(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை _____

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள்_____

(3) ஆதாரங் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

Revenue துறை

அரசாணை என். 1669	அச்சகம்
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் என்.	பலவகை
நாள் : 11-8-1879	199

மடிக்கவோ கசக்கவோ கையாளவோ கூடாது.

ஆவண. கா. 1—18,006—6-9-90.

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செய்பவரின் பெயர்: MC ஸ்ரீனிவாஸ்

செய்வதற்காக எடுத்துக்-
கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்: மே 2008 — ஜூன் — 2008

சரிபார்க்கும் நபர் கையொப்பம்: 13/6/08

தொழில்நுட்ப அலுவலர் கையொப்பம்: 13/6/08

No. 1,207.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 8th May 1879.

Read the following letters :—

From H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to J. STURROCK, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Koraput, 21st February 1879, No. 134.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Board of Revenue, the enclosed application.

2. The statement of estimated loss has been prepared with some care. I was in the taluk for a week in the middle of January and told Mr. Tomlinson that I could not support any application for a lump sum to be remitted, although I would give full consideration to any detailed statement of actual loss of rent and outlay upon irrigation works necessitated by the flood of December.

3. The remission which, on more particular inquiry made since my visit, he now finds to be necessary is trivial in amount, and in respect thereof the renters cannot reasonably claim any release from their contract to guarantee a fixed revenue to Government.

4. The losses in villages like Allina and Ampili and Podali are due to serious and permanent damage from the action of the stream either by erosion or the deposit of several feet of silt. In most of the other villages the damage will be remediable without great cost.

5. To sum up Mr. Tomlinson's figures, adding the estimate of the proportional loss to the ryots—

—	Value of Crop.	Cultivation Expenses.	Rent.	Loss.	Total of Columns 3, 4, and 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Palkonda ...	66,392	22,131	13,278	8,650	44,059
Burja	50,062	16,687	10,013	3,705	30,405
Viraghottam ..	55,624	18,561	11,137	1,036	30,734
Koppera ...	84,000	28,000	16,800	1,588	46,388
Kandisa ...	36,880	12,293	7,376	805	20,474
Honjeram ...	43,824	16,271	9,765	1,350	27,390
Total ...	3,41,842	1,13,947	68,369	17,134	1,99,450

The ryots will on this estimate have fully double its amount in hand after paying their rent, allowing for their losses.

6. The taluk is assessed at Rs. 13 per garce, and the garce is well worth Rs. 65 at present to the ryot. The land has never been measured, but the estimated produce is believed to be very fairly estimated, *i.e.*, a garce of land really produces not less than a garce of grain on the average.

7. It may be that the ryots to whom it will, in Mr. Tomlinson's belief, be necessary to remit a sum not amounting to Rs. 5,000 fairly deserve that remission, but the renters take the good years with the bad and only guarantee Rs. 1,32,000. It is a fact that in a single year, forty years ago under direct management, Government collected Rs. 1,43,000 (in Fasli 1248).

8. The claim to some allowance on account of the outlay needed to repair the effects of the flood upon the river channels is a different matter. In the original lease to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., dated 23rd May 1846, no mention of the renters' obligation to maintain irrigation works occurs, but it had been adverted to in the correspondence preceding the grant of the lease. In the present lease, paragraph 7, these words occur: "We bind ourselves to keep the works of irrigation and all other

public property in due order, and to deliver them over at the expiration of the lease in as good condition as that in which they were at its commencement."

9. Mr. Smollett, in his letter, No. 40, of 8th July 1850, writes: "The channels for irrigation are well maintained, and many of them have been considerably enlarged and improved."

Mr. Robertson writes on 17th May 1851: "I had an opportunity of observing several of the water-courses between Palkonda and Bobbili, and others on the road from Kuppili to Palkonda were inspected by the Head Sheristadar. The channels of the Zemindari of Bobbili were easily distinguishable by the comparative quantity of water conveyed by them. This observation I make with no intention to imply any want of outlay on the part of the renters on the works of this part of the taluk, but only to mark the care which will need to be taken to guard against an excessive appropriation by the Zemindar of Bobbili."

Ten years later the Board of Revenue write (No. 915, Proceedings of 19th February 1861): "The management of the firm has been in all respects satisfactory, save their outlay on works of irrigation which has been small, averaging only Rs. 1,450 per annum." After the lapse of another ten years the Board (in their Proceedings, 4th January 1870, No. 12) observe more favorably on the condition of the irrigation works, on which the expenditure had risen to Rs. 3,721 per annum, or two and-a-half times the previous outlay or maramut. Now it appears that between 1870 and 1880 the outlay has risen to about 6,500 per annum, a great increase on the amount spent in the previous decade.

10. The increase may be due to increase of cost of labor, to abnormal damage by flood in the latter period, to wasteful work, ill-designed or ill-supervised. These causes may have all operated in different degrees.

11. The cost of labor has notoriously greatly increased. The men and cattle formerly had little to do in the hot weather, but now the carrying trade is enormously developed, and gives much employment to the laborers of this part of the country.

12. The late District Engineer was unable to comply with my request that a survey of the river channels might be made, and his health prevented his visiting the taluk in order to inspect them. The repairs executed by the renters have not been made under professional advice, and in my belief the money spent in Fasli 1287 was mostly wasted.

13. The past decade witnessed moderate freshes in almost every year, and in 1872, 1874, 1876, and 1878 considerable floods. That of 1876 was the highest on most of the feeders of the Nagavalli; it made a dangerous breach at Nandivada, which has not been effectively repaired, and topped the bank in many places, submerging much land and damaging crops. The same results followed the flood of 1878.

14. The great increase of hill cultivation along the most important feeders of the Nagavalli, which lie in the Rayaghada and Parvatipur Taluks and near their borders, has beyond doubt rendered the floods much more sudden and destructive, as well as the water-supply much more precarious. I have marched this month, across the valleys which are drained by the sources most remote from this river's mouth and saw many square miles of bare hill side which was heavy forest four years ago.

15. All the channel heads of the Palkonda channels need careful study; masonry works are not necessary to all perhaps, but the greater suddenness and volume of the floods much increase the risk of a fresh taking the line of the channel and leaving the bed of the stream. In Palkonda there are very valuable lands known as "Tampara" lands, old courses of the stream probably, which are liable to be inundated, and need special protection.

16. Should Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. apply for a renewal of their lease of the taluk from 1881, it is highly necessary that a survey of the channels be made and distinct agreements entered into as to the condition in which the works are to be maintained by the renters.

17. With reference to their present application, on their own showing they have spent more than they spent between 1860 and 1870 during seven out of the last eight years, and they expect to have to incur a considerable outlay this season. I do not think that they can claim assistance from Government, but I submit their application for orders.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. H. TOMLINSON, Esq., Agent to the Renters of Palkonda and Honjeram Taluks, to H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, dated Palkonda, 6th February 1879.

WITH reference to our recent conversation, I have the honor to bring to your notice the following facts in regard to the taluk with a view of your taking the matter into your serious consideration, and endeavour to secure for the renters some compensation from Government.

2. After careful inspection the villages mentioned in the accompanying statement have suffered principally by the late storm and flood, on which the shortfall has been calculated, for not only have crops been submerged, but portions of the fields with the standing crop have been covered over with silt, burying the plant under it; on such villages I estimate Rs. 4,481 of revenue collections irrecoverable at the close of the fasli. 4481

3. It is however not so much the loss on revenue occasioned in years visited by floods as the accompanying unusually heavy outlay in repairing the damages caused to the irrigation works that I beg to invite your attention to principally.

4. In November 1869 the then Collector, Mr. J. I. Minchin, reporting on the condition of the taluk, with a view of the lease being renewed to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., ascertained that the average expenditure on "maramut" was Rs. 3,721. The outlay under this head, however, has been exceeded every year but one (*vide* enclosed statement) since then. After the flood of 1876 the cost of repairs was Rs. 10,504-7-11, and I now estimate the additional "maramut" occasioned by the last storm at Rs. 5,479. These two floods following in such quick succession, with the intervening year 1877 suffering from drought, in which considerable loss was sustained by the failure of the indigo crop, have made Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s position in regard to the taluk far worse than was represented by Mr. Minchin in his recommendation to Government.

5. I therefore beg to request, on behalf of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., you will, if possible obtain a remission on revenue to the extent above mentioned, and compensation for the outlay incurred in excess of the ordinary expenditure on account of repairs, viz., Rs. 5,479, in all Rs. 9,960. 5479 / 9960

SUBMITTED in original.

KORAPUT, 21st February 1879.

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

STATEMENT showing Actual Amount of "Maramut" to the Palkonda and Honjeram Estates from Fasli 1281 to 1288 and the Estimated Amount for Fasli 1289.

Faslis.	Amount of Repairs											
	Actually incurred.			As represented by the late Collector of Vizagapatam in his letter of 22nd November 1869.			In comparison with Column 4.					
							Increase.			Decrease.		
1	2			3			4			5		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1281	5,898	0	1	3,721	0	0	2,177	0	1	...		
1282	6,395	5	5	3,721	0	0	2,674	5	5	...		
1283	4,589	0	11	3,721	0	0	868	0	11	...		
1284	3,428	9	6	3,721	0	0	...			292	6	6
1285	7,535	0	2	3,721	0	0	3,814	0	2	...		
1286	6,601	8	7	3,721	0	0	2,880	8	7	...		
1287	10,504	7	11	3,721	0	0	6,783	7	11	...		
1288	5,754	8	1	3,721	0	0	2,033	8	1	...		
Total	50,706	8	8	29,768	0	0	21,230	15	2	292	6	6
1289	9,200	0	0	3,721	0	0	5,479	0	0	...		

(Signed) J. H. TOMLINSON.

SUBMITTED in original.

21st February 1879.

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Acting Collector.

STATEMENT showing the Estimated Loss of Crops by the late Flood and Probable Amount irrecoverable at the close of Fasli 1288.

Division.	No.	Villages.	Demand.	Estimated Loss of Crops occasioned by Flood.	Probable Amount irrecoverable at close of Fasli.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Palkonda.. ..	1	Talavaram	2,450 0 0	2,085 0 0	144 0 0
	2	Bookkoor	2,140 14 0	1,155 0 0	160 0 0
	3	Tumpatapilly	4,004 9 0	2,955 0 0	250 0 0
	4	Gottamangalapooram	1,587 0 0	675 0 0	230 0 0
	5	Annavaram	1,286 9 4	675 0 0	92 0 0
	6	Garoogoobilly	238 0 0	105 0 0	50 0 0
	7	Loomboor	1,159 3 6	780 0 0	130 0 0
	8	Gopaulpooram	247 2 8	100 0 0	75 0 0
	9	Nundivada	65 0 0	60 0 0	30 0 0
	10	Gopidavepetta	100 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0
		Total ..	13,278 6 6	8,650 0 0	1,221 0 0
Boorjah	1	Ampili	1,650 0 0	555 0 0	220 0 0
	2	Yativaddooparta	950 0 0	795 0 0	150 0 0
	3	Donkalaparta	1,000 0 0	600 0 0	..
	4	Allina	1,700 0 0	855 0 0	600 0 0
	5	Madanapooram	700 0 0	202 8 0	70 0 0
	6	Mamidivalsah	400 0 0	135 0 0	..
	7	Boorjah	3,612 8 0	562 8 0	..
		Total ..	10,012 8 0	3,705 0 0	1,040 0 0
Veeragottam ..	1	Veeragottam	1,368 15 2	170 0 0	..
	2	Chalivandry	1,320 8 0	104 0 0	..
	3	Nadookoor	1,115 0 6	135 0 0	25 0 0
	4	Gadagummah	325 0 0	75 0 0	50 0 0
	5	Combara..	1,600 0 0	32 0 0	..
	6	Cottoogoomadah	550 0 0	45 0 0	..
	7	Rungoopooram	250 0 0	50 0 0	50 0 0
	8	Chidimy..	664 7 0	50 0 0	..
	9	Boorgah	550 0 0	50 0 0	..
	10	Nursipooram	1,600 0 0	55 8 0	..
	11	Codulaveeragottam	43 0 0	20 0 0	..
	12	Woodigavalsavenkammapetta	450 0 0	50 0 0	..
	13	Ragoolapadoo	500 0 0	25 0 0	..
	14	Dasumantapooram	800 0 0	175 0 0	70 0 0
		Total ..	11,136 14 2	1,036 0 0	195 0 0
Copparah.. ..	1	Gutanapilly	670 0 0	105 0 0	..
	2	Sivvam	1,250 0 0	500 0 0	250 0 0
	3	Talagam..	1,400 0 0	37 8 0	..
	4	Rajoolagoomada..	1,100 0 0	80 0 0	50 0 0
	5	Muggoor..	900 0 0	75 0 0	..
	6	Nookulavadah	300 0 0	25 0 0	..
	7	Narandrapooram	860 0 0	20 0 0	..
	8	Patuvardanam	2,500 0 0	75 0 0	..
	9	Davakivadah	700 0 0	150 0 0	143 0 0
	10	Kinjungy	1,310 0 0	150 0 0	130 0 0
	11	Venkalapatirajupetta	320 0 0	50 0 0	50 0 0
	12	Chilkalapilly	1,340 8 0	75 0 0	40 0 0
	13	Iroovadah..	450 0 0	25 0 0	..
	14	Marcovadah	950 4 0	25 0 0	..
	15	Vongara..	1,479 0 0	30 0 0	..
	16	Palavelly..	120 0 0	15 0 0	..
	17	Cottisah	1,150 0 0	150 0 0	150 0 0
		Total ..	16,799 12 0	1,587 8 0	813 0 0
Condisah.. ..	1	Sarasanapilly	1,270 13 7	100 0 0	80 0 0
	2	Arsadah..	2,400 0 0	30 0 0	..
	3	Toonivadah	2,393 14 0	610 0 0	300 0 0
	4	Condisah	1,311 4 0	165 0 0	100 0 0
		Total ..	7,375 15 7	805 0 0	480 0 0
Honjeram ..	1	Honjeram	2,827 1 11	258 0 0	112 0 0
	2	Madamurty	591 4 0	19 0 0	..
	3	Shalipetta	147 0 0	4 0 0	..
	4	Mundarada	1,155 0 0	250 0 0	90 0 0
	5	Govindapooram..	541 0 0	30 0 0	..
	6	Ramasagaram	189 0 0	41 4 0	..
	7	Ramarayapooram	285 0 0	24 4 0	..
	8	Tamaram..	1,098 8 0	71 8 0	..
	9	Podah	1,278 13 8	400 0 0	350 0 0

Statement showing the Estimated Loss of Crops by the late Flood and Probable Amount irrecoverable at the close of Fasli 1288—(*Continued*).

