(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 20

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 9.90.

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

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அச்சகம்
பலவகை

நாள் : 13-2-1892 198

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 18th January 1892, No. 39 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from A. W. B. HIGGENS, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Nandavaram, 10th January 1892, No. 8-Tour :—

I have the honour to submit the following report on the state of season in this district for December 1891.

2. DARSI DIVISION—*Rainfall.*—There was no rain during the month except a fall varying from 2 to 8½ ounces in Darsi and in 7 or 8 adjacent villages on the 22nd and 23rd. *Water-supply*—Generally insufficient. *Agricultural operations.*—No sowings in the month. The rain above was slightly beneficial to the standing crops, but the bulk of them had already withered or were dying away. Speaking generally, the December rains in the northern and western parts of the district were very scanty and the dry crops on dry lands in Addanki, Podili and Darsi divisions have mostly failed. The oil-seed crop in Podili was blighted by insects. *Condition of people.*—Good generally. Fever and small-pox were prevalent slightly. *Cattle and fodder.*—Both pasture and fodder were scarce, the latter being very difficult to procure; withered crops were, however, to some extent, supplying the place of fodder. *State of market and prices.*—The merchants obtained supplies from the Kistna and Godávari districts by canal and railway, but they withheld their stocks in view to future profit. Prices were as per the table below. All grains rose in the second week of the month and thereafter remained stationary. Rice was dearer and the dry grains cheaper than the scarcity rates :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	10·34	19·91	21·25	16·40
5th December ,, ...	10·34	19·91	21·25	16·40
12th ,, ,, ...	9·40	16·29	17·00	14·76
19th ,, ,, ...	9·40	16·29	17·00	14·76
26th ,, ,, ...	9·40	16·29	17·00	14·76
District normal rate	15 98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ...	9·50	12·50	14 00	12·00
Division rate in 1877	6·75	8·00	9·00	8·00

Works.—The ordinary Local Fund road works, viz., the Addanki-Darsi and Darsi-Kurchedu road works, supplied work to some extent. As the Board is aware, I have already asked for a special grant in aid of Local funds. From the available balance of the Taluk Board, the Sub-Collector recently allotted Rs. 750 for water-supply and sanitation works. The Rajah of Venkatagiri has also stated that he is beginning repairs to many irrigation works.

3. PODILI DIVISION—*Rainfall*—Only one village, Pedarikatta, received a quarter of an inch; otherwise there was no rain. *Water-supply*.—Almost *nil* for irrigation and very insufficient for drinking. *Agricultural operations*.—Ragi being sown. Standing dry crops, cholum, arika and korra, have withered away. *Condition of people*.—Generally good except for prevalence of dysentery slightly in some villages. Gratuitous relief was begun on a small scale by the Deputy Tahsildar under mistake of the orders issued, but was subsequently discontinued. *Cattle and fodder*.—Same remarks as for Darsi. *State of market and prices*.—Prices were dearer here than in Darsi division. Rice rose above the scarcity rate after the 2nd week of the month and then continued stationary. The dry grains rose gradually and became very dear at end of the month, though still a little below the scarcity rate—*vide* statement below. The merchants obtained supplies from the northern districts, but were most unwilling to sell:—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	9·87	18·10	20·40	16·40
5th December ,, ...	9·87	18·10	20·40	16·40
12th ,, ,, ...	9·40	16·29	18·70	14·76
19th ,, ,, ...	9·40	16·29	17·00	14·76
26th ,, ,, ...	9·40	14·48	15·30	13·12
District normal rate	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ...	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Division rate in 1877	7·00	8·75	8·75	8·75

Works.—The special works in progress in this taluk were—

	Rs.
(1) Repairs to Podili big and small tanks	3,497
(2) Local Fund water-supply and sanitation works, &c.	3,500

The first work was started by the Rajah of Venkatagiri who appears to have further issued orders to his Peshkar to have estimates got ready for as many irrigation works as possible.

4. KANIGIRI TALUK—*Rainfall*.—No rain in the month under report. *Water-supply*.—Insufficient in some villages for drinking and almost *nil* for irrigation throughout the taluk. *Agricultural operations*.—Dull owing to want of rain, and dry crops reported to be not thriving in consequence. Some cholum was harvested during the month, outturn being 4 to 8 annas. The following abstract compares the sowings in December 1891, and from 1st April to 31st December 1891, with the average sowings of the corresponding periods of the previous three years. The extents sown in the month and up to the end of month (say about the 20th) were about 54 and 94 per cent. of the average. The proportion of dry cultivation to wet in the current year will be seen from columns 2 and 3. Even in average years the area of wet cultivation in this taluk is small. The decrease in cultivation in the current year was mostly under the head "dry" and was due to want of rain:—

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
In December	6,156	60	6,216	11,313	177	11,490
From 1st April to 31st December ..	76,211	571	76,782	81,311	732	82,043

Condition of people.—Good except for an outbreak of small-pox in Kanigiri town and in Sankavaram. *Cattle and fodder*.—Both fodder and pasture insufficient. *State of market and prices*.—Though supplies are believed to have been sufficient, grain was

not freely sold by the merchants. Prices ranged high and became dearer than in the previous month. Rice was throughout the month above the scarcity rates and was quoted at the end at 8½ seers per rupee. Cumbu was very dear at end of month, owing probably to insufficient stock.

Week ending	Second-sort rice	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	9·40	21·72	20·40	18·15
5th December ,, ...	9·40	21·72	20·40	18·15
12th ,, ,, ...	8·46	19·91	17·85	14·85
19th ,, ,, ...	8·46	19·91	17·85	13·20
26th ,, ,, ...	8·46	18·10	17·00	13·20
District normal rate	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ...	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877	6·25	8·01	9·00	8·18

Works.—The repairs to Kanigiri tank were started during the month at a cost of Rs. 800. The Sub-Collector has also begun sanitation and water-supply works costing Rs. 1,000 from Local funds.

5. UDAYAGIRI TALUK—*Rainfall*.—This is the 3rd successive year of insufficient rains in this taluk. During the month of December, there was rain as noted below on the 19th and 20th to 23rd in 19 villages, the fall varying from 3 inches to 2·3 inches:—

2·3 inches in one village.
1 inch and over in 6 villages.
½ inch and over in 9 villages.
Less than ½ inch in 3 villages.

