Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 28/11/95

DATED 7 October 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Jammu: Prov: Revenue Dept: recording Annual Prov: Administration Report of the Settlement Dept: for the year ending 15 August 1897, Com: D.G. S. & III Circ.

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Public works (1897) Department

Current-Nos 957/4

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

No 2692 W/28-9-97

Recd. 27-9 } 1897.
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G.O., No. 789, 16th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Communicated to the S.S. III Circle.

2/10/97

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Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th August 1897.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 592, dated 27th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary district during the period ending 15th of August 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply —

Stations.	In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.	Average of three years, In the fortnight.	Average of three years, Up to the fortnight.
Yemmiganúru	0·31	10·38	2·99	8·75
Adóni	0·28	6·25	5·73	13·97
Alúr	0·79	9·42	2·42	11·09
Siruguppa	1·06	9·61	2·83	11·67
Kampli	1·63	10·85	2·17	7·85
Bellary	0·56	4·65	1·16	9·04
Rayadrug	0·47	7·83	1·24	7·16
Hospet	0·38	15·98	3·56	10·54
Kúdligi	1·64	17·18	1·78	13·33
Harpanahalli	2·10	11·99	1·65	14·23
Hadagalli	0·80	10·06	1·19	9·46
Sandúr	0·90	10·14	..	..

Except in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi the rainfall during the fortnight has been decidedly deficient, especially round Adóni and Hospet. There have been light passing showers in various parts of the district, but it was only on the 12th instant that there was any rain of importance, and even this did not extend to Rayadrug. There is a great variation in the fall in villages quite close to each other, and our gauges are not sufficiently numerous to show the real distribution. Heavy rain is wanted during the next fortnight for the sowing of cotton and white cholam in Rayadrug, Alúr and Bellary. Water-supply for drinking purposes is at present generally sufficient all over the district. The Tungabhadra river is in floods, and affords plenty of supply for irrigation purposes for the lands irrigated by its channels. The present supply in some tanks in Harpanahalli is not sufficient, and under the Chinnathambalam tank in Adóni taluk dry crops are being raised. The supply in the Hagari channels is diminishing, especially in the Rayadrug taluk. Irrigation wells in the Sandúr State do not contain a sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Paddy is being sown at Ramapuram and Madhavaram. Weeding is going on in parts, but not generally by hand. Paddy sown under the small kuntas is doing well. Cotton and korra sown on the black-cotton soils in the north-west of the taluk are badly in want of rain. The mungari cholam in the Adóni firka is wilting for want of rain, but it is not lost yet and good rain would save it. Elsewhere the standing crops are in excellent condition. The cholam is coming to ear near Kosgi, and is in many places four feet high. Hairy caterpillars are very numerous, especially round Adóni, where they do considerable damage to the young cholam. *Alúr taluk.*—Black-cotton soils

are being prepared for cultivation. Cholam and maize under wells are in good condition. The recent rain has done good to the young standing crops near Alúr. Elsewhere the crops are in need of rain. *Bellary division.*—Ragi and cholam under wells, and paddy under channels and wells are being sown in the Rayadrug taluk. The early-sown crops stand in urgent need of rain and are wilting in some places. The crops in the Tekkalakota range of the Bellary taluk look better than those of other parts of the taluk. Crops under wells are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted in the Kúdligi taluk, horse-gram is being sown in Harpanahalli, and paddy under some tanks in Hadagalli. Dry crops in Kúdligi, are promising, except in Kottur and a few villages in the north-east corner. In Harpanahalli, dry crops, especially cholam, are doing well. Garden crops in Kúdligi, and sugarcane under tanks in Harpanahalli are in good condition. In Hospet taluk the dry crops are not altogether satisfactory; they are withering in parts of the Anantapur valley and in some places between Hospet and Daroji. They are also damaged by hairy caterpillars. The dry crops in Hadagalli look green, but are in a precarious state. Wet crops under river channels and the Kamalapuram tank are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—The standing crops withered in some places and are wilting in others. The slight rain which fell during the fortnight has kept the standing crops alive.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is available, except in black-soil villages and in the villages of the Adóni firka. Fodder is scanty. Good boda grass is being cut in the hills, and some of the people eke out their livelihood by selling it in markets, where it fetches good prices. The condition of the cattle is everywhere improving, and even the ploughing bulls are turned out to graze; there is not likely to be further anxiety on this score, except in the villages immediately round Adóni, and the Famine Fund straw now being sold there will help to relieve the pressure in that neighbourhood. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is scarce and fodder very scanty. The depôt at Aspari supplies fodder for sale, and money is distributed to the poorer ryots from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder. The condition of cattle belonging to small ryots is still bad. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. The use of prickly-pear as fodder has become common in the villages of the west of the taluk. Hill grass is getting very dear. It is sold at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable, and I have found ryots of the Bellary taluk buy it in the villages to the east of Adóni. Except in wet villages the condition of cattle is poor in Rayadrug, and is rapidly deteriorating in the Bellary taluk, except in the case of stall-fed animals. *Hospet division.*—Pasture is generally available in Kúdligi and in the villages bordering the river channels and the Sandúr hills. It is immature in Harpanahalli and scanty in Hadagalli. Fodder is practically *nil*, except in the river-side villages. Everywhere it is very dear. The condition of cattle is generally fair in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi, except in Endikota where many have died. In parts of Hospet they are emaciated, and they are poor in half of the Hadagalli taluk.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available but its supply is diminishing for want of rain. Fodder is very little. The condition of cattle is fair, the majority of them are pastured in the hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Up to the present very little *mungari* crop has been lost, but we are living from hand to mouth and a fortnight's drought would be fatal over a large area. If, however, we get even moderately good rain during the next month or six weeks, the harvest of this crop is assured, and as the breadth of sowings is considerably above the average, we may reckon with some confidence on a valuable addition to our food supply, and a consequential fall in prices.

There is great need of heavy rain to enable the ryots to sow the black cotton soils of Rayadrug, Bellary, Alúr, and the south of Adóni. If the sowing of cotton is delayed much longer, the crop cannot be picked till after the hot winds have

begun, and the outturn is diminished thereby. White cholam, however, can be put in much later, so that even if the necessary heavy rain holds off for a month, the position is by no means hopeless. White cholam, indeed, can be sown during the north-east monsoon, but if the ryot loses his cotton crop, he will suffer severely.

The fodder difficulty will not be overcome until the existing crop is harvested. The Famine Fund fodder depôts at Guntakal and Aspari are largely patronised, and there is plenty of paddy straw in the wet villages. Loans for the purchase of fodder have been granted freely during the fortnight, and the local Famine Fund Committees have given the poorer ryots a considerable amount for this purpose.

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 15th August 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	7·56	7·56	8·76	8·76	10·82	10·30	14·07	12·61	Prices show a slight tendency to rise.
Alur	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9 27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	14·55	13·58	
Rayadrug	8·10	8·10	9·27	9 27	10·04	10·04	12·13	12·13	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	9·79	9·27	10·30	10·30	13·50	12·61	
Kódligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	11·64	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	7·56	..	..	10·82	10·82	12·61	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	11·64	12·61	
Sandúr	7·56	7·29	..	..	9·79	9·79	12·61	12·61	
Average ..	7·68	7·53	8·86	8·76	10·10	9·99	12·84	12·55	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 35,372 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 108,514 maunds during the previous three weeks. There is still a considerable quantity of grain in the district. Some time back I reported that a ryot of Nemakallu admitted that he had 40,000 seers of cholam; in a neighbouring village, Kundanagurti, the reddi, a trustworthy, respectable man and a member of the Taluk Board, estimates that there are 100,000 seers. There is also a large quantity in Molagavalli. But nothing will induce the owners to put this grain on the market, and the stocks therefore have no effect on prices. A few merchants of this place (Adóni) recently went to Molagavalli for the purpose of buying grain, but the ryots refused to open their pits, and said they would not sell until prices had fallen to 20 or 25 seers the rupee. Their position is intelligible, but it is curiously opposed to ordinary economic ideas. As an illustration of the sensitiveness of the market, I may mention that after a slight shower here the other day telegrams were at once flying to the south directing the local agents not to make further purchases. This is on the whole a good sign.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good. There is still a large number of people from the Nizam's Dominions on the relief works at Madhavaram and Halvi in Adóni taluk and many of them are in poor condition. Weakly gangs are being formed in accordance with recent orders.

In villages.—Generally good.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has increased considerably in the Adóni taluk and slightly in Alúr, but it is abating in Bellary. There have been during the fortnight 405 attacks and 174 deaths in Adóni, 92 attacks and 33 deaths in Alúr, 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Bellary. In addition to the Apothecaries in charge of the Yemmiganúru and Adóni Hospitals there are one Apothecary and three Hospital

Assistants on cholera duty in the Adóni taluk. Wells are treated with permanganate of potash and specially guarded, and the evacuations and clothing of patients are disinfected.

Small-pox prevails in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli taluks, there being twenty attacks and four deaths from that cause in the former and five attacks and no deaths in the latter.

Remarks.—In his Proceedings, No. 6119, dated 4th August 1897, the Famine Commissioner stated that he discovered 76 "famine, *i.e.*, severely emaciated babies" at Adóni. I visited the Adóni work on the 1st instant and carefully examined the babies, but I could find only 11 in any way emaciated. Their mothers were at once put on gratuitous relief. I made another inspection in company with the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole on the 9th, but found no more cases. The overseer tells me that he sent no babies from the works between the date of the Famine Commissioner's visit and the 1st August. It was difficult to persuade the mothers of these children to leave the works, even when the grain dole was the equivalent of the B. wage, for they prefer money to the dole. Now that the grain dole has been reduced it will be still more difficult. I venture to point out that "famine baby" is an expression which is open to misconstruction. The Famine Commissioner has, no doubt, explained that by "famine" he means "severely emaciated," but the uninstructed will think that the emaciation is due to want of food, which is not the case. Mr. LeFanu will, no doubt, remember one terribly emaciated child, a mere skeleton with a lose skin drawn over it. The cause of its miserable condition, however, was persistent diarrhœa, not want of food. The mother and the other children were in good condition and the father, whom I did not see, was earning a livelihood as a weaver. I can give many similar cases.

