Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2315 W

DATED 23rd August 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Correspondence; Endt. from S.E. III Circle forwarding — on the subject of his action in regard to the Chinnatambalam tank work and of the delay in the communication of certain circulars to subordinates in charge of relief works in Bellary Dist. Court to the Revenue Dept. with remarks

=

J.C.
23/8.

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. ✓

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 7611

From W. B. de Winton Esqr.
Supty. Engr. III Circle
Bellary.

No. 2529W

Dated 25th July 1897

Received } 27. 7. 97
Registered } 2. 8. 97

Enclosures ~~2~~ 4

Spare copies

Order No. 2315 W d/ 23-8-97

Communicated to the Rev. Dept., with reference to G.O. No. 532 Rev. dated 3 July 1897.

6/8/97

It should be added:-

2 ~~It that~~ W. Clerk exceeded his powers in starting a relief work without ~~the~~ authority from the Collector; and ~~(not that~~ he should have seen that the Circular was sent duly to all overseers.

Rev. Dept.
~~Supty. Engr. III Circle~~
Supty. Engr. III Circle

7.8.97

23/8/97

Issue with addition

10/8/97

SUBJECT.

Chinnatambalam tank — Forwarding copies of correspondence & the action taken by S.E. regarding —

CK 16/8/97 (1) 17/8/97 (2)

H.E. 6. 8. 97 R 9-8-97

OS/4

Rec. 5/8/97 R 13/8

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
2005 W	24-7-97
755 D	8-7-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

5216/97

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

SEC. GOVT. MADRAS
25 JUN 97
REV. DEPT.

1897.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. *Spare copies*

Printed June th.

Proceedings, 14th June 1897, No. 435.

MAY.

Fortnightly narrative.—Submitting, with remarks, for the information of Government, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 31st May 1897.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 31st May 1897:—

State of the country.

Rainfall and water-supply.—There has been good rain in the fortnight at every recording station except Alúr. Detailed statistics are given on the margin. In most of the stations, the fall up to date is in excess of the average but the reverse is the case at Adóni, Alúr, Siruguppa and Bellary which, unfortunately, are the stations that represent the most seriously affected tracts. The deficiency is greatest and most serious at Alúr. In the south and west, on the other hand, there has been excellent rain. I see that the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India states that in its weather characteristics, this year bears a close resemblance to 1890. As far as the rainfall in the affected parts of this district is concerned, the statistics do not support this theory, for, in 1890, there was good rain in both April and May. The recent showers have produced a general improvement in the drinking-water supply. Good progress has been made with the digging of new wells and the deepening of those already existing. This work still continues and will continue until the difficulty is removed or greatly alleviated. The cattle ponds have also received a much needed supply and the benefit has extended to irrigation wells. The Narihala, the Sandur river, has been in flood and the Daróji tank has in consequence received some water. The supply in the Rampur channel continues to be fair and this remark applies also to the Hagari channels, but the Head Assistant Collector reports that the water in the Tungabhadra has fallen considerably and that the supply in its channels is insufficient.

Station.	In fortnight.	From 1st April to end of May	
		1897.	Average.
Yemmiganúr	1·09	2·03	1·63
Adóni	0·82	1·64	2·06
Alúr	0·20	1·20	2·18
Siruguppa	0·84	1·30	1·73
Kámpli	1·84	2·77	1·76
Bellary	1·07	1·14	2·34
Káyadrúg	3·77	5·05	2·47
Hospet	1·90	3·38	2·56
Kúdligi	3·66	4·81	3·13
Harpanahalli	1·62	2·87	3·41
Hadagalli	1·00	3·60	3·24
Sandur	2·86	4·01	..

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni.—Ploughing and harrowing proceeding. Garden crops and paddy under the Rampur channel are in good condition.

Alúr.—Ploughing and clearance of nuth grass in progress. Garden crops in good condition.

