Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 966 W

DATED 5 April 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Famine: Pros: Rev: Dep't recording the forth-
with by Narrative of the Cuddapah Dt
for the period ending 14. February 1897 and
sanctioning a special Dy. Tahsildar for
charge of the operations for the relief of weavers
recorded with reference to the Memo: 1756
of 26. march 1897.

51 4

[P.W. 20.
5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 6/4/97

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Public works (1897) Department

Current No: 3385

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. 2-4- } 1897.
Regd. 2-4- }

Enclosures -

Spare copies 60-

G.O., No. 194, 24th March 1897.

No 966 a/5-4-97

MARCH.

Record. with reference to memo 2nd 1756 c/7 26th March 1897.

5/4/97

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording the — of the Cuddapah district for the period ending 14th February 1897, and sanctioning a Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6 per mensem.

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 14th February 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Rázampéta	8·71	..	16·50	16·50	..	..	..	..	13·05	13·05
Chitvél	9·13	9·13	16·50	16·50	15·80	15·80	..	..	14·50	14·50
Sidhout	9·07	9·07	18·97	18·97	15·67	14·85	14·95	15·67	14·85	14·85
Badvel	8·25	8·25	18·75	18·75	16·59	16·59	16·59	..	13·77	13·77
Cuddapah	8·71	8·30	18·00	18·00	14·22	14·22	..	..	12·32	12·32
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	16·50	18·15	14·00	14·00	13·20	13·20	..	..
Proddatur	10·31	10·31	18·15	18·15	16·90	16·90	15·26	15·26	16·50	16·50
Jammalamadugu	9·13	9·96	16·12	16·50	15·01	15·01	12·64	13·43	..	..
Pulivendla	9·13	9·13	15·00	15·00	14·22	14·22	12·64	12·64	..	..
Kadiri	9·13	8·71	19·50	18·00	15·80	14·22	..	..	15·22	14·50
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·54	16·50	16·50	14·22	14·22	..	..	15·80	15·80
Vayalpad	10·79	9·13	18·00	18·00	15·80	..	..	..	15·95	14·50
Madanapalle	9·96	9·96	19·50	18·75	12 64	14·22	..	..	14·50	14·50

Activity of trade—Eastern section.—It is active in Badvel and Sidhout taluks in dry staple food-grains, but dull in Pullampet. There are no imports. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—It is not so active as it was before, though the dry staple food-grains are being exported by rail. There are no imports. In Proddatur, it is dull, though in Jammalamadugu it continues active both in Taluk head-quarters and at Muddanúr. There are no imports in the three taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. *Southern section.*—Private trade is dull in Ráyachóti and Vayalpad and active in dry food-grains in Kadiri. In Madanapalle, it is active both in rice and dry staple food-grains. There are no imports in Kadiri and Ráyachóti, but rice and ragi are being imported into Madanapalle and Vayalpad.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—In Proddatur and Pulivendla the condition of the relief-workers is reported to be good and in Jammalamadugu it is fair. In the other taluks of the district no works have been opened.

(2) *In villages.*—Good.

(3) *Jail population—*

Taluks.	Current fortnight.	Corresponding period.			Average.
		1894.	1895.	1896.	
Badvel	1	..	..	..	12·6
Sidhout	4	..	..	..	4·33
Pullampet	Information not received.				..
Chitvél	3	..	..	..	4·00
Cuddapah	21	23	11	13	15·
Kamalápuram	Information not received.				..
Proddatur	4	28	8	6	The figure in column 2 is up to 10th February 1897 and in the other columns for the whole of February.
Jammalamadugu	6	24	20	28	Do. do.
Pulivendla	5	..	..	..	2·6
Kadiri	3	11	1	..	4·
Ráyachóti	2	5	8	4	6·
Vayalpad	3	Information not given.			..
Madanapalle	6	Do.			..

I regret that subordinate officers here again failed to report on this subject properly; but it may be inferred that the jail population is quite normal.

Sickness and Mortality—Eastern section.—None in Badvel taluk. Fever in a few villages in Sidhout taluk, cholera in one village—four attacks and two deaths. In Pullampet taluk cholera of a virulent type is prevalent in Rázampéta, Nandalúr, Chinna Orampod, Mylapalli and Devamachupalle. Attacks 158 and deaths 97. Fever and dysentery also prevail. *Northern section.*—Public health is good. No mortality among relief-workers. There is no case of death by starvation. Fever and small-pox prevail to a small extent in Proddatur taluk. *Southern section.*—Cholera in two villages of Vayalpad taluk. There were 7 attacks and 4 deaths. Fever is reported to prevail at Tsadum, Madanapalle taluk.

Measures of Relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	642	625	There is a decrease all round, which may be ascribed to harvesting operations being in progress.
Jammalamadugu	506	483	
Pulivendla	1,184	998	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchen and otherwise :—

Taluks.	At kitchens.		Number of looms of weavers up to last fortnight.				Probable number of persons relieved.	Up to the end of this fortnight.				
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Number of looms advanced for.					Number of looms advanced for				Probable number of persons relieved up to the end of fortnight.
			Turbans, 7 × 7 cubits.	Turbans, 6 × 6 cubits.	Turbans, 5 × 5 cubits.	Panchalu.		Turbans, 7 × 7 cubits.	Turbans, 6 × 6 cubits.	Turbans, 5 × 5 cubits.	Panchalu.	
Jammalamadugu	25	37	60	819	217	317	6,006	75	888	306	341	7,405
Proddatur	47	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	47	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of cloths received— During the fortnight ..	..	..	241	11,164	1,358	3,612	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	16,375				..	..	..	..	..	..
Up to the end of fortnight.	..	..	930	21,804	4,030	5,956	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	32,720				..	..	..	..	..	..

(3) *Private charity.*—Seventy-six persons were fed in the private kitchen at Jammalamadugu and eighteen at Pulivendla. This is irrespective of the usual daily flow of private charity in villages.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Collector—Pulivendla taluk.—Pulivendla, Adimurthipalli, Yerraballi, Nallapureddipalli, Kottapalli, Brahmanapalli, Ippatla, Gondipalli, Bestuvaripalli, Velpala, Vemula, Ammayagaripalli, Alireddipalli, Vempalli, Musalreddipalli, Kothupalli, Tatimakulapalli, Thallapalli, Thiguvaluvapalli, Kondavandlapalli, Marellamadaka, Chakrayapet, Gadikovur, Surabhu, Balatimmayagaripalli, Mittumidipalli, Bodigundupalli, Vatkuri, Vandlapalli, Chinnappareddipalli, Kuppagutlapalli, Nerusupalli, Rajapalli, Kottapalli, Mahadevapalli, Kuppam, Malikavandlapalli, Komatipalli, Nakkaladinnepalle, Addalamarri, Mallapgaripalli, Yerra Bhommanapalli, Cherukampalle,

Kumarakalva. *Cuddapah taluk.*—Diguva Tavvapalli, Nandimandalam, Nummayagaripalli, Chintlapalli, Pendlimarri, Srinivasapuram, Ramapuram, Vellatur, Ramarajapalli. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Katineni-Erragudi.

Deputy Collector—Cuddapah division.—Gonamakulapalli, Palagiri, Maillacheruvu, Indukur, Peddanapod, Kodur, Yerraguntla, Chinna Chorek, Ukkayapalli, Kopparthi, Tadigotta, Ramapuram, Velatur, Pendlimarri, Cheemalapenta, Gondipalli, Nandimandalam, Tengedupalli, Utukur, Buggalapalle, Buggalitipalli, Rudrayagaripalli, Chinnakampalli, Chintakommadinne, Viswanathapuram.

Deputy Collector—Sidhout division.—Tudur, Akutotapalli, Atlur, Varikunta, Virur, Cherlopalle, Adiruvadipalli, Jaffir Sahebpalle, Jonnavaram, Tsontapalli, Chintala-Vandlapalli, Vontimitta, Gangaperur, Pennaperur, Darjepalli, Mukkemdapuram.

Sub-Collector—Kadiri taluk.—Tanakal, Puliguntapalli, Morlapalli, Tanalam, Kotapet, Kotivaripalli and Kadiri. *Madanapalle.*—Kurubalakota and Angallu. *Vayalpad.*—Gurramkonda. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Kesapuram, Chinnamandeni, Rayachoti, Abbavaram, Veeraballi, Malapalli, Mutli.

Special Deputy Collector on Famine duty—Jammalamadugu division.—Muddanur, Chitivitichintla, Vemuguntapalle, Dedukulanarayanapalli, Kusnapalli, Kutusanikothapalli, Kothapalli, Lakshmireddipalli, Timmapuram, Sunnapurallapalli, Nalaballi, Chinnareddipalli, Yamavaram, Bondalakunta, Ummareddipalli, Chinna Dudyala, Chinnakunta, Mangapatnam, Koduvandlapalli, Settivaripalli, Kammavaripalli, Korapod, Diguva Brahmanapalli, Gandlur, Abannapet, Sidduramapuram, Kondapuram, Anantapuram, Timmapuram, Lavanur, Chennamanenipalli, Lingamanenipalli, Yetur, Penujuvi, Regadupalli, Talla Proddatur, Bakkupatnam, Dathapuram, Yerragudi, Nemalladinne, Sukkapalle, Kodur, Proddatur.