In the review of my narrative for the fortnight ending the 30th June (B.P., No. 510, dated 19th July 1897), the Famine Commissioner quotes the opinion of overseer Sankara Sastri regarding the number of well-to-do persons on the Alúr-Adóni relief work. The overseer put the proportion at 2 per cent., but since the Commissioner's visit, he has been making inquiries regarding the occupations of the workers and he finds that four gangs (400 strong) contained 50 persons who were well able to tide over the next few months without State aid. This is a proportion of 12½ per cent. The fact is an overseer knows very little about the position and means of his workers, for he does not visit the villages off the roads. There was a disturbance on this overseer's work a few days back, and on going to the spot he found that several men of the gang were quarelling over the purchase of a heifer, which a stranger had brought for sale. People who can buy heifers with fodder at its present price cannot be in much need of relief. It remains to be seen whether they will remain on the works now that they are required to do a fair day's work.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	50,499	43,265	The fall in numbers is due partly to the prevalence of cholera, partly to employment being locally available on agricultural operations and partly to the enforcement of discipline and the exaction of more work. I am beginning to concentrate works in the north of the Adóni taluk where there is a considerable demand for labour. Moreover, many of the workers there are from Hyderabad and they may reasonably be required to go to any relief work where it is most convenient to employ them. There has been a marked increase in the number of weavers on relief in Bellary and Rayadrug.
Alúr	56,392	54,313	
Bellary	22,695	25,792	
Hospet	13,228	11,751	
Kúdligi	2,080	1,766	
Hadagalli	10,376	10,822	
Total ..	155,270	147,709	
Sandúr	562	926	
Total ..	155,832	148,635	

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	1,685	1,726	1,458	1,382	..	..	3,511	3,203
Alúr	2,399	2,700	294	350	..	..	3,812	3,268
Bellary	1,194	1,106	1,183	1,148	..	..	6,339	5,726
Rayadrug	116	157	..	..	..	..	5	5
Hospet	705	617	286	280	..	..	2,606	2,859
Kudligi	32	44	19	1	..	..	182	238
Hadagalli	272	271	27	30	..	..	1,920	2,425
Total	6,403	6,621	3,267	3,191	..	..	18,375	17,724
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	107	96

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	180	180	4,485	4,624	2,633	30,206
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	118	140	657	1,072	1,120	2,210
Rayadrug	1	3	523	1,800	..	578
Hospet	46	55	..	..	578	..
Kudligi	36	42	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	51	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	7	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work in giving grants for the purchase of fodder, seed-grain and cattle. The fodder at Kosgi is being sent to Adóni where it is much needed. There is little or no demand at Kosgi.

General Remarks.

The reduction of the distance allowance and the enforcement of punctual attendance have naturally caused much grumbling among the relief workers, and some decrease in numbers, especially in the Adóni taluk. At Tekkalakóta (Bellary taluk) two gangs left saying that they were not going to stay if they had to do a full day's work. At the Harivanam work (Alúr taluk) some women assaulted the overseer but quiet was soon restored. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work (Hospet taluk) there was a strike, but further enquiry showed that it was a strike of the head coolies and submaistries against the officer in charge and that the relief workers had nothing to do with it. On the whole the changes have been carried out with discretion and there has been no sudden decline of numbers anywhere, though many works show a gradual falling off.

As the great majority of the people who attend the Bangalore road relief work near Bellary live entirely on ragi, I have ordered that grain to be taken as the basis for calculation of wages; I have also introduced a ragi diet in the Bellary kitchens. There has been an influx of people from the Gooty taluk to the Alur-Guntakal work, as a more favourable rate of wage is given on that work than in Gooty. I have solved the question by ordering these people to be put into separate gangs, the wages of which are to be calculated on a purely ragi basis. In Gooty they are based on two-thirds ragi and one-third cholam. Ragi is now coming into the markets in much larger quantities, and I believe it will be possible to take it as the basis of wages in the Alúr taluk, in the proportion of one-third ragi and two-thirds cholam. The presence of large numbers from Kurnool is not to be explained by difference in the scale of wages, for cholam is the standard in both Pattikonda and Alúr. It is possible that tasks are harder in Kurnool and Mr. Elwin has been addressed on this point.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

Taluks.	Other purposes.										Total.				Number of wells.	
	Repair and construction of wells.						Purchase of fodder.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	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 ..	..	12	2,710	10	1,180	51	11,781	157	13,420	150	12,020	306	26,540	169	16,130	160	13,200	357	38,321	..	11
Alúr ..	..	42	10,890	42	7,970	34	11,910	1,497	1,60,615	1,478	1,59,995	87	33,840	1,539	1,71,505	1,620	1,67,965	121	46,750	..	42
Bellary ..	..	41	5,600	41	5,600	24	8,380	928	89,998	928	89,998	125	44,727	963	95,598	969	96,598	149	53,107	..	41
Rayadrug ..	..	84	18,522	77	11,268	25	7,700	327	48,140	320	41,840	109	14,445	411	61,662	397	58,108	134	22,145	..	77
Hospet ..	..	20	4,520	20	2,360	21	4,200	52	3,975	52	3,975	22	2,600	72	8,495	72	6,835	43	6,800	..	11
Kódligi ..	..	1	100	..	..	35	7,090	..	..	..	..	7	900	1	100	..	..	42	7,990	..	..
Hadagalli ..	..	12	1,375	9	600	17	5,425	109	13,220	81	11,235	56	9,630	121	14,595	90	11,835	73	15,055	..	7
Harpanahalli ..	..	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	52	6,205	29	3,135	60	7,265	53	6,265	30	3,385	..	1
Total ..	..	213	43,817	200	29,028	208	56,736	3,129	3,31,473	3,061	3,25,268	741	1,35,817	3,342	3,75,290	3,261	3,54,296	949	1,92,553	..	190

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Adóni ..	625	23,018	457	16,140	229	30,561	41	1,682	7	877	117	5,649
Alúr ..	1,900	70,413	1,840	65,758	610	46,490	23	1,348	18	1,070	127	7,298
Bellary ..	1,250	48,968	1,250	48,968	273	19,692	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rayadrug ..	328	16,441	326	16,291	181	9,221	25	1,460	25	1,460	12	900
Hospet ..	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kúdligi ..	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli ..	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012	..	..	..	..	..	..
Harpanahalli ..	266	9,589	260	9,179	471	22,584	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	5,321	1,95,794	4,970	1,81,606	2,457	1,53,948	89	4,490	50	3,407	256	13,847

Taluks.	Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	34	35	36	37	38	39
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Adóni ..	666	24,700	464	17,017	346	36,210
Alúr ..	1,923	71,761	1,858	66,828	737	53,788
Bellary ..	1,250	48,968	1,250	48,968	278	19,692
Rayadrug ..	353	17,901	351	17,751	193	10,121
Hospet ..	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765
Kúdligi ..	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623
Hadagalli ..	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012
Harpanahalli ..	266	9,889	250	9,179	471	22,584
Total ..	5,410	2,00,284	5,020	1,85,013	2,713	1,67,796

The amount granted during the fortnight as loans for purchase of fodder, &c., is Rs. 61,000. In Alur the amount was Rs. 24,000, in Bellary Rs. 12,000 and in Rayadrug nearly Rs. 11,000. The work done in the last named taluk reflects credit on the Tahsildar who is not assisted by a Special Tahsildar. I am urging the Tahsildar of Kúdligi to show more energy in this matter. Fodder is badly wanted in part of his taluk, but he has done little or nothing.

Inspections of the District officers.

Taluks and places visited—By the Collector.—Adóni section of the Madhavaram road, the three kitchens at Adóni-Kotekal section and Nandavaram section of the Adóni. Nagaldinne road, Yemmiganúru-Kosigi road, Bellary kitchens, Moka road work and kitchen, Gooty road work and kitchen.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Nandavaram, Yemmiganúru, Chinnatumbalam, Madhavaram, Kosigi, Rampur, Halvi and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alúr section of Alúr-Adóni road (twice), Alúr-Aspari road (two sections), northern section of Alúr-Moka road, Adóni section of Adóni-Siruguppa road, the kitchens at Aspari, Sankarabanda, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Agraharam, Kuruvalli, Halaharivi, Kammarchedu and Harivanam, and the villages of Joharapuram, Doddi, Halljera, Bannigeri, Marakattur, Hulibada, Tumbalabidu, Alúr, Santakudlur and Itikihal.

Assistant Collector in charge of Bellary Division.—Kurugodu, Kallukambham Vaddihatti, Badinahatti, Genikihalu, Martagatta, Somalapuram, Yemmiganúru, Sugur, Manuru, Chinnapatnam, Guttiganuru, Orvoy, Yelubenchi, Kuditini, Siddammanahalli, and the kitchens at Kurugodu, Yemmiganuru and Sindigeri.

Head Assistant Collector, Hospet Division.—Hospet (kitchen), Mariammanahalli, Dhanayakancheri (work and kitchen), Chilakanahatti, Patalakatta, Kondapuram, Malapuram, Nidugurta, Bandri (work) Kúdligi, Hireheggadahalu, Shivapuram, Kyvalyapuram, Virupapuram, Moraba, Morabayyanahalli, Ammanakeri, Branihikallu, Aynahalli, Hosahalli, Hulikeri, Lokikeri, Hurlihal, Chinnainahalli, Sidigallu, Srikantapuram, Gudekota.

Resolution—No. 592, dated 27th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the fortnight was dicidedly deficient, except in Kúdligi and Harpanahalli. A considerable part of the mungari crop is likely to be lost, while black-cotton soil has, for the greater part, not yet been cultivated. Rayadrug taluk has had only 70 cents of rain since the middle of June, and the Collector has since applied for sanction to open relief works there. Since that application there was a fall of 2·66 inches in that taluk, which will improve matters considerably.

3. Prices continue to rise in spite of large imports. The action of the ryots in refusing to open their pits of grain till prices fall is not peculiar to Bellary; the same thing is reported from Ganjám. The comparative position of prices is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·5	9·4	12·5
August 1892	9·8	19·2	21·7
„ 1877	5·3	5 6	6·3

4. The condition of the people is reported to have been generally good. As to the number of famine babies, the Famine Commissioner prefers his own opinion to that of the Collector and the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole; his own inspection was made in company with Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, who will have some remarks to

make on the subject. Mr. Stuart is, perhaps, unfortunate in the fact that he has made his remarks before the instructions, issued by Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, for the examination of persons receiving relief in famine-affected areas, were communicated to him. After having read these instructions, which are being separately communicated, he will be in a position to give a more valuable opinion. The age of the child mentioned by Mr. Stuart is not given; it is evidently quite young: persistent diarrhœa may be attributed by an unskilled observer as the immediate cause of its emaciated condition, but the primary cause would be set down by a professional man to chronic mal-nutrition. Mr. Stuart describes exactly the same symptoms as the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 9 of his instructions.

