

Sagiler and overwhelmed the unready Executive Engineer. On my calling on the latter to explain the fall in numbers on the work, he replied it was owing to his having no sufficient staff to point out to the coolies their tasks, and to his being unable to pay them for want of paymasters.

4. With the Public Works Department staff I am not concerned, but the Tahsildar whom I long ago appointed Civil officer to this work informs me he got no sufficient notice of the opening of the work, and being then at the Jangamrazupalle kitchen, 60 miles off, took some time to get on the spot. I take this opportunity of pointing out that part of the Civil officer's duty is to classify coolies, "and draft them on to the work—vide section 116, Famine Code. This latter is a fine vague phrase, but I presume it means to make the coolies up into gangs. The Tahsildar says he assisted the Engineer by pointing out to the gangs their tasks, and he lent money and a paymaster to the Engineer; this money he had taken for well advances.

5. I have not yet received the Engineer's explanation on these points. Not knowing Telugu I presume, he must naturally be at a loss somewhat.

6. I regret to say that the want of a paymaster was entirely due to his own neglect. On 17th March last the Superintending Engineer directed application to me for a paymaster. Unfortunately he never sent me a copy of his order to that effect, and I remained in ignorance of it until a few days back, when Mr. Chatterjee, long after the works were open, thought fit to apply for two. I of course appointed them at once by telegram. In G.O., No. 152, dated 15th February 1892, it is ordered that the Public Works Department on such works shall make payments with their own staff, but if they are unable to do so they should apply to the Collector for assistance. Naturally as no application reached me I imagined they would pay themselves. I have not yet had any explanation of his neglect from Mr. Chatterjee, nor, I regret to say, have I been able to procure from him any report under section 134, Famine Code, even of the few selected particulars mentioned in that section, which I long ago requested him to send. Fortunately Mr. Todd, an experienced Engineer, is now on the work, and as the numbers are keeping pretty steady, it seems that the organization has got more perfect. The numbers in the Jangamrazupalle kitchen have fallen to 16 during the fortnight; the reason will be reported on receipt of the same; but 19 was the maximum, so the fall is slight. In Sidhout there was also a falling off in the forest work numbers. The Assistant Conservator of Forests went down to ascertain the reason; he found that it was partly because the people refused to do the task set out for them and struck work, and partly because the ranger had obtained a few days leave on the understanding that the reddi would supervise. The ranger has mismanaged the work and shown a decided want of firmness, and a Local Fund Overseer has been lent to supervise the same. The former never exacted the full 3rd-class task, but paid 3rd-class wages nevertheless, fearing, he said, the coolies would not come otherwise! Mr. McIntosh himself supervised for a few days. The usual number were present—500. He says the coolies loafed over the hill pretending to get stones for the wall, but there are plenty of stones in its immediate neighbourhood. "I turned off," he says, "several confirmed loafers and fined others, but this seemed to have little effect, so I finally determined on paying them half 3rd-class wage on those two days as the work was so poor." He then set them to work at the following rates—1st-class task = 36 cubic feet of wall for a man, and the minimum entitling to 3rd-class wage 18 cubic feet. He also marked out for each gang the space they had to build. It has been found that the ranger was not guilty of fraud, but only of want of firmness and of carelessness in over-payment. In spite of this over-payment, however, the work done for the money comes very little short of the famine labour estimate rate for a mile of wall, viz., Rs. 320. I have therefore ordered only the proper proportion to be recovered from the ranger. Three miles of wall have been built and those the most important, as they enclose that particular part of the reserve which impinge upon cultivated lands and the public road. His Excellency the Governor lately impressed on me the necessity of completing the fencing of any forest reserve once begun, and I propose to complete this one. The reddi there, however, told Mr. McIntosh the people all had grain stored, and merely came to the work to while away an idle hour and make a little by it. Now that they are properly tasked and

Gobt. of {1892} Madras.

REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 10th June 1892, No. 590.

JUNE.

Season, Cuddapah.

Board's Proceedings submitting fortnightly narrative of the Badvel and Sidhout taluks for the period ending 15th May 1892, recorded with remark.

Order:— No. 1819 Waf/18-6-92

Comm. to the

S. E. III Circle for
inquiry & report
with reference to
para 6 of the Colles'
encl.

(5/80.

