M.R.O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 526 Press ~~Mis.~~

18-20

Dated 14 March ~~10~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 1st March 1869.

Read the following:—

No. 18. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th May 1868, No. 3,445.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Kurnool, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th December 1867, No. 376.

1. I have the honor, in reply to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 3,588, dated 11th June 1867, communicating Government Order, Revenue Department, No. 1,156, dated 22nd May, to report on the result of the increase of wet assessment from 4 Rupees to 6 Rupees per acre, for water received from the Madras Canal and Irrigation Company.

2. When in Fusly 1275, the rate was 4 Rupees per acre, 739 Acres and 58 Cents assessed at Rupees 2,958-2-7, were cultivated.

3. In Fusly 1276, there was an increase in the cultivation, for Acres 1,385 and 21 Cents were cultivated under the channel, and the assessment was Rupees 8,910-1-5. In this was included penalties for the surreptitious use of water. The rate then was 6 Rupees, but the rate was raised to that sum after lands had been brought into cultivation, and the ryots, rather than lose their produce, continued the use of the water.

4. During the current Fusly 1277, when the ryots were aware before applying for water that the rate would be 6 Rupees per acre, there has been a falling off, and only Acres 1,080-85, the water assessment on which is Rupees 6,550-14-11 including double assessment for water taken without application, have been cultivated. This shews a decrease of Acres 305 below that of the previous Fusly, the water assessment for which would have been 1,830 Rupees.

5. I think the increase of the rate to 6 Rupees per acre was both an injudicious and premature step, for, the irrigation under the canal is in its infancy, and the ryots cultivate at present, rather as an experiment, to discover whether wet cultivation will really pay better than dry.

6. Last year the anicut breached, and of course the ryots could not be certain but that it would suffer a like calamity this year. They therefore, have not a sufficient confidence in the stability of the supply of water. This must be the growth of years, and after that confidence has been acquired, and the ryots now unaccustomed to cultivate wet lands, have become used to it, then the Company might consider whether it would be advisable to raise the rates to 6 Rupees.

7. For the present, I would strongly recommend that the rates be again reduced to 4 Rupees per acre, and so continued for several years to come.

Resolved that the foregoing letter be forwarded to Captain Mullins, who is requested to favor the Board with his views on the subject.

No. 19. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th September 1868, No. 6,544.

Read again letter from the Collector of Kurnool, dated 16th December 1867, No. 376, recorded in the Board's Proceedings, dated 9th May 1868, No. 3,445.

Read also the following letter from the Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Canal Company, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 15th May 1868, No. 23 :—

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Proceedings, No. 445, of the 9th instant, requesting me to state what my views are with regard to the contents of the letter of the 16th December last, from the Collector of Kurnool.

2. Mr. Chase reports, that since the increase of the water-rate on irrigated land from 4 to 6 Rupees, the area under cultivation has decreased, and he thinks that the ryots have not sufficient confidence in the stability of the supply of water, and that it would be advisable to reduce the water-rate to Rupees 4, and to continue it at that rate for several years.

3. The facts which are available for the formation of an opinion do not appear to me to warrant any alteration of the water-rate. The Company have not, as yet, been in a position to supply any lands, except the narrow strip between the canal and the river in the first twenty-three or twenty-four miles of the former, and consequently the extension of cultivation was very improbable. That the area irrigated in the present Fusly is smaller than that of the previous one is to be regretted; but I am not surprised that some lands not well fitted, and not properly prepared for irrigation, should have been given up, and there will of necessity be considerable fluctuations in each small tract of country for the first few years after irrigation may be commenced therein.

4. I do not expect that there will be any noticeable increase of cultivation in 1868-69, because the canal is not yet ready, though it is hoped that, during the season, water will be taken down some 70 miles. In 1869-70 there ought, should no accidents occur to the canal this year, to be some considerable increase of irrigated area; but the middle of the year 1870 will be the earliest moment at which it will be possible to form an opinion as to whether the Ryots are disinclined to take the water brought within their reach, and perhaps another two years after that will be needed to enable any decision to be come to, as to whether the water-rate may have exercised any deterring influence.

5. I have had no reason to alter the views expressed in my letter, No. 18, of the 1st June 1867, to Government, and I should be much disinclined to a reduction of the six Rupees water-rate, unless it could be shewn, on very clear grounds, that the rate does not leave the ryot a fair margin of profit.