General Remarks.

Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.—The harvest of the standing dry crops and ragi under wells will be about over by the end of the current month. Instructions were issued to the Executive Engineer to provide for adequate supervision to start the work of Nallakunta of Tippalur-Sunkesala in Cuddapah taluk as a test work. Orders of the Board were also solicited in this office Ref. No. C. 70-Tour, dated 11th February 1897, to start the repair of road from Yerraguntla to Vempalle as a test work in Cuddapah taluk under the Famine Code conditions. The road in question runs through the tract of country where the fate of the late sown cholum is doubtful and where the low class labourers are supposed to be in need of employment. The sanction of the District Board was obtained for its execution and the work is estimated for at Rs. 17,680.

Proddatur.—In Proddatur, the repair of Ramesvaram channel and the construction of the railway feeder road from Kalamalla to Sankarapuram are proposed to be taken up. An estimate is ready for the road work. The estimate for Ramesvaram channel has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer by the Board (*vide* B.P., Mis. No. 534, dated 26th January 1897), for provision of the required funds. Steps will be taken to open both works as soon as possible. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu, more works may be required after the present harvest season is over, a period which ranges from fifteen days to one month and a half. The relief to weavers in Proddatur, Pulivendla and Cuddapah does not seem to be required at present. The weavers are reported to have a fair amount of work with the advances which they are continuing to receive from local merchants. In Ramesvaram of Proddatur taluk, about 29 looms are reported to be without work; but I propose to take no action until I inspect the places, which I will do very shortly. Meanwhile, the Tahsildar and Deputy Collector are maturing proposals for their relief, so that action may be taken in time when necessity arises. According to the recent instructions of the Board, the supervision of the weavers' relief scheme at Jammalamadugu was transferred from the Special Famine Deputy Collector to enable him to freely move about to inspect the condition of crops, &c., in the division and instructions were issued by me to the Divisional Officer (M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau) to supervise the relief in question. I do

not think that M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau will be able to cope with this work, considering that he has to be on tour and to do jamabandi of two taluks. It is represented that a special officer for the weavers' scheme itself will be required shortly: but I defer making any proposals until I visit Jammalamadugu again. The Special Deputy Collector reports that in the village of Talla Proddatur, the Village Magistrate got for weavers in his village, advances of Government yarn for more looms than were actually at work and that some of the weavers let out the looms to be worked for profit. Steps will be taken to prevent such occurrences. The abolition of the post of Circle Inspector is reported to be causing much inconvenience in working the scheme. The Deputy Tahsildar appointed to relieve the Tahsildar of his ordinary duties and who has been put in immediate charge of the scheme is not able to be always present, as he has to discharge the ordinary duties of the Tahsildar. He cannot afford time to carefully watch and prevent the commission of fraud by the subordinate establishment of appraisers, paymaster and storekeeper. Constant supervision over these men is absolutely necessary to get them to work properly all through the day; and the absence of a supervising manager on the spot is reported to be much felt. I request therefore that the sanction for the appointment of the Circle Inspector which was cancelled by Government may be revived. Considering the large interests involved, I request early orders. *Southern section.*—The Sub-Collector reports that there is no necessity for the opening of relief operations in Ráyachóti and Madanapalle. In Kadiri, the poorer ryots are likely to suffer about a month hence. In Vayalpad, the expansion of minor irrigation and repair of roads by the Local Fund Engineering establishment will afford sufficient labour for the cooly classes for some months to come.

Personal explanation.—The unfavourable remarks made by the Board as to my touring in its review of my narrative for the first fifteen days in January having been followed by further remarks unfavorably criticising my narrative for the second half of January, I think that it is due to myself to place on record the following:—

I returned to duty on 6th January having been absent on privilege leave to Europe from 2nd October. When I left India, the north-east monsoon was not due and the entire anxieties and responsibilities in connection with the failure of the October rains fell to the lot of my *locum tenens*, Mr. A. T. Forbes. After rejoining on 6th January, I had to study the voluminous records of three months very anxious time in the district, as well as make myself acquainted with the Famine Code, which had not been issued before I went away, and which I was unable to obtain at the India Office while on leave, although I endeavoured to obtain it. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary that I should remain some days at head-quarters after rejoining. I intended going out on 12th or 13th January to Jammalamadugu, but before starting heard from the Conservator of Forests to the effect that he would reach Cuddapah on a tour of inspection on 15th January. Considering the great importance of forest matters in the Cuddapah district and the fact that I had not seen the Conservator for a year, I respectfully consider that I acted discreetly in postponing leaving my head-quarters until after the Conservator's arrival. I have been continuously touring in the portion of the district reported to be most curiously affected by adverse season from 18th January until 14th instant, on which date, I cut my tour short in order to meet the Famine Commissioner at Cuddapah. As regards my narrative for the second half of January in which I showed that I had carefully examined a large extent of the tract reported to be affected, I am found fault with for furnishing no statistics and for giving vague information. I beg respectfully to represent that the narrative in question chiefly differs from its predecessors, which the Board unfavourably comments in the fact that it gives a more hopeful and sanguine estimate of the agricultural prospects. In the nature of things, it had to be based in the main upon the reports of subordinates, and in the absence of statistics furnished by them, it was *ex-necessitate* to a corresponding degree devoid of statistics, and was to a very large extent a mere resumé of their reports like its predecessors. I am glad to state that I was able, in consequence of my personal inspections to afford some information leading to the inference that their reports were not quite accurate and were unnecessarily gloomy. [In this connection, I wish to emphasize that in my comments upon Deputy Collector M.R.Ry. Narrainsami

Pillai's report, I had not the slightest intention to question honesty of purpose or good faith, but merely wished to record for the information of the Board and Government, facts that had come under my personal observation and that of another officer of some standing and which seemed to indicate either that his (Narrainsami Pillai's) observation was not acute or else that language used by him was too general and his *opinion* such as could be gathered from his language was open to question.] The fortnightly narratives should depict as accurately as possible the facts of the fortnight. I am entirely in agreement with other officers in the district that when harvest operations are over in March, it is to be expected that there will be a considerable increase of workers on relief works. We are quite prepared for such a contingency if the Public Works Department Officers have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness. I fear that there will be some difficulty about their subordinate staff, and consider that early arrangements should be made to have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.										Purchase of fodder.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Number of wells.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.					
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.			Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			10	11	12	13	14	15				
Sidhout	1	Rs. 200	1	Rs. 200		Rs.														
Badvel	1	200	1	100																
Cuddapah	11	1,675	11	987½	15	2,690		4												
Proddatur	2	250			4	550														
Jammalamadugu					8	1,820														
Pulivendla	5	740	4	370	17	7,600														
Kadiri	1	100	1	50	1	100														
Rayachóti	4	800	4	500																
Vayalpad					1	Not stated.														
Madanapalle																				
Total ..	25	3,965	22	2,207½	46	13,060														

Taluks.	Other purposes.										Cattle and seed-grain.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.			
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.	
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
Sidhout	1	Rs. 200	1	Rs. 150		1											1	Rs. 100		
Badvel	1	200				1														
Cuddapah			1	2,690													1	200		
Proddatur	11	987½	5	950		4											2	150		
Jammalamadugu			8	1,830																
Pulivendla			23	8,300		4														
Kadiri	4	370	1	100		1														
Rayachóti	1	50				4														
Vayalpad	4	500		Not stated.																
Madanapalle			1														4	450		
Total ..	22	2,207½	54	14,010	..	15											4	450		

Resolution—dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The narrative read above is ancient history, not having been received till long after it was due. The Collector will be requested to see that such delays do not again occur.

3. The only portion of the district at present giving cause for anxiety is the northern section, comprising the four taluks of Cuddapah, Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. They are, for the most part, black cotton-soil taluks and contain only a small area protected by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, chiefly in the two first-mentioned taluks, and but moderate areas protected by channels and wells. Except under the canal, the water-supplies are getting short, and it is from the canal that the Kundér obtains the supply that is now flowing in it. Drinking water is said to be growing scarce in some parts. This is a matter that should receive immediate attention from the district and taluk boards, and to the improvement of the supplies thereof their funds should be directed.