S. E. III Circle.

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 16
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 25th 1991
 (3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 1000

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

PWD துறை

112

அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	1819	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் :	18-6-1892	1987

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

8 sheet

A-4

ஆவண. கா-1-18,000-15-6-87.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

1819/1
READ—the following fortnightly report for the fortnight ending 15th May 1892, Badvel and Sidhout Taluks, from the Deputy Collector, Sidhout, dated 17th May 1892, Disposal No. 886 :—

STATE OF COUNTRY.—*Crops—Badvel taluk.*—Crops under a few wells revived a little in some places where there was rain.

Sidhout taluk.—Crops under wells are moderately fair.

Fodder—Badvel taluk.—Even the hill grass is becoming very scarce; ragi straw and cholam straw are available to a small extent in a few places.

Sidhout taluk.—Except in some places where ragi was recently harvested fodder is becoming scarce.

Water-supply—Badvel taluk.—No water in tanks and channels. Wells also have scanty supply. The three drinking-water wells newly sunk in Badvel are largely used by people. The water in the two wells in which silt was cleared at Porumamilla is going down. There was slight rain in almost all the villages in the taluk. It measured 0.1 inch in Badvel town. In some villages it was about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch.

Sidhout taluk.—No water in tanks. In several places wells are dry.

Agricultural operations—Badvel taluk.—Preparation of dry lands for sowing in some places.

Sidhout taluk.—Watering korra, gingelly and cholam under wells and harvesting turmeric and gingelly in some places.

Cattle—Badvel taluk.—Becoming weak for want of fodder.

Sidhout taluk.—Suffering from want of fodder and water in some places.

General remarks on the above subject—Badvel taluk.—There were thunder and lightning and clouds almost every day in the fortnight. On some days we had heavy dust storm which dispersed the clouds. It looked as if there would be a heavy downpour. On the morning of the 9th there was a good fresh in the Sagiler near Kalasapad. The river still maintains a small fresh. This is a blessing to the people of this village as they depend mainly on this stream for water-supply. The Badvel large tank received three or four days' supply, but it was all absorbed soon. The two cows which the Tahsildar had trained to eat prickly-pear were made over to the Stock Inspector in the fortnight. When I saw them three days ago, they appeared as if they were reduced a little. I at once drew the attention of the Stock Inspector and warned his servant to take greater care of the animals. The Tahsildar sold 18 out of the 100 sets of the tools for the removal of thorns from the pear leaf which had been supplied to him.

Sidhout taluk.—Nil.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.—*On works—Badvel taluk.*—Good.

Sidhout taluk.—Good.

Mortality—Badvel taluk.—None except natural deaths.

Sidhout taluk.—None except natural deaths.

Sickness—Badvel taluk.—No diseases except fever.

Sidhout taluk.—Fever prevails in some places and small-pox in one village; seven attacks and three deaths from small-pox.

Remarks—Badvel taluk.—The officer in charge of the Sagiler works reports that there are 966 non-working and 184 infirm people (too old to work) belonging to the laborers. All of them may not be fit subjects for a kitchen, but I have seen a good number who, in my opinion, require gratuitous relief.

Sidhout taluk.—None.

RELIEF MEASURES—Relief works—Badvel taluk.—There were 4,511 coolies on the Sagiler works and 12 on well sinking in Badvel town on the 14th.

Sidhout taluk.—There were 556 coolies on the Konarazupalli reserve fencing work and 167 on well repairs and prickly-pear clearance on the 13th.

POOR HOUSES—In what places opened and the number at each—Badvel taluk.—The number of inmates in the Jangamrazupalli kitchen was 16 on the 14th instant against 17 on the 30th ultimo. Explanation has been called for for the decrease.

Sidhout taluk.—Nil.

Village relief—Badvel taluk.—The Gosha Muhammadan women of the Badvel town who are being relieved out of the Maharaja Holkar's donation continue to receive payment.

Sidhout taluk.—Nil.

Number of cases of death for want of food, &c.—Badvel taluk.—None.

Sidhout taluk.—None.

Remarks—Badvel taluk.—The road works near Badvel were closed on the 10th under the orders of the Collector contained in his telegram of the 5th. There were at the time 2,135 coolies there, of whom over 400 joined the Sagiler works on the 14th. I saw some more going there on the 15th. I do not think that all those on the road works will go to the Sagiler works, at any rate, for the present. Now that the establishment has been well strengthened, the Sagiler works have got into some working order. All the Public Works Department officers there are trying their best to complete payment of wages which had not been paid for a number of days. At the request of the District Executive Engineer, who is now on the spot, I have appointed a paymaster in anticipation of the Collector's sanction and am looking out for another. A large number of people (over 2,000) are, I learn, employed on work connected with loan wells.

