Revenue Department

Minutes of Consultations

26th Jan 1858

Pages 25 & 26

G24/10 89 D 22nd Jan 1858

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு–1

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர்

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள்

3/07.

6/07.

சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் மு.நி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்

சரிபார்க்கும் 2–ம் மு.நி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்

ஆராய்ச்சி உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

(2)

Fort Saint George, Revenue Consultation of 26th January 1858.

No. 25. Read the following letter from J. W. DALRYMPLE, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India; to H. FORBES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Fort St. George; dated Fort William, the 25th November 1857, No. 1911.

SIR,

I am directed to transmit the accompanying Extract from the 13th paragraph of a despatch, No. 13 of 1857, dated the 9th September, from the Honorable the Court of Directors, and a copy of Mr. Inverarity's letter therein referred to as to the injurious effects of artificial irrigation on cotton crops, and to request that you will with the permission of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council be so good as to obtain and furnish this Government with the views of such persons in the Madras Presidency as are most conversant with the culture of the plant, with reference to Mr. Inverarity's opinion.

Extract from a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, to the Government of India, in the Revenue Department, No. 13, *dated the 9th September* 1857.

Para. 13. In a letter from Mr. George Inverarity, Collector of Broach, to the Revenue Commissioner, N. D., dated the 11th June 1855, that Gentleman alludes to the injurious effects of artificial irrigation on the cotton crop. This opinion, so confidently stated, seems to us to have such an important bearing upon the question before us, and a contrary opinion (founded very probably in ignorance of Indian cultivation), is so generally prevalent in this country, that we direct you to obtain for us the judgment of such persons at all the Presidencies as are most conversant with the culture of the plant, on Mr. Inverarity's opinion, and whether it be correct to the extent to which he lays it down.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. W. DALRYMPLE,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Extract paras. 1 *to* 4, *of a letter from the Collector of Broach, No.* 346, *dated* 11*th June* 1855.

Para. 1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement, No. 120, under date the 19th January last, upon a letter to Government, from the Secretary to the Western India Canal and Irrigation Company, explanatory of the plans and views of that association in respect to the extension of irrigation throughout this Presidency.

2. The greater part of the land of this Collectorate being composed of a deep black soil, and rendered annually subservient to the cultivation of cotton, for which it is peculiarly adapted, there will not, I apprehend, be found many facilities for the construction of Canals within its limits, as irrigation supplied artificially far from improving the growth and staple of the cotton crop, acts injuriously towards it, weakening the fibre and reducing its value to a corresponding extent. The only land upon which I have ever seen cotton improved by a supply of water from artificial sources is in some parts of Scinde, but there the deep alluvial deposit differs widely from the heavy black soil of Guzerat, and there is no degree of assimilation between the two, which would render the latter capable of the same treatment as the rich tracts skirting the banks of the Indus.

3. It cannot, I imagine, be in contemplation to attempt the supercession of the cotton growth here by other crops, for though possibly these might to some extent be capable of producing a higher market value, they could never wholly, or even more than partially, take the place of the present staple of the Collectorate, and that I am assured can never here be improved by the adventitious means adverted to, there is no doubt that in seasons of drought the security of the cotton crop would in some degree be maintained by the supply of water which would be poured over it from the Canals, but the indifferent yield which would result from that mode of preservation, would seldom cover the increased amount of assessment which would be leviable.

4. The Company, therefore, will not, I presume, initiate their proceedings by breaking ground in this Collectorate, for I have no doubt other portions of the Presidency will be found to provide a far more profitable field of speculation, and therefore one more worthy of their early efforts on its behalf—there is however one small tract of country lying between the Myhee

and Dhadur rivers, formed partly of red soils, which I am told, might be found well suited to the purpose in view, and which I shall bring more fully hereafter to the Company's notice when I have had an opportunity of personally surveying it.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. YOUNG,
Chief Secretary to Government.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. W. DALRYMPLE,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 26. ORDER THEREON, No. 89; dated 22nd January 1858.

Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 31st October last, No. 1113.

(Signed) H. FORBES,
Acting Secretary to Government.

(7)

No. 1911

FROM

J. W. DALRYMPLE, ESQUIRE,
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India,

To

H. Forbes Esqr
Acty Secy to the Govt of Fort St George

Dated the 25th November 1857.

