

- (1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 28
 (2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 21 90
 (3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் 67

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

PWD துறை

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அரசாணை எண். மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	791	அச்சகம் பலவகை
நாள் :	10-3-1892	198

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மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

14 Sheets

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 18th February 1892, No. 117 :—

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

Read—the following letter from C. KOUGH, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 10th February 1892, No. 1047 :—

I have the honour to submit the special season report for the month of January 1892.

2. Rainfall.—None.

3. Cultivation.—The following table shows the extent of cultivation during the month under report and up to the previous month :—

Taluks.	DRY.				WET.			
	Up to December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.	Average of the past three years.	Up to December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.	Average of the past three years.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
1. Pattikonda	332,752	8,784	341,536	377,112	2,248	261	2,509	5,256
2. Rāmālakōt	295,980	3,729	299,709	315,454	1,708	164	1,872	3,595
3. Nandikōtikur	233,952	2,058	236,010	246,304	4,556	268	4,824	4,911
4. Nandyal	192,679	1,030	193,709	215,643	5,318	810	6,128	7,031
5. Koilkuntla	203,803	1,245	205,048	213,282	2,683	251	2,934	5,254
6. Sirvel	178,401	820	179,221	177,955	3,455	76	3,531	4,721
7. Cumbum	135,960	1,546	137,506	137,345	10,844	215	11,059	14,033
8. Mārkapur	120,806	1,909	122,715	148,132	2,728	104	2,832	5,840
Total ..	1,694,333	21,121	1,715,454	1,831,227	33,540	2,149	35,689	50,641

The figures in column 3 represent the cultivation of previous months omitted to be brought to account then and there. Those in column 7 denote the cultivation of second crop.

A comparison of the figures with the average of the past three years shows that there are still waste lands in Pattikonda, Nandyal and Mārkapur, and that the average has been reached only in Sirvel and approximated only in Cumbum. The other taluks call for no remarks. The cultivation in the Cumbum division was confined mostly to ragi under wells. The following table exhibits the cultivation under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal.

Taluka.	CULTIVATION DURING 1891-92.			Cultivation during 1890-91.
	Up to December.	In January.	Total.	
Rámallakót	ACS. 2,074	ACS. 693	ACS. 2,767	ACS. 1,812
Nandikótkur	8,854	2,168	12,022	4,483
Nandyal	6,194	3,073	9,267	2,374
Koilkuntla	1,691	186	1,877	192
Sirvel	5,969	† ..	5,969	2,352
Total ..	25,782	6,120	31,902	11,213

* Supersedes the figures entered in the December report.

† Report not yet received.

It will be seen from the above that there was fairly good cultivation in January, all being second crop, and that already nearly three times the extent of last year has been cultivated. The Board has remarked (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 38, dated 18th January 1892) on my season report for December that the canal cultivation this year is only a third of that in 1876-77, but it will now be seen that, excluding Sirvel taluk for January, the cultivation has already come up to 32,000 acres, and, considering that the second-crop season under the canal generally extends to the end of March, I expect that about 15,000 acres more (including the deficit of Sirvel taluk) will come under cultivation. I do not at all anticipate that it will reach the figure of the late famine year. The circumstances are different. Extended cultivation under the canal depends upon failure of the monsoons, and this year the south-west cannot be said to have been an entire failure, and, until the latest date, ryots still expected the north-east. Cultivation, such as in the recent famine, would only follow after a repeated failure of the south-west monsoon. Besides, the river is so low that it will not be possible to send any volume of water down later on to mature second sowings over a considerable area. In Nandikótkur taluk Bengal-gram and black-gram were sown on lands irrigated by the canal, and ragi under wells and second-crop paddy was cultivated in most of the canal villages.

4. *Outturn.*—In Cumbum taluk all but cotton and Bengal-gram and ragi under wells have been harvested and their yield is reported to have been generally very poor, especially in the affected parts of the taluk. Sugar-cane under the Cumbum tank yielded 4 annas. In the Koilkuntla taluk the harvest of white cholum, which had commenced in December, continued throughout the month under report, and the yield of this, as well as of horse-gram, korra and pulses, which were also harvested in the month, has been generally from 2 to 4 annas in the Owk division and from 4 to 12 annas in the Koilkuntla firka. Ragi under wells was harvested in some parts and yielded about 4 to 12 annas. In other parts, it is ready for harvest. Linseed has withered in some parts and in others yielded from 1 to 4 annas generally. I saw it this month in places left on the ground as a failure, and it is strange it should be so left ungathered as, I believe, it is most injurious to cattle to eat it. Bengal-gram also gave about the same outturn. Red-gram and castor were harvested in parts of Pattikonda, and castor and cotton are being picked in this as well as in the Koilkuntla taluk. In parts of the Owk division of the latter taluk these two crops are estimated to yield from 2 to 4 annas. In the Pyápali division of Pattikonda taluk castor has yielded not more than 4 annas, but this is not strange considering that the crop was subject to blight from the very beginning. In Nandyal and Sirvel taluks, nearly all the standing crops were harvested in the month under report, and the average yield on the whole was quite 8 annas in the latter and about 4 annas in the former. Many crops in Nandyal have partially withered, but cholum, korra and cumbu have yielded from 4 to 12 annas, and cotton is being plucked. In the Kalva division of this taluk, yellow cholum and korra yielded 4 to 8 annas. In the Atmakur firka of Nandikótkur taluk, white cholum, chillies, Bengal-gram, horse-gram, castor-oil seed, gingelly and linseed were harvested. Chillies yielded 16 annas, Bengal-gram, linseed and gingelly 12 annas and horse-gram and castor-oil seed yielded a full crop in canal villages and 8 annas in the rest. In the cusba firka, white cholum, chillies, horse-gram, lamp-oil seed and linseed are being harvested and are estimated to yield

not less than 4 annas on the average. In the Rámallakota, white cholum and dholl have yielded about 4 annas on the average and the paddy under the canal has yielded from 8 to 16 annas. In the Markapur taluk, the chief late food crop of variga has failed completely except in a few patches here and there, and even on these patches the yield was very little.

5. *Water-supply*—is generally sufficient for men and cattle, except in six villages of Nandikótkur taluk, in two or three villages of Owk division of Koilkuntla taluk where they have to get water from a distance of 2 or 3 miles, in two villages of Pattikonda taluk and very scanty for both men and cattle in Cumbum division especially in Markapur taluk where the river Gundlakumma has already dried up in some parts and the drinking-water wells too are reported to be failing. Local funds are unfortunately not available for the improvement of drinking supplies. There is a proposal before the Executive Engineer to let canal water into certain ponds in Kondapuram village of Koilkuntla.

6. *Standing crops.*—In Pattikonda, paddy under springs, ragi under wells and Bengal-gram, wheat and cotton to some extent are generally in good condition, but white cholum has mostly withered away, and it is reported that even the little *standing* is unlikely to yield a crop. Cotton and Bengal-gram may yield about 4 annas and wheat about 2 annas. In Rámallakót taluk the standing crops, which are chiefly tobacco, white cholum, Bengal-gram, chillies, linseed, ragi and cotton and paddy under doruvu and private wells are generally in good condition and bad in about 15 villages. In the tract of this taluk lying between the Gooty and Bellary roads, the crops on some fields are withering, but those which are in good condition are estimated to yield from 4 to 8 annas. In Nandikótkur, the wet crops have withered away entirely under all the tanks except the Musalmadgu tank and the dry crops standing in those black-cotton villages which had sufficient rainfall, *i.e.*, cotton, chillies, white cholum, horse-gram, Bengal-gram, wheat, castor-oil seed are in good condition, but the rest are withering. In the Márkápur taluk all the standing dry and wet crops, except Bengal-gram and ragi under wells, have withered completely and Bengal-gram is still withering. In the Cumbum taluk wheat, Bengal-gram, castor, cotton, ragi under private wells and other garden crops are reported to be moderately good and the rest of the crops sown late; horse-gram and variga are withering. In the Koilkuntla taluk cotton, castor, horse-gram and Bengal-gram are in a tolerably good condition in parts and withering elsewhere. In Sirvel the garden crops under wells, onions, ragi, chillies, korra and other dry crops, which are Bengal-gram, linseed and cotton, are in a fair condition.