Sidhout taluk.—The work on the Konarazupalle reserve fencing was stopped for a few days in the fortnight owing, the Tahsildar reports, to the absence of the Forest Ranger on leave. It has been widely made known to the laboring classes in the taluk that work would be provided for them on the Sagiler project, but I do not think that they would go there now. They may do so if the early rains fail.

GRAIN-SUPPLY.—Private trade active or not, whether in rice or dry staple food-grain Badvel taluk.—Pretty active in rice, ragi and cholam.

Sidhout taluk.—Not very active.

State the imports by rail and sea of rice or other staple food-grains.—Badvel taluk.—Nil by sea. Very little by rail. Much rice and ragi come from Cuddapah, Cumbum, Proddatur, Nellore and other parts.

Sidhout taluk.—No imports either by sea or rail.

Known or estimated stock in taluks—Badvel taluk.—There is not much stock with the merchants.

Sidhout taluk.—The Tahsildar's estimate is 4,500 putties of 400 measures of 132 tolas weight.

State of market—Prices—Chief market:—

Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.	Cumb.	Rising at	Falling at	Stationary at
7-42	14-02	16-26	14-02	Badvel	Badvel	
7	13-25	16-30	13-25	Sidhout	Sidhout	
				Sidhout	Sidhout	

Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.—A statement in the form prescribed in Board's Proceedings, No. 3624, Mis., dated the 14th April 1892, is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE.

Taluk.	Purpose of loan.	Applications accepted up to the fortnight.		Loans disbursed up to the fortnight.		Applications pending at the end of the period.		Wells.	
		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed.	Under construction.
Badvel	For the construction and repair of wells.	168	Rs. 34,212	168	Rs. 25,844½	57	Rs. 16,088	6	152
Sidhout		79	14,330	79	8,842	18	3,020	2	77
	Total	247	48,542	247	34,686½	75	19,108	8	229
<i>Agriculturists' Loans Act.</i>									
Badvel	Purchase of fodder.								
Sidhout		2	100	2	100	1	40		
	Total	2	100	2	100	1	40		
Badvel	Cattle and seed-grain.	1	200	1	200				
Sidhout		4	380	4	380				
	Total	5	580	5	580				

Endorsement by F. D'A. O. WOLFE-MURRAY, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Horsleykonda, 20th May 1892, No. 86-Extra.

Forwarded. The rain, light as it was during the fortnight, has helped the crops under wells. Fodder is, however, becoming scanty in many parts, nor is pasture available. Agricultural operations are recommencing in Badvel, and the Sagiler has had a good fresh. This shows the advantage of the new channel; if completed this fresh would have put a lot of water in the great Porumamilla tank.

2. Eighteen persons are reported to have adopted the experiment of prickly-pear feeding to their cattle. This is a small beginning no doubt, but it is something.

The numbers on the Sagiler works vary round 4,000 as reported to me direct daily. The Divisional officer says "it is reported there are 966 non-working and 184 infirm people (too old to work) belonging to the labourers, &c.," and he thinks some of these require gratuitous relief. I do not quite understand how there came to be such an enormous proportion of non-workers and will call for explanation. As to the opening of a relief kitchen, Mr. Todd expressed half an opinion in favour of the same after he had been a couple of days on the spot, and promised to give me a full opinion after he had had more experience of the works. No doubt many of the non-workers are children, and there are not enough men and women to help to make up regular gangs to include these children. I imagine, however, the Engineer can arrange to draft a double number of children to each gang or even more and alter the task accordingly. This plan is better for many reasons than wholesale gratuitous relief. It may also be borne in mind that from 800 to 1,000 of the laborers are earning 1st and 2nd class wages, and can therefore better afford to support their "incumbrances."

3. There was considerable confusion at the opening of these works and afterwards. The Tahsildar having closed the Porumamilla road works, the coolies swarmed on to Sagiler and overwhelmed the unready Executive Engineer. On my calling on the latter to explain the fall in numbers on the work, he replied it was owing to his having no sufficient staff to point out to the coolies their tasks, and to his being unable to pay them for want of paymasters.