Bellary division.—Lands being prepared for early crops and nuth grass being removed. Harvest of second-crop paddy; yield 10 to 16 annas.

Hospet division.—Ploughing and manuring in full progress. Sowing has commenced in parts of Hospet. Garden crops under wells and wet crops under river channels and the Kámalápuram tank are in good condition.

Sandur.—Ploughing, manuring and the clearing of the land going on. No standing crops, except betel and vegetables, which are in good condition.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.

Adóni.—No pasture to speak of. Stocks of fodder still last. Tilling cattle in good condition. Others deteriorating rapidly. Of 250 cattle brought to Adóni market, 88 were sold and the rest were taken home. Fair prices were obtained for agricultural cattle. In the previous week, a considerable number was purchased at good prices by people from His Highness the Nizam's Dominions.

Alúr.—No pasture; fodder scanty. Cattle that are stall-fed are still in good condition, that of others is bad. There were five deaths from cattle disease in Hulibedu.

Bellary.—Pasture available to a limited extent. Prickly-pear, leaves, roots and hill-grass are being used as fodder. The stall-fed cattle are in good condition; the rest are suffering much from want of fodder, especially in the black cotton tracts.

Hospet.—Pasture not available except in a few villages on the river channels. The condition of stall-fed cattle is good; that of others fair. Hill-grass is being used but the ryots complain that it produces diarrhœa. Fodder generally insufficient.

General remarks on the previous subjects—Sandur.—The inferior cattle are deteriorating in condition and owners are attempting to sell; but they will not take low prices.

The rain has undoubtedly improved the water-supply for both man and beast; and in this way it has conferred a real benefit. Ploughing and harrowing are going on rapidly on the light red soils and to a less extent on the lighter black soils. Sowing has just commenced, and with another shower or two, it will proceed briskly. The condition of the cattle in Adóni has deteriorated in a marked manner since I was there at the end of February, and I am afraid that there will be serious mortality among what may be called surplus animals, but those required for ploughing still look well. I was at the Adóni cattle market last Friday, and I was struck by the good condition of the majority of the animals offered for sale. I believe that the ploughing cattle are still being stall-fed, and as the supply of fodder in this taluk is fair, these will, I hope, be able to last out till the harvest. The ryot is getting plenty of assistance to keep his herds alive. In the first place come the fodder depôts of the famine fund which have been opened at Aspari, Guntakal and Kuditini. The local committee of the famine fund has also decided to give money-grants for the support of the cattle of poor ryots, and, lastly, the reserves have been thrown open to free grazing. I doubt, however, whether ryots will take their cattle to the hills now.

Food-supplies and the state of the markets.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Remarks.
	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	9·13	8·10	11·28	10·30	12·63	11·33	There has been a sharp rise in the price of white cholam in Adóni and a fall in Hospet. There has also been a considerable rise in the price of yellow cholam in Adóni, but in Alúr, Bellary and Hospet there has been no change.
Alúr	7·56	7·56	10·30	10·30	11·33	11·33	
Bellary	8·64	8·64	10·82	10·82	12·36	12·36	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	12·36	12·36	12·58	13·39	
Hospet	8·64	8·10	11·33	12·30	13·39	13·39	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	12·36	12·36	
Harpanahalli ..	9·72	9·72	..	..	13·39	13·39	
Hadagalli	9·72	9·72	..	..	12·88	12·36	
Sandur	9·45	8·64	..	..	12·88	11·94	
Average ..	8·90	8·76	11·22	11·22	12·64	12·43	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is active and there is no lack of grain, save only that good yellow cholam is becoming more and more difficult to obtain. The

net imports of grain into the district during the fortnight amounted to 19,837 maunds, which indicates a return to the activity that prevailed a month ago.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

On works.—Generally good. The weather has at last become somewhat cooler and the general appearance of relief-workers is much more cheerful. The only exception to the generally satisfactory condition are the babies, a small proportion of whom are sickly and emaciated. These infants cannot be left at home and it is impossible for them to improve while their mothers remain at work. I have, therefore, ordered the grant of gratuitous relief to all mothers of such sickly children and I trust that my action will be approved. I first tried giving milk in the kitchen on the works, but this did little or no good, and I am convinced that the only remedy is to let the mothers stay at home and look after their children there.