The rain was, however, inadequate and the crops as will be seen below have mostly withered or are withering away. *Water-supply*.—Very deficient in parts for drinking and everywhere for irrigation. The tanks were dry and the wells drying up. *Agricultural operations*.—Ragi was being sown after the fall of rain. The standing crops were aruga, oil-seeds, cotton, horse-gram, jonna, indigo and ragi. The aruga crop entirely withered away for want of rain, except in a few villages where it revived with the aid of the rain. The other crops were reported to be withering for want of more rain to mature them, except in the extreme south of the taluk where they are in moderate condition. Most of the tank ayacuts were sown with dry crops, but even these were not thriving. The same is said to be to some extent the case with ragi sown under wells which have dried up. The following table compares the sowings in December 1891 and from 1st April to 31st December 1891 with the averages of the corresponding periods of the past three years. The extent sown in the month and up to the month, say, to 20th December 1891, were about 141 and 113 per cent., respectively, of the corresponding averages. A large extent, mostly dry, was sown over in the month. The proportion of dry cultivation to wet up to end of December in the current year is a little below the average of the three previous years, actuals being 30·2 to 1 against an average of 31·5 to 1.

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
In December	23,823	842	24,665	17,420	147	17,567
From 1st April to 31st December ..	59,677	1,945	61,622	52,854	1,676	54,530

Condition of people.—Generally good for the present. Public health generally good. *Cattle and fodder*.—Both fodder and pasture very scarce. The cattle are reported to be very much emaciated for want of fodder. The grass in the kanchas is said to have dried up for want of rain and hill grass to be drying. *State of market and*

prices.—There were imports of paddy from Nellore and Kávali taluks, but the merchants have been refusing to sell. It is to be hoped that competition will soon rectify this state of things. During the month the prices were very high as will be seen from the table below. Rice was not sold. The dry grains remained stationary till of the end 3rd week and thereafter suddenly by 6 seers per rupee :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	..	..	23·37	20·50
5th December ,, ...	..	20·81	23·37	20·50
12th ,, ,, ...	..	20·81	23·37	20·50
19th ,, ,, ...	..	..	17·00	14·76
26th ,, ,, ...	..	15·38	17·00	14 76
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27 81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..	6·00	14·00	..	10·00

Works.—During the month, three minor irrigation works, costing together Rs. 1,625 were in progress, and about the end of it five more works, costing together Rs. 3,400, were started with the Board's approval. About 200 coolies were employed on the first three works, being paid at about 2 annas per head per day. The demand work is considerable in this taluk. The Head Assistant Collector has obtained an allotment of Rs. 1,000 for the special repairs of the Udayagiri-Seetharamapuram road and the work has been begun in the last few days, the result, so far, being an influx of 859 coolies. I am just now on my way to the taluk.*

* The number of coolies has now run up to 3,500.
(INTLD.) A. W. B. H., 12th Jany. 1891.

6. ONGOLE TALUK.—*Rainfall.*—There was rain during the month in but two villages on the 21st and 22nd, 1 ounce in one and 2½ ounces in another, but much more was needed to be of any practical use. *Water-supply.*—Insufficient for drinking and very greatly so in Addanki division. No supply available for irrigation except where the Kistna canal pierces the Addanki division. *Agricultural operations* —Raggi was being sown under wells in Addanki division. Both wet and dry standing crops were in a bad condition. In Addanki division they have commenced to wither away. Cholum and pulses were harvested during the month, the outturn being 4 to 8 annas. The table below compares the sowings in December 1891 and from 1st April to end of December with the averages of the corresponding periods of the past three years. The extents sown in the month and up to the end of month, say, 20th December 1891, were nearly 70 and 97 per cent. of the corresponding averages. This is purely a dry taluk, the wet sowings being insignificant in comparison with the dry and the decrease is chiefly under the same head :—

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
In December	52,596	665	53,261	76,164	524	76,688
From 1st April to 31st December ..	224,481	1,346	225,827	229,684	2,033	231,717

Condition of people—Good, but small-pox reported to be slightly prevalent in Addanki division. *Cattle and fodder.*—Fodder nearly exhausted and very difficult to procure. Pasture withering away in Ongole and scarce in Addanki division. Withered crops were being used as fodder in some villages. *State and market prices.* —Grain trade reported to be brisk, the imports from Kistna district into Addanki and Ongole being considerable but food-grains were difficult to procure, the merchants having withheld their stocks. Prices rose after the end of the first week of the

month and afterwards remained stationary. Rice and jonna were dearer than the scarcity rates. Raggi was not sold—*Vide* statement below :—

ONGOLE TALUK.

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	10·34	15·30	..	14·85
5th December ,, ...	9·40	13·50	..	13·20
12th ,, ,, ...	9·40	12·15	..	13·20
19th ,, ,, ...	9·40	12·15	..	13·20
26th ,, ,, ...	9·40	12·15	..	13·20
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..	7·10	8·18	9·18	7·26

Works.—About the end of the month three minor irrigation works were started at a cost of Rs. 2,785. These and the Addanki-Darsi road work are now affording work. A number of laborers are reported to have now left the Addanki division for the Kistna harvest. This irrigation takes place, I believe, every year.

7. KANDAKUR TALUK.—*Rainfall.*—This taluk fared somewhat better than the other parts in the Sub-Collector's division, having had rain from the 19th to the 23rd in 17 villages in the south-eastern portion of the taluk, the quantity varying from ·05 inch to 1 inch. *Water-supply*—Fair for drinking, but insufficient for irrigation. *Agricultural operations.*—Jonna being sown in parts. Dry crops on tank-bed lands under special permission given by me. The standing jonna was slightly affected by insects. Outturn expected to be 4 annas. Cholum and cumbu were harvested in parts during the ,, outturn being 4 to 8 annas for the former and 4 annas for the latter. The standing wet crops were withering away in parts and the dry were looking poor for want of rain. Ragi and aruga had begun to wither in some villages. The following table compares the sowings in December 1891 and from 1st April to end of December with the averages of the corresponding periods of the three previous years. The extents sown in and up to December were about 98 and 95·7 per cent., respectively, of the averages. The area under dry was nearly up to the normal, but under wet there was a falling off by nearly 25 per cent. The extent to which dry sowings have developed this year in preference to wet will be seen from colomns 2 and 3, actuals being 15·8 to 1 against an average of 12 to 1. During the month only 719 acres were cultivated with wet crops :—

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
In December	51,243	719	51,962	51,570	2,708	54,278
From 1st April to 31st December	141,639	8,913	150,552	141,526	11,774	153,300

Condition of people—Good generally, but cholera and small-pox slightly prevalent in Kandukúr kasba and in some of the villages. *Cattle and fodder.*—Fodder insufficient. Pasture scarce and withering away. As in other parts of the sub-division, withered crops were being used as fodder. *State of market and prices.* —The market was well supplied, but food-grains were not freely exposed for sale—*vide* remarks under Ongole taluk. Prices were as per the table below. Rice fluctuated during the month, having risen in the 1st week and fallen in the subsequent week by an increase of one seer per rupee and by another seer in the last week, so that at end of December it was the same as in November. The prices of dry grains also fluctuated, but on the whole rose considerably and were very high in the latter part of the month. Ragi being above the scarcity rate.