4. With the Public Works Department staff I am not concerned, but the Tahsildar whom I long ago appointed Civil officer to this work informs me he got no sufficient notice of the opening of the work, and being then at the Jangamrazupalle kitchen, 60 miles off, took some time to get on the spot. I take this opportunity of pointing out that part of the Civil officer's duty is to classify coolies, "and draft them on to the work—vide section 116, Famine Code. This latter is a fine vague phrase, but I presume it means to make the coolies up into gangs. The Tahsildar says he assisted the Engineer by pointing out to the gangs their tasks, and he lent money and a paymaster to the Engineer; this money he had taken for well advances.

5. I have not yet received the Engineer's explanation on these points. Not knowing Telugu I presume, he must naturally be at a loss somewhat.

6. I regret to say that the want of a paymaster was entirely due to his own neglect. On 17th March last the Superintending Engineer directed application to me for a paymaster. Unfortunately he never sent me a copy of his order to that effect, and I remained in ignorance of it until a few days back, when Mr. Chatterjee, long after the works were open, thought fit to apply for two. I of course appointed them at once by telegram. In G.O., No. 152, dated 15th February 1892, it is ordered that the Public Works Department on such works shall make payments with their own staff, but if they are unable to do so they should apply to the Collector for assistance. Naturally as no application reached me I imagined they would pay themselves. I have not yet had any explanation of his neglect from Mr. Chatterjee, nor, I regret to say, have I been able to procure from him any report under section 134, Famine Code, even of the few selected particulars mentioned in that section, which I long ago requested him to send. Fortunately Mr. Todd, an experienced Engineer, is now on the work, and as the numbers are keeping pretty steady, it seems that the organization has got more perfect. The numbers in the Jangamrazupalle kitchen have fallen to 16 during the fortnight; the reason will be reported on receipt of the same; but 19 was the maximum, so the fall is slight. In Sidhout there was also a falling off in the forest work numbers. The Assistant Conservator of Forests went down to ascertain the reason; he found that it was partly because the people refused to do the task set out for them and struck work, and partly because the ranger had obtained a few days leave on the understanding that the reddy would supervise. The ranger has mismanaged the work and shown a decided want of firmness, and a Local Fund Overseer has been lent to supervise the same. The former never exacted the full 3rd-class task, but paid 3rd-class wages nevertheless, fearing, he said, the coolies would not come otherwise! Mr. McIntosh himself supervised for a few days. The usual number were present—500. He says the coolies loafed over the hill pretending to get stones for the wall, but there are plenty of stones in its immediate neighbourhood. "I turned off," he says, "several confirmed loafers and fined others, but this seemed to have little effect, so I finally determined on paying them half 3rd-class wage on those two days as the work was so poor." He then set them to work at the following rates—1st-class task = 36 cubic feet of wall for a man, and the minimum entitling to 3rd-class wage 18 cubic feet. He also marked out for each gang the space they had to build. It has been found that the ranger was not guilty of fraud, but only of want of firmness and of carelessness in over-payment. In spite of this over-payment, however, the work done for the money comes very little short of the famine labour estimate rate for a mile of wall, viz., Rs. 320. I have therefore ordered only the proper proportion to be recovered from the ranger. Three miles of wall have been built and those the most important, as they enclose that particular part of the reserve which impinge upon cultivated lands and the public road. His Excellency the Governor lately impressed on me the necessity of completing the fencing of any forest reserve once begun, and I propose to complete this one. The reddy there, however, told Mr. McIntosh the people all had grain stored, and merely came to the work to while away an idle hour and make a little by it. Now that they are properly tasked and supervised, I apprehend the numbers will fall for a time. Meantime as this is the very centre of the most affected part of Sidhout, it seems unnecessary to open any other work. Certainly there was a great outcry there in December last, as there was in the

Sub-division; but I now think the sudden rise of prices was a far more potent cause for the people sounding the alarm than the actual fact that they were wholly or nearly destitute of means of livelihood.

RESOLUTION—dated 25th May 1892, No. 389.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. There was some rain in parts of Badvel during the fortnight, and the heavier rain which fell in the adjoining parts of Cumbum brought down a slight freshet in the Sagiler which was of much service to the villages on its banks. Otherwise there was no change in the condition of the two taluks. Fodder is getting scarcer, though there is a little straw—the produce of crops raised under wells—available for the more valuable cattle.