5. Considering that a heifer may be purchased for from three to five rupees, the incident referred to is not conclusive. In the review by the Madras Government of the great famine, the Governor in Council was "satisfied that the only test necessary is readiness to work," and that continues to be the only test required by the Famine Code.

6. The numbers on relief works at first decreased slightly on the introduction of the stricter rules for the enforcement of tasks, but the number of coolies has since remained constant, and this fact is a proof of their necessity.

7. Progress in the disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

	Amount of loans disbursed.
	Rs.
Up to end of week ending—	
July 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695
August 7th	5,01,905
„ 14th	5,39,309

The work is progressing satisfactorily, and the energy of the Tahsildar of Rayadrug is noted with approval. It is hoped that the Kúdligi Tahsildar will show better results hereafter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 789, Revenue, dated 16th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

for Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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P. W. Department

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. } 1897. Enclosures

Regd. } Spare copies

G.O., No. 789, 16th September 1897.

No 2811/W&M-1097

Communicated to the S. E. III Circle

SEPTEMBER.

dd/ D. M. C

W

To, The S. E. III Circle

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th August 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 592, dated 27th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary district during the period ending 15th of August 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply —

Stations.	In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.	Average of three years,	
			In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.
Yemmigannúru	0·31	10·38	2·99	8·75
Adóni	0·28	6·25	5·73	13·97
Alúr	0·79	9·42	2·42	11·09
Siruguppa	1·06	9·61	2·83	11·67
Kampli	1·63	10·85	2·17	7·85
Bellary	0·56	4·65	1·16	9·04
Rayadrug	0·47	7·83	1·24	7·16
Hospet	0·38	15·98	3·56	10·54
Kúdligi	1·64	17·18	1·78	13·33
Harpanahalli	2·16	11·99	1·65	14·23
Hadagalli	0·80	10·06	1·19	9·46
Sandúr	0·90	10·14	..	..

Except in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi the rainfall during the fortnight has been decidedly deficient, especially round Adóni and Hospet. There have been light passing showers in various parts of the district, but it was only on the 12th instant that there was any rain of importance, and even this did not extend to Rayadrug. There is a great variation in the fall in villages quite close to each other, and our gauges are not sufficiently numerous to show the real distribution. Heavy rain is wanted during the next fortnight for the sowing of cotton and white cholam in Rayadrug, Alúr and Bellary. Water-supply for drinking purposes is at present generally sufficient all over the district. The Tungabhadra river is in floods, and affords plenty of supply for irrigation purposes for the lands irrigated by its channels. The present supply in some tanks in Harpanahalli is not sufficient, and under the Chinnathambalam tank in Adóni taluk dry crops are being raised. The supply in the Hagari channels is diminishing, especially in the Rayadrug taluk. Irrigation wells in the Sandúr State do not contain a sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Paddy is being sown at Ramapuram and Madhavaram. Weeding is going on in parts, but not generally by hand. Paddy sown under the small kuntas is doing well. Cotton and korra sown on the black-cotton soils in the north-west of the taluk are badly in want of rain. The mungari cholam in the Adóni firka is wilting for want of rain, but it is not lost yet and good rain would save it. Elsewhere the standing crops are in excellent condition. The cholam is coming to ear near Kosgi, and is in many places four feet high. Hairy caterpillars are very numerous, especially round Adóni, where they do considerable damage to the young cholam. *Alúr taluk.*—Black-cotton soils

are being prepared for cultivation. Cholam and maize under wells are in good condition. The recent rain has done good to the young standing crops near Alúr. Elsewhere the crops are in need of rain. *Bellary division.*—Ragi and cholam under wells, and paddy under channels and wells are being sown in the Rayadrug taluk. The early-sown crops stand in urgent need of rain and are wilting in some places. The crops in the Tekkalakota range of the Bellary taluk look better than those of other parts of the taluk. Crops under wells are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted in the Kúdligi taluk, horse-gram is being sown in Harpanahalli, and paddy under some tanks in Hadagalli. Dry crops in Kúdligi, are promising, except in Kottur and a few villages in the north-east corner. In Harpanahalli, dry crops, especially cholam, are doing well. Garden crops in Kúdligi, and sugarcane under tanks in Harpanahalli are in good condition. In Hospet taluk the dry crops are not altogether satisfactory ; they are withering in parts of the Anantapur valley and in some places between Hospet and Daroji. They are also damaged by hairy caterpillars. The dry crops in Hadagalli look green, but are in a precarious state. Wet crops under river channels and the Kamalapuram tank are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—The standing crops withered in some places and are wilting in others. The slight rain which fell during the fortnight has kept the standing crops alive.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is available, except in black-soil villages and in the villages of the Adóni firka. Fodder is scanty. Good boda grass is being cut in the hills, and some of the people eke out their livelihood by selling it in markets, where it fetches good prices. The condition of the cattle is everywhere improving, and even the ploughing bulls are turned out to graze ; there is not likely to be further anxiety on this score, except in the villages immediately round Adóni, and the Famine Fund straw now being sold there will help to relieve the pressure in that neighbourhood. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is scarce and fodder very scanty. The depôt at Aspari supplies fodder for sale, and money is distributed to the poorer ryots from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder. The condition of cattle belonging to small ryots is still bad. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. The use of prickly-pear as fodder has become common in the villages of the west of the taluk. Hill grass is getting very dear. It is sold at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable, and I have found ryots of the Bellary taluk buy it in the villages to the east of Adóni. Except in wet villages the condition of cattle is poor in Rayadrug, and is rapidly deteriorating in the Bellary taluk, except in the case of stall-fed animals. *Hospet division.*—Pasture is generally available in Kúdligi and in the villages bordering the river channels and the Sandúr hills. It is immature in Harpanahalli and scanty in Hadagalli. Fodder is practically *nil*, except in the river-side villages. Everywhere it is very dear. The condition of cattle is generally fair in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi, except in Endikota where many have died. In parts of Hospet they are emaciated, and they are poor in half of the Hadagalli taluk.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available but its supply is diminishing for want of rain. Fodder is very little. The condition of cattle is fair, the majority of them are pastured in the hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Up to the present very little *mungari* crop has been lost, but we are living from hand to mouth and a fortnight's drought would be fatal over a large area. If, however, we get even moderately good rain during the next month or six weeks, the harvest of this crop is assured, and as the breadth of sowings is considerably above the average, we may reckon with some confidence on a valuable addition to our food supply, and a consequential fall in prices.

There is great need of heavy rain to enable the ryots to sow the black cotton soils of Rayadrug, Bellary, Alúr, and the south of Adóni. If the sowing of cotton is delayed much longer, the crop cannot be picked till after the hot winds have

begun, and the outturn is diminished thereby. White cholam, however, can be put in much later, so that even if the necessary heavy rain holds off for a month, the position is by no means hopeless. White cholam, indeed, can be sown during the north-east monsoon, but if the ryot loses his cotton crop, he will suffer severely.

The fodder difficulty will not be overcome until the existing crop is harvested. The Famine Fund fodder depôts at Guntakal and Aspari are largely patronised, and there is plenty of paddy straw in the wet villages. Loans for the purchase of fodder have been granted freely during the fortnight, and the local Famine Fund Committees have given the poorer ryots a considerable amount for this purpose.

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 15th August 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	7·56	7·56	8·76	8·76	10·82	10·30	14·07	12·61	Prices show a slight tendency to rise.
Alur	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9 27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	14·55	13·58	
Rayadrug	8·10	8·10	9·27	9·27	10·04	10·04	12·13	12·13	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	9·79	9·27	10·30	10·30	13·50	12·61	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	11·64	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	7·56	..	..	10·82	10·82	12·61	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	11·64	12·61	
Sandúr	7·56	7·29	..	..	9·79	9·79	12·61	12·61	
Average ..	7·68	7·53	8·86	8·76	10·10	9·99	12·84	12·55	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 35,372 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 108,514 maunds during the previous three weeks. There is still a considerable quantity of grain in the district. Some time back I reported that a ryot of Nemakallu admitted that he had 40,000 seers of cholam; in a neighbouring village, Kundanagurti, the reddi, a trustworthy, respectable man and a member of the Taluk Board, estimates that there are 100,000 seers. There is also a large quantity in Molagavalli. But nothing will induce the owners to put this grain on the market, and the stocks therefore have no effect on prices. A few merchants of this place (Adóni) recently went to Molagavalli for the purpose of buying grain, but the ryots refused to open their pits, and said they would not sell until prices had fallen to 20 or 25 seers the rupee. Their position is intelligible, but it is curiously opposed to ordinary economic ideas. As an illustration of the sensitiveness of the market, I may mention that after a slight shower here the other day telegrams were at once flying to the south directing the local agents not to make further purchases. This is on the whole a good sign.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good. There is still a large number of people from the Nizam's Dominions on the relief works at Madhavaram and Halvi in Adóni taluk and many of them are in poor condition. Weakly gangs are being formed in accordance with recent orders.

In villages.—Generally good.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has increased considerably in the Adóni taluk and slightly in Alúr, but it is abating in Bellary. There have been during the fortnight 405 attacks and 174 deaths in Adóni, 92 attacks and 33 deaths in Alúr, 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Bellary. In addition to the Apothecaries in charge of the Yemmiganúru and Adóni Hospitals there are one Apothecary and three Hospital Assistants on cholera duty in the Adóni taluk. Wells are treated with permanganate of potash and specially guarded, and the evacuations and clothing of patients are disinfected.

Small-pox prevails in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli taluks, there being twenty attacks and four deaths from that cause in the former and five attacks and no deaths in the latter.

Remarks.—In his Proceedings, No. 6119, dated 4th August 1897, the Famine Commissioner stated that he discovered 76 "famine, *i.e.*, severely emaciated babies" at Adóni. I visited the Adóni work on the 1st instant and carefully examined the babies, but I could find only 11 in any way emaciated. Their mothers were at once put on gratuitous relief. I made another inspection in company with the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole on the 9th, but found no more cases. The overseer tells me that he sent no babies from the works between the date of the Famine Commissioner's visit and the 1st August. It was difficult to persuade the mothers of these children to leave the works, even when the grain dole was the equivalent of the B. wage, for they prefer money to the dole. Now that the grain dole has been reduced it will be still more difficult. I venture to point out that "famine baby" is an expression which is open to misconstruction. The Famine Commissioner has, no doubt, explained that by "famine" he means "severely emaciated," but the uninstructed will think that the emaciation is due to want of food, which is not the case. Mr. LeFanu will, no doubt, remember one terribly emaciated child, a mere skeleton with a lose skin drawn over it. The cause of its miserable condition, however, was persistent diarrhœa, not want of food. The mother and the other children were in good condition and the father, whom I did not see, was earning a livelihood as a weaver. I can give many similar cases.