7. *Condition of people.*—The condition of the people was, on the whole, good everywhere. Labour was afforded to a large extent in harvesting the late crops, the more important of which were paddy, white cholum and cotton and in sowing paddy for second-crop cultivation. The parts suffering worst from distress are the whole of the Márkápur taluk and the whole of the Racherla firka and a portion of the Cumbum firka of the Cumbum taluk. Next come scattered tracts as follow: A portion of the Owk division of the Koilkuntla taluk, consisting of about 20 villages (about a dozen of which have had no crops whatever) mostly situated on and in the vicinity of the Banganapalli-Tadpatri road and on the hill plateau of the Yerramalais; about 40 villages (about 15 of which have had no crops whatever) comprising the black-cotton soils of the Pattikonda taluk; the neighbourhood of Panem, comprising a small portion about the centre of the Nandyal taluk, about half a dozen villages near Nandikótkur village in the taluk of that name, and about a dozen villages adjoining the Nallamalais in the north-east corner of Sirvel taluk. The classes of persons who are generally in need of relief are mostly Mala, Madiga, Boya, Baliya and Muhammadan, and the numbers as roughly estimated by the Divisional officers and Tahsildars are as follow. Pattikonda 2,000, Rámallakót 1,000, Nandikótkur 500, Nandyal 1,000, Koilkuntla 3,000, Sirvel 500, Cumbum 5,000 and Márkápur 14,000. Some of the people of the villages of Pattikonda taluk bordering on Gooty, Adóni and Alúr taluks are going to the relief works opened in the neighbourhood of Chippagiri and Yemmiganur of the Bellary district and to the railway works near Guntakal, Anantapur district. The following table exhibits the several works that were in progress during the month for relief of distress and the number of coolies employed on the same.

Taluk.	Name of work.	Number of coolies in the 1st week of January 1892.	Number of coolies on 16th January 1892.	NUMBER OF COOLIES ON THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY 1892.			
				Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Márkápúr ..	Márkápúr tank repairs ..	33	..	30	9	5	44
	Vemulakota tank repairs ..	210	310	322	321	96	739
	Dupad road ..	1,445	1,495	560	726	147	1,433
	Dornal road ..	1,526	1,715	444	745	245	1,434
	Markapur Railway station road ..	1,189	1,343	598	865	305	1,768
	Thamballapalli tank ..	20	19	21	22	3	56
	Bommallapuram ..	..	53	40	44	8	92
	Rajampalli tank ..	..	..	Completed.	..	..	..
	Total ..	4,423	4,935	2,025	2,732	809	5,566
2. Cumbum ..	Cumbum-Taticherla road ..	1,452	1,671	866	997	507	2,370
3. Ramallakót.	Road work near Kurnool town ..	428	499	97	263	188	548
4. Nandikótkur.	Mallamma tanks in Ramapuram ..	192	266	58	25	..	83
	Total ..	6,495	7,371	3,046	4,017	1,504	8,561

It will be seen from this that the numbers on works gradually increased during the month from 6,495 in the beginning to 8,567 towards the end of the month, thereby indicating that the need for relief is rapidly increasing especially in Cumbum division. I also understand that large numbers find employment in the sinking of

Breaking and stacking metal.

(1) Near Kodumur and Maddikira in Pattikonda taluk.

(2) Near Nandikótkur on the 20th mile of the Bairlooti road in Nandikótkur taluk.

(3) Near Owk on the Banganapalli-Tad-patri road in Koilkuntla taluk.

(4) Near Boyilakuntla along the Rampur pass road in Sirvel taluk.

(5) Near Isakatripuravarum at the northern end of the Mantrala-Dupad road in Markapur taluk.

or other to occupy them and this must fail by about 25th February when we may expect an influx in all suffering localities, especially Koilkuntla and Pattikonda taluks, where, too, unhappily we have no Public Works Department operations to help us. I do not know what I am to do for supervision. I cannot expect one District Board Engineer to cope with relief operations in tracts so remote from each other and so inaccessible in way of communications as Márkápúr, Cumbum and Koilkuntla, to say nothing of the rest of the district. Again, in addition to the kitchen already existing in Palakavid of Cumbum taluk, another was opened on the 3rd January in Márkápúr cusba and the numbers resorting to these are shown in the appended statement:—

Name of kitchen.	NUMBERS ON THE 1ST JANUARY 1892.				NUMBERS FED ON THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY.			
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Palakavid (Cumbum taluk) ..	34	37	131	202	35	50	176	261
2. Márkápúr (Márkápúr taluk) ..	13	11	56	* 80	17	25	120	162
Total ..	47	48	187	282	52	75	296	423

* On the 3rd when it was commenced.

It will be seen from the above that the numbers on gratuitous relief rose towards the end of the month from 282 to 423, chiefly in children. As it was shown that the distance from their homes to the kitchen prevented the old and infirm from attending morning and evening and so forced them to receive only one meal daily, I have ordered construction of inexpensive shelter sheds in the proximity of the kitchens. Kitchens have been subsequently found necessary at Dupad Donal, Pullalacheruvu and near the works in Cumbum taluk.

The general health of the people was good on the whole. There was fever slightly in parts as usual and cholera continued in Cumbum taluk in about half a dozen villages, but subsided about the end of the month. The total number of attacks and deaths was 175 and 63, respectively. Small-pox is reported to have prevailed to a small extent in Somidevipalli and Cumbum villages of the Cumbum taluk, in Gundupapala and Lingala of the Koilkuntla taluk, in Beeravole of Nandikótkur taluk, and in Rajapad of Sirvel taluk (where there were 9 attacks but no deaths).

8. *Condition of cattle.*—The condition of cattle was not generally good. In the Ramallakót taluk cattle are, the Divisional officer and the Tahsildar report, generally starving for want of fodder and are being sold to butchers for the value of their skins. I presume this refers to superfluous and valueless stock and not to agricultural cattle. In fact in passing through the taluk I observe the latter and indeed much of the general stock too still look in fair condition. Márkápúr taluk and then Cumbum are worst off in this respect. But in Márkápúr during my tour I saw hardly any cattle at all except buffaloes, and I was told they were all gone to the hills. In the Pattikonda taluk the cattle in the red soil villages are all very well off, but those in the black cotton portions are getting weak. In Koilkuntla taluk the Owk division fares bad in parts and some cattle there are reported to be dying for want of fodder, but the cattle in the rest of the taluk are still in tolerable condition though indubitably from what I have seen they are eking out a scanty subsistence. With regard to the Nandyál division, the Head Assistant Collector reports that he has not noticed any very marked deterioration.

Rinderpest continued during the month in the Nandikunta village of Nandikótkur taluk, but there were only 2 deaths out of 13 attacks. In Boyinapalli and Narsapuram villages of Ramallakót taluk epizootic apthra was reported to prevail to a small extent.

9. *Food-supply*—Is quite sufficient for a few months to come. The stock now on hand in Cumbum and Márkápúr taluks, which are the two taluks suffering worst for the present, is estimated to provide food for a lakh of persons for two and four months, respectively. In the Pyápali division the Deputy Collector states that the local stock is sufficient for the division for about 4 to 6 months even without the aid of imports.

10. *Fodder-supply*—Is generally insufficient and pasture is nil. Green fodder is out of the question and cattle are being sent to Nallamalais in Nandikótkur and Márkápúr taluks. Cholum stalks and korra grass are available in those villages in which there has been a fair yield of the crops and people in the worst parts of the Owk division, Koilkuntla taluk, are importing hill grass from the Nallamalais to supplement their scanty supplies. In the Cumbum division, especially in Márkápúr, régi leaves, dried hill grass and the withered vanga plants form the chief fodder for cattle. The prickly-pear experiments suggested in Board's Proceedings, No. 836, dated 30th December 1891, are being conducted by the Cumbum Divisional officer, but I find that some time must necessarily elapse before we can succeed in rooting out the long-standing prejudices cherished by the rural classes of the Ceded Districts against its use as fodder for cattle. In connection with the recent hay-making experiments ordered by the Board, a supply of hill grass by the District Forest-officer and of paddy straw by the Collector of Kistna was sent in December to Pattikonda taluk for sale to the ryots there, but the Tahsildar reports that it finds no ready market as the prices fixed are rather high, the quotations being Rs. 1-6-0 for a bundle of hill grass containing 100 pullies and Rs. 60 for a wagon-load of paddy straw. In the Koilkuntla taluk the present stocks of fodder are estimated to suffice for about four months to come in the cusba firka and in about half the Owk division. In the Pattikonda taluk there is enough of fodder in red soils, but the black-cotton soil villages are

largely suffering and their cattle are being sent to Yerramalas for grazing. In the Nandyál division the Head Assistant Collector reports that fodder is generally abundant even in those places known to be badly affected.

