(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 12

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் 11.90

(3) ஆதாரங்குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம்

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

PWD. துறை

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மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது

ஆவண. கா-1—18,006—15-6-87.

1010

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 15th March 1893, No. 104 :—

Read—the following letter from W. H. WELSH, Esq., Collector of Trichinopoly, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Trichinopoly, 3rd March 1893, No. 112—4 :—

I have the honour to report on the season for the fortnight ending 28th February 1893.

2. *Rain-fall.*—There has been rain-fall in some of the stations as shown below :—

	INCHES.
Turaiyur, 26th	0·60
Perambalúr, 28th	0·50
Trichinopoly, 28th	0·26
Srirangam, 28th	0·45

It is also reported that there was about three-fourths of an inch of rain in some of the villages to the north of the Coleroon in Trichinopoly taluk on the 27th, about an inch of rain in the north-western part of the Musiri taluk and in some of the villages in the eastern part of the Kulitalai taluk on the night of the 25th. This rain was beneficial to the standing crops to a little extent.

3. *Progress of cultivation.*—Paddy, cumbu, tobacco, &c., were cultivated in dry lands under wells.

4. *Crops harvested.*—Of the extent cultivated with paddy, 84 per cent. in Trichinopoly, 20 per cent. in Musiri and 54 per cent. in Kulitalai have been harvested, and the yield has been 8 to 16 annas in Trichinopoly and Musiri and 4 to 16 annas in Kulitalai. Of the extent cultivated with dry crops, the crops on 97 per cent. in Trichinopoly, 91 per cent. in Musiri and 99 per cent. in Kulitalai have been harvested, and the outturn has been on an average 8 annas in Trichinopoly and Musiri and 4 annas in Kulitalai. In Udayárpálaiyam taluk the probable outturn of paddy and of dry crops was on an average 8 annas. The Tahsildar of Perambalúr reports that the crops on 86 per cent. of the lands cultivated have been harvested and that the outturn has been on an average 10 annas.

5. *Condition of standing crops.*—In Trichinopoly, the kodaikar paddy standing on lands irrigated by the Wyakondan, is in good state and will yield an average outturn. The supply in the other river channels was decreasing, and it was feared that some of the crops would wither; fortunately, however, the recent rain brought down some water in the channels, and it is hoped that the crops will be saved although the outturn may not be anything like the average. The standing dry crops of Trichinopoly taluk may probably yield an outturn of 7 annas. In Musiri, Kulitali and Udayárpálaiyam the wet crops under river channels and other sources aided by wells are fair. The crops under other sources have withered and shavi is being inspected. The dry crops on the small extent not yet matured are in a hopeless condition in Kulitalai and Musiri and are fair in Udayárpálaiyam. The Perambalúr Tahsildar reports that the condition of the standing crops in that taluk is anything but good.

6. *Course of prices.*—The price of rice has fallen a little in Kulitalai and Perambalúr and that of ragi in Trichinopoly. It has risen a little in the case of cholum in Kulitalai and cumbu in Musiri. The district average is 9·27 against 8·98 in the case of rice, 15·80 against 15·72 in the case of ragi, 14·93 against 15·40 in the case of cholum and 15·82 against 16·08 in the case of cumbu.

7. *Condition of trade and condition of people.*—There has been no material change under these heads. There was one case of cholera in Perambalúr taluk. Want of employment is not yet felt by the people and there is still no tendency in the people to wander in search of employment. But it is reported that the supply of drinking-water in wells is running short in dry villages especially in Udayárpálaiyam and Musiri. The Presidents of the Taluk Boards are doing what they can to cope with the failure of water-supply.

Read—the following letter from H. M. WINTERBOTHAM, Esq., Acting Collector of Tanjore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Vallam, 5th March 1893, No. 165:—

I have the honour to submit the special season report for the month of February 1893 as directed in paragraph 4 of Board's Proceedings, dated 20th January 1893, No. 30 (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

2. *Rainfall.*—At Mannárgudi, on the 27th of February last, there was a heavy thunderstorm during which 1·47 inches of rain fell. The storm touched no other rain-registering station, but it appears to have travelled in a south-westerly direction, passing a few miles to the north of Patukóta town. At Patukóta on the 28th one ounce of rain was registered. The rain may have done some good to the small area cultivated with gingelly and garden crops in the path of these storms. There has been no other rain anywhere throughout the month. Until the ripe paddy is harvested rain would do more harm than good.

