Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2473 W

DATED 6 September 1897

per copy
taken for circ 9 0 38/97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jamind: Pros: Revenue Dept: sending with remarks Board's Pros: Submitting the fortnightly - narrative of the Bellary Dt: for the period ending 30th June 97 Court: 6 S.E. Circle

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed.

BACK PAPERS.

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Public works (1897) Department

Current No: 8585

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

2069 W dy 30-7-97.
1761 W dy 1-7-97.

Recd. 27. 8. } 1897.
Regd. 27. 8. }

Enclosures

Spare copies 16.

G.O., No. 693, 14th August 1897.

No. 2473 to 6.9.97

AUGUST.

Communicated to the S.S. III Circle.

Copy 1.9.97. 1/9/97

S.S. III Circle. 4th Sept.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th June 1897, recorded; and the Famine Commissioner requested to report whether, with reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419 of 1897, he had placed himself in communication with the Madras Branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency; and, if so, with what result.

O.S. 427/1319

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 19th July 1897, No. 510:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 30th of June 1897:—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Station.	In the fortnight.	Up to fortnight from 1st April.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	2·39	5·64	4·84
Adóni	1·03	3·69	6·03
Alúr	1·53	6·99	4·78
Siruguppa	0·70	7·12	4·55
Kampli	0·80	8·28	3·54
Bellary	0·85	3·79	4·37
Rayadrug	0·66	7·13	4·57
Hospet	4·43	14·34	5·68
Kúdligi	3·58	14·06	5·62
Harpanahalli	2·08	8·18	5·71
Hadagalli	3·24	8·42	5·41
Sandúr	3·52	8·88	..

There was good rain on the first two days of the fortnight at all the recording stations, but since the 18th June there has been very little any where. With the exception of Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight is much in excess of the average. Though the deficiency in Adóni itself is very great the rainfall was copious and satisfactory in parts of the taluk. In Kúdligi taluk seven tanks breached and seeds already sown have been washed out of the ground necessitating a resowing. Some of the river-channels in the Hospet taluk have breached owing to the freshes in the Tungabhadra. The drinking-water supply is ample everywhere except in a few isolated villages here and there. Many tanks in the district have received some supply, but it is not sufficient for irrigation purposes except in the south of Harpanahalli, in Kúdligi and in parts of Hadagalli and Hospet. The supply in wells is increasing. Rain is now urgently wanted.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—In red soils and in light black soils cholam, pulses, cumbu, gingelly and castor have been sown. In places where the rainfall was not sufficient for sowing, lands are being harrowed. The area brought under cultivation between Adóni and Nandavaram is very limited. Although good rain fell at Yemmiganúr there are red soils in its neighbourhood still untouched. The standing crops are in good condition, but rain is wanted. *Alúr taluk.*—Clearing of nuth-grass is still going on to a small extent. In many villages red soils have been sown. More rain is wanted. *Bellary division.*—Oil-seeds, cumbu, yellow cholam and pulses have been sown, sugar-cane is being planted in Siruguppa and Disanur. Where there is not sufficient moisture for sowing, lands are being prepared for seed. Crops under wells and nullahs are in good condition,

Hospet division.—Standing early crops which are from one week to one month old are in good condition. In some parts of Hadagalli and Kúdligi the young shoots are being damaged by the sand brought by the high winds and resowing has been necessary. Except in parts of the Daroji firka in the Hospet taluk, where the rainfall has been insufficient, sowing has gone on everywhere. Paddy is being sown in Kampli and neighbouring villages under river-channels and wet lands in other parts are being prepared. Paddy, sugar-cane and garden crops are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—Sowings continued. Nearly a fourth of the area sown is covered by korra. The crops sown at the end of May are not flourishing well and will probably be replaced by fresh sowings. Garden crops are in good condition.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—The rain has improved the pasture, but the grass is as yet too young and short to be of any real use to the cattle, though the jungle-fed cattle seem to get something out of it. The condition of stall-fed cattle belonging to the richer ryots is good. The poorer ryots are practically at the end of their resources and came long distances in great numbers to beg fodder at the Famine Fund depôts. The ryots generally say that paddy-straw does not suit their bullocks, but they nevertheless prefer tickets for fodder on the Kosigi depôt to money from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder elsewhere. Mr. Lloyd reports that every description of beast was brought for sale to the Adóni market, from a pair of splendid animals which were offered for Rs. 100 the pair to the wretched broken-down animal for which even its owner asked only Rs. 3. A good small bullock for red soil costs fully Rs. 20 and for black soil from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is not available. Fodder is scanty everywhere, except with a few well-to-do ryots. The fodder depôt at Aspari is meeting the needs of cattle-owners in that neighbourhood. The condition of cattle of poorer ryots is still bad. It will improve as pasture grows. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent. Fodder is scanty except in wet villages. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary except those that are stall-fed which are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—In less than a month pasture will be sufficient in this division. Fodder is insufficient in the dry villages of Hospet, in Kúdligi and in Holagundi and Kodlabal firkas of Hadagalli and is running short in the affected villages of Harpanahalli. The condition of the cattle in the dry villages of Hospet and in parts of Kúdligi is poor, but elsewhere it is fair; in Hadagalli it is improving in those villages where they were hitherto suffering from lack of sufficient fodder and in Harpanahalli it is good.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is becoming available though the new growth is hardly fit for use yet. Hill dry grass is available, but cattle fare worse by eating it. The condition of cattle is bad, except those that are stall-fed which are in fair condition.

General Remarks on the previous subjects.—The prospects when the fortnight opened were excellent. Good rain had fallen everywhere, a great breadth of land was sown, and it was hoped that we were in a fair way to recovery. Then came an ominous break in the monsoon which has continued up to the present date. Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear. In the best red lands which were sown early, the crops can possibly stand a somewhat longer drought, but I would not give even them more than a fortnight. On the other hand, there are some signs of rain, and I have just heard that over a quarter of an inch was registered at Hospet yesterday. Even this small quantity will do a vast amount of good and it is to be hoped that it has been general over the western taluks, for it is there that the sowings have been most extensive. At Yemmiganúr too, there was some rain on the 2nd and the red soils in that neighbourhood will probably now be sown. The failure of the ryots to sow earlier when they had such good rains is inexplicable.

More rain is wanted for the pasture also. Fodder grows scarcer day by day, and the depôts established by the Famine Fund have been a great boon and have saved the life of many a poor beast. There is a good deal of straw in the wet villages on the Tungabhadra selling at about Rs. 7 per 1,000 lb., and I have accordingly recommended that the depôt at Kuditini be closed.

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 for the period ending 30th of June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	8·10	8·10	9·79	10·30	10·82	11·33	14·55	14·55	There has been a slight fall in the price of cholam in Adóni and a sharp rise in the price of white cholam and ragi in Bellary. In other places also there is a tendency to a rise. Prices are not likely to fall until the success of the early crop is assured.
Alúr	7·56	7·56	10·30	10·30	11·33	11·33	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	8·10	10·82	9·79	11·33	11·33	16·49	13·58	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	12·36	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·10	
Hospet	7·56	7·02	10·82	11·33	13·39	11·54	15·52	15·52	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·33	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Harpanahalli ..	9·72	9·18	..	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·55	
Hadagalli	9·72	8·64	..	..	12·36	12·36	..	..	
Sandúr	8·64	8·49	..	..	12·36	12·87	15·52	..	
Average ..	8·52	8·26	10·82	10·43	12·17	12·13	15·10	14·31	

Activity of trade.—Fairly active. There has been a net import of 14,076 maunds during the fortnight against 22,378 maunds in the previous fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Generally good. I still come across cases of emaciation in children, but I always find that it is due to fever or other complaint and not to starvation. If the latter were the cause the whole family would show the same or similar symptoms, but this is not the case. Mr. Tod, the agent at Adóni of Messrs. Dymes & Co., complains that he cannot get coolies for his cotton press as they prefer the relief works. Mr. Lloyd says, the reason is that he pays only As. 2–6 for able-bodied women's labour and that only at irregular intervals; whereas on relief works the coolies are paid As. 1–9 for very much easier work and for as long a period as they wish to stay. The wage offered by Mr. Tod is, however, the ordinary woman's wage, and if the relief works are in competition with his industry, we must either reduce the wage or increase the task. The adoption of the former course is not advisable, and I have, therefore, directed the Divisional officer to raise the task, if, upon investigation, he finds Mr. Tod's complaint is well-founded.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has appeared at Kenchangurram in the Bellary taluk. There have been twelve attacks and four deaths since the 28th. There was one suspicious case in Bellary and it proved fatal; there have been no fresh cases. There was an alarm raised from two of the villages near the Nandavaram relief work, four cases and three deaths having been reported. The Divisional officer, Deputy Tahsildar, the Assistant Surgeon and several medical subordinates were quickly on the spot and every precaution was taken. It is doubtful if the cases were true cholera; no more have been reported. Fever and Guinea-worm are still prevalent in Adóni and on the works in Bellary taluk. Small-pox prevails in parts of Harpanahalli, Kúdligi and Hadagalli. The number of deaths in the district during May was 1,854 against the average of 1,806. In Adóni, Alúr and Hospet there was a perceptible decrease, the number of deaths being 213, 194 and 235, against the average of 327, 217 and 283, respectively. On the other hand, in Bellary there is a large increase both in the taluk and the town, the number being 309 and 173, against the average of 229 and 130.

Remarks.—I do not think any further measures for relief of distress are necessary. The weaving operations in Bellary will be continued on the same lines as at Adóni, as there has been some increase in numbers of late. The Tahsildar of Kúdligi proposed the opening of a relief work in the Hosahalli firka of Kúdligi taluk, but the Head Assistant Collector considered it unnecessary at present, and I agree with him

In view of the large number of persons on gratuitous relief in Hospet, a central kitchen was opened in that town with an attendance of over 400 inmates. Many of these were able to work, and I directed them to be removed; there is plenty of field work in the neighbourhood at present, and I saw crowds of men, women and children going to the fields under the river channels.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	36,238	40,118	The most recent returns show that there are 114,000 persons now on works. The considerable increase is due to the return of those workers who went away for the sowings and to the cessation of the clearing of nuth grass.
Alúr	40,062	41,035	
Bellary	11,135	11,836	
Hospet	6,214	7,480	
Kúdligi	1,065	1,117	
Hadagalli	3,780	4,370	
Total ..	98,494	105,956	
Sandúr	254	339	

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	1,441	1,762	1,157	1,454	..	..	1,753	2,449
Alúr	2,119	2,138	965	693	..	..	2,346	4,583
Bellary	756	725	1,124	1,093	..	..	5,334	* 3,524
Hospet	452	538	8	6	..	..	1,282	2,153
Kúdligi	52	61	..	..	..	..	41	59
Hadagalli	150	159	28	28	..	..	..	1,100
Total ..	4,970	5,383	3,282	3,274	..	..	10,756	13,868
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	78	85

* Explanation has been called for for the falls.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	129	121	2,536	2,653	1,759	21,943
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	76	36	76	64	168
Hospet	21	33	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	..	11	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	5	5	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—Sanjeeva Reddi of Joharapuram continues to feed 60 children.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has done much good by the timely grant of money for fodder, cattle and seed-grain to poor ryots. Cloths are also being distributed by the various sub-committees.

General Remarks.