11. *Prices.*—The appended statement shows the average prices of the staple grains for the several weeks of the month in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Grains.	First week.	Second week.	Third week.	Fourth week.	Scarcity rates.
Rice, second sort	8-67	8-48	8-61	8-32	9-7
Ragi	13-60	13-76	13-76	13-60	14-7
Cumbu	12-13	12-10	12-82	12-58	13-1
Cholum	13-52	13-49	14-03	14-20	13-7

It will be seen from the above that the price of cholum gradually went down towards the end of the month, even lower than the scarcity rate, and this, I think, is attributable to large daily imports as well as to the partial harvest we have had in the district. The rest of the grains continued higher than the scarcity rate throughout the month, rice gradually becoming dearer towards the end. Ragi fell somewhat in the middle, but went back to its former price towards the end of the month. I consider that the rise in these grains is mostly due to the persistent action of the merchants in withholding grain in view to making a good bargain hereafter and partly to the failure of crops in the adjoining districts also.

12. *Loans.*—With the help of the two special Revenue Inspectors sanctioned for Cumbum and Márkápúr taluks for the purposes of working the special well rules under the Land Improvement Act, some progress has been made in the month under report in the way of sanctioning and disbursing loans for the construction and repair of wells. Two wells have been already constructed in Pattikonda and Márkápúr and 50 more are now under construction, 42 of which are in the Cumbum division. The subjoined table exhibits the sums sanctioned and disbursed under the two Loans Acts from the beginning of the current official year up to the end of the month under report:—

	Allotments.	SANCTIONED.			DISBURSED.		
		Up to end of December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.	Up to end of December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.
Land Improvement Act	rs.	rs.	rs.	rs.	rs.	rs.	rs.
Loans Act	22,000	7,220	9,925	17,145	5,300	5,425	10,725
Agriculturists' Loans Act	3,500	2,330	445	2,775	1,770	1,180	2,950
Total	25,500	9,550	10,370	19,920	7,070	6,605	13,675

From this it will be observed that out of an allotment of Rs. 25,500 under both the Acts, a sum of about Rs. 20,000 (in round figures) has already been sanctioned as loan, and of this Rs. 13,675, or more than two-thirds, were disbursed up to the end of the month under report. Out of Rs. 5,425 disbursed in January for wells, Rs. 4,950 of the special well rules is being specially impressed upon and understood by the people.

13. *General.*—The Special Assistant Collector appointed for this district having taken charge here on the 20th January, I was able to move about the district during the latter part of the month under report. I visited Dhona and Nandyál and went to Márkápúr inspecting state of country and crops on my way. In the Márkápúr taluk I visited the villages of (1) Nágálápúr, (2) Devarajaghattu, (3) Aravid, (4) Cherlopalli, (5) Ramayapalem, (6) Gudipad, (7) Sanikavarum, (8) Mudalakattu, (9) Rajampalli, (10) Dupad, (11) Tokapalli, (12) Gobbur and (13) Idupur. I found, wells excepted, a little castor and cotton still standing, but

they will yield no outturn. The rest of the crops, including later sowings of variga (which alone in a few isolated spots may yield 4 annas), has all perished and there was no harvest at all. Agricultural operations were absolutely nil and trade not very active generally. But there is, however, sufficient stock of food-supply, and I have not seen any absolute destitution or extraordinary begging. The numbers on relief works are, however, rapidly rising, and I attribute this to total cessation of agricultural employment of any kind. I also inspected the kitchen at Márkápúr and the road works in progress at Márkápúr, Dupad and Gudipad (Dornal) and found that the condition of the coolies on these works was good.

14. *Concluding remarks.*—On the whole I believe the Sirvel and Nandikótkur taluks to be best off at present: next comes Rámallakót, and then Nandyál: Pattikonda and Koilkuntla are in a condition which will develop unfavorably, I fear, towards the close of February, whilst Márkápúr and Cumbum are decidedly bad and must suffer still more acutely later on.

15. *I regret* the delay in the submission of this report, which is due to the late receipt of the cultivation returns from the taluks, the last return, i.e., that from Pattikonda, having been received only on the 6th instant. I have now arranged for the timely submission of these returns, and I hope to be able to submit my future reports within the time fixed by the Board.

Resolution—dated 18th February 1892, No. 117.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The adjusted accounts for January show that up to the end of the month the area brought to account as having been sown was 1,715,454 acres as compared with a 3-year average of 1,831,227 acres of dry land. In the Sirvel taluk there has been a small excess sown and in Cumbum the area is up to the average. The deficiency was largest in Pattikonda, Nandyál and Márkápúr. On the wet land only about two-thirds of the usual area has so far been cultivated, the deficiency being small in Nandikótkur and Nandyál, but exceeding 50 per cent. in Márkápúr and Pattikonda and nearly approaching that proportion in Rámallakót and Koilkuntla; except in the Cumbum taluk, however, no part of the district shows much wet cultivation in ordinary

years. In Cumbum, the great tank, which has an ayacut of over 5,500 acres, and which during the famine of 1876—78 supported nearly 3,700 acres of first and 1,300 acres* of second crop in the worst year, is now dry and the valuable sugar-cane crop grown under it is likely to yield only a quarter outturn. On the other hand, the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal has been proving useful. In Rámallakót, nearly the whole area commanded by it (2,946 acres) has been watered, and in Nandikótkur, Nandyál and Koilkuntla 23,166 acres have been irrigated in comparison with 7,049 acres watered last year and with nearly 59,000 acres, the area irrigated up to the end of February in 1877. The Collector considers that the circumstances of the past year were not so favorable to the extended use of irrigation water as were those of the latter year, and in this he is so far correct, that, in 1876, the rains failed entirely in October after very scanty rains in the preceding months, whilst during the past year there was a fair fall in that month, as well as in the three previous months.

Stations.	1876.				1891.			
	July.	August.	September.	October.	July.	August.	September.	October.
Nandyál	1-5	1-7	1-2	..	3-2	4-5	2-7	2-3
Nandyál	..	4-2	3-0	..	2-0	3-8	2-8	2-6
Koilkuntla	4	3-4	8	..	3-1	3-5	1-2	5-2
Chagalmari (Sirvel)	7	10-7	7	..	3-3	8-4	1-5	4-1

Nevertheless there can be no doubt that there has been widespread loss of crop in villages to which the canal water might have been taken, and the enormous rise which has taken place during the last few months in the price of food-grains should have given an enormous stimulus to cultivation. It may be that, owing to the low level of the water-supply in the Tungabhadra, it will not be possible for the area of irrigation to be much extended, but the Commissioner considers that the work done by the canal in 1876-77 should be taken by the District officers to be a fair guide to what the canal can do in the current year, and that no Divisional officer or officers connected in any way with the management of the canal should rest satisfied until he has assured himself that every demand for water made by ryots has been met, and that everything has been done to facilitate to the utmost possible extent the obtaining of water by those in need of it.

3. In Koilkuntla, the yield of crops harvested during the month in the Owk division was only 2 to 4 annas, but in the Koilkuntla firka it has ranged from 4-12 annas. In Nandyál the average yield of all crops is given as 4 annas, and in Sirvel as 8 annas.

In Cumbam, the outturn of the crops harvested has been very poor, and in Márkápúr the chief late food crop *variga* (*P. miliaceum*) has failed completely.