3. *Harvest.*—The harvest of about three-quarters of the whole cultivated area, wet and dry, was over at the end of the month. According to the returns of the Tahsildars the area remaining to be harvested is about three lakhs of acres. Unfortunately I find myself unable to distinguish this area under wet and dry. There is no doubt that nearly the whole of the area remaining to be harvested is paddy including all withered crops awaiting inspection by the jamabandi officials. I give below, for what they may be worth, the Tahsildar's estimates of the outturn. I do not think that on the whole the delta can have yielded more than half its average crop:—

Taluks.	Area harvested.	Estimate of outturn.							Average outturn in annas of a normal year.
		20 annas.	16 annas.	12 annas.	8 annas.	4 annas.	—	Average in annas.	
Tanjore	170,852	1,538	25,290	36,467	56,160	39,332	12,075	8	13
Kumbakónam ..	86,935	593	27,051	19,927	30,100	8,991	273	11	14
Máyavaram	119,566	1,344	51,695	39,824	19,992	6,666	48	13	Not given.
Shiyáli	42,932	..	14 as.	12 as.	10 as.				
Nannilam	121,345	1,698	39,952	519	965	1,496	..	13	12
Negapatam	70,290	563	44,012	31,993	18,955	4,648	36	13	Not available.
Tiruturaipóndi ..	120,092	190	13,321	17,228	26,427	12,781	..	10	11
Mannárgudi	109,142	231	10,338	20,512	28,476	31,576	29,000	6	12
Patukóta	15,515	..	14,000	25,000	34,000	32,000	3,911	9	9
			724	1,680	8,179	2,492	2,440	7	

4. *Prices.*—Prices continued almost stationary with a slight tendency downwards towards the end of the month. The average price of 2nd-sort rice at the end of the month was close on 10 imperial seers for a rupee. Nearly 41,000 sacks of paddy and rice (separate figures for each not available) are reported to have left the district by rail and by sea, chiefly to Ceylon, Trichinopoly, Madura and Tinnevelly. More than 38,000 sacks of paddy and 1,670 sacks of rice have been imported at Negapatam, almost the whole of it coming from Burma.

Week ending	Rice, 2nd sort.	Ragi.	Cumbu.
	I. S.	I. S.	I. S.
28th January 1893 ..	9·9	16·2	14·5
4th February ,, ..	9·8	15·8	14·5
11th ,, ,, ..	9·9	15·8	14·5
18th ,, ,, ..	9·9	15·8	14·5
25th ,, ,, ..	9·9	15·3	14·6

5. *Condition of the people.*—The Divisional officers all take a hopeful view of the situation. It is useless to pretend that the present prices of food do not occasion great hardship to the poorer classes, but there is nothing like famine in any part of the district, nor is any supply of labour available at less than the usual wage. The immigration of Maravars and other castes from Ramnad continues, but has yet occasioned no inconvenience. There is no increase in crime and the conduct of the wandering gangs has hitherto been exemplary.

Read—the following letter from J. STURROCK, Esq., Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated 9th March 1893, Ref. on No. 334-Bd.:—

I have the honour to submit my season report on the five affected taluks of the district for the period ending 28th February 1893. I have not much to say, as there has been little change since the date of my report recorded with Board's Proceedings, dated 21st February 1893, No. 73.

2. *Rainfall.*—The registered rainfall up to date is only as follows:—

Erode taluk, Perundurai	·50
Karúr taluk, Aravakurchi	·09
Palladam taluk, Palladam	·50
Palladam taluk, Avanáshi	·36

There have, however, been a few showers in villages which will be noted in my remarks on each taluk.

3. *Prices.*—Prices have been on the whole very steady throughout the month. The following statement shows those prevailing on the 4th and 25th:—

Taluk.	Rice.		Cholum.		Cumbu.		Ragi.	
	4th.	25th.	4th.	25th.	4th.	25th.	4th.	25th.
	9·95	9·95	15·66	15·66	19·08	19·08	18·86	18·04
Erode	8·14	8·14	15·66	15·66	17·49	19·08	18·04	19·68
Palladam	8·54	8·54	15·44	15·44	17·50	16·75	17·29	16·88
Dhárápuram	10·86	10·86	14·79	14·79	18·28	17·49	17·32	17·22
Karúr	9·04	8·04	13·99	14·48	18·37	19·25	17·29	17·29
Udamalpet								

From the subjoined statement of maximum and minimum prices at the different markets at the end of the month, it will be seen that the prices of the staple grains were nowhere much below those prevailing at the cusbah station and in many cases were considerably better:—

Taluk.	Rice, 2nd sort.		Cholum.		Cumbu.		Ragi.	
	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Minimum.
	9·95	9·05	17·40	15·66	19·08	19·08	19·68	16·40
Erode	9·95	8·59	16·53	15·66	22·36	19·08	19·68	16·40
Palladam	10·00	9·00	17·00	15·00	22·00	19·00	20·00	18·00
Dhárápuram	11·75	9·00	15·66	13·92	19·08	14·30	18·04	16·40
Karúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Udamalpet	..	8·00	..	10·50	..	12·50	..	13·00
Scarcity rate								

4. *Cultivation, water-supply and condition of the people and cattle.*—I shall briefly notice these points in connection with each taluk separately.