Division.	No.	Villages.	Demand	Estimated Loss of Crops occasioned by Flood.	Probable Amount irrecoverable at close of Fasli.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Honjeram— (*Continued*).	10	Chittaroopooram	996 1 3	153 8 0	150 0 0
	11	Garanaidoopettah	656 0 9	98 8 0	30 0 0
		Total ..	9,764 13 7	1,350 0 0	732 0 0
		Grand Total ..	68,368 5 10	17,133 8 0	4,481 0 0

PALKONDA,
1st February 1879.

(Signed) J. H. TOMLINSON.

SUBMITTED in original.

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Collector.

From H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to J. STURROCK, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd April 1879, No. 246.

IN continuation of my letter, No. 134, dated 24th February last, I have the honor to submit herewith copy of Mr. Maclean's interesting report on the state of the irrigation works in the Palkonda and Honjerum Estates under the rent of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. I need not add that the satisfactory execution of the necessary repairs will be difficult, as the renters have no professional advice at their disposal.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Report on the principal River Channels and Embankments of the Palconda Taluk, Vizagapatam District.

General Remarks.—The Palkonda Taluk is drained by the Nagavalli river and its affluents, the principal of which are the Soornamooki and Vagarathi rivers, which unite at Kotesha, and combined join the Nagavalli at Sangam, the former from the south-west, the latter from the north-west.* The chief irrigation channels of the taluk are eight in number, of which only one, the Shakerapilly Bati, is taken from the Soornamooli river, all the others drawing their water from the Nagavalli. These channels are of very old construction (the Shakerapilly Bati, for instance, is said to have been dug 100 years ago), and are of the usual native type, very sinuous of irregular section, and, with the exception of the Sirnaidu channel, without head-works. The Sirnaidu head-sluice, which also comprised an aqueduct for a branch of another channel, was completely destroyed in the last flood.

* See sketch map number of channels.

Repairs.—These channels and their branches are repaired to such extent as is necessary each year. The repairs are generally executed in December, in order that the channels may be in working order by the time that the indigo seed is sown, which operation is usually begun in January and February. Irrigation is carried on to the end of the fasli, about the 1st of July, when the indigo crop is cut. All expense incurred in putting the works in order is debited to the fasli in which the crops benefit by such expenditure. Owing to the late floods the repairs this year were not begun till a few weeks ago.

Method of Working.—The channels having been cleared out, the river water is led into them either by running small embankments of sand out into the stream, or by means of rude training walls of wattled bamboo backed up with sand. This kind of work must, of course, be renewed each year.

Demand.—Each channel pays annually a fixed amount of money or "demand" which does not vary, and which is estimated according to the quality and quantity of the land under irrigation. Arranged in order of precedence as regards "demand," the channels are as follows :—

1. Shakerapilly Bati	3. Honjeram Bati.	5. Desa Bati.	7. Boorjah Bati.
2. Neelanagram „	4. Venkemmah „	6. Seyernaidu Bati.	8. Iroovada „

Appended is a statement showing the principal facts connected with these channels arranged in a tabular form. For this and much other useful information I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Tomlinson,* who accompanied me throughout my inspection of the works.

* Agent to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.

(1.) The Shakerapilly Bati leaves the left bank of the Soornamooki river at a point opposite to the village of Rayavalsa in the Bobbili Taluk. The head is badly situated, and the channel closed to it is crossed† by a stream that carries off the drainage from the high lands on the left bank of the channel. The renters contemplate moving the head to a point higher up stream, where a good position for it may be obtained. But as the new head will take off in the Merangi Taluk, some arrangement will have to be made with that Zemindar in the way of exchange of land or compensation. The present position is unsatisfactory.

† *Vide* Sketch No. 2.

The channel at starting is about four yards wide at bottom and six yards deep, and its main portion is nearly five miles long; at about 560 yards from the head a breach has been formed by the rush of cross drainage from high lands to the left; the channel being close to the river is liable to be damaged by a high fresh. The breach should be properly closed, and if a masonry inlet and outlet were put in at a proper height, they would probably prevent a recurrence of the damage. At three-quarter mile the surplus water from a tank to the left has done some injury to the banks, but this can be readily repaired. The remainder of the channel is in a fair order. It has been cleared out for nearly its whole length, and will be working by about the 15th of February.

(2.) *Neelanagram Bati.*—This channel takes off from the left bank of the Nagavalli, a little above the village of Palamittah. For the first two furlongs it keeps close to the river, from which it is divided only by an irregular embankment which has breached largely‡ just where the actual channel begins. The present head is badly situated in somewhat low ground, and could be shifted with advantage to the point where the present breach is, the river bank at that place being high and formed of stiff soil; this would, however, necessitate deepening the whole channel, as its bed at this point is above the low water level. If, however, the channel be extended as will be shown later on, this deepening would probably become necessary and prove advantageous in the end. The Neelanagram Bati main channel is about five and-a-half miles long, running through hard soil for the greater part of its length. Its banks are frequently overgrown with vegetation, and, like all the other channels described below, it is very winding and of irregular section, the slopes being steep and in many places perpendicular.

‡ *Vide* Sketch No. 1.

It is about six yards wide at the bottom at its head, and runs for the most part parallel to the river. About one mile from the starting point two large breaches have been formed,§ caused partly by the rush of water in the channel due to the late flood, partly by a natural channel formed by the drainage of water from high lands on the right bank. One of these branches has been formed regularly as I was told for the last forty years. The remedy would be simply to repair the damage substantially once and for all, instead of in the petty way which has hitherto been practised. At one and-a-quarter miles the channel is only thirty yards from the river, and a breach has been formed partly by the late flood, but chiefly by the rush of cross drainage from high grounds on the left bank. A masonry inlet and outlet would be of service here. Below Betlawansgraharam a stream has brought a great deal of sand into the channel. This stream is usually bunded across above the channel and its water directed over the neighbouring fields, but the bund breached during the last rains owing to a bank close by having burst and added its water to that of the stream. At four and-a-half miles the channel divides into branches, which lower down again divide into subsidiary channels. The Neelanagram Bati is the finest work of its kind in the taluk, and is capable of being greatly improved. It could, I think, be converted into a great central irrigation channel, by which several minor ones could be done away with, notably the Venkammah Bati, an unsatisfactory work, to be described herefter. The land-owners believe such an extension to be feasible, and are anxious for it to be carried out. From an engineering point of view there are no difficulties to be contended with if the lands to which it is proposed to prolong the channel are, as they appear to be, on a sufficiently low level to admit of such extension. A series of levels will be run on the first opportunity to determine this point.

§ *Vide* Sketch No. 1.

The Neelanagram channel like all the rest (except one)‖ has had its annual repairs commenced and in a few days water will be let into it by means previously described.

‖ The Seyernaidu channel.

8. *The Honjeram channel* starts from the right bank of the Nagavalli opposite to the village of Karkandiem. The taluk¶ was originally irrigated by a number of small streams, but about twenty-five years ago Mr. Young, the then Agent to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., united them all and dug the present head, which however was only used for a couple of years, after which the villagers tried several new heads in succession lower down the river. These however proved unsatisfactory, and last year the land-owners wished to return to Mr. Young's old head, but found that an intervening portion of the channel had been appropriated by certain ryots of the Bobbili Taluk who had connected it with one of their own channel. They however consented to dig a new cut through their own land on condition of being allowed to take up some land for a similar purpose near Tunivada.

¶ Of Honjeram.

In consequence of this arrangement the old channel used by the Bobbili people and the new cut run parallel to each other for some distance, and the former being on a slightly higher level, its proprietors are in the habit of letting off their surplus water into the Honjeram channel which has caused much damage to the latter in several places. The Honjeram channel is three and-a-half miles long and about three yards wide at bottom; at its head, when it takes off from the river in a bank, some 10 feet in height. It is crossed by two small masonry aqueducts in the first quarter of a mile (belonging to Bobbili ryots, and used to irrigate land on the left bank) the first of which is ruined and useless; at the second some injury has been done to the channel below, the water brought over by the aqueduct having been diverted into it. At least one mile from the head is the new piece of channel, a mile in length, which has been damaged in several places by overflow from the Bobbili channel above it. After the point, two miles from head, where the new cut ends, the channel is in good order. This new cut was repaired slightly last year, but nothing appears to have been done to it this year, though the rest of the channel has just been cleared out and is now in working order; about three miles down the channel is a small aqueduct taking the Honjeram Bati over a channel belonging to Bobbili. This was damaged in the last flood but is now being repaired.

The Honjeram Bati is a useful work and should be carefully looked after and kept in good working order. As regards the recent damages they can be easily repaired and with care their recurrence might be prevented.

4. *Venkammah Bati.*—This channel is about one and-a-half miles long and is now under repair. Its head is in the left bank of the Nagavilly river near Gopedavepetta. The original head was completely destroyed by the late flood and a new one is being dug rather higher up the stream. For a distance of some hundred yards the channel is in a very low ground but little raised above the water level and each fresh must cause a considerable expenditure of money in clearance. The channel at starting is about four yards wide at bottom and runs through sandy soil for some distance in deep cutting. Owing to the nature of the soil and the bad position of the head the channel must silt up very readily, and its yearly repairs would seem to be, for the value of the channel compared with others, very large. The work suggested above of extending the Neelanagram Bati to take up the lands now irrigated by this channel would for this reason be a highly advantageous one, well repaying in its results the expense primarily incurred.

5. *Desa Bati.*—The surplus water of the Siyeranaidu Bati* flows down a channel averaging 100 broad and about half a mile long, having in it at present a depth of from four to six feet of water.

* See below and Sketch No. 3.

From this channel about a quarter of a mile from the river the Desa Bati used formerly to take off by means of small anicut†. Some years ago however the anicut became damaged and this head was abandoned. The anicut has since been severely injured by the 1876 and 1878 floods and is now more than half destroyed.

† *Vide* Sketch No. 5.

The source from which the Desa Bati now derives its supply of water is the Pothulagedda, a stream 30 to 40 feet broad flowing past the town of Palkonda. This stream is gradually divided into a number of irregular channels, of which the Desa Bati is the chief. In heavy rains the surplus water of the gedda finds its way by various sources to the Nagavilly river, but there is no regular surplus channel.

The Desa Bati is about three miles long and is in good working order. It has this year been repaired in the usual way and water is flowing down it freely.

It is doubtful whether it would be more advantageous to reconstruct the anicut across the surplus channel of the Siyeranaidu Bati, or to improve the present source of supply to the Dasa Bati. The amount of water flowing down the surplus channel is at present far larger than that in the Pothulugedda, and from the comparative size of the streams it would seem as if it were generally so. There can be no doubt that the capabilities of the Siyeranaidu Bati could be easily

and profitably extended. It would, I believe, prove advantageous to unite the Desa Bati with the Siyeranaidu channel, and also to improve the Pothulagedda (which could be converted into a very serviceable stream) and the other small channels taking off from it.

6. *Siyeranaidu Bati.*—This fine channel has its head in the left bank of the Nagavilly close to the village of Gotamangalapuram. Although the main channel is not quite two miles long, it is from 30 to 60 feet broad with banks in stiff clayey soil, for the most part perpendicular or nearly so. The depth of water in the channel at present is from 3 to 6 feet; it is in fact carrying off a large portion of the whole water of the river.

At the head some number of years ago, a rubble head sluice of three vents was constructed which was further combined with an aqueduct carrying over the sluice the water of a branch of the Venkammah Bati‡ which irrigated the Gotamangalapuram lands. In the flood of 1876 a breach was formed round the south-west wing wall of this structure. The damage was apparently carelessly and inadequately repaired.

‡ *Vide* supra.

