

Govt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

No 1308 W d/12 May 1891

Communicated
to the S.E. IV circle.

(H) A.C.S.

W

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 30th April 1891, No. 383.

APRIL.

Season.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting,
with remarks, letter from the Collector of North
Arcot reporting on the work done by Mr. Buckley
during the week commencing on the 6th April,
and the numbers on gratuitous relief in the
district on the 11th April in the Kálahasti
Zemindari.

S.E. IV circle

Ch: Engr for Engr

gsm

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 23rd April 1891, No. 232:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from L. E. BUCKLEY, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, North Arcot, to the Collector of North Arcot, dated camp, Janakapuram, 12th April 1891, No. 26:—

I have the honor to report on the work done by me during the week commencing on Monday, April 6th.

2. On Monday 6th I was encamped at Ramanathapuram and in the morning visited Lingamanayadupalle and Timmabhupalapuram and its three hamlets, the latter village being about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles away. Several persons were found deserving of relief, but tickets were not issued to them as they said that the distance to the kitchen was too great for them to avail themselves of the relief offered. I had contemplated moving the kitchen from Gunipalayam to Ramanathapuram so as to benefit the Perinjeri, Sriramakuppam and Kachur people, but as they refused the relief offered on caste principles, it was no longer binding on me to consider them. I have now transferred the kitchen to Vellatukota which is not more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from any of the villages to be served. Timmabhupalapuram had never been visited before, and was reported to be fairly well off, and hence in selecting Ramanathapuram the needs of the inhabitants of that village had not been considered. The selection of suitable centres is often matter of considerable difficulty owing to the eccentricities of the areas in which relief is required.

3. In the evening I transferred my camp to Perandur and passed on my march through Sitanjeri and Mambakam. In Sitanjeri, a village of only a few huts, the only persons deserving of relief were an old woman who was unable to walk, and a little boy, who said he was afraid to go by himself. Now that the kitchen has been moved to Vellatukota, I fear, the distance will be too great for him. In Mambakkam several persons were found in need of relief. There was only time for me to muster the caste people, and of these 10 or 12 children were selected. I believe that some of them are attending the kitchen at Panapak, though they at first said that they could not attend the kitchen owing to caste scruples.

4. At Perandur I met Mr. C. A. Smith of the Public Works Department, who has just been appointed to take charge of the restoration works in Maderpák. I have been able to talk matters over with him and to point out to him where works are most urgently needed. It is hoped that one work near Pennalurpet and another near Perandur or Mambakkam will shortly be started. The estimates have been forwarded and all that is wanted is the Dewan's order to commence. Mr. Smith has now accompanied me to this place, with the intention of getting the estimates ready for the Birakuppam tank for which Rs. 2,400 has been sanctioned. This work will afford labor to all in this valley, which lies at the foot of the Ramgiri hills, on the eastern side: the people are reported by the Zemindari Tahsildar to be badly off.

5. On Tuesday morning I saw the Perandur people. The worst specimens were Vellamas and Goldsmiths; they said that they would not go to the kitchen, so I

could give them no relief. You will remember the state of these children when you saw them; they are infinitely worse now, one girl of 12 or 13 being almost a skeleton.* Several pariahs were given tickets of admission. While I was examining these people the village officers of Panapakam, to which village I was next going, came to me and assured me that there was no distress in their village and that they had just harvested a large extent of ragi and had a considerable

* I shall visit this village on my return from Yerpel, and, if I find any of these people in extreme danger, I will take the responsibility of giving them grain doles, as, I see, has been done in isolated cases in Chingleput. This would be an extreme step, as, once done, the caste people elsewhere would expect the same concessions.