Palladam taluk.—The cultivation amounted to 2,151 acres against an average of 2,282. This is garden cultivation, and indicates that the drying up of the wells is not serious. There was half an inch of rain at Palladam cusbah on the 22nd, and I have just heard of 36 cents at Avanáshi. This will help on the garden crops, and freshen up the cotton which is very promising to the west of the taluk, and is estimated to yield from four to eight annas elsewhere. There is as yet no serious complaint of want of demand for labour. Harvesting is going on in gardens; and cotton cleaning affords work to large numbers. The condition of the people is said to be good and that of cattle fair.

Erode taluk.—Here also a cultivation of 1,120 acres of garden land against an average of 938 does not indicate that the wells are much worse than usual at this time of year. Labour is in demand for the ordinary garden land harvest, and there is still some cholam being harvested on dry lands, and cotton picking is going on. In addition to this, rain averaging about half an inch throughout about half the taluk has led to ploughing being begun. The condition of the people is reported to be good, and though there is no pasture and fodder is limited, the cattle are not yet in bad condition.

Dhárápuram.—The cultivation brought to account was only 753 acres against an average of 6,811, but rain, amounting in some cases to about one inch having fallen on the 26th in the Kundadom and Mulanúr firkas, the ryots have begun to plough and sow gingelly. Rain is very much wanted in the south of the taluk, and there is much shavi under the Amarávati channels. A good deal of this, however, is second crop on compounded double crop land which will not involve remission. No serious difficulty is said as yet to be experienced by those desiring work. The cattle are reported to be weak for want of pasture.

Karúr.—The cultivation during the month was only 2,030 acres against an average of 6,211. I send herewith copy of the Sub-Collector's report on the state of the Karúr taluk which had not reached me when I submitted my report for January. It will be seen that he states he received nowhere any applications for work from the labouring classes, who have hitherto been able to get employment. I have sanctioned the withholding of coercive process in the case of 21 villages to the same extent as already reported with regard to Udamalpet and Dhárápuram.

Udamalpet.—Cultivation extended to only 551 acres against 1,144. There has been no rain and no improvement of any kind; but serious want of labour is not yet reported, as a certain amount of work is found in connection with wet and garden lands, and the more well-to-do ryots are improving their dry lands by removing roots from black soil lands; a good deal of work is also going on in connection with the deepening of wells, and the sale of hill grass, firewood, bamboos, &c. Some of the cattle are said to be emaciated, and some have died.

5. I have learned from the Local Fund Engineer that, if necessary, he can spend the marginally-noted sums on ordinary works in the three most affected taluks in the first three months of the year 1893-94: and I have asked him to let me know whether he would recommend reduced wages on any of them. I do not think such a course at present desirable with regard to works which would ordinarily be carried out in these months by the coolies who work regularly for the Department. In the case of the Udamalpet and Dhárápuram taluks I know of no irrigation works which could usefully be taken up by the Revenue Department. In the Karúr taluk there are several, and I have asked the Sub-Collector to make a selection from them and let me know how he would propose to carry them out if relief works are unfortunately found to be necessary. I have also written to the Executive Engineer about the few works of the kind shown in the famine programme for execution by that department. There

—	April.	May.	June.
	rs.	rs.	rs.
Udamalpet	1,100	1,150	1,150
Dhárápuram	2,200	2,400	2,550
Karúr	1,775	2,025	2,225

is only one of any importance—the extension of the Kolinjavadi channel—and it is probable that it would not be advisable to take it in hand unless distress assumed very serious dimensions.