In the flood of last December the vents which were unprovided with shutters were unable to carry off the rush of water fast enough; the river worked its way through the old breach, and almost the whole of the structure was swept away, only a small portion of it now remaining. A violent rush of water then took place down the channel, and behind the head sluice the channel was enlarged to treble its width for a distance of nearly 100 yards.* At a point about 1¼ miles down the line of the channel on its right bank is a substantial masonry outlet 14 yards long intended to carry off surplus water. It proved however totally inadequate to carry off such a large and violent stream, and consequently a large breach, 100 feet long, was formed in the right bank just below the outlet which was itself undamaged. Through this breach from 4 to 5 feet of water with a width of 30 feet is still pouring into the surplus channel and so to the river which is about half a mile distant. The main channel below the breach has been choked with sand and no water is running down it. The width of the Siyeranaidu Bati varies considerably. At its head its original width was about 40 feet which has now been enlarged to 150 feet. A little below it is 30 feet broad, then at a half a mile distance increases to 60 feet, and from ¾ mile to the end of the channel its breadth is from 30 to 40 feet. At a distance of about three-fourths of a mile from the head, the old bed of the channel leaves the right bank of the present work which it joins again some mile and a half lower down. It was abandoned many years ago when Mr. Young, in order to utilize the bed of a hill stream, made a straight cut into the latter and supplemented the channel water by that of the stream. Owing to the force and quantity of the water now passing down the Siyeranaidu Bati, whose bed has a very steep slope, no repairs to the channel itself have been carried out. Some† Agraharam ryots of Gopalpur whose channel takes off from the Siyeranaidu are using the sand under which their fields have been laid (by the overflow of the channel and river) to a depth of from one to two feet to form a rude embankment along the channel bank intended to keep out a similar flood. The work however is of no utility.

* *Vide* Sketch No. 3.

† But they will be carried out on the first opportunity.

The head of the Siyeranaidu Bati having been damaged as described a new head should be formed a little above the present one where the position would be slightly better; the head sluice and aqueduct should be restored and the proposed embankment‡ here, if reconstructed, should be brought up to this work and carried above it so as to form an additional protection to the channel crossing; the Siyeranaidu Bati is at present not in working order, but when it is cleared out, as will shortly be done, its water can for the present be carried across the Siyeranaidu lower down by means of a temporary wooden trough.

‡ *Vide* supra.

7. *The Boorjah Channel* leaves the left bank of the Nagavilly near Calandra. It belongs half to Palkonda, half to Bobbili, and the expense of clearing it annually is shared between them. The expenditure on the part of the Palkonda people this year is not yet known; in 1876 it was Rs. 500. The channel is about two miles long and runs through sandy ground for some distance, which causes the clearance to be heavy. The work is now in good order with a good flow of water in it.

8. The Jumvada channel has its head on the right bank of the Nagavilly river near Sangam. It is a narrow channel three miles long and is the least important of the larger works. It is now being cleared out at a cost of Rs. 200.

13. *General Observations.*—The above-mentioned channel are all similar to one another as regards the general features of their construction. Their chief defects are the following:—

(*a.*) They have none of them now any head works. Each fresh in the river must necessarily bring into the channel a certain amount of silt proportioned to the height and duration of the flood.

(*b.*) Running as nearly all the channels do for a great portion of their length through land held by other ryots than those to whom the work belongs, the soil excavated each year is thrown close to the edge of the banks, or even upon the slopes; the Agraharam land-owners objecting to any encroachment upon their fields. It would be well if some arrangement could be made to take up a certain amount of land on either bank so as to leave a good berm between the excavated silt and the edge of the slopes. This would prevent the silt from being washed into the channel again as now happens to greater or less extent after each shower of rain.

The Agraharam land-owners, though refusing to assist in the repairs of the channels, and though they do not scruple to breach or otherwise damage them to the benefit of their own lands, are in the universal habit, by digging subsidiary channels of their own, or by using picottahs, of making use of the channel water. This of course can only be remedied by an appeal to the law, and I believe that the renters intend in future to take steps to prevent such practices as far as possible.

(*c.*) The heads of the channels are in many cases badly placed.

(*d.*) The works are badly sectioned with banks in places almost perpendicular, which must add to some extent to the amount of silt that annually collect in the channel beds.

(*e.*) The channels are very winding; if straight cuts were made from point to point, the labor in digging them would in many cases probably prove very little greater than that of clearing out the long and winding curves.

(*f.*) No provision is made for cross drainage. The improvements then which would be desirable in the case of the above works are—(1). The construction of proper head sluices at the mouths of the principal channels, strengthened, where the river banks are low, by properly constructed embankments. (2). The proper sectioning and straightening to the channels. (3). The construction of masonry works to provide for cross drainage. (4). The institution of a large channel for a number of little ones. As regards this I have only proposed to prolong the Neelanagram Bati, thus doing away with the Venkammah Bati, to unite the Siyeranaidu and Desa channels, and to extend and improve the Pothulagedda and its channels. I believe, however, that more improvements of this nature, but of a minor character, are very feasible. (5). The carrying out in a substantial and effective manner of all repairs that may become necessary. The estimate for such work are now made up, and the repairs executed in an extremely rough fashion.

As regards the improvements generally to the channels, I believe that the renters are not prepared to expend any large amount in this direction; should Government, however, undertake such a work or any portion of it, the renters will be ready to maintain it in an effective condition.

Protective Works.

The Nagavilly river runs, in its course through the Palkonda Taluk, between banks of very moderate height. The floods of 1876 and 1878 topped these banks in numerous places,* overlaying the adjacent fields with sand to a considerable distance. In two places, viz., at the villages of Nandivada and Ampilly, the river showed a tendency to change its bed, and for some distance has eroded the surface of the land, ploughing up and furrowing the ground to a considerable extent.

* It was this overflowing of the river and its channels that caused the greater proportion of the damage to crops. The actual loss due to direct rain-fall was very small.

Irrecoverable at close of fasli.	Loss (total.)	The Renters estimate the loss as follows.	
		Villages.	Demand.
Rs. 4,481	Rs. A. P. 17,133 8 0	63	Rs. A. P. 68,368 5 10

At Gotamangalapuram a protective embankment was carried away and the village threatened with destruction.

At Annivaram the water is said to have risen to the height of one and-a-half yards against the houses, and in 1876 still higher.

Embankments of a rude nature existed at Nandivada, Gotamangalapuram and Ampilly. They appear to have been roughly constructed of earth, heaped up without much attempt at consolidation, of irregular section, and direction and without revetment. The bund at Nandivada was carried away by the flood of 1876. Those at the other villages seem to have been turned by the flood of December last at either end, and being of unsubstantial construction, to have been easily breached. Of their existence hardly a trace at present remains.

At Annivaram the river has been gradually encroaching upon the village which is situated at the curve of a long reach so that it receives the full force of the stream directly upon it. The river has by degrees absorbed a large piece of land immediately in front of the village, which formerly provided an abundance of grass thatch, besides yielding a few crops of castor, &c. The loss of this piece of ground has deprived the villagers of a revenue, it is said, of Rs. 250 per annum. The village at present stands on the extreme edge of a bank some 8 feet high, which is being eaten into by the stream, which thus threatens the safety of the village. To protect it, an embankment about 300 yards long should be run along the river bank which might be made to form a continuation of the foot of the work. To construct such a work however a portion of the village would have to be removed, but as the population of it consists only of 203† people, this would not cause much inconvenience. The land behind the village is valuable, and through it run several small irrigation channels, so that the embankment would be a useful and desirable work. The embankment formerly existing near Nandivada was constructed in 1874, and was destroyed by the flood of two years later. It was about 500 yards long and its ends rested upon two small rocky hills. The new work would have to be thrown back a little, as the river bed has encroached somewhat, and it might be carried with advantage some way further up-stream and perhaps lower down as well.

† According to the Census of 1874.

The bund at Gotamangalapuram was about 400 yards long, and was built after the flood of 1876. It cost about Rs. 500 and was carried along the edge of the river. The villagers who propose removing their village, of which the population is 970,* wish to build the new bund farther back and throw it in a curve round the village. It would be better to retain pretty nearly the same site as the old work, running the new embankment however higher up-stream across the head of the Siveranaidu channel, which is close by, so as to protect that work.†

* Census of 1874.

† *Vide* Sketch No. 3.

The Ampilly embankment was also constructed after the 1876 flood to protect the lands of the village and the village itself which has a population of 764. The bund was about 400 yards long running along the edge of the river and cost Rs. 500. The new work would probably pretty well follow the same line, being slightly prolonged and having its ends brought round so as to afford more protection to the village.

Census, 1874.

Groynes.—As regards the construction of groynes in connection with these works, I should be inclined to doubt the advisability of their adoption. Single groynes would be inefficacious and a series of them would have to be formed above the works. The river has a very sandy bed, and to get the foundations deep enough would be laborious and costly. The groynes themselves would have to be of massive and careful build, and though they would no doubt be of great service, I do not believe that the cost and labor of their construction would be repaid by the advantages they would confer, nor do I see why embankments properly constructed and situated should not suffice for the work for which they are required.

It is however unfortunate that, except at Nandivada, these works would have, I believe, no high ground on which to rest their ends. The last two floods rose a foot or two above the banks at Ampilly, Annivaram, and Gotamangalapuram, and to construct embankments of a length sufficient to obviate this would necessitate an expense that could not be contemplated. The works therefore would serve in such excessive floods only to protect the villages and divert the water as much as possible. Against ordinary floods, however, even of a severe character, they would prove an amply sufficient defence. There are doubtless many other places where protective works would be advisable and many other improvements feasible besides those suggested above. In a rapid inspection, however, these could not all be noted, but as opportunity offers a more careful examination of the taluk will be made.

(Signed) A. D. MACLEAN,
Assistant Engineer.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. St. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

STATEMENT showing the chief River Channels of the Palkonda and Honjeram Estates with the principal facts connected with each.

Names of River Channels.	Length of Main Channels.	Villages using the Channels	Average.	Date and Cost of last Repairs.	Contemplated cost of repairs for the current year.	Demand.
	MILES.				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Shakerapilly ...	4¼	1. *Narasapuram* ... ... 2. Shakerapilly Agraharam. 3. Koppra ... ... 4. Kotesha ... ... 5. Latchimipetta ... ... 6. Madivalsah Agraharam. 7. Seetharampuram ... ... 8. Telagam ... ... 9. Shivam ... ... 10. Wangara ... ... 11. Muggur ... ... 12. Krustnapuram Agraharam.	2,116	December 1877.	200 0 0	654 0 0	10,209 13 0
2. Neelanagram ...	5¼	1. Bettivadah Agraharam. 2. Kumeragunta ... ... 3. Neelanagram ... ... 4. Nandivada Agraharam. 5. Talavaram ... ... 6. Gopedevipetta Agraharam. 7. Bookoor	1,639		220 0 0	491 0 0	8,862 6 4
3. Tunivada		1. Tunivada ... ... 2. Venkamapetta Agraharam.	608		200 0 0	319 0 0	2,658 4 9
4. Venkammah ...	1¼	1. Chinnamangalapuram. 2. Gotamangalapuram ... 3. Tampatapilly	1,030		411 0 0	412 0 0	7,305 1 0
5. Siveranaidu	1¼	1. Ampilly ... ... 2. Gopalpur Agraharam ... 3 Vadamah ... ... 4. Anavanam ... ... 5. Kondapuram Agraharam.	1,358		231 0 0	*100 0 0	3,872 4 0
6. Desa Bati	3	1. Allena ... ... 2. Yetivada Partha ... ... 3. Donkla Partha ... ... 4. Madanapuram ... ... 5. Palavalsa ... ... 6. Kellantra Agraharam... 7. Vandra do. ... 8. Gangabagerthepuram do. 9. Lakapuram do. 10. Ramanapettah do. 11. Peddapettah do.	1,470		250 0 0	158 0 0	5,725 14 2
7. Burjah	2	1. Burjah ... ... 2. *Vacam*	616		120 0 0	† ...	3,612 8 0
8. Honjeram	8½	1. Tamaram ... ... 2. Medemarti ... ... 3. Honjeram ... ... 4. Podalli ... ... 5. Chitarpuram ... ... 6. Garunaidupettah	860		122 0 0	685 0 0	7,941 13 7

* This amount is for clearing the channel only. Cost of repairing head sluice breach not yet completed.
† Account not yet received from Bobbili.

N.B.—Villages italicised belong to Bobbily.

(Signed) A. D. MACLEAN,
Assistant Engineer.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) H. St. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Collector.

From MESSRS. ARBUTHNOT AND CO., to J. STURROCK, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 12th March 1879.

YOUR department has no doubt received particulars of the great injury caused to agricultural property in the Northern Sircars by the heavy floods of last December. The taluk of Palkonda, of which we are at present the renters, has suffered severely. Our Agent reports that the *average* damage done to the crops in the taluk was 25 per cent. But this does not give a sufficient or accurate idea of matters, for in some villages it was as much as 75 per cent., while others hardly suffered at all. From the most reliable calculations our Agent can make at present, he considers that a balance of probably Rs. 4,000 of revenue collections will remain outstanding by the end of the fasli, a good portion of which he fears will be altogether irrecoverable.

2. In addition heavy damage has been done to tanks, river channels, and other irrigation works; and the estimates forwarded to us for the necessary repairs amount to no less than Rs. 9,000, which is a heavy addition to the ordinary maramut expenses of the fasli.

3. Our Agent reports that he mentioned the subject of a remission and compensation to Mr. Goodrich, the Acting Collector, on his recent visit of inspection, but was informed that no allowance could be made.