In the review of my narrative for the fortnight ending the 30th June (B.P., No. 510, dated 19th July 1897), the Famine Commissioner quotes the opinion of overseer Sankara Sastri regarding the number of well-to-do persons on the Alúr-Adóni relief work. The overseer put the proportion at 2 per cent., but since the Commissioner's visit, he has been making inquiries regarding the occupations of the workers and he finds that four gangs (400 strong) contained 50 persons who were well able to tide over the next few months without State aid. This is a proportion of 12½ per cent. The fact is an overseer knows very little about the position and means of his workers, for he does not visit the villages off the roads. There was a disturbance on this overseer's work a few days back, and on going to the spot he found that several men of the gang were quarelling over the purchase of a heifer, which a stranger had brought for sale. People who can buy heifers with fodder at its present price connot be in much need of relief. It remains to be seen whether they will remain on the works now that they are required to do a fair day's work.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	50,499	43,265	The fall in numbers is due partly to the prevalence of cholera, partly to employment being locally available on agricultural operations and partly to the enforcement of discipline and the exaction of more work. I am beginning to concentrate works in the north of the Adóni taluk where there is a considerable demand for labour. Moreover, many of the workers there are from Hyderabad and they may reasonably be required to go to any relief work where it is most convenient to employ them. There has been a marked increase in the number of weavers on relief in Bellary and Rayadrug.
Alúr	56,392	54,313	
Bellary	22,695	25,792	
Hospet	13,228	11,751	
Kúdligi	2,080	1,766	
Hadagalli	10,376	10,822	
Total ..	155,270	147,709	
Sandúr	562	926	
Total ..	155,832	148,635	

Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

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	1,685	1,726	1,458	1,382	..	..	3,511	3,203
Alúr	2 399	2,700	294	350	..	..	3,812	3,268
Bellary	1,194	1,106	1,183	1,148	..	..	6,339	5,726
Rayadrug	116	157	..	..	..	..	5	5
Hospet	705	617	286	280	..	..	2,606	2,859
Kúdligi	32	44	19	1	..	..	182	238
Hadagalli	272	271	27	30	..	..	1,920	2,425
Total ..	6,403	6,621	3,267	3,191	..	..	18,375	17,724
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	107	96

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	180	180	4,485	4,624	2,633	30,206
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	118	140	657	1,072	1,120	2,210
Rayadrug	1	3	523	1,800	578	578
Hospet	46	55	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	36	42	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	51	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	7	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work in giving grants for the purchase of fodder, seed-grain and cattle. The fodder at Kosgi is being sent to Adóni where it is much needed. There is little or no demand at Kosgi.

General Remarks.

The reduction of the distance allowance and the enforcement of punctual attendance have naturally caused much grumbling among the relief workers, and some decrease in numbers, especially in the Adóni taluk. At Tekkalakóta (Bellary taluk) two gangs left saying that they were not going to stay if they had to do a full day's work. At the Harivanam work (Alúr taluk) some women assaulted the overseer but quiet was soon restored. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work (Hospet taluk) there was a strike, but further enquiry showed that it was a strike of the head coolies and submaistries against the officer in charge and that the relief workers had nothing to do with it. On the whole the changes have been carried out with discretion and there has been no sudden decline of numbers anywhere, though many works show a gradual falling off.

As the great majority of the people who attend the Bangalore road relief work near Bellary live entirely on ragi, I have ordered that grain to be taken as the basis for calculation of wages; I have also introduced a ragi diet in the Bellary kitchens. There has been an influx of people from the Gooty taluk to the Alur-Guntakal work, as a more favourable rate of wage is given on that work than in Gooty. I have solved the question by ordering these people to be put into separate gangs, the wages of which are to be calculated on a purely ragi basis. In Gooty they are based on two-thirds ragi and one-third cholam. Ragi is now coming into the markets in much larger quantities, and I believe it will be possible to take it as the basis of wages in the Alúr taluk, in the proportion of one-third ragi and two-thirds cholam. The presence of large numbers from Kurnool is not to be explained by difference in the scale of wages, for cholam is the standard in both Pattikonda and Alúr. It is possible that tasks are harder in Kurnool and Mr. Elwin has been addressed on this point.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

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	12	2,710	10	1,180	51	11,781	157	13,420	150	12,020	306	26,940	169	16,130	160	13,200	357	38,321	..	11
Alúr	42	16,890	42	7,970	34	11,910	1,497	1,60,615	1,478	1,69,995	87	83,840	1,589	1,71,505	1,520	1,67,966	121	45,750	..	42
Bellary	41	6,600	41	5,600	24	8,380	928	89,998	928	89,998	125	44,727	963	95,698	969	95,698	149	53,107	..	41
Rayadrug	84	18,522	77	11,208	25	7,700	327	43,140	320	41,840	109	14,445	411	61,662	397	53,108	134	22,145	..	7
Hospet	20	4,620	20	2,360	21	4,200	52	3,975	52	3,975	22	2,600	72	8,495	72	6,335	43	6,860	..	1
Kúdligi	1	100	..	..	35	7,090	..	..	..	..	7	900	1	100	..	..	42	7,990	..	..
Hadagalli	12	1,375	9	600	17	5,425	109	13,220	81	11,235	56	9,630	121	14,595	90	11,835	73	15,055	..	..
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	52	6,205	29	3,185	60	7,205	53	6,255	30	3,385	..	..
Total ..	213	43,817	200	29,028	208	56,736	3,129	3,31,473	3,061	3,25,268	741	1,35,817	3,342	3,75,290	3,261	3,54,296	949	1,92,553	..	190

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	625	23,018	457	16,140	229	30,561	41	1,682	7	877	117	5,649	666	24,700	464	17,017	346	36,210
Alúr	1,900	70,413	1,840	65,758	610	46,490	23	1,348	18	1,070	127	7,298	1,923	71,761	1,858	66,828	737	53,788
Bellary	1,250	48,958	1,250	48,958	278	19,692	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,250	48,958	1,250	48,958	278	19,692
Rayadrug	328	16,441	326	16,291	181	9,221	25	1,460	25	1,460	12	900	353	17,901	351	17,751	193	10,121
Hospet	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765	..	..	..	..	..	..	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765
Kúdligi	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623	..	..	..	..	..	..	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623
Hadagalli	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012	..	..	..	..	..	..	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012
Harpanahalli	266	9,889	260	9,179	471	22,584	..	..	..	..	..	..	266	9,889	260	9,179	471	22,584
Total ..	5,321	1,95,794	4,970	1,81,606	2,457	1,58,948	89	4,490	50	3,407	256	13,847	5,410	2,00,284	5,020	1,85,013	2,713	1,67,795

The amount granted during the fortnight as loans for purchase of fodder, &c., is Rs. 61,000. In Alur the amount was Rs. 24,000, in Bellary Rs. 12,000 and in Rayadrug nearly Rs. 11,000. The work done in the last named taluk reflects credit on the Tahsildar who is not assisted by a Special Tahsildar. I am urging the Tahsildar of Kúdligi to show more energy in this matter. Fodder is badly wanted in part of his taluk, but he has done little or nothing.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 789, 16th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th August 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 592, dated 27th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary district during the period ending 15th of August 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply —

Stations.	In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.	Average of three years, In the fortnight.	Average of three years, Up to the fortnight.
Yemmiganúru	0·31	10·38	2·99	8·75
Adóni	0·28	6·25	5·73	13·97
Alúr	0·79	9·42	2·42	11·09
Siruguppa	1·06	9·61	2·83	11·67
Kampli	1·63	10·85	2·17	7·85
Bellary	0·56	4·65	1·16	9·04
Rayadrug	0·47	7·83	1·24	7·16
Hospet	0·38	15·98	3·56	10·54
Kúdligi	1·64	17·18	1·78	13·33
Harpanahalli	2·16	11·99	1·65	14·23
Hadagalli	0·80	10·06	1·19	9·46
Sandúr	0·90	10·14	..	..

Except in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi the rainfall during the fortnight has been decidedly deficient, especially round Adóni and Hospet. There have been light passing showers in various parts of the district, but it was only on the 12th instant that there was any rain of importance, and even this did not extend to Rayadrug. There is a great variation in the fall in villages quite close to each other, and our gauges are not sufficiently numerous to show the real distribution. Heavy rain is wanted during the next fortnight for the sowing of cotton and white cholam in Rayadrug, Alúr and Bellary. Water-supply for drinking purposes is at present generally sufficient all over the district. The Tungabhadra river is in floods, and affords plenty of supply for irrigation purposes for the lands irrigated by its channels. The present supply in some tanks in Harpanahalli is not sufficient, and under the Chinnathambalam tank in Adóni taluk dry crops are being raised. The supply in the Hagari channels is diminishing, especially in the Rayadrug taluk. Irrigation wells in the Sandúr State do not contain a sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Paddy is being sown at Ramapuram and Madhavaram. Weeding is going on in parts, but not generally by hand. Paddy sown under the small kuntas is doing well. Cotton and korra sown on the black-cotton soils in the north-west of the taluk are badly in want of rain. The mungari cholam in the Adóni firka is wilting for want of rain, but it is not lost yet and good rain would save it. Elsewhere the standing crops are in excellent condition. The cholam is coming to ear near Kosgi, and is in many places four feet high. Hairy caterpillars are very numerous, especially round Adóni, where they do considerable damage to the young cholam. *Alúr taluk.*—Black-cotton soils

