated in 1875-76.
thus showing that the Company's
idea of raising a Maximum revenue
for a Minimum area is impolitic.

8. Three Additional Revenue
Inspectors were specially appointed
in Nandikotkur, Nandial and
Sirvell to be employed exclusively
on irrigation duties. It may be
necessary to continue their services

Kurnool Collector's Office, 27th October 1877.

I have &c
Signed C. J. Knox
Sp. Assistant Collector
for Acting Collector

Enclosure

No. 48.

To The Collector of Kurnool

Sir,

At the request of the Company's
Secretary, and in accordance with the
order of the Madras Government
that modifications proposed in

the

the rules and method of controlling
and accounting for the use of Canal
water for irrigation should be first
discussed by the local officers, if
you are inclined to support a
proposal for the following special
staff.

(1) The appointment by the Collector,
in every village irrigated, of an Officer,
not the Curnam (but if possible
one of his family, and whose interests
are identical with his), whose duty
shall be to exercise the Curnam's
functions during the Curnam's absence
occupation in other duties in his
village, in reference to the water
Rules passed in G. O. No. 830 of
3rd July 1874 et seqq: This Officer
to

to be paid through the Collector
by the Company by a commission
of 1 anna in the rupee on the water
rate chargeable as settled under

(2) The appointment of a selected
Covenanted Civilian to take special
charge of the Canal Irrigation on
the part of the Madras Government,
and to act under the Collectors of
Districts, without any further duties
(other than as a Magistrate). The
appointment to continue for 3 or
4 years, or until the local revenue
staff and the ryots had
to understand, and generally to
comply with, the rules of Irrigation.
The current settlement has probably
gone so far as to convince you

to employ an Irrigation Inspector does not commend itself to me, and I think that if a Covenanted officer is appointed to work under two Collectors, he will never a loss must be diversities of opinion, be able to perform his duties in a manner satisfactory to himself, or others.

5. I am strongly in favour of an Irrigation Deputy Collector for each District. One cannot well have an officer of less standing. Each man would then have but one Master and, as the Ranges as shorter, would be able to go over them more frequently. The length of the Canal is, I believe, some thing like 190 miles and granting that the one

one officer in charge was on the move, he could not visit the extreme ends more than once month which, for efficient [illegible] not be nearly often enough.

6 The first step towards improving matters is, in my humble opinion, to have a Canal officer, or two officers appointed.

The scheme for the employment of Assistant Kurnams or Kurnams substitutes is certainly a good one. One and the same accountant cannot attend [illegible] duties and those connected with the Canal also: excepting in the case of those villages in which the Cultivation from the Canal is small

and

likely to continue so.

7. Mr Latham in a letter, which he addressed to me some time since, proposed that the remuneration to Kurnams should [redacted] in the Rupee upon the water rate collected, i.e. double of what it now is. This would, if sanctioned, allow of a separate Kurnam, who might be called a Canal Kurnam, being employed in all the larger villages and, as his salary would be dependent upon his own efforts, he would, probably look more sharply after the Canal water, [redacted] who has his Government Inam to fall back upon. The scheme would not cost Government anything beyond their portion of the guaranteed dividend which would be absorbed by increasing the remuneration to Kurnams.

8. [redacted] the matter of the appointment of a special Canal Officer and subsidiary Kurnams has been settled, a conference of the Canal Officers and of the Collectors through whose Districts the Canal passes, shall be held and the [redacted] amendments thereon, which appear to be desirable [redacted] be duly attested throughout. [redacted] number of official papers should be collated and thoroughly revised [redacted] guidance of the Revenue Officer in charge and the Kurnams drawn up and submitted for the approval of Government.