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	11·28	18·10	20·40	18·04
5th December ,, ...	9·40	13·57	17·00	16·40
12th ,, ,, ...	10·34	12·67	14·45	16·40
19th ,, ,, ...	10·34	11·76	13.60	14·76
26th ,, ,, ...	11·28	12·67	13·60	14·76
District normal rate ..	15 98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..	7·25	8·00	11·33	11·33

Works.—Five minor irrigation works costing together Rs. 5,946, and three major irrigation works were in progress during the month, affording labour to coolies.

8. KAVALI TALUK.—*Rainfall.*—Only seven villages in this taluk had rain on the 18th and 20th to 22nd varying from 1 ounce to 1·2 inch, which was insufficient for the crops. *Water-supply*—Sufficient for drinking but not for irrigation. *Agricultural operations.*—Ploughing was in progress for sowing ragi under wells in gardens. The standing crops, gaddavari (dry ploughed) paddy, cholum, aruga, oil-seeds and horsegram were not flourishing for want of rain. The wet crops had withered away in some villages and cholum was sown in their place. The table below compares the sowings in and up to end of December 1891 with the corresponding averages of the three previous years. The extent sown in the current year exceeded the average by over 17½ per cent., the increase being under both dry and wet, but mostly under the former. The extent sown in December alone was about 70·3 per cent. of the average. The proportion of dry cultivation to wet in 1891–92 will be seen from columns 2 and 3, actuals being 2·7 to 1 against an average of 2·3 to 1 :—

Sowings.	1891–92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
In December	30,293	1,835	32,128	21,710	886	22,596
From 1st April to 31st December ..	52,842	19,492	72,334	43,048	18,746	61,794

Condition of people.—Good. *Cattle and fodder.*—Fodder insufficient, being due to large purchases of existing stocks by the ryots of Ongole and other northern villages, where it is scarce. Pasture procurable in most villages. Condition of cattle fair. *State of market and prices.*—Food-grains not freely offered for sale though markets well supplied. Paddy is being largely imported into this taluk by canal, *via* Ramayapatam. The price of rice which ranged above the scarcity rate until the 19th December 1891, grew cheaper at end of month by nearly a seer. Jonna fluctuated and rose above the scarcity rate. Other grains were not sold—*vide* table below :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	9·40	..	..	..
5th December ,, ...	9·40	13·57	..	..
12th ,, ,, ...	9·40	11·76	..	..
19th ,, ,, ...	9·40	11·31	..	..
26th ,, ,, ...	10·34	11·76	..	..
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity ,, ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..	7·00	8·00	..	..

Works.—Three minor irrigation works costing Rs. 1,923 were being conducted during the month. Three more costing Rs. 1,970 were sanctioned about the end of December and should be in progress by this time.

9. NELLORE TALUK.—*Rainfall.*—There was a fair fall of rain in 31 villages of this taluk on the 1st, 8th to 10th, 12 to 14th and 19th to 21st varying from 3 ounces to 4·70 inches. The quantity registered in them was as below :—

4	inches and over in	2	villages.
3	,, ,,	4	,,
2	,, ,,	7	,,
1	inch ,,	11	,,
½	,, ,,	5	,,
Less than ½	inch in	2	,,

Water-supply—Insufficient for irrigation, rain-fed tanks having had no fresh supply by the recent rains. The Pennar received a slight fresh at end of month, which had its origin in Sidhout in Cuddapah district, where there was about 2 inches of rain on the 21st. Water in the Nellore anicut channels continues to be very low. *Agricultural operations.*—The rains were very beneficial to the crops especially to the dry crops. The early sown pishanam and samavari paddy are in ears and are expected to mature and yield a fair crop. The later sown crops are beginning to wither in some villages at the extremity of the channels for want of water. Dry crops were generally in good condition and are expected to yield a fair outturn. The following table compares the sowings in and up to end of December 1891, with the averages of the corresponding periods of the three previous years. The extent sown up to 20th December exceeded the average by nearly 26 per cent., while that cultivated in the month alone was over five times the average, but it must be remembered that in December 1889 there was almost no cultivation. The increase above is both under dry and wet, the proportion appearing in columns 2 and 3 being 4·45 to 1 against an average of 5·6 to 1 :—

Sowings.	1891–92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
In December	7,171	20,644	27,815	1,366	4,010	5,376
From 1st April to 31st December ..	22,848	101,976	124,824	14,983	84,164	99,147

Condition of people—Good, but fever, dysentery and cholera slightly, were prevalent in Nellore and in some of the villages. *Cattle and fodder.*—Pasture amply available, but stacked fodder insufficient. No cattle diseases. *State of market and prices.*—Prices were for all grains above the scarcity rates and dearer than in the previous month. There was a general fall after the second week due to merchants having brought their stocks more freely to market after the fall of rain and due also to imports by canal, and to a decrease in the export of grain to other districts which occurred at the beginning of the month.

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
	9 54	12·36	13·44	..
	9·54	12·36	13·44	..
28th November 1891	8·48	11·33	11·52	10·34
5th December ,, ...	9·01	12·36	12·00	11·75
12th ,, ,, ...	9·01	11·84	12·00	11·75
19th ,, ,, ...				
26th ,, ,, ...	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
District normal rate ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
,, scarcity ,, ..	7·00	8·75	..	10·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..				

Works.—The minor irrigation works sanctioned for this taluk have been completed. Sanction for more such works has been applied for. For the present there is a demand for work near Nellore (caused by the high prices) which is being met by the collection of gravel at a quarry. Some 400 coolies were working on this work on the 2nd January.

10. POLUR DIVISION.—*Rainfall.*—There was very heavy and generally distributed rain in this division in almost all the villages. The rain registered in 78 of them was as under.

15 inches and over in 1 village.
14 " " in 1 "
13 " " in 2 villages
12 " " in 5 "
11 " " in 2 "
10 " " in 8 "
5 to 10 inches in 41 "
1 to 5 " in 18 "

Pólúr kasba had 15·3 inches, which is stated to be the highest ever recorded in December during previous years. *Water-suppy.*—Ample for drinking and for irrigation. River-fed tanks received full and rain-fed three-fourths supply and the two rivers, Kalangi and Swarnamukhi, were in freshes.—*Agricultural operations.*—These were actively going on as will be seen from the Deputy Collector's letter. The standing crops are reported to be in an excellent condition. Wet crops are expected to yield an outturn of from 12 to 16 annas and the dry crops, ragi and cholum, 16 to 20 annas; ragi was being harvested. *Condition of people.*—Good. *Cattle and fodder.*—Pasture was abundant and the condition of cattle was normal. *State of market and prices.*—Prices were as per the table below. Rice fluctuated and stood at 9·54 seers in the 3rd week. Ragi was very dear during the whole month and higher than the scarcity rate. Other grains were not sold. No difficulty was felt in procuring grain in the villages :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	10·60	..	16·80	..
5th December "	8·48	..	12·48	..
12th " "	9·01	..	12·48	..
19th " "	9·54	..	12·48	..
26th " "	9·54	..	12·48	..
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
" scarcity " ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Division rate in 1877 ..	8·00	..	..	..