In villages.—Satisfactory. Our net is now widely spread and relief of some kind is available for every body who needs it. All who want employment go to the relief-works and those who cannot work obtain relief in kitchens or are given grain-doles.

Sickness and mortality.—There is the usual fever, and small-pox prevails in the western taluks and in a few villages of the Bellary division and Alúr. I found measles in some of the Adóni villages. Guinea-worm is met with everywhere, and a prompt cure for this painful and troublesome affection is much to be desired. The death-rate for April is generally below the average.

Remarks.—During the fortnight I have seen a large number of relief-works, and I am glad to be able to say that the condition of the workers was, on the whole, most satisfactory. I paid particular attention to the Chinnatumbalam work where the Commissioner found the people in low condition at the beginning of the year. I saw them both morning and evening, and though here and there one noticed an anæmic girl, a feeble old man, or a terribly thin baby, yet the general average of condition was distinctly good. It is true that the numbers have largely increased since the Commissioner's visit and that the average condition may have been vastly improved by the advent of more robust workers, but I paid particular attention to those who had been longest on the work and I did not find that they were inferior to the later comers. Nor is there any reluctance in this district to join a relief work, and provided works are opened so soon as there is a real want of employment, we need have no fear for the success of our measures.

MEASURES OF RELIEF.

On works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers:—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	27,612	34,258	The numbers again show a very large increase which will probably continue throughout June, for the bulk of the black soils are not sown till July and August. On the other hand, a sharp fall of prices leading to a corresponding fall in wages would probably do much to reduce the numbers. It is fear for the future rather than the present distress which keeps many on the works.
Alúr	34,340	39,927	
Bellary	7,961	9,483	
Hospet	5,168	5,936	
Kúdligi	1,295	1,091	
Hadagalli	2,314	3,653	
Total ..	78,690	94,348	

2. The only new work opened in the fortnight is that at Tekkalakota on the Bellary-Siruguppa road.

3. The Superintending Engineer ordered the raising of the bund of the Chinnatumbalam tank to be opened at once as a relief-work, but this was not a new work as the workers employed on it were transferred from the Adóni-Madavaram road. Mr. DeWinton exceeded his authority in taking this step. The work was not immediately necessary, the estimate has not been approved and sanctioned and the utility of the project is doubtful. I have asked him for further information and I shall, if necessary, address the Commissioner again on the subject. This is the second time that Mr. DeWinton has ordered the opening of relief-works in this district without reference to the Collector, and it might be well if the Commissioner explained his position to him. I have tried to do so.

4. The carpet weavers of Bellary town, whose request for relief was noticed in last fortnight's narrative, have not availed themselves to any appreciable extent of the assistance offered to them. I propose to continue the relief for another fortnight but, if the numbers do not increase, it will be more economical to give gratuitous relief to the few persons now on the registers.

Gratuitous relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise:—

Taluks.	Number relieved.							
	At kitchens.				In poor-houses.		In villages.	
	Dependants.		Others.					
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.
Adóni	1,562	1,471	757	1,513	..	..	918	1,388
Alúr	2,010	2,146	277	1,165	..	..	1,104	1,962
Bellary	580	567	221	498	..	..	628	1,440
Hospet	416	470	22	14	..	..	..	227
Kudligi	57	58	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	67	109	10	16	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4,692	4,811	1,287	3,206	..	..	2,650	5,017

Taluks.	Weavers' relief.				
	Number of villages in which relief was given.		Number of persons relieved.		Number of cloths manufactured.	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	30	116	2,370	2,492	4,449	16,415
Alúr	74	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	46	75	..	16	..	..
Hospet	..	14	..	..	..	..
Total ..	150	311	2,370	2,508	4,449	16,415