4. Except for the limited extent under the canal, channels or wells, cultivation is now over for the season in the affected area, and the Board considers that, ere this, the local officers should have been able to state pretty definitely what the probable results of the later sowings will be. So far as can be gathered, in the Cuddapah taluk, the harvest will be over in a few days, and it is estimated that less than two-thirds of the area occupied by the late-sown food-crops will yield crops of 8 annas or less, and between one-third and one-fourth has failed entirely. Under channels and wells the crops are estimated at 8—12 annas. Both estimates are probably unduly sanguine. That any area of the dry crops sown after November will yield 8 annas is most improbable. The Collector was present when the Commissioner inspected *irrigated* fields near Cuddapah, on which the cholum was an entire failure, except for the straw, and the ragi was from 3 to 4 annas. If this was so with irrigated land, the prospects of the dry late crops must be extremely bad, and for the cholum crop, speaking generally, hopeless. It has failed over the whole affected tract in Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool, and the other dry crops there, such as castor, horse-gram, gingelly, bengal-gram, may, in the most favourable cases, yield from nothing to 3 or 4 annas.

In Proddatur, the crops under wells and the canal are expected to yield as much as in Cuddapah, and the cotton crop is said to be fair throughout, but the special forecast reports received from the Tahsildars show not only a considerable deficiency in area, but on the whole barely half a crop as the expected yield in any taluk of the section, whilst the yield is expected to be lower in this than the other taluks. The late-sown crop has withered or is withering, and is fast being renewed. That the cotton in Jammalamadugu yielded fairly, is as regards the tract north of Jammalamadugu, correct. This crop was well advanced before the November rains. Otherwise, in Jammalamadugu, it is clear that the only crops in fair condition are those—a very limited area—protected by irrigation; the information given as to the condition of the rest is not re-assuring, and the Board has grave doubts whether anything like half will yield an average crop as the Collector forecasts.

Taluks.	Area.		Estimated yield.
	Average.	1896-97.	
	Acs.	Acs.	As.
Cuddapah	4,226	4,957	8
Proddatur	16,553	14,812	7
Jammalamadugu ..	49,327	46,060	12
Pulivendla	16,793	11,674	8

In Pulivendla, the state of the crops is much the same. A portion may yield "some crop," but the bulk must assuredly fail, if it has not already been lost. The cotton crop in Pulivendla is estimated at from 6 to 12 annas. This is very improbable. The crop in Tadpatri adjoining is partly *nil* to 2 annas.

In this connection, the Board must observe that Mr. Tate has entirely failed to understand the drift of the remarks made in its Proceedings No. 93 of 1897. The

Board did not call for statistics, but desired to have set before it an intelligent appreciation of the relative importance and the actual condition of the crops on the ground, such as any observant officer might frame after personal inspection of the country. To the casual observer, nothing is more misleading than the existence of favoured patches of crop here and there, and this is too often shown in all the season reports that come before the Board. They show that such features have caught the eye, but the real significance thereof has been missed. The Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Narrainsami Pillai, is one of the most highly qualified officers in his grade. A distinguished mathematician, and officer of wide experience, and trained to make accurate observations. If "another officer"—the Superintendent of Police—"of some standing" differed in opinion, on a matter peculiarly within his knowledge, from him, the probability would be that the other officer was mistaken. The Superintendent of Police is not a Revenue officer; he did not visit the tract regarding which he expressed an opinion for the purpose of reporting on the crops, and probably does not possess the requisite knowledge to make his opinion valuable. In fact mere riding through a tract is useless for arriving at accurate conclusions. The crop, and ears if any, must be actually handled and examined. Even then the officer's accuracy may be open to doubt, as it would be quite possible for an officer to go through his whole service without having ever seen a bumper crop of any particular product from which to form conclusions. The irrigated cholum which the Commissioner saw at Cuddapah stood five feet high or more, and had large ears. On inspection, which should only be done by handling, these were barren. A passer-by would probably have estimated this to be a 12-anna crop, if he had never seen a bumper crop of 12 feet high or more. Mr. Tate may place full confidence in Narrainsami Pillai's previous reports, and, if he wishes to verify them, he would do well to take the Deputy Collector with him, and discuss the crop on the ground. Mr. Tate sums up the position more correctly in his report for the subsequent fortnight, just received, where he observes, regarding the northern section, "in the remaining three taluks, the late sown cholum is, on the whole, a failure. In some places, the crop may yield something, and, where it is irrigated, it will yield about an eight-anna crop. Kusuma and variga have not failed to the same extent as cholum.

5. To state that, after a drought of nearly three months' duration, "the supply of grass is diminishing" conveys to the Board the idea that the reporter is deficient in humour; whilst the reported storing up of large supplies of fodder again shows want of observation or of knowledge of the country, these stores consisting of the half-grown straw of the crops that have already failed. A comparison of these stores with those usually made at the late harvest would be instructive.

6. In a statement given below the Board summarises the latest cultivation returns for the affected taluks. They show that a large portion of the original deficiency in the area brought under crop has been made good, and that the area of second sowings has been most exceptionally large. The failure and loss to the ryots will, in the dry crops, be in the same proportion.

Taluks.	First crop.						Second crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.			Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.
	1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.	
	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.
Cuddapah	153,327	156,750	162,036	15,853	16,078	17,812	30,472	7,706	10,969	7,437	6,309	7,513
Proddatur	134,987	134,283	134,935	7,042	7,590	7,650	33,419	3,649	4,734	2,361	2,096	2,398
Jammalamadugu ..	170,492	182,635	182,821	5,581	5,627	5,879	34,324	2,930	3,359	2,575	1,612	2,002
Pulivendla	167,184	189,812	193,130	6,232	7,279	7,513	33,581	4,200	4,773	3,264	2,647	3,595
Total ..	625,990	663,480	672,922	34,708	36,574	38,854	131,796	18,485	23,835	15,637	12,664	15,508

7. Prices have not shown much change of late, but the figures reported by the Collector suggest that the manner of recording them needs investigation, the differences in the rates reported for nearly adjacent stations in the northern section showing variations which it is hard to explain, whilst the comparative cheapness of ragi at Proddatur, where it is, it is believed, an imported grain, is extraordinary. The cheapness of cholum at this station is also very noticeable, and incompatible with the reported activity of trade at Jammalamadugu.

8. No extension of the measures for the relief of the people has yet been made by the Collector, and he considers that none are urgent. He states that he and his officers are prepared for an expansion as soon as the harvest is over, but that he fears that the Public Works Department is not. Attention is at present given to the relief of the Jammalamadugu weavers, from whom already 32,520 cloths had been received at the end of the period under report. It is estimated that 7,405 weavers were then on this form of relief, but since there has been a decrease owing to a break-down of the arrangements for maintaining a proper stock of yarn. In regard to these operations, the Collector protests against the withdrawal of the special officer appointed to supervise them, and the Board considers that, seeing the large scale on which they are proceeding and the very great danger of fraud and loss of public money that must accompany such operations, a special officer of the rank and pay of the one recently sanctioned for Bellary (G.O. No. 500, dated 27th January 1897) is even more necessary in Cuddapah than in Bellary. It is also of opinion that, seeing how extensive these schemes for the relief of weavers are becoming, a specially selected officer, on the pay of a Deputy Collector, should be appointed, to go from district to district and enquire and report on the "weaver relief" operations. It is only an officer who can give his whole time to the work who can be expected to master the whole subject, and to be able to give the Collectors reliable advice in the matter.

9. As regards the extension of relief works, the Collector's proposal to start work on the Yerraguntla-Vempalle road was approved of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1289, dated 19th February 1897. His attention has already been drawn to the undesirable flocking of labourers from his district into the Tadpatri taluk, and he should take measures, not after the harvest, or after the end of March, but at once, to prevent a recurrence of this. His attention has also been drawn to other complaints indicating remissness in offering the people employment where needed, and the Board trusts that there will be no recurrence of these complaints; nor can there be if Mr. Tate appreciates his duty to the people in his charge as fully as he does that to the Government. In connection with the Collector's concluding remarks, the attention of the Chief Engineer will be drawn to the probable requirements of the district.

10. On the 15th ultimo the Collector promised to start a work near Yerraguntla in four days. The Board wishes to know if this was done.

11. Collector need not supply any further information regarding the jail population, as this is being received in accurate form from the Inspector-General of Prisons.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Cuddapah.
" Chief Engineer.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 194, Revenue, dated 24th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. A Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6, is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Financial Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

50 Copies.

Government {1897} of Madras.

REVENUE.

Recd. / *Regd.* } 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 194, 24th March 1897.

P/ 966 w dy 5-4-97

MARCH. 4

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording the — of the Cuddapah district for the period ending 14th February 1897, and sanctioning a Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6 per mensem.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Cuddapah District for the 1st fortnight of February 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply—Eastern section.—The condition of this section gives no cause for anxiety at present. *Northern section.*—No rainfall was registered at any of the registering stations during the fortnight except 3 cents at Pulivendla. In Cuddapah taluk, the crops under canal channels and wells are in good condition. River-and-spring channels are said to be flowing, but not freely. In Proddatur taluk all the tanks are empty. The Kundér river flows knee-deep in some portions of its course and the Kurnool irrigation canal contains sufficient supply. Supply in channels and wells is diminishing. Want of drinking-water is reported to be felt in four villages, where it has to be brought from considerable distance (*vide* my last report). In Jammalamadugu taluk the water in wells and channels is going down and the supply in all the tanks except two is exhausted. Want of drinking-water is felt in some villages. The standing crops under some of the tanks are being irrigated by wells. In Pulivendla taluk almost all tanks are empty and rivers are not flowing. The Papagni river channels and some of the spring channels are flowing. The Pulivendla Vanka channels are flowing freely, but the springs are reported to be going down. Wells hold sufficient water though springs in some are said to be diminishing. In Pulivendla I found that the supply in wells was generally ample for drinking and agricultural purposes. *Southern section.*—There is no change in the agricultural prospects of the season.