Works.—Agricultural coolies had ample work in connection with the weeding operations. Work on the Buckingham canal employed about 2,000 coolies. This division being now practically safe, no special works are needed and it may from the next month be removed from the list of affected tracts.

11. ATMAKUR TALUK—*Rainfall.*—During the month there was slight rain as under in 23 villages on the 1st, 12th to 14th and 20th to 24th, varying from 1 ounce to 1 inch :—

One inch in two villages.
Half inch and over in 10 villages.
Less than ½ inch in 11 villages.

The rain was chiefly confined to the strip lying south of the Pennér river. It was useful but was not as much as was needed. *Water-supply.*—Very deficient in Atmakúr kasba, which I visited on 8th January, and pretty fair in the villages. The Boggeru river received a slight fresh during the month. Tanks received but a few days supply. *Agricultural operations.*—Ragi being sown in some quarters. Aruga crop had already withered in most places. The recent rains were beneficial to the standing corps, paddy, jonna, ragi, horse-gram and oil-seeds. The main crop on wet and dry lands is jonna. On the whole it is distinctly poor, especially in dry lands, and it is generally very backward; but I anticipate an average yield throughout of at least 4 annas even without more rain. On some wet lands there will be a very good yield. The table below compares the sowings in and up to end of December 1891 with the average of the corresponding periods of the three previous years. The extents sown in and up to, say, 20th December 1891, exceeded the averages, the former by over 122 per cent. and the latter by nearly 42 per cent. The extent to which dry cultivation has been developed in preference to wet this year will be seen from columns 2 and 3,

actuals being 6·27 to 1 against an average of 4·71 to 1. The increase is both under dry and wet, mostly the former :—

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
In December	43,779	8,653	52,432	22,175	1,410	23,615
From 1st April to 31st December	103,065	16,416	119,481	69,465	14,737	84,202

Condition of people.—Generally good; cholera was prevalent in some villages, but it has since died out; otherwise public health was good. *Cattle and fodder.*—Stacked fodder very difficult to procure. The rich ryots had only a small supply of paddy and cholum straw available. Condition of cattle fair. *State of market and prices.*—The market is reported to be dull and food-grains difficult to procure owing to the withholding of stocks by the merchants. Prices were except for rice higher than in previous month, but below scarcity rates. Rice cheapened a little after 12th December 1891; jonna grew very dear :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	9·40	13·10	18·70	..
5th December "	9·40	19·46	19·55	..
12th " "	9·62	16·74	17·00	..
19th " "	9·62	14·48	16·15	..
26th " "	9·62	14·48	16·15	..
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
" scarcity rate ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..	6·00	..	..	8·50

Works.—Three minor irrigation works, costing Rs. 1,755, and the Public Works Department work—Vasili tank improvement,—Rs. 6,100, were affording labour to the poor. The works were employing about 126 coolies daily. About the end of the month five more minor irrigation works at a cost of Rs. 2,230 were started with the Board's approval.

12. RAPUR TALUK—*Rainfall.*—Forty villages in this taluk had rain on the 9th, 10th, 12th to 14th, and 19th to 22nd, varying from ·20 inch to 2·60 inches. The quantity registered in them was as below :—

2 inches and over in 11 villages.
1 inch " " in 16 "
½ " " in 8 "
Less than ½ inch in 5 "

The rain appears to have been general and very useful. *Water-supply.*—Sufficient for drinking but not for irrigation except in a small number of villages. The tanks received no fresh supply during the month. *Agricultural operations.*—These were actively conducted. The usual wet occupation is 6,000 acres, of which nearly half has been sown with wet crops, the rest being left waste. The standing paddy on 1,000 acres and cholum and ragi on 34,000 acres are reported to be in a very good condition and to require no more rain to mature them. The latter are expected to yield from 12 to 20 annas, and the dry crop sown on wet land a bumper crop. The table below compares the sowings in and up to end of December 1891 with the averages of the corresponding periods of the 3 previous years. The extents sown in and up to, say, 20th December exceeded the averages by 75 and 55 per cent. respectively, the increase being mostly under dry. The extent to which dry has been developed in preference to wet will be seen from columns 2 and 3, actuals being nearly 14·5 to 1 against an average of 9·9 to 1. This is accounted for by considerable wet

area having been cultivated with dry crops owing to deficient supply in irrigation sources for raising wet crops with advantage :—

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
In December	21,570	1,085	22,655	12,633	313	12,946
From 1st April to 31st December	60,797	4,197	64,994	38,125	3,844	41,969

Condition of people.—Good generally, but cholera prevailed in the Pariah hamlet of Rápúr where there were 64 attacks and 9 deaths. *Cattle and fodder.*—Green fodder was plentiful, but stacked cholum straw was available only in half the villages of the taluk. Condition of cattle normal. *State of market and prices.*—During the first 3 weeks jonna alone was sold in Rápúr, and it was higher than the scarcity rate. In the last week all grains except cumbu were available, but at rates above the scarcity rates. The market is reported to be now well supplied and food-grains freely sold in anticipation of a good cholum harvest :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	..	13·43	..	..
5th December ,, ...	..	12·60	..	..
12th ,, ,, ...	..	11·70	..	..
19th ,, ,, ...	..	11·70	..	..
26th ,, ,, ...	8·46	11·70	12·75	..
District normal rate	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity rate	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877	7·00	8·00	..	9·50

Works.—The following works and the ordinary Local Fund roads were affording labour to about 801 coolies :—

	Coolies.
(1) Griddalur tank restoration, Rs. 16,600	459
(2) Vibinabi tank	42
(3) Private well at Obrelayapully	100
(4) Mica mines	200
Total ...	801

About 462 of the above number were ordinary village coolies. The minor irrigation works of this year have been with one exception completed.

13. GUDUR TALUK—*Rainfall.*—There was very heavy and generally distributed rain in this taluk, more especially towards the coast side adjoining Pólúr division and to the east of Kota firka. The fall registered in 51 villages varied from ·70 inch to 8½ inches as noted below :—

8·5	inches in	1	village.
7·6	,, in	1	,,
6	,, and over in	2	villages.
5	,, ,, in	8	,,
4	,, ,, in	9	,,
3	,, ,, in	14	,,
2	,, ,, in	11	,,
1 inch	,, in	3	,,
·7	,, in	1	village.