The Rules as [illegible] are [illegible] have [illegible]

2D

M

9. At present it appears to be pretty nearly a hopeless task to expect punctuality and promptness in the submission to the Collector of the Revenue accounts connected with Canal Irrigation. The whole machinery of this Department has been dis-organized by the Famine, the intelligent men of almost all the Taluq and upon [illegible] uty and the [illegible] ccco are in ge[illegible] supplied with any but efficient substitutes. Added to this, the Famine has given rise to [illegible] necessity [illegible] peculiarities of numerous extra accounts and returns and the Reddies and Kurnams are being constantly harried by the work and inspections called for by the administration of

of Village Relief.

Cuddapah Collector's Office
Camp Chintakunta in the Podatoor
Taluq, Dated 21st October 1877.

I have &c
Signed J. F. Price
Ag. Collector.

P.S.

Since writing the above a copy of the Proceedings of the Board, Miscellaneous No 4294 dated 16th Instant, has reached me.

I have already, in this letter, stated my views and all that it appears necessary for me to add is that I cannot afford to part with the services in the Revenue Department of either of the Deputy Collectors attached to this District. If a special officer is appointed [illegible] Acting General Charge Deputy Collector, S. Krishna Row, should be detailed for Canal work and another Deputy Collector sent in his place. Signed J. F. Price
Ag. Collector.

21

No 47

Enclosure I

No. 47.

From A. Kristna Row
Ag Deputy Collector of Cuddapah

To J. F. Price Esquire
Ag Collector of Cuddapah

Sir,

With reference to your postnote No. 1994/A-77 to Boards Proceedings No. 3654 under date the 4th August 1877. I beg to submit herewith a statement showing the irrigable area under the Irrigation Company's Canal together with all other particulars required in the above Proceedings and to state that by the 1st October next I propose I have issued the necessary instructions to Tahsildars concerned to give due effect to the scheme of appointing substitutes for Kurnams to carry on the work

(10)

work of registration of applications &c during their absence from the village, and that I have also immediately after the receipt of the order now under reference, instructed them as to their bringing into force the modification of Rule II approved of by the Board in their Proceedings No. 2226 of 1876.

2. As regards the increase of remuneration to be paid to the Kurnams I think the system of payment of one anna in the Rupee (as suggested by the Board) is most preferable to the grant of monthly or yearly allowance as incentive to promote the interests of the Company

3. In order to overcome the difficulties complained of in regard to the correct preparation

preparation and submission of monthly
cultivation and other accounts, my
experience of last 2 years though
very limited, strongly induces me
to offer my humble opinion that
the appointment of a Special Canal
Revenue Inspector who may have
sufficient experience and qualifications
in Canal matters (whether he be
a passed Candidate or not) is highly
desirable & one which suggested by me
in my letter No 42/1875; and whose enter-
tainment I hear to have been sanctioned
in Kurnool District) It is an un-
disputed fact that the multifarious
duties of a Tahsildar as well as Revenue
Inspector do not permit them to exercise
a continuous and efficient close super-
vision over Canal affairs, and their
utmost exertions have after all resulted

-ess

in failure to secure a thorough
efficiency

4. To check all the irregularities
and
Chery
give effect to the half yearly settle-
-ment contemplated in G.O. No 2657/3-10-76 it
is certainly quite indispensable (as
suggested by the Board) that an officer
entrusted with the administration of Ca-
affairs alone should be specially ap-
-pointed. He should always move
about the villages commanded by
the Canal and avail himself of
every opportunity in encouraging the

other malpractices.

5. In conclusion I beg to state that these reforms which are sadly needed will tend to place the matter of our [illegible] policy, if the sanction of Government be accorded at once to the above arrangement there would be nothing wanting and on the other hand it would afford greater facilities to ensure regularity in the administration of Canal Irrigation &c.

I have &c.

Cuddapah Deputy Collector's Office
Dated Jamalamadugu 6th October 1857

(Signed) A. Krishna Rao
Ag. Deputy Collector

(True Copy)
(Signed) J. F. Price
Ag. Collector

Name of Valley or Village

Collection as per Census Book

Amount of Collection as per Census Book

Amount of Collection as per Census Book

Remarks.