The following statement gives the statistics of reported crime against property for the month of May in each of the past four years :—

Nomenclature of offence.	In May			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	..	..	2	4
Robbery	..	..	.. 1	2
Highway robbery	.. 1	.. 1	..	1
House-breaking by day ..	..	..	..	1
Do. by night ..	.. 18	.. 13	.. 11	30
Ordinary thefts	17	17	18	31
Cattle theft	1	6	2	7
Total ..	37	37	34	76

The increase is very great and it must be largely due to the present high prices of food. In several cases the complainants were persons attending relief-works.

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	11	2,210	9	930	71	15,683	152	12,620	148	11,570	417	39,061	163	14,830	157	12,500	488	54,744	..	8
Alúr	38	9,970	36	7,035	42	13,830	*1,514	*1,60,065	1,377	1,45,840	769	1,24,280	1,552	1,70,035	1,413	1,52,875	811	1,38,110	..	36
Bellary	23	2,610	23	2,610	37	10,360	815	78,575	812	78,275	310	66,785	838	81,185	835	80,885	347	77,145	..	23
Rayadrug	70	14,450	58	7,100	36	10,900	270	36,195	243	32,470	93	13,910	340	50,645	301	39,570	129	24,810	..	58
Hospet	11	2,450	11	1,335	26	4,585	47	3,425	47	3,425	28	2,950	58	5,875	58	4,760	54	7,535	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	..	..	1	250	52	6,255	45	5,355	33	3,575	53	6,355	45	5,355	34	3,825	..	..
Hadagalli	9	1,000	5	350	21	5,900	73	9,660	50	7,035	117	21,175	82	10,660	55	7,385	138	27,075	..	3
Total ..	165	33,050	142	19,360	271	68,848	2,923	3,06,795	2,722	2,83,970	1,774	2,72,636	3,088	3,39,845	2,864	3,03,330	2,045	3,41,484	..	139

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	200	5,951	135	3,617	464	22,938	2	125	1	75	130	5,345	202	6,076	136	3,692	594	28,283
Alúr	975	34,430	730	27,258	651	45,505	2	310	2	310	22	2,436	977	34,740	732	27,568	673	47,941
Bellary	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112	..	..	..	..	..	..	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112
Rayadrug	55	3,316	50	3,110	56	3,101	9	535	7	435	14	990	64	3,851	57	3,545	70	4,091
Hospet	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260
Kúdligi	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490
Harpanahalli	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498
Hadagalli	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687	..	..	.	..	..	..	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687
Total ..	2,328	83,306	1,952	72,629	2,312	1,28,591	13	970	10	820	166	8,771	2,341	84,276	1,962	73,449	2,478	1,37,362

* Deficit as compared with last fortnight due to some of the applications subsequently registered.

The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed Rs. 19,325 under the Land Improvement Act, while the amount paid by the Special Tahsildar of Alúr is only Rs. 4,695. The latter has, however, disbursed Rs. 12,481 for the purchase of fodder. The Tahsildars of Hospet and Rayadrug have also done good work in this respect, each having disbursed during the fortnight Rs. 3,745 and Rs. 2,545 respectively. The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed only Rs. 2,434 under this head and the Tahsildar of Adóni Rs. 2,433. As soon as pasture becomes available, the necessity for fodder loans will cease.

Inspections of the District Officers.

By the Collector.—Southern section of Bellary-Siruguppa road work, Moka road work, Paramadivanhalli road work, Hirehal road work, Gadeganur road, together with the kitchens attached to these works, fodder depôt at Kuditine.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Kowtalum kitchen and work, Chinnatumbalum and Basaldoddi works, Peddakadaburu, Nandavaram and Nagaladinne.

By the Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Alúr, Alúr-Moka, Alúr-Aspari and Alúr-Chippagiri road works, the kitchens at Alúr. Nemakal, Nagaradona, Beladona, Chippagiri, Degalahal, Chintakunta and Peddahotur, and the villages of Hulibedu, Alúr, Nagaradona, Nemakal, Sangala, Daulatapuram, Nancherla, Chippagiri, Yerur, Digalahal, Khajipuram, Malukarjunahal, Gummanuru, Sidarahal, Beninahal, Kokkoracheru, Sirugapuram, Chintakunta, Haradagiri, Kaminahal, Machanur, Chinnahotur.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector.—Somasamudram, Kolur, Dammur, Kolagundi, Koppagal villages and the kitchens there; Bylur, Jalibenchi, Sanganakal, Sirivaram and Paramadevamhalli, Bellary, Hirehal road work and the kitchen at Sindigiri.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hagaribommanahalli, Ittigi and the relief work there; Morgeri, Adivikyarigihal, Bammika, Hampasagar and the relief work there; Bellahunsi and the relief work there; Narraindeverkeri, Gunupur and Hospet.

Resolution—dated 19th July 1897, No. 510.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall figures for the fortnight look well on paper, but the fall has not been of so much use as the figures would appear to convey. The rain recorded was received during the first two or three days of the fortnight, and since then there was a break, and no rain fell up to the end of the month. As the Collector writes: "Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear." The ten days have come and gone; there has been no rain to speak of, and it is feared that the greater part of the early sowings on dry lands must be by this time lost. The supply of water for drinking is now ample in all but a few villages. Pasture was sprouting throughout the district except in Alúr, as the result of the rain already received, but this growth is likely to fail unless there is further rain.

3. Prices continued to rise in spite of a considerable import of grain. Their relative position is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures per rupee		
	Rice.	Cholam (mixed).	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	8·3	11·3	14·3
June 1892	9·0	14·9	16·2
„ 1877	6·5	6·5	7·4

4. The condition of the people was generally good. The numbers on works increased by about 7 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by about 18 per cent. The Collector should report, after further investigation, upon the competition of relief works with private employment. His proposal to introduce higher tasks at Adóni is approved, but the tasks should still be a possible one. The children of such women as will leave the work to go to the Cotton press may be allowed to remain in the kitchens. The increase of crime during the month, as compared with the figures of

the same month in previous years, was remarkable, and was, no doubt, the result of the present high prices. As, however, these returns are received from the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Collector need not trouble to give them. For past months, he will find the figures in B.P., dated 2nd July 1897, Mis. No. 4783.

5. The disposal of applications for loans proceeded satisfactorily, though much yet remains to be done.

The following figures show the progress in disbursements during the past few weeks:—

Up to week ending—	Amounts. Rs.
June 5th	3,06,397
„ 12th	3,10,163
„ 19th	3,31,561
„ 26th	3,75,629

The grant of fodder loans should specially be pressed.

6. The Famine Commissioner inspected parts of the Bellary, Alúr and Adóni taluks, and in his opinion the situation is even worse than the Collector puts it. The Collector only writes up to the 30th June, but the Famine Commissioner's inspection was 10 days later. The little pasture which sprouted on the red-soils is not worth mention. The early sowings on the red-soils and a few of the black-soil came up sparse and irregular, and are withering. Should, even, rain come to revive them, they have received a shake which will, in any case, prevent them from being good crops. The mass of the fields were unploughed, especially in Adóni. The situation of the cattle is terrible. For a little bundle of cholam straw, about a yard long, and about 14 inches in diameter, the Famine Commissioner paid 12 annas, and even this was obtained with difficulty. The ordinary hill grass only forthcoming in remote places, is a coarse tussocky weed, only fit for thatching. The worst cattle which the Famine Commissioner has seen were those belonging to a village on the slopes of a hill on which this grass grew. The cattle which could stand were emaciated; two buffaloes were lying down dying. Some pious native had brought a little grass and a chatty of water and put it beside them. This was in Jammalamadugu.

7. The Famine Commissioner inspected about 16,000 coolies. He can only say of them that they were in fair condition. There is a distinct difference, most marked in the case of the women and girls, between their present appearance and that of six months ago. They look worn and depressed. Six months ago they were bright and cheerful. The change is not due to any shortcoming of the district officers, but to the severe trial of the past eight months, and anxiety for the future.

8. The Famine Commissioner gave special attention to the question of well-to-do persons amongst the coolies, and cannot say that he saw any one in the number inspected who appeared undeserving of relief. The Tahsildar of Alúr thought that, perhaps, some 10 per cent. of the coolies may have private resources not yet exhausted. The Overseer in charge of the Nemakal work, Sankara Shastry, is an unusually able and intelligent man. He has now 6,000 coolies, and could not speak for all, but, of the 5,000 whom he had up to a few days ago, he considered about 100, or 2 per cent., to be in possession of some resources. It is not the intention or theory of famine administration to strip the people to the bone. There are at present 48,449 persons on works and relief in the Alúr taluk. Some of these came from Bellary, Adóni and Anantapur. The population of the taluk in 1871 was 98,230. In 1881, it was only 65,434. In 1891 it was 88,088. Adding $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum to the population of 1871, it is clear that the famine of 1876–78 cost the taluk about 47,500 lives. We have now about that number on relief, and, at the close of this distress, it will be Mr. Stuart's duty, and pride, to hand over all these persons alive and well. When the figures above given are considered, it is plain that there is not a man too much on relief, and also that the power of the people to hold out, unassisted, is very small. Besides the 47,500 who died in this taluk in the great famine, there must have been a very

large number on relief who managed to pull through. This time it must be so managed that all will pull through. The extent to which the population of Alúr have been hit by the present distress may be gauged by the fact that five Brahmans were breaking stones on the road—a father, his daughter and three sons. In his long experience, the Famine Commissioner has never known a similar case. There was also a Kuraba Guru in saffron turban and necklace of *kudraksha* beads. This man was one of the steadiest and best-tempered worker present. Up to a short time back he was giving relief and had a kitchen of his own. His people can no longer give him alms, and he has set an excellent example of self-help by coming on the work himself.

9. The Famine Commissioner was informed that the Moka work was only visited by the medical subordinate about once in 3 or 4 weeks. This may or may not be true. The Collector is requested to see to it. There was a medical subordinate—Gurusawmi Pillai—on the Halaharivi work, who seemed to have a somewhat perfunctory idea of his duties. There were many cases of sore-eyes, ulcers, &c., on the work, and he did not seem to have any knowledge of the cases. It is not enough for an hospital assistant to sit in his hospital, and wait for the coolies; he should visit the gangs, and take the commonest medicines and dressings with him, so as to treat such cases as he finds on the spot. During the Famine Commissioner's inspection a man passed along the road with his mother on his shoulders. He was carrying her from Adóni to Bapuvaram. Shortly afterwards a woman with a terribly emaciated baby followed. The hospital assistant professed to know, and to have treated, the child. It turned out that this woman also came from Adóni, and had been living in Adóni for the last five years. The hospital assistant never saw her before. This officer requires to be strictly looked after.

10. The Overseer, Sankara Shastry, above mentioned, had been fining some coolies, and proposed to make a special gang of the lazy ones, as it was not fair that honest workers should suffer through no fault of their own. He was told to do so, and, if fining had no effect, to transfer the recusants from his rolls to the kitchen, which represents the poor-house of the Code for this purpose. The coolies generally were doing fair tasks and excellent work, and began to come to their work before dawn, leaving it about 5 P.M.

11. In all kitchens there are some emaciated babies, and it is no use sending Mellin's food for them if it is not properly cooked and administered. The hospital assistant above mentioned did not seem to regard this as one of his duties. He said that the people complained that the food had a bad taste. This can only be so, if it was badly prepared. The Adóni works are under the superintendence of Mr. Lloyd, I.C.S., who is doing as good work in Adóni as Mr. Heaney does in Vizagapatam. Mr. Lloyd seems to take a proper interest in his kitchens, and promised to look to the Mellin's food himself.

(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.