The fall in the kasba was not so heavy as in some of the villages, being only 3·6 inches. *Water-supply.*—The rains brought in a fresh supply of one to two months' water to some

tanks. The wet crops are in most places expected to grow to maturity. *Agricultural operations.*—Paddy, ragi and jonna were sown during the month, the latter over considerable area. The dry crops were all in good condition. Some wet crops had withered too far for recovery. The table below compares the sowings in December 1891 and from 1st April to the end of December 1891 with the averages of the corresponding periods of the three previous years. The extents sown in and up to, say, 20th December 1891 exceeded the averages by 410 and 1,442 acres, the increase being under dry. There has been a falling off under wet this year, due presumably to the ryots having, in anticipation of failure of rains, substituted dry for wet on wet lands. The proportion of wet cultivation to dry in the current year will be seen from columns 2 and 3, actuals being 1·24 to 1 against an average of 2·01 to 1 :—

Sowings.	1891-92.			Three-year average.		
	Dry.	Wet.	Total.	Dry.	Wet.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
In December	3,168	2,601	5,769	2,475	2,884	5,359
From 1st April to 31st December	21,733	37,041	58,774	19,003	38,329	57,332

Condition of people.—Fever and dysentery in many and cholera in two or three villages were prevalent. Public health was otherwise good. *Cattle and fodder.*—Fodder procurable to some extent in the coast villages. Pasture now ample. The condition of cattle was much improved after the rains. *State of market and prices.*—Imports of food-grains in the taluk were moderate. No exports. Rice was not sold. Dry grains were stationary, but ragi and cumbu were above the scarcity rates—*vide* statement below :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	..	12·62	13·44	11·51
5th December ,, ...	..	12·62	13·44	11·51
12th ,, ,, ...	..	12·62	..	..
19th ,, ,, ...	..	12·62	13·44	..
26th ,, ,, ...	..	12·62	..	..
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity rate ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12·00
Taluk rate in 1877 ..	7·50	..	..	..

Works.—The special minor irrigation and sanitary works opened in this taluk have all been completed with the exception of a well for which materials are being collected. The Madamanoor tank improvement work was in progress during the month, employing daily about 514 coolies, of which 171 were village coolies. The Deputy Collector considers that this taluk is now practically safe.

14. VENKATAGIRI DIVISION—*Rainfall.*—There was heavy and generally distributed rain in this division also; the fall registered in 19 villages was as under :—

6·7	inches in Venkatagiri kasba	
1	inch and over in 8	villages
½	,, ,, ,, in 10	villages

Water-supply.—Sufficient for drinking and irrigation. The Venkatagiri river received freshes and the rain-fed tanks from 2 to 3 months' supply. *Agricultural operations.*—These were in active progress. The rain very considerably benefited both the wet and dry standing crops. Paddy is expected to yield from 8 to 12 annas and cholum and ragi about a 16-anna crop. The Deputy Collector furnished the following rough figures for the acreages under different crops.

								ACS.
Paddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ragi on wet lands	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	10,000
Ragi on dry lands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000
Cholum ,,	...	...	...		...	...	...	2,000
Oil-seeds ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,000
Horse-gram ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000

The ragi crop, which belongs chiefly to the poorer classes, was being harvested. Weeding on paddy fields and ploughing for sowing ragi and chillies in gardens were in progress. No more rain is stated to be necessary to mature the standing crops. *Condition of people.*—Good generally except for an outbreak of cholera in Venkatagiri resulting in 51 attacks and 21 deaths. *Cattle and fodder.*—Pasture is now abundant throughout the division. The cattle that tided over the distress were picking up. *State of market and prices.*—The markets were well supplied and grains were freely sold. Paddy was being imported from Godávari district and ragi from Raichoor and Gulburga. The grain trade was very brisk. Prices were for all grains above the scarcity rates during the month. Ragi was stationary. Rice and jonna were gradually falling in price. Cumbu fluctuated and became dearer than in November—*vide* statement below :—

Week ending	Second-sort rice.	Jonna.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
28th November 1891	7·42	11·59	13·44	12·22
5th December ,, ...	8·21	11·59	13·44	10·81
12th ,, ,, ...	8·21	11·59	13·44	10·57
19th ,, ,, ...	8·48	11·84	13·44	10·57
26th ,, ,, ...	8·48	11·84	13·44	11·75
District normal rate ..	15·98	24·94	27·81	23·73
,, scarcity rate ..	9·50	12·50	14·00	12 00
Division rate in 1877 ..	9·25	..	..	11·87

Works.—No special works needed as all classes of coolies were employed busily on the fields. Only one work, digging a well, was started for relieving the distress of the Malas in Gottikadu. About 15 coolies were employed thereon daily. I consider that this division may now be removed from the list of affected tracts.

15. REPORTS AND INSPECTIONS.—The Divisional officers' reports for December 1891 are herewith submitted. The Sub-Collector's report is meagre and fragmentary. He will be directed to submit a full and detailed report in future. During the month under report the Collector was at head-quarters and is now touring through the Head Assistant and Sub-Collector's divisions to organize relief measures wherever necessary in personal conference with the Divisional officers and Tahsildars concerned. The Sub-Collector, as already reported to the Board, inspected the Ponnur zemindari tract situated in Kanigiri and Udayagiri taluks and also portions of Podili division and Addánki division of Ongole taluk. The Head Assistant Collector and the Tahsildar inspected the Udayagiri taluk and the result of their inspections is given in detail in the present report. The Head Assistant Collector is now touring with me in Atmakúr taluk and we are on our way to Udayagiri. The Náyudupet Deputy Collector inspected parts of Pólúr and Venkatagiri. The Head-quarter Deputy Collector has not done much special inspection. Some of the western affected villages in Nellore taluk were visited by him during the month.

16. REMARKS BY BOARD—*Para.* 4.—The question of storing fodder for cattle is engaging my attention. On the 14th December I issued a circular similar to that issued in North Arcot advising the ryots to make hay and allowing them to cut grass for the purpose free of charge in reserves. I am arranging with the District Forest-officer to have one or more silos constructed as examples in Udayagiri taluk and also to carry out at once departmental storage of hay in some four places in the same taluk. It seems doubtful whether the ryots will have the energy to store it for themselves.

1836/1

Paragraph 5—(*a*) *Works.*—I have already made recommendations in my letter embodied in Board's Proceedings, dated 4th January 1892, No. 6, regarding the works which it may be necessary to open for the relief of the persons who seem likely to require work during the next six months in the Sub-Collector's division. I am now submitting a similar report for the Head Assistant Collector's and other divisions.