Name of Valley or Village	Area	Value of Property	Collection as per Census Book	Amount of Collection as per Census Book	Remarks.
	2	3	4		
Rankinpalli	45	71	4 6		
Gudur	221	862	11 11	26	15-3
Shamir	1360	5756	10	179	
Palampalli	360	1045	13 11	32	11
Kilalur	288	1309	15 2	43	12
Mandlapalli	26	96	11	3	3
Kalapatla	5	11	11 8		59
Kunrapalli	154	587	8 8	18	10 9
Palampalli	267	940	13 5	29	5 3
Kunrapalli	67	138	4 2	4	5
Kilalur	92	268	6 11	9	6 2
Mandlapalli	26	96	11	3	3
Kalapatla	5	11	11 8		59
Kunrapalli	154	587	8 8	18	10 9
Palampalli	267	940	13 5	29	5 3
Kunrapalli	67	138	4 2	4	5
Kilalur	92	268	6 11	9	6 2
Mandlapalli	26	96	11	3	3
Kalapatla	5	11	11 8		59
Kunrapalli	154	587	8 8	18	10 9
Palampalli	267	940	13 5	29	5 3
Kunrapalli	67	138	4 2	4	5
Kilalur	92	268	6 11	9	6 2
Mandlapalli	26	96	11	3	3
Kalapatla	5	11	11 8		59
Kunrapalli	154	587	8 8	18	10 9
Palampalli	267	940	13 5	29	5 3
Kunrapalli	67	138	4 2	4	5
Kilalur	92	268	6 11	9	6 2
Mandlapalli	26	96	11	3	3
Kalapatla	5	11	11 8		59
Kunrapalli	154	587	8 8	18	10 9
Palampalli	267	940	13 5	29	5 3
Kunrapalli	67	138	4 2	4	5
Kilalur	92	268	6 11	9	6 2
Mandlapalli	26	96	11	3	3
Kalapatla	5	11	11 8		59
Kunrapalli	154	587	8 8	18	10 9
Palampalli	267	940	13 5	29	5 3
Kunrapalli	67	138	4 2	4	5
Kilalur	92	268	6 11	9	6 2

Collector's Office,
6th October 1877.

3

1

Read also the following —

No. 1014.

From

The Acting Collector,

Kurnool

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Madras.

Sir,

In continuation of this Office letter dated 27th Ultimo, No. 982, I have the honor to enclose a Statement showing the Staff of Officers and Servants employed in the Upper and Lower Sections of the Madras Irrigation Company's Canal at the beginning and end of the year 1876.

2. The Statement compares the water Rate relating to Supervising Staff

25

water was unusually heavy.

3. The total area irrigated under the Canal in this District in the year 1876-77 was over 78,307 acres against [illegible] in the previous year, and in the two Districts of Kurnool and Cuddapah together 96,975 acres were irrigated in 1876-77 against 84,764 in 1875-76. Yet in spite of this heavy increase in the extent of land irrigated, the increase in the Company's Establishment particularly of bankers and water distributors was very small.

* Vide Mr Latham's 3 demands combined in G. O. dated 17 June 1877.

* Vide G. O. No 3493 31 May 1877.

4. This may partly explain the difficulty experienced by the Company in coping with acts of aggression on the part of the ryots [illegible]

Madras Irrigation & Canal Co.

Memo of staff employed in Company's Canal in January 1876 in Comparison with December 1876.