ORDER—No. 693, Revenue, dated 14th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Famine Commissioner will be requested to report whether, with reference

to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419, dated 1st June 1897, he placed himself in communication with the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency, and, if so, with what result.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

30 Copies.

Public Works Department.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 693, 14th August 1897.

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AUGUST.

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To

The S. & M. Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th June 1897, recorded; and the Famine Commissioner requested to report whether, with reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419 of 1897, he had placed himself in communication with the Madras Branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency; and, if so, with what result.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 19th July 1897, No. 510 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 30th of June 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Station.	In the fortnight.	Up to fortnight from 1st April.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	2·39	5·64	4·84
Adóni	1·03	3·69	6·03
Alúr	1·53	6·99	4·78
Siruguppa	0·70	7·12	4·55
Kampli	0·80	8·28	3·54
Bellary	0·85	3·79	4·37
Rayadrug	0·66	7·13	4·57
Hospet	4·43	14·34	5·68
Kúdligi	3·58	14·06	5·62
Harpanahalli	2·08	8·18	5·71
Hadagalli	3·24	8·42	5·41
Sandúr	3·52	8·88	..

There was good rain on the first two days of the fortnight at all the recording stations, but since the 18th June there has been very little any where. With the exception of Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight is much in excess of the average. Though the deficiency in Adóni itself is very great the rainfall was copious and satisfactory in parts of the taluk. In Kúdligi taluk seven tanks breached and seeds already sown have been washed out of the ground necessitating a resowing. Some of the river-channels in the Hospet taluk have breached owing to the freshes in the Tungabhadra. The drinking-water supply is ample everywhere except in a few isolated villages here and there. Many tanks in the district have received some supply, but it is not sufficient for irrigation purposes except in the south of Harpanahalli, in Kúdligi and in parts of Hadagalli and Hospet. The supply in wells is increasing. Rain is now urgently wanted.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—In red soils and in light black soils cholam, pulses, cumbu, gingelly and castor have been sown. In places where the rainfall was not sufficient for sowing, lands are being harrowed. The area brought under cultivation between Adóni and Nandavaram is very limited. Although good rain fell at Yemmiganúr there are red soils in its neighbourhood still untouched. The standing crops are in good condition, but rain is wanted. *Alúr taluk.*—Clearing of nuth-grass is still going on to a small extent. In many villages red soils have been sown. More rain is wanted. *Bellary division.*—Oil-seeds, cumbu, yellow cholam and pulses have been sown, sugar-cane is being planted in Siruguppa and Disanur. Where there is not sufficient moisture for sowing, lands are being prepared for seed. Crops under wells and nullahs are in good condition,

Hospet division.—Standing early crops which are from one week to one month old are in good condition. In some parts of Hadagalli and Kúdligi the young shoots are being damaged by the sand brought by the high winds and resowing has been necessary. Except in parts of the Daroji firka in the Hospet taluk, where the rainfall has been insufficient, sowing has gone on everywhere. Paddy is being sown in Kampli and neighbouring villages under river-channels and wet lands in other parts are being prepared. Paddy, sugar-cane and garden crops are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—Sowings continued. Nearly a fourth of the area sown is covered by korra. The crops sown at the end of May are not flourishing well and will probably be replaced by fresh sowings. Garden crops are in good condition.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—The rain has improved the pasture, but the grass is as yet too young and short to be of any real use to the cattle, though the jungle-fed cattle seem to get something out of it. The condition of stall-fed cattle belonging to the richer ryots is good. The poorer ryots are practically at the end of their resources and came long distances in great numbers to beg fodder at the Famine Fund depôts. The ryots generally say that paddy-straw does not suit their bullocks, but they nevertheless prefer tickets for fodder on the Kósigi depôt to money from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder elsewhere. Mr. Lloyd reports that every description of beast was brought for sale to the Adóni market, from a pair of splendid animals which were offered for Rs. 100 the pair to the wretched broken-down animal for which even its owner asked only Rs. 3. A good small bullock for red soil costs fully Rs. 20 and for black soil from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is not available. Fodder is scanty everywhere, except with a few well-to-do ryots. The fodder depôt at Aspari is meeting the needs of cattle-owners in that neighbourhood. The condition of cattle of poorer ryots is still bad. It will improve as pasture grows. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent. Fodder is scanty except in wet villages. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary except those that are stall-fed which are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—In less than a month pasture will be sufficient in this division. Fodder is insufficient in the dry villages of Hospet, in Kúdligi and in Holagundi and Kodlabal firkas of Hadagalli and is running short in the affected villages of Harpanahalli. The condition of the cattle in the dry villages of Hospet and in parts of Kúdligi is poor, but elsewhere it is fair; in Hadagalli it is improving in those villages where they were hitherto suffering from lack of sufficient fodder and in Harpanahalli it is good.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is becoming available though the new growth is hardly fit for use yet. Hill dry grass is available, but cattle fare worse by eating it. The condition of cattle is bad, except those that are stall-fed which are in fair condition.

General Remarks on the previous subjects.—The prospects when the fortnight opened were excellent. Good rain had fallen everywhere, a great breadth of land was sown, and it was hoped that we were in a fair way to recovery. Then came an ominous break in the monsoon which has continued up to the present date. Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear. In the best red lands which were sown early, the crops can possibly stand a somewhat longer drought, but I would not give even them more than a fortnight. On the other hand, there are some signs of rain, and I have just heard that over a quarter of an inch was registered at Hospet yesterday. Even this small quantity will do a vast amount of good and it is to be hoped that it has been general over the western taluks, for it is there that the sowings have been most extensive. At Yemmiganúr too, there was some rain on the 2nd and the red soils in that neighbourhood will probably now be sown. The failure of the ryots to sow earlier when they had such good rains is inexplicable.

More rain is wanted for the pasture also. Fodder grows scarcer day by day, and the depôts established by the Famine Fund have been a great boon and have saved the life of many a poor beast. There is a good deal of straw in the wet villages on the Tungabhadra selling at about Rs. 7 per 1,000 lb., and I have accordingly recommended that the depôt at Kuditini be closed.

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 for the period ending 30th of June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	8·10	8·10	9·79	10·30	10·82	11·33	14·55	14·55	There has been a slight fall in the price of cholam in Adóni and a sharp rise in the price of white cholam and ragi in Bellary. In other places also there is a tendency to a rise. Prices are not likely to fall until the success of the early crop is assured.
Alúr	7·56	7·56	10·30	10·30	11·33	11·33	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	8·10	10·82	9·79	11·33	11·33	16·49	13·58	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	12·36	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·10	
Hospet	7·56	7·02	10·82	11·33	13·39	11·54	15·52	15·52	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·33	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Harpanahalli ..	9·72	9·18	..	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·55	
Hadagalli	9·72	8·64	..	..	12·36	12·36	..	..	
Sandúr	8·64	8·49	..	..	12·36	12·87	15·52	..	
Average ..	8·52	8·26	10·82	10·43	12·17	12·13	15·10	14·31	

Activity of trade.—Fairly active. There has been a net import of 14,076 maunds during the fortnight against 22,378 maunds in the previous fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Generally good. I still come across cases of emaciation in children, but I always find that it is due to fever or other complaint and not to starvation. If the latter were the cause the whole family would show the same or similar symptoms, but this is not the case. Mr. Tod, the agent at Adóni of Messrs. Dymes & Co., complains that he cannot get coolies for his cotton press as they prefer the relief works. Mr. Lloyd says, the reason is that he pays only As. 2–6 for able-bodied women's labour and that only at irregular intervals; whereas on relief works the coolies are paid As. 1–9 for very much easier work and for as long a period as they wish to stay. The wage offered by Mr. Tod is, however, the ordinary woman's wage, and if the relief works are in competition with his industry, we must either reduce the wage or increase the task. The adoption of the former course is not advisable, and I have, therefore, directed the Divisional officer to raise the task, if, upon investigation, he finds Mr. Tod's complaint is well-founded.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has appeared at Kenchangurram in the Bellary taluk. There have been twelve attacks and four deaths since the 28th. There was one suspicious case in Bellary and it proved fatal; there have been no fresh cases. There was an alarm raised from two of the villages near the Nandavaram relief work, four cases and three deaths having been reported. The Divisional officer, Deputy Tahsildar, the Assistant Surgeon and several medical subordinates were quickly on the spot and every precaution was taken. It is doubtful if the cases were true cholera; no more have been reported. Fever and Guinea-worm are still prevalent in Adóni and on the works in Bellary taluk. Small-pox prevails in parts of Harpanahalli, Kúdligi and Hadagalli. The number of deaths in the district during May was 1,854 against the average of 1,806. In Adóni, Alúr and Hospet there was a perceptible decrease, the number of deaths being 213, 194 and 235, against the average of 327, 217 and 283, respectively. On the other hand, in Bellary there is a large increase both in the taluk and the town, the number being 309 and 173, against the average of 229 and 130.

Remarks.—I do not think any further measures for relief of distress are necessary. The weaving operations in Bellary will be continued on the same lines as at Adóni, as there has been some increase in numbers of late. The Tahsildar of Kúdligi proposed the opening of a relief work in the Hosahalli firka of Kúdligi taluk, but the Head Assistant Collector considered it unnecessary at present, and I agree with him

In view of the large number of persons on gratuitous relief in Hospet, a central kitchen was opened in that town with an attendance of over 400 inmates. Many of these were able to work, and I directed them to be removed; there is plenty of field work in the neighbourhood at present, and I saw crowds of men, women and children going to the fields under the river channels.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	36,238	40,118	The most recent returns show that there are 114,000 persons now on works. The considerable increase is due to the return of those workers who went away for the sowings and to the cessation of the clearing of nuth grass.
Alúr	40,062	41,035	
Bellary	11,135	11,836	
Hospet	6,214	7,480	
Kúdligi	1,065	1,117	
Hadagalli	3,780	4,370	
Total ..	98,494	105,956	
Sandúr	254	339	

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	1,441	1,762	1,157	1,454	..	..	1,753	2,449
Alúr	2,119	2,138	965	693	..	..	2,346	4,583
Bellary	756	725	1,124	1,093	..	..	5,334	* 3,524
Hospet	452	538	8	6	..	..	1,282	2,153
Kúdligi	52	61	..	..	..	..	41	59
Hadagalli	150	159	28	28	..	..	..	1,100
Total ..	4,970	5,383	3,282	3,274	..	..	10,756	13,868
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	78	85

* Explanation has been called for for the falls.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	129	121	2,536	2,653	1,759	21,943
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	76	36	76	64	168
Hospet	21	33	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	..	11	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	5	5	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—Sanjeeva Reddi of Jaharapuram continues to feed 60 children.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has done much good by the timely grant of money for fodder, cattle and seed-grain to poor ryots. Cloths are also being distributed by the various sub-committees.

General Remarks.

The following statement gives the statistics of reported crime against property for the month of May in each of the past four years :—

Nomenclature of offence.	In May			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	..	..	2	4
Robbery	..	..	..	2
Highway robbery	1	1	1	1
House-breaking by day ..	..	..	..	1
Do. by night	18	13	11	30
Ordinary thefts	17	17	18	31
Cattle theft	1	6	2	7
Total ..	37	37	34	76

The increase is very great and it must be largely due to the present high prices of food. In several cases the complainants were persons attending relief-works.