Private charity.—The Komati lady, Paramma, has ceased to give the daily meal which she has offered to the poor of Bellary town since the beginning of the distress. With a kitchen in Brucepettah and another in the Cowle Bazaar where the deserving poor can obtain two meals a day the continuance of this charity had ceased to be necessary. At Joharapuram, a wealthy Reddi is feeding 50 children and I believe that at several of the kitchens the meal provided by the Government is supplemented by gifts of brinjals or other vegetables. The operations of the Indian Famine Fund are now restricted to the relief of those urgent cases, in which immediate assistance is required, and to the gift of clothing to the many poor people in need of it. The fund is also endeavouring to grapple with the fodder question, by the grant of money to purchase straw as described in my last narrative.

General remarks.—I regret to say that there is still delay in paying wages. When I joined the district I found that a practice of making payments only twice a week and to all gangs on the same day had grown up, and as I gathered that it was convenient I did not interfere. I soon found, however, that it was not satisfactory and on the 15th April, I issued a circular directing the adoption of the method described in appendix VI of the Famine Code. Copies of this circular were sent to the Executive Engineer in the usual course for distribution to officers in charge of works, but up to a few days ago many of the overseers had not received it. I do not yet know the cause of this neglect to distribute the circular, but the results have been lamentable, for the staff of paymasters has been fixed on the assumption that their work would be spread evenly over the week instead of being crowded into two days. It is, too, much easier for the overseer to send a few nominal extracts each day, and the delay that now occurs in furnishing these extracts to the paymasters would be less frequent under the Code system. I have addressed the Executive

Engineer on the subject on several occasions and I hope that my instructions will now be carried out. It would save much delay and prevent such a *contretemps* as this if the Collector could issue his circulars direct to officers in charge of works.

2. On a number of the works, the hutting accommodation is still inadequate. The attention of the Executive Engineer has been drawn to this continually, but there has been great delay in providing huts. The demand for mats and bamboos has no doubt been heavy, but I think better progress might have been made. I will give one example. In the latter half of March an additional kitchen was ordered on the Alúr-Chippagiri work and the overseer was asked to build it, and he indented for the materials on the 27th March. Up to the 15th April he had received nothing and I then told the Tahsildar to get the mats and bamboos himself. He did so within three days, and the materials obtained by the Public Works Department did not arrive until later.

3. The crime statistics for April show a great increase in the number of cases of house-breaking but in respect to other offences against property, the figures are little, if at all, above the average of the past three years. The police force of the district has now been strengthened, and further relief has been given by the transfer of certain guard-duties to the Military.

4. One small measure of relief which I have introduced in the fortnight should be mentioned. I have directed that all women on works who are close upon their confinement should be given gratuitous relief at their homes and that this relief should continue for one month after confinement. A short time ago a woman was seized with the pangs of child birth on her way home from the relief-work and was delivered on the road side, and though this is perhaps an extreme case, I think that humanity demands that women in this condition should not be required to carry earth and gravel and stones. As a matter of fact they do but little work and the loss of their labour is not worth taking into account, while the test of necessity is given by their attendance on the relief-work.

5. Mr. Lloyd has taken charge of the Adóni taluk and has commenced work there with creditable energy. Closer supervision was much needed there and it was impossible for one officer to give the requisite attention to both Alúr and Adóni. Mr. Spencer states that he does not require more relief and the rainfall in his division having been very good, I do not anticipate any great increase of numbers there.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of Loan Transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Acts.