6. There is no doubt that it is in the Udamalpet taluk that serious distress will first arise if rain holds off, and I have therefore, in communication with the Local Fund Engineer and the Head Assistant Collector, decided, subject to the Board's approval, that as soon as urgent demand for labour arises, arrangements shall be made to commence stone-breaking at famine rates on the first four miles of the Udamalpet-Pollách road where metal is much required. If numbers crowd to this, the following metalling can also profitably be taken in hand:—

		1st to 5th mile.
Udamalpet to Palladam		11 miles.
Do.	Dhárápuram	7 do.
Do.	Dhali	12 do.
Do.	Komaralingam	9 do.
Do.	Madathukolam	

P.S.—I have just received a report of a fall of 1·88 inches of rain at Udamalpet on the 7th.

Enclosure.

From G. DANCE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Coimbatore, to the Collector of Coimbatore, dated 1st March 1893, Ref. on No. 903-R. G.

I have the honour to submit a report on the state of the season in the Karúr taluk. Before going on tour last month in that taluk, I asked the Tahsildar to submit a list of villages which he considered to have suffered the most. A statement showing the cultivation in each for the last four faslis is enclosed. I subjoin a summary of the state of each village based on the information available from the village accounts.

Pogalore Firka.

† *Paramathi.*—The extent brought under cultivation is up to the average, but the outturn of four annas and less compares very unfavorably with previous faslis.

Mannur.—Extent cultivated up to the average and the outturn cannot be considered very poor.

† *Karudayampalayam.*—Extent cultivated same as usual, but about half yielded an outturn of less than four annas.

Nedungúr.—Average extent cultivated. Outturn might be much worse.

† *Kappam.*—Extent brought under cultivation less than usual. Four-fifths yielded an outturn of four annas and less which is greatly below the average.

† *Punnam.*—Less than half the usual extent brought under cultivation. Outturn so and so.

† *Athúr.*—Only three-fourths of the usual extent brought under cultivation. Two-thirds of the outturn is less than four annas.

† *Káthappárai.*—The extent cultivated is below the average and more than half of it gave an outturn of only four annas.

Chinna Dhārāpuram Firka.

† *Nadanthai.*—Extent cultivated less than the average by 2,000 acres and the outturn over two-thirds of it only four annas.

† *Ariyúr.*—Extent cultivated much as usual. Outturn poor, but not much below average.

† *Thennilai, East.*—Extent cultivated rather below the average. Outturn very poor.

Thennilai, West.—Extent cultivated up to average. Over one-fourth of it yielded an outturn of four annas and less.

Gúdalúr.—Extent cultivated greatly in excess of the average, though most of it yielded an outturn of only four annas.

† *Kotandur.*—Extent cultivated and outturn much as usual.

† *Thennilait, South.*—Ditto.

† *Chúdámoni.*—Extent cultivated below the average. Outturn not so very bad.

† *Pallappatti.*—Extent cultivated much as usual. Outturn decidedly poor.

† *Inanganúr.*—Extent cultivated much as usual, but most of it yielded an outturn of only four annas.

Modakkúr.—Rather less than the average extent cultivated. Outturn fair though much below average.

Sándapádi.—Average extent cultivated though the outturn is below the average.

† *Pungambádi.*—Average extent cultivated, but the outturn universally poor.

† *Nagamballi.*—Ditto.

KARUR FIRKA.

† *Thóranakalpatti.*—Average extent cultivated, but most of the outturn only four annas.

† *Kódayúr.*—Average extent cultivated, but yield almost universally poor.

† *Kákavádi.*—Extent cultivated as usual, but yield mostly four annas.

† *Thálapatti.*—Average extent cultivated, but outturn very poor.

† *Puthambúr.*—Very poor outturn for the year and the two previous years also bad.

† *Paganatham.*—Cultivated extent below average and outturn mostly four annas.

† *Mukkanánkurchi.*—Outturn very much below average.

† *Emúr.*—Outturn very poor indeed.

† *Mánavádi.*—No great cause for complaint.

3. I have had no opportunity of checking the above estimates, because the crops had almost all been harvested when I was on tour last month with the exception of garden crops. The Tahsildar has not distinctly said so, but I have reason to believe that the estimates refer only to the dry crops and not to garden lands. The failure of rain has not been such as to very greatly affect the latter. There can be no doubt that the season has generally been unfavorable in the Karúr taluk, but I found everywhere that the loudest to complain were rich ryots, who could best tide over the distress. I received nowhere any applications for work from the labouring classes. Hitherto they have been able to get employment. I saw no signs of emaciation.