Proceedings of Madras Government, No. 1,838, 9th June 1867, Public Works Department.

6. At the same time I consider that it would be advantageous to make allowance for the difficulties and want of experience of the ryots when first attempting irrigation, and I should, on this account, think it would be good policy for the Company to charge a low rate at first, and to raise it gradually. The rate for the first year, might then be 4 Rupees; for the second year, five Rupees; and for the third year, six Rupees. There would be no objection to a proposition to this effect being made to the Agent and Manager of the Company.

7. It appears to me very desirable that there should be no question raised of a reduction of the rates, unless it can be shewn, on reliable data, that a revision is necessary, or until it shall have been proved, that, whether the existing water-rate be fair or otherwise, the ryots will not take water at the price at which it is offered. The Collector may be able to procure better data than those with which I am acquainted; but I am quite sure that it will be some years before it will be ascertainable from experience, whether the present water-rate is, or is not, in any degree prohibitory.

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1. Resolved that the foregoing papers be submitted to Government, with reference to paragraph 2 of their Order, dated 22nd May 1867, No. 1,156. In this Order, the special attention of the Board was called to the requisition in the latter part of paragraph 5 of the Despatch from the Secretary of State for India, regarding the increase of the ordinary water-rate from Rupees 4 to Rupees 6. The Collector was accordingly directed to address the Board at the end of December last, and the first of the two letters above recorded, contains the Collector's report, in which, after giving the results of the wet cultivation for Fuslies 1275, 1276, and 1277, the Collector pointed out that, "owing to the anicut having breached "in 1866, the ryots have not sufficient confidence in the stability of the supply of "water," and accordingly recommended "that the rates be again reduced to 4 "Rupees per acre, and be so continued for several years to come."

2. The letter above referred to was forwarded to the Consulting Engineer of the Company for his views, and the second letter recorded is his reply. In this letter, Captain Mullins attributes the relinquishments of lands in Fusly 1277, to the discovery that they were unfit for wet cultivation; and states that, under the present limited operations of the Company, it is scarcely fair to expect that the extent of cultivation should increase, and that such fluctuations must be expected at the outset of any such operations. He finally deprecates any reduction as premature and ill-considered; but considering the novelty of the system of irrigation, and the ignorance of the ryots, he is prepared to recommend a graduated water-rate commencing from 4 Rupees and progressing to 6 Rupees by an annual addition of one Rupee.

3. The Board agree with the Consulting Engineer that the period over which experience has yet extended, is so limited, as to render caution necessary in accepting the results as conclusive.

4. If, as the Collector thinks, relinquishments are to a considerable extent due to the distrust of the efficiency of the works to provide water, an alteration of Rupees 2 in the rate cannot be expected to exercise much influence in checking them.

5. The Board are not disposed to attach the same importance as Mr. Chase does, to the relinquishment of the 305 Acres. Much of this land may have proved

unfit for wet cultivation, or, owing to the state of the market, the dry produce may [illegible] re profitable.

Read again letter
No. 37 Board consider that it might, as Captain Mullins suggests, be good
No. 3,4 art of the Company to adopt a progressive rate of charge, the ryot
Read also the fo ent privilege of giving up irrigation at the close of any year. In
a [illegible] Canal Com[illegible] of view, the Company are gainers by the present arrangement.
The Com[illegible]5th May 186[illegible] (1,080×6=) 6,480 Rupees, but the 1,385 Acres irrigated in
Fusly 1276 at 4 Rupees per Acre, have yielded Rupees 5,540, the gain to the
Company being Rupees 940, notwithstanding the decrease in the area irrigated.

7. With the above figures before them, the Company should themselves decide on the adoption or rejection of Captain Mullins's proposal.

No. 20. ORDER THEREON, 1st March 1869, No. 526.

Miscellaneous.

1. In their Proceedings above recorded, the Board of Revenue reply to the Order of Government dated 22nd May 1867, No. 1,156, requesting their special attention to paragraph 5 of the Secretary of State's Despatch, dated 16th April 1867. Narrow strip between r Stafford Northcote remarked that there seems to be muty-four miles of the ments of the Acting Collector of Kurnool, again tion was very improbable. The er rate for water supplied by the Irrigati is smaller than that of the provi one Rupees 6, and desired that the matter might be carefully watched, and the Collector called on to report, at a suitable time, whether the effect of the increase had been to any extent to deter the ryots from making use of the Canal water brought within their reach.

