M.R.O. 1—38,060—16-10-29.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1192 Press ~~Mis.~~

12-13

Dated 15 May ~~19~~ 1869

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1192

No. 12. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th April 1869:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Ramandrug, 12th April 1869, No. 63.

As directed in official memorandum, No. 16, dated 11th February, from the Under Secretary to Government, I have the honor to submit a report on the state of the season during the past year, accompanied by a few remarks on the prospects of the district.

2. I am happy to be able to state that all the division Officers report most favorably, both as to the results of the past season and the prospects of the future; and the enclosed statement of the prices of the grains most generally in use, for the last five Fuslies, show that there is no ground whatever for anticipating any distress amongst the poorer classes. In September 1866, cholum, the staple food of the district, was selling in Bellary market at the rate of 4½ and 5 Measures the Rupee. The same money now purchases 45 Measures, and at Sirgoopah, 25 miles from Bellary, 50 Measures. The outturn of the dry crops has been above the average, and although in some localities the yield of irrigated crops has not been so favorable, the supply is more than equal to the local demand.

3. With regard to the coming season it is, of course, impossible to say at this time of the year what may or may not happen. All depends on the rains of the south-west monsoon due early in June. As, however, prices have still a downward tendency, it is clear that a large supply of food-grains is on hand, and that the merchants do not anticipate any failure of the crops during the coming Fusly.

4. The condition of the laboring poor is all that could be desired. Food is plentiful and cheap, labor in great demand, and wages as high as they have ever been. Even at this time of the year, when the demand is generally slack, the people find plenty of employment in cleaning Cotton and on the Public Works and Railway. In the sugar-cane talooks laborers are earning from four to six Annas a-day.

5. The condition of the poorer ryots is also hopeful, as is evidenced by an appreciable extension of the area of cultivation. Indeed, the manner in which they have recovered themselves after the losses of recent years is wonderful. My Assistant, Mr. Buick, writing with reference to the Bellary and Raidrug Talooks which suffered more than any in the district during the scarcity, observes: "Should "the next south-west monsoon be a favorable one, the ryots will be, I have every "reason to believe, in a more prosperous condition a year hence, than they have "been at any time during the present decade," and all the division Officers write in a similarly hopeful strain.

6. The general health is decidedly good. Fever prevails in almost every talook, but appears to yield readily to treatment, and the remedies distributed throughout the district are thankfully received. Small-pox has broken out in some localities, but, except in the Kudlighi Talook, I have not heard of any fatal cases. There was a slight out-break of cholera at Tadputtry last month, but it has since disappeared. The cases reported of cattle-disease are few and far between.

Memorandum showing the prices per garce of the under-mentioned grains in Fuslies, from 1274 to 1278, inclusive.

Fuslies.	Paddy.		Rice.		Cholum.	Raggy.	Cumboo.	Horse-gram.
	1st Sort.	2nd Sort.	1st Sort.	2nd Sort.				
1274	267	242	623	564	329	272	321	383
1275	255	233	610	532	379	335	373	425
1276	350	315	821	730	445	403	430	534
1277	215	193	501	451	210	198	215	230
1278 only for 9 months ...	187	166	451	398	150	166	152	160

Camp at Ramandrug,
12th April 1869.

(Signed) H. E. SULLIVAN,
Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government. The report shows that the condition of the district is most favorable and prospects hopeful.

No. 13. Order thereon, 1st May 1869, No. 1,192.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bartleman.

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated May, 1st.

Recd. [illegible]

G. O., 1st May 1869, No. 1,192.

MAY.

Nos. 12-13.

Season in Bellary District.—Favorable report of the Collector, recorded.