3. Prices have become easier both at Badvel and Sidhout and trade to Badvel is reported to be active. The people are reported to be in good condition and there is no sickness amongst them except "fever" and small-pox in one village.

4. The number of persons resorting to the relief works shows but little change. On the Sagiler project works, the numbers are now about 4,000, of whom about one-fourth are earning 1st and 2nd class wages, and it is stated that 966 non-working and 184 infirm people are on the works in addition, and regarding the necessity for affording gratuitous relief to these or any of them, the information is incomplete. The Collector will be requested to report fully on this point.

The Commissioner is glad to learn that the idea that any fraud had been committed on the forest fencing work in Sidhout, has been dispelled and trusts that now that a task has been definitely prescribed, no further difficulties will arise in conducting the work.

The information given as to loan operations by the Deputy Collector is still at variance with that given by the Collector in his weekly reports. According to the latter the following progress was made during the fortnight:—

Land Improvement Loans.	Granted.		Disbursed.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
For construction and repair of wells—		Rs.		Rs.
Badvel	20	2,450	20	3,300
Sidhout	10	630	10	1,278

The large number (57) of applications pending disposal in Badvel should receive early attention.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Cuddapah.

Exd. W. J. Lewis

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1892.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed May 31st

Proceedings, 25th May 1892, No. 389.

51/6/92

Submitting to Government, with remarks, fortnightly narrative of the Badvel and Sidhout taluks for the period ending 15th May 1892.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

attached Read—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Department of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 25 May 1892 No. 389.

Subject:—

1879/4

Order thereon, 10 June 1892, No. 596

RECORDED.

2. The Collector's remarks in para 6 of his endorsement in regard to the special Executive Engineer in charge of the sagile works will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

Placencia
Sg. Secy Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture.

Public Works Dept.

ah.

Govt. of Madras.
REVENUE.

To

The Public Works Dept.
No. 5 - 1892

Dated

Recd. 13. VI. 92

Encl.

His. G.O., 10 June 1891, No. 590

SUBJECT.

Recording with remark at P.
submitting to Govt., with remarks,
fortnightly narrative of the
Badvel & Sidhout Tps. for
the period ending 15 May 1892.

No. 1819 Wd 18 June 1892
Comms. to
the S. E. Circle
for inquiry & report
with reference to
para 6 of the
Collector's endorsement.

L
126

Sub
1866

S. E. M. Clarke.

S. E. M. Clarke.

700/6 1892

10TH JUNE 1892, No. 590, REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land
Records and Agriculture), dated 25th May 1892, No. 389:—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following fortnightly report for the fortnight ending 15th May 1892,
Badvel and Sidhout Taluks, from the Deputy Collector, Sidhout, dated 17th
May 1892, Disposal No. 886:—

STATE OF COUNTRY—Crops—Badvel taluk.—Crops under a few wells revived a
little in some places where there was rain.

Sidhout taluk.—Crops under wells are moderately fair.

Fodder—Badvel taluk.—Even the hill grass is becoming very scarce; ragi straw
and cholam straw are available to a small extent in a few places.

Sidhout taluk.—Except in some places where ragi was recently harvested
fodder is becoming scarce.

Water-supply—Badvel taluk.—No water in tanks and channels. Wells also have
scanty supply. The three drinking-water wells newly sunk in Badvel are largely
used by people. The water in the two wells in which silt was cleared at Porumamilla
is going down. There was slight rain in almost all the villages in the taluk. It
measured 0.1 inch in Badvel town. In some villages it was about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch.

Sidhout taluk.—No water in tanks. In several places wells are dry.

Agricultural operations—Badvel taluk.—Preparation of dry lands for sowing in
some places.

Sidhout taluk.—Watering korra, gingelly and cholam under wells and
harvesting turmeric and gingelly in some places.

Cattle—Badvel taluk.—Becoming weak for want of fodder.

Sidhout taluk.—Suffering from want of fodder and water in some places.

General remarks on the above subject—Badvel taluk.—There were thunder and
lightning and clouds almost every day in the fortnight. On some days we had heavy
dust storm which dispersed the clouds. It looked as if there would be a heavy
downpour. On the morning of the 9th there was a good fresh in the Sagilér near
Kalasapad. The river still maintains a small fresh. This is a blessing to the people
of this village as they depend mainly on this stream for water-supply. The Badvel
large tank received three or four days' supply, but it was all absorbed soon. The
two cows which the Tahsildar had trained to eat prickly-pear were made over to the
Stock Inspector in the fortnight. When I saw them three days ago, they appeared
as if they were reduced a little. I at once drew the attention of the Stock
Inspector and warned his servant to take greater care of the animals. The Tahsildar
sold 18 out of the 100 sets of the tools for the removal of thorns from the pear leaf
which had been supplied to him.