2. The Board consulted the Collector and the Consulting Engineer on the subject. Mr. Chase reports that when in Fusly 1275, the rate was 4 Rupees per acre, 739 acres and 58 cents, assessed at Rupees 2,958-2-7 were cultivated; that in Fusly 1276, there was an increase in the cultivation, the extent having been 1385 acres, and 21 cents, and the assessment Rupees 8,910-1-5 inclusive of penalties for the surreptitious use of water; but that during Fusly 1277, there was a falling off, as only Acres 1,080-85 yielding the water assessment of Rupees 6,550-14-11, including double assessment for water taken without application, were cultivated. Mr. Chase adds that the rate was raised in Fusly 1276, after lands had been brought into cultivation, and the ryots rather than lose their produce, continued the use of the water, but that in the following year, when they were aware before applying for water that the rate would be 6 Rupees per acre, there was a falling off. He therefore, strongly recommends, that the rate be reduced to 4 Rupees, and so continued for several years to come, till the ryots acquire confidence in the stability of the supply of water and become used to cultivate the lands for wet produce. Captain Mullins, the Consulting Engineer, is disinclined to a reduction of the rate of 6 Rupees. He observes, that he is not surprised that some lands not well fitted, and not properly prepared for irrigation should have been given up, and that there will of necessity be considerable fluctuations in the quantity of land for which water is

taken for the first few years after irrigation may be commenced. He, however, is of opinion, that it would be advantageous to make allowance for the difficu effect want of experience of the ryots when first attempting irrigation, and on this a considers that it would be good policy for the Company to charge a low rate a of and raise it gradually. He would fix the rate for the first year at 4 Rupees, the second at 5 Rupees, and for the third at 6 Rupees. The Board concur with Captain Mullins. They remark that, in a pecuniary point of view, the Company are gainers by the present arrangement, inasmuch as they now get 1080 × 6 = 6,480 Rupees, whereas the larger extent of 1385 acres irrigated in Fusly 1276, would have yielded only 5,540 Rupees, at 4 Rupees per acre.

3. The Government have given this subject their careful consideration, and they resolve to leave it to the Company to select between continuing the present rate of Rupees 6 per acre, and adopting Captain Mullins' suggestion, gradually to raise the rate from Rupees 4 to Rupees 5, and from Rupees 5 to Rupees 6.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

1295

was accordingly
first of the two lette
giving the results of the
the Collector pointed out that, "owing
the [illegible] sufficient con[illegible]ce in

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

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Revenue Depart

Memorandum
on No. 3034.

Order, dated 10th Decr 1861, No 2267, P.W.D.

The Board of Revenue were requested in December 1861, to report after consultation with the Consulting Inquiller, the Director of Revenue Settlement, the Collector & District Inquiller, as to the price to be charged to the ryots for water supplied by the Irrigation and Canal Company. The Board in their No: dated 28th March 1862, No 2069 replied to this order. Captain Beatty, the Actg District Inquiller proposed 5 Rupees per Acre, but Mr. Minchin remarked that this rate in addition to the land assessment would

Govt. Press, 1880. 250 Copies.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March, 1880.

Recd.

G. O., No. 526,

dated March 1880, No. 526.

MARCH.

Nos. 18-20.

Water rate for water supplied by Irrigation Company in Kurnool.—Reviewing reports on this subject, and leaving it to the Company to select between continuing the present rate of Rupees 6 per acre or gradually raising them to Rupees 8 and 9.

would be enormously heavy, and assumes that it will be fixed at Rs 3 as in the Godavery and Kistna deltas. He adds that there is nothing in the circumstances of the district (Kurnool) that would warrant granting to a private Company a higher rate than the Govt has fixed on water supplies from its own works on the Godavery and Kistna Rivers. Lieutenant Colonel Rundall was of opinion that the water rate ought not necessarily be the same as in the coast deltas, as the article is more valuable in the inland districts where the rain-fall is small, and suggested 4 Rupees for the first crop and 2 Rs for the second; or an owdrige of

5 Rupees in the event of parties pushing to compound for sugar-cane and other products requiring water all the year round. Mr Newill's proposal was the trial of 4 Rs per Acre as the water rate with a half charge for a second crop, sugar-cane being charged two crops. Col Cotton was in favor of an uniform rate of Rs 4 per acre per crop. The Board were for imposing the charge for the water in the form of a consolidated Punjab assessment, the difference between which and the Punjab assessment, as fixed on the corresponding class of unirrigated land, would form the gross profits resulting from the irrigation. The

Govt approved the Board's plan of consolidated assessment but however, as it cannot be immediately introduced and the Chief Engineer expects to supply water speedily to certain tracts, the Collector was instructed to add three Rupees per acre to the dry assessment for each crop as a temporary arrangement.