(Intld.) H. LeF.

area more to cut so that everybody had work. This I did not believe. I went to the village and found one or two caste children badly off, and several pariahs. The large extent of ragi referred to turned out to be 8 cawnis of which 6 had been already cut. The coolies complained of having no work, as the prickly-pear clearance on the tank-bund had been stopped. I eventually found out that the reason why the village officers had reported everything *coulour de rose* was that they did not want me to come and trouble them by inspecting their village. A convenient tope was chosen as the site for the kitchen, there are two wells of good water within a few yards. I also inspected during the day the Ellampet and Elakapuram villagers and the pariahs of Mambakkam, admitting some of them to relief.

6. On Wednesday morning I rode to Mamandur. The villagers are all caste people. I induced a few children and others, who were badly off to take tickets, but the next morning they sent them back, saying that as they were caste people they could not attend the kitchen. One boy brought his ticket in person and I gave him a meal which he ate gladly but not, as he told me, with unalloyed pleasure, as he had a vivid anticipation of a good beating from his father when he got back. On my return journey I inspected Perambur and Ladhivakam and selected persons for relief. In the evening I again visited Panapakam and made preparations for the opening of the kitchen next morning.

7. On Thursday morning I was present at the opening of the kitchen at Panapakam; about 40 persons were present, among whom were all the pariahs from Mamandur a good $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles away. The Perandur people who only live about 1 mile off were poorly represented, but most of the people of the other villages except Mamandur who had been admitted to relief were present. During the day there was a thunder-storm and about $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch of rain fell at Perandur. From what I have seen of the villages further west, they must have had more.† The ryots are, as a rule, ploughing their lands, but coolies are not largely employed. In the evening I marched to Vellatukota.

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8. On Friday morning I again inspected Lingamanayadupalle and Temma-bhapalapuram with its hamlets. I explained to the people that the kitchen was to be transferred from Ramanathapuram to Vellatukota and there were many applicants for relief, of whom several were admitted. I rode on after inspection to Pennalurpet and went on in the afternoon to Uttukottai to meet the Commissioner, but he had not arrived. On my way back I superintended the evening distribution of food at Alagiripet.

9. On Saturday morning I again went to Chinnapet hoping to give relief to those who, I know, require it. The people as usual had fled. I have strong reason to believe that this is due to the action of the leading ryots, who resent my visiting the village, and wish to hide from me that they are unable to provide for those who are dependent on them. I saw to the distribution of food again at the Alagiripet kitchen, and took over from Chinnapet 2 old women, an old man and 2 children whom I caught so as to show them how the kitchen was conducted. In the afternoon I met the Commissioner and Mr. Tremenheere at the kitchen and after the inspection proceeded with them to Uttukottai.

10. This morning I marched to this place about a mile south of Tirupurantakapuramkota.

11. I regret to say that the weekly returns from the Vellatukota kitchen are not yet to hand. The return from Panapakam shows the strength of the kitchen only. A special messenger has been sent to Vellatukota. The report received from Alagiri shows that the number of meals distributed in the eight days from Saturday 4th to Saturday 11th is 333. This is incorrect,*

* It is strange that the Superintendent should send in a return against himself. The usual thing is that the attendance is exaggerated.

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as is seen from the daily indent forms, which have been checked by me on the spot and found to be correctly prepared. The daily attendance at each meal has, I know, averaged about 65 to 70. Indents

have been made for food for 537 persons, representing 1,074 meals. The total cost, including contingencies and exclusive of supervision charges amounts to Rs. 27-13-0 and taking the total attendance to be 537 this gives an average cost of 9-94 pies per head. The attendance at the Panapakam kitchen on the last day of the week was 3 men, 5 women and 48 children. The probable total for the 3 kitchens is between 200 or 215.

12. It is difficult to obtain cooks and watermen on the sanctioned rates † Rs. 3 and Rs. 2 per mensem. Caste people

† I do not see any rates sanctioned in the code. I suggested certain rates as a guide. You can exceed them when necessary.