Upper Division Grade	No. in January 1876	No. in December 1876.	Lower Division Grade	No in January 1876.	No in December 1876.
			Peons	1	1
Engineers	2	1			
Surveyors	1	1	Surveyors	1	1
Overseers & Sub Overseers	8	13	Overseers	5	5
Amins	6	10	Amins	5	14
Jindals	3	4	Jindals	3	4
Sluice keepers	8	15	Sluice keepers	6	9
Bankers	131	167	Bankers	149	140
Tapal men	9	12	Tapal men	11	11
Chainmen	11	7	Chainmen	8	6
Telegraph signallers	2	2	"	.	.
	181	232		189	191

Sd/ C. J. Knox
Spl. Assistant Collector
for Acting Collector

Submitted to Government with reference to G. O. dated 2nd October 1877

2. The foregoing letters convey the opinions of the Collectors of Kurnool and Cuddapah on the measures suggested by the Board in their Proceedings dated 4th

of 4th August last No 3654. As regards the appointment of a Special covenanted officer of Sub Collector's standing to put the affairs of the Company and their relations with Government on a satisfactory footing Mr Davidson fully concurs in the Board's recommendation; Mr Price, however, anticipates difficulties from the proposed subordination of the Special officer to two Collectors and doubts whether one man could efficiently supervise so extensive a range: he, therefore, suggests the appointment of an Irrigation Deputy Collector for each District. The Board are however decidedly of opinion, [redacted] already stated in their Proceedings of the 4th August, that this plan will not answer; it has proved a failure

failure in Kurnool and the Board do not attach much importance to the objections raised to the appointment of a single officer. As the matter has been settled by [redacted] 27th November 1877 No 3311 just received it is unnecessary to pursue the subject further.

3. As regards the other measures of reform necessary for securing more [redacted] Davidson makes some suggestions which appear, with the exception of that contained in Clause 6 of para 4, to be suitable; both officers [redacted] for appointing Assistant Commrs and approve the system of remuneration suggested by the Board but as definite scheme has been drawn up and it is not clear what

Mem of about making the Secretariate confidential

what action has been taken in this direction with reference to the Authority accorded in G.O. dated 11th July 1877 No. 153 I D. PW; the nature of the instructions issued by the Deputy Collector in the Cuddapah District is not stated and the information called for in para 6 of the Board's Proceedings of the 4th August is not furnished from Kurnool, Temporary [illegible] directed, and definite proposals submitted after communication with the Canal Officers in due course.

2. The assistance certainly does not seem requisite in many of the Ryotwary entered in the Cuddapah Deputy Collector's Statement where the area under Cultivation by means of the Canal is insignificant and the possibility

of

52 [illegible] 527

of extension limited.

4 Mr. Davidson's sixth suggestion is not very clearly stated, but it is presumed [illegible] the proposal to fix an Ayacut on which water rate should be compulsorily payable whether water be taken or not. The Board have already

Recorded in Famine G.O. 8 Sept 1877 No 2681 A

in their Proceedings dated 29th August 1877 No. 4020 briefly expressed their objections [illegible] has been advocated by the Director of Revenue Settlement and is again urged by the Collector it seems advisable that the grounds of objection should be more fully set forth with

Proceedings No 20 recorded in Famine Order of 11 August 1877

5. The proposal to fix an Ayacut is really to force the people to convert their dry land into wet against their will

will in the interests of the Irrigation Company. The terms of the Company's contract imply that at the outset no idea of forcing the water on the people was entertained; the point was however distinctly raised in connection with the question of the adoption of a consolidated Munjak assessment or separate water rate distinct from the Land assessment in conducting the settlement of land irrigated in Kurnool by the Company. The Secretary of State expressed himself as clearly of opinion that the ryot should be allowed, to secure against an excessive charge which the option of deciding by a stated period of each year whether he will have water or not will give him; the Government retaining

retaining the right of declining to supply any particular tract of country with water unless the cultivators entered into engagements to take the water at the stipulated rate in such numbers and for such terms of years as might warrant the required outlay. The matter was in fact to be one of contract between Government and the body of the ryots. These instructions were to be considered as generally applicable and not as confined only to the District of Kurnool. The same policy has been again more recently enunciated in connection with the Bombay Irrigation and Canal and Drainage Bill, the provisions of which, as it originally stood, in regard to compulsory rating having been disallowed by the Secretary of State, so carefully was

was this principle adhered to that in the debate on the Amended Bill of 1872 the clause which authorized a charge for benefits conferred on land adjoining irrigation works and channels by percolation or drainage was struck out on the ground that the benefits conferred on some unasked for must be set against the injuries caused to others, and that as no compensation was paid to the Cater, so no charge could equitably be levied from the former.