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	11	2,210	9	930	71	15,683	152	12,620	148	11,570	417	39,061	163	14,830	157	12,500	488	54,744	..	8
Alúr	38	9,970	36	7,035	42	13,830	*1,514	*1,60,065	1,377	1,45,840	769	1,24,280	1,552	1,70,935	1,413	1,52,875	811	1,38,110	..	36
Bellary	23	2,610	23	2,610	37	10,360	815	78,575	812	78,275	310	66,785	838	81,185	835	80,885	347	77,145	..	23
Rayadrug	70	14,450	58	7,100	36	10,900	270	36,195	243	32,470	93	13,910	340	50,645	301	39,570	129	24,810	..	58
Hospet	11	2,450	11	1,335	26	4,585	47	3,425	47	3,425	28	2,950	58	5,875	58	4,760	54	7,535	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	..	..	1	250	52	6,255	45	5,355	33	3,575	53	6,355	45	5,355	34	3,825	..	..
Hadagalli	9	1,000	5	350	21	5,900	73	9,660	50	7,035	117	21,175	82	10,660	55	7,385	138	27,075	..	3
Total ..	165	33,050	142	19,360	271	68,848	2,923	3,06,795	2,722	2,83,970	1,774	2,72,636	3,088	3,39,845	2,864	3,03,330	2,045	3,41,484	..	139

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	200	5,951	135	3,617	464	22,938	2	125	1	75	130	5,345	202	6,076	136	3,692	594	28,283
Alúr	975	34,430	730	27,258	651	45,505	2	310	2	310	22	2,436	977	34,740	732	27,568	673	47,941
Bellary	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112	..	..	..	..	..	..	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112
Rayadrug	55	3,316	50	3,110	56	3,101	9	535	7	435	14	990	64	3,851	57	3,545	70	4,091
Hospet	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260
Kúdligi	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490
Harpanahalli	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498
Hadagalli	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687	..	..	..	..	..	..	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687
Total ..	2,328	83,306	1,952	72,629	2,312	1,28,591	13	970	10	820	166	8,771	2,341	84,276	1,962	73,449	2,478	1,37,362

* Deficit as compared with last fortnight due to some of the applications subsequently registered.

The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed Rs. 19,325 under the Land Improvement Act, while the amount paid by the Special Tahsildar of Alúr is only Rs. 4,695. The latter has, however, disbursed Rs. 12,481 for the purchase of fodder. The Tahsildars of Hospet and Rayadrug have also done good work in this respect, each having disbursed during the fortnight Rs. 3,745 and Rs. 2,545 respectively. The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed only Rs. 2,434 under this head and the Tahsildar of Adóni Rs. 2,433. As soon as pasture becomes available, the necessity for fodder loans will cease.

Inspections of the District Officers.

By the Collector.—Southern section of Bellary-Siruguppa road work, Moka road work, Paramadivanhalli road work, Hirehal road work, Gadeganur road, together with the kitchens attached to these works, fodder depôt at Kuditine.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Kowtalum kitchen and work, Chinnatumbalum and Basaldoddi works, Peddakadaburu, Nandavaram and Nagaladinne.

By the Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Alúr, Alúr-Moka, Alúr-Aspari and Alúr-Chippagiri road works, the kitchens at Alúr. Nemakal, Nagaradona, Beladona, Chippagiri, Degalahal, Chintakunta and Peddahotur, and the villages of Hulibedu, Alúr, Nagaradona, Nemakal, Sangala, Daulatapuram, Nancherla, Chippagiri, Yerur, Digalahal, Khajipuram, Malukarjunahal, Gummanuru, Sidarahal, Beninahal, Kokkoracheru, Sirugapuram, Chintakunta, Haradagiri, Kaminahal, Machanur, Chinnahotur.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector.—Somasamudram, Kolur, Dammur, Kolagundi, Koppagal villages and the kitchens there; Bylur, Jalibenchi, Sanganakal, Sirivaram and Paramadevamhalli, Bellary, Hirchal road work and the kitchen at Sindigiri.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hagaribommanahalli, Ittigi and the relief work there; Morgeri, Adivikyarigihal, Bammika, Hampasagar and the relief work there; Bellahunsi and the relief work there; Narraindeverkeri, Gunupur and Hospet.

Resolution—dated 19th July 1897, No. 510.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall figures for the fortnight look well on paper, but the fall has not been of so much use as the figures would appear to convey. The rain recorded was received during the first two or three days of the fortnight, and since then there was a break, and no rain fell up to the end of the month. As the Collector writes: "Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear." The ten days have come and gone; there has been no rain to speak of, and it is feared that the greater part of the early sowings on dry lands must be by this time lost. The supply of water for drinking is now ample in all but a few villages. Pasture was sprouting throughout the district except in Alúr, as the result of the rain already received, but this growth is likely to fail unless there is further rain.

3. Prices continued to rise in spite of a considerable import of grain. Their relative position is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures per rupee		
	Rice.	Cholam (mixed).	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	8·3	11·3	14·3
June 1892	9·0	14·9	16·2
„ 1877	6·5	6·5	7·4

4. The condition of the people was generally good. The numbers on works increased by about 7 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by about 18 per cent. The Collector should report, after further investigation, upon the competition of relief works with private employment. His proposal to introduce higher tasks at Adóni is approved, but the tasks should still be a possible one. The children of such women as will leave the work to go to the Cotton press may be allowed to remain in the kitchens. The increase of crime during the month, as compared with the figures of

the same month in previous years, was remarkable, and was, no doubt, the result of the present high prices. As, however, these returns are received from the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Collector need not trouble to give them. For past months, he will find the figures in B.P., dated 2nd July 1897, Mis. No. 4783.

5. The disposal of applications for loans proceeded satisfactorily, though much yet remains to be done.

The following figures show the progress in disbursements during the past few weeks:—

Up to week ending—	Amounts. Rs.
June 5th	3,06,397
„ 12th	3,10,163
„ 19th	3,31,561
„ 26th	3,75,629

The grant of fodder loans should specially be pressed.

6. The Famine Commissioner inspected parts of the Bellary, Alúr and Adóni taluks, and in his opinion the situation is even worse than the Collector puts it. The Collector only writes up to the 30th June, but the Famine Commissioner's inspection was 10 days later. The little pasture which sprouted on the red-soils is not worth mention. The early sowings on the red-soils and a few of the black-soil came up sparse and irregular, and are withering. Should, even, rain come to revive them, they have received a shake which will, in any case, prevent them from being good crops. The mass of the fields were unploughed, especially in Adóni. The situation of the cattle is terrible. For a little bundle of cholam straw, about a yard long, and about 14 inches in diameter, the Famine Commissioner paid 12 annas, and even this was obtained with difficulty. The ordinary hill grass only forthcoming in remote places, is a coarse tussocky weed, only fit for thatching. The worst cattle which the Famine Commissioner has seen were those belonging to a village on the slopes of a hill on which this grass grew. The cattle which could stand were emaciated; two buffaloes were lying down dying. Some pious native had brought a little grass and a chatty of water and put it beside them. This was in Jammalamadugu.

7. The Famine Commissioner inspected about 16,000 coolies. He can only say of them that they were in fair condition. There is a distinct difference, most marked in the case of the women and girls, between their present appearance and that of six months ago. They look worn and depressed. Six months ago they were bright and cheerful. The change is not due to any shortcoming of the district officers, but to the severe trial of the past eight months, and anxiety for the future.

8. The Famine Commissioner gave special attention to the question of well-to-do persons amongst the coolies, and cannot say that he saw any one in the number inspected who appeared undeserving of relief. The Tahsildar of Alúr thought that, perhaps, some 10 per cent. of the coolies may have private resources not yet exhausted. The Overseer in charge of the Nemakal work, Sankara Shastry, is an unusually able and intelligent man. He has now 6,000 coolies, and could not speak for all, but, of the 5,000 whom he had up to a few days ago, he considered about 100, or 2 per cent., to be in possession of some resources. It is not the intention or theory of famine administration to strip the people to the bone. There are at present 48,449 persons on works and relief in the Alúr taluk. Some of these came from Bellary, Adóni and Anantapur. The population of the taluk in 1871 was 98,230. In 1881, it was only 65,434. In 1891 it was 88,088. Adding 1½ per cent. per annum to the population of 1871, it is clear that the famine of 1876–78 cost the taluk about 47,500 lives. We have now about that number on relief, and, at the close of this distress, it will be Mr. Stuart's duty, and pride, to hand over all these persons alive and well. When the figures above given are considered, it is plain that there is not a man too much on relief, and also that the power of the people to hold out, unassisted, is very small. Besides the 47,500 who died in this taluk in the great famine, there must have been a very

large number on relief who managed to pull through. This time it must be so managed that all will pull through. The extent to which the population of Alúr have been hit by the present distress may be gauged by the fact that five Brahmans were breaking stones on the road—a father, his daughter and three sons. In his long experience, the Famine Commissioner has never known a similar case. There was also a Kuraba Guru in saffron turban and necklace of *Rudraksha* beads. This man was one of the steadiest and best-tempered worker present. Up to a short time back he was giving relief and had a kitchen of his own. His people can no longer give him alms, and he has set an excellent example of self-help by coming on the work himself.

9. The Famine Commissioner was informed that the Moka work was only visited by the medical subordinate about once in 3 or 4 weeks. This may or may not be true. The Collector is requested to see to it. There was a medical subordinate—Gurusawmi Pillai—on the Halaharivi work, who seemed to have a somewhat perfunctory idea of his duties. There were many cases of sore-eyes, ulcers, &c., on the work, and he did not seem to have any knowledge of the cases. It is not enough for an hospital assistant to sit in his hospital, and wait for the coolies; he should visit the gangs, and take the commonest medicines and dressings with him, so as to treat such cases as he finds on the spot. During the Famine Commissioner's inspection a man passed along the road with his mother on his shoulders. He was carrying her from Adóni to Bapuvaram. Shortly afterwards a woman with a terribly emaciated baby followed. The hospital assistant professed to know, and to have treated, the child. It turned out that this woman also came from Adóni, and had been living in Adóni for the last five years. The hospital assistant never saw her before. This officer requires to be strictly looked after.

10. The Overseer, Sankara Shastry, above mentioned, had been fining some coolies, and proposed to make a special gang of the lazy ones, as it was not fair that honest workers should suffer through no fault of their own. He was told to do so, and, if fining had no effect, to transfer the recusants from his rolls to the kitchen, which represents the poor-house of the Code for this purpose. The coolies generally were doing fair tasks and excellent work, and began to come to their work before dawn, leaving it about 5 P.M.

11. In all kitchens there are some emaciated babies, and it is no use sending Mellin's food for them if it is not properly cooked and administered. The hospital assistant above mentioned did not seem to regard this as one of his duties. He said that the people complained that the food had a bad taste. This can only be so, if it was badly prepared. The Adóni works are under the superintendence of Mr. Lloyd, I.C.S., who is doing as good work in Adóni as Mr. Heaney does in Vizagapatam. Mr. Lloyd seems to take a proper interest in his kitchens, and promised to look to the Mellin's food himself.

(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.

Order—No. 693, Revenue, dated 14th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Famine Commissioner will be requested to report whether, with reference

to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419, dated 1st June 1897, he placed himself in communication with the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency, and, if so, with what result.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.

Rad. Shaik Karim.

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REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

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OW 85-85/57

G.O., No. 693, 14th August 1897.