Sidhout taluk.—Nil.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE—On works—Badvel taluk.—Good.

Sidhout taluk.—Good.

Mortality—Badvel taluk.—None except natural deaths.

Sidhout taluk.—None except natural deaths.

Sickness—Badvel taluk.—No diseases except fever.

Sidhout taluk.—Fever prevails in some places and small-pox in one village;
seven attacks and three deaths from small-pox.

Remarks—Badvel taluk.—The officer in charge of the Sagiler works reports that there are 966 non-working and 184 infirm people (too old to work) belonging to the laborers. All of them may not be fit subjects for a kitchen, but I have seen a good number who, in my opinion, require gratuitous relief.

Sidhout taluk.—None.

RELIEF MEASURES—Relief works—Badvel taluk.—There were 4,511 coolies on the Sagiler works and 12 on well sinking in Badvel town on the 14th.

Sidhout taluk.—There were 556 coolies on the Konarazupalli reserve fencing work and 167 on well repairs and prickly-pear clearance on the 13th.

POOR HOUSES—In what places opened and the number at each—Badvel taluk.—The number of inmates in the Jangamrazupalli kitchen was 16 on the 14th instant against 17 on the 30th ultimo. Explanation has been called for for the decrease.

Sidhout taluk.—Nil.

Village relief—Badvel taluk.—The Gosha Muhammadan women of the Badvel town who are being relieved out of the Maharaja Holkar's donation continue to receive payment.

Sidhout taluk.—Nil.

Number of cases of death for want of food, &c.—Badvel taluk.—None.

Sidhout taluk.—None.

Remarks—Badvel taluk.—The road works near Badvel were closed on the 10th under the orders of the Collector contained in his telegram of the 5th. There were at the time 2,135 coolies there, of whom over 400 joined the Sagiler works on the 14th. I saw some more going there on the 15th. I do not think that all those on the road works will go to the Sagiler works, at any rate, for the present. Now that the establishment has been well strengthened, the Sagiler works have got into some working order. All the Public Works Department officers there are trying their best to complete payment of wages which had not been paid for a number of days. At the request of the District Executive Engineer, who is now on the spot, I have appointed a paymaster in anticipation of the Collector's sanction and am looking out for another. A large number of people (over 2,000) are, I learn, employed on work connected with loan wells.

Sidhout taluk.—The work on the Konarazupalle reserve fencing was stopped for a few days in the fortnight owing, the Tahsildar reports, to the absence of the Forest Ranger on leave. It has been widely made known to the laboring classes in the taluk that work would be provided for them on the Sagiler project, but I do not think that they would go there now. They may do so if the early rains fail.

GRAIN-SUPPLY.—Private trade active or not, whether in rice or dry staple food-grain Badvel taluk.—Pretty active in rice, ragi and cholam.

Sidhout taluk.—Not very active.

State the imports by rail and sea of rice or other staple food-grains.—Badvel taluk.—Nil by sea. Very little by rail. Much rice and ragi come from Cuddapah, Cambum, Proddatur, Nellore and other parts.

Sidhout taluk.—No imports either by sea or rail.

Known or estimated stock in taluks—Badvel taluk.—There is not much stock with the merchants.

Sidhout taluk.—The Tahsildar's estimate is 4,500 putties of 400 measures of 132 tolas weight.

State of market—Prices—Chief market:—

Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.	Cambu.	Rising at	Falling at	Stationary at
7-42	14-02	15-26	14-02	..	Badvel	Badvel
7	13-25	..	13-25	Sidhout	..	..
..	..	16-50	..	..	Sidhout	Sidhout

Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.—A statement in the form prescribed in Board's Proceedings, No. 3624, Mis., dated the 14th April 1892, is enclosed.

ENCLOSURE.