6. Experience too has shown that this policy is the right one: the Board refer to the Long correspondence which took place in connection with the Inquiry into the Causes of the check to the spread of wet cultivation in the Kistna Delta and point to the fact that

that it was found necessary after long experience to relax rules, far less arbitrary than the system now prescribed [illegible] as under which converted dry lands were not permanently classed as wet unless water was taken for 3 years in succession, and to give the ryots more perfect freedom of action in the matter of using the water. The Rules as they stood were found too oppressive as ryots wishing to convert into "dry" lands which proved unsuited to wet cultivation or were imperfectly supplied were unable to do so, the people refused to take [illegible] and all increase of wet cultivation ceased. The Government found it necessary to depute a special officer to enquire into the causes of this unsatisfactory state

state of affairs the final result of Mr. Master's enquiry being the concession to the ryots of perfect option as to taking or relinquishing water subject only to the condition that due notice should be given. The whole subject is exhaustively treated in Mr Master's report and the papers embodied in G.O. dated 21st August 1872 No 230.

7. The circumstances of the tract under the influence of the Irrigation Canal do not materially differ from those of the Lands in the Kistna Delta, the bulk of the soil [illegible] to the Regada or black cotton series, naturally productive of the finest dry crops, and in submitting his proposals for the

[illegible] Statistics for the whole area commanded by the Canal are not given in the statement appended to Mr Morris' Settlement Report relating to Kurnool proper shows that, in the section from the Anicut to the Nandial tank the proportion of black soils is 90 per cent of the irrigable area 76239 acres out of a total of 84059, vide also Map annexed to the report. Further South the Kundair valley comprises the finest Regada in the District which lies in almost one unbroken expanse of country. Vide para 50 of the Report.

para 38.

the talugs of Cuddapah traversed by the Canal Mr Banbury remarked as follows "large portions of those talugs are naturally fine dry grain producing tracts and where [illegible] little outlay and with how little risk to the cultivator the rich regada lands yield, year after year these natural products, jonna, a crop so strengthening and so wholesome for [illegible] we cannot wonder at the ryots [illegible] to venture upon a far more laborious and to them hitherto untried mode of agriculture." No wonder the ryots are not particularly desirous of availing [illegible] reluctance is [illegible] to me caprice [illegible] valid reason for the ryots preference for [illegible] cultivation [illegible] cotton &c

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Canal

concisely stated at para 166 of Mr Master's report on irrigation in the Kistna Delta. Besides these general grounds of preference there are other special [illegible] which operate to retard the spread of [illegible] cultivation by means of the Company's works; these are scarcity of labor and cost of transport of produce to Market by the indifferent [illegible] [illegible] the Country [illegible] an article of large local consumption and until the Canal can be utilized for transport its production is naturally limited. Any artificial forcing [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] circumstances [illegible] forth above will be required [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] there

Vide page 37 of the Annual progress report of the Irrigation branch of the D. P. W.

[illegible] to [illegible] tank [illegible] area & [illegible] given. [illegible] acres [illegible] Mooris [illegible]

8. There is one more point which calls for notice in connection with the proposal to fix an {ayacut, namely that it will affect the ryots very [illegible] -pelled to pay for water unless they voluntarily take it; the Governor General having in giving his assent to Madras Act VII of 1865, which was passed to meet difficulties experienced in [illegible] stipulated that no water rate should be levied for water which had not been used. As regards Government ryots the incidence of a uniform water rate is [illegible] unequal as [illegible] point [illegible] and [illegible] in the correspondence [illegible] the place relative to the [illegible] adoption of a "water rate [illegible]

to dry assessment in lieu of con-
solidated wet rates; and as exemplified
for Kurnool proper by the
Table at para 24 of the Director's report.
& uniform [illegible]
to all because the highest assessed
dry land does not make the best
land for Punjab - to make its
incidence equal the Lands must be
[illegible] special reference to its
[illegible]
matter of taking water, however,
there is no injustice in adopting
the method of calculating the
[illegible] and most con-
[illegible] alternative is that to be
[illegible] for a [illegible] purpose.