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attend all kitchens though in small numbers, the castes that attend cannot cook for each other. Men of the potter caste have been employed, as all castes attending the kitchens will take food from

them. The men share the work indiscriminately, neither attending solely to the duties of cook or waterman. I think they might be allowed Rs. 4 each, or they will probably fail us without giving notice. Kitchen gumastahs are necessary. Rs. 8 rising to Rs. 10 by monthly increase of Re. 1, if good work is shown, will, I think, be sufficient. The proposed establishment will thus be for each kitchen:—

	RS.
1. Gumastah on Rs. 8 rising to Rs. 10 by monthly instalments of Re. 1, average	9
2. Cooks or watermen at Rs. 4 each	8
Total ...	17

13. I request to be informed under

Regulation VI of 1831 applies to all hereditary village officers having emoluments. If any one claims such offices in a zemindari, the Divisional officer could dispose of his claim under the Regulation; unless the post claimed is that of karnam. It is a fact that throughout the zemindaris the Collector's power of appointing village officers has fallen into desuetude, the appointments being generally, and wrongly, made by the zemindar. The power, however, survives and is occasionally exercised in Arni, but not, so far as I know, in any other zemindari.

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what Act power is given to me to dismiss all zemindari village officers save karnams. Munsifs I can of course dismiss as they are selected and appointed by Government. In paragraph 18 of G.O. of 19th December, No. 1026, Revenue, relating to the famine in Ganjam, it is stated that in order to bring zemindari village officers completely under the control of the Collector a proprietary Village Service Bill would be brought before the Legislative Council at an early date. I have not been informed of the passing of the Act, and I do not see how I can dismiss servants of the zemindar

appointed, as far as I know, by him for disobedience to or neglect of my orders, I can get them punished indirectly through the zemindari officials.

14. Contractors have come forward in the kitchens opened up to date to supply the necessary grain and condiments. The rates vary slightly for second-sort rice from $10\frac{1}{2}$ to 11 local measures per rupee. Prices are stationary.

15. The food given has been second-sort rice. The Commissioner has directed me to substitute a mixture of rice and ragi. This direction will be carried out. Since my last report the rations allowed have been changed to 20 oz. raw grain* to each adult and half that to children, with the amount of condiments prescribed in the Code in paragraph 183. The rations previously given were those prescribed in paragraph 186.

* Mr. Buckley should remember that, when "raw grain" is used, in speaking of ragi, it means ragi flour, which makes a great difference.

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16. I have not yet received Mr. Watson's statement of works in progress and the attendance thereon: a special messenger has been despatched to him and on his return the statement will be wired to the Board. Prickly-pear clearing on tank bunds has been given out on contract for various sums in the following villages:—Nambakam, Mambakam, Perandur and Papapakam. The work being on contract, the numbers employed are not known. The Diwan has started minor irrigation repairs (costing under Rs. 250) in Gunipalayam, Ramanathapuram and Panathambedi. These

† I wrote to the Diwan to report the numbers on his works every Friday but have had no reply.

(Intld.) H. LeF.

‡ Name please?

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Perandesim. Both works are to be carried out on contract. The Local Fund overseer applied for has not yet been sent.

17. The Deputy Tahsildar of Maderpāk has been with me throughout the week and has given me invaluable help in starting the kitchens. The report from the Deputy Tahsildar of Kālahasti has not yet arrived. When the overdue reports are received I shall forward you a report supplementary to this.

18. With reference to your suggestion of starting a bazaar at each kitchen, I beg to submit that in the places where the kitchens are started there are Komaties either in the villages themselves or in the adjacent villages. In Panapakam and Vellattukota there are Komaties who have a constant supply. In Alagiripet the Komaties get their supplies daily from Pennalurpet, $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile away. Even in good times I believe there is no recognized bazaar in Alagiripet, supplies being obtained from Pennalurpet. I see no necessity for opening bazaar either in Vellattukota, Panapakam, or Alagiripet at present.