Taluka.	Purpose of loan.	Applications accepted up to the fortnight.		Loans disbursed up to the fortnight.		Applications pending at the end of the period.		Wells.	
		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed.	Under construction.
Badvel	For the construction and repair of wells.	168	Rs. 24,212	168	Rs. 25,844½	57	Rs. 16,088	6	162
Sidhout	..	79	14,330	79	8,843	18	3,620	2	77
	Total ..	247	48,542	247	34,687½	75	19,708	8	229
<i>Agriculturists' Loans Act.</i>									
Badvel	Purchase of fodder.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sidhout	..	2	100	2	100	1	40	..	..
	Total ..	2	100	2	100	1	40	..	..
Badvel	Cattle and seed-grain.	1	200	1	200	..	..	..	..
Sidhout	..	4	380	4	380	..	..	..	..
	Total ..	5	580	5	580	..	..	..	..

Endorsement by F. D'A. O. WOLFE-MURRAY, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Horsleykonda, 20th May 1892, No. 86-Extra.

Forwarded. The rain, light as it was during the fortnight, has helped the crops under wells. Fodder is, however, becoming scanty in many parts, nor is pasture available. Agricultural operations are recommencing in Badvel, and the Sagiler has had a good fresh. This shows the advantage of the new channel; if completed this fresh would have put a lot of water in the great Porumamilla tank.

2. Eighteen persons are reported to have adopted the experiment of prickly-pear feeding to their cattle. This is a small beginning no doubt, but it is something.

The numbers on the Sagiler works vary round 4,000 as reported to me direct daily. The Divisional officer says "it is reported there are 966 non-working and 184 infirm people (too old to work) belonging to the labourers, &c.," and he thinks some of these require gratuitous relief. I do not quite understand how there came to be such an enormous proportion of non-workers and will call for explanation. As to the opening of a relief kitchen, Mr. Todd expressed half an opinion in favour of the same after he had been a couple of days on the spot, and promised to give me a full opinion after he had had more experience of the works. No doubt many of the non-workers are children, and there are not enough men and women to help to make up regular gangs to include these children. I imagine, however, the Engineer can arrange to draft a double number of children to each gang or even more and alter the task accordingly. This plan is better for many reasons than wholesale gratuitous relief. It may also be borne in mind that from 800 to 1,000 of the laborers are earning 1st and 2nd class wages, and can therefore better afford to support their "incumbrances."

3. There was considerable confusion at the opening of these works and afterwards. The Tahsildar having closed the Porumamilla road works, the coolies swarmed on to

Sagilér and overwhelmed the unready Executive Engineer. On my calling on the latter to explain the fall in numbers on the work, he replied it was owing to his having no sufficient staff to point out to the coolies their tasks, and to his being unable to pay them for want of paymasters.

4. With the Public Works Department staff I am not concerned, but the Tahsildar whom I long ago appointed Civil officer to this work informs me he got no sufficient notice of the opening of the work, and being then at the Jangamrazupalle kitchen, 60 miles off, took some time to get on the spot. I take this opportunity of pointing out that part of the Civil officer's duty is to classify coolies, "and draft them on to the work—vide section 116, Famine Code. This latter is a fine vague phrase, but I presume it means to make the coolies up into gangs. The Tahsildar says he assisted the Engineer by pointing out to the gangs their tasks, and he lent money and a paymaster to the Engineer; this money he had taken for well advances.

5. I have not yet received the Engineer's explanation on these points. Not knowing Telugu I presume, he must naturally be at a loss somewhat.