4. In regard to arrears of revenue we do not ask for any allowance. We have instructed our Agent to inform the ryots that the Acting Collector has refused to sanction remissions; that they must endeavor to meet their proper payments; and that any arrears will be treated merely as suspensions and not as remissions.

5. But in regard to maramut the matter is much more serious.

6. We beg to refer the Board to the report from Mr. J. I. Minchin to the Acting Secretary, Board of Revenue, dated 22nd November 1869, which will be found in the Proceedings of the Board of 4th January 1870. No. 12. In that report Mr. Minchin was good enough to pronounce a very favorable opinion of our management of the taluk. In paragraph 9 he mentioned that the irrigation of the taluks was in admirable order, *and the entire irrigation system maintained in a thoroughly efficient state.* In paragraph 14 he mentioned our average annual outlay on maramut as Rs. 3,721, and after making certain calculations as to the cost to Government which would be necessarily incurred were the taluk taken under Government management, he recommended that the lease should be renewed to us for twenty years on payment of a yearly rent of Rs. 1,32,000, or an increase of Rs. 12,000 on the rent which we had been paying under our previous lease.

7. In the Government Order thereon of the 11th May 1870, No. 685, this proposal was adopted, with the modification that the new lease was for ten years instead of twenty as recommended by the Collector.

8. We beg the special attention of the Board to the fact that in his estimate of the expense to us of managing the property, *including maramut*, Mr. Minchin calculated maramut expenses at far too low a rate. As a matter of fact our actual expenditure during the present lease has been as follows:—

	RS.	A.	P.
1281	5,893	0	0
1282	6,395	5	5
1283	4,589	0	11
1284	3,428	9	6
1285	7,535	0	2
1286	6,601	8	7
1287	10,504	7	11
1288	5,734	8	1
1289 (*special* expenditure which will be increased by *ordinary* charges)	9,200	0	0
Total ...	59,906	8	8

or on an average of Rs. 6,656-4-6 as against Rs. 3,721 according to Mr. Minchin's estimate. The difference on the whole term amounts to Rs. 26,417-8-8 increase of expenditure over Mr. Minchin's calculations of the charges which would fall upon us, and there are still two years during which probably a similar excess expenditure will be incurred.

9. During the same period we have had on several occasions to make considerable remissions and allowance to ryots; the outstanding balances from 1281 to 1287, at the expiry of 1287, being Rs. 12,341-12-8, of which it is believed that Rs. 6,976-11-11 are irrecoverable.

10. Under these circumstances, we have the honor to apply to the Board for a special remission of a part of the rent due for the current fasli in consideration of the heavy loss sustained by causes beyond our control during the recent storm. The amount of such remission we must leave to the Board to fix. We will only mention that in Faslis 1285 and 1287 we were similarly put to great expense to repair damages caused by unusual and exceptional floods, but on those occasions we did not make any demand for compensation; and it is only on the recurrence a third time within the short space of five years of such special and exceptional damage, that we have ventured to trouble the Board with an appeal in the matter.

11. We take advantage of this opportunity to remind the Board that our present lease will expire on the 30th June 188, and we should be glad if Government would kindly now take into consideration the question of its renewal or otherwise.

12. Our experience of the last eight years has satisfied us that the rent which we are at present paying leaves no margin whatever for profit on the rental of the taluk as a separate and distinct concern. It is only due to the fact that we are engaged largely in the manufacture of indigo in the talk and are therefore able to distribute the cost of superintending establishments over the two interests of taluk revenue and indigo cultivation, thereby reducing the actual charge of superintendence which would otherwise come against taluk revenue that our accounts have been able to show any margin whatever. That margin is a very trifling one, and had the full charge for establishment been placed against the Revenue accounts the result would have been to show a loss on the rental of the taluk.

13. In paragraph 15 of his report above referred to, Mr. Minchin specially mentioned that he believed our chief object in taking up the lease was not to make a small profit therefrom, but in expectation of the advantages which under our influence as landlords we would obtain in the encouragement of indigo cultivation. In the belief that we would derive large profits from the manufacture of indigo, he recommended a renewal of the lease on terms which, to his knowledge, would give us a very trifling, if any, profit on the rental, leaving us to get our advantage from the manufacture of indigo. Mr. Minchin however greatly over-estimated the profits to be derived from this special manufacture; as a matter of fact the profits derived from our indigo factories during the last ten years have not exceeded $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the capital employed, after making the usual and reasonable allowances for repairs and depreciation of buildings, &c., and allowing 5 per cent. interest on capital locked up. This return is not such as to encourage us to incur any considerable risk or expense in other directions for the mere advantage in indigo manufacture which the control of the taluk would give us, for we must bear in mind that the period under review includes several years when the price of indigo in European markets was exceptionally high, and nearly 30 per cent. above the present level.

14. As we have referred to an advantage given us in indigo work from our position as renters of the taluk, we think it desirable to guard against any misconception. It must not be supposed that we use undue influence to create a cultivation which would otherwise not be carried out. This is not the case. Mr. Minchin in the report we have above referred to specially remarks that *as renters we had performed liberally our duty by the people*; and in paragraph 3 he remarks that "assisted by the money spent by the renters in carrying out the manufacture of indigo the ryots had *attained a pitch of prosperity at present not known in any other part of the district.*" Our object is not to

exert any pressure upon the people, but merely to prevent the competition of small manufacturers. We know from our experience in other districts that those who carry on the manufacture on a large scale can be caused much inconvenience by small manufacturers, who without any preliminary trouble or outlay secure the produce of fields which have been sown for the larger factories, with seed provided by those factories, by making at a later date small advances to the cultivators on the growing crops. Seed, it must be remarked, is not grown in the district, it has to be procured from Cocanada in August or September of the previous year for sowing in January, February. Considerable risk attends the industry in this respect; for the manufacturers have to provide sufficient seeds for all ryots who are willing to sow on the estimated requirements of a favorable season, but should it happen that from failure of rain or other cause the quantity provided cannot be sown, the balance of the seed remains in their hands useless as it will not keep over the twelve months, and in this way in unfavorable seasons considerable loss is sustained. The competition such as we have alluded to escapes risk of this character, because it does not trouble itself with any preliminary arrangements; it is simply contented to buy up by means of advances the plant raised from seed provided by others.

15. In our present position as renters of the taluk we are free from competition of this character, because the ryots have no object in parting with their crops in consideration of a small advance; where a ryot has sown and has crop to deliver he is not asked to pay his kist while the crop is growing. The value of his plant when delivered is placed to his credit as so much payment on account of kist, and therefore he is not under the necessity of prematurely parting with his crop in order to raise money to pay his landlord.

16. We have a large amount of capital embarked in indigo factories in the Palkonda District, and we should be glad to secure their efficient working by a renewal of our lease from 1st July 1881 for a further term of ten years. But we feel that we cannot prudently continue to pay the present rate of rental. We would be willing to accept the terms agreed upon for the last previous lease (1st July 1861 to 30th June 1871), viz., Rs. 1,20,000; at any higher figure we fear it would not suit us to continue the rental of the district. It is quite true, as Mr. Minchin remarked, that we do not lease the taluk for the sake of such trifling profits as we can make out of the revenue collections; but still we do not care to commit ourselves to large engagements for *no profit at all*; and even in some years to an absolute loss.

17. We have no wish to praise our own management; we are quite content to refer Government in this respect to the reports of previous Collectors and to inquiry by the existing Collector of Vizagapatam. We are satisfied the district is prosperous and contented, and we do not believe that Government could realize a *net* return from the taluk greater than the rent which we offer.

Recommending these remarks for the favorable consideration of Government, we have, &c.

With the first of the letters above recorded the Collector of Vizagapatam forwards an application from the Agent of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., Renters of Palkonda and Honjeram, for a remission of Rs. 9,960, viz., Rs. 4,481 for loss of revenue, and Rs. 5,479 as compensation for excess outlay on repairs to Public Works on account of damages caused by the heavy floods of December last.

2. In their letter, dated 12th March 1879, Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. waive all claim to remission on account of loss of revenue, and state that they have instructed their Agent to intimate to the ryots that the Acting Collector has refused to sanction remissions, and that any arrears will be treated merely as suspensions and not as remissions.

3. With regard to compensation for extraordinary repairs to Public Works, however, they point out that in the calculations made when the terms of their present lease were fixed the annual outlay on Public Works repairs was taken at Rs. 3,721, while as

a matter of fact the average expenditure has been as much as Rs. 6,656-4-6, and there are still two years during which a similar expenditure will probably be incurred. They therefore apply for a special remission for the current fasli in consideration of the heavy loss sustained by them from causes beyond their own control. The amount of the remission they leave to the Board to decide, but point out that on two previous occasions during the last five years they have been put to great expense on account of unusual floods but have made no application for remission.

4. The Acting Collector opposes the application on the ground that the renters must take the good years with the bad, but the Board consider that the circumstances of the year have been such as to call for exceptional treatment and resolve to recommend to Government that in consideration of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s good management of the taluk they may be allowed a remission equal to the amount expended on Public Works in Fasli 1289 in excess of the average expenditure over the preceding years of the lease. The Collector will report the amount at the close of the fasli.

5. Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s proposals for a renewal of the lease will be forwarded to the Collector of Vizagapatam for careful examination and early report. Mr. Maclean's report forwarded with Mr. Goodrich's second letter above recorded will be of use in any discussion which may arise as to the necessity of entering into a distinct agreement regarding the maintenance of Public Works by the renters, as proposed in paragraph 16 of the Acting Collector's first letter. Copy of the report will be forwarded to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.

(True Copies and Extract.)

Acting Sub-Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Vizagapatam.
To Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.

Exd. W. J. Lewis.

No 4150.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 4150

From Board of Revenue

Dated 8th May 1879

FOR ORDERS.

1879. No 4150.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

To

THE SECRETARY to GOVT.,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated May 8th.

Printed 21st.

Received 28/5/79.

PROCEEDINGS, 8TH MAY 1879, No. 1,207.

MAY.

No. 1,207.

Pallonda and Honjeram Estates — in Vizagapatam District.—Recommending to Government that Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. may be allowed a remission equal to the amount expended on Public Works in — in Fasli 1289 in excess of the average expenditure over the preceding years of the lease, and forwarding to Collector for careful examination and early report Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co's proposals for a renewal of the lease.

of a single year
for leases having
had experience of the
state when this law
was enacting sought
& obtained an extension
of new lease for 10
years —
They now ask —
remission — on the
sum of expenditure
in irrigation works
having materially

exceeded the money
estimated by the Collector
They say
that the expenses
have including the
last exceptional season
exceeded during the
9 years of the term,
the amount estimated
by collector. To the
extent of R 26417 - or
an average of 2935
a year —
Now the rental fixed
& for under the lease

12/
11 " 2

seems to be R 1.32.0d
Head as pulled - The
Undertaking of the Lease
if it is a guarantee of
the above rent - or a
distinct engagement
to keep the works of
Irrigation in good order
If done out seem to me
that an annual addn:
expense of under R300
is a just ground for
Deduction in the large
a sum -
I think the Renewal
Can be taken

1134/80

FOR ORDERS.

12

Note Consideration —
as asked in June. 11/
A. & Co's letter
as agains the Projects
stated in 13 -
I notice that the return
on the Indigo capital
in the shape of profits
appears to have fallen
15 ½ per cent - after
allowance for repairs
depreciation — I'd
not have thought that
bad —
not this probably year

The remarks in Professor's
letter of February 21.
Paras 10-12 & 13 that
present cut is partly
due to years in which
Management of State
lands in Jemima years
Lieutenancy to avoid
expense of competent
staff —

The 14 para of this
letter indicates ones
that should be appointed

into — Wilmer Forests?
Impossible for us to act
alone — Sep 29/16

Pres. Dr. A. C. Lane
Athletic Com. Grad. Committee
Prof. Dr. Hand Landlord
for the Dept. to think
over during period
his and the terms
of his lease as
stated by W.B. & the
estimated average
outlay on Imp. & repairs
& insurance has
an element in
determining the rent

R.D. No 4150.

No 1669 - Dt 1st August 1879

G.O.

The Govt. do not consider ~~that Messrs Arbuthnot~~ Messrs application for remission in the rental as a matter dependent on the losses or expenses during the year. As former lessees of the Palkonda Taluq they had experience of the estate & when their former lease was expiring they obtained renewal of it for 10 years. They now appeal ask for a remission of a part of the rent due for the current fasli on the ground of their having been put to exceptional expenses &c in repairing damages to works on the estate three times during & [illegible] the last 5 years, & their expenditure on repairing irrigation works having exceeded the average calculated of the late Collr. Mr Minchin, by

---

It did not exclude the consid[eratio]n of possible higher expend[itur]e in the lessees in [illegible] as well as in fulfilment of the conditions.

The remission proposed by the Bd. of Rev. probably would be much more than from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 5000 - say 3% on the rental of Rs. 132,000.

I am not prepared to contend that the slight addition [illegible] is worth the abandonment of a principle.

The Forest clearings & Rs.

30-6-79
16-7-79
23rd-7-79
28-8-79

H.E. [illegible] attention to the districts on Imaginable other zemindari tracts

[illegible] 14.7.79

No. 2647 on the [illegible] of the lease of No. 2935 for ——.