4. The standing crop in Pattikonda occupies but a small area and is not expected to yield much. In Rámallakót, it is bad in 15 villages, but good generally. In Nandikótkur, the condition of the crops is described too vaguely to allow of an opinion being formed. Nothing is said of the standing crop in Nandyál, but in Koilkuntla it is said to be fair in parts, and in Sirvel to be generally good. In Cumbam, under wells the crops are fair, but those on dry lands are withering, whilst in Márkápúr their condition is worse.

5. Pasture is non-existent and fodder is generally insufficient, but except what the Collector designates the "superfluous and valueless stock," the cattle do not appear to have suffered much. A good deal of fodder has been secured from the recent scanty harvests and withered crops, and the grazing resources of the Nallamalas and Yerramalas are being utilized very fully; whilst, in addition to this, grass is being cut on the hills in Márkápúr and Cumbum to a considerable extent. The use of prickly-pear as fodder does not make much progress.

6. Prices, as will be seen from the following table, were very much easier during January than in December, and the fall has since been continued. It is only in Cumbum and Márkápúr that cholium, the principal food-grain of the district, is being sold at prices above the scarcity rate:—

Stations.	December 1891.	1892.		February.		December 1891.	1892.		February.	
		January.	February, 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.		January.	February, 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Rice, 2nd sort.										
Pattikonda	8.6	8.9	8.9	7.3	13.3	14.4	14.7	16.4	8.7	31.8
Pyápali	8.0	8.6	..	6.7	13.4	15.3	15.4	..	9.3	33.6
Kurnool	8.2	8.2	..	6.8	12.4	12.0	14.4	..	8.6	26.6
Nandikótkur	8.6	9.6	10.0	6.4	14.7	12.4	14.7	16.4	7.9	27.1
Atmakúr	10.0	10.0	..	6.4	15.6	13.7	15.1	..	7.5	29.2
Kalva	8.6	8.6	..	6.1	12.5	11.6	13.9	..	7.5	30.8
Nandyál	7.6	8.9	8.9	7.5	12.3	12.7	13.7	14.4	7.9	..
Koilkuntla	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	13.1	12.6	12.6	14.2	..	..
Owk	7.5	8.0	..	6.6	14.7	14.2	13.2	..	..	..
Chagalmari (Sirvel)	7.6	7.9	7.9	6.8	12.9	13.8	13.7	..	..	..
Cumbum	8.3	8.3	7.5	7.0	12.7	13.8	12.6	..	..	..
Márkápúr	9.5	9.1	8.7	8.3	12.8	13.0	12.8	..	..	..
District average ..	8.4	8.6	8.5	6.9	13.2	13.3	13.6	..	..	..
Scarcity rate ..	9.7									
Cholium.										
Pattikonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rámallakót	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nandikótkur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cumbum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nandyál	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Koilkuntla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sirvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Márkápúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Stations.	December 1891.	1892.		February.		December 1891.	1892.		February.	
		January.	February 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.		January.	February 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Cumbu.										
Pattikonda	13.2	13.2	13.2	8.0	24.9	..	..	..	9.9	34.9
Pyápali	13.7	12.2	..	7.8	26.5	..	..	..	9.0	31.0
Kurnool	11.4	13.1	..	..	24.1	..	..	..	..	..
Nandikótkur	10.9	10.6	12.5	..	20.5	..	..	..	7.7	..
Atmakúr	11.2	11.2	..	7.5	20.0	..	..	..	..	30.9
Kalva	10.0	11.9	..	..	21.1	..	..	..	7.1	26.5
Nandyál	11.6	12.5	12.5	..	22.7	12.9	13.2	13.5	8.2	30.7
Koilkuntla	..	..	..	..	17.4	..	..	..	..	32.1
Owk	..	..	..	..	19.9	..	..	..	8.4	29.4
Chagalmari (Sirvel)	14.6	..	..	7.2	21.8	16.8	14.3	16.1	9.7	27.9
Cumbum	12.7	11.6	11.6	7.2	23.8	13.5	12.0	12.0	7.5	26.4
Márkápúr	12.7	11.6	12.0	..	..	16.0	12.7	12.7	..	..
District average	12.2	12.0	12.3	7.6	25.9	14.8	13.1	13.6	8.5	31.4
Scarcity rate	13.1					14.7				

Trade appears to be very active, but the merchants and others are, the Collector thinks, still holding back stocks in hopes of a future rise. At present prices have not nearly touched those prevailing in February 1877. The people continue in good condition, and in most parts the harvests have still been affording work for many. The worst parts of the district are the Márkápúr taluk, the northern portions of the Cumbum taluk and a portion of the Owk-division of Koilkuntla, where in about 12 villages no crop whatever has been reaped. The latter adjoin the Yádiki division of Anantapur where also distress has been felt. Besides these areas, there are about 40 villages in scattered blocks on the black-cotton soils of

Pattikonda, near Paniem in Nandyál, at the north-east corner of Sirvel, and near the cusbah village of Nandikótkur. The Collector estimates the number of persons likely to need relief at 27,000, and already, on the 13th February, there are 12,558 persons employed on relief works, chiefly in Márkápúr and Cumbum.

The Collector anticipates a much larger and more general influx of coolies on relief works towards the end of the current month, and, in anticipation of sanction, has ordered the commencement of breaking and stacking of metal at five different places near or in the affected areas, but he adds that the Local Fund staff is entirely inadequate to the supervision and management of the works in so many and such distant parts. The Commissioner considers that all relief works, whether on roads, or others, that may be carried out in Cumbum and Márkápúr, should be transferred to the charge of the Public Works Department, and that these taluks should be placed in charge of a separate Engineer. If this be done the Local Fund establishments should be able to manage the road works required in other parts of the district. The expenditure in these taluks is so large that it is absolutely necessary that it should be supervised by a responsible officer on the spot. The existing arrangements under which expenditure is supervised by the Division officer and Tahsildars is satisfactory in so far as it ensures that only those who actually attend and work are in receipt of wages, but it is unsatisfactory in securing from the workers the best work they are capable of giving. No arrangement can be satisfactory which does not provide for a frequent inspection on the spot of the rolls of those at work by an officer in whom implicit reliance can be placed.

7. The progress made in sinking wells by the aid of loans has not been great heretofore in the district, and up to the end of January only Rs. 15,496 had been

granted on 101 applications for the purpose, and of this Rs. 9,376 had been disbursed in eighty cases only. The greater part had been granted in Cumbum and Márkápúr, but there had been considerable delay in making disbursements after the loans were granted in the latter taluk, as well as in Pattikonda. The whole amount of the transactions is very small and shows that very much still remains to be done in the prosecution of this most valuable work.

8. The Collector visited the Márkápúr and Cumbum taluks during the month, and his special report thereon will be separately disposed of. In future, the monthly report may be dispensed with, the Collector submitting his *personal* remarks on the state of his district in the form of a fortnightly narrative for the fortnights ending the 15th and last day of each month.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collector of Kurnool.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

ORDER—dated 5th March 1892, No. 215, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government concurs in the Commissioner's remarks in the concluding portion of paragraph 2 of his Proceedings read above.

3. The question of appointing a separate Engineer to be in charge of all the relief works in the Cumbum and Márkápúr taluks, will be considered in the Public Works Department.

(True Extract.)

Ch. d. n.
Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. C. M. Brisson.

85 Copies.

291/6

Govt. of {1892} Madras. REVENUE.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 5th March 1892, No. 215.

MARCH.

Season, Kurnool.

Board's Proceedings submitting Collector's special season report for January 1892, recorded with the remark that the Government concurs in the remarks of the Board of Revenue that everything should be done to facilitate, to the utmost extent, the obtaining of water from the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal by those in need of it and that the question of appointing a separate Engineer in charge of all relief-works in the Cumbum and Márkápúr taluks will be considered in the Public Works Department.

BOARD OF REVENUE (REV. SETT., L. RDS. AND AGRI.), 18TH FEB. 1892, No. 117.

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

MR. CLOGSTOUN.

READ—the following letter from C. KOUGH, Esq., Collector of Kurnool, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 10th February 1892, No. 1047 :—

I have the honour to submit the special season report for the month of January 1892.

2. *Rainfall*.—None.