are being prepared for cultivation. Cholam and maize under wells are in good condition. The recent rain has done good to the young standing crops near Alúr. Elsewhere the crops are in need of rain. *Bellary division.*—Ragi and cholam under wells, and paddy under channels and wells are being sown in the Rayadrug taluk. The early-sown crops stand in urgent need of rain and are wilting in some places. The crops in the Tekkalakota range of the Bellary taluk look better than those of other parts of the taluk. Crops under wells are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted in the Kúdligi taluk, horse-gram is being sown in Harpanahalli, and paddy under some tanks in Hadagalli. Dry crops in Kúdligi, are promising, except in Kottur and a few villages in the north-east corner. In Harpanahalli, dry crops, especially cholam, are doing well. Garden crops in Kúdligi, and sugarcane under tanks in Harpanahalli are in good condition. In Hospet taluk the dry crops are not altogether satisfactory ; they are withering in parts of the Anantapur valley and in some places between Hospet and Daroji. They are also damaged by hairy caterpillars. The dry crops in Hadagalli look green, but are in a precarious state. Wet crops under river channels and the Kamalapuram tank are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—The standing crops withered in some places and are wilting in others. The slight rain which fell during the fortnight has kept the standing crops alive.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is available, except in black-soil villages and in the villages of the Adóni firka. Fodder is scanty. Good boda grass is being cut in the hills, and some of the people eke out their livelihood by selling it in markets, where it fetches good prices. The condition of the cattle is everywhere improving, and even the ploughing bulls are turned out to graze ; there is not likely to be further anxiety on this score, except in the villages immediately round Adóni, and the Famine Fund straw now being sold there will help to relieve the pressure in that neighbourhood. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is scarce and fodder very scanty. The depôt at Aspari supplies fodder for sale, and money is distributed to the poorer ryots from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder. The condition of cattle belonging to small ryots is still bad. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. The use of prickly-pear as fodder has become common in the villages of the west of the taluk. Hill grass is getting very dear. It is sold at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable, and I have found ryots of the Bellary taluk buy it in the villages to the east of Adóni. Except in wet villages the condition of cattle is poor in Rayadrug, and is rapidly deteriorating in the Bellary taluk, except in the case of stall-fed animals. *Hospet division.*—Pasture is generally available in Kúdligi and in the villages bordering the river channels and the Sandúr hills. It is immature in Harpanahalli and scanty in Hadagalli. Fodder is practically *nil*, except in the river-side villages. Everywhere it is very dear. The condition of cattle is generally fair in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi, except in Endikota where many have died. In parts of Hospet they are emaciated, and they are poor in half of the Hadagalli taluk.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available but its supply is diminishing for want of rain. Fodder is very little. The condition of cattle is fair, the majority of them are pastured in the hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Up to the present very little *mungari* crop has been lost, but we are living from hand to mouth and a fortnight's drought would be fatal over a large area. If, however, we get even moderately good rain during the next month or six weeks, the harvest of this crop is assured, and as the breadth of sowings is considerably above the average, we may reckon with some confidence on a valuable addition to our food supply, and a consequential fall in prices.

There is great need of heavy rain to enable the ryots to sow the black cotton soils of Rayadrug, Bellary, Alúr, and the south of Adóni. If the sowing of cotton is delayed much longer, the crop cannot be picked till after the hot winds have

begun, and the outturn is diminished thereby. White cholam, however, can be put in much later, so that even if the necessary heavy rain holds off for a month, the position is by no means hopeless. White cholam, indeed, can be sown during the north-east monsoon, but if the ryot loses his cotton crop, he will suffer severely.

The fodder difficulty will not be overcome until the existing crop is harvested. The Famine Fund fodder depôts at Guntakal and Aspari are largely patronised, and there is plenty of paddy straw in the wet villages. Loans for the purchase of fodder have been granted freely during the fortnight, and the local Famine Fund Committees have given the poorer ryots a considerable amount for this purpose.

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 15th August 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	7·56	7·56	8·76	8·76	10·82	10·30	14·07	12·61	
Alur	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	14·55	13·58	
Rayadrug	8·10	8·10	9·27	9·27	10·04	10·04	12·13	12·13	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	9·79	9·27	10·30	10·30	13·50	12·61	
Kódligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	11·64	11·64	Prices show a slight tendency to rise.
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	7·56	..	..	10·82	10·82	12·61	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	11·64	12·61	
Sandúr	7·56	7·29	..	..	9·79	9·79	12·61	12·61	
Average ..	7·68	7·53	8·86	8·76	10·10	9·99	12·84	12·55	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 35,372 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 108,514 maunds during the previous three weeks. There is still a considerable quantity of grain in the district. Some time back I reported that a ryot of Nemakallu admitted that he had 40,000 seers of cholam; in a neighbouring village, Kundanagurti, the reddi, a trustworthy, respectable man and a member of the Taluk Board, estimates that there are 100,000 seers. There is also a large quantity in Molagavalli. But nothing will induce the owners to put this grain on the market, and the stocks therefore have no effect on prices. A few merchants of this place (Adóni) recently went to Molagavalli for the purpose of buying grain, but the ryots refused to open their pits, and said they would not sell until prices had fallen to 20 or 25 seers the rupee. Their position is intelligible, but it is curiously opposed to ordinary economic ideas. As an illustration of the sensitiveness of the market, I may mention that after a slight shower here the other day telegrams were at once flying to the south directing the local agents not to make further purchases. This is on the whole a good sign.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good. There is still a large number of people from the Nizam's Dominions on the relief works at Madhavaram and Halvi in Adóni taluk and many of them are in poor condition. Weakly gangs are being formed in accordance with recent orders.

In villages.—Generally good.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has increased considerably in the Adóni taluk and slightly in Alúr, but it is abating in Bellary. There have been during the fortnight 405 attacks and 174 deaths in Adóni, 92 attacks and 33 deaths in Alúr, 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Bellary. In addition to the Apothecaries in charge of the Yemmiganúru and Adóni Hospitals there are one Apothecary and three Hospital

Assistants on cholera duty in the Adóni taluk. Wells are treated with permanganate of potash and specially guarded, and the evacuations and clothing of patients are disinfected.

Small-pox prevails in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli taluks, there being twenty attacks and four deaths from that cause in the former and five attacks and no deaths in the latter.

Remarks.—In his Proceedings, No. 6119, dated 4th August 1897, the Famine Commissioner stated that he discovered 76 "famine, *i.e.*, severely emaciated babies" at Adóni. I visited the Adóni work on the 1st instant and carefully examined the babies, but I could find only 11 in any way emaciated. Their mothers were at once put on gratuitous relief. I made another inspection in company with the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole on the 9th, but found no more cases. The overseer tells me that he sent no babies from the works between the date of the Famine Commissioner's visit and the 1st August. It was difficult to persuade the mothers of these children to leave the works, even when the grain dole was the equivalent of the B. wage, for they prefer money to the dole. Now that the grain dole has been reduced it will be still more difficult. I venture to point out that "famine baby" is an expression which is open to misconstruction. The Famine Commissioner has, no doubt, explained that by "famine" he means "severely emaciated," but the uninstructed will think that the emaciation is due to want of food, which is not the case. Mr. LeFanu will, no doubt, remember one terribly emaciated child, a mere skeleton with a lose skin drawn over it. The cause of its miserable condition, however, was persistent diarrhœa, not want of food. The mother and the other children were in good condition and the father, whom I did not see, was earning a livelihood as a weaver. I can give many similar cases.

In the review of my narrative for the fortnight ending the 30th June (B.P., No. 510, dated 19th July 1897), the Famine Commissioner quotes the opinion of overseer Sankara Sastri regarding the number of well-to-do persons on the Alúr-Adóni relief work. The overseer put the proportion at 2 per cent., but since the Commissioner's visit, he has been making inquiries regarding the occupations of the workers and he finds that four gangs (400 strong) contained 50 persons who were well able to tide over the next few months without State aid. This is a proportion of 12½ per cent. The fact is an overseer knows very little about the position and means of his workers, for he does not visit the villages off the roads. There was a disturbance on this overseer's work a few days back, and on going to the spot he found that several men of the gang were quarelling over the purchase of a heifer, which a stranger had brought for sale. People who can buy heifers with fodder at its present price cannot be in much need of relief. It remains to be seen whether they will remain on the works now that they are required to do a fair day's work.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	50,499	43,265	The fall in numbers is due partly to the prevalence of cholera, partly to employment being locally available on agricultural operations and partly to the enforcement of discipline and the exaction of more work. I am beginning to concentrate works in the north of the Adóni taluk where there is a considerable demand for labour. Moreover, many of the workers there are from Hyderabad and they may reasonably be required to go to any relief work where it is most convenient to employ them. There has been a marked increase in the number of weavers on relief in Bellary and Rayadrug.
Alúr	56,392	54,313	
Bellary	22,695	25,792	
Hospet	13,228	11,751	
Kúdligi	2,080	1,766	
Hadagalli	10,376	10,822	
Total ..	155,270	147,709	
Sandúr	562	926	
Total ..	155,832	148,635	

Gratuitous Relief.—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

Taluks.	At kitchens.				Number relieved					
	Dependants.									
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Orphans.		In poor-houses.		In villages.		Number of villages in which relief was given.	
			Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.		
Adóni	1,685	1,726	1,458	1,282	..	..	3,511	3,511	107	107
Alúr	2,309	2,700	294	340	..	..	3,812	3,812	..	..
Bellary	1,194	1,108	1,183	1,148	..	..	6,339	6,339	..	..
Rayadrug	116	706	..	..	..	..	6	6	..	..
Hospet	706	157	286	280	..	..	2,606	2,606	..	..
Kudligi	32	617	12	1	..	..	183	183	..	..
Hadagalli	272	44	27	30	..	..	1,910	1,910	..	..
Sandúr	..	271	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	6,403	6,621	3,260	3,191	..	..	18,373	17,734	107	107

Taluks.	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	180	180	4,492	4,624	2,633	30,506
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	118	140	657	1,672	1,139	2,410
Rayadrug	1	2	625	1,900	678	575
Hospet	46	65	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	36	42	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	61	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	7	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work in giving grants for the purchase of fodder, seed-grain and cattle. The fodder at Kosgi is being sent to Adóni where it is much needed. There is little or no demand at Kosgi.

The reduction of the distance allowance and the enforcement of punctual attendance have naturally caused much grumbling and the decrease in numbers, especially in the Adóni taluk, is much needed. There is little or no two gangs left saying that they were not going to stay if they had to do a full day's work. At the Hariyanam work (Alúr taluk) among the relief workers, and some quiet was soon restored. On the Gowripur-Kudligi women assaulted the overseer but a strike, but further enquiry showed that it was a strike of punctual attendmaistries against the enquiry going to stay if they had to do a full day's with it. On the whole the officer in charge and that it was a strike of the overseer but has been no sudden decline of numbers anywhere, though many works show a gradual falling off.