Agricultural operations and conditions of the standing crops—Eastern section.—The usual operations are going on and the outturn of harvested crops is good. *Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.*—Harvesting paddy, ragi, bariga and horse-gram, baling water from wells, deepening rivers and spring channels are the agricultural operations now in progress. Paddy under Kurnool-Cuddapah canal and ragi under wells are in good condition, whereas Bengal-gram, indigo and kusuma are reported to be drooping. Cotton is still green. The harvest of the standing dry crops is estimated to be 4 to 6 annas and of those under channels and wells, 8 to 12 annas. Out of the extent of 80,115 acres representing the extent of standing crops by the end of January 1897, 36,900 acres represent the area cultivated with food crops. Out of this extent, the crop on 3,013 acres is estimated to yield a 12-anna crop and that on 14,012 acres and 5,331 acres is expected to yield an 8-anna and a 4-anna crop, respectively. The extent on which the outturn is expected to be less than 4 annas is only 3,890 acres,

while the extent on which a total failure is expected is 10,654 acres. Over 75 per cent. of the area sown with paddy, early cholum and korra has been harvested. The entire extent under cumbu has also been harvested. About 30 per cent. of the ragi crop has been reaped and the remainder is in course of being reaped. *Proddatur.*—Lands are being ploughed in some places under wells to sow korra ; paddy, cholum, ragi and bariga are being harvested. The outturn of the crops under wells is estimated to be 8 annas, whereas the yield of the crops under the canal is said to vary from 8 to 12 annas. The standing crops under wells and canal are in good condition. Cotton is in fair condition throughout. It is reported that the later sown dry crops have withered in parts and are fading in others. Bariga is said to be a general failure. The withered crop is being fast removed. The information regarding the extent of crops under wells and channels required by B.P., dated 3rd February 1897, No. 93, is not immediately available. It has been called for and will be furnished in the next fortnightly narrative. *Jammalamadugu.*—Harvesting ragi, cholum, bariga, paddy and picking cotton, watering ragi, korra and other crops and ploughing are the agricultural operations during the fortnight. The standing crops—ragi, cotton, korra, paddy, garden cholum, turmeric, tobacco—are in good condition. The late cholum, bariga, kusuma, ellagisé, Bengal-gram and other pulses in dry lands have withered in some places. Approximate area of crops faded is 45,786 acres or 22·66 per cent. of the total cultivated area and 30,000 acres are expected to fail and the remaining area may yield an average outturn. *Pulivendla.*—Harvesting ragi, cholum and garden produce and clearing channels are the chief occupations. Of the standing crops, those under wells and channels are in good condition. Dry crops, such as cholum, horse gram, bariga, Bengal-gram and korra are reported to be beginning to fade in some villages. In some places they have yielded some crop. Cholum however will probably soon fail unless there be rain. Irrigated cholum and ragi are very good to the east of the Papagni river, *i.e.*, in the Surabhu valley, fair to good to the east of Pulivendla and middling in other parts. *Southern section.*—The usual agricultural operations are carried on and the crops are said to be in good condition except castors in some villages of Ráyachóti which are said to be attacked by caterpillars.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Eastern section.—Stocks of fodder have been almost exhausted. Pasture is sufficient everywhere. The condition of cattle is good. *Northern section—Proddatur.*—The supply of grass is diminishing. Owing to recent harvests fodder is available, but there is no reduction in the price. People have been storing a large supply at high prices to meet further demands. The hill grass is being brought in by some of the people and used as fodder. It is not as nutritive as ordinary grass. These remarks apply to Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla and Cuddapah also. Cattle disease prevails in some of the villages of Jammalamadugu taluk and three are reported to have died of rinderpest in Pydipalliem of Pulivendla taluk. *Southern section—Kadiri.*—Pasture available. Fodder will last for some time more. Cattle disease is subsiding. *Ráyachóti.*—Pasture available. Fodder insufficient. Condition of cattle good. *Vayalpad and Madanapalle.*—Pasture and fodder available. Cattle are in good condition.

General remarks on the above subjects—Eastern section.—The labouring classes in Pullampet and Badvel are reported to have sufficient employment in field-work. A large number from Sidhout taluk have gone to Cuddapah taluk where paddy harvest is going on. The labour available in the fields may continue for about two months. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—Agricultural operations are going on and labourers find work in the fields and will be able to do so till about the end of February, as the harvesting under wells will continue till then. The ryots have practically given up hopes about the late sown cholum ; Bengal-gram, kusuma and bariga are expected to yield a 4-anna crop on an average. In the black cotton soil taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla, the late sown cholum is showing signs of fading. The outturn of crops under wells and channels will be good and the cotton crop in Pulivendla is said to vary from 12 to 16 annas. *Southern section.*—The state of the season in this section does not cause any room for anxiety at present.

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 14th February 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.
Rázampéta	8·71	..	16·50	16·50	..	..	..	..	13·05	13·05
Chitvél	9·13	9·13	16·50	16·50	15·80	15·80	..	..	14·50	14·50
Sidhout	9·07	9·07	18·97	18·97	15·67	14·85	14·95	15·67	14·85	14·85
Badvel	8·25	8·25	18·75	18·75	16·59	16·59	16·59	..	13·77	13·77
Cuddapah	8·71	8·30	18·00	18·00	14·22	14·22	..	..	12·32	12·32
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	16·50	18·15	14·00	14·00	13·20	13·20	..	..
Proddatur	10·31	10·31	18·15	18·15	16·90	16·90	15·26	15·26	16·50	16·50
Jammalamadugu	9·13	9·96	16·12	16·50	15·01	15·01	12·64	13·43	..	..
Pulivendla	9·13	9·13	15·00	15·00	14·22	14·22	12·64	12·64	..	..
Kadiri	9·13	8·71	19·50	18·00	15·80	14·22	..	..	15·22	14·50
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·54	16·50	16·50	14·22	14·22	..	..	15·80	15·50
Vayalpad	10·79	9·13	18·00	18·00	15·80	..	..	..	15·95	14·50
Madanapalle	9·96	9·96	19·50	18·75	12·64	14·22	..	..	14·50	14·50

Activity of trade—Eastern section.—It is active in Badvel and Sidhout taluks in dry staple food-grains, but dull in Pullampet. There are no imports. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—It is not so active as it was before, though the dry staple food-grains are being exported by rail. There are no imports. In Proddatur, it is dull, though in Jammalamadugu it continues active both in Taluk head-quarters and at Muddanúr. There are no imports in the three taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. *Southern section.*—Private trade is dull in Ráyachóti and Vayalpad and active in dry food-grains in Kadiri. In Madanapalle, it is active both in rice and dry staple food-grains. There are no imports in Kadiri and Ráyachóti, but rice and ragi are being imported into Madanapalle and Vayalpad.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—In Proddatur and Pulivendla the condition of the relief-workers is reported to be good and in Jammalamadugu it is fair. In the other taluks of the district no works have been opened.

(2) *In villages.*—Good.

(3) *Jail population—*

Taluks.	Current fortnight.	Corresponding period.			Average.
		1894.	1895.	1896.	
Badvel	1	..	..	..	12·6
Sidhout	4	..	..	..	4·33
Pullampet		Information not received.			..
Chitvél	3	..	..	..	4·00
Cuddapah	21	23	11	13	15·
Kamalápuram		Information not received.			..
Proddatur	4	28	8	6	The figure in column 2 is up to 10th February 1897 and in the other columns for the whole of February.
Jammalamadugu	6	24	20	28	Do. do.
Pulivendla	5	..	..	..	2·6
Kadiri	3	11	1	..	4·
Ráyachóti	3	5	8	4	6·
Vayalpad	3	Information not given.			..
Madanapalle	6	Do.			..

I regret that subordinate officers here again failed to report on this subject properly; but it may be inferred that the jail population is quite normal.

Sickness and Mortality—Eastern section.—None in Badvel taluk. Fever in a few villages in Sidhout taluk, cholera in one village—four attacks and two deaths. In Pullampet taluk cholera of a virulent type is prevalent in Rázampéta, Nandalúr, Chinna Orampod, Mylapalli and Devamachupalle. Attacks 158 and deaths 97. Fever and dysentery also prevail. *Northern section.*—Public health is good. No mortality among relief-workers. There is no case of death by starvation. Fever and small-pox prevail to a small extent in Proddatur taluk. *Southern section.*—Cholera in two villages of Vayalpad taluk. There were 7 attacks and 4 deaths. Fever is reported to prevail at Tsadum, Madanapalle taluk.