(*b*) *Irrigation works lists.*—Complete proposals for the Sub-Collector's and Head Assistant Collector's divisions have been called for. They will be submitted to the Board when ready.

Paragraph 7—*Loans.*—The amounts shown under the head "Sanctioned" represent in all but one or two cases the amounts of allotments made for the taluks. Information will be given more clearly and in greater detail in future reports and the amount of accepted applications shown under the head "Granted." There was no delay, as presumed by the Board, in disbursing loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. At the end of November 1891 there were no cases admitted but pending payment. Only four taluks have allotments under this head and the progress up to date is given in the table below. Bearing in mind that allotments for the purchase of cattle and seed grains were only sanctioned lately, it is submitted that it is not unsatisfactory that nearly $\frac{5}{8}$ has been already paid :—

Taluk.	Applications pending at end of November 1891.		Applications received in December 1891.		Total.		Applications disposed of in December 1891.		Applications pending on the 31st December 1891.		Loans actually paid.		Allotment for 1891-92.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.		RS.	RS.
Pólúr	118	8,358	59	4,369	177	12,727	31	1,264	146	11,463	52	1,753	2,000
Gúdúr	28	1,337	8	390	36	1,727	7	505	3	550	..	..	500
Rápúr	2	400	1	150	3	550	..	..	2	460	..	..	500
Kávali ..	12	1,225	21	860	33	2,085	24	1,625	9	1,222	18	687	1,000
Atmakúr ..	160	11,320	89	5,769	249	17,089	62	3,394	187	13,695	70	2,440	4,000
Total ..													

Paragraph 7—*Delay in commencing wells in Head Assistant Collector's division.*—*Vide* remarks under Land Improvement loans below.

17. *Rainfall, General.*—The rainfall was as per the following statement for the regular registering stations. It will be seen from columns 6 and 7 that the December rains were heavy and exceeded the average for only five stations—Tada in Pólúr division, Venkatagiri, and Monapalem, Kistnapatam and Gúdúr in Gúdúr taluk. Rápúr had about $\frac{1}{2}$ the average; in the others it was scanty, being *nil* in Kánigiri and Kandukúr. Taking columns 4 and 5 which give the rainfall for the actual period of cultivation in this district, Pólúr and Venkatagiri have done pretty well, though they are not up to the average. Atmakúr and Udayagiri have fared the worst in point of rain. The remaining taluks had very insufficient rains being less than half the average. The north-east monsoon this year was a signal failure except in Venkatagiri, Pólúr, and parts of Gúdúr. Its progress in November was noted in my last monthly report. It recommenced with a slight general drizzling on the 7th December. The sky continued very cloudy till the morning of the 11th, but no appreciable rain fell during the interval. From the evening of the 11th clouds again began to collect and there were good falls in the portion of the district south of the Pennér river for the next few days, especially in part bordering on the sea coast and adjoining the Chingleput and North Arcot districts. The showers in the more northern taluks came later.

Registering stations.	From 1st January to 31st December, 10-year average.	Actuals, 1891.	From 1st April to 30th December, 10-year average.	Actuals, 1891.	Ten-year average for December.	Actuals, December 1891.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Darsi	27·41	11·67	26·43	10·55	1·76	0·85
2. Kánigiri	25·61	15·90	25·51	12·10	2·06	..
3. Udayagiri	31·96	13·87	31·38	12·32	3·28	0·30
4. Ongole	35·88	16 02	35·58	14·57	1·51	0·10
5. Pákala	30·17	14·87	29·94	14·81	2·76	0·05
6. Kandukúr	32·94	19·17	32·81	16·62	2·46	..
7. Kávali	39·11	21·75	38·90	19·35	2·79	0·15
8. Iskápalle	38·57	16·45	38·20	14·29	2·57	0·50
9. Nellore	39·20	18·39	38·91	17·19	3·67	3·92
10. Kistnapatam	32·34	23·98	32·02	17·98	3·53	3·82
11. Monapalem	36·28	21·85	35·85	20·75	3·55	7·75
12. Tada	34·06	30·90	33·52	29·13	5·24	9·51
13. Atmakúr	35·03	9·40	34·38	8·45	3·85	0·20
14. Rápúr	40·65	21·40	39·64	16·70	5·14	2·35
15. Gúdúr	29·37	16·50	29·16	15·15	3·59	3·60
16. Venkatagiri	41·71	33·22	40·92	29·77	5·31	6·70
Average for 16 stations ..	34·39	19·08	33·93	16·23	3·32	2·49

Agricultural season and prospects.—Agricultural operations were actively carried on throughout the district. The cultivated extents for the current year exceeded the averages in the five western and southern taluks. Considerable wet ayacuts were sown with dry crops owing to insufficiency of water for irrigation. Generally speaking the dry crops are later than is usual this season. The season may now be considered to have been favorable in Pólúr, Venkatagiri and part of Gúdúr, fair in the rest of Gúdúr, Rápúr and Nellore, unfavorable in Atmakúr, Udayagiri, Kávali, Kandukúr, Kánigiri and the southern part of Ongole and bad in the northern part of Ongole (Addanki division), Darsi and Podili. Parts of Udayagiri and Kanigiri should, it is believed, come under the latter category, the crops there having failed entirely. It is still feared that there may be considerable loss of the later sown paddy crops under the Sangam and Nellore anicuts owing to the short supply of water in the river.

Land Improvement loans.—The progress of operations under the Land Improvement Loans Act up to end of December 1891 is given in a tabular form below. There were during December 238 applications for well-sinking and repairing, involving Rs. 41,235, pending disposal, of which 78 for Rs. 11,595 were disposed of during the month. The pending applications are reported to be under inquiry and the attention of Tahsildars has been drawn to the necessity for their being promptly disposed of. The pendency of applications is large for Gúdúr, Atmakúr, Ongole, Kánigiri and Kandukúr. The Tahsildars will be directed to reduce them as speedily as possible. Out of 41 wells sanctioned work was in progress on 30 and three were completed by the end of the month. Divisional officers have been directed to strive their best to expend their allotments before the expiry of the official year.