As the great majority of the people who attend the Bangalore road relief work near Bellary live entirely on ragi, I have ordered that grain to be taken as the basis for calculation of wages; I have also introduced a ragi diet in the Bellary kitchens. There has been an influx of people from the Gooty taluk to the Alur-Guntakal work, as a more favourable rate of wage is given on that basis. The presence of large numbers from Kurnool and Mr. Elwin has been addressed on this solved the question by ordering these people to be put into separate gangs, the wages of which are to be calculated on a purely ragi basis. In Gooty they are based on two-thirds ragi and one-third cholam. Ragi is now coming into the markets in much larger quantities, and I believe it will be possible to take it as the basis of wages in the Alúr taluk, in the proportion of one-third ragi and two-thirds cholam. The scale of wages, for cholam is the standard in both Pattikonda and Alúr. It is possible that tasks are harder in Kurnool and two-thirds cholam. point.

Loan Transactions.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

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	12	2,710	10	1,180	51	11,781	157	13,420	150	12,020	306	26,540	169	16,130	160	13,200	357	38,321	..	11
Alúr	42	10,890	42	7,970	34	11,910	1,497	1,60,615	1,478	1,59,995	87	33,840	1,539	1,71,505	1,520	1,67,965	121	45,750	..	42
Bellary	41	5,600	41	5,600	24	8,380	928	89,998	928	89,998	125	44,727	969	95,598	969	95,598	149	53,107	..	41
Rayadrug	84	18,522	77	11,268	25	7,700	327	43,140	320	41,840	109	14,445	411	61,662	397	53,108	134	22,145	..	77
Hospet	20	4,520	20	2,360	21	4,200	52	3,975	52	3,975	22	2,600	72	8,495	72	6,335	43	6,800	..	11
Kódligi	1	100	..	..	35	7,090	..	..	..	..	7	900	1	100	..	..	42	7,990	..	..
Hadagalli	12	1,375	9	600	17	5,425	109	13,220	81	11,235	56	9,630	121	14,595	90	11,835	73	15,055	..	7
Harpanahalli	1	100	1	50	1	250	59	7,105	52	6,205	29	3,135	60	7,205	53	6,255	30	3,385	..	1
Total ..	213	43,817	200	29,028	208	56,736	3,129	3,31,473	3,061	3,25,268	741	1,35,817	3,342	3,75,290	3,261	3,54,296	949	1,92,553	..	190

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	625	23,018	457	16,140	229	30,561	41	1,682	7	877	117	5,649	666	24,700	464	17,017	346	36,210
Alúr	1,900	70,413	1,840	65,758	610	46,490	23	1,348	18	1,070	127	7,298	1,923	71,761	1,858	66,828	737	53,788
Bellary	1,250	48,958	1,250	48,958	273	19,692	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,250	48,958	1,250	48,958	273	19,692
Rayadrug	328	16,441	326	16,291	181	9,221	25	1,460	25	1,460	12	900	353	17,901	351	17,751	193	10,121
Hospet	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765	..	..	..	..	..	..	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765
Kúdligi	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623	..	..	..	..	..	..	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623
Hadagalli	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012	..	..	..	..	..	..	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012
Harpanahalli	266	9,889	250	9,179	471	22,584	..	..	..	..	..	..	266	9,889	250	9,179	471	22,584
Total ..	5,321	1,95,794	4,970	1,81,606	2,457	1,53,948	89	4,490	50	3,407	256	13,847	5,410	2,00,284	5,020	1,85,013	2,713	1,67,795

The amount granted during the fortnight as loans for purchase of fodder, &c., is Rs. 61,000. In Alur the amount was Rs. 24,000, in Bellary Rs. 12,000 and in Rayadrug nearly Rs. 11,000. The work done in the last named taluk reflects credit on the Tahsildar who is not assisted by a Special Tahsildar. I am urging the Tahsildar of Kúdligi to show more energy in this matter. Fodder is badly wanted in part of his taluk, but he has done little or nothing.

Inspections of the District officers.

Taluks and places visited—By the Collector.—Adóni section of the Madhavaram road, the three kitchens at Adóni-Kotekal section and Nandavaram section of the Adóni. Nagaldinne road, Yemmiganúru-Kosigi road, Bellary kitchens, Moka road work and kitchen, Gooty road work and kitchen.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Nandavaram, Yemmiganúru, Chinnatumbalam, Madhavaram, Kosigi, Rampur, Halvi and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alúr section of Alúr-Adóni road (twice), Alúr-Aspari road (two sections), northern section of Alúr-Moka road, Adóni section of Adóni-Siruguppa road, the kitchens at Aspari, Sankarabanda, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Agraharam, Kuruvalli, Halaharivi, Kammarchedu and Harivanam, and the villages of Joharapuram, Doddi, Halljera, Bannigeri, Marakattur, Hulibadu, Tumbalabidu, Alúr, Santakudlur and Itikihal.

Assistant Collector in charge of Bellary Division.—Kurugodu, Kallukambham Vaddihatti, Badinahatti, Genikihalu, Martagatta, Somalapuram, Yemmiganúru, Sugur, Manuru, Chinnapatnam, Guttiganuru, Orvoy, Yelubenchi, Kuditini, Siddammanahalli, and the kitchens at Kurugodu, Yemmiganuru and Sindigeri.

Head Assistant Collector, Hospet Division.—Hospet (kitchen), Mariammanahalli, Dhanayakancheri (work and kitchen), Chilakanahatti, Patalakatta, Kondapuram, Malapuram, Nidugurta, Bandri (work) Kúdligi, Hireheggadahalu, Shivapuram, Kyvalyapuram, Virupapuram, Moraba, Morabayyanahalli, Ammanakeri, Branihikallu, Aynahalli, Hosahalli, Hulikeri, Lokikeri, Hurlihal, Chinnainahalli, Sidigallu, Srikantapuram, Gudekota.

Resolution—No. 592, dated 27th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the fortnight was dicidedly deficient, except in Kúdligi and Harpanahalli. A considerable part of the mungari crop is likely to be lost, while black-cotton soil has, for the greater part, not yet been cultivated. Rayadrug taluk has had only 70 cents of rain since the middle of June, and the Collector has since applied for sanction to open relief works there. Since that application there was a fall of 2·66 inches in that taluk, which will improve matters considerably.

3. Prices continue to rise in spite of large imports. The action of the ryots in refusing to open their pits of grain till prices fall is not peculiar to Bellary; the same thing is reported from Ganjám. The comparative position of prices is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·5	9·4	12·5
August 1892	9·8	19·2	21·7
„ 1877	5·3	5·6	6·3

4. The condition of the people is reported to have been generally good. As to the number of famine babies, the Famine Commissioner prefers his own opinion to that of the Collector and the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole; his own inspection was made in company with Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, who will have some remarks to

make on the subject. Mr. Stuart is, perhaps, unfortunate in the fact that he has made his remarks before the instructions, issued by Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, for the examination of persons receiving relief in famine-affected areas, were communicated to him. After having read these instructions, which are being separately communicated, he will be in a position to give a more valuable opinion. The age of the child mentioned by Mr. Stuart is not given; it is evidently quite young: persistent diarrhœa may be attributed by an unskilled observer as the immediate cause of its emaciated condition, but the primary cause would be set down by a professional man to chronic mal-nutrition. Mr. Stuart describes exactly the same symptoms as the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 9 of his instructions.

5. Considering that a heifer may be purchased for from three to five rupees, the incident referred to is not conclusive. In the review by the Madras Government of the great famine, the Governor in Council was "satisfied that the only test necessary is readiness to work," and that continues to be the only test required by the Famine Code.

6. The numbers on relief works at first decreased slightly on the introduction of the stricter rules for the enforcement of tasks, but the number of coolies has since remained constant, and this fact is a proof of their necessity.

7. Progress in the disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

	Amount of loans disbursed.
	Rs.
Up to end of week ending—	
July 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695
August 7th	5,01,905
„ 14th	5,39,309

The work is progressing satisfactorily, and the energy of the Tahsildar of Rayadrug is noted with approval. It is hoped that the Kúdligi Tahsildar will show better results hereafter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 789, Revenue, dated 16th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 789, 16th September 1897.

SEPTEMBER.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording Board's Proceedings submitting to Government, with remarks, — of the Bellary district for the period ending 15th August 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), No. 592, dated 27th August 1897 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Bellary district during the period ending 15th of August 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply —

Stations.	In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.	Average of three years,	
			In the fortnight.	Up to the fortnight.
Yemmiganúru	0·31	10·38	2·99	8·75
Adóni	0·28	6·25	5·73	13·97
Alúr	0·79	9·42	2·42	11·09
Siruguppa	1·06	9·61	2·83	11·67
Kampli	1·63	10·85	2·17	7·85
Bellary	0·56	4·65	1·16	9·04
Rayadrug	0·47	7·83	1·24	7·16
Hospet	0·38	15·98	3·56	10·54
Kúdligi	1·64	17·18	1·78	13·33
Harpanahalli	2·16	11·99	1·65	14·23
Hadagalli	0·80	10·06	1·19	9·46
Sandúr	0·90	10·14	..	..

Except in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi the rainfall during the fortnight has been decidedly deficient, especially round Adóni and Hospet. There have been light passing showers in various parts of the district, but it was only on the 12th instant that there was any rain of importance, and even this did not extend to Rayadrug. There is a great variation in the fall in villages quite close to each other, and our gauges are not sufficiently numerous to show the real distribution. Heavy rain is wanted during the next fortnight for the sowing of cotton and white cholam in Rayadrug, Alúr and Bellary. Water-supply for drinking purposes is at present generally sufficient all over the district. The Tungabhadra river is in floods, and affords plenty of supply for irrigation purposes for the lands irrigated by its channels. The present supply in some tanks in Harpanahalli is not sufficient, and under the Chinnathambalam tank in Adóni taluk dry crops are being raised. The supply in the Hagari channels is diminishing, especially in the Rayadrug taluk. Irrigation wells in the Sandúr State do not contain a sufficient supply.