By the terms of the Act 56 Vict. cap. 11 no lease shall be granted for a longer term than 21 years, but the Act in Council does not consider that an additional annual rental of less than 3000 $, viz. that 2½ % on the additional, is a sufficient ground for refusing to renew a lease. The application must therefore be refused.

2. As regards the renewal of the lease for the [illegible] Adelaide [illegible] connection with the [illegible] carpenter's shop [illegible] all reasonable [illegible] in the event of [illegible] renewal [illegible]

which the lessee has erected.]

3. Respectfully returned to the Surveyor General with the report of Mr. Fred. 21st/79 that the [illegible] should be granted for the purpose of a [illegible] shop subject to [illegible]

21/7/79

Minute book

Memorandum

14 Lots Boarding Regulations on 20 August

20

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

11th August 187[illegible] o. 1,669.

No. 182. READ THE FOLLOWING PAPER :—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 8th May 1879, No. 1,207.

Read the following letters :—

From H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to J. STURROCK, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Koraput, 21st February 1879, No. 13.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Board of Revenue, the enclosed application.

2. The statement of estimated loss has been prepared with some care. I was in the taluk for a week in the middle of January and told Mr. Tomlinson that I could not support any application for a lump sum to be remitted, although I would give full consideration to any detailed statement of actual loss of rent and outlay upon irrigation works necessitated by the flood of December.

3. The remission which, on more particular inquiry made since my visit, he now finds to be necessary is trivial in amount, and in respect thereof the renters cannot reasonably claim any release from their contract to guarantee a fixed revenue to Government.

4. The losses in villages like Allina and Ampili and Podali are due to serious and permanent damage from the action of the stream either by erosion or the deposit of several feet of silt. In most of the other villages the damage will be remediable without great cost.

5. To sum up Mr. Tomlinson's figures adding the estimate of the proportional loss to the ryots:—

—	Value of Crop.	Cultivation Expenses.	Rent.	Loss.	Total of Columns 3, 4, and 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Palkonda	66,392	22,131	13,278	8,650	44,059
Burja	50,062	16,687	10,013	3,705	30,405
Viraghottam ...	55,684	18,561	11,137	1,036	30,734
Koppera	84,000	28,000	16,800	1,588	46,388
Kandisa	36,880	12,293	7,376	805	20,474
Honjaram ...	48,824	16,275	9,765	1,350	27,390
Total ...	3,41,842	1,13,947	68,369	17,134	1,99,450

The ryots will on this estimate have fully double its amount in hand after paying their rent, allowing for their losses.

6. The taluk is assessed at Rs. 13 per garce, and the garce is well worth Rs. 65 at present to the ryot. The land has never been measured, but the estimated produce is believed to be very fairly estimated, *i.e.*, a garce of land really produces not less than a garce of grain on the average.

7. It may be that the ryots to whom it will, in Mr. Tomlinson's belief, be necessary to remit a sum not amounting to Rs. 5,000 fairly deserve that remission, but the renters take the good years with the bad and only guarantee Rs. 1,32,000. It is a fact that in a single year, forty years ago under direct management, Government collected Rs. 1,43,000 (in Fasli 1248).

8. The claim to some allowance on account of the outlay needed to repair the effects of the flood upon the river channels is a different matter. In the original lease to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., dated 23rd May 1846, no mention of the renters' obligation to maintain irrigation works occurs, but it had been adverted to in the correspondence preceding the grant of the lease. In the present lease, paragraph 7, these words occur: "We bind ourselves [illegible] the works of irrigation and all other

public property in due order, and to deliver them over at the expiration of the lease in as good condition as that in which they were at its commencement."

9. Mr. Smollett, in his letter, No. 40, of 8th July 1850, writes: "The channels for irrigation are well maintained, and many of them have been considerably enlarged and improved."

Mr. Robertson writes on 17th May 1851: "I had an opportunity of observing several of the water-courses between Palkonda and Bobbili, and others on the road from Kuppili to Palkonda were inspected by the Head Sheristadar. The channels of the Zemindari of Bobbili were easily distinguishable by the comparative quantity of water conveyed by them. This observation I make with no intention to imply any want of outlay on the part of the renters on the works of this part of the taluk, but only to mark the care which will need to be taken to guard against an excessive appropriation by the Zemindar of Bobbili."

Ten years later the Board of Revenue write (No. 915, Proceedings of 19th February 1861): "The management of the firm has been in all respects satisfactory, save their outlay on works of irrigation, which has been small, averaging only Rs. 1,450 per annum." After the lapse of another ten years the Board (in their Proceedings, 4th January 1870, No. 12) observe more favorably on the condition of the irrigation works, on which the expenditure had risen to Rs. 3,721 per annum, or two and-a-half times the previous outlay or maramut. Now it appears that between 1870 and 1880 the outlay has risen to about 6,500 per annum, a great increase on the amount spent in the previous decade.

10. The increase may be due to increase of cost of labor, to abnormal damage by flood in the latter period, to wasteful work, ill-designed or ill-supervised. These causes may have all operated in different degrees.

11. The cost of labor has notoriously greatly increased. The men and cattle formerly had little to do in the hot weather, but now the carrying trade is enormously developed, and gives much employment to the laborers of this part of the country.

12. The late District Engineer was unable to comply with my request that a survey of the river channels might be made, and his health prevented his visiting the taluk in order to inspect them. The repairs executed by the renters have not been made under professional advice, and in my belief the money spent in Fasli 1287 was mostly wasted.

13. The past decade witnessed moderate freshes in almost every year, and in 1872, 1874, 1876, and 1878 considerable floods. That of 1876 was the highest on most of the feeders of the Nagavalli; it made a dangerous breach at Nandivada, which has not been effectively repaired, and topped the bank in many places, submerging much land and damaging crops. The same results followed the flood of 1878.

14. The great increase of hill cultivation along the most important feeders of the Nagavalli, which lie in the Rayaghada and Parvatipur Taluks and near their borders, has beyond doubt rendered the floods much more sudden and destructive, as well as the water-supply much more precarious. I have marched this month, across the valleys which are drained by the sources most remote from this river's mouth and saw many square miles of bare hill side which was heavy forest four years ago.

15. All the channel heads of the Palkonda channels need careful study; masonry works are not necessary to all perhaps, but the greater suddenness and volume of the floods much increase the risk of a fresh taking the line of the channel and leaving the bed of the stream. In Palkonda there are very valuable lands known as "Tampara" lands, old courses of the stream probably, which are liable to be inundated, and need special protection.

16. Should Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. apply for a renewal of their lease of the taluk from 1881, it is highly necessary that a survey of the channels be made and distinct agreements entered into as to the condition in which the works are to be maintained by the renters.

17. With reference to their present application, on their own showing they have spent more than they spent between 1860 and 1870 during seven out of the last eight years, and they expect to have to incur a considerable outlay this season. I do not think that they can claim assistance from Government, but I submit their application for orders.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. H. TOMLINSON, Esq., Agent to the Renters of Palkonda and Honjeram Taluks, to H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, dated Palkonda, 6th February 1879.

WITH reference to our recent conversation, I have the honor to bring to your notice the following facts in regard to the taluk with a view of your taking the matter into your serious consideration, and endeavour to secure for the renters some compensation from Government.

2. After careful inspection the villages mentioned in the accompanying statement have suffered principally by the late storm and flood, on which the shortfall has been calculated, for not only have crops been submerged, but portions of the fields with the standing crop have been covered over with silt, burying the plant under it; on such villages I estimate Rs. 4,481 of revenue collections irrecoverable at the close of the fasli.

3. It is however not so much the loss on revenue occasioned in years visited by floods as the accompanying unusually heavy outlay in repairing the damages caused to the irrigation works that I beg to invite your attention to principally.

4. In November 1869 the then Collector, Mr. J. I. Minchin, reporting on the condition of the taluk, with a view of the lease being renewed to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., ascertained that the average expenditure on "maramut" was Rs. 3,721. The outlay under this head, however, has been exceeded every year but one (*vide* enclosed statement) since then. After the flood of 1876 the cost of repairs was Rs. 10,504-7-11, and I now estimate the additional "maramut" occasioned by the last storm at Rs. 5,479. These two floods following in such quick succession, with the intervening year 1877 suffering from drought in which considerable loss was sustained by the failure of the indigo crop, have made Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s position in regard to the taluk far worse than was represented by Mr. Minchin in his recommendation to Government.

5. I therefore beg to request, on behalf of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., you will, if possible obtain a remission on revenue to the extent abovementioned, and compensation for the outlay incurred in excess of the ordinary expenditure on account of repairs, viz., Rs. 5,479, in all Rs. 9,960.

SUBMITTED in original.

KORAPUT, 21st February 1879.

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

STATEMENT showing Actual Amount of "Maramut" to the Palkonda and Honjeram Estates from Fasli 1281 to 1288 and the Estimated Amount for Fasli 1289.

Faslis.	Amount of Repairs											
	Actually incurred.			As presented by then Collector Vizagapatam his letter 22nd Novemr 1869.			In comparison with Column 4.					
							Increase.			Decrease.		
1	2						4			5		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
1281...	5,898	0	1	3,72	0	0	2,177	0	1	...		
1282...	6,395	5	5	3,72	0	0	2,674	5	5	...		
1283...	4,589	0	11	3,72	0	0	868	0	11	...		
1284...	3,428	9	6	3,72	0	0	...			292	6	6
1285...	7,535	0	2	3,72	0	0	3,814	0	2	...		
1286...	6,601	8	7	3,72	0	0	2,880	8	7	...		
1287...	10,504	7	11	3,72	0	0	6,783	7	11	...		
1288...	5,754	8	1	3,72	0	0	2,033	8	1	...		
Total ...	50,706	8	8	29,76	0	0	21,230	15	2	292	6	6
1289...	9,200	0	0	3,7	0	0	5,479	0	0	...		

(Signed) J. H. TOMLINSON.

SUBMITTED in original.

21st February 1879.

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Acting Collector.

STATEMENT showing the Estimated Loss of Crops by the late Flood and Probable Amount irrecoverable at the close of Fasli 1288.

Division.	No.	Villages.	Demand.	Estimated Loss of Crops occasioned by Flood.	Probable Amount irrecoverable at close of Fasli.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Palkonda.. ..	1	Talavaram	2,450 0 0	2,085 0 0	144 0 0
	2	Bookkoor	2,240 14 0	1,155 0 0	160 0 0
	3	Tumpatapilly	4,004 9 0	2,956 0 0	260 0 0
	4	Gottamangalapooram	1,687 0 0	675 0 0	230 0 0
	5	Annavaram	1,286 9 4	675 0 0	92 0 0
	6	Garoogoobilly	228 0 0	105 0 0	50 0 0
	7	Loomboor	1,159 3 6	780 0 0	130 0 0
	8	Gopaulpooram	247 2 8	100 0 0	75 0 0
	9	Nandivada	65 0 0	60 0 0	30 0 0
	10	Gopadavepetta	100 0 0	60 0 0	60 0 0
		Total ..	13,278 6 6	8,650 0 0	1,221 0 0
Boorjah	1	Ampilli	1,650 0 0	555 0 0	220 0 0
	2	Yativaddooparta	950 0 0	796 0 0	150 0 0
	3	Donkalaparta	1,000 0 0	600 0 0	.. ..
	4	Allina	1,700 0 0	656 0 0	600 0 0
	5	Madanapooram	700 0 0	202 8 0	70 0 0
	6	Manidivalsah	400 0 0	136 0 0	.. ..
	7	Boorjah	3,612 8 0	552 8 0	.. ..
		Total ..	10,012 8 0	3,705 0 0	1,040 0 0
Veeragottam ..	1	Veersgottam	1,368 15 2	170 0 0	.. ..
	2	Chalivandry	1,320 8 0	104 0 0	.. ..
	3	Nadookoor	1,115 0 0	135 0 0	25 0 0
	4	Gadagummah	325 0 0	75 0 0	50 0 0
	5	Combara.. ..	1,600 0 0	32 0 0	.. ..
	6	Cottoogoomadah	550 0 0	45 0 0	.. ..
	7	Rungoopooram	250 0 0	50 0 0	50 0 0
	8	Chidimy.. ..	664 7 0	50 0 0	.. ..
	9	Boorgah	550 0 0	50 0 0	.. ..
	10	Nursipooram	1,600 0 0	55 0 0	.. ..
	11	Codulaveeragottam	48 0 0	20 0 0	.. ..
	12	Woodigavalsavenkamamapetta	450 0 0	50 0 0	.. ..
	13	Ragoolapadoo	500 0 0	25 0 0	.. ..
	14	Dasumantapooram	800 0 0	175 0 0	70 0 0
		Total ..	11,136 14 2	1,036 0 0	195 0 0
Copparah.. ..	1	Gutanapilly	670 0 0	105 0 0	.. ..
	2	Sivvam	1,250 0 0	500 0 0	250 0 0
	3	Talagam.. ..	1,490 0 0	87 8 0	.. ..
	4	Rajoolagoomada.. ..	1,100 0 0	80 0 0	50 0 0
	5	Muggoor.. ..	900 0 0	75 0 0	.. ..
	6	Nookalavadah	300 0 0	25 0 0	.. ..
	7	Narandrapooram	860 0 0	20 0 0	.. ..
	8	Patuvardanam	2,500 0 0	75 0 0	.. ..
	9	Duvakivadah	700 0 0	150 0 0	143 0 0
	10	Kinjungy	1,310 0 0	150 0 0	130 0 0
	11	Venkalapatirajupetta	320 0 0	60 0 0	50 0 0
	12	Chilkalapilly	1,340 8 0	75 0 0	40 0 0
	13	Iroovadah.. ..	450 0 0	25 0 0	.. ..
	14	Maroovadah	950 4 0	25 0 0	.. ..
	15	Vongara.. ..	1,479 0 0	30 0 0	.. ..
	16	Palavelly.. ..	120 0 0	15 0 0	.. ..
	17	Cottisah.. ..	1,150 0 0	150 0 0	150 0 0
		Total ..	16,799 12 0	1,587 8 0	813 0 0
Condisah.. ..	1	Sarasanapilly	1,270 13 7	100 0 0	80 0 0
	2	Arsadah.. ..	2,400 0 0	30 0 0	.. ..
	3	Toonivadah	2,393 14 0	510 0 0	300 0 0
	4	Condisah	1,311 4 0	165 0 0	100 0 0
		Total ..	7,375 15 7	805 0 0	480 0 0
Honjeram ..	1	Honjeram	2,827 1 11	258 0 0	112 0 0
	2	Madamurty	491 4 0	19 0 0	.. ..
	3	Shahpetta	147 0 0	4 0 0	.. ..
	4	Mundarada	1,155 0 0	250 0 0	90 0 0
	5	Govindapooram.. ..	641 0 0	30 0 0	.. ..
	6	Ramasagaram	189 0 0	41 4 0	.. ..
	7	Ramarajupooram	285 0 0	24 4 0	.. ..
	8	Tamaram..	1,098 8 0	71 8 0	.. ..
	9	Podah	1,278 3 8	400 0 0	350 0 0

Statement showing the Estimated Loss of Crops by the late Flood and Probable Amount irrecoverable at the close of Fasli 1288—(*Continued*).