Taluk with allotment for 1891-92.	Applications pending at the end of November 1891.		Applications received in December 1891.		Total.		Applications disposed in December.				Applications pending at the end of December 1891.				Loans paid up to end of December				Number of wells constructed.
							Wells.		Others.		Wells.		Others.		For wells.		For other improvements to lands.		
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Nellore	13	1,200	..	..	13	3,960	9	3,010	4	950	..	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gúdúr	34	1,800	..	..	34	4,455	..	..	5	540	..	..	..	..	1	2,810	..	..	..	..	2	2
Rápúr	13	100	..	..	13	1,580	..	..	5	410	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Udayagiri	6	1,500	..	..	6	1,450	..	..	8	1,300	..	..	..	..	13	1,540	6	1,490	..	..	6	6
Kávali	9	1,500	..	..	9	1,550	3	550	5	800	3	550	..	..	18	1,490	15	760	..	..	15	15
Atmakúr	59	1,950	..	..	59	9,530	248	26,229	6	380	..	..	..	..	7	760	7	300	..	..	7	7
Ongole	39	650	..	..	39	2,455	21	1,335	21	4,780	3	150	..	..	2	300	2	100	..	..	2	2
Kandukúr	26	1,300	..	..	26	11,810	5	1,200	20	1,935	6	150	..	..	1	100	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kanigiri									4	1,000	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	204	..	..	..	204	37,290	286	32,324	78	11,595	13	1,050	..	..	41	4,180	..	..	..	..	30	3

Taluk with allotment for 1891-92.	Applications pending at the end of December 1891.					
	Wells.		Others.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	14	15	16	17		
		Rs.		Rs.		
Nellore	..	..	8	2,810		
Gúdúr	32	4,025	..	..		
Rápúr	9	1,270	..	..		
Udayagiri	5	1,100	..	..		
Kávali	1	200	..	..		
Atmakúr	19	2,340	..	..		
Ongole	58	8,675	245	26,079		
Kandukúr	19	3,120	15	1,185		
Kanigiri	17	9,010	5	1,200		
Total	160	29,640	273 *	31,274		

Resolution—dated 18th January 1892, No. 39.

Submitted to Government.

2. During December, there was an almost complete failure of rain over all parts of Nellore lying north of the Pennér, the average fall for all the rainfall stations concerned only amounting to ·24 inches against a normal fall of 2·05 inches during the month. In these parts this followed a moderate October rainfall and a particularly small rainfall during November except in Pakala. The average total fall for the late north-east monsoon (October-December) at the stations alluded to was only 5·46 inches or less than one-third of the normal (18·81 inches). At the stations lying in the southern taluks, the fall during the month was in excess of the average, except at Rápúr, and was especially so in the Pólúr division :—

Stations.	April—Sept.		October.		November.		December.		Oct.—Dec.	
	Average.	1891.	Average.	1891.	Average.	1891	Average.	1891.	Average.	1891.
Darsi	14·24	8·40	5·62	1·05	3·96	0·25	1·34	0·85	10·92	2·15
Kánigiri	11·54	8·50	6·35	2·70	4·54	0·90	1·26	..	12·15	3·60
Udayagiri	9·98	7·27	8·68	3·75	7·68	1·00	2·49	0·30	18·85	5·05
Atmakúr	9·78	4·65	8·69	2·90	9·65	0·70	3·15	0·20	21·49	3·80
Ongole	15·51	8·45	9·82	5·10	6·42	0·92	1·18	0·10	17·42	6·12
Kandukúr	13·96	10·45	9·07	5·92	7·72	0·25	2·00	..	18·79	6·17
Pákála	11·89	9·56	9·63	5·20	6·31	..	2·12	0·05	18·01	5·25
Kávali	13·18	9·50	12·00	7·75	10·97	1·95	2·38	0·15	25·35	9·85
Iskapalle	12·92	7·15	13·18	4·50	10·67	2·12	2·50	0·50	26·35	7·12
Nellore	12·41	6 95	11 41	3·00	10·85	2·32	3·24	3 92	25·50	9·24
Kistnapatam	13·02	6·14	11·38	5·42	9·61	2·60	2·94	3·82	23·93	11·84
Gúdúr	9·65	6·25	8·75	4·10	9·98	1·20	3·25	3·60	21·98	8·90
Rápúr	12 95	5·60	10·74	7·75	11·04	1·20	4·20	2·35	25·98	11·30
Venkatagiri	11·69	8·52	8·12	11·80	12·11	2·75	4·22	6·70	24·45	21·25
Monapalem	11·54	6·40	10·83	5 00	13·41	1·60	2·61	7·75	26·85	14·35
Tada	14·40	7·60	9·63	8·37	12·05	3·65	4·17	9 51	25·85	21·53
District average ..	12·55	7·65	9·78	5·26	9·11	1·46	2·60	2·49	21·49	9·21

This continued failure of the later rains has caused widespread loss of crop in all the northern parts of the district and serious distress is apprehended in all taluks north of the Pennér.

3. The cultivation returns for the district show that 763,291 acres of dry land, out of a total average of 802,608 acres annually cultivated, had been sown up to December, but it is not possible to institute a useful comparison talukwar with the figures up to the month in previous years. The differences in some cases, *e.g.*, Kávali, Atmakúr and Rápúr, are so great as to cause grave suspicion as to the accuracy of some of the returns. The returns for the wet land, show that only 14,000 out of the 206,000 acres usually cultivated had not been sown on December 20th, but in this case not only has a large area of this class of land been sown with dry crops, but in some cases also discrepancies, similar to those noted regarding the dry land, are evident. It may be said, however, generally that the area put under crop this year has not been deficient, but that on the wet land a very circumscribed area of paddy has been sown. In the north-western portion of the district, the dry crops are reported to have mostly failed and what have been harvested are yielding only a poor outturn. The same remark applies to the greater part of the Udayagiri and Atmakúr taluks as well as to some parts of Kávali, whilst in Ongole and Kandukúr the crops are very poor. In Nellore and Gúdúr, the dry crops and the early sown paddy are fair, but the late paddy is suffering from want of water in the Pennér channels. In Rápúr, the dry crop is reported to be very good and the greater part of the usual wet area has been sown with dry crops which are expected to yield a full outturn. In the Venkatagiri and Pólúr divisions, the crops are good and very promising. On the whole that portion of the district lying to the south of the Pennér will probably do well and need not be regarded as a portion of the affected area. To the north, the worst portions lie in the Udayagiri and Kanigiri taluks and the Podili and Darsi divisions, whilst in parts of Ongole and Kandukúr the situation is serious.

4. All over the northern portion of the district the pastures have dried up, fodder is scanty and the cattle are suffering in consequence. The Collector is endeavouring to induce the ryots to cut grass in the reserves and to store it for use in the dry weather and is arranging for ensiling some of the grass as well as to store hay departmentally for future sale.