3. *Cultivation*.—The following table shows the extent of cultivation during the month under report and up to the previous month :—

Taluks.	Dry.				Wet.			
	Up to December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.	Average of the past three years.	Up to December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.	Average of the past three years.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
1. Pattikonda	332,752	8,784	341,536	377,112	2,248	261	2,509	5,256
2. Rámallakót	295,080	3,729	299,709	315,454	1,708	164	1,872	3,595
3. Nandikótkur	233,952	2,058	236,010	216,304	4,556	268	4,824	4,911
4. Nandyal	192,679	1,030	193,709	215,643	5,318	810	6,128	7,031
5. Koilkuntla	203,803	1,245	205,048	213,282	2,683	251	2,934	5,254
6. Sirvel	178,401	820	179,221	177,955	3,455	76	3,531	4,721
7. Cumbum	135,960	1,646	137,606	137,345	10,844	215	11,059	14,033
8. Márkápúr	120,806	1,909	122,715	148,132	2,728	104	2,832	5,840
Total ..	1,694,833	21,121	1,715,954	1,831,227	33,540	2,149	35,689	50,641

The figures in column 3 represent the cultivation of previous months omitted to be brought to account then and there. Those in column 7 denote the cultivation of second crop.

A comparison of the figures with the average of the past three years shows that there are still waste lands in Pattikonda, Nandyal and Márkápúr, and that the average has been reached only in Sirvel and approximated only in Cumbum. The other taluks call for no remarks. The cultivation in the Cumbum division was confined mostly to ragi under wells. The following table exhibits the cultivation under the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal :—

Taluks.	CULTIVATION DURING 1891-92.			Cultivation during 1890-91.
	Up to December.	In January.	Total.	
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Rámallakót	2,074	693	2,767	1,812
Nandikótkur	9,854	2,168	12,022	4,483
Nandyal	6,194	3,073	9,267	2,374
Koilkuntla	1,691	186	1,877	192
Sirvel	* 5,969	† ..	5,969	2,352
Total ..	25,782	6,120	31,902	11,213

* Supersedes the figures entered in the December report.

† Report not yet received.

It will be seen from the above that there was fairly good cultivation in January, all being second crop, and that already nearly three times the extent of last year has been cultivated. The Board has remarked (*vide* Board's Proceedings, No. 38, dated 18th January 1892) on my season report for December that the canal cultivation this year is only a third of that in 1876-77, but it will now be seen that, excluding Sirvel taluk for January, the cultivation has already come up to 32,000 acres, and, considering that the second-crop season under the canal generally extends to the end of March, I expect that about 15,000 acres more (including the deficit of Sirvel taluk) will come under cultivation. I do not at all anticipate that it will reach the figure of the late famine year. The circumstances are different. Extended cultivation under the canal depends upon failure of the monsoons, and this year the south-west cannot be said to have been an entire failure, and, until the latest date, ryots still expected the north-east. Cultivation, such as in the recent famine, would only follow after a repeated failure of the south-west monsoon. Besides, the river is so low that it will not be possible to send any volume of water down later on to mature second sowings over a considerable area. In Nandikótkur taluk Bengal-gram and black-gram were sown on lands irrigated by the canal, and ragi under wells and second-crop paddy was cultivated in most of the canal villages.

4. *Outturn.*—In Cumbum taluk all but cotton and Bengal-gram and ragi under wells have been harvested and their yield is reported to have been generally very poor, especially in the affected parts of the taluk. Sugar-cane under the Cumbum tank yielded 4 annas. In the Koilkuntla taluk the harvest of white cholum, which had commenced in December, continued throughout the month under report, and the yield of this, as well as of horse-gram, korra and pulses, which were also harvested in the month, has been generally from 2 to 4 annas in the Owk division and from 4 to 12 annas in the Koilkuntla firka. Ragi under wells was harvested in some parts and yielded about 4 to 12 annas. In other parts, it is ready for harvest. Linseed has withered in some parts and in others yielded from 1 to 4 annas generally. I saw it this month in places left on the ground as a failure, and it is strange it should be so left ungathered as, I believe, it is most injurious to cattle to eat it. Bengal-gram also gave about the same outturn. Red-gram and castor were harvested in parts of Pattikonda, and castor and cotton are being picked in this as well as in the Koilkuntla taluk. In parts of the Owk division of the latter taluk these two crops are estimated to yield from 2 to 4 annas. In the Pyápali division of Pattikonda taluk castor has yielded not more than 4 annas, but this is not strange considering that the crop was subject to blight from the very beginning. In Nandyál and Sirvel taluks, nearly all the standing crops were harvested in the month under report, and the average yield on the whole was quite 8 annas in the latter and about 4 annas in the former. Many crops in Nandyál have partially withered, but cholum, korra and cumbu have yielded from 4 to 12 annas, and cotton is being plucked. In the Kalva division of this taluk, yellow cholum and korra yielded 4 to 8 annas. In the Atmakur firka of Nandikótkur taluk, white cholum, chillies, Bengal-gram, horse-gram, castor-oil seed, gingelly and linseed were harvested. Chillies yielded 16 annas, Bengal-gram, linseed and gingelly 12 annas and horse-gram and castor-oil seed yielded a full crop in canal villages and 8 annas in the rest. In the cusba firka, white cholum, chillies, horse-gram, lamp-oil seed and linseed are being harvested and are estimated to yield not less than 4 annas on the average. In the Rámallakota, white cholum and dholl have yielded about 4 annas on the average and the paddy under the canal has yielded from 8 to 16 annas. In the Markapur taluk, the chief late food crop of variga has failed completely except in a few patches here and there, and even on these patches the yield was very little.

5. *Water-supply*—is generally sufficient for men and cattle, except in six villages of Nandikótkur taluk, in two or three villages of Owk division of Koilkuntla taluk where they have to get water from a distance of 2 or 3 miles, in two villages of Pattikonda taluk and very scanty for both men and cattle in Cumbum division especially in Markapur taluk where the river Gundlakumma has already dried up in some parts and the drinking-water wells too are reported to be failing. Local funds

are unfortunately not available for the improvement of drinking supplies. There is a proposal before the Executive Engineer to let canal water into certain ponds in Kondapurum village of Koilkuntla.

6. *Standing crops.*—In Pattikonda, paddy under springs, ragi under wells and Bengal-gram, wheat and cotton to some extent are generally in good condition, but white cholum has mostly withered away, and it is reported that even the little *standing* is unlikely to yield a crop. Cotton and Bengal-gram may yield about 4 annas and wheat about 2 annas. In Rámallakót taluk the standing crops, which are chiefly tobacco, white cholum, Bengal-gram, chillies, linseed, ragi and cotton and paddy under doruvu and private wells are generally in good condition and bad in about 15 villages. In the tract of this taluk lying between the Gooty and Bellary roads, the crops on some fields are withering, but those which are in good condition are estimated to yield from 4 to 8 annas. In Nandikótkur, the wet crops have withered away entirely under all the tanks except the Musalmadgu tank and the dry crops standing in those black-cotton villages which had sufficient rainfall, *i.e.*, cotton, chillies, white cholum, horse-gram, Bengal-gram, wheat, castor-oil seed are in good condition, but the rest are withering. In the Márkápur taluk all the standing dry and wet crops, except Bengal-gram and ragi under wells, have withered completely and Bengal-gram is still withering. In the Cumbum taluk wheat, Bengal-gram, castor, cotton, ragi under private wells and other garden crops are reported to be moderately good and the rest of the crops sown late; horse-gram and variga are withering. In the Koilkuntla taluk cotton, castor, horse-gram and Bengal-gram are in a tolerably good condition in parts and withering elsewhere. In Sirvel the garden crops under wells, onions, ragi, chillies, korra and other dry crops, which are Bengal-gram, linseed and cotton, are in a fair condition.

