M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 592 Press ~~Misc.~~

79-18A

Dated 9- 3 — 1867.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 9th March 1867.

No. 179. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22nd February 1867, No. 1,117.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vellum, 26th September 1866, No. 257:—

1. I have the honor to report, as directed, on the enclosed Petition, No. 2,392 of 1866, addressed to the Board by the Mirasidars of Sheruvamani and several other villages in the Mannargudy Talook.

2. Petitioners' villages are irrigated by the lower course of the Vennar river, and are partly dependent also on a surplus stream called Annamarasanar. *In this latter, there is a masonry dam intended evidently to secure a supply to petitioners' villages, and the purport of this petition is, that this dam should be provided with wooden shutters, so as to admit of the surplus water flowing into the channel being utilized to the fullest extent for the benefit of petitioners' cultivation, and that an establishment should be provided for opening and closing the dam as occasion requires, as also for regulating, in accordance with an arrangement made amongst themselves, the distribution of water to the sixteen sluices in the Vennar, by which the villages are severally supplied.*

3. Petitioners state that they are prepared to bear the cost of the establishment proposed, but to insure its being regularly remunerated, and efficiently supervised, desire that the same should be maintained under the control of the Officers of Government, the cost being apportioned among themselves, (the petitioners,) and collected with the Government demand.

4. When this proposition was first brought before me, I intimated to the petitioners, through the Deputy Collector in Revenue charge of the talook, that they were at liberty to carry out any arrangement made amongst themselves with a view to the utilization and proper distribution of the available supply of water, but that there was no occasion for the interference of Government in the matter. I thus declined to interfere, because I considered that in the event of default, on the part of any of the parties concerned, to pay their quota of the cost of the establishment, there would be no means for enforcing its payment.

5. A translation of the Vernacular Yadast to Deputy Collector Ramachendra Row, in which my order to the above effect was embodied, is herewith enclosed, as required in the Board's endorsement on the petition under report.

6. During my absence from this district on special leave, I find that a reference was made to the Superintending Engineer on this subject, and that he considers the arrangement proposed a feasible and desirable one. The objection which I formerly had to the proposed plan still exists in my opinion, but I am quite willing to confess, that, as the contribution of each Mirasidar towards the cost of maintaining the establishment required will be but trifling, the chances of default will necessarily be very few. If the Board, therefore, are of opinion that the plan may have a trial, I shall be quite ready to give it one.

7. The annual cost of the establishment which Captain Oakes considers necessary for this purpose, is Rupees 276; thus—

	Rs.
1 Monigar, at Rupees 7 per mensem	7
4 Kotans, at „ 4 each „	16
Total per mensem ...	23
Per annum...	276

This amount distributed over the amount of assessment on the entire area of wet cultivation benefited, would give about one per cent. A cess at this rate may be collected, in the month of November, with the first land revenue kist, and held in deposit as a distinct item for disbursement to the establishment throughout the year. This would be a simple arrangement, and it does not appear to me necessary to include this contribution in the Government demand, and then deduct it therefrom. The establishment may be placed under the superintendence of the Department of Public Works as a similar establishment, kept up at the heads of two other channels, Mulliar and Aiyanar, is.

8. The Superintending Engineer has sent up an estimate, amounting to Rupees 36, for providing shutters to the surplus dam in the Annamarasanar above-mentioned, and these can be accordingly provided in due course. I may add that Captain Oakes, who has inspected the work, as also the entire length of the channel, has expressed his opinion that this measure is not open to any reasonable objection on the part of other parties.

Enclosure No. 1.—Translation of Yadast.

Enclosure No 2.—Petition.

1. Submitted to Government, with advertence to their Proceedings, Revenue Department, No. 152, dated 7th September 1865, in which they express their desire that a Nirgunty Cess should be introduced wherever practicable.

2. The Board agree with Mr. Morris that, as the present proposal will not impose a burden of more than one per cent. on the area benefited by the arrangement, and the contribution required from each Mirasidar will be but trifling, the chances of default are not likely to be otherwise than insignificant.

3. They would suggest that Mr. Morris's proposal be permitted a fair trial, and that the cess be collected with the November Kist. The establishment will consist of one Monigar on Rupees 7, and four Kotans on Rupees 4 each per mensem.

No. 180.

Order thereon, 9th March 1867, No. 592.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government approve and sanction the proposed arrangement.

2. They think it desirable that the voluntary cess at the rate of one per cent. should be included in the Puttahs, as desired by the petitioners, and collected with the Government demand, but credited to a distinct account.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Accountant General.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Proy Lr 05-11-152-158

21-10-27 II

21-4-05

Rev 1867. Department.

Proy of Govt Lr dated

No. 539.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

dated 22nd February 1867.

No. 1,117.

Recommending for adoption proposal of Collector of Tanjore for introduction of Nirgunty Cess in Mannargudy taluk and suggesting that it may be collected with November kist.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, with a Petition and translation of a Yadast.

Copy to the Collector of Tanjore.

Exd. J. Wright.

No. 592-93 dated

No. 179 & 180