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Adóni	9	1,860	9	930	73	16,395	145	11,345	141	11,145	447	43,751	154	13,205	150	12,075	520	60,146	..	4
Alúr	34	8,920	31	4,665	44	15,030	1,518	1,56,050	1,320	1,37,195	884	1,41,720	1,552	1,64,970	1,351	1,41,860	928	1,56,750	..	31
Bellary	20	2,285	20	2,285	41	10,835	622	58,230	619	57,930	681	1,08,540	642	60,515	639	60,215	722	1,19,375	..	20
Rayadrug	56	11,900	56	6,900	48	12,850	220	29,300	220	29,300	131	21,490	276	41,200	276	36,200	179	34,340	..	56
Hospet	11	2,450	10	1,120	26	4,585	17	1,425	17	1,425	58	4,950	28	3,875	27	2,545	84	9,535	..	10
Kúdligi	1	160	..	..	13	2,440	..	..	..	..	58	4,950	1	160	..	..	71	7,390	..	..
Harpanahalli	2	350	..	..	..	..	45	5,305	42	5,005	29	3,725	47	5,655	42	5,005	29	3,725	..	..
Hadagalli	5	600	4	300	30	7,850	51	7,335	48	6,685	149	24,305	56	7,935	52	6,985	179	32,155	..	3
Total ..	138	28,525	130	16,200	275	69,985	2,618	2,68,990	2,407	2,48,655	2,437	3,53,431	2,756	2,97,515	2,537	2,64,885	2,712	4,23,416	..	124

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Adóni	57	1,199	43	922	372	16,517	..	..	..	..	111	3,590	57	1,199	43	922	483	20,107
Alúr	314	16,512	176	5,146	703	41,539	..	..	..	..	24	2,746	314	16,512	176	5,146	727	44,285
Bellary	220	8,407	220	8,407	740	36,846	..	..	..	..	..	..	220	8,407	220	8,407	740	36,846
Rayadrug	12	565	12	565	57	3,815	3	185	3	185	6	410	15	750	15	750	63	4,225
Hospet	..	..	..	..	65	3,145	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65	3,145
Kúdligi	221	5,389	219	5,354	22	965	..	..	..	..	..	..	221	5,389	219	5,354	22	965
Harpanahalli	11	500	7	300	38	2,115	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	500	7	300	38	2,115
Hadagalli	44	1,686	29	1,246	110	5,740	..	..	..	..	..	..	44	1,686	29	1,246	110	5,740
Total ..	879	34,258	706	21,940	2,107	1,10,682	3	185	3	185	141	6,746	882	34,443	709	22,125	2,248	1,17,428

	RS.	
The amount actually disbursed is ...	2,64,885	Land Improvement Loans Act.
Do. do. ...	22,125	Agriculturists' Loans Act.
	2,87,010	
Deduct disbursements up to the end of March 1897	1,08,837	
Amount disbursed during the current year	1,78,173	

I applied for an allotment of Rs. 3,50,000 for the current year, but the Board states that it is doubtful whether even three lakhs will be allowed for this district. Considering the amount already spent, I have issued orders to disburse fodder loans only till further notice. Applications for loans for other purposes will be enquired into and disposed of, but the amounts will not be disbursed until I hear further from the Board. I trust, however, that it will be possible to sanction the allotment asked for at a very early date. The number of applications still pending is very large and the grant of loans is an excellent and at the same time an economical mode of relief and special efforts have been made in this district to develope and extend it. My estimate of Rs. 3,50,000 is a very moderate one and much distress may be caused if we have to refuse loans for the purchase of fodder, seed-grain and cattle.

INSPECTIONS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

(TALUKS AND PLACES VISITED)

By the Collector.—Kuttálam, Kúpgal, Peddatumbalam, Chinnatumbalam, Yammiganúru, Kotekallu, Adóni, together with the relief works and kitchens in these places and a number of villages between them.

By Mr. Lloyd in charge of Adóni.—Adóni water-works and kitchens. Nandavaram and the kitchen there. Nagaldinne road-work and the kitchen attached to it. Yemmiganúru-Kosgi road-work and the kitchen. Kotakallu road-work and the kitchen.