SIR,

HOME DEPT., *Revenue.*

I AM directed to transmit the accompanying Extract from the 13th paragraph of a Despatch, No. 13 of 1857, dated the 9th September, from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, and a copy of Mr. Inverarity's letter therein referred to as to the injurious effects of artificial irrigation on Cotton Crops, and to request that you will with the permission of the Right Honble the Governor in Council be so good as to obtain and furnish this Government with the views of such persons in the Madras Presidency as are most conversant with the culture of the plant, with reference to Mr. Inverarity's opinion.

I have the honor to be,
SIR,
Your most obedient Servant,

FORT WILLIAM,
The 25th Nov. 1857.

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Extract from a Despatch from the Hon'ble the Court of Directors, to the Government of India, in the Revenue Department, No. 13, *dated the 9th September* 1857.

Para. 13. In a letter from Mr. George Inverarity, Collector of Broach, to the Revenue Commissioner, N. D., dated the 11th June 1855, that gentleman alludes to the injurious effects of artificial irrigation on the Cotton Crop. This opinion, so confidently stated, seems to us to have such an important bearing upon the question before us, and a contrary opinion (founded very probably in ignorance of Indian Cultivation), is so generally prevalent in this country, that we direct you to obtain for us the judgment of such persons at all the Presidencies as are most conversant with the culture of the plant, on Mr. Inverarity's opinion, and whether it be correct to the extent to which he lays it down.

(True Extract)

W Dibbon Sir

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

(5)

EXTRACT Paras. 1 *to* 4, *of a letter from the Collector of Broach, No.* 346, *dated* 11*th June* 1855.

Para. 1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement, No. 120' under date the 19th January last, upon a letter to Government, from the Secretary to the Western India Canal and Irrigation Company, explanatory of the plans and views of that association in respect to the extension of irrigation throughout this Presidency.

2. The greater part of the land of this Collectorate being composed of a deep black soil, and rendered annually subservient to the cultivation of Cotton, for which it is peculiarly adapted, there will not, I app ehend, be found many facilities for the construction of canals within its limits, as irrigation supplied artificially far from improving the growth and staple of the Cotton Crop, acts injuriously towards it, weakening the fibre and reducing its value to a corresponding extent. The only land upon which I have ever seen Cotton improved by a supply of water from artificial sources is in some parts of Scinde, but there the deep alluvial deposit differs widely from the heavy black soil of Guzerat, and there is no degree of assimilation between the two, which would render the latter capable of the same treatment as the rich tracts skirting the banks of the Indus.

3. It cannot, I imagine, be in contemplation to attempt the supersession of the Cotton growth here by other crops, for though possibly these might to some extent be capable of producing a higher market value, they cou'd never wholly, or even more than partially, take the place of the present staple of the Collectorate, and that I am assured can never here be improved by the adventitious means adverted to, there is no doubt that in seasons of drought the security of the Cotton Crop would in some degree be maintained by the supply of water which would be poured over it from the canals, but the indifferent yield which would result from that mode of preservation, would seldom cover the increased amount of assessment which would be leviable.

4. The Company, therefore, will not, I presume, initiate their proceedings by breaking ground in this Collectorate, for I have no doubt other portions of the Presidency will be found to provide a far more profitable field of speculation, and therefore one more worthy of their early efforts on its behalf—there is however one small tract of country lying between the Myhee and Dhadur rivers, formed partly of red soils, which I am told, might be found well suited to the purpose in view, and which I shall bring more fully hereafter to the Company's notice when I have had an opportunity of personally surveying it.

(True Extract)

(Signed) H. YOUNG,

Chief Secretary to Government.

True Copy

Under Secy to the Govt of Sindh

Cons. 3d Novr./57 No. 26.
Pltt. 8th Decr. " " 51 & 52

Copy in ... L. to B.
d/21st May 1858 No. 10

Revenue 1857 Depart.
Do. to Cons 26th Jany./58.

No. 1537

From the Under Secy. to
the Govt. of India.

Dated 25th November 1857
Recd. 8th December 1857.

From Do. Do. 3d July/58
C. No. 1150 in

Transmitting Para. 13 of a Despatch, No. 13 of 1857, dated 9th Septr. 1857, from the Hon. Court to the Govt. of India, on the subject of the injurious effects of artificial irrigation on Cotton Crops, and requesting to be furnished with the views of such persons in the Madras Presidency, as are most conversant with the culture of the Plant, with reference to that opinion.

No. 89. With an order 22 Jany.

No. 89.
Ordered to be communicated to the Board of Revenue in continuation of Extract Minutes of Consultation dated 31 October last No. 1113.
Ext. to Geo. 22d Jany. 1858.
With ... No. 1337 ... Desp. 33?

p. 25 & 26

C16th Decr. R 4th Jany/58