Pro: dated 10th May 1862, No 1036.

Order dated 24th May 1862, No 1150.

The Consulting Engineer submitted communications from the Company's officers objecting to the temporary rate of 3 Rupees per acre as small, and requesting the substitution of Rupees 4 per acre. The Agent urges that if any rate is sanctioned as a temporary measure, it should be as high as 5 or 6 Rupees, for it would be easier to reduce the rates in the event of this being found too high, than to increase them hereafter if

From Consulting Engr dated 18th June 1862, No 26.

if found too low, & requests that at least 4 Rupees may be sanctioned. The Chief Engineer points out that the rate fixed for the Godavery was admitted by the advisers of Govt as well as by Govt themselves to be extremely moderate, and the cost of supplying water in Kurnool is three times as great as it is in the Godavery. He adds that he finds the cultivators ready to pay a higher rate, and is at a loss to understand why it should not be charged and eventually Colonel Rundall adds here to the rate formerly proposed by him viz 4 Rs for the first, and Rs 2 for the second crop or Rs 5 for the two crops. The Govt remarks that

that the actual differ-
-ence in respect to the
water rate between Co-
-lonel Rundall and the
Govt
was in the distribution
of the 6 Rupees between
the two crops. The Govt
sanctioned 3 Rs for
each crop, but Colonel
Rundall proposed to
charge Rupees 4 for
the first and Rs 2
for the second, or Rs
6 for both. The Govt
sanctioned the latter
plan, and the Board
of Directors in England
accepted these rates as
a temporary measure.

On a reference
Pro: Bd of Revue dated
20th January 1863.
made by the Director
of Revenue Settlement
in regard to hastening
the revision of the assessment in the
villages likely to be in-
-gated from the works
of the Company, the Govt
remarked that they saw
no sufficient cause
for any extraordinary
and inconvenient
measures for the pur-
-pose alluded to, but
"in order to encourage
the people to level &
prepare their lands
in the particular
villages alluded to by
Mr. Inverarity for wet

Pro: dated 9th Febry
1863, No 283.

Pro: dated 18th August
1862, No 1751.

Pro: P.W. dept dated
6th Dec 1862, No 2918.

wet cultivation", they declare "that the new assessment ~~would~~ not exceed the existing dry assessment plus the water cess of Rs 4 an acre for the first crop, and Rs 2 for the second, or a consolidate water cess of 6 Rupees for both crops". The Ag Consulting Engineer submitted letters from the Company's officers objecting to the above declaration. The Chief Engineer urged that the cess fixed for the 2d crop should be 4 Rs instead of

from Ag Consulting Engr dated 11th March 1863, No 149.

2 Rs, and objected also to the consolidated rate of 5 Rs for both crops, as the rates mentioned by Govt would not be worth the Company's while to supply irrigation, after the first crop. Colonel Ludlow stated that as no second crop irrigation can be supplied until the reservoirs, the sites of which even have not been selected, are constructed, the settlement of the charge for such irrigation may very well be deferred, and the Govt observed that the order to which objection was raised was passed solely to meet a temporary emergency, that its object was to advance the interests of the Company by encouraging the Ryots to prepare their fields for irrigation, but that as the officers of the Company thought it will have the opposite effect, & as no second crop water could be supplied for some time, they had no objection to omit

Order of 24 March 1863 No 573.

allusion

allusion to a second crop, and instructed Mr. Minchin, in substitution of the previous order, to announce simply that "Rs. 4 per acre would be the amount charged for water in addition to the Punjab Assessment, pending the introduction of the new survey assessment." The Collector was desired by a subsequent order to make this decision known to the people of the villages within the scope of the Company's works, not merely by publication in the District Gazette but also by proclamation in every such village.

Pro^{d}. 4/5 March 1863. N^{o}. 548.