By the Divisional Officer, Alúr.—Alúr, Arekera-belahal, Hattibelagal Agraharam, Halaharvi, Kuruvalli, Nagaradona, Kurukundi, Muddanageri, Karadiguddam, Peddahotur, Chinnahotur, Cherkanahal, Sankarabanda, Aspari, Molagavelli, Namahallu, Chippagiri, so also the people on gratuitous relief in these villages and the well works in Kurukundi, Karadiguddam and Molaguvelli, Alúr, Adóni, two sections of Alúr-Moka, two sections of Alúr-Guntakal and two sections of Alúr-Aspari road works, and the kitchens at Agraharam, Halaharvi, Chattragudi, Chinnakotur, Aspari (2) Nagaradona and Alúr.

By the Head-quarters Deputy Collector.—Paramadevanahalli, Joladarasi, Chellagurki, Kaggal, Lingadevanahalli, Yalpi, Kuntanahal, Rupanagudi, Thagginabudihal, Chaganur, Bhiradevanahalli, Marur, Moka, Koralagondi, Dammur, Bylur, Sanavaspuram, Sindigeri and Takkalakota and the relief works at Moka. Paramadevanahalli and the kitchens at Moka, Paramadevanahalli and Dammur.

By the Head Assistant Collector.—Rangapur, Magalam, Hadagalli, Bellahamsi with the relief work, Hospet, Hosakota, Kamalapur, Gadiganur with the relief work, and Bellary.

RESOLUTION—dated 14th June 1897, No. 435.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall during the fortnight was good in the south and west of the district, but was deficient in the most seriously affected tract, comprising Adóni, Alúr, Siruguppa and Bellary. The fall has generally increased the supply of water for both man and beast to drink, but, where supplies are poor, efforts are being made to improve them. The supply of water for irrigation has been supplemented in parts. Standing crops under irrigation were in good condition, and lands were being ploughed and cleared for early crops.

3. Pasture was virtually non-existent and fodder scarce. The supplies of fodder imported by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund Committee have found a ready sale, as is evidenced by the figures below:—

Depôt.	Amount of fodder imported. RS.	Sold. RS.
Aspari	37,625	32,400
Kuditani	71,450	64,050

The condition of stall-fed cattle is reported to be good, but others are deteriorating rapidly. The throwing open of the reserves for free grazing has come too late.

4. Prices, though steady on the whole, showed a marked rise at Adóni and Sandur, while white cholam at Hospet, and yellow cholam at Rayadrug fell smartly. The district average prices, which have on the whole increased, are compared below with the prices of previous years of scarcity:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee. Rice.	Cholam (mixed).
Normal	13·2	30·0
Warning	10·6	22·5
Scarcity	7·9	15·0
Current	8·8	11·8
May 1892	9·0	15·3
May 1877	7·2	7·5

Trade was active.

5. The condition of the people was generally good; exceptions were to be found, of course, but these were mostly babies. The numbers on works reached 94,348 at the close of the fortnight showing an increase of 20 per cent. during the period, while the numbers on gratuitous relief rose by 50 per cent., totalling over 13,000. This was only to be expected and desired, for, as the Collector says, "our net is now widely spread, and relief of some kind is available for everybody who needs it." The Collector's action in placing the mothers of sickly children and women about to be confined on gratuitous relief is approved. Collectors of other affected districts will be requested to adopt the same course.

6. Mr. De'Winton's action with regard to the Chinnatambalam tank work was certainly incorrect. The Superintending Engineer has no place in famine matters, except in so far as he has to supervise the professional work of his subordinates. Under sections 24 and 37, it is for the Collector to take the initiative in opening works, and it is surprising that Mr. De'Winton should have arrogated this power to himself, especially after the issue of G.O., Mis. No. 1708, Revenue, dated 30th March 1897. The necessity for the issue of orders as to the relative positions of Revenue and Public Works officers generally was placed before Government in B.P., dated 1st May 1897, No. 327, on which orders are still awaited. It is submitted that the Chief Engineer may be requested to obtain an explanation for the delay on the part of the Executive Engineer in distributing to the subordinates copies of the Collector's circular on the subject of payments. The delay in providing materials for an additional kitchen in the Alúr-Chippagiri road would apparently have been avoided, had the Public Works Department asked for the help of the Revenue Department under section 113, Famine Code.