19. With reference to suggestions to start a separate kitchen at Chinnapet, I am of opinion that such a course is unnecessary, now that the kitchen is opened at Alagiripet. It is perfectly true, as the Commissioner remarks, in answer to the objection about crossing the river, that the river has been dry for weeks, but a 600-yards' walk in soft yielding sand twice a day is hard work for children under 7, and the old and feeble. However, I think that the kitchen at Alagiripet is sufficiently close for them and nothing more need be done. I enclose the weekly statements as far as they can be compiled.

Endorsement by W. J. H. LE FANU, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Pólúr, 18th April 1891, No. 1836—Rev. G1.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of Land Records and Agriculture. I shall start for Yerped on receiving news that my camp has reached it. After visiting Yerped I have some urgent business in Wandiwash, after which I shall go to Perandur and see about Mr. Buckley's caste-people myself.

Read—the following letter from L. L. E. BUCKLEY, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector of North Arcot, to the Collector of North Arcot, dated Janakapuram, 13th April 1891, No. 38:—

In continuation of my report of yesterday, I have the honor to inform you that the numbers on gratuitous relief on Saturday were—

Kitchen.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Alagiripet	9	22	46	77
Vellattukota	16	35	60	111
Panapakam	3	5	48	56
Total ..	28	62	154	244

2. The Deputy Tahsildar of Kālahasti reports that the following works have been in progress during the week:—

Works.	Coolies employed.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.
<i>Public Works Department.</i>			
Ramabattapalli		Unknown.	
<i>Minor Repairs by Diwan.</i>			
Ramapuram	161	94	255
Kotapalaiyam	40	8	48
Tondamanad		Unknown.	
Total ..	201	102	303

Tank-bund clearing is also in progress in Pallamala.

3. He reports that the reason of the strike at Yerped is that the coolies object to piece-work payment and expect to get 3 annas a day, however little they may turn out. The rate (Rs. 2-14-0 per 1,000 cubic feet) is fairly liberal, and their refusal of it shows that they at any rate cannot be in very great straits.

4. The Deputy Tahsildar's tour has been in the Ragigunta valley: he represents the people as very badly off and recommends the opening of a kitchen at Anjur and three other places. The most general article of food is apparently bamboo paddy. The tract will be shortly visited by me.

Endorsement by W. J. H. LE FANU, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Pólúr, 18th April 1891, No. 1835—Rev. G1.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture. I shall be at Yerped shortly and if the coolies can be put on the work it shall be done.

Resolution—dated 23rd April 1891, No. 232.

The reports read above will be submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Board is glad to learn that Mr. LeFanu has arranged to visit the Kālahasti Zemindari where much distress is still said to be felt by the people owing to their disinclination, from some cause or another, to resort to the works which have been opened now for some considerable time with a view to afford employment to all who are in need. Full inquiry also is necessary into the circumstances of those caste-people, chiefly Vellamas, who, it is said, decline to send their children to the relief kitchens.

From inquiries made by the Commissioner in some villages in Maderpák, in the neighbourhood of Perinjéri, it seemed that the Vellamas were, as a rule, by no means in a state of destitution, though, as is the case with all other agriculturists in those parts, they have suffered from a bad season. In paragraph 5 of his first letter read above, Mr. Buckley alludes to the case of a girl of 12 or 13, presumably of the Vellama caste, who, he says, was almost a skeleton. It would have been more satisfactory if he had given some explanation of why this girl was in such want. Had she no relations? If she had, what state were they in? Was she alone allowed to starve? If there were male members of the family, why did they not go and work? The Collector promises to visit Perundur, and states that he will take the responsibility of granting a grain dole to the girl in question, and to such other caste people as may be found in extreme danger. The Board will await the result of the Collector's inquiry, and he should state clearly what the particular objection is to the acceptance of cooked food (cooked by a caste cook) which is not present when the grain served out is uncooked. In the Chingleput district the issue of a grain dole to a few select individuals was sanctioned not because the people objected to be fed at the kitchen, but because the cases were so few and isolated that it was considered unnecessary and expensive to open kitchens. In some of the villages inhabited by these Vellamas, the people would seem to be under some misapprehension as they are said to have fled at the approach of Mr. Buckley. The zemindari Tahsildar should be deputed to find out the true cause of the objections of the people and ascertain from themselves how this can be met; whether the establishment of a separate kitchen, at which none but their own caste will be admitted, will answer their purpose. As no residence in camp is enforced, their objection is not easily understood.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of North Arcot.
Copy to Mr. Buckley.