Measures of Relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	642	625	There is a decrease all round, which may be ascribed to harvesting operations being in progress.
Jammalamadugu	506	483	
Pulivendla	1,184	998	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchen and otherwise :—

Taluks.	At kitchens.		Number of looms of weavers up to last fortnight.				Probable number of persons relieved.	Up to the end of this fortnight.				Probable number of persons relieved up to the end of fortnight.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Number of looms advanced for.					Number of looms advanced for				
			Turbans, 7 × 7 cubits.	Turbans, 6 × 6 cubits.	Turbans, 5 × 5 cubits.	Panchalu.		Turbans, 7 × 7 cubits.	Turbans, 6 × 6 cubits.	Turbans, 5 × 5 cubits.	Panchalu.	
Jammalamadugu	25	37	60	819	217	317	6,006	75	888	306	341	7,405
Proddatur	47	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	47	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of cloths received—												
During the fortnight ..	..	..	241	11,164	1,358	3,612	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	16,375									
Up to the end of fortnight.	..	..	930	21,804	4,030	5,956	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	32,720									

(3) *Private charity.*—Seventy-six persons were fed in the private kitchen at Jammalamadugu and eighteen at Pulivendla. This is irrespective of the usual daily flow of private charity in villages.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Collector—Pulivendla taluk.—Pulivendla, Adimurthipalli, Yerraballi, Nallapureddipalli, Kottapalli, Brahmanapalli, Ippatla, Gondipalli, Bestuvaripalli, Velpala, Vemula, Ammayagaripalli, Alireddipalli, Vempalli, Musalreddipalli, Kothupalli, Tatimakulapalli, Thallapalli, Thiguvaluvapalli, Kondavandlapalli, Marellamadaka, Chakrayapet, Gadikovur, Surabhu, Balatimmayagaripalli, Mittumidipalli, Bodigundupalli, Vatkuri, Vandlapalli, Chinnappareddipalli, Kuppagutlapalli, Nerusupalli, Rajapalli, Kottapalli, Mahadevapalli, Kuppam, Malikavandlapalli, Komatipalli, Nakkaladinnepalle, Addalamarri, Mallapgaripalli, Yerra Bhommanapalli, Cherukampalle,

Kumarakalva. *Cuddapah taluk.*—Diguva Tavvapalli, Nandimandalam, Nummayagaripalli, Chintlapalli, Pendlimarri, Srinivasapuram, Ramapuram, Vellatur, Ramarajapalli. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Katineni-Erragudi.

Deputy Collector—Cuddapah division.—Gonamakulapalli, Palagiri, Maillacheruvu, Indukur, Peddanapod, Kodur, Yerraguntla, Chinna Chorek, Ukkayapalli, Kopparthi, Tadigotta, Ramapuram, Velatur, Pendlimarri, Cheemalapenta, Gondipalli, Nandimandalam, Tengedupalli, Utukur, Buggalapalle, Buggalitipalli, Rudrayagaripalli, Chinnakampalli, Chintakommadinne, Viswanathapuram.

Deputy Collector—Sidhout division—Tudur, Akutotapalli, Atlur, Varikunta, Virur, Cherlopalle, Adiruvadipalli, Jaffir Sahebpalle, Jonnavaram, Tsontapalli, Chintala-Vandlapalli, Vontimitta, Gangaperur, Pennaperur, Darjepalli, Mukkemdapuram.

Sub-Collector—Kadiri taluk.—Tanakal, Puliguntapalli, Morlapalli, Tanalam, Kotapet, Kotivaripalli and Kadiri. *Madanapalle.*—Kurubalakota and Angallu. *Vayalpad.*—Gurramkonda. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Kesapuram, Chinnamandeni, Rayachoti, Abbavaram, Veeraballi, Malapalli, Mutli.

Special Deputy Collector on Famine duty—Jammalamadugu division.—Muddanur, Chitivitichintla, Vemuguntapalle, Dedukulanarayanapalli, Kusnapalli, Kutusanikothapalli, Kothapalli, Lakshmireddipalli, Timmapuram, Sunnapurallapalli, Nalaballi, Chinnareddipalli, Yamavaram, Bondalakunta, Ummareddipalli, Chinna Dudyala, Chinnakunta, Mangapatnam, Koduvandlapalli, Settivaripalli, Kammavaripalli, Korapod, Diguva Brahmanapalli, Gandlur, Abannapet, Sidduramapuram, Kondapuram, Anantapuram, Timmapuram, Lavanur, Chennamanenipalli, Lingamanenipalli, Yetur, Penujuvi, Regadupalli, Talla Proddatur, Bakkupatnam, Dathapuram, Yerragudi, Nemalladinne, Sukkapalle, Kodur, Proddatur.

General Remarks.

Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.—The harvest of the standing dry crops and ragi under wells will be about over by the end of the current month. Instructions were issued to the Executive Engineer to provide for adequate supervision to start the work of Nallakunta of Tippalur-Sunkesala in Cuddapah taluk as a test work. Orders of the Board were also solicited in this office Ref. No. C. 70-Tour, dated 11th February 1897, to start the repair of road from Yerraguntla to Vempalle as a test work in Cuddapah taluk under the Famine Code conditions. The road in question runs through the tract of country where the fate of the late sown cholum is doubtful and where the low class labourers are supposed to be in need of employment. The sanction of the District Board was obtained for its execution and the work is estimated for at Rs. 17,680.

Proddatur.—In Proddatur, the repair of Ramesvaram channel and the construction of the railway feeder road from Kalamalla to Sankarapuram are proposed to be taken up. An estimate is ready for the road work. The estimate for Ramesvaram channel has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer by the Board (*vide* B.P., Mis. No. 534, dated 26th January 1897), for provision of the required funds. Steps will be taken to open both works as soon as possible. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu, more works may be required after the present harvest season is over, a period which ranges from fifteen days to one month and a half. The relief to weavers in Proddatur, Pulivendla and Cuddapah does not seem to be required at present. The weavers are reported to have a fair amount of work with the advances which they are continuing to receive from local merchants. In Ramesvaram of Proddatur taluk, about 29 looms are reported to be without work; but I propose to take no action until I inspect the places, which I will do very shortly. Meanwhile, the Tahsildar and Deputy Collector are maturing proposals for their relief, so that action may be taken in time when necessity arises. According to the recent instructions of the Board, the supervision of the weavers' relief scheme at Jammalamadugu was transferred from the Special Famine Deputy Collector to enable him to freely move about to inspect the condition of crops, &c., in the division and instructions were issued by me to the Divisional Officer (M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau) to supervise the relief in question. I do

not think that M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau will be able to cope with this work, considering that he has to be on tour and to do jamabandi of two taluks. It is represented that a special officer for the weavers' scheme itself will be required shortly: but I defer making any proposals until I visit Jammalamadugu again. The Special Deputy Collector reports that in the village of Talla Proddatur, the Village Magistrate got for weavers in his village, advances of Government yarn for more looms than were actually at work and that some of the weavers let out the looms to be worked for profit. Steps will be taken to prevent such occurrences. The abolition of the post of Circle Inspector is reported to be causing much inconvenience in working the scheme. The Deputy Tahsildar appointed to relieve the Tahsildar of his ordinary duties and who has been put in immediate charge of the scheme is not able to be always present, as he has to discharge the ordinary duties of the Tahsildar. He cannot afford time to carefully watch and prevent the commission of fraud by the subordinate establishment of appraisers, paymaster and storekeeper. Constant supervision over these men is absolutely necessary to get them to work properly all through the day; and the absence of a supervising manager on the spot is reported to be much felt. I request therefore that the sanction for the appointment of the Circle Inspector which was cancelled by Government may be revived. Considering the large interests involved, I request early orders. *Southern section.*—The Sub-Collector reports that there is no necessity for the opening of relief operations in Ráyachóti and Madanapalle. In Kadiri, the poorer ryots are likely to suffer about a month hence. In Vayalpad, the expansion of minor irrigation and repair of roads by the Local Fund Engineering establishment will afford sufficient labour for the cooly classes for some months to come.