Division.	No.	Villages.	Demand.	Estimated Loss of Crops occasioned by Flood.	Probable Amount irrecoverable at close of Fasli.
1	2	3	4	5	6
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Honjeram— (*Continued*).	10	Chittareepooram	996 1 3	153 8 0	150 0 0
	11	Garanadoopettan	656 0 9	98 8 0	30 0 0
		Total	9,764 13 7	1,350 0 0	732 0 0
		Grand Total	68,368 5 10	17,133 8 0	4,481 0 0

PALKONDA,
1st February 1879.

(Signed) J. H. TOMLINSON.

SUBMITTED in original,

(Signed) H. ST. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Collector.

From H. ST. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to J. STURROCK, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd April 1879, No. 246.

IN continuation of my letter, No. 134, dated 24th February last, I have the honor to submit herewith copy of Mr. Maclean's interesting report on the state of the irrigation works in the Palkonda and Honjeram Estates under the rent of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. I need not add that the satisfactory execution of the necessary repairs will be difficult, as the renters have no professional advice at their disposal.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Report on the principal River Channels and Embankments of the Palkonda Taluk, Vizagapatam District.

General Remarks.—The Palkonda Taluk is drained by the Nagavalli river and its affluents, the principal of which are the Soornamooki and Vegarathi rivers, which unite at Kotesha, and combined join the Nagavalli at Sangam, the former from the south-west, the latter from the north-west.* The chief irrigation channels of the taluk are eight in number, of which only one, the Shakerapilly Bati, is taken from the Soornamooki river, all the others drawing their water from the Nagavalli. These channels are of very old construction (the Shakerapilly Bati, for instance, is said to have been dug 100 years ago), and are of the usual native type, very sinuous of irregular section, and, with the exception of the Sirnaidu channel, without head-works. The Sirnaidu head-sluice, which also comprised an aqueduct for a branch of another channel, was completely destroyed in the last flood.

* See sketch map number of channels.

Repairs.—These channels and their branches are repaired to such extent as is necessary each year. The repairs are generally executed in December, in order that the channels may be in working order by the time that the indigo seed is sown, which operation is usually begun in January and February. Irrigation is carried on to the end of the fasli, about the 1st of July, when the indigo crop is cut. All expense incurred in putting the works in order is debited to the fasli in which the crops benefit by such expenditure. Owing to the late floods the repairs this year were not begun till a few weeks ago.

Method of Working.—The channels having been cleared out, the river water is led into them either by running small embankments out into the stream, or by means of rude training walls of wattled bamboo backed up [illegible]. This kind of work must, of course, be renewed each year.

Demand.—Each channel pays annually a fixed amount of money or "demand" which does not vary, and which is estimated according to the quality and quantity of the land under irrigation. Arranged in order of precedence as regards "demand," the channels are as follows :—

1. Shakerapilly Bati.
2. Neelanagram „
3. Honjeram Bati.
4. Venkemma „
5. Desa Bati.
6. Seyernaidu Bati.
7. Boorjah Bati.
8. Iroovada „

Appended is a statement showing the principal facts connected with these channels arranged in a tabular form. For this and much other useful information I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Tomlinson,* who accompanied me throughout my inspection of the works.

* Agent to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.

(1.) The Shakerapilly Bati leaves the left bank of the Soornamooki river at a point opposite to the village of Rayavalsa in the Bobbili Taluk. The head is badly situated, and the channel closed to it is crossed† by a stream that carries off the drainage from the high lands on the left bank of the channel. The renters contemplate moving the head to a point higher up stream, where a good position for it may be obtained. But as the new head will take off in the Merangi Taluk, some arrangement will have to be made with that Zemindar in the way of exchange of land or compensation. The present position is unsatisfactory.

† *Vide* Sketch No. 2.

The channel at starting is about four yards wide at bottom and six yards deep, and its main portion is nearly five miles long; at about 200 yards from the head a breach has been formed by the rush of cross drainage from high lands to the left; the channel being close to the river is liable to be damaged by a high fresh. The breach should be properly closed, and if a masonry inlet and outlet were put in at a proper height, they would probably prevent a recurrence of the damage. At three-quarter mile the surplus water from a tank to the left has done some injury to the banks, but this can be readily repaired. The remainder of the channel is in a fair order. It has been cleared out for nearly its whole length, and will be working by about the 15th of February.

(2.) *Neelanagram Bati.*—This channel takes off from the left bank of the Nagavalli, a little above the village of Palamittah. For the first two furlongs it keeps close to the river, from which it is divided only by an irregular embankment which has breached largely‡ just where the actual channel begins. The present head is badly situated in somewhat low ground, and could be shifted with advantage to the first where the present breach is, the river bank at that place being high and formed of stiff soil; this would, however, necessitate deepening the whole channel, as its bed at this point is above the low water level. If, however, the channel be extended as will be shown later on, this deepening would probably become necessary and prove advantageous in the end. The Neelanagram Bati main channel is about five and-a-half miles long, running through hard soil for the greater part of its length. Its banks are frequently overgrown with vegetation, and, like all the other channels described below, it is very winding and of irregular section, the slopes being steep and in many places perpendicular.

‡ *Vide* Sketch No. 1.

It is about six yards wide at the bottom at its head, and runs for the most part parallel to the river. About one mile from the starting point two large breaches have been formed,§ caused partly by the rush of water in the channel due to the late flood, partly by a natural channel formed by the drainage of water from high lands on the right bank. One of these branches has been formed regularly as I was told for the last forty years. The remedy would be simply to repair the damage substantially once and for all, instead of in the petty way which has hitherto been practised. At one and-a-quarter miles the channel is only thirty yards from the river, and a breach has been formed partly by the late flood, but chiefly by the rush of cross drainage from high grounds on the left bank. A masonry inlet and outlet would be of service here. Below Betlawansgraharam a stream has brought a great deal of sand into the channel. This stream is usually bunded across above the channel and its water directed over the neighbouring fields, but the bund breached during the last rains owing to a bank close by having burst and added its water to that of the stream. At four and-a-half miles the channel divides into branches, which lower down again divide into subsidiary channels. The Neelanagram Bati is the finest work of its kind in the taluk, and is capable of being greatly improved. It could, I think, be converted into a great central irrigation channel, by which several minor ones could be done away with, notably the Venkammah Bati, an unsatisfactory work to be described hereafter. The land-owners believe such an extension to be feasible, and are anxious for it to be carried out. From an engineering point of view there are no difficulties to be contended with if the lands to which it is proposed to prolong the channel are, as they appear to be, on a sufficiently low level to admit of such extension. A series of levels will be run at opportunity to determine this point.

§ *Vide* Sketch No. 1.

The Neelanagram channel like all the (except one)‖ has had its annual repairs completed, and in a few days water will be let into it by the means previously described.

‖ The Seyernaidu channel.

(3.) *The Honjeram channel* starts from the right bank of the Nagavalli opposite to the village of Karkandiem. The taluk* was originally irrigated by a number of small streams, but about twenty-five years ago Mr. Young, the then Agent to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co., united them all and dug the present head, which however was only used for a couple of years, after which the villagers tried several new heads in succession lower down the river. These however proved unsatisfactory, and last year the land-owners wished to return to Mr. Young's old head, but found that an intervening portion of the channel had been appropriated by certain ryots of the Bobbili Taluk who had connected it with one of their own channel. They however consented to dig a new cut through their own land on condition of being allowed to take up some land for a similar purpose near Tunivada.

* Of Honjeram.

In consequence of this arrangement the old channel used by the Bobbili people and the new cut run parallel to each other for some distance, and the former being on a slightly higher level, its proprietors are in the habit of letting off their surplus water into the Honjeram channel which has caused much damage to the latter in several places. The Honjeram channel is three and-a-half miles long and about three yards wide at bottom; at its head, when it takes off from the river in a bank, some 10 feet in height. It is crossed by two small masonry aqueducts in the first quarter of a mile (belonging to Bobbili ryots, and used to irrigate land on the left bank) the first of which is ruined and useless; at the second some injury has been done to the channel below, the water brought over by the aqueduct having been diverted into it. At least one mile from the head is the new piece of channel, a mile in length, which has been damaged in several places by overflow from the Bobbili channel above it. After the point, two miles from head, where the new cut ends, the channel is in good order. This new cut was repaired slightly last year, but nothing appears to have been done to it this year, though the rest of the channel has just been cleared out and is now in working order; about three miles down the channel is a small aqueduct taking the Honjeram Bati over a channel belonging to Bobbili. This was damaged in the last flood but is now being repaired.

The Honjeram Bati is a useful work and should be carefully looked after and kept in good working order. As regards the recent damages they can be easily repaired and with care their recurrence might be prevented.

(4.) *Venkammah Bati.*—This channel is about one and-a-half miles long and is now under repair. Its head is in the left bank of the Nagavilly river near Gopedavepetta. The original head was completely destroyed by the late flood and a new one is being dug rather higher up the stream. For a distance of some hundred yards the channel is in a very low ground but little raised above the water level and each fresh must cause a considerable expenditure of money in clearance. The channel at starting is about four yards wide at bottom and runs through sandy soil for some distance in deep cutting. Owing to the nature of the soil and the bad position of the head the channel must silt up very readily, and its yearly repairs would seem to be, for the value of the channel compared with others, very large. The work suggested above of extending the Neelanagram Bati to take up the lands now irrigated by this channel would for this reason be a highly advantageous one, well repaying in its results the expense primarily incurred.

(5.) *Desa Bati.*—The surplus water of the Siyeranaidu Bati† flows down a channel averaging 100 broad and about half a mile long, having in it at present a depth of from four to six feet of water.

† See below and Sketch No. 3.

From this channel about a quarter of a mile from the river the Desa Bati used formerly to take off by means of small anicut‡. Some years ago however the anicut became damaged and this head was abandoned. The anicut has since been severely injured by the 1876 and 1878 floods and is now more than half destroyed.

‡ *Vide* Sketch No. 5.

The source from which the Desa Bati now derives its supply of water is the Pothulagedda, a stream 30 to 40 feet broad flowing past the town of Palkonda. This stream is gradually divided into a number of irregular channels, of which the Desa Bati is the chief. In heavy rains the surplus water of the gedda finds its way by various sources to the Nagavilly river, but there is no regular surplus channel.

The Desa Bati is about three miles long and is in good working order. It has this year been repaired in the usual way and water is flowing down it freely.

It is doubtful whether it would be more advantageous to reconstruct the anicut across the surplus channel of the Siyeranaidu Bati, or to the present source of supply to the Desa Bati. The amount of water flowing down the channel is at present far larger than that in the Pothulugedda, and from the comparative sizes of the streams it would seem as if it were generally so. There can be no doubt that the facilities of the Siyeranaidu Bati could be easily

and profitably extended. It would, I believe, prove advantageous to unite the Desa Bati with the Siyeranaidu channel, and also to improve the Pothulagedda (which could be converted into a very serviceable stream) and the other small channels taking off from it.

(6.) *Siyeranaidu Bati.*—This fine channel has its head in the left bank of the Nagavilly close to the village of Gotamangalapuram. Although the main channel is not quite two miles long, it is from 30 to 60 feet broad with banks in stiff clayey soil, for the most part perpendicular or nearly so. The depth of water in the channel at present is from 3 to 6 feet; it is in fact carrying off a large portion of the whole water of the river.

At the head some number of years ago, a rubble head sluice of three vents was constructed which was further combined with an aqueduct carrying over the sluice the water of a branch of the Venkammah Bati* which irrigated the Gotamangalapuram lands. In the flood of 1876 a breach was formed round the south-west wing wall of this structure. The damage was apparently carelessly and inadequately repaired.