7. The progress in the disbursement of loans is shown in the subjoined table:—

Amount disbursed. RS.	During week ending.
36,405	15th May.
19,158	22nd "
12,283	29th "

This shows a considerable falling off from the average, Rs. 23,000 of the previous four weeks.

The reduction is due to the curtailment of the allotment, and the consequent restriction of disbursements, save for purchase of fodder. In B.P., dated 8th June 1897, No. 421 (Settlement) the Collector has already been informed that there is no necessity to restrict the grant of loans in affected districts.

8. The Famine Commissioner notes, with pleasure, the Collector's testimony to Mr. Lloyd's work.

9. It is satisfactory to note that the condition of the Chinnatambalam workers has improved. When the Famine Commissioner inspected them, the C and D wages and fining were at work, and wages were calculated on ragi. The generous provisions of G.O., No. 216, dated 30th March 1897, no doubt, are the main causes of the improvement reported.

10. The Collector is requested to report further about the Komati lady Paramma, her position in life, &c., and the work done by her, as the Famine Commissioner considers that her action ought to be brought to the notice of Government. That she should cease her distributions when gratuitous relief by Government was fully organised was only natural and proper.

11. The Collector reports that guinea-worm is met with everywhere. This is, probably, primarily due to the inferiority of the water-supply. The prevalence of guinea-worm and famine ulcers were marked features of the famine-stricken in 1877-78, but have, fortunately, been generally absent in the present year. Guinea-worm is rare in the other affected districts.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Bellary.
" Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

Revenue Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Rev-Sett. etc. No. 435 of 14th June '97.

Order thereon, Press No. 532 of 3rd July 1897.

Recorded.

2. The Chief Engineer will be requested to obtain an explanation of the delay referred to in para. 6.

(True Extract.)

G. Stokes.
Ag. Secy. to Govt.

To the Famine Commissioner.
" P. W. dept.
" Public dept.
" Financial dept.
" L & M. dept.
" Accountant General.

Public Works (1897) Department.

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, Regr. No. 5314, 7 JUL 97, III. CIRCLE, BELLARY, P.W.D.

CURRENT No. 2.3 / 7641/97

D

Order No. 755 D of 8th July 1897

Referred to the Supdg. Engineer, III Circle, for explanation of the delay referred to in para 6 of the Board's Proceedings.

G. M. D. Campbell Col. R.E.
Chief Engineer, P.W.D.

Rw.

Endorsed with A Border
On the 16-7-97

From The Revenue Dept.

Press **No.** 532

Dated 3rd July 1897.

Received 7th Do

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Recording with remark B. P. submitting fortnightly narrative of the Bellary Dt. for the period ending 31st May 18[illegible]

O.S.
31

Over

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Letter No. A dated the 17th May 1897, from H. A. Stuart, Esqre., Ag. Collector of Bellary, to the Executive Engineer, Bellary.

With reference to your letter No. 3577 Bo, dated 10th May 1897, I have the honour to request that you will defer proceeding with the execution of the estimate referred to you therein until you hear further from me.

True copy forwarded to the Supg Engineer, III circle. The undersigned desires that no famine works should be commenced without his orders.

(sd) H. A. Stuart,
Collector.

Letter reference on C. No. 2179 of 1897, dated the 25th May 1897, from H. A. Stuart, Esqre., Ag Collector of Bellary, to the Superintending Engineer, III circle, Bellary.