Personal explanation.—The unfavourable remarks made by the Board as to my touring in its review of my narrative for the first fifteen days in January having been followed by further remarks unfavorably criticising my narrative for the second half of January, I think that it is due to myself to place on record the following:—

I returned to duty on 6th January having been absent on privilege leave to Europe from 2nd October. When I left India, the north-east monsoon was not due and the entire anxieties and responsibilities in connection with the failure of the October rains fell to the lot of my *locum tenens*, Mr. A. T. Forbes. After rejoining on 6th January, I had to study the voluminous records of three months very anxious time in the district, as well as make myself acquainted with the Famine Code, which had not been issued before I went away, and which I was unable to obtain at the India Office while on leave, although I endeavoured to obtain it. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary that I should remain some days at head-quarters after rejoining. I intended going out on 12th or 13th January to Jammalamadugu, but before starting heard from the Conservator of Forests to the effect that he would reach Cuddapah on a tour of inspection on 15th January. Considering the great importance of forest matters in the Cuddapah district and the fact that I had not seen the Conservator for a year, I respectfully consider that I acted discreetly in postponing leaving my headquarters until after the Conservator's arrival. I have been continuously touring in the portion of the district reported to be most curiously affected by adverse season from 18th January until 14th instant, on which date, I cut my tour short in order to meet the Famine Commissioner at Cuddapah. As regards my narrative for the second half of January in which I showed that I had carefully examined a large extent of the tract reported to be affected, I am found fault with for furnishing no statistics and for giving vague information. I beg respectfully to represent that the narrative in question chiefly differs from its predecessors, which the Board unfavourably comments in the fact that it gives a more hopeful and sanguine estimate of the agricultural prospects. In the nature of things, it had to be based in the main upon the reports of subordinates, and in the absence of statistics furnished by them, it was *ex-necessitate* to a corresponding degree devoid of statistics, and was to a very large extent a mere resumé of their reports like its predecessors. I am glad to state that I was able, in consequence of my personal inspections to afford some information leading to the inference that their reports were not quite accurate and were unnecessarily gloomy. [In this connection, I wish to emphasize that in my comments upon Deputy Collector M.R.Ry. Narrainsami

Pillai's report, I had not the slightest intention to question honesty of purpose or good faith, but merely wished to record for the information of the Board and Government, facts that had come under my personal observation and that of another officer of some standing and which seemed to indicate either that his (Narrainsami Pillai's) observation was not acute or else that language used by him was too general and his *opinion* such as could be gathered from his language was open to question.] The fortnightly narratives should depict as accurately as possible the facts of the fortnight. I am entirely in agreement with other officers in the district that when harvest operations are over in March, it is to be expected that there will be a considerable increase of workers on relief works. We are quite prepared for such a contingency if the Public Works Department Officers have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness. I fear that there will be some difficulty about their subordinate staff, and consider that early arrangements should be made to have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness.

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

Taluks.	Other purposes.						Repair and construction of wells.						Total.						Number of wells.	
	Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Constructed or re-paired.	Under construction or repair.
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.		
1	12	13	10	11	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		Rs.						Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Sidhout	1	150	..	..	1	200	1	200	1	200	..	..	1	200	1	200	..	..	..	1
Badvel	..	..	..	..	1	200	1	200	1	100	15	2,690	1	200	1	100	15	2,690	..	1
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	1	100	..	..	11	1,675	11	1,675	11	987½	4	850	11	1,675	11	987½	5	950	..	4
Jammalamadugu	..	..	..	..	2	250	2	250	..	..	8	1,820	2	250	..	..	8	1,820	..	..
Pulivendla	6	700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	7,600	..	..	..	..	23	8,300	..	..
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	5	740	4	740	4	370	1	100	5	740	4	370	1	100	..	4
Rayachóti	..	..	..	..	1	100	1	100	1	50	..	..	1	100	1	50	..	..	..	1
Vayalpad	..	..	..	..	4	800	4	800	4	500	1	Not stated.	4	800	4	500	1	Not stated.	..	4
Madanapalle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	8	950	..	..	25	3,965	25	3,965	22	2,207½	46	13,060	25	3,965	22	2,207½	54	14,010	..	15

Taluks.	Cattle and seed-grain.						Total.					
	Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	32	33	30	31	28	29	34	35	36	37	38	39
		Rs.										
Sidhout	1	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Badvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	1	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jammalamadugu	2	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rayachóti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vayalpad	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madanapalle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	4	450	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.					
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
	22	23	24	25	26	27
Sidhout	..	..	..	..	..	..
Badvel	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jammalamadugu	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rayachóti	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vayalpad	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madanapalle	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Resolution—dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The narrative read above is ancient history, not having been received till long after it was due. The Collector will be requested to see that such delays do not again occur.

3. The only portion of the district at present giving cause for anxiety is the northern section, comprising the four taluks of Cuddapah, Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. They are, for the most part, black cotton-soil taluks and contain only a small area protected by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, chiefly in the two first-mentioned taluks, and but moderate areas protected by channels and wells. Except under the canal, the water-supplies are getting short, and it is from the canal that the Kundér obtains the supply that is now flowing in it. Drinking water is said to be growing scarce in some parts. This is a matter that should receive immediate attention from the district and taluk boards, and to the improvement of the supplies thereof their funds should be directed.

4. Except for the limited extent under the canal, channels or wells, cultivation is now over for the season in the affected area, and the Board considers that, ere this, the local officers should have been able to state pretty definitely what the probable results of the later sowings will be. So far as can be gathered, in the Cuddapah taluk, the harvest will be over in a few days, and it is estimated that less than two-thirds of the area occupied by the late-sown food-crops will yield crops of 8 annas or less, and between one-third and one-fourth has failed entirely. Under channels and wells the crops are estimated at 8—12 annas. Both estimates are probably unduly sanguine. That any area of the dry crops sown after November will yield 8 annas is most improbable. The Collector was present when the Commissioner inspected *irrigated* fields near Cuddapah, on which the cholum was an entire failure, except for the straw, and the ragi was from 3 to 4 annas. If this was so with irrigated land, the prospects of the dry late crops must be extremely bad, and for the cholum crop, speaking generally, hopeless. It has failed over the whole affected tract in Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool, and the other dry crops there, such as castor, horse-gram, gingelly, bengal-gram, may, in the most favourable cases, yield from nothing to 3 or 4 annas.

In Proddatur, the crops under wells and the canal are expected to yield as much as in Cuddapah, and the cotton crop is said to be fair throughout, but the special forecast reports received from the Tahsildars show not only a considerable deficiency in area, but on the whole barely half a crop as the expected yield in any taluk of the section, whilst the yield is expected to be lower in this than the other taluks. The late-sown crop has withered or is withering, and is fast being renewed. That the cotton in Jammalamadugu yielded fairly, is as regards the tract north of Jammalamadugu, correct. This crop was well advanced before the November rains. Otherwise, in Jammalamadugu, it is clear that the only crops in fair condition are those—a very limited area—protected by irrigation; the information given as to the condition of the rest is not re-assuring, and the Board has grave doubts whether anything like half will yield an average crop as the Collector forecasts.

Taluks.	Area.		Estimated yield.
	Average.	1896-97.	
	Acs.	Acs.	As.
Cuddapah	4,226	4,957	8
Proddatur	16,553	14,812	7
Jammalamadugu ..	49,327	46,060	12
Pulivendla	16,793	11,674	8

In Pulivendla, the state of the crops is much the same. A portion may yield "some crop," but the bulk must assuredly fail, if it has not already been lost. The cotton crop in Pulivendla is estimated at from 6 to 12 annas. This is very improbable. The crop in Tadpatri adjoining is partly *nil* to 2 annas.

In this connection, the Board must observe that Mr. Tate has entirely failed to understand the drift of the remarks made in its Proceedings No. 93 of 1897. The

Board did not call for statistics, but desired to have set before it an intelligent appreciation of the relative importance and the actual condition of the crops on the ground, such as any observant officer might frame after personal inspection of the country. To the casual observer, nothing is more misleading than the existence of favoured patches of crop here and there, and this is too often shown in all the season reports that come before the Board. They show that such features have caught the eye, but the real significance thereof has been missed. The Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Narrainsami Pillai, is one of the most highly qualified officers in his grade. A distinguished mathematician, and officer of wide experience, and trained to make accurate observations. If "another officer"—the Superintendent of Police—"of some standing" differed in opinion, on a matter peculiarly within his knowledge, from him, the probability would be that the other officer was mistaken. The Superintendent of Police is not a Revenue officer; he did not visit the tract regarding which he expressed an opinion for the purpose of reporting on the crops, and probably does not possess the requisite knowledge to make his opinion valuable. In fact mere riding through a tract is useless for arriving at accurate conclusions. The crop, and ears if any, must be actually handled and examined. Even then the officer's accuracy may be open to doubt, as it would be quite possible for an officer to go through his whole service without having ever seen a bumper crop of any particular product from which to form conclusions. The irrigated cholum which the Commissioner saw at Cuddapah stood five feet high or more, and had large ears. On inspection, which should only be done by handling, these were barren. A passer-by would probably have estimated this to be a 12-anna crop, if he had never seen a bumper crop of 12 feet high or more. Mr. Tate may place full confidence in Narrainsami Pillai's previous reports, and, if he wishes to verify them, he would do well to take the Deputy Collector with him, and discuss the crop on the ground. Mr. Tate sums up the position more correctly in his report for the subsequent fortnight, just received, where he observes, regarding the northern section, "in the remaining three taluks, the late sown cholum is, on the whole, a failure. In some places, the crop may yield something, and, where it is irrigated, it will yield about an eight-anna crop. Kusuma and variga have not failed to the same extent as cholum.