4. I would recommend that the Local Fund Engineer may be asked to commence work without delay on all the roads in the Karúr taluk. It can then be ascertained if there really is any great demand for employment. It is undesirable to open Government relief works if this can possibly be avoided. In considering the state of the poor in the distressed tracts, it is impossible to overlook the fact that in the best of seasons a large proportion of them suffer from insufficiency of food. Nothing else can be expected in a country where the procreation of paupers is enforced by the strongest religious and social sanctions. If it be considered that it is the duty of Government to interfere only when there is danger of actual starvation, I think that the labour which can be provided by the Local Fund Engineer on the ordinary works will be sufficient to help the cooly class over the present distress, assuming, of course, that the south-west monsoon does not prove a failure.

5. As regards the poorer ryots, I would recommend that the same concessions which have been granted to the distressed villages in the Dhárápuram taluk may be extended to the worst of those in Karúr (marked with a cross), viz., that coercive process may be postponed in the case of pattadars holding not more than ten acres of dry or garden land, whether with or without a well and of pattadars holding less than 50 acres of dry land without any well.

6. You are doubtless aware that owing to the scarcity of water in the Amarávathi it will be necessary to grant considerable wet remission on lands under the channels which derive their supply from that river.

Read—the following letter from J. THOMSON, Esq., Collector of the Chingleput District, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement and Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, dated Saidápet, 11th March 1893, Ref. on No. 800-Eng.:—

I have the honour to submit the season report for February last.

2. *Rainfall.*—There were thunder-showers on the 26th and 27th of the month in a line from Sathiavedu to Chingleput, with 1·50 inches recorded at Sathiavedu, and supposed to have been heavier further north. This brought a foot of water in the Sholavaram (Red Hills) supply channel. The north and west of Tiruvallúr taluk have been filled considerably by this; the rest of the district was not appreciably affected. The total gives an average of ·31 inch for the month against ·50 due. The total of the north-east monsoon up to date is 7·74 against an average of 31·50.

3. *Cultivation.*—The returns for the month give a total of 7,041 acres in dry and 11,819 in wet first and second crop, Government and inam, comparatively large areas are returned for Saidápet and Tiruvallúr; in the former it is no doubt due to the two large tanks, and in the latter the Deputy Collector ascribes it to the large number of wells now in working order. Cultivation is in full swing under the Madurántakam tank and there is more than I expected to see under the Pálár channels in Conjeeveram taluk. The totals for the eleven months are acres 248,712 dry and acres 394,521 wet against the average for the previous five years of acres 223,525 dry and 372,174 wet. The cultivation, as already reported, is of kar paddy, ragi, chillies, garden vegetables and indigo.

4. *Prices.*—Prices were slightly more favorable on the whole during the month than in the second half of January owing to the harvest in progress. The district average for rice is 10·85 seers and for ragi 16·23 seers against 10·29 and 15·92 seers, respectively, for January. Rice was sold at from 8·68 seers in Tiruvallúr to 12·68 in Sríperumbudur, and ragi from 15·07 seers in Poonamallee to 17·10 in Utramerur. On the last day of the month prices had either further declined or remained stationary. Rice is slightly cheaper than last year at this time; ragi is 4 seers cheaper per rupee.

5. *Condition of crops.*—The harvest proper of dry crops is over, those still standing are under wells and in fair condition. The first crop in wet is also over; the standing cultivation is good under large tanks, river channels or wells. Some are withering for want of sufficient supply.

6. *Harvest and outturn.*—A talukwar statement is enclosed abstracting the information up to date. The totals show acres 186,086 harvested and 61,799 standing in dry and 255,509 harvested and 109,654 standing in wet. The actual standing crop at the end of February, there can be no doubt, is very much less than as represented. Another statement showing the progress of azmoish and probable remissions talukwar is also enclosed. It will be noted that the work is very well forward, and I trust that settlement will proceed uninterruptedly from the beginning of April and will be finished well within the fasli.

Ponnéri taluk.—Of the dry crop harvested, 6,138 acres fall into the 8 annas crop and over and 16,398 into the 4 annas and under. The distribution of the standing dry is better, being 8,645 and 3,896 acres under these rates. The wet reaped is 12,326 acres, 8 annas and over, and 20,914, 4 annas and under, the standing crop being 6,580 and 7,011 similarly rated. The shavi and short crop wet have, so far as examined, been reduced from Rs. 32,705 to Rs. 25,496; and for the total on wet land and crop is still retained at about Rs. 42,000.

Saidápet.—The Tahsildar gives 13,028 acres harvested and 13,568 standing in dry and 33,705 harvested and 21,275 standing in wet. He has not distributed the areas for yield. The estimate of wet remission has been reduced from Rs. 59,402 to Rs. 53,000.