The Secretary of State to whom the correspondence was submitted, strongly deprecated the decision of this Gov^{t}. to adhere in Kurnool to the old established system of a consolidated assessment on irrigated

Despatch 3/10 March 1863 N^{o}. 9.

land,

land, notwithstanding the repeated instructions issued by the Home Gov^{t}. "that the plan of a separate water rate, distinct from the land assessment, should be adopted in all cases in which it might be found practicable," and requested that the subject might be re-considered, and unless some difficulty should exist in the case of Kurnool that the plan of a separate water rate might be adopted. The Gov^{t}. observed that there would be no difficulty in carrying out the wishes of the Home Gov^{t}. & directed Mr. Master to instruct his Deputy to frame statements exhibiting the result of applying a separate water rate, to the dry assessment in comparison with the consolidated Punjah assessment proposed.

Pro^{d}. 3/16 June 1863 N^{o}. 1056.

In a subsequent despatch the

Despatch 3/30 May 1863 N^{o}. 27.

the Secretary of State, while approving the Proceedings of this Govt. by which the rate to be hereafter charged for water supplied for a second crop was left open to future consideration remarked, that care must be taken to make it clearly understood by the ryots "that the charge of Rs.4 per acre now announced, is for the supply of water for one crop only; that no pledge is given that that amount will not be hereafter increased, and that on the works of the Company being in a condition to supply water for a second crop, the amount to be charged for it, in addition to the rate charged for a single crop, will be duly announced."

Pro.ds of 13 July 1863 No. 1272.

The Collector was requested to submit draft of a notice clearly setting forth these orders

orders and to take care that they were properly explained to the Ryots. The Board accordingly submitted a draft notification, and it was revised and approved by Govt.

Board's Pro.ds of 1st & 18th Sept.r 1863 No. 52, 60 &

Pro.ds of 7 October 1863. No. 1835.

The Proceedings of Government noted in the margin relate to the propositions subsequently made by the Officers of the Company, to raise the rate for general irrigation from 4 to 6 Rs. per acre per crop, and to impose a special rate for garden irrigation – The Agent argued that the increase

Pro.ds of 30 Oct.r 65 No. 2655.
do 28 Nov.r 2931
do 5 Jan.y 1866 31
do 20 171
do 20 April 928
do 1st June 1348.

in

in the value of land already effected by the Company's works, and the fact that for land under tanks in the Kurnool District "a rate of Rs. eight for one crop is often exceeded," warrant the proposed increase.

The Consulting Engineer supported the proposal on the ground that on the best estimate he ~~could~~ were able to form of the probable cost of the works, and the area they would command and suffice to supply, the present rate would not afford an adequate return.

The Board remarked that they ~~are~~ were

Pro. 2nd of 16 May 1866
No. 3415.

~~are~~ were not prepared to admit that the increase in the value of land in Kurnool ~~is~~ was due to the Company's unfinished works, and that the great increase in the value of produce throughout the country ~~is~~ was producing the same effect every where. They added that they did not consider that Mr. Henderson's argument derived from the existing rate on tank lands, which included the land assessment as well as the water rate ~~is~~ was at all conclusive. With reference however to the fact that the

the guaranteed interest on the Company's capital was provided from general taxation, and that the land assessment of the tracts through which the Company's canal passes had been revised and placed on a favorable footing, the Board expressed their willingness to assent to the rate of six Rupees per acre for a single crop with the opinion that it was the highest that the land could bear, except when special crops are raised. They proposed 10 Rs. per acre for sugarcane cultivation

cultivation, when sufficiently irrigated to mature an average crop, and were against disturbing the rate of one rupee per acre for occasional irrigation to crops not requiring a full supply.

As regards garden irrigation, Captain Mullins proposed a maximum of Rs 5 per acre for the year, or Rs. 8 for the half year, and the Agent approved the proposal as fair so long as the present ordinary rate of Rs. four is maintained. The grounds on which the Consulting Engineer advocated a higher rate of payment for garden lands were not so much the quantity of water

water required for them,
or the value of the produce,
as the fact that from their
usually detached situation,
the supply would give more
trouble and would generally
cost more to convey from
the canal to the garden &c.
The Collector was of opinion
that the garden cultivation
in Kurnool, so far from re-
quiring more water than
two rice crops, does not
require nearly so much,
and he deprecated any
increase. The Board
were of opinion that
a rate of Rs. 10 per an-
num, is as high as is like-
ly not to deter applicants

and

and thus to procure re-
muneration to the Company.
They deprecated the noti-
fication of the maximum
rate of Rs. 15 proposed
by Captain Mullins.