AUGUST.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th June 1897, recorded; and the Famine Commissioner requested to report whether, with reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419 of 1897, he had placed himself in communication with the Madras Branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency; and, if so, with what result.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 19th July 1897, No. 510 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 30th of June 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Station.	In the fortnight.	Up to fortnight from 1st April.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	2·39	5·64	4·84
Adóni	1·03	3·69	6·03
Alúr	1·53	6·99	4·78
Siruguppa	0·70	7·12	4·55
Kampli	0·80	8·28	3·54
Bellary	0 85	3·79	4·37
Rayadrug	0·66	7·13	4·57
Hospet	4·43	14·34	5·68
Kúdligi	3·58	14·06	5·62
Harpanahalli	2·08	8·18	5·71
Hadagalli	3·24	8·42	5·41
Sandúr	3·52	8·88	..

There was good rain on the first two days of the fortnight at all the recording stations, but since the 18th June there has been very little any where. With the exception of Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight is much in excess of the average. Though the deficiency in Adóni itself is very great the rainfall was copious and satisfactory in parts of the taluk. In Kúdligi taluk seven tanks breached and seeds already sown have been washed out of the ground necessitating a resowing. Some of the river-channels in the Hospet taluk have breached owing to the freshes in the Tungabhadra. The drinking-water supply is ample everywhere except in a few isolated villages here and there. Many tanks in the district have received some supply, but it is not sufficient for irrigation purposes except in the south of Harpanahalli, in Kúdligi and in parts of Hadagalli and Hospet. The supply in wells is increasing. Rain is now urgently wanted.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—In red soils and in light black soils cholam, pulses, cumbu, gingelly and castor have been sown. In places where the rainfall was not sufficient for sowing, lands are being harrowed. The area brought under cultivation between Adóni and Nandavaram is very limited. Although good rain fell at Yemmiganúr there are red soils in its neighbourhood still untouched. The standing crops are in good condition, but rain is wanted. *Alúr taluk.*—Clearing of nuth-grass is still going on to a small extent. In many villages red soils have been sown. More rain is wanted. *Bellary division.*—Oil-seeds, cumbu, yellow cholam and pulses have been sown, sugar-cane is being planted in Siruguppa and Disanur. Where there is not sufficient moisture for sowing, lands are being prepared for seed. Crops under wells and nullahs are in good condition,

Hospet division.—Standing early crops which are from one week to one month old are in good condition. In some parts of Hadagalli and Kúdligi the young shoots are being damaged by the sand brought by the high winds and resowing has been necessary. Except in parts of the Daroji firka in the Hospet taluk, where the rainfall has been insufficient, sowing has gone on everywhere. Paddy is being sown in Kampli and neighbouring villages under river-channels and wet lands in other parts are being prepared. Paddy, sugar-cane and garden crops are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—Sowings continued. Nearly a fourth of the area sown is covered by korra. The crops sown at the end of May are not flourishing well and will probably be replaced by fresh sowings. Garden crops are in good condition.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—The rain has improved the pasture, but the grass is as yet too young and short to be of any real use to the cattle, though the jungle-fed cattle seem to get something out of it. The condition of stall-fed cattle belonging to the richer ryots is good. The poorer ryots are practically at the end of their resources and came long distances in great numbers to beg fodder at the Famine Fund depôts. The ryots generally say that paddy-straw does not suit their bullocks, but they nevertheless prefer tickets for fodder on the Kosigi depôt to money from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder elsewhere. Mr. Lloyd reports that every description of beast was brought for sale to the Adóni market, from a pair of splendid animals which were offered for Rs. 100 the pair to the wretched broken-down animal for which even its owner asked only Rs. 3. A good small bullock for red soil costs fully Rs. 20 and for black soil from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is not available. Fodder is scanty everywhere, except with a few well-to-do ryots. The fodder depôt at Aspari is meeting the needs of cattle-owners in that neighbourhood. The condition of cattle of poorer ryots is still bad. It will improve as pasture grows. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent. Fodder is scanty except in wet villages. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary except those that are stall-fed which are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—In less than a month pasture will be sufficient in this division. Fodder is insufficient in the dry villages of Hospet, in Kúdligi and in Holagundi and Kodlabal firkas of Hadagalli and is running short in the affected villages of Harpanahalli. The condition of the cattle in the dry villages of Hospet and in parts of Kúdligi is poor, but elsewhere it is fair; in Hadagalli it is improving in those villages where they were hitherto suffering from lack of sufficient fodder and in Harpanahalli it is good.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is becoming available though the new growth is hardly fit for use yet. Hill dry grass is available, but cattle fare worse by eating it. The condition of cattle is bad, except those that are stall-fed which are in fair condition.

General Remarks on the previous subjects.—The prospects when the fortnight opened were excellent. Good rain had fallen everywhere, a great breadth of land was sown, and it was hoped that we were in a fair way to recovery. Then came an ominous break in the monsoon which has continued up to the present date. Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear. In the best red lands which were sown early, the crops can possibly stand a somewhat longer drought, but I would not give even them more than a fortnight. On the other hand, there are some signs of rain, and I have just heard that over a quarter of an inch was registered at Hospet yesterday. Even this small quantity will do a vast amount of good and it is to be hoped that it has been general over the western taluks, for it is there that the sowings have been most extensive. At Yemmiganúr too, there was some rain on the 2nd and the red soils in that neighbourhood will probably now be sown. The failure of the ryots to sow earlier when they had such good rains is inexplicable.

More rain is wanted for the pasture also. Fodder grows scarcer day by day, and the depôts established by the Famine Fund have been a great boon and have saved the life of many a poor beast. There is a good deal of straw in the wet villages on the Tungabhadra selling at about Rs. 7 per 1,000 lb., and I have accordingly recommended that the depôt at Kuditini be closed.

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 for the period ending 30th of June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	8·10	8·10	9·79	10·30	10·82	11·33	14·55	14·55	There has been a slight fall in the price of cholam in Adóni and a sharp rise in the price of white cholam and ragi in Bellary. In other places also there is a tendency to a rise. Prices are not likely to fall until the success of the early crop is assured.
Alúr	7·56	7·56	10·30	10·30	11·33	11·33	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	8·10	10·82	9·79	11·33	11·33	16·49	13·58	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	12·36	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·10	
Hospet	7·56	7·02	10·82	11·33	13·39	11·54	15·52	15·52	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·33	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Harpanahalli ..	9·72	9·18	..	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·55	
Hadagalli	9·72	8·64	..	..	12·36	12·36	..	..	
Sandúr	8·64	8·49	..	..	12·36	12·87	15·52	..	
Average ..	8·52	8·26	10·82	10·43	12·17	12·13	15·10	14·31	

Activity of trade.—Fairly active. There has been a net import of 14,076 maunds during the fortnight against 22,378 maunds in the previous fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Generally good. I still come across cases of emaciation in children, but I always find that it is due to fever or other complaint and not to starvation. If the latter were the cause the whole family would show the same or similar symptoms, but this is not the case. Mr. Tod, the agent at Adóni of Messrs. Dymes & Co., complains that he cannot get coolies for his cotton press as they prefer the relief works. Mr. Lloyd says, the reason is that he pays only As. 2–6 for able-bodied women's labour and that only at irregular intervals; whereas on relief works the coolies are paid As. 1–9 for very much easier work and for as long a period as they wish to stay. The wage offered by Mr. Tod is, however, the ordinary woman's wage, and if the relief works are in competition with his industry, we must either reduce the wage or increase the task. The adoption of the former course is not advisable, and I have, therefore, directed the Divisional officer to raise the task, if, upon investigation, he finds Mr. Tod's complaint is well-founded.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has appeared at Kenchangurram in the Bellary taluk. There have been twelve attacks and four deaths since the 28th. There was one suspicious case in Bellary and it proved fatal; there have been no fresh cases. There was an alarm raised from two of the villages near the Nandavaram relief work, four cases and three deaths having been reported. The Divisional officer, Deputy Tahsildar, the Assistant Surgeon and several medical subordinates were quickly on the spot and every precaution was taken. It is doubtful if the cases were true cholera; no more have been reported. Fever and Guinea-worm are still prevalent in Adóni and on the works in Bellary taluk. Small-pox prevails in parts of Harpanahalli, Kúdligi and Hadagalli. The number of deaths in the district during May was 1,854 against the average of 1,806. In Adóni, Alúr and Hospet there was a perceptible decrease, the number of deaths being 213, 194 and 235, against the average of 327, 217 and 283, respectively. On the other hand, in Bellary there is a large increase both in the taluk and the town, the number being 309 and 173, against the average of 229 and 130.

Remarks.—I do not think any further measures for relief of distress are necessary. The weaving operations in Bellary will be continued on the same lines as at Adóni, as there has been some increase in numbers of late. The Tahsildar of Kúdligi proposed the opening of a relief work in the Hosahalli firka of Kúdligi taluk, but the Head Assistant Collector considered it unnecessary at present, and I agree with him

In view of the large number of persons on gratuitous relief in Hospet, a central kitchen was opened in that town with an attendance of over 400 inmates. Many of these were able to work, and I directed them to be removed; there is plenty of field work in the neighbourhood at present, and I saw crowds of men, women and children going to the fields under the river channels.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	36,238	40,118	The most recent returns show that there are 114,000 persons now on works. The considerable increase is due to the return of those workers who went away for the sowings and to the cessation of the clearing of nuth grass.
Alúr	40,062	41,035	
Bellary	11,135	11,836	
Hospet	6,214	7,480	
Kúdligi	1,065	1,117	
Hadagalli	3,780	4,370	
Total ..	98,494	105,956	
Sandúr	254	339	

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	1,441	1,762	1,157	1,454	..	..	1,753	2,449
Alúr	2,119	2,138	965	693	..	..	2,346	4,583
Bellary	756	725	1,124	1,093	..	..	5,334	* 3,524
Hospet	452	538	8	6	..	..	1,282	2,153
Kúdligi	52	61	..	..	..	..	41	59
Hadagalli	150	159	28	28	..	..	..	1,100
Total ..	4,970	5,383	3,282	3,274	..	..	10,756	13,868
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	78	85

* Explanation has been called for for the falls.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	129	121	2,536	2,653	1,759	21,943
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	76	36	76	64	168
Hospet	21	33	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	..	11	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	5	5	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—Sanjeeva Reddi of Joharapuram continues to feed 60 children.

The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has done much good by the timely grant of money for fodder, cattle and seed-grain to poor ryots. Cloths are also being distributed by the various sub-committees.

General Remarks.

The following statement gives the statistics of reported crime against property for the month of May in each of the past four years :—

Nomenclature of offence.	In May			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	..	..	..	4
Robbery	..	..	2	2
Highway robbery	..	..	.. 1	1
House-breaking by day ..	1	.. 1	..	1
Do. by night ..	.. 18	..	..	30
Ordinary thefts ..	13	13	11	31
Cattle theft	17	17	18	7
	1	6	2	
Total ..	37	37	34	76

The increase is very great and it must be largely due to the present high prices of food. In several cases the complainants were persons attending relief-works.