9. The Board are well aware
that [illegible] the state of the Company's affairs
[illegible] very
unsatisfactory, but the remedy,
[illegible]

they believe, is to be found in dealing
the people with greater confidence
and more liberality rather than
by imposing further restrictions
on their freedom.
ryots of Kurnool are fully alive
to their own interests, and if the
rates are reduced, a step which
the Board have persistently advocated,
and the [illegible] are treated in a con-
[illegible] and reform
[illegible] than [illegible]
avail themselves of the irriga-
supplied if it is to their advantage
to do so; if not, nothing is gained
by forcing them.

[illegible] the Board
thoroughly oppose the proposition to
fix an ayacut. The 3rd Member
dissents from the condemnation of the
principle of making the payment
of

of water rate permanent over determined areas when certain conditions have been fulfilled and has recorded a separate Minute on the subject.

11. Mr. Price's suggestion, that when a special officer is appointed, a conference of the Canal and Revenue Officers to revise the Rules and prepare a draft of Instructions for the guidance of Subordinates should be held commends itself to the Board. No instructions have been issued by Government for Mr. Gibson's guidance; he should lose no time in making himself acquainted with the present position of affairs and when the practical difficulties have been ascertained

should

Revenue Department

No. 5159

From Presp: Board of Revenue

Dated 12th December 1877.

For Orders

In the main, the Board's recommendations have practically been accepted by Government. The Arrangements are already in course for the appointment of a Special Covenanted Officer and the appointment of one Officer to have charge of the whole irrigable tract in both Districts, will secure that

that uniformity of
action and System which
Mr Price's recommendation
would destroy.

Referring to the other
recommendation (
Mr Davidson):-

(1) I believe too that
Canal Kurmans are
employed on the System
Recommended - if not I
would issue orders
to supersede action. The
local officers of course
see that futile appoint
-ments (where the irrigated
or irrigable area is insignif-
-icant) are not made.
Unless the nominees are
relations of the present
Kurmans, there will be
friction.

(2) (3). I do not think

that one can interfere
with Company's Establish
-ment - especially the
European Staff. Back
pay to lower grades
and insufficient Estab-
-blishment in the Country
are both Economies
which must be borne.

(4) I have not seen
Mr Pinkle's observation
on distributaries. I
would Communicate
them to Company's officers
and tell them that they
may count on the aid
& advice of District
officers & of the Special
Canal officers.

(5) I would tell Mr Latham
that every facility will be
given to his Canal officers
- should they visit State
works for instruction &
observation

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observations
(6)(47) with notice
further on.
(8) I would order the
Special Officers to estimate
for the necessary Establish-
ment & he to be
acquainted himself
with the works and
their requirements.

Mr Price recommendation
to appoint 2 Native Deputy
Collectors in order to independence
of action in either District
would not supply the want
and would defeat the
purpose of uniform and
concentrated action.

The Conference suggested
by Mr Price may lie over
sine die as new rules
have been framed.

In regard to Mr
Davidson's proposal
to charge a Compulsory rate
rate of Rs: 4 per acre
for wet and Rs 2 for dry
within the irrigation Zone
I entirely agree with the
Board.

I regret to see the
Question re-opened, for
it has been set at rest
respecting these very
works by the Secretary of
State in 1864; and the
principle was reaffirmed
(1872) in respect to the
North Indian drainage
Bill. I was a party
to the thorough discussion
of the principle
involved in this matter
on Mr Master's report
on Kreshna, while in

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the Board, and Govt:
extended the principle
of freedom of choice to the
Roman Cath: & other districts
with great advantage
to the people and without
loss to the Revenue.