ORDER—dated 30th April 1891, No. 383, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

90 Copies.

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Resolution—dated 23rd April 1891, No. 232.

The reports read above will be submitted for the information of Government.

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From inquiries made by the Commissioner in some villages in Maderpák, in the neighbourhood of Perinjéri, it seemed that the Vellamas were, as a rule, by no means in a state of destitution, though, as is the case with all other agriculturists in those parts, they have suffered from a bad season. In paragraph 5 of his first letter read above, Mr. Buckley alludes to the case of a girl of 12 or 13, presumably of the Vellama caste, who, he says, was almost a skeleton. It would have been more satisfactory if he had given some explanation of why this girl was in such want. Had she no relations? If she had, what state were they in? Was she alone allowed to starve? If there were male members of the family, why did they not go and work? The Collector promises to visit Perundur, and states that he will take the responsibility of granting a grain dole to the girl in question, and to such other caste people as may be found in extreme danger. The Board will await the result of the Collector's inquiry, and he should state clearly what the particular objection is to the acceptance of cooked food (cooked by a caste cook) which is not present when the grain served out is uncooked. In the Ching-leput district the issue of a grain dole to a few select individuals was sanctioned not because the people objected to be fed at the kitchen, but because the cases were so few and isolated that it was considered unnecessary and expensive to open kitchens. In some of the villages inhabited by these Vellamas, the people would seem to be under some misapprehension as they are said to have fled at the approach of Mr. Buckley. The zemindari Tahsildar should be deputed to find out the true cause of the objections of the people and ascertain from themselves how this can be met; whether the establishment of a separate kitchen, at which none but their own caste will be admitted, will answer their purpose. As no residence in camp is enforced, their objection is not easily understood.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of North Arcot.

Copy to Mr. Buckley.

ORDER—dated 30th April 1891, No. 383, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Commissioners of Land Revenue.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

90 Copies.

Gobt. of {1891} Madras.
REVENUE.

No. 1308 W of 12 May 1891

Communicated
to S.E. IV circle.

(H) A.C.S.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 30th April 1891, No. 383.

APRIL.

Season.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting, with remarks, letter from the Collector of North Arcot reporting on the work done by Mr. Buckley during the week commencing on the 6th April, and the numbers on gratuitous relief in the district on the 11th April in the Kálabasti Zemindari.

S.E. IV circle

Ch: Eng for Ling.

30TH APRIL 1891, No. 383, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 23rd April 1891, No. 232:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from L. E. BUCKLEY, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, North Arcot, to the Collector of North Arcot, dated camp, Janakapuram, 12th April 1891, No. 26:—

I have the honor to report on the work done by me during the week commencing on Monday, April 6th.

2. On Monday 6th I was encamped at Ramanathapuram and in the morning visited Lingamanayadupalle and Timmabhupalapuram and its three hamlets, the latter village being about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles away. Several persons were found deserving of relief, but tickets were not issued to them as they said that the distance to the kitchen was too great for them to avail themselves of the relief offered. I had contemplated moving the kitchen from Gunipalayam to Ramanathapuram so as to benefit the Perinjeri, Sriramakuppam and Kachur people, but as they refused the relief offered on caste principles, it was no longer binding on me to consider them. I have now transferred the kitchen to Vellatukota which is not more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from any of the villages to be served. Timmabhupalapuram had never been visited before, and was reported to be fairly well off, and hence in selecting Ramanathapuram the needs of the inhabitants of that village had not been considered. The selection of suitable centres is often matter of considerable difficulty owing to the eccentricities of the areas in which relief is required.