The Government
entered into the subject
fully in their order dated
1st June 1866, No. 1348. After
a review of the opinion
given by the several
officers which are already
briefly given above they
considered the arguments
of the Company's offi-
cers as not altogether
conclusive, and attributed
the great outlay
incurred

incurred by the Govt. in no inconsiderable degree to load management. They remarked that the high range of prices was owing in a great measure to causes which though not likely to fall materially, still cannot be regarded as absolutely permanent and which have necessarily enhanced also the cost of production. Still with reference to the grounds which had been adduced by the Board they sanctioned.

(1) The enhanced rate proposed viz 6 Rs. per acre for each crop.

(2) Sugarcane irrigation, double the ordinary rate or Rs. 12 per acre.

(3) Garden irrigation. The Government had no information before them as to the number of the "gardens" or their aggregate area, and as special rates are very undesirable, they desired this information before they gave any decision on the subject.

A notification of the new rates was ordered to be published, and the rates were to be brought into

Govt. of Pudukottai Lr. No. 2114 dt. 9th August/66

into force from the then cur-
rent Fasly. These enhanced
rates were approved by
the Secretary of State. Despatch D/9th Jany/67 No 1.

The number and
extent of the gardens
in Kurnool subsequent- Dy Com. D/20th Sept/66 No 5886
ly came under the con-
sideration of Government,
and as it was found
that they were not at
a distance from the Canal,
and that there were only
twenty eight "gardens" in all.
together, comprising an
aggregate area of 140 acres,
the Govt declined to assent
to any exceptional water
rate for them."

Order dated 5th Nov. 1866
No 2989.

The Government also
ordered with reference to
the remarks made by the
Collector, that the order in
imposing a rate of 12 Rs
for sugar-cane "necessarily
presupposed full irrigation
for the crop," and that "if
the Company did not fulfil
this condition, they could not
claim the double rate for
Sugar cane any more than
they could claim the single
rate for rice, if they did
not supply sufficient water
to bring the crop to maturity."

Adverting to the observa-
tions made by Mr. Sullivan
deprecating the recent enhance-
ment of the water rates
from 4 to 6 Rs, the Govt
decided that they gave no
reason

reason to modify their order.
Mr. Sullivan doubted, whether
on such terms the cultivation
of rice would be as profita-
ble as that of cholum, both
grains selling at nearly the
same prices, but the Govt.
remarked that it did not
by any means follow that
because at that time a
measure of rice fetches
no more than a measure
of cholum, therefore an
acre of land under rice
cannot afford to pay six
Rs. for its irrigation, or
charged with that tax,
does not yield a larger
return than an acre of
cholum. They added also
that the ryots were not
obliged

Despatch 16th April 1867
No. 11.

obliged to take the water
at all, nor, if they took
it, were they obliged to grow
rice only by its means.

The Secretary of State
in approving the orders of
this Govt. declining to present
to any special rate on the
gardens in Kurnool, and
the withdrawal of the
imposition of the double rate
on sugar cane cultivation
not sufficiently watered,
remarked, that "there seems
to be much force in the
arguments of the Bd. Collector
against the increase of the
ordinary water rate from
Rs. 4 to Rs. 6, and desired that
the matter may be carefully
watched, and the Collector
called

called on to report, at a suitable time," whether the effect of the increase has been to any extent to deter the ryots from making use of the canal water brought within their reach." and the special attention of the Board was called to this requisition.

Order 3/22d. May 1867 N: 1156.

The Board now submit their reply to the above order. The following table shows the particulars of the cultivation under the ~~channel~~ works during the last three years.—

Fasly	Water rate per acre	Cultivation		Assessment	Remarks.
		Extent			
	Rs.	acres	cents	Rs.	
1275	4	739	58	2,958.	
1276	6	1,385	21	8,910.	Includes penalties for surreptitious use of water.
1277	6	1,080	85	6,551.	Includes double assessment for water taken without applied.