Agricultural operations and condition of the standing crops—Adóni taluk.—Paddy is being sown at Ramapuram and Madhavaram. Weeding is going on in parts, but not generally by hand. Paddy sown under the small kuntas is doing well. Cotton and korra sown on the black-cotton soils in the north-west of the taluk are badly in want of rain. The mungari cholam in the Adóni firka is wilting for want of rain, but it is not lost yet and good rain would save it. Elsewhere the standing crops are in excellent condition. The cholam is coming to ear near Kosgi, and is in many places four feet high. Hairy caterpillars are very numerous, especially round Adóni, where they do considerable damage to the young cholam. *Alúr taluk.*—Black-cotton soils

are being prepared for cultivation. Cholam and maize under wells are in good condition. The recent rain has done good to the young standing crops near Alúr. Elsewhere the crops are in need of rain. *Bellary division.*—Ragi and cholam under wells, and paddy under channels and wells are being sown in the Rayadrug taluk. The early-sown crops stand in urgent need of rain and are wilting in some places. The crops in the Tekkalakota range of the Bellary taluk look better than those of other parts of the taluk. Crops under wells are in good condition. *Hospet division.*—Ragi and chillies are being transplanted in the Kúdligi taluk, horse-gram is being sown in Harpanahalli, and paddy under some tanks in Hadagalli. Dry crops in Kúdligi, are promising, except in Kottur and a few villages in the north-east corner. In Harpanahalli, dry crops, especially cholam, are doing well. Garden crops in Kúdligi, and sugarcane under tanks in Harpanahalli are in good condition. In Hospet taluk the dry crops are not altogether satisfactory; they are withering in parts of the Anantapur valley and in some places between Hospet and Daroji. They are also damaged by hairy caterpillars. The dry crops in Hadagalli look green, but are in a precarious state. Wet crops under river channels and the Kamalapuram tank are in good condition.

Sandúr State.—The standing crops withered in some places and are wilting in others. The slight rain which fell during the fortnight has kept the standing crops alive.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Adóni taluk.—Pasture is available, except in black-soil villages and in the villages of the Adóni firka. Fodder is scanty. Good boda grass is being cut in the hills, and some of the people eke out their livelihood by selling it in markets, where it fetches good prices. The condition of the cattle is everywhere improving, and even the ploughing bulls are turned out to graze; there is not likely to be further anxiety on this score, except in the villages immediately round Adóni, and the Famine Fund straw now being sold there will help to relieve the pressure in that neighbourhood. *Alúr taluk.*—Pasture is scarce and fodder very scanty. The depôt at Aspari supplies fodder for sale, and money is distributed to the poorer ryots from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund for the purchase of fodder. The condition of cattle belonging to small ryots is still bad. *Bellary division.*—Pasture is available to a limited extent in wet villages. Fodder is scanty. The use of prickly-pear as fodder has become common in the villages of the west of the taluk. Hill grass is getting very dear. It is sold at Rs. 12 a cart-load and paddy straw at Rs. 9. Cholam straw is not easily procurable, and I have found ryots of the Bellary taluk buy it in the villages to the east of Adóni. Except in wet villages the condition of cattle is poor in Rayadrug, and is rapidly deteriorating in the Bellary taluk, except in the case of stall-fed animals. *Hospet division.*—Pasture is generally available in Kúdligi and in the villages bordering the river channels and the Sandúr hills. It is immature in Harpanahalli and scanty in Hadagalli. Fodder is practically *nil*, except in the river-side villages. Everywhere it is very dear. The condition of cattle is generally fair in Harpanahalli and Kúdligi, except in Endikota where many have died. In parts of Hospet they are emaciated, and they are poor in half of the Hadagalli taluk.

Sandúr State.—Pasture is available but its supply is diminishing for want of rain. Fodder is very little. The condition of cattle is fair, the majority of them are pastured in the hills.

General remarks on the previous subjects.—Up to the present very little *mungari* crop has been lost, but we are living from hand to mouth and a fortnight's drought would be fatal over a large area. If, however, we get even moderately good rain during the next month or six weeks, the harvest of this crop is assured, and as the breadth of sowings is considerably above the average, we may reckon with some confidence on a valuable addition to our food supply, and a consequential fall in prices.

There is great need of heavy rain to enable the ryots to sow the black cotton soils of Rayadrug, Bellary, Alúr, and the south of Adóni. If the sowing of cotton is delayed much longer, the crop cannot be picked till after the hot winds have

begun, and the outturn is diminished thereby. White cholam, however, can be put in much later, so that even if the necessary heavy rain holds off for a month, the position is by no means hopeless. White cholam, indeed, can be sown during the north-east monsoon, but if the ryot loses his cotton crop, he will suffer severely.

The fodder difficulty will not be overcome until the existing crop is harvested. The Famine Fund fodder depôts at Guntakal and Aspari are largely patronised, and there is plenty of paddy straw in the wet villages. Loans for the purchase of fodder have been granted freely during the fortnight, and the local Famine Fund Committees have given the poorer ryots a considerable amount for this purpose.

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 15th August 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	7·56	7·56	8·76	8·76	10·82	10·30	14·07	12·61	Prices show a slight tendency to rise.
Alur	7·02	7·02	8·24	8·24	9 27	9·27	..	..	
Bellary	7·56	7·56	8·24	8·24	9·27	9·27	14·55	13·58	
Rayadrug	8·10	8·10	9·27	9·27	10·04	10·04	12·13	12·13	
Hospet	7·56	7·56	9·79	9·27	10·30	10·30	13·50	12·61	
Kúdligi	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	9·79	11·64	11·64	
Harpanahalli ..	8·64	7·56	..	..	10·82	10·82	12·61	12·61	
Hadagalli	7·56	7·56	..	..	10·30	10·30	11·64	12·61	
Sandúr	7·56	7·29	..	..	9·79	9·79	12·61	12·61	
Average ..	7·68	7·53	8·86	8·76	10·10	9·99	12·84	12·55	

Activity of trade.—Private trade is generally active. There has been a net import by rail of 35,372 maunds of food-grains during the fortnight against 108,514 maunds during the previous three weeks. There is still a considerable quantity of grain in the district. Some time back I reported that a ryot of Nemakallu admitted that he had 40,000 seers of cholam; in a neighbouring village, Kundanagurti, the reddi, a trustworthy, respectable man and a member of the Taluk Board, estimates that there are 100,000 seers. There is also a large quantity in Molagavalli. But nothing will induce the owners to put this grain on the market, and the stocks therefore have no effect on prices. A few merchants of this place (Adóni) recently went to Molagavalli for the purpose of buying grain, but the ryots refused to open their pits, and said they would not sell until prices had fallen to 20 or 25 seers the rupee. Their position is intelligible, but it is curiously opposed to ordinary economic ideas. As an illustration of the sensitiveness of the market, I may mention that after a slight shower here the other day telegrams were at once flying to the south directing the local agents not to make further purchases. This is on the whole a good sign.

Condition of the People.

On works.—Generally good. There is still a large number of people from the Nizam's Dominions on the relief works at Madhavaram and Halvi in Adóni taluk and many of them are in poor condition. Weakly gangs are being formed in accordance with recent orders.

In villages.—Generally good.

Sickness and mortality.—Cholera has increased considerably in the Adóni taluk and slightly in Alúr, but it is abating in Bellary. There have been during the fortnight 405 attacks and 174 deaths in Adóni, 92 attacks and 33 deaths in Alúr, 11 attacks and 6 deaths in Bellary. In addition to the Apothecaries in charge of the Yemmiganúru and Adóni Hospitals there are one Apothecary and three Hospital

Assistants on cholera duty in the Adóni taluk. Wells are treated with permanganate of potash and specially guarded, and the evacuations and clothing of patients are disinfected.

Small-pox prevails in Harpanahalli and Hadagalli taluks, there being twenty attacks and four deaths from that cause in the former and five attacks and no deaths in the latter.

Remarks.—In his Proceedings, No. 6119, dated 4th August 1897, the Famine Commissioner stated that he discovered 76 "famine, *i.e.*, severely emaciated babies" at Adóni. I visited the Adóni work on the 1st instant and carefully examined the babies, but I could find only 11 in any way emaciated. Their mothers were at once put on gratuitous relief. I made another inspection in company with the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole on the 9th, but found no more cases. The overseer tells me that he sent no babies from the works between the date of the Famine Commissioner's visit and the 1st August. It was difficult to persuade the mothers of these children to leave the works, even when the grain dole was the equivalent of the B. wage, for they prefer money to the dole. Now that the grain dole has been reduced it will be still more difficult. I venture to point out that "famine baby" is an expression which is open to misconstruction. The Famine Commissioner has, no doubt, explained that by "famine" he means "severely emaciated," but the uninstructed will think that the emaciation is due to want of food, which is not the case. Mr. LeFanu will, no doubt, remember one terribly emaciated child, a mere skeleton with a lose skin drawn over it. The cause of its miserable condition, however, was persistent diarrhœa, not want of food. The mother and the other children were in good condition and the father, whom I did not see, was earning a livelihood as a weaver. I can give many similar cases.

In the review of my narrative for the fortnight ending the 30th June (B.P., No. 510, dated 19th July 1897), the Famine Commissioner quotes the opinion of overseer Sankara Sastri regarding the number of well-to-do persons on the Alúr-Adóni relief work. The overseer put the proportion at 2 per cent., but since the Commissioner's visit, he has been making inquiries regarding the occupations of the workers and he finds that four gangs (400 strong) contained 50 persons who were well able to tide over the next few months without State aid. This is a proportion of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The fact is an overseer knows very little about the position and means of his workers, for he does not visit the villages off the roads. There was a disturbance on this overseer's work a few days back, and on going to the spot he found that several men of the gang were quarelling over the purchase of a heifer, which a stranger had brought for sale. People who can buy heifers with fodder at its present price cannot be in much need of relief. It remains to be seen whether they will remain on the works now that they are required to do a fair day's work.

Measures of Relief.

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

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Adóni	50,499	43,265	The fall in numbers is due partly to the prevalence of cholera, partly to employment being locally available on agricultural operations and partly to the enforcement of discipline and the exaction of more work. I am beginning to concentrate works in the north of the Adóni taluk where there is a considerable demand for labour. Moreover, many of the workers there are from Hyderabad and they may reasonably be required to go to any relief work where it is most convenient to employ them. There has been a marked increase in the number of weavers on relief in Bellary and Rayadrug.
Alúr	56,392	54,313	
Bellary	22,695	25,792	
Hospet	13,228	11,751	
Kúdligi	2,080	1,766	
Hadagalli	10,376	10,822	
Total ..	155,270	147,709	
Sandúr	562	926	
Total ..	155,832	148,635	

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	1,685	1,726	1,458	1,382	..	..	3,511	3,203
Alúr	2,399	2,700	294	350	..	..	3,812	3,268
Bellary	1,194	1,106	1,183	1,148	..	..	6,339	5,726
Rayadrug	116	157	..	..	..	..	5	5
Hospet	705	617	286	280	..	..	2,606	2,859
Kudligi	32	44	19	1	..	..	182	238
Hadagalli	272	271	27	30	..	..	1,920	2,425
Total ..	6,403	6,621	3,267	3,191	..	..	18,375	17,724
Sandúr	..	..	..	..	..	..	107	96

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	180	180	4,485	4,624	2,633	30,206
Alúr	106	106	..	..	..	..
Bellary	118	140	657	1,072	1,120	2,210
Rayadrug	1	3	523	1,800	578	578
Hospet	46	55	..	..	..	..
Kudligi	36	42	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli	62	51	..	..	..	..
Sandúr	7	7	..	..	..	..