3. In the evening I transferred my camp to Perandur and passed on my march through Sitanjeri and Mambakam. In Sitanjeri, a village of only a few huts, the only persons deserving of relief were an old woman who was unable to walk, and a little boy, who said he was afraid to go by himself. Now that the kitchen has been moved to Vellatukota, I fear, the distance will be too great for him. In Mambakkam several persons were found in need of relief. There was only time for me to muster the caste people, and of these 10 or 12 children were selected. I believe that some of them are attending the kitchen at Panapak, though they at first said that they could not attend the kitchen owing to caste scruples.

4. At Perandur I met Mr. C. A. Smith of the Public Works Department, who has just been appointed to take charge of the restoration works in Maderpák. I have been able to talk matters over with him and to point out to him where works are most urgently needed. It is hoped that one work near Pennalurpet and another near Perandur or Mambakkam will shortly be started. The estimates have been forwarded and all that is wanted is the Dewan's order to commence. Mr. Smith has now accompanied me to this place, with the intention of getting the estimates ready for the Bira-kuppam tank for which Rs. 2,400 has been sanctioned. This work will afford labor to all in this valley, which lies at the foot of the Ramgiri hills, on the eastern side: the people are reported by the Zemindari Tahsildar to be badly off.

5. On Tuesday morning I saw the Perandur people. The worst specimens were Vellamas and Goldsmiths; they said that they would not go to the kitchen, so I

could give them no relief. You will remember the state of these children when you

* I shall visit this village on my return from Yerpel, and, if I find any of these people in extreme danger, I will take the responsibility of giving them grain doles, as, I see, has been done in isolated cases in Chingleput. This would be an extreme step, as, once done, the caste people elsewhere would expect the same concessions.

(Intld.) H. LeF.

area more to cut so that everybody had work. This I did not believe. I went to the village and found one or two caste children badly off, and several pariahs. The large extent of ragi referred to turned out to be 8 cawnis of which 6 had been already cut. The coolies complained of having no work, as the prickly-pear clearance on the tank-bund had been stopped. I eventually found out that the reason why the village officers had reported everything *couleur de rose* was that they did not want me to come and trouble them by inspecting their village. A convenient tope was chosen as the site for the kitchen, there are two wells of good water within a few yards. I also inspected during the day the Ellampet and Elakapuram villagers and the pariahs of Mambakkam, admitting some of them to relief.

6. On Wednesday morning I rode to Mamandur. The villagers are all caste people. I induced a few children and others, who were badly off to take tickets, but the next morning they sent them back, saying that as they were caste people they could not attend the kitchen. One boy brought his ticket in person and I gave him a meal which he ate gladly but not, as he told me, with unalloyed pleasure, as he had a vivid anticipation of a good beating from his father when he got back. On my return journey I inspected Perambur and Lachivakam and selected persons for relief. In the evening I again visited Panapakam and made preparations for the opening of the kitchen next morning.

7. On Thursday morning I was present at the opening of the kitchen at Panapakam; about 40 persons were present, among whom were all the pariahs from Mamandur a good 2½ miles away. The Perandur people who only live about 1 mile off were poorly represented, but most of the people of the other villages except Mamandur who had been admitted to relief were present. During the day there was a thunder-storm and about ½ an inch of rain fell at Perandur. From what I have seen of the villages further west, they must have had more. † The ryots are, as a rule, ploughing their lands, but coolies are not largely employed. In the evening I marched to Vellatukota.

† Yes. The Deputy Tahsildar says nearly an inch.

(Intld.) H. LeF.

8. On Friday morning I again inspected Lingamanayadupalle and Temmabhalapuram with its hamlets. I explained to the people that the kitchen was to be transferred from Ramanathapuram to Vellatukota and there were many applicants for relief, of whom several were admitted. I rode on after inspection to Pennalurpet and went on in the afternoon to Uttukottai to meet the Commissioner, but he had not arrived. On my way back I superintended the evening distribution of food at Alagiripet.