While

While there was a large increase in Fasly 1276 over the cultivation of Fasly 1275, notwithstanding the increase of the rates from Rs. 4 to Rs. 6 per acre, there was a decrease in Fasly 1277 below the cultivation of Fasly 1276, although the rate was the same in both years. Mr. Chase explains that in Fasly 1276 the rate was raised to 6 Rs. after lands had been brought under cultivation, and the ryots rather than lose their produce, continued the use of the water; and he attributes the decrease in the following year to the fact that the ryots were averse before applying

applying for water that the rate would be 6 Rs. per acre. Mr. Chase remarks that the increase of the rate to 6 Rs. per acre was both an injudicious and premature step, for the irrigation under the canal is in its infancy, and the ryots cultivate at present, rather as an experiment, to discover whether wet cultivation will really pay better than dry, that the ryots have not as yet sufficient confidence in the stability of the supply of water, as last year the ancient bredches, that this must be the growth of years; and that after that confidence has been acquired, and the ryots now unaccustomed to cultivate wet lands have become used to it, then the Company might consider whether it would be advisable to raise the rate to Rs. 6. He strongly recommends "that the rate be again reduced to 4 Rs. per acre, and so continued for several years to come".

Further that

Captain Mullins, the Const. Engineer considers that "the Company have not, as yet, been in a position to supply any lands, except the narrow strip between the Canal and the river in the first twenty three or twenty four miles of the former, and that consequently the extension of cultivation was very improbable. He attributes the decrease in duties the decrease in July 1277 to some lands not well fitted, and not properly prepared for irrigation having been given up, and adds that there will of necessity be considerable fluctuations in each small tract of country for the first few

few years, after irriga-
tion may be commenced
thereon. He expects
no noticeable increase
of cultivation in 1868/69,
because the Canal is
not yet ready. In 1869/70
there ought, he says, should
no accidents occur to the
Canal this year, to be
some considerable in-
crease of irrigated area,
but the middle of the
year 1870, will be the
earliest moment at
which it will be possible
to form an opinion as
to whether the ryots
are disinclined to take
the water brought with-
in their reach, and that
perhaps another two
years

years after that will
be needed to enable any
decision to become safe as to
whether the water rate
may have exercised any
deterring influence. He
is much disinclined to a
reduction of the 6As rate
unless it could be shown
on very clear grounds,
that the rate does not
leave the ryot a fair
margin of profit. He how-
ever considers that it
would be advantageous
to make allowance for
the difficulties and
want of experience of
the ryots when first
attempting irrigation,
and on this account
he

he would charge the low rate of Rs 4 for the first year, Rs 5 for the second year, and Rs 6 for the third year. He concludes his letter with the remarks that there should be no question raised of a reduction of the rates unless it can be shown, on reliable data, that a revision is necessary, or until it shall have been proved, that, whether the existing water rate be fair or otherwise, the Kyoto will not take water at the price at which it is offered.

The

The Board agree with the Consulting Engineer that the period over which experience has yet extended, is so limited as to render caution necessary in accepting the results as conclusive, that if as the Collector thinks, relinquishments are to a considerable extent due to the distrust of the efficiency of the works to provide water, an alteration of Rs 2 in the rate cannot be expected to exercise much influence in checking them. The Board do not attach much

much importance to the relinquishment of the 305 acres. They point out that the Company receive for the reduced extent (acres 1080) Rs 6480, at 6 Rs the acre, while the larger extent of 1385 acres in Fasly 1276 would have yielded only Rs 5540, at 4 Rs the acre. They, however, concur with Captn Mullins in considering that it might be good policy to adopt a progressive rate of charge, the ryot retaining his present privilege of giving up irrigation at the close of any year. They add further that with the

the above figures before them, the Company should themselves decide on the adoption or rejection of Captain Mullins' proposal.

15/10/70

The opinion of the Collector in favor of a reduction of rate, is above opinion rather, and even effect to be sought might have been it is due had he have given the quantities of land taken up for wet cultivation prior to the announcement of the Rs 6 maximum rate, and the subsequent. Such will be the adoption of the plan of gradual rise from 4 Rs. to from 5 to 6 Rs we Captain Mullins proposes, which the Bd of R suggest. Have not yet the latest despatch on this subject received from the Secy of State; should understand be same matter as they are. Three consideration year & their results are, & whether circumstances a modification of a novel & such as the water rate to the ryots of Nerwool - and obviously by steady adherence to the price deliberately Captn much to confirm, imposed, that we should diminish water rate on that novel.

16.1.69.