Private charity.—The Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund continues to do good work in giving grants for the purchase of fodder, seed-grain and cattle. The fodder at Kosgi is being sent to Adóni where it is much needed. There is little or no demand at Kosgi.

General Remarks.

The reduction of the distance allowance and the enforcement of punctual attendance have naturally caused much grumbling among the relief workers, and some decrease in numbers, especially in the Adóni taluk. At Tekkalakóta (Bellary taluk) two gangs left saying that they were not going to stay if they had to do a full day's work. At the Harivanam work (Alúr taluk) some women assaulted the overseer but quiet was soon restored. On the Gowripur-Kudligi work (Hospet taluk) there was a strike, but further enquiry showed that it was a strike of the head coolies and submaistries against the officer in charge and that the relief workers had nothing to do with it. On the whole the changes have been carried out with discretion and there has been no sudden decline of numbers anywhere, though many works show a gradual falling off.

As the great majority of the people who attend the Bangalore road relief work near Bellary live entirely on ragi, I have ordered that grain to be taken as the basis for calculation of wages; I have also introduced a ragi diet in the Bellary kitchens. There has been an influx of people from the Gooty taluk to the Alur-Guntakal work, as a more favourable rate of wage is given on that work than in Gooty. I have solved the question by ordering these people to be put into separate gangs, the wages of which are to be calculated on a purely ragi basis. In Gooty they are based on two-thirds ragi and one-third cholam. Ragi is now coming into the markets in much larger quantities, and I believe it will be possible to take it as the basis of wages in the Alúr taluk, in the proportion of one-third ragi and two-thirds cholam. The presence of large numbers from Kurnool is not to be explained by difference in the scale of wages, for cholam is the standard in both Pattikonda and Alúr. It is possible that tasks are harder in Kurnool and Mr. Elwin has been addressed on this point.

Loan Transactions.—*Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.*

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.						Other purposes.						Total.				Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		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.		
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 ..	12	2,710	10	1,180	61	11,781	157	13,420	150	12,020	306	26,540	169	16,130	160	13,200	357	38,321	..	11
Alúr ..	42	10,880	42	7,970	34	11,910	1,497	1,60,615	1,478	1,59,995	87	33,840	1,589	1,71,505	1,520	1,67,965	121	45,750	..	42
Bellary ..	41	5,600	41	6,600	24	8,380	928	89,998	928	89,998	125	44,727	969	95,598	969	95,598	149	53,107	..	41
Rayadrug ..	84	18,522	77	11,268	25	7,700	327	43,140	320	41,840	109	14,445	411	61,662	397	58,108	134	22,145	..	77
Hospet ..	20	4,520	..	2,360	21	4,200	62	8,975	52	8,975	22	2,600	72	8,495	72	6,335	43	6,800	..	11
Kódligi ..	1	..	..	..	35	7,000	..	..	..	..	7	900	1	100	..	..	42	7,990	..	..
Hadagalli ..	12	2,375	9	600	17	6,425	109	13,220	..	..	56	11,235	90	14,595	90	11,835	73	15,055	..	7
Harpanahalli ..	1	100	1	50	1	250	69	7,105	81	11,235	52	6,205	60	7,205	53	6,265	30	3,855	..	1
Total ..	213	43,817	200	29,028	208	56,736	3,129	3,31,473	3,061	3,25,268	741	1,35,817	3,342	3,75,290	3,261	3,54,296	949	1,92,553	..	190

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	
Adóni ..	1,682	7	877	117	5,649	666	24,700	464	17,017	346	36,210	
Alúr ..	1,348	18	1,070	127	7,298	1,923	71,761	1,868	66,828	77	63,788	
Bellary ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,250	48,958	1,260	48,958	273	19,692	
Rayadrug ..	1,460	25	1,460	12	900	353	17,901	351	17,761	193	10,121	
Hospet ..	..	..	..	..	..	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765	
Kódligi ..	..	..	..	..	..	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623	
Hadagalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012	
Harpanahalli ..	..	..	..	..	..	266	9,589	250	9,179	471	22,584	
Total ..	4,490	50	3,407	256	13,847	5,410	2,00,284	5,020	1,85,013	2,713	1,67,796	

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.						Total.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	
	Rs.			Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Adóni ..	625	23,018	457	16,140	229	30,561	41	1,682	7	877	117	
Alúr ..	1,900	70,413	1,840	65,758	610	46,490	23	1,348	18	1,070	127	
Bellary ..	1,250	48,958	1,250	48,958	273	19,692	..	..	..	..	..	
Rayadrug ..	328	16,441	326	16,291	181	9,221	25	1,460	25	1,460	12	900
Hospet ..	106	4,490	106	4,490	167	5,765	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kódligi ..	477	12,379	476	12,359	289	8,623	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hadagalli ..	369	10,206	265	8,431	237	11,012	..	..	..	..	..	..
Harpanahalli ..	266	9,589	250	9,179	471	22,584	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	5,321	1,95,794	4,970	1,81,606	2,457	1,58,948	89	4,490	50	3,407	256	13,847

The amount granted during the fortnight as loans for purchase of fodder, &c., is Rs. 61,000. In Alur the amount was Rs. 24,000, in Bellary Rs. 12,000 and in Rayadrug nearly Rs. 11,000. The work done in the last named taluk reflects credit on the Tahsildar who is not assisted by a Special Tahsildar. I am urging the Tahsildar of Kúdligi to show more energy in this matter. Fodder is badly wanted in part of his taluk, but he has done little or nothing.

Inspections of the District officers.

Taluks and places visited—By the Collector.—Adóni section of the Madhavaram road, the three kitchens at Adóni-Kotekal section and Nandavaram section of the Adóni. Nagaldinne road, Yemmiganúru-Kosigi road, Bellary kitchens, Moka road work and kitchen, Gooty road work and kitchen.

Assistant Collector, Adóni.—Nandavaram, Yemmiganúru, Chinnatumbalam, Madhavaram, Kosigi, Rampur, Halvi and Adóni.

Deputy Collector, Alúr.—Alúr section of Alúr-Adóni road (twice), Alúr-Aspari road (two sections), northern section of Alúr-Moka road, Adóni section of Adóni-Siruguppa road, the kitchens at Aspari, Sankarabanda, Chinnahotur, Peddahotur, Agraharam, Kuruvalli, Halaharivi, Kammarchedu and Harivanam, and the villages of Joharapuram, Doddi, Halljera, Bannigeri, Marakattur, Hulibada, Tumbalabidu, Alúr, Santakudlur and Itikihal.

Assistant Collector in charge of Bellary Division.—Kurugodu, Kallukambham Vaddihatti, Badinahatti, Genikihalu, Martagatta, Somalapuram, Yemmiganúru, Sugur, Manuru, Chinnapatnam, Guttiganuru, Orvoy, Yelubenchi, Kuditini, Siddammanahalli, and the kitchens at Kurugodu, Yemmiganuru and Sindigeri.

Head Assistant Collector, Hospet Division.—Hospet (kitchen), Mariammanahalli, Dhanayakancheri (work and kitchen), Chilakanahatti, Patalakatta, Kondapuram, Malapuram, Nidugurta, Bandri (work) Kúdligi, Hireheggadahalu, Shivapuram, Kyvalyapuram, Virupapuram, Moraba, Morabayyanahalli, Ammanakeri, Branihikallu, Aynahalli, Hosahalli, Hulikeri, Lokikeri, Hurlihal, Chinnainahalli, Sidigallu, Srikantapuram, Gudekota.

Resolution—No. 592, dated 27th August 1897.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The rainfall of the fortnight was dicidedly deficient, except in Kúdligi and Harpanahalli. A considerable part of the mungari crop is likely to be lost, while black-cotton soil has, for the greater part, not yet been cultivated. Rayadrug taluk has had only 70 cents of rain since the middle of June, and the Collector has since applied for sanction to open relief works there. Since that application there was a fall of 2·66 inches in that taluk, which will improve matters considerably.

3. Prices continue to rise in spite of large imports. The action of the ryots in refusing to open their pits of grain till prices fall is not peculiar to Bellary; the same thing is reported from Ganjám. The comparative position of prices is shown by the subjoined figures:—

Rate.	Measures for a rupee.		
	Rice.	Cholum.	Ragi.
Normal	13·2	30·0	..
Warning	10·6	22·5	..
Scarcity	7·9	15·0	..
Current	7·5	9·4	12·5
August 1892	9·8	19·2	21·7
„ 1877	5·3	5·6	6·3

4. The condition of the people is reported to have been generally good. As to the number of famine babies, the Famine Commissioner prefers his own opinion to that of the Collector and the Hon'ble Mr. C. S. Crole; his own inspection was made in company with Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, who will have some remarks to make on the subject. Mr. Stuart is, perhaps, unfortunate in the fact that he has made his remarks before the instructions, issued by Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel King, for the examination of persons receiving relief in famine-affected areas, were communicated to him. After having read these instructions, which are being separately communicated, he will be in a position to give a more valuable opinion. The age of the child mentioned by Mr. Stuart is not given; it is evidently quite young: persistent diarrhœa may be attributed by an unskilled observer as the immediate cause of its emaciated condition, but the primary cause would be set down by a professional man to chronic mal-nutrition. Mr. Stuart describes exactly the same symptoms as the Sanitary Commissioner in paragraph 9 of his instructions.

5. Considering that a heifer may be purchased for from three to five rupees, the incident referred to is not conclusive. In the review by the Madras Government of the great famine, the Governor in Council was "satisfied that the only test necessary is readiness to work," and that continues to be the only test required by the Famine Code.

6. The numbers on relief works at first decreased slightly on the introduction of the stricter rules for the enforcement of tasks, but the number of coolies has since remained constant, and this fact is a proof of their necessity.

7. Progress in the disbursement of loans is shown by the following figures:—

	Amount of loans disbursed.
	Rs.
Up to end of week ending—	
July 24th	4,64,721
„ 31st	4,77,695
August 7th	5,01,905
„ 14th	5,39,309

The work is progressing satisfactorily, and the energy of the Tahsildar of Rayadrug is noted with approval. It is hoped that the Kúdligi Tahsildar will show better results hereafter.

(True Copy and Extract.)

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

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

Order—No. 789, Revenue, dated 16th September 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. Shaik Karim.

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