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	11	2,210	9	930	71	15,683	152	12,620	148	11,570	417	39,061	163	14,830	157	12,500	488	54,744	..	8
Alúr	38	9,970	36	7,035	42	13,830	*1,514	*1,60,065	1,377	1,45,840	769	1,24,280	1,552	1,70,035	1,413	1,52,875	811	1,38,110	..	36
Bellary	23	2,610	23	2,610	37	10,360	815	78,575	812	78,275	310	66,785	838	81,185	835	80,885	347	77,145	..	23
Rayadrug	70	14,450	58	7,100	36	10,900	270	36,195	243	32,470	93	13,910	340	50,645	301	39,570	129	24,810	..	58
Hospet	11	2,450	11	1,335	26	4,585	47	3,425	47	3,425	28	2,950	58	5,875	58	4,760	54	7,535	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	..	..	1	250	52	6,255	45	5,355	33	3,575	53	6,355	45	5,355	34	3,825	..	..
Hadagalli	9	1,000	5	350	21	5,900	73	9,660	50	7,035	117	21,175	82	10,660	55	7,385	138	27,075	..	3
Total ..	165	33,050	142	19,360	271	68,848	2,923	3,06,795	2,722	2,83,970	1,774	2,72,636	3,088	3,39,845	2,864	3,03,330	2,045	3,41,484	..	139

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	200	5,951	135	3,617	464	22,938	2	125	1	75	130	5,345	202	6,076	136	3,692	594	28,283
Alúr	975	34,430	730	27,258	651	45,505	2	310	2	310	22	2,436	977	34,740	732	27,568	673	47,941
Bellary	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112	..	..	..	..	..	..	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112
Rayadrug	55	3,316	50	3,110	56	3,101	9	535	7	435	14	990	64	3,851	57	3,545	70	4,091
Hospet	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260
Kúdligi	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490
Harpanahalli	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498
Hadagalli	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687	..	..	..	..	..	..	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687
Total ..	2,328	83,306	1,952	72,629	2,312	1,28,591	13	970	10	820	166	8,771	2,341	84,276	1,962	73,449	2,478	1,37,362

* Deficit as compared with last fortnight due to some of the applications subsequently registered.

The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed Rs. 19,325 under the Land Improvement Act, while the amount paid by the Special Tahsildar of Alúr is only Rs. 4,695. The latter has, however, disbursed Rs. 12,481 for the purchase of fodder. The Tahsildars of Hospet and Rayadrug have also done good work in this respect, each having disbursed during the fortnight Rs. 3,745 and Rs. 2,545 respectively. The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed only Rs. 2,434 under this head and the Tahsildar of Adóni Rs. 2,433. As soon as pasture becomes available, the necessity for fodder loans will cease.

Inspections of the District Officers.

By the Collector.—Southern section of Bellary-Siruguppa road work, Moka road work, Paramadivanhalli road work, Hirehal road work, Gadeganur road, together with the kitchens attached to these works, fodder depôt at Kuditine.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Kowtalum kitchen and work, Chinnatumbalum and Basaldoddi works, Peddakadaburu, Nandavaram and Nagaladinne.

By the Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Alúr, Alúr-Moka, Alúr-Aspari and Alúr-Chippagiri road works, the kitchens at Alúr. Nemakal, Nagaradona, Beladona, Chippagiri, Degalahal, Chintakunta and Peddahotur, and the villages of Hulibedu, Alúr, Nagaradona, Nemakal, Sangala, Daulatapuram, Nancherla, Chippagiri, Yerur, Digalahal, Khajipuram, Malukarjunahal, Gummanuru, Sidarahal, Beninahal, Kokkoracheru, Sirugapuram, Chintakunta, Haradagiri, Kaminahal, Machanur, Chinnahotur.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector.—Somasamudram, Kolur, Dammur, Kolagundi, Koppagal villages and the kitchens there; Bylur, Jalibenchi, Sanganakal, Sirivaram and Paramadevamhalli, Bellary, Hirehal road work and the kitchen at Sindigiri.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hagaribommanahalli, Ittigi and the relief work there; Morgeri, Adivikyarigihal, Bammika, Hampasagar and the relief work there; Bellahunsi and the relief work there; Narraindeverkeri, Gunupur and Hospet.

Resolution—dated 19th July 1897, No. 510.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall figures for the fortnight look well on paper, but the fall has not been of so much use as the figures would appear to convey. The rain recorded was received during the first two or three days of the fortnight, and since then there was a break, and no rain fell up to the end of the month. As the Collector writes: "Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear." The ten days have come and gone; there has been no rain to speak of, and it is feared that the greater part of the early sowings on dry lands must be by this time lost. The supply of water for drinking is now ample in all but a few villages. Pasture was sprouting throughout the district except in Alúr, as the result of the rain already received, but this growth is likely to fail unless there is further rain.

3. Prices continued to rise in spite of a considerable import of grain. Their relative position is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures per rupee		
	Rice.	Cholam (mixed).	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	8·3	11·3	14·3
June 1892	9·0	14·9	16·2
„ 1877	6·5	6·5	7·4

4. The condition of the people was generally good. The numbers on works increased by about 7 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by about 18 per cent. The Collector should report, after further investigation, upon the competition of relief works with private employment. His proposal to introduce higher tasks at Adóni is approved, but the tasks should still be a possible one. The children of such women as will leave the work to go to the Cotton press may be allowed to remain in the kitchens. The increase of crime during the month, as compared with the figures of

the same month in previous years, was remarkable, and was, no doubt, the result of the present high prices. As, however, these returns are received from the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Collector need not trouble to give them. For past months, he will find the figures in B.P., dated 2nd July 1897, Mis. No. 4783.

5. The disposal of applications for loans proceeded satisfactorily, though much yet remains to be done.

The following figures show the progress in disbursements during the past few weeks:—

Up to week ending—	Amounts. Rs.
June 5th	3,06,397
„ 12th	3,10,163
„ 19th	3,31,561
„ 26th	3,75,629

The grant of fodder loans should specially be pressed.

6. The Famine Commissioner inspected parts of the Bellary, Alúr and Adóni taluks, and in his opinion the situation is even worse than the Collector puts it. The Collector only writes up to the 30th June, but the Famine Commissioner's inspection was 10 days later. The little pasture which sprouted on the red-soils is not worth mention. The early sowings on the red-soils and a few of the black-soil came up sparse and irregular, and are withering. Should, even, rain come to revive them, they have received a shake which will, in any case, prevent them from being good crops. The mass of the fields were unploughed, especially in Adóni. The situation of the cattle is terrible. For a little bundle of cholam straw, about a yard long, and about 14 inches in diameter, the Famine Commissioner paid 12 annas, and even this was obtained with difficulty. The ordinary hill grass only forthcoming in remote places, is a coarse tussocky weed, only fit for thatching. The worst cattle which the Famine Commissioner has seen were those belonging to a village on the slopes of a hill on which this grass grew. The cattle which could stand were emaciated; two buffaloes were lying down dying. Some pious native had brought a little grass and a chatty of water and put it beside them. This was in Jammalamadugu.

7. The Famine Commissioner inspected about 16,000 coolies. He can only say of them that they were in fair condition. There is a distinct difference, most marked in the case of the women and girls, between their present appearance and that of six months ago. They look worn and depressed. Six months ago they were bright and cheerful. The change is not due to any shortcoming of the district officers, but to the severe trial of the past eight months, and anxiety for the future.

8. The Famine Commissioner gave special attention to the question of well-to-do persons amongst the coolies, and cannot say that he saw any one in the number inspected who appeared undeserving of relief. The Tahsildar of Alúr thought that, perhaps, some 10 per cent. of the coolies may have private resources not yet exhausted. The Overseer in charge of the Nemakal work, Sankara Shastry, is an unusually able and intelligent man. He has now 6,000 coolies, and could not speak for all, but, of the 5,000 whom he had up to a few days ago, he considered about 100, or 2 per cent., to be in possession of some resources. It is not the intention or theory of famine administration to strip the people to the bone. There are at present 48,449 persons on works and relief in the Alúr taluk. Some of these came from Bellary, Adóni and Anantapur. The population of the taluk in 1871 was 98,230. In 1881, it was only 65,434. In 1891 it was 88,088. Adding $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum to the population of 1871, it is clear that the famine of 1876–78 cost the taluk about 47,500 lives. We have now about that number on relief, and, at the close of this distress, it will be Mr. Stuart's duty, and pride, to hand over all these persons alive and well. When the figures above given are considered, it is plain that there is not a man too much on relief, and also that the power of the people to hold out, unassisted, is very small. Besides the 47,500 who died in this taluk in the great famine, there must have been a very

large number on relief who managed to pull through. This time it must be so managed that all will pull through. The extent to which the population of Alúr have been hit by the present distress may be gauged by the fact that five Brahmans were breaking stones on the road—a father, his daughter and three sons. In his long experience, the Famine Commissioner has never known a similar case. There was also a Kuraba Guru in saffron turban and necklace of *Rudraksha* beads. This man was one of the steadiest and best-tempered worker present. Up to a short time back he was giving relief and had a kitchen of his own. His people can no longer give him alms, and he has set an excellent example of self-help by coming on the work himself.

9. The Famine Commissioner was informed that the Moka work was only visited by the medical subordinate about once in 3 or 4 weeks. This may or may not be true. The Collector is requested to see to it. There was a medical subordinate—Gurusawmi Pillai—on the Halaharivi work, who seemed to have a somewhat perfunctory idea of his duties. There were many cases of sore-eyes, ulcers, &c., on the work, and he did not seem to have any knowledge of the cases. It is not enough for an hospital assistant to sit in his hospital, and wait for the coolies; he should visit the gangs, and take the commonest medicines and dressings with him, so as to treat such cases as he finds on the spot. During the Famine Commissioner's inspection a man passed along the road with his mother on his shoulders. He was carrying her from Adóni to Bapuvaram. Shortly afterwards a woman with a terribly emaciated baby followed. The hospital assistant professed to know, and to have treated, the child. It turned out that this woman also came from Adóni, and had been living in Adóni for the last five years. The hospital assistant never saw her before. This officer requires to be strictly looked after.

10. The Overseer, Sankara Shastry, above mentioned, had been fining some coolies, and proposed to make a special gang of the lazy ones, as it was not fair that honest workers should suffer through no fault of their own. He was told to do so, and, if fining had no effect, to transfer the recusants from his rolls to the kitchen, which represents the poor-house of the Code for this purpose. The coolies generally were doing fair tasks and excellent work, and began to come to their work before dawn, leaving it about 5 P.M.

11. In all kitchens there are some emaciated babies, and it is no use sending Mellin's food for them if it is not properly cooked and administered. The hospital assistant above mentioned did not seem to regard this as one of his duties. He said that the people complained that the food had a bad taste. This can only be so, if it was badly prepared. The Adóni works are under the superintendence of Mr. Lloyd, I.C.S., who is doing as good work in Adóni as Mr. Heaney does in Vizagapatam. Mr. Lloyd seems to take a proper interest in his kitchens, and promised to look to the Mellin's food himself.

(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.

Order—No. 693, Revenue, dated 14th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Famine Commissioner will be requested to report whether, with reference

to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419, dated 1st June 1897, he placed himself in communication with the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency, and, if so, with what result.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.

Ed. Shaik Karim.

80 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. *Enclosures*

Regd. } *Spare copies*

G.O., No. 693, 14th August 1897.

AUGUST.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 30th June 1897, recorded; and the Famine Commissioner requested to report whether, with reference to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419 of 1897, he had placed himself in communication with the Madras Branch of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency; and, if so, with what result.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 19th July 1897, No. 510 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary District during the period ending 30th of June 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and Water-supply.—

Station.	In the fortnight.	Up to fortnight from 1st April.	Average of 25 years.
	INCHES.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Yemmiganúr	2·39	5·64	4·84
Adóni	1·03	3·69	6·03
Alúr	1·53	6·99	4·78
Siruguppa	0·70	7·12	4·55
Kampli	0·80	8·28	3·54
Bellary	0·85	3·79	4·37
Rayadrug	0·66	7·13	4·57
Hospet	4·43	14·34	5·68
Kúdligi	3·58	14·06	5·62
Harpanahalli	2·08	8·18	5·71
Hadagalli	3·24	8·42	5·41
Sandúr	3·52	8·88	..