6. I regret to say that the want of a paymaster was entirely due to his own neglect. On 17th March last the Superintending Engineer directed application to me for a paymaster. Unfortunately he never sent me a copy of his order to that effect, and I remained in ignorance of it until a few days back, when Mr. Chatterjee, long after the works were open, thought fit to apply for two. I of course appointed them at once by telegram. In G.O., No. 152, dated 15th February 1892, it is ordered that the Public Works Department on such works shall make payments with their own staff, but if they are unable to do so they should apply to the Collector for assistance. Naturally as no application reached me I imagined they would pay themselves. I have not yet had any explanation of his neglect from Mr. Chatterjee, nor, I regret to say, have I been able to procure from him any report under section 134, Famine Code, even of the few selected particulars mentioned in that section, which I long ago requested him to send. Fortunately Mr. Todd, an experienced Engineer, is now on the work, and as the numbers are keeping pretty steady, it seems that the organization has got more perfect. The numbers in the Jangamrazupalle kitchen have fallen to 16 during the fortnight; the reason will be reported on receipt of the same; but 19 was the maximum, so the fall is slight. In Sidhout there was also a falling off in the forest work numbers. The Assistant Conservator of Forests went down to ascertain the reason; he found that it was partly because the people refused to do the task set out for them and struck work, and partly because the ranger had obtained a few days leave on the understanding that the reddy would supervise. The ranger has mismanaged the work and shown a decided want of firmness, and a Local Fund Overseer has been lent to supervise the same. The former never exacted the full 3rd-class task, but paid 3rd-class wages nevertheless, fearing, he said, the coolies would not come otherwise! Mr. McIntosh himself supervised for a few days. The usual number were present—500. He says the coolies loafed over the hill pretending to get stones for the wall, but there are plenty of stones in its immediate neighbourhood. "I turned off," he says, "several confirmed loafers and fined others, but this seemed to have little effect, so I finally determined on paying them half 3rd-class wage on those two days as the work was so poor." He then set them to work at the following rates—1st-class task = 36 cubic feet of wall for a man, and the minimum entitling to 3rd-class wage 18 cubic feet. He also marked out for each gang the space they had to build. It has been found that the ranger was not guilty of fraud, but only of want of firmness and of carelessness in over-payment. In spite of this over-payment, however, the work done for the money comes very little short of the famine labour estimate rate for a mile of wall, viz., Rs. 320. I have therefore ordered only the proper proportion to be recovered from the ranger. Three miles of wall have been built and those the most important, as they enclose that particular part of the reserve, which impinge upon cultivated lands and the public road. His Excellency the Governor lately impressed on me the necessity of completing the fencing of any forest reserve once begun, and I propose to complete this one. The reddy there, however, told Mr. McIntosh the people all had grain stored, and merely came to the work to while away an idle hour and make a little by it. Now that they are properly tasked and

supervised, I apprehend the numbers will fall for a time. Meantime as this is the very centre of the most affected part of Sidhout, it seems unnecessary to open any other work. Certainly there was a great outcry there in December last, as there was in the Sub-division; but I now think the sudden rise of prices was a far more potent cause for the people sounding the alarm than the actual fact that they were wholly or nearly destitute of means of livelihood.

Resolution—dated 25th May 1892, No. 389.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. There was some rain in parts of Badvel during the fortnight, and the heavier rain which fell in the adjoining parts of Cumbum brought down a slight freshet in the Sagilér which was of much service to the villages on its banks. Otherwise there was no change in the condition of the two taluks. Fodder is getting scarcer, though there is a little straw—the produce of crops raised under wells—available for the more valuable cattle.

3. Prices have become easier both at Badvel and Sidhout and trade to Badvel is reported to be active. The people are reported to be in good condition and there is no sickness amongst them except "fever" and small-pox in one village.

4. The number of persons resorting to the relief works shows but little change. On the Sagilér project works, the numbers* are now about 4,000, of whom about one-fourth are earning 1st and 2nd class wages, and it is stated that 966 non-working and 184 infirm people are on the works in addition, and regarding the necessity for affording gratuitous relief to these or any of them, the information is incomplete. The Collector will be requested to report fully on this point.

The Commissioner is glad to learn that the idea that any fraud had been committed on the forest fencing work in Sidhout, has been dispelled and trusts that now that a task has been definitely prescribed, no further difficulties will arise in conducting the work.

The information given as to loan operations by the Deputy Collector is still at variance with that given by the Collector in his weekly reports. According to the latter the following progress was made during the fortnight:—

Land Improvement Loans.	Granted.		Disbursed.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
For construction and repair of wells—		Rs.		Rs.
Badvel	20	2,450	20	3,390
Sidhout	10	530	10	1,278

The large number (57) of applications pending disposal in Badvel should receive early attention.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Cuddapah.

ORDER—dated 10th June 1892, No. 590, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Collector's remarks in paragraph 6 of his endorsement in regard to the Special Executive Engineer in charge of the Sagilér works will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. C. M. Brisson.

70 Copies.

1819
8

Gobt. of {1892} Madras.
REVENUE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 10th June 1892, No. 590.

JUNE.

Season, Cuddapah.

Board's Proceedings submitting fortnightly narrative of the Badvel and Sidhout taluks for the period ending 15th May 1892, recorded with remark.

Order: No. 1819 Wa/18-6-92

Copied to the
S.E. III Circle for
inquiry & report
with reference to
para 6 of the Col's
order

(S/JP)

(8)

S.E. III Circle