5. To state that, after a drought of nearly three months' duration, "the supply of grass is diminishing" conveys to the Board the idea that the reporter is deficient in humour; whilst the reported storing up of large supplies of fodder again shows want of observation or of knowledge of the country, these stores consisting of the half-grown straw of the crops that have already failed. A comparison of these stores with those usually made at the late harvest would be instructive.

6. In a statement given below the Board summarises the latest cultivation returns for the affected taluks. They show that a large portion of the original deficiency in the area brought under crop has been made good, and that the area of second sowings has been most exceptionally large. The failure and loss to the ryots will, in the dry crops, be in the same proportion.

Taluks.	First crop.						Second crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.			Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.
	1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.	
	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.
Cuddapah	153,327	156,750	162,036	15,853	16,078	17,812	30,472	7,706	10,969	7,437	6,309	7,513
Proddatur	134,987	134,283	134,935	7,042	7,590	7,650	33,419	3,649	4,734	2,361	2,066	2,398
Jammalamadugu ..	170,492	182,635	182,821	5,581	5,627	5,879	34,324	2,930	3,359	2,575	1,612	2,002
Pulivendla	167,184	189,812	193,130	6,232	7,279	7,513	33,581	4,200	4,773	3,264	2,647	3,595
Total ..	625,990	663,480	672,922	34,708	36,574	38,854	131,796	18,485	23,835	15,637	12,664	15,508

7. Prices have not shown much change of late, but the figures reported by the Collector suggest that the manner of recording them needs investigation, the differences in the rates reported for nearly adjacent stations in the northern section showing variations which it is hard to explain, whilst the comparative cheapness of ragi at Proddatur, where it is, it is believed, an imported grain, is extraordinary. The cheapness of cholum at this station is also very noticeable, and incompatible with the reported activity of trade at Jammalamadugu.

8. No extension of the measures for the relief of the people has yet been made by the Collector, and he considers that none are urgent. He states that he and his officers are prepared for an expansion as soon as the harvest is over, but that he fears that the Public Works Department is not. Attention is at present given to the relief of the Jammalamadugu weavers, from whom already 32,520 cloths had been received at the end of the period under report. It is estimated that 7,405 weavers were then on this form of relief, but since there has been a decrease owing to a break-down of the arrangements for maintaining a proper stock of yarn. In regard to these operations, the Collector protests against the withdrawal of the special officer appointed to supervise them, and the Board considers that, seeing the large scale on which they are proceeding and the very great danger of fraud and loss of public money that must accompany such operations, a special officer of the rank and pay of the one recently sanctioned for Bellary (G.O. No. 500, dated 27th January 1897) is even more necessary in Cuddapah than in Bellary. It is also of opinion that, seeing how extensive these schemes for the relief of weavers are becoming, a specially selected officer, on the pay of a Deputy Collector, should be appointed, to go from district to district and enquire and report on the "weaver relief" operations. It is only an officer who can give his whole time to the work who can be expected to master the whole subject, and to be able to give the Collectors reliable advice in the matter.

9. As regards the extension of relief works, the Collector's proposal to start work on the Yerraguntla-Vempalle road was approved of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1289, dated 19th February 1897. His attention has already been drawn to the undesirable flocking of labourers from his district into the Tadpatri taluk, and he should take measures, not after the harvest, or after the end of March, but at once, to prevent a recurrence of this. His attention has also been drawn to other complaints indicating remissness in offering the people employment where needed, and the Board trusts that there will be no recurrence of these complaints; nor can there be if Mr. Tate appreciates his duty to the people in his charge as fully as he does that to the Government. In connection with the Collector's concluding remarks, the attention of the Chief Engineer will be drawn to the probable requirements of the district.

10. On the 15th ultimo the Collector promised to start a work near Yerraguntla in four days. The Board wishes to know if this was done.

11. Collector need not supply any further information regarding the jail population, as this is being received in accurate form from the Inspector-General of Prisons.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Cuddapah.
" Chief Engineer.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 194, Revenue, dated 24th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. A Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6, is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Financial Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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MARCH.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording the — of the Cuddapah district for the period ending 14th February 1897, and sanctioning a Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6 per mensem.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Cuddapah District for the 1st fortnight of February 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply—Eastern section.—The condition of this section gives no cause for anxiety at present. *Northern section.*—No rainfall was registered at any of the registering stations during the fortnight except 3 cents at Pulivendla. In Cuddapah taluk, the crops under canal channels and wells are in good condition. River-and-spring channels are said to be flowing, but not freely. In Proddatur taluk all the tanks are empty. The Kundér river flows knee-deep in some portions of its course and the Kurnool irrigation canal contains sufficient supply. Supply in channels and wells is diminishing. Want of drinking-water is reported to be felt in four villages, where it has to be brought from considerable distance (*vide* my last report). In Jammalamadugu taluk the water in wells and channels is going down and the supply in all the tanks except two is exhausted. Want of drinking-water is felt in some villages. The standing crops under some of the tanks are being irrigated by wells. In Pulivendla taluk almost all tanks are empty and rivers are not flowing. The Papagni river channels and some of the spring channels are flowing. The Pulivendla Vanka channels are flowing freely, but the springs are reported to be going down. Wells hold sufficient water though springs in some are said to be diminishing. In Pulivendla I found that the supply in wells was generally ample for drinking and agricultural purposes. *Southern section.*—There is no change in the agricultural prospects of the season.

Agricultural operations and conditions of the standing crops—Eastern section.—The usual operations are going on and the outturn of harvested crops is good. *Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.*—Harvesting paddy, ragi, bariga and horse-gram, baling water from wells, deepening rivers and spring channels are the agricultural operations now in progress. Paddy under Kurnool-Cuddapah canal and ragi under wells are in good condition, whereas Bengal-gram, indigo and kusuma are reported to be drooping. Cotton is still green. The harvest of the standing dry crops is estimated to be 4 to 6 annas and of those under channels and wells, 8 to 12 annas. Out of the extent of 80,115 acres representing the extent of standing crops by the end of January 1897, 36,900 acres represent the area cultivated with food crops. Out of this extent, the crop on 3,013 acres is estimated to yield a 12-anna crop and that on 14,012 acres and 5,331 acres is expected to yield an 8-anna and a 4-anna crop, respectively. The extent on which the outturn is expected to be less than 4 annas is only 3,890 acres,

while the extent on which a total failure is expected is 10,654 acres. Over 75 per cent. of the area sown with paddy, early cholum and korra has been harvested. The entire extent under cumbu has also been harvested. About 30 per cent. of the ragi crop has been reaped and the remainder is in course of being reaped. *Proddatur.*—Lands are being ploughed in some places under wells to sow korra ; paddy, cholum, ragi and bariga are being harvested. The outturn of the crops under wells is estimated to be 8 annas, whereas the yield of the crops under the canal is said to vary from 8 to 12 annas. The standing crops under wells and canal are in good condition. Cotton is in fair condition throughout. It is reported that the later sown dry crops have withered in parts and are fading in others. Bariga is said to be a general failure. The withered crop is being fast removed. The information regarding the extent of crops under wells and channels required by B.P., dated 3rd February 1897, No. 93, is not immediately available. It has been called for and will be furnished in the next fortnightly narrative. *Jammalamadugu.*—Harvesting ragi, cholum, bariga, paddy and picking cotton, watering ragi, korra and other crops and ploughing are the agricultural operations during the fortnight. The standing crops—ragi, cotton, korra, paddy, garden cholum, turmeric, tobacco—are in good condition. The late cholum, bariga, kusuma, ellagisé, Bengal-gram and other pulses in dry lands have withered in some places. Approximate area of crops faded is 45,786 acres or 22·66 per cent. of the total cultivated area and 30,000 acres are expected to fail and the remaining area may yield an average outturn. *Pulivendla.*—Harvesting ragi, cholum and garden produce and clearing channels are the chief occupations. Of the standing crops, those under wells and channels are in good condition. Dry crops, such as cholum, horse gram, bariga, Bengal-gram and korra are reported to be beginning to fade in some villages. In some places they have yielded some crop. Cholum however will probably soon fail unless there be rain. Irrigated cholum and ragi are very good to the east of the Papagni river, *i.e.*, in the Surabhu valley, fair to good to the east of Pulivendla and middling in other parts. *Southern section.*—The usual agricultural operations are carried on and the crops are said to be in good condition except castors in some villages of Ráyachóti which are said to be attacked by caterpillars.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Eastern section.—Stocks of fodder have been almost exhausted. Pasture is sufficient everywhere. The condition of cattle is good. *Northern section—Proddatur.*—The supply of grass is diminishing. Owing to recent harvests fodder is available, but there is no reduction in the price. People have been storing a large supply at high prices to meet further demands. The hill grass is being brought in by some of the people and used as fodder. It is not as nutritive as ordinary grass. These remarks apply to Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla and Cuddapah also. Cattle disease prevails in some of the villages of Jammalamadugu taluk and three are reported to have died of rinderpest in Pydipalliem of Pulivendla taluk. *Southern section—Kadiri.*—Pasture available. Fodder will last for some time more. Cattle disease is subsiding. *Ráyachóti.*—Pasture available. Fodder insufficient. Condition of cattle good. *Vayalpad and Madanapalle.*—Pasture and fodder available. Cattle are in good condition.