In continuation of my endorsement No. A dated 17th May 1897, I have the honour to inform you that on my arrival at Chinna Timbulum on the 20 instant, I found that 27 gangs of relief workers had already been transferred from the road to the tank, and the execution

execution of the estimate is now proceeding. There was no necessity for this work being opened as a relief work and I must once again draw your attention to the fact that you have no authority to order the opening of such works. I know nothing of its financial merits and I decline all responsibility for it.

2. As the work is proceeding, I presume the report and estimate are ready. If so, I request that they may be sent to me at once, for, unless I am satisfied that the project is a good one I shall be obliged to obtain the orders of the Famine Commissioner as to the debit of the expenditure.

Letter No. 1457, dated the 4th June 1897, from W. B. de Winton, Esqre., Superintending Engineer, III circle, to the Collector of Bellary.

With reference to your R. C. No. 2179, dated the 25th May 1897, I have the honour to inform you that the Chinnatambalam Tank is a major tank with which the Revenue department has nothing to do.

2. In January last I inspected it, and decided that it would probably pay to greatly increase its capacity and ordered contours to be taken to enable me to have an estimate prepared for that purpose if found feasible.

3. In February, correspondence on the subject of raising the tank bund as a famine relief work, took place between me and the Officer in charge of Bellary Division, copies of which I enclose.

4. Beyond this, I have has nothing to do with the matter, except that I believe some conversation passed on the subject between the Officer in charge of Bellary Division and myself about Easter time in which he said that he proposed to start the raising as a famine relief work, and I told him he has full permission as far as I was concerned; but of this I have a very vague recollection.

5. No estimate is yet ready; and I understand that the work has since been stopped by your orders.

I admit that the Officer in charge of Bellary division should have obtained your approval before opening it as a famine relief work. He probably did not do so, because the transfer was necessary on account of road work in the neighbourhood being completed, and because he knew it to be a far more useful

useful work than all the road making in the Colony.

(three copies)

L. Rechnitzer

Supg Engineer, III circle.

L.R. 24.7.97

Letter No. 6,014 B., dated 20 July 1897, from H. E. Clerk, Esqre., Executive Engineer, Bellary Division, to the Superintending Engineer, III circle, Bellary.

With reference to your endorsement No. 2,259 dated 15th July 1897, I have the honour to report that there was no delay whatever on my part in forwarding the circulars in question to my subordinates. The circular dated 15th April was received in this Office on 19th April and was circulated to subordinates on 21st April.

2. I have since receiving complaints, made special enquiries into the matter and find that on certain works which were started after the issue of the circular from my office, copies do not appear to have been received, although complete files of circulars are supposed to have been supplied to the subordinate when he starts the work. The despatching clerk who is responsible states that he believes he gave complete files, but I am afraid he has been careless in this respect and he has been punished.

3. On all works started before the issue of the circular, I found it has been received although in some cases, it took me some time

to

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to find it, subordinates declaring that they has not got it where their receipt registers shewed that they had.

4. I think it would be a very good thing if the Collector here to send his circulars direct to subordinates provided, of course, a copy is sent to me for my information.

No. 2529W Dy 25 July 1897

Submitted to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, with reference to his endorsement No 7535 D, dated the 8th instant (herewith returned with enclosures). Enclosures-2

2. With regard to the remarks of the Board of Revenue on the undersigned's action in connection with Chinna Tumbalam Tank copies of correspondence on the subject with the Collector of Bellary are attached.

Supg Engineer, III circle.

25/7/97.

CAW

Chr 7611
O.S. 54

I beg to bring to your notice that nothing whatever was quoted in the Rev Dept's Pros. to show that the papers was dealt in the P. W. D, except the fact that a Boards Proceedings was received and disposed of in the Rev. Dept and a Copy of their Pros was Communicated to P.W.D, as Boards Proceedings are never used in our office and as no Subject of any sort referring to the Para of the Rev. P.O for which action was to be taken in the P.W.D. was given in the abstract, I was under the impression that this was a matter for the Navigation branch to deal with & so made a note to that effect to HC

bi
16-2-97.