Tiruvallúr taluk.—In dry acres 20,892, 8 annas and over and 19,981, 4 annas and under are harvested, and 6,621 and 3,058 similarly distributed are standing. In wet 33,799 acres at 8 annas and over and 25,220 at 4 annas and under are reaped, and the 10,699 standing is halved under those two rates. Azmoish has reduced the shavi and short crop so far by Rs. 4,400. The total wet remission is now entered at Rs. 63,000 against the former estimate of Rs. 72,000.

Chingleput.—In dry the harvest is 4,522 acres 8 annas and over and 6,931, 4 annas and under, the standing crop area on the same distribution being 6,316 and 3,787 acres, respectively. In wet 17,210 acres have yielded 8 annas and over and 12,187, 4 annas and under, the standing relative areas are 9,186 and 13,673 acres. The Tahsildar's last estimate of wet remission is Rs. 43,693 against Rupees 72,200 originally reported. This last figure I regarded as extravagant, but have no certainty that the former approaches the final result.

Conjeeveram.—The dry harvested is 25,076 acres 8 annas and over and 19,767, 4 annas and under, the standing similar areas being 2,362 and 3,265 acres, respectively. In wet the harvest is 53,941 acres 8 annas and over and 12,077, 4

annas and under, the unreaped areas being 22,450 and 810 acres, respectively. The standing crop area is, I am afraid, over-estimated for outturn.

The Tahsildar retains his original figure for remission Rs. 42,000, throwing more into waste and less into shavi.

Madurántakam.—The yield in dry has been 21,620 acres 8 annas and over and 32,233 acres, 4 annas and under, for the standing crop the like distribution is 3,720 and 6,560 acres. For wet the harvest is 17,159 acres, 8 annas and over and 16,660, 4 annas and under, and the standing crop similar distribution 11,160 and 6,810 acres, respectively.

The Tahsildar's estimate of remission has advanced from Rs. 62,500 to Rupees 66,000.

7. On the whole the estimates of outturn already reported for remission purposes, dealt with in Board's Proceedings, Revenue Settlement, No. 79 of 23rd February last, are not likely to be far wrong. I cannot state what the dry remission allowed to be given may amount to; with regard to varagu crop, the Divisional officers have been directed to deal with each village as it comes up for settlement ranking it for grant, or for postponement of collection or as not deserving consideration according as appears necessary, and to make their reports on the subject directly after each taluk settlement is over.

8. *Cattle and pasture.*—Foot-and-mouth disease is reported from several villages in the Ponnéri taluk but with no mortality. Ten deaths from anthrax in two villages of the Poonamallee division, Saidápet taluk, are reported. Anthrax has appeared here and there in the Periyapoliem tract and at Sathiavedu in the Tiruvallúr taluk. The matter is not alluded to in the sub-division. The condition of cattle on the whole is good. Pasture will get scarcer as the hot weather advances, unless the expected showers come soon; I do not anticipate any great want of fodder.

9. *Course of trade and markets.*—The Ponnéri Tahsildar reports no activity in trade. In Chingleput, ragi is being imported from Mysore, and from Madurántakam rice and paddy are exported. At the Conjeeveram railway station I learned yesterday that the export of rice to Tuticorin and the south had stopped and was diverted to Madras. Some 800 bags awaited carriage, the rice having been husked in Conjeeveram town. The import of ragi from Mysore had recommenced, and about 400 bags were waiting delivery.

10. *Condition of people and general prospects.*—In the Saidápet division, public health is good and no want of employment is felt; in Ponnéri, the salt factories seem to be drawing off labour which is wanted elsewhere, and the Deputy Collector considers that the work available already and the arrangements made with the Public Works Department and for minor irrigation repairs will meet all requirements till June.

In Tiruvallúr, the people are also in good condition and work generally available, except in a few places, chiefly in the Periyapoliem division. I have requested the Executive Engineer to start three works at Neiveli. The recent showers will give an impetus to ploughing. From the sub-division also reports are favorable. The salt pans in Chingleput as in Ponnéri are drawing away labour. In Conjeeveram, the Tahsildar requires the irrigation works (major and minor) to be started by the middle of April; but in this taluk, except in a few villages in the west centre, there is really no occasion for anxiety.

In Madurántakam, in the south-west at Cheyúr nine minor irrigation works are now in progress with 360 coolies working. Channel-clearance in the Cheyúr factory is employing some 420 coolies. I believe, however, there will be no salt manufacture at Cheyúr this year. The Public Works Department has arranged to start four works costing Rs. 10,690 in the immediate neighbourhood, and the Local Fund Department is estimating for a road from Cheyúr northwards to Panaiyur. The south-west of the taluk may also require special attention if the south-west monsoon holds off.