There was good rain on the first two days of the fortnight at all the recording stations, but since the 18th June there has been very little any where. With the exception of Adóni and Bellary the rainfall up to the fortnight is much in excess of the average. Though the deficiency in Adóni itself is very great the rainfall was copious and satisfactory in parts of the taluk. In Kúdligi taluk seven tanks breached and seeds already sown have been washed out of the ground necessitating a resowing. Some of the river-channels in the Hospet taluk have breached owing to the freshes in the Tungabhadra. The drinking-water supply is ample everywhere except in a few isolated villages here and there. Many tanks in the district have received some supply, but it is not sufficient for irrigation purposes except in the south of Harpanahalli, in Kúdligi and in parts of Hadagalli and Hospet. The supply in wells is increasing. Rain is now urgently wanted.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—In red soils and in light black soils cholam, pulses, cumbu, gingelly and castor have been sown. In places where the rainfall was not sufficient for sowing, lands are being harrowed. The area brought under cultivation between Adóni and Nandavaram is very limited. Although good rain fell at Yemmiganúr there are red soils in its neighbourhood still untouched. The standing crops are in good condition, but rain is wanted. *Alúr taluk.*—Clearing of nuth-grass is still going on to a small extent. In many villages red soils have been sown. More rain is wanted. *Bellary division.*—Oil-seeds, cumbu, yellow cholam and pulses have been sown, sugar-cane is being planted in Siruguppa and Disanur. Where there is not sufficient moisture for sowing, lands are being prepared for seed. Crops under wells and nullahs are in good condition.

Hospet division.—Standing early crops which are from one week to one month old are in good condition. In some parts of Hadagalli and Kúdligi the young shoots are being damaged by the sand brought by the high winds and resowing has been necessary. Except in parts of the Daroji firka in the Hospet taluk, where the rainfall has been insufficient, sowing has gone on everywhere. Paddy is being sown in Kampli and neighbouring villages under river-channels and wet lands in other parts are being prepared. Paddy, sugar-cane and garden crops are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—Sowings continued. Nearly a fourth of the area sown is covered by korra. The crops sown at the end of May are not flourishing well and will probably be replaced by fresh sowings. Garden crops are in good condition.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—The rain has improved the pasture, but the grass is as yet too young and short to be of any real use to the cattle, though the jungle-fed cattle seem to get something out of it. The condition of stall-fed cattle belonging to the richer ryots is good. The poorer ryots are practically at the end of their resources and came long distances in great numbers to beg fodder at the Famine Fund depôts. The ryots generally say that paddy-straw does not suit their bullocks, but they nevertheless prefer tickets for fodder on the Kosigi depôt to money from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder elsewhere. Mr. Lloyd reports that every description of beast was brought for sale to the Adóni market, from a pair of splendid animals which were offered for Rs. 100 the pair to the wretched broken-down animal for which even its owner asked only Rs. 3. A good small bullock for red soil costs fully Rs. 20 and for black soil from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is not available. Fodder is scanty everywhere, except with a few well-to-do ryots. The fodder depôt at Aspari is meeting the needs of cattle-owners in that neighbourhood. The condition of cattle of poorer ryots is still bad. It will improve as pasture grows. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent. Fodder is scanty except in wet villages. The condition of cattle is fair in Rayadrug and bad in Bellary except those that are stall-fed which are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—In less than a month pasture will be sufficient in this division. Fodder is insufficient in the dry villages of Hospet, in Kúdligi and in Holagundi and Kodlabal firkas of Hadagalli and is running short in the affected villages of Harpanahalli. The condition of the cattle in the dry villages of Hospet and in parts of Kúdligi is poor, but elsewhere it is fair; in Hadagalli it is improving in those villages where they were hitherto suffering from lack of sufficient fodder and in Harpanahalli it is good.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is becoming available though the new growth is hardly fit for use yet. Hill dry grass is available, but cattle fare worse by eating it. The condition of cattle is bad, except those that are stall-fed which are in fair condition.

General Remarks on the previous subjects.—The prospects when the fortnight opened were excellent. Good rain had fallen everywhere, a great breadth of land was sown, and it was hoped that we were in a fair way to recovery. Then came an ominous break in the monsoon which has continued up to the present date. Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear. In the best red lands which were sown early, the crops can possibly stand a somewhat longer drought, but I would not give even them more than a fortnight. On the other hand, there are some signs of rain, and I have just heard that over a quarter of an inch was registered at Hospet yesterday. Even this small quantity will do a vast amount of good and it is to be hoped that it has been general over the western taluks, for it is there that the sowings have been most extensive. At Yemmiganúr too, there was some rain on the 2nd and the red soils in that neighbourhood will probably now be sown. The failure of the ryots to sow earlier when they had such good rains is inexplicable.

More rain is wanted for the pasture also. Fodder grows scarcer day by day, and the depôts established by the Famine Fund have been a great boon and have saved the life of many a poor beast. There is a good deal of straw in the wet villages on the Tungabhadra selling at about Rs. 7 per 1,000 lb., and I have accordingly recommended that the depôt at Kuditini be closed.

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 for the period ending 30th of June 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		White cholam.		Yellow cholam.		Ragi.		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.	End of last period.	End of current period.	
Adóni	8·10	8·10	9·79	10·30	10·82	11·33	14·55	14·55	There has been a slight fall in the price of cholam in Adóni and a sharp rise in the price of white cholam and ragi in Bellary. In other places also there is a tendency to a rise. Prices are not likely to fall until the success of the early crop is assured.
Alúr	7·56	7·56	10·30	10·30	11·33	11·33	..	..	
Bellary	8·10	8·10	10·82	9·79	11·33	11·33	16·49	13·58	
Rayadrug	9·72	9·72	12·36	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·10	
Hospet	7·56	7·02	10·82	11·33	13·39	11·54	15·52	15·52	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	11·33	11·33	13·58	13·58	
Harpanahalli ..	9·72	9·18	..	..	13·39	13·39	15·04	14·55	
Hadagalli	9·72	8·64	..	..	12·36	12·36	..	..	
Sandúr	8·64	8·49	..	..	12·36	12·87	15·52	..	
Average ..	8·52	8·26	10·82	10·43	12·17	12·13	15·10	14·31	

Activity of trade.—Fairly active. There has been a net import of 14,076 maunds during the fortnight against 22,378 maunds in the previous fortnight.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good.

In villages.—Generally good. I still come across cases of emaciation in children, but I always find that it is due to fever or other complaint and not to starvation. If the latter were the cause the whole family would show the same or similar symptoms, but this is not the case. Mr. Tod, the agent at Adóni of Messrs. Dymes & Co., complains that he cannot get coolies for his cotton press as they prefer the relief works. Mr. Lloyd says, the reason is that he pays only As. 2–6 for able-bodied women's labour and that only at irregular intervals; whereas on relief works the coolies are paid As. 1–9 for very much easier work and for as long a period as they wish to stay. The wage offered by Mr. Tod is, however, the ordinary woman's wage, and if the relief works are in competition with his industry, we must either reduce the wage or increase the task. The adoption of the former course is not advisable, and I have, therefore, directed the Divisional officer to raise the task, if, upon investigation, he finds Mr. Tod's complaint is well-founded.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has appeared at Kenchangurram in the Bellary taluk. There have been twelve attacks and four deaths since the 28th. There was one suspicious case in Bellary and it proved fatal; there have been no fresh cases. There was an alarm raised from two of the villages near the Nandavaram relief work, four cases and three deaths having been reported. The Divisional officer, Deputy Tahsildar, the Assistant Surgeon and several medical subordinates were quickly on the spot and every precaution was taken. It is doubtful if the cases were true cholera; no more have been reported. Fever and Guinea-worm are still prevalent in Adóni and on the works in Bellary taluk. Small-pox prevails in parts of Harpanahalli, Kúdligi and Hadagalli. The number of deaths in the district during May was 1,854 against the average of 1,806. In Adóni, Alúr and Hospet there was a perceptible decrease, the number of deaths being 213, 194 and 235, against the average of 327, 217 and 283, respectively. On the other hand, in Bellary there is a large increase both in the taluk and the town, the number being 309 and 173, against the average of 229 and 130.

Remarks.—I do not think any further measures for relief of distress are necessary. The weaving operations in Bellary will be continued on the same lines as at Adóni, as there has been some increase in numbers of late. The Tahsildar of Kúdligi proposed the opening of a relief work in the Hosahalli firka of Kúdligi taluk, but the Head Assistant Collector considered it unnecessary at present, and I agree with him

In view of the large number of persons on gratuitous relief in Hospet, a central kitchen was opened in that town with an attendance of over 400 inmates. Many of these were able to work, and I directed them to be removed; there is plenty of field work in the neighbourhood at present, and I saw crowds of men, women and children going to the fields under the river channels.

Measures of Relief.

Works.—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers—

Taluks.	Number employed		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	36,238	40,118	The most recent returns show that there are 114,000 persons now on works. The considerable increase is due to the return of those workers who went away for the sowings and to the cessation of the clearing of nuth grass.
Alúr	40,062	41,035	
Bellary	11,135	11,836	
Hospet	6,214	7,480	
Kúdligi	1,065	1,117	
Hadagalli	3,780	4,370	
Total ..	98,494	105,956	
Sandúr	254	339	

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	1,441	1,762	1,157	1,454	..	..	1,753	2,449
Alúr	2,119	2,138	965	693	..	..	2,346	4,583
Bellary	756	725	1,124	1,093	..	..	5,334	* 3,524
Hospet	452	538	8	6	..	..	1,282	2,153
Kúdligi	52	61	..	..	..	..	41	59
Hadagalli	150	159	28	28	..	..	..	1,100
Total ..	4,970	5,383	3,282	3,274	..	..	10,756	13,868
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	78	85

* Explanation has been called for for the falls.

Taluks.	Number of villages in which relief was given		Weavers' relief.			
			Number of persons relieved		Number of cloths manufactured	
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	In the period.	Up to date.
Adóni	129	121	2,536	2,653	1,759	21,943
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	76	76	36	76	64	168
Hospet	21	33	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	..	11	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	5	5	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—Sanjeeva Reddi of Joharapuram continues to feed 60 children. The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund has done much good by the timely grant of money for fodder, cattle and seed-grain to poor ryots. Cloths are also being distributed by the various sub-committees.

General Remarks.

The following statement gives the statistics of reported crime against property for the month of May in each of the past four years :—

Nomenclature of offence.	In May			
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
Dacoity	..	..	2	4
Robbery	..	..	..	2
Highway robbery	1	1	1	1
House-breaking by day	..	..	..	1
Do. by night	18	13	11	30
Ordinary thefts	17	17	18	31
Cattle theft	1	6	2	7
Total ..	37	37	34	76

The increase is very great and it must be largely due to the present high prices of food. In several cases the complainants were persons attending relief-works.