I would simply say
that Govt: thank the
Board for their report
of the arguments and
are not disposed to -
reopen the question
already long settled
& rest.

I have not been
in Dublin remarks
22/12 [illegible]

I concur generally
in Sir T. B. Jones's
& do not think the Bds
Prof. calls for any
detailed orders.

The appointment
of Asst. Professors
& Lecturers has been
already approved
& in course of being
carried out. The
instructions to be given
to the Officers of the
Institution & the position of the
Profs. & the Govts.
claim on their attention direct
& the Examinations

Revenue Department

No 423

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 19 March 1878.

Read the following proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 12th December 1877 No 5215, submitting opinions of Collrs of Godavari & Kurnool as to measures necessary to put the affairs of the Irrigation Company & their relations with Govt on a satisfactory footing.

1. In regard to the main question referred to in the order to which the Board reply in the foregoing Proceedings, the Govt have, intermediately passed final instructions, and the Special Canal Officer is already engaging his duties who

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G.O. 27 Nov 1877 No 3311. R.D.

the Board, and Govt. extended the principle

No 5255

For Orders

Opinions of Collrs of Godavari & Kurnool as to measures necessary to put the affairs of the Irrigation Company & their relations with Govt on a satisfactory footing

Read the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 12th December 1877 No 5215 submitting opinions of the Collrs of Godavari & Kurnool as to measures necessary to put the affairs of the Irrigation Company & their relations with Govt on a satisfactory footing.

fall on the Ryots & the giving the facilities for the development of the canal system & the legislation of the Govt. does not practically transmit the Ryots liabilities for the water. It is for the State of the Irrigation Govt to insist on. Every increase or decrease in the Govt earnings having direct reference to State liability under the Guarantee

I am quite at one with the Board in their view on the question of compulsory pay for water. Rather would not see a Rule against

C. to Secy 77
R. 21 Dec 77

have reference to both the Kurnool & Cuddapah Districts.

The points to which is attention, should be especially directed are succinctly stated in paragraph 4 of the Bd's Proc: dated 4th August 1877 No 3654. He should bear in mind that only by the removal of all obstacles and the giving all facilities for the use of Canal water, can the realization of the Company's dues (which are practically measured by the Ryots' liabilities to Govt for the water) be carried out - the importance to the State of due collections cannot be over-rated for every increase or decrease in the Company's earnings directly affects the State liability under the guarantee.

recorded in G.O. 2 Oct 1877 No 2067.

G.O 11 July 1877 No 1531. P.W.D

3. The appointment of Asstt. Commrs has already been approved. The detailed arrangements in this behalf should be reported for approval after the Special Canal Officer has thoroughly investigated the wants of each village. In many cases where the irrigated or irrigable area is insignificant extra hands will be unnecessary.

4. His Grace the Governor in Council fully agrees with the Boards' views as to the compulsory payment for water whether used or not, over a defined Ayacut, and declines to reopen the question which has been fully discussed and deliberately decided in favor of freedom of action on the part of Ryots.

UD

5. With reference to para 11 of the Board's Proceedings the Governor in Council observes that the Company's water rate Rules have recently been revised and that it is unadvisable to make further alterations until an actual necessity arises. Mr. Lister should of course confer with both Revenue & Canal Officers in both Districts before submitting his scheme of operation and Code of instructions for his subordinates.

6. It will be decided in the Irrigation Dept whether any action should be taken on the suggestions made by the Collector of Kurnool relative to strengthening the

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G.O. 5th Dec 1877 No 3359

the Company's Staff and other cognate matters

14 To the Board of Rev Dr Sec'y Mar
21 " " Dr Sec'y
5 " Chief Engineer for Irrigation
~~" " Land Revenue Dept~~

C.O

Regarding necessary arrangements for the affairs of the Surgical Staff in relation to Captain [illegible] satisfactory footing.

Card

Dispatch

C.J. Thomas 18/3/18