The distribution of the public works allotment for the year, made in communication with the Divisional officers and with special regard to possible labour requirements, has been communicated to and approved of by me. It is as follows:—

	Number of work.	Amount.
		Rs.
	8	22,720
Ponnéri	14	24,598
Tiruvallúr	9	15,434
Chingleput	9	10,581
Conjeeveram	14	47,270
Madurántakam	6	4,525
Saidápet	66	60,587
Tank Restoration Works		

11. The weather has been cloudy and sultry of late and showers have been falling here and there recently; there has been more rain in Tiruvallúr and some in Conjeeveram and Madurántakam. The people expect showers and are eager to plough.

Resolution—dated 15th March 1893, No. 104.

The papers read above, which relate to the state of the season at the end of February in the districts noted on the margin, will be submitted for the information of Government.

Chingleput. | Trichinopoly.
Tanjore. | Coimbatore.

2. Except in parts of Coimbatore, the rainfall of the month was less than may, on an average, be expected, but since the beginning of March there have been very unusually heavy falls in almost all parts of the area. Particulars up to 11th March are given below:—

Districts.	February.		March.		April average expected.
	Average.	1893.	Average.	Up to 11th.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Chingleput	0·59	0·31	0·23	0·36	0·28
South Arcot	0·42	0·20	0·21	1·45	0·57
Tanjore	0·58	0·10	0·36	1·83	0·85
Trichinopoly	0·29	0·12	0·34	1·35	1·17
Coimbatore	0·22	0·85	0·53	·88	1·67

Cultivation in these districts is now practically over for the year, and, as shown in the subjoined table, the area of crop reported to have been sown up to the end of February was above the average in every district except Trichinopoly and Coimbatore and there the deficiency is small:—

Districts.	Sowings (1st and 2nd crop) from April to February.						Average total for the year during the five years ending 1889-90.		
	Dry.		Wet.		Total.		Dry.	Wet.	Total.
	Average.*	1892-93.	Average.*	1892-93.	Average.*	1892-93.			
	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.
Chingleput ..	223,526	243,712	372,174	394,521	595,699	648,233	230,433	411,898	641,331
South Arcot ..	948,394	1,034,308	305,492	379,319	1,263,886	1,413,627	1,090,817	342,063	1,432,880
Tanjore ..	240,294	250,309	836,211	878,147	1,106,505	1,128,454	238,019	865,163	† 1,103,182
Trichinopoly ..	769,648	746,286	184,085	183,894	953,733	930,180	783,457	187,434	† 970,891
Coimbatore ..	2,270,262	2,181,970	118,148	118,431	2,388,410	2,300,401	2,268,057	118,198	2,386,255

* Of five years ending 1891-92. † Of five years ending 1890-91.

The recent falls of rain have greatly benefited the crops standing under wells and large irrigation works and in parts have stimulated the sowing of hot weather crops.

3. Prices on the whole were rather easier during February than in the preceding month though still exceedingly high and since its close, there has not been any important change. Particulars are given below.

Districts.	Prices in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.													
	Normals.			Current.				Normals.			Current.			
				1893.							1893.			
	January.	February.	March.	January.	February.	March.		January.	February.	March.	January.	February.	March.	
						4th.	11th.						4th.	11th.
	Rice.							*Ragi.*						
Chingleput ..	15·7	16·5	16·6	10·3	10·9	10·7	10·8	27·6	27·3	27·0	15·8	16·2*	16·1	16·3
South Arcot ..	16·4	16·9	16·8	10·3	10·4	10·8	11·2	31·6	31·5	29·9	16·9	17·0	17·5	17·1
Tanjore ..	16·0	16·7	16·9	9·5	9·9*	9·9	9·9	30·7	31·6	31·3	15·3	15·6	14·8	14·8
Trichinopoly ..	15·0	15·3	15·8	8·5	9·1	9·2	9·2	31·6	31·9	31·4	15·3	16·0	15·5	15·5
Coimbatore ..	14·7	14·7	14·9	9·4	9·7	9·8	10·0	31·2	30·9	31·2	18·8	18·8	18·3	18·7
	Cumbu.							*Cholum.*						
Chingleput ..	22·1	21·1	21·6	14·0	13·4	13·7	13·9	21·2	21·3	20·1	14·7	14·2	14·2	14·2
South Arcot ..	31·1	30·8	29·2	17·3	17·1	17·3	17·1	33·2	34·8	33·3	16·3	16·4	17·6	17·6
Tanjore ..	28·2	28·3	23·6	14·6	14·5*	14·1	15·2	28·4	29·1	30·0	13·6	13·3*	13·1	13·1
Trichinopoly ..	30·4	30·3	29·9	16·3	14·8	15·8	15·8	†40·5	†42·5	†43·5	16·5	17·7	14·9	14·9
Coimbatore ..	31·5	31·9	30·5	19·1	18·6	18·7	18·7	25·1	25·1	25·4	17·1	17·4	17·2	17·4

* Average of the weekly prices.