WR

I would have it if the Company & that I return the continuing the present rate of Rs 6 &

adopting Captain
Hutchinson's suggestion.

A. J. R.

18th Jany

I agree with Mr Arbuthnot
I would fix the percentage
rate the Contractors the
Judges of the interests
of their undertaking
If they think that
the graduated
scale would
act as a discouragement
I would authorise them
to adopt it. I
would retain the
6. as a maximum
rate. N.

Mysore impression is
that it would be
wiser to hold fast
to the highest
figure.

Revenue Department.

No. 526.

Proceedings of the Madras Government.
Under date the 18th ~~February~~ March 1869

Read the following
Por of the Board of Revenue.

Submitting with Remarks cor-
respondence relative to advisability
or otherwise of reducing water assessment
charged for water received from
Irrigation Company's Canal in
Kurnool District from 6 to 4 Rupees
per acre.

Rec'd under 14th September 1868
No 5544

In their Pro.
above recorded, the Board
of Revenue reply to the
Order of Government
dated 27th May 1867, No 1156,
requesting their special
attention to para 5 of the
Secretary of State's Despatch,
dated 16th April 1867, No 11,
in which Sir Stafford
Northcote remarked that
there seems to be much
force

force in the arguments of the Acting Collector of Khurrodá against the increase of the ordinary water rate for water supplied by the Irrigation and Canal Company, from Rs. 6 to Rs. 8, and desired that the matter might be carefully watched, and the Collector called on to report, at a suitable time, whether the effect of the increase had been to any extent to deter the ryots from making use of the Canal water brought within their reach.

2. The Board communicated this Collector and the Consulting Engineer in the subject. Mr. Chase reports that when in Fasly 1275, the rate was 4 Rs. per acre, 1759 acres

acres and 58 cuts, assessed at Rs. 2958. 2. 7 were cultivated; that in Fasly 1276, there was an increase in the cultivation, the extent having been 1885 acres, and 21 cuts, and the assessment at Rs. 8910. 1. 5 inclusive of penalties for the irregular use of water; but that during Fasly 1277, there was a falling off, as only Acres 1080-85 yielding the water assessment of Rs. 6550. 11. 11 including double assessment for water taken without application were cultivated. Mr. Chase adds that the rate was raised in Fasly 1276, after lands had been brought into cultivation, and the ryots rather than

than lose their produce
I combined this issue of the
water, but that in the fol
lowing year, as soon as they
were aware before apply
ing for water that the
Rate would be 6 Rupees
per acre, there was a falling
off. He therefore strongly
recommends that the
Rate be reduced to 4 Rs.
and be continued for
several years to complete
the Ryots acquire confidence
in the stability of the
supply of water and be
convinced to cultivate
wet lands. Captain
Mallins the Consulting
Engineer is much dis
inclined to a reduction of
the Rate of 6 Rs. He
explains that he is not
surprised that some
lands

lands not well fitted, and
not properly prepared for
irrigation should have
been given up, and that
there will of necessity be
considerable fluctuations
for the first few years
after irrigation may be
commenced. He however,
considers that it would
be advantageous to make
allowance for the difficul-
ties and want of
experience of the Ryots
when first attempting
irrigation and on this
account considers that
it would be good policy
for the Company to
charge a low rate at first,
and to raise it gradually.
He would fix the rate
for the first year at Four Rupees,
for the second at five Rupees,
and

and for the third at Six Rupees. The Board concur with Captain Mullins. They remark that in a pecuniary point of view, the Company are gainers by the present arrangement, inasmuch as they now get £1080 x 6/ 6480 Rupees, whereas the larger extent of 1385 acres irrigated in Fasly 1256, would have yielded only 5,540 Rupees, at 4 Rupees per acre.

3. The Government have given this subject their careful consideration, and they resolve to leave it to the Company to select between continuing the present rate of Rs 6 per acre and adopting Captain

Captain Mullins' suggestion, gradually to raise the rate from Rs 5 and from 5 to 6 Rs. The Government would however, retain Rupees 6 as the maximum rate.

La declaration ou le
a maximum necessary
or Mungi Rand?
I Munchad &
also Mushe Mad
the declaration
Mungi heneapha heme
Subaraspuri M.O.M

14 Copies Letter No of Revd Despatch
21 " " Bo Despatch
1 Copy " Chief Engr for Irrigation

Reported to England
D/ 10th May No 24 of 1869.
Land Revenue