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	11	2,210	9	930	71	15,683	152	12,620	148	11,570	417	39,061	163	14,830	157	12,500	488	54,744	..	8
Alúr	38	9,970	36	7,035	42	13,830	*1,514	*1,60,065	1,377	1,45,840	769	1,24,280	1,552	1,70,035	1,413	1,52,875	811	1,38,110	..	36
Bellary	23	2,610	23	2,610	37	10,360	815	78,575	812	78,275	310	66,785	838	81,185	835	80,885	347	77,145	..	23
Rayadrug	70	14,450	58	7,100	36	10,900	270	36,195	243	32,470	93	13,910	340	50,645	301	39,570	129	24,810	..	58
Hospet	11	2,450	11	1,335	26	4,585	47	3,425	47	3,425	28	2,950	58	5,875	58	4,760	54	7,535	..	11
Kúdligi	2	260	..	..	37	7,340	..	..	..	..	7	900	2	260	..	..	44	8,240	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	..	..	1	250	52	6,255	45	5,355	33	3,575	53	6,355	45	5,355	34	3,825	..	..
Hadagalli	9	1,000	5	350	21	5,900	73	9,660	50	7,035	117	21,175	82	10,660	55	7,385	138	27,075	..	3
Total ..	165	33,050	142	19,360	271	68,848	2,923	3,06,795	2,722	2,33,970	1,774	2,72,636	3,088	3,39,845	2,864	3,03,330	2,045	3,41,484	..	139

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	200	5,951	135	3,617	464	22,938	2	125	1	75	130	5,345	202	6,076	136	3,692	594	28,283
Alúr	975	34,430	730	27,258	651	45,505	2	310	2	310	22	2,436	977	34,740	732	27,568	673	47,941
Bellary	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112	..	..	..	..	..	..	427	16,971	427	16,971	697	36,112
Rayadrug	55	3,316	50	3,110	56	3,101	9	535	7	435	14	990	64	3,851	57	3,545	70	4,091
Hospet	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260	..	..	..	..	..	..	70	4,800	68	4,555	46	1,260
Kúdligi	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	454	11,727	435	11,552	121	5,490
Harpanahalli	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	2,775	45	2,500	94	4,498
Hadagalli	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687	..	..	..	..	..	..	91	3,336	62	3,066	183	9,687
Total ..	2,328	83,306	1,952	72,629	2,312	1,28,591	13	970	10	820	166	8,771	2,341	84,276	1,962	73,449	2,478	1,37,362

* Deficit as compared with last fortnight due to some of the applications subsequently registered.

The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed Rs. 19,325 under the Land Improvement Act, while the amount paid by the Special Tahsildar of Alúr is only Rs. 4,695. The latter has, however, disbursed Rs. 12,481 for the purchase of fodder. The Tahsildars of Hospet and Rayadrug have also done good work in this respect, each having disbursed during the fortnight Rs. 3,745 and Rs. 2,545 respectively. The Special Tahsildar of Bellary has disbursed only Rs. 2,434 under this head and the Tahsildar of Adóni Rs. 2,433. As soon as pasture becomes available, the necessity for fodder loans will cease.

Inspections of the District Officers.

By the Collector.—Southern section of Bellary-Siruguppa road work, Moka road work, Paramadivanhalli road work, Hirehal road work, Gadeganur road, together with the kitchens attached to these works, fodder depôt at Kuditine.

By the Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Kowtalum kitchen and work, Chinnatumbalum and Basaldoddi works, Peddakadaburu, Nandavaram and Nagaladinne.

By the Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Adóni-Alúr, Alúr-Moka, Alúr-Aspari and Alúr-Chippagiri road works, the kitchens at Alúr. Nemakal, Nagaradona, Beladona, Chippagiri, Degalahal, Chintakunta and Peddahotur, and the villages of Hulibedu, Alúr, Nagaradona, Nemakal, Sangala, Daulatapuram, Nancherla, Chippagiri, Yerur, Digalahal, Khajipuram, Malukarjunahal, Gummanuru, Sidarahal, Beninahal, Kokkoracheru, Sirugapuram, Chintakunta, Haradagiri, Kaminahal, Machanur, Chinnahotur.

Head-quarter Deputy Collector.—Somasamudram, Kolur, Dammur, Kolagundi, Koppagal villages and the kitchens there; Bylur, Jalibenchi, Sanganakal, Sirivaram and Paramadevamhalli, Bellary, Hirchal road work and the kitchen at Sindigiri.

Head Assistant Collector.—Hagaribommanahalli, Ittigi and the relief work there; Morgeri, Adivikyarigihal, Bammika, Hampasagar and the relief work there; Bellahunsi and the relief work there; Narraindeverkeri, Gunupur and Hospet.

Resolution—dated 19th July 1897, No. 510.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall figures for the fortnight look well on paper, but the fall has not been of so much use as the figures would appear to convey. The rain recorded was received during the first two or three days of the fortnight, and since then there was a break, and no rain fell up to the end of the month. As the Collector writes: "Unless we get rain within a week or ten days, much, if not the whole, of the young crop now on the ground will disappear." The ten days have come and gone; there has been no rain to speak of, and it is feared that the greater part of the early sowings on dry lands must be by this time lost. The supply of water for drinking is now ample in all but a few villages. Pasture was sprouting throughout the district except in Alúr, as the result of the rain already received, but this growth is likely to fail unless there is further rain.

3. Prices continued to rise in spite of a considerable import of grain. Their relative position is shown by the following figures:—

Rate.	Measures per rupee		
	Rice.	Cholam (mixed).	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	8·3	11·3	14·3
June 1892	9·0	14·9	16·2
„ 1877	6·5	6·5	7·4

4. The condition of the people was generally good. The numbers on works increased by about 7 per cent. and on gratuitous relief by about 18 per cent. The Collector should report, after further investigation, upon the competition of relief works with private employment. His proposal to introduce higher tasks at Adóni is approved, but the tasks should still be a possible one. The children of such women as will leave the work to go to the Cotton press may be allowed to remain in the kitchens. The increase of crime during the month, as compared with the figures of

the same month in previous years, was remarkable, and was, no doubt, the result of the present high prices. As, however, these returns are received from the Inspector-General of Prisons, the Collector need not trouble to give them. For past months, he will find the figures in B.P., dated 2nd July 1897, Mis. No. 4783.

5. The disposal of applications for loans proceeded satisfactorily, though much yet remains to be done.

The following figures show the progress in disbursements during the past few weeks:—

Up to week ending—	Amounts. Rs.
June 5th	3,06,397
„ 12th	3,10,163
„ 19th	3,31,561
„ 26th	3,75,629

The grant of fodder loans should specially be pressed.

6. The Famine Commissioner inspected parts of the Bellary, Alúr and Adóni taluks, and in his opinion the situation is even worse than the Collector puts it. The Collector only writes up to the 30th June, but the Famine Commissioner's inspection was 10 days later. The little pasture which sprouted on the red-soils is not worth mention. The early sowings on the red-soils and a few of the black-soil came up sparse and irregular, and are withering. Should, even, rain come to revive them, they have received a shake which will, in any case, prevent them from being good crops. The mass of the fields were unploughed, especially in Adóni. The situation of the cattle is terrible. For a little bundle of cholam straw, about a yard long, and about 14 inches in diameter, the Famine Commissioner paid 12 annas, and even this was obtained with difficulty. The ordinary hill grass only forthcoming in remote places, is a coarse tussocky weed, only fit for thatching. The worst cattle which the Famine Commissioner has seen were those belonging to a village on the slopes of a hill on which this grass grew. The cattle which could stand were emaciated; two buffaloes were lying down dying. Some pious native had brought a little grass and a chatty of water and put it beside them. This was in Jammalamadugu.

7. The Famine Commissioner inspected about 16,000 coolies. He can only say of them that they were in fair condition. There is a distinct difference, most marked in the case of the women and girls, between their present appearance and that of six months ago. They look worn and depressed. Six months ago they were bright and cheerful. The change is not due to any shortcoming of the district officers, but to the severe trial of the past eight months, and anxiety for the future.

8. The Famine Commissioner gave special attention to the question of well-to-do persons amongst the coolies, and cannot say that he saw any one in the number inspected who appeared undeserving of relief. The Tahsildar of Alúr thought that, perhaps, some 10 per cent. of the coolies may have private resources not yet exhausted. The Overseer in charge of the Nemakal work, Sankara Shastry, is an unusually able and intelligent man. He has now 6,000 coolies, and could not speak for all, but, of the 5,000 whom he had up to a few days ago, he considered about 100, or 2 per cent., to be in possession of some resources. It is not the intention or theory of famine administration to strip the people to the bone. There are at present 48,449 persons on works and relief in the Alúr taluk. Some of these came from Bellary, Adóni and Anantapur. The population of the taluk in 1871 was 98,230. In 1881, it was only 65,434. In 1891 it was 88,088. Adding $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum to the population of 1871, it is clear that the famine of 1876–78 cost the taluk about 47,500 lives. We have now about that number on relief, and, at the close of this distress, it will be Mr. Stuart's duty, and pride, to hand over all these persons alive and well. When the figures above given are considered, it is plain that there is not a man too much on relief, and also that the power of the people to hold out, unassisted, is very small. Besides the 47,500 who died in this taluk in the great famine, there must have been a very

large number on relief who managed to pull through. This time it must be so managed that all will pull through. The extent to which the population of Alúr have been hit by the present distress may be gauged by the fact that five Brahmans were breaking stones on the road—a father, his daughter and three sons. In his long experience, the Famine Commissioner has never known a similar case. There was also a Kuraba Guru in saffron turban and necklace of *Rudraksha* beads. This man was one of the steadiest and best-tempered worker present. Up to a short time back he was giving relief and had a kitchen of his own. His people can no longer give him alms, and he has set an excellent example of self-help by coming on the work himself.

9. The Famine Commissioner was informed that the Moka work was only visited by the medical subordinate about once in 3 or 4 weeks. This may or may not be true. The Collector is requested to see to it. There was a medical subordinate—Gurusawmi Pillai—on the Halaharivi work, who seemed to have a somewhat perfunctory idea of his duties. There were many cases of sore-eyes, ulcers, &c., on the work, and he did not seem to have any knowledge of the cases. It is not enough for an hospital assistant to sit in his hospital, and wait for the coolies; he should visit the gangs, and take the commonest medicines and dressings with him, so as to treat such cases as he finds on the spot. During the Famine Commissioner's inspection a man passed along the road with his mother on his shoulders. He was carrying her from Adóni to Bapuvaram. Shortly afterwards a woman with a terribly emaciated baby followed. The hospital assistant professed to know, and to have treated, the child. It turned out that this woman also came from Adóni, and had been living in Adóni for the last five years. The hospital assistant never saw her before. This officer requires to be strictly looked after.

10. The Overseer, Sankara Shastry, above mentioned, had been fining some coolies, and proposed to make a special gang of the lazy ones, as it was not fair that honest workers should suffer through no fault of their own. He was told to do so, and, if fining had no effect, to transfer the recusants from his rolls to the kitchen, which represents the poor-house of the Code for this purpose. The coolies generally were doing fair tasks and excellent work, and began to come to their work before dawn, leaving it about 5 P.M.

11. In all kitchens there are some emaciated babies, and it is no use sending Mellin's food for them if it is not properly cooked and administered. The hospital assistant above mentioned did not seem to regard this as one of his duties. He said that the people complained that the food had a bad taste. This can only be so, if it was badly prepared. The Adóni works are under the superintendence of Mr. Lloyd, I.C.S., who is doing as good work in Adóni as Mr. Heaney does in Vizagapatam. Mr. Lloyd seems to take a proper interest in his kitchens, and promised to look to the Mellin's food himself.

(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.

Order—No. 693, Revenue, dated 14th August 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Famine Commissioner will be requested to report whether, with reference

to paragraph 3 of G.O., No. 419, dated 1st June 1897, he placed himself in communication with the Madras Committee of the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund in view to a supply of Mellin's food being obtained for distribution in this Presidency, and, if so, with what result.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Famine Commissioner.
„ the Public Works Department.
„ the Financial Department.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the Local and Municipal Department.

Hrd. Shaik Karim.

30 Copies.