7. *Condition of people.*—The condition of the people was, on the whole, good everywhere. Labour was afforded to a large extent in harvesting the late crops, the more important of which were paddy, white cholum and cotton and in sowing paddy for second-crop cultivation. The parts suffering worst from distress are the whole of the Márkápur taluk and the whole of the Racherla firka and a portion of the Cumbum firka of the Cumbum taluk. Next come scattered tracts as follow: A portion of the Owk division of the Koilkuntla taluk, consisting of about 20 villages (about a dozen of which have had no crops whatever) mostly situated on and in the vicinity of the Banganapalli-Tadpatri road and on the hill plateau of the Yerramalais; about 40 villages (about 15 of which have had no crops whatever) comprising the black-cotton soils of the Pattikonda taluk; the neighbourhood of Panem, comprising a small portion about the centre of the Nandyál taluk, about half a dozen villages near Nandikótkur village in the taluk of that name, and about a dozen villages adjoining the Nallamalais in the north-east corner of Sirvel taluk. The classes of persons who are generally in need of relief are mostly Mala, Madiga, Boya, Balija and Muhammadan, and the numbers as roughly estimated by the Divisional officers and Tahsildars are as follow. Pattikonda 2,000, Rámallakót 1,000, Nandikótkur 500, Nandyál 1,000, Koilkuntla 3,000, Sirvel 500, Cumbum 5,000 and Márkápur 14,000. Some of the people of the villages of Pattikonda taluk bordering on Gooty, Adóni and Alúr taluks are going to the relief works opened in the neighbourhood of Chippagiri and Yemmiganur of the Bellary district and to the railway works near Guntakal, Anantapur district. The following table exhibits the several works that were in progress during the month for relief of distress and the number of coolies employed on the same.

Taluk.	Name of work.	Number of coolies in the 1st week of January 1892.	Number of coolies on 18th January 1892.	NUMBER OF COOLIES ON THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY 1892.			
				Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1. Márkápur ..	Márkápur tank repairs	33	..	30	9	5	44
	Vemulakota tank repairs	210	310	322	321	96	739
	Dupad road	1,445	1,495	560	726	147	1,433
	Dornal road	1,526	1,715	444	745	245	1,434
	Markapur Railway station road ..	1,189	1,343	598	865	305	1,768
	Thamballapalli tank	20	19	31	22	3	56
	Bommalapuram	..	53	40	44	8	92
	Rajampalli tank	..	..	Completed.			
	Total ..	4,423	4,935	2,625	2,732	809	5,566
2. Cumbum ..	Cumbum-Taticherla road	1,452	1,671	866	997	507	2,370
3. Ramallakot.	Road work near Kurnool town ..	428	499	97	263	188	548
4. Nandikotkur.	Mallamma tanks in Ramapuram ..	192	266	58	25	..	83
	Total ..	6,495	7,371	3,046	4,017	1,504	8,567

It will be seen from this that the numbers on works gradually increased during the month from 6,495 in the beginning to 8,567 towards the end of the month, thereby indicating that the need for relief is rapidly increasing especially in Cumbum division. I also understand that large numbers find employment in the sinking of

Breaking and stacking metal.

- (1) Near Kodumur and Maddikira in Pattikonda taluk.
- (2) Near Nandikotkur on the 20th mile of the Bairlooti road in Nandikotkur taluk.
- (3) Near Owk on the Banganapalli-Tad-patri road in Koilkuntla taluk.
- (4) Near Boyilakuntla along the Rampur pass road in Sirvel taluk.
- (5) Near Isakatipuravarum at the northern end of the Mantrala-Dupad road in Markapur taluk.

or other to occupy them and this must fail by about 25th February when we may expect an influx in all suffering localities, especially Koilkuntla and Pattikonda taluks, where, too, unhappily we have no Public Works Department operations to help us. I do not know what I am to do for supervision. I cannot expect one District Board Engineer to cope with relief operations in tracts so remote from each other and so inaccessible in way of communications as Márkápur, Cumbum and Koilkuntla, to say nothing of the rest of the district. Again, in addition to the kitchen already existing in Palakavid of Cumbum taluk, another was opened on the 3rd January in Márkápur cusba and the numbers resorting to these are shown in the appended statement:—

Name of kitchen.	NUMBERS ON THE 1ST JANUARY 1892.				NUMBERS FED ON THE LAST DAY OF JANUARY.			
	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Palakavid (Cumbum taluk)	34	37	131	202	35	50	176	261
2. Márkápur (Márkápur taluk)	13	11	56	* 80	17	25	120	162
Total ..	47	48	187	282	52	75	296	423

* On the 3rd when it was commenced.

It will be seen from the above that the numbers on gratuitous relief rose towards the end of the month from 282 to 423, chiefly in children. As it was shown that the distance from their homes to the kitchen prevented the old and infirm from attending morning and evening and so forced them to receive only one meal daily, I have ordered construction of inexpensive shelter sheds in the proximity of the kitchens. Kitchens have been subsequently found necessary at Dupad Donal, Pullalacheruvu and near the works in Cumbum taluk.

The general health of the people was good on the whole. There was fever slightly in parts as usual and cholera continued in Cumbum taluk in about half a dozen villages, but subsided about the end of the month. The total number of attacks and deaths was 175 and 63, respectively. Small-pox is reported to have prevailed to a small extent in Somidevipalli and Cumbum villages of the Cumbum taluk, in Gundupapala and Lingala of the Koilkuntla taluk, in Beeravole of Nandikotkur taluk, and in Rajapad of Sirvel taluk (where there were 9 attacks but no deaths).

8. *Condition of cattle.*—The condition of cattle was not generally good. In the Rámallakót taluk cattle are, the Divisional officer and the Tahsildar report, generally starving for want of fodder and are being sold to butchers for the value of their skins. I presume this refers to superfluous and valueless stock and not to agricultural cattle. In fact in passing through the taluk I observe the latter and indeed much of the general stock too still look in fair condition. Márkápur taluk and then Cumbum are worst off in this respect. But in Márkápur during my tour I saw hardly any cattle at all except buffaloes, and I was told they were all gone to the hills. In the Pattikonda taluk the cattle in the red soil villages are all very well off, but those in the black cotton portions are getting weak. In Koilkuntla taluk the Owk division fares bad in parts and some cattle there are reported to be dying for want of fodder, but the cattle in the rest of the taluk are still in tolerable condition though indubitably from what I have seen they are eking out a scanty subsistence. With regard to the Nandyál division, the Head Assistant Collector reports that he has not noticed any very marked deterioration.

Rinderpest continued during the month in the Nandikunta village of Nandikotkur taluk, but there were only 2 deaths out of 13 attacks. In Boyinapalli and Narsapuram villages of Rámallakót taluk epizootic apthra was reported to prevail to a small extent.

9. *Food-supply.*—Is quite sufficient for a few months to come. The stock now on hand in Cumbum and Márkápur taluks, which are the two taluks suffering worst for the present, is estimated to provide food for a lakh of persons for two and four months, respectively. In the Pyápali division the Deputy Collector states that the local stock is sufficient for the division for about 4 to 6 months even without the aid of imports.

10. *Fodder-supply.*—Is generally insufficient and pasture is nil. Green fodder is out of the question and cattle are being sent to Nallamalais in Nandikotkur and Márkápur taluks. Cholum stalks and korra grass are available in those villages in which there has been a fair yield of the crops and people in the worst parts of the Owk division, Koilkuntla taluk, are importing hill grass from the Nallamalais to supplement their scanty supplies. In the Cumbum division, especially in Márkápur, régi leaves, dried hill grass and the withered vanga plants form the chief fodder for cattle. The prickly-pear experiments suggested in Board's Proceedings, No. 836, dated 30th December 1891, are being conducted by the Cumbum Divisional officer, but I find that some time must necessarily elapse before we can succeed in rooting out the long-standing prejudices cherished by the rural classes of the Ceded Districts against its use as fodder for cattle. In connection with the recent hay-making experiments ordered by the Board, a supply of hill grass by the District Forest-officer and of paddy straw by the Collector of Kistna was sent in December to Pattikonda taluk for sale to the ryots there, but the Tahsildar reports that it finds no ready market as the prices fixed are rather high, the quotations being Rs. 1-6-0 for a bundle of hill grass containing 100 pullies and Rs. 60 for a wagon-load of paddy straw. In the Koilkuntla taluk the present stocks of fodder are estimated to suffice for about four months to come in the cusba firka and in about half the Owk division. In the Pattikonda taluk there is enough of fodder in red soils, but the black-cotton soil villages are

largely suffering and their cattle are being sent to Yerramalas for grazing. In the Nandyál division the Head Assistant Collector reports that fodder is generally abundant even in those places known to be badly affected.