† Include prices of an inferior variety.

4. In *Chingleput*, there has not been much change. Cultivation is going on actively under wells and such irrigation works as have supplies. The harvest of the dry crops is nearly over and, though a good deal of crop has been very poor, a large area has yielded a fair to an average outturn. Those still standing under wells are fair. The first wet crop, 338,805 acres out of a total of 394,521 acres, has also been harvested, but the standing crops are in some cases withering. It is estimated that some 20,000 acres have already or will be withered and between 30,000 and 40,000 acres will yield 4 annas or less. On this account remissions estimated at Rs. 3,09,693 are reported to be probable, and the crops for which these remissions are claimed are being inspected rapidly.

No want of employment is felt anywhere, and in fact the salt works are said to be in parts drawing off labour required elsewhere. The Collector has made arrangements for putting in hand ordinary public works early next year where they are likely to be required.

5. *South Arcot.*—The Collector's report has not yet been received, but will be submitted hereafter. There has, however, been satisfactory rain in the worst parts of the district since the beginning of the current month.

6. In *Tanjore*, there was local rain in parts of Mannárgudi and Patukóta taluks towards the end of the month which did some good. Nearly three-fourths of the harvest is over, and the Collector thinks that the crops in the delta cannot have yielded more than half a crop on the average. The situation gives no grounds for anxiety and labour is not to be had for less than the usual wages.

7. In *Trichinopoly*, similarly comparatively favorable conditions exist, although, owing to the large area of dry land, the loss of crop has been greater. Still there is no demand for employment and the people are in good condition.

8. In *Coimbatore*, it is only the five south-eastern taluks that are at all affected, and in Palladam and Erode, the Collector's latest report shows that the situation is not at all serious. In parts of the Karúr, Dhárápuram and Udamalpet taluks, however, the loss of crop has been great and there is a considerable deficiency in the area usually sown at this season under wells, but the recent good fall of rain at Udamalpet and the freshets in the rivers will to a considerable extent relieve the deficiency of well supplies there, whilst there is every reason to hope for early rain in Karúr and Dhárápuram. If the season turns out to be an average one, the execution of the

works mentioned in paragraph 5 of the Collector's letter will probably suffice to provide employment to those in need thereof with the addition in Karúr of the repairs to irrigation works which he is now selecting for execution.

Should urgent demands for employment arise in the Udamalpet taluk, the works mentioned in paragraph 6 of the Collector's letter appear to be well selected, but the Board considers that it is scarcely probable that they will need to be put in hand. If any demand for work arises, one of the works mentioned may then be started on the scale of wages given in Board's Proceedings, dated 22nd February 1893, No. 77, as a test relief work.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
„ Collectors, Southern Districts.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 16th March 1893, Mis. No. 1673 :—

Read—the following letter from the Collector of Coimbatore, to the Secretary to the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated 13th March 1893, Ref. on No. 413 V.A :—

In continuation of the postscript to my letter of the 9th instant, Reference on No. 334-Bd., I have the honour to report that the rainfall at Udamalpet is said to have embraced only fourteen of the fifty-three distressed villages and to have been very partial in its nature and extent even in these. In some of them, however, it has been sufficient to enable the ryots to plough their dry lands and sow cholum and gingelly besides improving the standing crops on garden lands.

Resolution—dated 16th March 1893, Mis. No. 1673.

Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 15th March 1893, No. 104.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

ORDER—dated 27th March 1893, No. 251, Revenue.

Miscellaneous. Recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) E. GIBSON,
Ag. Secy. to Government.

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

Exd. S. J. Pereira.

70 Copies.

Govt. of {1893} Madras.

REVENUE.

No 1010 Ud dt 14.4.93

Communicated to
the officers concerned.

(Sd) O. O. B.

Issued

Read.

Encl.

G.O., 27th March 1893, No. 251.

MARCH.

Season.

Board's Proceedings submitting report for February 1893 on the state of the — in Chingleput, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts, recorded.

S. Es IV, V & VI circles