5. Prices rose very sharply during December and the rise has since been continued. That of cholum, the most widely grown food-grain, rose by 4·6 seers per rupee to 14 seers and the average price has since gone to 13 seers per rupee. All the food-grains are now above the scarcity rates for the district, although cholum at Kánigiri and rice at Kandukúr are cheaper than those rates as shown below :—

Seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Stations.	Rice, 2nd sort.					Cholum.				
	1891.			Normal for December.	9th January.	1891.			Normal for December.	9th January.
	October.	November.	December.			October.	November.	December.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ongole	12·22	11·43	9·40	13·48	9·40	18·90	17·82	12·36	23·28	12·15
Addanki	11·13	10·77	8·91	12·06	9·40	17·91	17·10	13·21	22·10	13 50
Podili	11·28	10 94	9·70	14·19	10·34	21·72	20·78	16·05	25·59	13·57
Darsi	11·28	11·15	9·06	14·05	..	21·72	21·29	16·65	24·87	14·48
Kánigiri	12·22	10·49	..	15·70	11·28	26·15	24·22	18·42	26·24	16·29
Udayagiri	..	..	10·34	15·93	10·34	21·14	21·41	18·80	23·65	..
Kandukúr	13·59	13·01	9·96	15·28	9·54	21·83	20·65	12·87	25·66	12·67
Kávali	11·75	12 18	9·06	15·14	..	19·00	19·49	12·19	24·11	12·21
Nellore	11·11	10·19	..	15·97	..	16·97	15·46	11·82	22·65	13·39
Allúr	..	..	..	15·83	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gúdúr	..	10·60	..	15·77	9·54	17·42	15·94	13 00	21·60	12·61
Kóta	10·60	10·60	9·21	16·64	8·48	16·48	16·48	10·81	..	10·81
Pólúr	10·60	10·36	8·19	14·01	8·46	..	..	..	..	..
Venkatagiri ..	10·60	9·99	8·46	14·94	9·62	19·99	14·79	11·75	21·62	11·58
Rápúr	..	..	9·55	13·54	..	15·37	15·21	11·95	24·27	11·70
Atmakúr	10·34	10·02	..	..	9·60	20·81	20·05	16·21	25·93	14·48
Average ..	11·40	10·90	9·30	15·20		19·60	18·60	14·00	25·30	13·03
Scarcity rates ..	11·2					14·7				

Seers of 80 tolas per rupee—*cont.*

Stations.	Cambu.					Ragi.				
	1891.			Normal for December.	9th January.	1891.			Normal for December.	9th January.
	October.	November.	December.			October.	November.	December.		
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Ongole	16·50	16·19	13·20	22·32	..	..	..	..	25·99	..
Addanki	16·42	15·68	12·11	21·19	12·37	20·40	19·55	15·79	26·07	15·30
Podili	19·30	18·83	14·54	23·74	12·30	23·80	22·83	17·49	29·70	13·60
Darsi	18·04	17·81	14·76	23·12	13·12	22·10	21·90	17·54	26·62	15·30
Kánigiri	21·45	20·26	14·80	22·80	12·37	26·98	24·50	17·76	30·46	13·60
Udayagiri	21·94	22·03	17·41	25·68	..	24·19	23·97	19·46	27·29	15·30
Kandukúr	22·66	21·82	15·49	..	11·48	22·53	22·07	14·58	..	13·60
Kávali	..	..	..	21·74	12·75	22·10	21·11	..	28·85	11·07
Nellore	..	15·04	11·21	..	11·75	17·28	16·25	12·20	23·79	13·44
Allúr	..	..	..	22·62	..	20·16	19·58	13·93	27·39	13·44
Gúdúr	..	11·52	11·54	30·45	..	16·80	16·01	13·44	25·48	13·44
Kóta	16·92	..	13·16	..	..	16·32	..	11·52	30·62	11·52
Pólúr	..	..	..	25·73	11·28	16·80	16·24	12·48	32·08	12·48
Venkatagiri ..	16·83	15·04	11·12	25·87	..	17·38	17·14	13·30	28·21	13·44
Rápúr	..	..	..	24·69	..	17·46	17·44	12·98	28·02	14·45
Atmakúr	..	..	..	..	..	22·95	21·78	17·22	27·77	16·15
Average ..	18·90	17·40	13·60	24·80	12·18	20·50	20·00	15·00	29·10	13·74
Scarcity rates ..	15·4					16·6				

Although considerable importations of grain are reported to be going on from Kistna, the markets generally are stated not to have been well supplied as the merchants hold back their stocks in hope of still higher prices.

6. The condition of the people is reported to be good everywhere and the starting of some special repairs on the Local Fund roads and on Minor Irrigation works has afforded employment. A further development of works will be shortly necessary and arrangements are being made for the purpose. The Collector's proposals in this matter have already been laid before the Government. The returns received so far have not distinguished laborers on ordinary works from those on special relief works. Instructions have been issued on this point. Every effort should be made to encourage the migration of coolies to the Kistna delta, where, after the harvest is over, a large demand for labour will arise in connection with the silt clearances of the canals.

7. According to the returns now submitted, up to the end of December Rs. 4,180 had been disbursed as loans for well-sinking chiefly in the Gúdúr and Rápúr taluks, against which 3 wells had been completed and 30 more were in progress. In Gúdúr taluk it would appear that nothing has been done in respect of five of the loans made. This should be fully inquired into. In the same taluk 32 applications were pending at the end of December and the work done in the disposal of applications was very small. In Ongole, Kandukúr, Kánigiri and Atmakúr also there is a large number of applications pending for disposal, which should be dealt with as rapidly as possible. The purpose of the 245 applications pending in Ongole for "other" purposes should be reported. The Collector should use every effort to induce the people to avail themselves of the loans for well-sinking, and, if he finds that he can usefully distribute larger amounts, the Board will be prepared to make further allotments to the district.

8. As the Nellore district has been declared an affected one under the Famine Code, in future the prescribed fortnightly narrative should be submitted. In his narratives the Collector should condense and summarise his remarks on the various points that have to be noticed and put them in a more succinct form than has hitherto been adopted in the monthly reports.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Nellore.
Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.
" Collector of Kistna.

ORDER—dated 5th February 1892, No. 123, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

The Board's instructions in paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its Proceedings are approved.

2. Care should be taken to properly task the coolies on relief works.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
Copy to the Public Works Department.
" to the Local and Municipal Department.

Exd. A. Aubert.
80 Copies.

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REVENUE.

6

Issued 20.2.92

Recd. 12.2.92 Encl.

G.O., 5th February 1892, No. 123.

FEBRUARY.

Season, Nellore.

The instructions issued by the Board of Revenue for affording relief to the distressed people in the district, approved.

Bdg. 456 W of 15th February 1892

Communicated to
Communicated to
the Superintending
the Superintendent
Engineer II circle
II Circle

10

S.E. II circle
S.E. II Circle
C.E. for
C.E.