11. *Prices.*—The appended statement shows the average prices of the staple grains for the several weeks of the month in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Grains.	First week.	Second week.	Third week.	Fourth week.	Scarcity rates.
Rice, second sort	8-67	8-48	8-61	8-32	9-7
Ragi	13-60	13-76	13-76	13-60	14-7
Cumbu	12-13	12-10	12-82	12-58	13-1
Cholum	13-52	13-49	14-03	14-20	13-7

It will be seen from the above that the price of cholom gradually went down towards the end of the month, even lower than the scarcity rate, and this, I think, is attributable to large daily imports as well as to the partial harvest we have had in the district. The rest of the grains continued higher than the scarcity rate throughout the month, rice gradually becoming dearer towards the end. Ragi fell somewhat in the middle, but went back to its former price towards the end of the month. I consider that the rise in these grains is mostly due to the persistent action of the merchants in withholding grain in view to making a good bargain hereafter and partly to the failure of crops in the adjoining districts also.

12. *Loans.*—With the help of the two special Revenue Inspectors sanctioned for Cumbum and Márkápúr taluks for the purposes of working the special well rules under the Land Improvement Act, some progress has been made in the month under report in the way of sanctioning and disbursing loans for the construction and repair of wells. Two wells have been already constructed in Pattikonda and Márkápúr and 50 more are now under construction, 42 of which are in the Cumbum division. The subjoined table exhibits the sums sanctioned and disbursed under the two Loans Acts from the beginning of the current official year up to the end of the month under report:—

	Allotments.	SANCTIONED.			DISBURSED.		
		Up to end of December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.	Up to end of December 1891.	In January 1892.	Total.
Land Improvement Loans Act	Rs. 22,000	Rs. 7,220	Rs. 9,925	Rs. 17,145	Rs. 5,300	Rs. 5,425	Rs. 10,725
Agriculturists' Loans Act	3,500	2,330	445	2,775	1,770	1,180	2,950
Total	25,500	9,550	10,370	19,920	7,070	6,605	13,675

From this it will be observed that out of an allotment of Rs. 25,500 under both the Acts, a sum of about Rs. 20,000 (in round figures) has already been sanctioned as loan, and of this Rs. 13,675, or more than two-thirds, were disbursed up to the end of the month under report. Out of Rs. 5,425 disbursed in January for wells, Rs. 4,950 pertain to Márkápúr and Cumbum taluks, which is a clear indication that the benefit of the special well rules is being specially impressed upon and understood by the people.

13. *General.*—The Special Assistant Collector appointed for this district having taken charge here on the 20th January, I was able to move about the district during the latter part of the month under report. I visited Dhone and Nandyál and went to Márkápúr inspecting state of country and crops on my way. In the Márkápúr taluk I visited the villages of (1) Nágálápúram, (2) Devarajaghattu, (3) Aravid, (4) Cherlopalli, (5) Ramayapalem, (6) Gudipad, (7) Sanikavarum, (8) Mudalakattu, (9) Rajampalli, (10) Dupad, (11) Tokapalli, (12) Gobbur and (13) Idupur. I found, wells excepted, a little castor and cotton still standing, but

they will yield no outturn. The rest of the crops, including later sowings of variga (which alone in a few isolated spots may yield 4 annas), has all perished and there was no harvest at all. Agricultural operations were absolutely nil and trade not very active generally. But there is, however, sufficient stock of food-supply, and I have not seen any absolute destitution or extraordinary begging. The numbers on relief works are, however, rapidly rising, and I attribute this to total cessation of agricultural employment of any kind. I also inspected the kitchen at Márkápúr and the road works in progress at Márkápúr, Dupad and Gudipad (Dornal) and found that the condition of the coolies on these works was good.

14. *Concluding remarks.*—On the whole I believe the Sirvel and Nandikótkur taluks to be best off at present: next comes Rámallakót, and then Nandyál: Pattikonda and Koilkuntla are in a condition which will develop unfavorably, I fear, towards the close of February, whilst Márkápúr and Cumbum are decidedly bad and must suffer still more acutely later on.

15. *I regret* the delay in the submission of this report, which is due to the late receipt of the cultivation returns from the taluks, the last return, i.e., that from Pattikonda, having been received only on the 6th instant. I have now arranged for the timely submission of these returns, and I hope to be able to submit my future reports within the time fixed by the Board.

RESOLUTION—dated 18th February 1892, No. 117.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The adjusted accounts for January show that up to the end of the month the area brought to account as having been sown was 1,715,454 acres as compared with a 3-year average of 1,831,227 acres of dry land. In the Sirvel taluk there has been a small excess sown and in Cumbum the area is up to the average. The deficiency was largest in Pattikonda, Nandyál and Márkápúr. On the wet land only about two-thirds of the usual area has so far been cultivated, the deficiency being small in Nandikótkur and Nandyál, but exceeding 50 per cent. in Márkápúr and Pattikonda and nearly approaching that proportion in Rámallakót and Koilkuntla; except in the Cumbum taluk, however, no part of the district shows much wet cultivation in ordinary years. In Cumbum, the great tank, which has an ayacut of over 5,500 acres, and which during the famine of 1876—78 supported nearly 3,700 acres of first and 1,300 acres* of second crop in the worst year, is now dry and the valuable sugar-cane crop

grown under it is likely to yield only a quarter outturn. On the other hand, the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal has been proving useful. In Rámallakót, nearly the whole area commanded by it (2,946 acres) has been watered, and in Nandikótkur, Nandyál and Koilkuntla 23,166 acres have been irrigated in comparison with 7,049 acres watered last year and with nearly 59,000 acres, the area irrigated up to the end of February in 1877. The Collector considers that the circumstances of the past year were not so favorable to the extended use of irrigation water as were those of the latter year, and in this he is so far correct, that, in 1876, the rains failed entirely in October after very scanty rains in the preceding months, whilst during the past year there was a fair fall in that month, as well as in the three previous months.

Stations.	1876.				1891.			
	July.	August.	September.	October.	July.	August.	September.	October.
Nandikótkur	1-5	1-7	1-2	..	3-2	4-5	2-7	2-3
Nandyál	..	4-2	3-0	..	2-0	3-8	2-8	2-6
Koilkuntla	..	4-3	..	..	3-1	3-5	1-2	5-2
Chagalmari (Sirvel)	..	7	7	..	3-3	8-4	1-5	4-1

791/10

Nevertheless there can be no doubt that there has been widespread loss of crop in villages to which the canal water might have been taken, and the enormous rise which has taken place during the last few months in the price of food-grains should have given an enormous stimulus to cultivation. It may be that, owing to the low level of the water-supply in the Tungabhadra, it will not be possible for the area of irrigation to be much extended, but the Commissioner considers that the work done by the canal in 1876-77 should be taken by the District officers to be a fair guide to what the canal can do in the current year, and that no Divisional officer or officers connected in any way with the management of the canal should rest satisfied until he has assured himself that every demand for water made by ryots has been met, and that everything has been done to facilitate to the utmost possible extent the obtaining of water by those in need of it.

3. In Koilkuntla, the yield of crops harvested during the month in the Owk division was only 2 to 4 annas, but in the Koilkuntla firka it has ranged from 4-12 annas. In Nandyál the average yield of all crops is given as 4 annas, and in Sirvel as 8 annas.

In Cumbum, the outturn of the crops harvested has been very poor, and in Márkápúr the chief late food crop *variga* (*P. miliaceum*) has failed completely.

4. The standing crop in Pattikonda occupies but a small area and is not expected to yield much. In Rámallakót, it is bad in 15 villages, but good generally. In Nandikótkur, the condition of the crops is described too vaguely to allow of an opinion being formed. Nothing is said of the standing crop in Nandyál, but in Koilkuntla it is said to be fair in parts, and in Sirvel to be generally good. In Cumbum, under wells the crops are fair, but those on dry lands are withering, whilst in Márkápúr their condition is worse.

5. Pasture is non-existent and fodder is generally insufficient, but except what the Collector designates the "superfluous and valueless stock," the cattle do not appear to have suffered much. A good deal of fodder has been secured from the recent scanty harvests and withered crops, and the grazing resources of the Nallamalas and Yerramalas are being utilized very fully; whilst, in addition to this, grass is being cut on the hills in Márkápúr and Cumbum to a considerable extent. The use of prickly-pear as fodder does not make much progress.