9. On Saturday morning I again went to Chinnapet hoping to give relief to those who, I know, require it. The people as usual had fled. I have strong reason to believe that this is due to the action of the leading ryots, who resent my visiting the village, and wish to hide from me that they are unable to provide for those who are dependent on them. I saw to the distribution of food again at the Alagiripet kitchen, and took over from Chinnapet 2 old women, an old man and 2 children whom I caught so as to show them how the kitchen was conducted. In the afternoon I met the Commissioner and Mr. Tremenhoe at the kitchen and after the inspection proceeded with them to Uttukottai.

saw them; they are infinitely worse now, one girl of 12 or 13 being almost a skeleton.* Several pariahs were given tickets of admission. While I was examining these people the village officers of Panapakam, to which village I was next going, came to me and assured me that there was no distress in their village and that they had just harvested a large extent of ragi and had a considerable

10. This morning I marched to this place about a mile south of Tirupurantakapuramkota.

11. I regret to say that the weekly returns from the Vellatukota kitchen are not yet to hand. The return from Panapakam shows the strength of the kitchen only. A special messenger has been sent to Vellatukota. The report received from Alagiri shows that the number of meals distributed in the eight days from Saturday 4th to

* It is strange that the Superintendent should send in a return against himself. The usual thing is that the attendance is exaggerated.

(Intld.) H. LeF.

Saturday 11th is 333. This is incorrect,* as is seen from the daily indent forms, which have been checked by me on the spot and found to be correctly prepared. The daily attendance at each meal has, I know, averaged about 65 to 70. Indents have been made for food for 537 persons, representing 1,074 meals. The total cost, including contingencies and exclusive of supervision charges amounts to Rs. 27-13-0 and taking the total attendance to be 537 this gives an average cost of 9.94 pies per head. The attendance at the Panapakam kitchen on the last day of the week was 3 men, 5 women and 48 children. The probable total for the 3 kitchens is between 200 or 215.

12. It is difficult to obtain cooks and watermen on the sanctioned rates † Rs. 3 and Rs. 2 per mensem. Caste people attend all kitchens though in small numbers, the castes that attend cannot cook for each other. Men of the potter caste have been employed, as all castes attending the kitchens will take food from

them. The men share the work indiscriminately, neither attending solely to the duties of cook or waterman. I think they might be allowed Rs. 4 each, or they will probably fail us without giving notice. Kitchen gumastahs are necessary. Rs. 8 rising to Rs. 10 by monthly increase of Re. 1, if good work is shown, will, I think, be sufficient. The proposed establishment will thus be for each kitchen:—

	RS.
1. Gumastah on Rs. 8 rising to Rs. 10 by monthly instalments of Re. 1, average	9
2. Cooks or watermen at Rs. 4 each	8
Total	17

13. I request to be informed under what Act power is given to me to dismiss all zemindari village officers save karnams. Munsifs I can of course dismiss as they are selected and appointed by Government. In paragraph 18 of G.O. of 19th December, No. 1026, Revenue, relating to the famine in Ganjam, it is stated that in order to bring zemindari village officers completely under the control of the Collector a proprietary Village Service Bill would be brought before the Legislative Council at an early date. I have not been informed of the passing of the Act, and I do not see how I can dismiss servants of the zemindar

appointed, as far as I know, by him for disobedience to or neglect of my orders, I can get them punished indirectly through the zemindari officials.

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14. Contractors have come forward in the kitchens opened up to date to supply the necessary grain and condiments. The rates vary slightly for second-sort rice from 10½ to 11 local measures per rupee. Prices are stationary.

15. The food given has been second-sort rice. The Commissioner has directed me to substitute a mixture of rice and ragi. This direction will be carried out. Since my last report the rations allowed have been changed to 20 oz. raw grain* to each adult and half that to children, with the amount of condiments prescribed in the Code in paragraph 188. The rations previously given were those prescribed in paragraph 186.

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