* *Vide supra.*

In the flood of last December the vents which were unprovided with shutters were unable to carry off the rush of water fast enough; the river worked its way through the old breach, and almost the whole of the structure was swept away, only a small portion of it now remaining. A violent rush of water then took place down the channel, and behind the head sluice the channel was enlarged to treble its width for a distance of nearly 100 yards.† At a point about 1¼ miles down the line of the channel on its right bank is a substantial masonry outlet 14 yards long intended to carry off surplus water. It proved however totally inadequate to carry off such a large and violent stream, and consequently a large breach, 100 feet long, was formed in the right bank just below the outlet which was itself undamaged. Through this breach from 4 to 5 feet of water with a width of 30 feet is still pouring into the surplus channel and so to the river which is about half a mile distant. The main channel below the breach has been choked with sand and no water is running down it. The width of the Siyeranaidu Bati varies considerably. At its head its original width was about 40 feet which has now been enlarged to 150 feet. A little below it is 30 feet broad, then at a half a mile distance increases to 60 feet, and from ¾ mile to the end of the channel its breadths from 30 to 40 feet. At a distance of about three-fourths of a mile from the head, the old bed of the channel leaves the right bank of the present work which it joins again some mile and a half lower down. It was abandoned many years ago when Mr. Young, in order to utilize the bed of a hill stream, made a straight cut into the latter and supplemented the channel water by that of the stream. Owing to the force and quantity of the water now passing down the Siyeranaidu Bati, whose bed has a very steep slope, no repairs to the channel itself have been carried out. Some‡ Agraharam ryots of Gopalpur whose channel takes off from the Siyeranaidu are using the sand under which their fields have been laid (by the overflow of the channel and river) to a depth of from one to two feet to form a rude embankment along the channel bank intended to keep out a similar flood. The work however is of no utility.

† *Vide* Sketch No. 3.

‡ But they will be carried out on the first opportunity.

The head of the Siyeranaidu Bati having been damaged as described a new head should be formed a little above the present one where the position would be slightly better; the head sluice and aqueduct should be restored and the proposed embankment§ here, if reconstructed, should be brought up to this work and carried above it so as to form an additional protection to the channel crossing; the Siyeranaidu Bati is at present not in working order, but when it is cleared out, as will shortly be done, its water can for the present be carried across the Siyeranaidu lower down by means of a temporary wooden trough.

§ *Vide supra.*

(7.) *The Boorjah Channel* leaves the left bank of the Nagavilly near Calandra. It belongs half to Palkonda, half to Bobbili, and the expense of clearing it annually is shared between them. The expenditure on the part of the Palkonda people this year is not yet known; in 1876 it was Rs. 500. The channel is about two miles long and runs through sandy ground for some distance, which causes the clearance to be heavy. The work is now in good order with a good flow of water in it.

(8.) The Iroovada channel has its head on the right bank of the Nagavilly river near Sangam. It is a narrow channel three miles long and is the least important of the larger works. It is now being cleared out at a cost of Rs. 200.

General Observations.—The above-mentioned channel are all similar to one another as regards the general features of their construction. Their chief defects are the following:—

(*a.*) They have none of them head works. Each fresh in the river must necessarily bring into the channel a certain amount of silt proportioned to the height and duration of the flood.

(*b.*) Running as nearly all the channels do for a great portion of their length through land held by other ryots than those to whom the work belongs, the soil excavated each year is thrown close to the edge of the banks, or even upon the slopes; the Agraharam land-owners objecting to any encroachment upon their fields. It would be well if some arrangement could be made to take up a certain amount of land on either bank so as to leave a good berm between the excavated silt and the edge of the slopes. This would prevent the silt from being washed into the channel again as now happens to greater or less extent after each shower of rain.

The Agraharam land-owners, though refusing to assist in the repairs of the channels, and though they do not scruple to breach or otherwise damage them to the benefit of their own lands, are in the universal habit, by digging subsidiary channels of their own, or by using pucottahs, of making use of the channel water. This of course can only be remedied by an appeal to the law, and I believe that the renters intend in future to take steps to prevent such practices as far as possible.

(*c.*) The heads of the channels are in many cases badly placed.

(*d.*) The works are badly sectioned with banks in places almost perpendicular, which must add to some extent to the amount of silt that annually collect in the channel beds.

(*e.*) The channels are very winding; if straight cuts were made from point to point, the labor in digging them would in many cases probably prove very little greater than that of clearing out the long and winding curves.

(*f.*) No provision is made for cross drainage. The improvements then which would be desirable in the case of the above works are—(1). The construction of proper head sluices at the mouths of the principal channels, strengthened, where the river banks are low, by properly constructed embankments. (2). The proper sectioning and straightening to the channels. (3). The construction of masonry works to provide for cross drainage. (4). The institution of a large channel for a number of little ones. As regards this I have only proposed to prolong the Neelanagram Bati, thus doing away with the Venkammah Bati, to unite the Siyeranaidu and Desa channels, and to extend and improve the Pothulagedda and its channels. I believe, however, that more improvements of this nature, but of a minor character, are very feasible. (5). The carrying out in a substantial and effective manner of all repairs that may become necessary. The estimate for such work are now made up, and the repairs executed in an extremely rough fashion.

As regards the improvements generally to the channels, I believe that the renters are not prepared to expend any large amount in this direction; should Government, however, undertake such a work or any portion of it, the renters will be ready to maintain it in an effective condition.

Protective Works.

The Nagavilly river runs, in its course through the Palkonda Taluk, between banks of very moderate height. The floods of 1876 and 1878 topped these banks in numerous places,* overlaying the adjacent fields with sand to a considerable distance. In two places, viz., at the villages of Nandivada and Ampilly, the river showed a tendency to change its bed, and for some distance has eroded the surface of the land, ploughing up and furrowing the ground to a considerable extent.

* It was this overflowing of the river and its channels that caused the greater proportion of the damage to crops. The actual loss due to direct rain-fall was very small.

Irrecoverable at close of fasli.	Loss (total.)	The Renters estimate the loss as follows.	
		Villages.	Demand.
Rs. 4,431	Rs. A. P. 17,133 8 0	63	Rs. A. P. 62,368 5 10

At Gotamangalapuram a protective embankment was carried away and the village threatened with destruction.

At Annivaram the water is said to have risen to the height of one and-a-half yards against the houses, and in 1876 still higher.

Embankments of a rude nature existed at Nandivada, Gotamangalapuram and Ampilly. They appear to have been roughly constructed of earth, heaped up without much attempt at consolidation, and without revetment. The bund at Nandivada was carried away by the flood of 1 and at the other villages seem to have been turned by the flood of December last and being of unsubstantial construction, to have been easily breached. Of their exact only a trace at present remains.

At Annivaram the river has been gradually encroaching upon the village which is situated at the curve of a long reach so that it receives the full force of the stream directly upon it. The river has by degrees absorbed a large piece of land immediately in front of the village, which formerly provided an abundance of grass thatch, besides yielding a few crops of castor, &c. The loss of this piece of ground has deprived the villagers of a revenue, it is said, of Rs. 250 per annum. The village at present stands on the extreme edge of a bank some 8 feet high, which is being eaten into by the stream, which thus threatens the safety of the village. To protect it, an embankment about 300 yards long should be run along the river bank which might be made to form a continuation of the foot of the work. To construct such a work however a portion of the village would have to be removed, but as the population of it consists only of 293* people, this would not cause much inconvenience. The land behind the village is valuable, and through it run several small irrigation channels, so that the embankment would be a useful and desirable work. The embankment formerly existing near Nandivada was constructed in 1874, and was destroyed by the flood of two years later. It was about 500 yards long and its ends rested upon two small rocky hills. The new work would have to be thrown back a little, as the river bed has encroached somewhat, and it might be carried with advantage some way further up-stream and perhaps lower down as well.

* According to the Census of 1874.

The bund at Gotamangalapuram was about 400 yards long, and was built after the flood of 1876. It cost about Rs. 500 and was carried along the edge of the river. The villagers who propose removing their village, of which the population is 970,† wish to build the new bund farther back and throw it in a curve round the village. It would be better to retain pretty nearly the same site as the old work, running the new embankment however higher up-stream across the head of the Siyeranaidu channel, which is close by, so as to protect that work.‡

† Census of 1874.

‡ *Vide* Sketch No. 3.

The Ampilly embankment was also constructed after the 1876 flood to protect the lands of the village and the village itself which has a population of 764. The bund was about 400 yards long running along the edge of the river and cost Rs. 500. The new work would probably pretty well follow the same line, being slightly prolonged and having its ends brought round so as to afford more protection to the village.

Census, 1874.

Groynes.—As regards the construction of groynes in connection with these works, I should be inclined to doubt the advisability of their adoption. Single groynes would be inefficacious and a series of them would have to be formed above the works. The river has a very sandy bed, and to get the foundations deep enough would be laborious and costly. The groynes themselves would have to be of massive and careful build, and though they would no doubt be of great service, I do not believe that the cost and labor of their construction would be repaid by the advantages they would confer, nor do I see why embankments properly constructed and situated should not suffice for the work for which they are required.

It is however unfortunate that, except at Nandivada, these works would have, I believe, no high ground on which to rest their ends. The last two floods rose a foot or two above the banks at Ampilly, Annivaram, and Gotamangalapuram, and to construct embankments of a length sufficient to obviate this would necessitate an expense that could not be contemplated. The works therefore would serve in such excessive floods only to protect the villages and divert the water as much as possible. Against ordinary floods, however, even of a severe character, they would prove an amply sufficient defence. There are doubtless many other places where protective works would be advisable and many other improvements feasible besides those suggested above. In a rapid inspection, however, these could not all be noted, but as opportunity offers a more careful examination of the taluk will be made.

(Signed) A. D. MACLEAN,
Assistant Engineer.

H. ST. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

STATEMENT showing the chief River Channels of the Nalkonda and Honjeram Estates with the principal facts connected with each.

Names of River Channels.	Length of Main Channels.	Villages using the Channels.	Area.	Date and Cost of last Repairs.	Contemplated cost of repairs for the current year.	Demand.
	MILES.			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1. Shakerapilly ...	4½	1. Narasingapuram ... ... 2. Shakerapilly Agraharam. 3. Koppra ... ... 4. Kotesha ... ... 5. Lakshmipetta ... ... 6. Madivalsah agraharam. 7. Seetharampuram ... ... 8. Telagam ... ... 9. Shivam ... ... 10. Wangara ... ... 11. Muggur ... ... 12. Krustnapuram Agraharam.	2,15	December 1877. 200 0 0	654 0 0	10,209 13 0
2. Neelanagram ...	5½	1. Bettivadah Agraharam. 2. Kumeragunta ... ... 3. Neelanagram ... ... 4. Nandivada Agraharam. 5. Talavaram ... ... 6. Gopedevipetta Agraharam. 7. Bookoor	1,03	220 0 0	491 0 0	8,362 6 4
3. Tunivada		1. Tunivada ... ... 2. Venkamapetta Agraharam.	60	200 0 0	319 0 0	2,658 4 0
4. Venkammah ...	11½	1. Chinnamangalapuram ... 2. Gotamangalapuram ... 3. Tanipapally ... ... 1. Ampilly ... ... 2. Gopalpur Agraharam ...	1,04	411 0 0	412 0 0	7,305 1 0
5. Siyeranaidu	11½	3 Vadamah ... ... 4 Anavenam ... ... 5. Kondapuram Agraharam. 1. Allena ... ... 2. Yetivada Partha ... ... 3. Donka Partha ... ... 4. Madanapuram ... ... 5. Palavalsa	1,18	231 0 0	*100 0 0	3,872 4 0
6. Desa Bati	8	6. Kellantra Agraharam... 7. Vandra do. ... 8. Gangabagerthepuram do. 9. Lakapuram do. 10. Ramanapettah do. 11. Peddapettah do.	1,49	250 0 0	158 0 0	5,725 14 2
7. Burjah	2	1. Burjah ... ... 2. *Pavam*	61	120 0 0	† ...	3,612 8 0
8. Honjeram	8¾	1. Tamaram ... ... 2. Medemarti ... ... 3. Honjeram ... ... 4. Podalli ... ... 5. Chitarpuram ... ... 6. Garunaidupettah	80	122 0 0	685 0 0	7,941 13 7

* This amount is for clearing the channel only. Cost of repairing head sluice breach not yet completed.
† Account not yet received from Bobbili.

N.B.—Villages italicised belong to Bobbily.

(Signed) A. D. MACLEAN,
Assistant Engineer.

(True Copy)

H. ST. A. GOODRICH,
Acting Collector.

From MESSRS. ARBUTHNOT AND CO. to J. STURROCK, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 12th March 1879.

YOUR department has no doubt received particulars of the great injury caused to agricultural property in the Northern Sircars by the heavy floods of last December. The taluk of Palkonda, of which we are at present the renters, has suffered severely. Our Agent reports that the *average* damage done to the crops in the taluk was 25 per cent. But this does not give a sufficient or accurate idea of matters, for in some villages it was as much as 75 per cent., while others hardly suffered at all. From the most reliable calculations our Agent can make at present, he considers that a balance of probably Rs. 4,000 of revenue collections will remain outstanding by the end of the fasli, a good portion of which balances will be altogether irrecoverable.