6. Prices, as will be seen from the following table, were very much easier during January than in December, and the fall has since been continued. It is only in Cumbum and Márkápúr that cholam, the principal food-grain of the district, is being sold at prices above the scarcity rate:—

Stations.	December 1891.	1892.		February.		December 1891.	1892.		February.	
		January.	February, 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.		January.	February, 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Rice, 2nd sort.</i>										
Pattikonda	8.6	8.9	8.9	7.3	13.3	14.4	14.7	15.4	8.7	31.8
Pyápali	8.0	8.6	..	6.7	13.4	15.3	15.4	..	9.3	33.6
Kurnool	8.2	8.2	..	6.8	12.4	12.0	14.4	..	8.6	26.6
Nandikótkur	8.6	9.6	10.0	6.4	14.7	12.4	14.7	16.4	7.9	27.1
Atmakúr	10.0	10.0	..	6.4	15.6	13.7	15.1	..	7.5	29.2
Kalva	8.6	8.6	..	6.1	12.5	11.6	13.9	..	7.5	30.8
Nandyál	7.6	8.9	8.9	7.5	12.3	12.7	13.7	14.4	7.9	26.9
Koilkuntla	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	13.1	12.6	12.6	14.2	7.5	28.9
Owk	7.5	8.0	..	6.6	14.7	14.2	13.2	..	..	27.8
Chagalmari (Sirvel) ..	7.6	7.9	7.9	6.8	12.9	13.8	13.7	15.4	7.9	27.7
Cumbum	8.3	8.3	7.5	7.0	12.7	13.8	12.6	12.6	8.3	26.9
Márkápúr	9.5	9.1	8.7	8.3	12.8	13.0	12.8	13.0	7.9	28.4
District average ..	8.4	8.6	8.5	6.9	13.2	13.3	13.9	14.5	8.1	30.1
Scarcity rate ..	9.7					13.7				
<i>Cholam.</i>										

Stations.	December 1891.	1892.		February.		December 1891.	1892.		February.	
		January.	February 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.		January.	February 6th.	Last famine.	Normal.
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<i>Cumbu.</i>										
Pattikonda	13.2	13.2	13.2	8.0	24.9	..	..	..	9.9	34.9
Pyápali	13.7	12.2	..	7.8	24.1	..	..	..	9.0	31.0
Kurnool	11.4	13.1	..	..	20.5	..	..	..	..	..
Nandikótkur	10.9	10.6	12.5	7.5	20.0	..	..	..	7.7	..
Atmakúr	11.2	11.2	..	..	21.1	..	..	..	..	30.9
Kalva	10.0	11.9	..	..	22.7	12.9	13.2	13.5	7.1	26.5
Nandyál	11.6	12.5	12.5	..	17.4	..	..	..	8.2	30.7
Koilkuntla	..	..	..	..	19.9	..	..	..	..	32.1
Owk	14.6	..	..	..	22.8	16.8	14.3	15.1	8.4	29.4
Chagalmari (Sirvel) ..	12.7	11.6	11.6	7.2	21.8	13.5	12.0	12.0	9.7	27.9
Cumbum	12.7	11.6	12.0	7.2	23.8	10.0	12.7	12.7	7.5	26.4
Márkápúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
District average ..	12.2	12.0	12.3	7.6	25.9	14.8	13.1	13.6	8.6	31.4
Scarcity rate ..	13.1					14.7				

Trade appears to be very active, but the merchants and others are, the Collector thinks, still holding back stocks in hopes of a future rise. At present prices have not nearly touched those prevailing in February 1877. The people continue in good condition, and in most parts the harvests have still been affording work for many. The worst parts of the district are the Márkápúr taluk, the northern portions of the Cumbum taluk and a portion of the Owk-division of Koilkuntla, where in about 12 villages no crop whatever has been reaped. The latter adjoin the Yádiki division of Anantapur where also distress has been felt. Besides these areas, there are about 40 villages in scattered blocks on the black-cotton soils of

Pattikonda, near Paniem in Nandyál, at the north-east corner of Sirvel, and near the eusbah village of Nandikótkur. The Collector estimates the number of persons likely to need relief at 27,000, and already, on the 13th February, there are 12,558 persons employed on relief works, chiefly in Márkápúr and Cumbum.

The Collector anticipates a much larger and more general influx of coolies on relief works towards the end of the current month, and, in anticipation of sanction, has ordered the commencement of breaking and stacking of metal at five different places near or in the affected areas, but he adds that the Local Fund staff is entirely inadequate to the supervision and management of the works in so many and such distant parts. The Commissioner considers that all relief works, whether on roads, or others, that may be carried out in Cumbum and Márkápúr, should be transferred to the charge of the Public Works Department, and that these taluks should be placed in charge of a separate Engineer. If this be done the Local Fund establishments should be able to manage the road works required in other parts of the district. The expenditure in these taluks is so large that it is absolutely necessary that it should be supervised by a responsible officer on the spot. The existing arrangements under which expenditure is supervised by the Division officer and Tahsildars is satisfactory in so far as it ensures that only those who actually attend and work are in receipt of wages, but it is unsatisfactory in securing from the workers the best work they are capable of giving. No arrangement can be satisfactory which does not provide for a frequent inspection on the spot of the rolls of those at work by an officer in whom implicit reliance can be placed.

7. The progress made in sinking wells by the aid of loans has not been great heretofore in the district, and up to the end of January only Rs. 15,496 had been

granted on 101 applications for the purpose, and of this Rs. 9,376 had been disbursed in eighty cases only. The greater part had been granted in Cumbum and Márkápúr, but there had been considerable delay in making disbursements after the loans were granted in the latter taluk, as well as in Pattikonda. The whole amount of the transactions is very small and shows that very much still remains to be done in the prosecution of this most valuable work.

8. The Collector visited the Márkápúr and Cumbum taluks during the month, and his special report thereon will be separately disposed of. In future, the monthly report may be dispensed with, the Collector submitting his *personal* remarks on the state of his district in the form of a fortnightly narrative for the fortnights ending the 15th and last day of each month.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

„ Collector of Kurnool.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1892.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records
and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Printed February 24th.

Proceedings, 18th February 1892, No. 117.

Submitting, with remarks, for the information
of Government, letter from the Collector of Kur-
nool regarding the state of the season in his district
for the month of January 1892.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

+ Copy attached

Read *Proceedings of the Board of*

Revenue (R.S.L.R. & A.) dated 18th February 1892 No. 117.

Order thereon, 5th March 1892 No. 215.

Recorded.

291/13

2. The Government concurs in the Commissioner's
remarks in the concluding portion of para 2 of his Proceed-
ings read above.

3. The question of appointing a separate Engineer
to be in charge of all the relief works in the Cuddalore
and Marthandapur taluhs will be considered in the Public
Works Department.

(True Extract)

Chatterjee
Secretary to Government

To

The Commr. of R.S.L.R. & A.

a Public Works Dept.

Copy - Local & M. Dept.

P. W. CURRENT No. 2411

Govt. of 1892 Madras.

REVENUE.

To

The Public Works Dept.

Dated

Recd. 7-3-92

Encl.

Mis. G.O., 5th May, 1892, No. 213

SUBJECT.

Recording with remarks B.P.
Submitting letter from the Comr.
of Kurnool Subdivision regarding
the state of season in Kurnool
for the month of January 1892.

No. 791 Wd 10 March 1892

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following

Proc. Rev. Dept. No. 2157 5-3-92

Communicate to
the Supl. Enr. III Circle,
who will arrange to carry
out the recommendation
of the Commissioner, with
request to relay works
in the Cuddalore and
Mankapur Taluqs. An
additional engineer
officer, Mr. C. A. Smith,
has been posted to the
Kurnool division.

S. B. III Circle
Cm. S. on 7/3/92
D. 11/3

4/3/92 S. B.

~~Handwritten mark~~

Note - Telephone
message sent to
B. of War for 2 copies
of its Pro: 1-18-92
18-2-92

By
No. 791 W. of 18-3-92
8-11

(14)