2. In addition heavy damage has been done to tanks, river channels, and other irrigation works; and the estimates forwarded to us for the necessary repairs amount to no less than Rs. 9,000, which is a heavy addition to the ordinary maramut expenses of the fasli.

3. Our Agent reports that he mentioned the subject of a remission and compensation to Mr. Goodrich, the Acting Collector, on his recent visit of inspection, but was informed that no allowance could be made.

4. In regard to arrears of revenue we do not ask for any allowance. We have instructed our Agent to inform the ryots that the Acting Collector has refused to sanction remissions; that they must endeavour to meet their proper payments; and that any arrears will be treated merely as suspensions and not as remissions.

5. But in regard to maramut the matter is much more serious.

6. We beg to refer the Board to the report from Mr. J. I. Minchin to the Acting Secretary, Board of Revenue, dated 2nd November 1869, which will be found in the Proceedings of the Board of 4th January 1870, No. 12. In that report Mr. Minchin was good enough to pronounce a very favorable opinion of our management of the taluk. In paragraph 9 he mentioned that the irrigation of the taluks was in admirable order, *and the entire irrigation system maintained in a thoroughly efficient state.* In paragraph 14 he mentioned our average annual outlay on maramut as Rs. 3,721, and after making certain calculations as to the cost to Government which would be necessarily incurred were the taluk taken under Government management, he recommended that the lease should be renewed to us for twenty years on payment of a yearly rent of Rs. 1,32,000, or an increase of Rs. 12,000 on the rent which we had been paying under our previous lease.

7. In the Government Order thereon of the 11th May 1870, No. 685, this proposal was adopted, with the modification that the new lease was for ten years instead of twenty as recommended by the Collector.

8. We beg the special attention of the Board to the fact that in his estimate of the expense to us of managing the property, *including maramut*, Mr. Minchin calculated maramut expenses at far too low a rate. As a matter of fact our actual expenditure during the present lease has been as follows:—

		RS.	A.	P.
1281	... ...	5,898	0	0
1282	... ...	6,395	5	5
1283	... ...	4,589	0	11
1284	... ...	3,428	9	6
1285	... ...	7,535	0	2
1286	... ...	6,601	8	7
1287	... ...	10,5[illegible]4	7	11
1288	... ...	5,734	8	1
1289 (*special* expenditure will be increased by *ordinary*)	... ...	9,200	0	0
	Total ...	59,906	8	8

or on an average of Rs. 6,656-4-6 as aga[illegible] Rs. 3,721 according to Mr. Minchin's estimate. The difference on the whole [illegible] amounts to Rs. 26,417-8-8 increase of expenditure over Mr. Minchin's calculations [illegible] of the charges which would fall upon us, and there are still two years during which p[illegible]obably a similar excess expenditure will be incurred.

9. During the same period we have had [illegible] on several occasions to make considerable remissions and allowance to ryots; the outs[illegible]nding balances from 1281 to 1287, at the expiry of 1287, being Rs. 12,344-12-8, o[illegible] which it is believed that Rs. 6,976-11-11 are irrecoverable.

10. Under these circumstances, we ha[illegible]e the honor to apply to the Board for a special remission of a part of the rent due [illegible] for the current fasli in consideration of the heavy loss sustained by causes beyond c[illegible]r control during the recent storm. The amount of such remission we must leave to [illegible]he Board to fix. We will only mention that in Faslis 1285 and 1287 we were simila[illegible]ly put to great expense to repair damages caused by unusual and exceptional floods, [illegible]but on those occasions we did not make any demand for compensation; and it is only [illegible] on the recurrence a third time within the short space of five years of such special [illegible]and exceptional damage, that we have ventured to trouble the Board with an appea[illegible] in the matter.

11. We take advantage of this oppo[illegible]rtunity to remind the Board that our present lease will expire on the 30th June 1[illegible]881, and we should be glad if Govern-m[illegible]nt would kindly now take into considerati[illegible]on the question of its renewal or other-wise.

12. Our experience of the last eight y[illegible]ars has satisfied us that the rent which we are at present paying leaves no margin wh[illegible]atever for profit on the rental of the taluk as a separate and distinct concern. It is onl[illegible]y due to the fact that we are engaged largely in the manufacture of indigo in the t[illegible]aluk and are therefore able to distribute the cost of superintending establishments o[illegible]er the two interests of taluk revenue and indigo cultivation, thereby reducing the act[illegible]al charge of superintendence which would otherwise come against taluk revenue that [illegible]our accounts have been able to show any margin whatever. That margin is a very tri[illegible]ng one, and had the full charge for estab-lishment been placed against the Revenue a[illegible]unts the result would have been to show a loss on the rental of the taluk.

13. In paragraph 15 of his report abo[illegible]ve referred to, Mr. Minchin specially men-tioned that he believed our chief object in t[illegible]aking up the lease was not to make a small profit therefrom, but in expectation of th[illegible]e advantages which under our influence as landlords we would obtain in the encourage[illegible]ment of indigo cultivation. In the belief that we would derive large profits from the [illegible]manufacture of indigo, he recommended a renewal of the lease on terms which, to his [illegible]knowledge, would give us a very trifling, if any, profit on the rental, leaving us to get [illegible]our advantage from the manufacture of indigo. Mr. Minchin however greatly ove[illegible]r-estimated the profits to be derived from this special manufacture; as a matter of [illegible]fact the profits derived from our indigo factories during the last ten years have not [illegible]exceeded 10½ per cent. on the capital employed, after making the usual and reasonable allowances for repairs and depreciation of buildings, &c., and allowing 5 per [illegible]cent. interest on capital locked up. This return is not such as to encourage us to inc[illegible]ur any considerable risk or expense in other directions for the mere advantage in in[illegible]digo manufacture which the control of the taluk would give us, for we must bear in mi[illegible]nd that the period under review includes several years when the price of indigo in E[illegible]uropean markets was exceptionally high, and nearly 30 per cent. above the present le[illegible]vel.

14. As we have referred to an advantage given us in indigo work from our position as renters of the taluk, we think it desirable to guard against any misconception. It must not be supposed that we use undue influence to create a cultivation which would otherwise not be carried out. This is not the case. Mr. Minchin in the report we have above referred to specially remarks that [illegible]*nters we had performed liberally our duty by the people*; and in paragraph 3 he rem[illegible]hat "assisted by the money spent by the renters in carrying out the manufacture[illegible]digo the ryots had *attained a pitch of prosperity at present not known in any o*[illegible]*rt of the district.*" Our object is not to

exert any pressure upon the people, b[illegible]ly to prevent the competition of small manufacturers. We know from our ex[illegible]ce in other districts that those who carry on the manufacture on a large scale c[illegible]n be caused much inconvenience by small manufacturers, who without any preli[illegible]minary trouble or outlay secure the produce of fields which have been sown for the [illegible]larger factories, with seed provided by those factories, by making at a later date [illegible]small advances to the cultivators on the growing crops. Seed, it must be rem[illegible]rked, is not grown in the district, it has to be procured from Cocanada in Au[illegible]ust or September of the previous year for sowing in January, February. Consider[illegible]able risk attends the industry in this respect; for the manufacturers have to provide s[illegible]fficient seeds for all ryots who are willing to sow on the estimated requirements of a favorable season, but should it happen that from failure of rain or other cause the q[illegible]antity provided cannot be sown, the balance of the seed remains in their hands useles[illegible]s as it will not keep over the twelve months, and in this way in unfavorable seasons c[illegible]onsiderable loss is sustained. The competition such as we have alluded to escapes risks of this character, because it does not trouble itself with any preliminary arrangements; it is simply contented to buy up by means of advances the plant raised from seed provided by others.

15. In our present position as renters of the taluk we are free from competition of this character, because the ryots have no object in parting with their crops in consideration of a small advance; where a ryot has sown and has crop to deliver he is not asked to pay his kist while the crop is growing. The value of his plant when delivered is placed to his credit as so much payment on account of kist, and therefore he is not under the necessity of prematurely parting with his crop in order to raise money to pay his landlord.

16. We have a large amount of capital embarked in indigo factories in the Palkonda District, and we should be glad to secure their efficient working by a renewal of our lease from 1st July 1881 for a further term of ten years. But we feel that we cannot prudently continue to pay the present rate of rental. We would be willing to accept the terms agreed upon for the last previous lease (1st July 1861 to 30th June 1871), viz., Rs. 1,20,000; at any higher figure we fear it would not suit us to continue the rental of the district. It is quite [illegible]as Mr. Minchin remarked, that we do not lease the taluk for the sake of such tri[illegible]rofits as we can make out of the revenue collections; but still we do not care to [illegible]mit ourselves to large engagements for *no profit at all*; and even in some years to [illegible]n absolute loss.

17. We have no wish to praise our [illegible]own management; we are quite content to refer Government in this respect to the re[illegible]ports of previous Collectors and to inquiry by the existing Collector of Vizagapatam. [illegible]We are satisfied the district is prosperous and contented, and we do not believe that Go[illegible]vernment could realize a *net* return from the taluk greater than the rent which we [illegible]r.

Recommending these remarks for the favorable consideration of Government, we have, &c.

WITH the first of the letters above recorded the Collector of Vizagapatam forwards an application from the Agent of M[illegible]ssrs. Arbuthnot and Co., Renters of Palkonda and Honjeram, for a remission of Rs. 9,[illegible]960, viz., Rs. 4,481 for loss of revenue, and Rs. 5,479 as compensation for excess outlay on repairs to Public Works on account of damages caused by the heavy floods of D[illegible]ecember last.

2. In their letter, dated 12th Mar[illegible]h 1879, Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co. waive all claim to remission on account of loss [illegible]revenue, and state that they have instructed their Agent to intimate to the ryots th[illegible]the Acting Collector has refused to sanction remissions, and that any arrears will be treated merely as suspensions and not as remissions.

3. With regard to compensation for extraordinary repairs to Public Works, however, they point out that in the calcul[illegible]ades when the terms of their present lease were fixed the annual outlay on Publi[illegible]s repairs was taken at Rs. 3,721, while as a matter of fact the average expend[illegible]as been as much as Rs. 6,656-4-6, and there are still two years during which a[illegible]r expenditure will probably be incurred.

They therefore apply for a special remission [illegible]urrent fasli in consideration of the heavy loss sustained by them from causes [illegible]their own control. The amount of the remission they leave to the Board to de[illegible]u point out that on two previous occasions during the last five years they have [illegible]put to great expense on account of unusual floods but have made no application for [illegible]mission.

4. The Acting Collector opposes the applicaton on the ground that the renters must take the good years with the bad, but the B[illegible]d consider that the circumstances of the year have been such as to call for exceptio[illegible]treatment and resolve to recommend to Government that in consideration of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s good management of the taluk they may be allowed [illegible]remission equal to the amount expended on Public Works in Fasli 1289 in excess of he average expenditure over the preceding years of the lease. The Collector will report the amount at the close of the fasli.

5. Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s proposals for a renewal of the lease will be forwarded to the Collector of Vizagapatam for careful examination and early report. Mr. Maclean's report forwarded with Mr. Goodrich's second letter above recorded will be of use in any discussion which may arise as t[illegible] the necessity of entering into a distinct agreement regarding the maintenance o[illegible] Public Works by the renters, as proposed in paragraph 16 of the Acting Collector's first letter. Copy of the report will be forwarded to Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) J. STURROCK,
Acting Sub-Secretary.

No. 183. ORDER THEREON, 11th August 1879, No. 1,669.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government do not consider that Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s application for remission is to be treated as a matter dependent on the loss or expense of a single year. As former lessees of the Palkonda Taluk they had experience of the estate, and when their last lease was expiring they obtained a renewal of it for ten years. They now ask for a special remission of a part of the rent due for the current fasli on the ground of their having been put to exceptional expense in repairing damages to works on the estate three times during the last five years, and because their expenditure on repairing irrigation works has exceeded the average alculated by the late Collector, Mr. Minchin, by Rs. 26,417 over nine years of the lease or by Rs. 2,935 per annum. By the terms of Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s lease they are bound to keep the irrigation works on the estate in good order and to pay a guaranteed revenue of Rs. 1,32,000 a year, and the Governor in Concil does not consider that an additional annual expense of less than 3,000 rupees, *i.e.*, about 2 per cent. on the rental, is a just ground for remission in so large a form. The application must therefore be refused.

2. As regards the renewal of the lease the Government consider that Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co.'s careful management of the estate during their long connection with it entitles them to all reasonable consideration in the grant of a renewal of the lease.

3. Referring to paragraph 14 of Mr. Goodrich's letter, No. 134, of February 21st, 1879, the Government observe that the forests alluded to as having been cleared away so rapidly all belonged to Zemindars.

(True Extract,

(Signed J. H. GARSTIN,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. H. French.

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Govt. of {1879} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The BOARD of REVENUE.

Dated August 11th.

Printed 21st.

Read. Encl.

G.O., 11th August 1879, No. 1,069.

Palkonda and Bonjoram Estates in Vizagapatam District.—For reasons stated, refusing Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co's. application for a remission of a part of the rent due by them for the current fasli in connection with the —; as regards the renewal of the lease of the estates, intimating that their careful management of the estates entitles them to all reasonable consideration in the grant of a renewal of the lease.

Vide cur. 3936/80.