General remarks on the above subjects—Eastern section.—The labouring classes in Pullampet and Badvel are reported to have sufficient employment in field-work. A large number from Sidhout taluk have gone to Cuddapah taluk where paddy harvest is going on. The labour available in the fields may continue for about two months. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—Agricultural operations are going on and labourers find work in the fields and will be able to do so till about the end of February, as the harvesting under wells will continue till then. The ryots have practically given up hopes about the late sown cholum ; Bengal-gram, kusuma and bariga are expected to yield a 4-anna crop on an average. In the black cotton soil taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla, the late sown cholum is showing signs of fading. The outturn of crops under wells and channels will be good and the cotton crop in Pulivendla is said to vary from 12 to 16 annas. *Southern section.*—The state of the season in this section does not cause any room for anxiety at present.

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 14th February 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.	End of last fortnight.	End of current fortnight.
Rázampéta	8·71	..	16·50	16·50	..	..	..	..	13·05	13·05
Chitvél	9·13	9·13	16·50	16·50	15·80	15·80	..	..	14·50	14·50
Sidhout	9·07	9·07	18·97	18·97	15·67	14·85	14·95	15·67	14·85	14·85
Badvel	8·25	8·25	18·75	18·75	16·59	16·59	16·59	..	13·77	13·77
Cuddapah	8·71	8·30	18·00	18·00	14·22	14·22	..	..	12·32	12·32
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	16·50	18·15	14·00	14·00	13·20	13·20	..	..
Proddatur	10·31	10·31	18·15	18·15	16·90	16·90	15·26	15·26	16·50	16·50
Jammalamadugu	9·13	9·96	16·12	16·50	15·01	15·01	12·64	13·43	..	..
Pulivendla	9·13	9·13	15·00	15·00	14·22	14·22	12·64	12·64	..	..
Kadiri	9·13	8·71	19·50	18·00	15·80	14·22	..	..	15·22	14·50
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·54	16·50	16·50	14·22	14·22	..	..	15·80	15·80
Vayalpad	10·79	9·13	18·00	18·00	15·80	..	..	..	15·95	14·50
Madanapalle	9·96	9·96	19·50	18·75	12 64	14·22	..	..	14·50	14·50

Activity of trade—Eastern section.—It is active in Badvel and Sidhout taluks in dry staple food-grains, but dull in Pullampet. There are no imports. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—It is not so active as it was before, though the dry staple food-grains are being exported by rail. There are no imports. In Proddatur, it is dull, though in Jammalamadugu it continues active both in Taluk head-quarters and at Muddanúr. There are no imports in the three taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. *Southern section.*—Private trade is dull in Ráyachóti and Vayalpad and active in dry food-grains in Kadiri. In Madanapalle, it is active both in rice and dry staple food-grains. There are no imports in Kadiri and Ráyachóti, but rice and ragi are being imported into Madanapalle and Vayalpad.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—In Proddatur and Pulivendla the condition of the relief-workers is reported to be good and in Jammalamadugu it is fair. In the other taluks of the district no works have been opened.

(2) *In villages.*—Good.

(3) *Jail population*—

Taluks.	Current fortnight.	Corresponding period.			Average.
		1894.	1895.	1896.	
Badvel	1	..	..	..	12·6
Sidhout	4	..	..	..	4·33
Pullampet		Information not received.			..
Chitvél	3	..	..	..	4·00
Cuddapah	21	23	11	13	15·
Kamalápuram		Information not received.			..
Proddatur	4	28	8	6	The figure in column 2 is up to 10th February 1897 and in the other columns for the whole of February.
Jammalamadugu	6	24	20	28	Do. do.
Pulivendla	5	..	..	..	2·6
Kadiri	3	11	1	..	4·
Ráyachóti	3	5	8	4	6·
Vayalpad	3	Information not given.			..
Madanapalle	6	Do.			..

I regret that subordinate officers here again failed to report on this subject properly; but it may be inferred that the jail population is quite normal.

Sickness and Mortality—Eastern section.—None in Badvel taluk. Fever in a few villages in Sidhout taluk, cholera in one village—four attacks and two deaths. In Pullampet taluk cholera of a virulent type is prevalent in Rázampéta, Nandalúr, Chinna Orampod, Mylapalli and Devamachupalle. Attacks 158 and deaths 97. Fever and dysentery also prevail. *Northern section.*—Public health is good. No mortality among relief-workers. There is no case of death by starvation. Fever and small-pox prevail to a small extent in Proddatur taluk. *Southern section.*—Cholera in two villages of Vayalpad taluk. There were 7 attacks and 4 deaths. Fever is reported to prevail at Tsadum, Madanapalle taluk.

Measures of Relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	642	625	There is a decrease all round, which may be ascribed to harvesting operations being in progress.
Jammalamadugu	506	483	
Pulivendla	1,184	998	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchen and otherwise :—

Taluks.	At kitchens.		Number of looms of weavers up to last fortnight.				Probable number of persons relieved.	Up to the end of this fortnight.				Probable number of persons relieved up to the end of fortnight.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Number of looms advanced for.					Number of looms advanced for				
			Turbans, 7×7 cubits.	Turbans, 6×6 cubits.	Turbans, 5×5 cubits.	Panchalu.		Turbans, 7×7 cubits.	Turbans, 6×6 cubits.	Turbans, 5×5 cubits.	Panchalu.	
Jammalamadugu	25	37	60	819	217	317	6,006	75	888	306	341	7,405
Proddatur	47	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	47	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of cloths received—												
During the fortnight ..	..	..	241	11,164	1,358	3,612	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	16,375									
Up to the end of fortnight.	..	..	930	21,804	4,030	5,956	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	32,720									

(3) *Private charity.*—Seventy-six persons were fed in the private kitchen at Jammalamadugu and eighteen at Pulivendla. This is irrespective of the usual daily flow of private charity in villages.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Collector—Pulivendla taluk.—Pulivendla, Adimurthipalli, Yerraballi, Nallapureddipalli, Kottapalli, Brahmanapalli, Ippatla, Gondipalli, Bestuvaripalli, Velpala, Vemula, Ammayagaripalli, Alireddipalli, Vempalli, Musalreddipalli, Kothupalli, Tatimakulapalli, Thallapalli, Thiguvaluvapalli, Kondavandlapalli, Marellamadaka, Chakrayapet, Gadikovur, Surabhu, Balatimmayagaripalli, Mittumidipalli, Bodigundupalli, Vatkuri, Vandlapalli, Chinnappareddipalli, Kuppagutlapalli, Nerusupalli, Rajapalli, Kottapalli, Mahadevapalli, Kuppam, Malikavandlapalli, Komatipalli, Nakkaladinnepalle, Addalamarri, Mallapgaripalli, Yerra Bhommanapalli, Cherukampalle,

Kumarakalva. *Cuddapah taluk.*—Diguva Tavvapalli, Nandimandalam, Nummayagaripalli, Chintlapalli, Pendlimarri, Srinivasapuram, Ramapuram, Vellatur, Ramarajapalli. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Katineni-Erragudi.

Deputy Collector—Cuddapah division.—Gonamakulapalli, Palagiri, Maillacheruvu, Indukur, Peddanapod, Kodur, Yerraguntla, Chinna Chorek, Ukkayapalli, Kopparthi, Tadigotta, Ramapuram, Velatur, Pendlimarri, Cheemalapenta, Gondipalli, Nandimandalam, Tengedupalli, Utukur, Buggalapalle, Buggalitipalli, Rudrayagaripalli, Chinnakampalli, Chintakommadinne, Viswanathapuram.

Deputy Collector—Sidhout division—Tudur, Akutotapalli, Atlur, Varikunta, Virur, Cherlopalle, Adiruvadipalli, Jaffir Sahebpalle, Jonnavaram, Tsontapalli, Chintala-Vandlapalli, Vontimitta, Gangaperur, Pennaperur, Darjepalli, Mukkemdapuram.

Sub-Collector—Kadiri taluk.—Tanakal, Puliguntapalli, Morlapalli, Tanalam, Kotapet, Kotivaripalli and Kadiri. *Madanapalle.*—Kurubalakota and Angallu. *Vayalpad.*—Gurramkonda. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Kesapuram, Chinnamandeni, Rayachoti, Abbavaram, Veeraballi, Malapalli, Mutli.

Special Deputy Collector on Famine duty—Jammalamadugu division.—Muddanur, Chitivitichintla, Vemuguntapalle, Dedukulanarayanapalli, Kusnapalli, Kutusanikothapalli, Kothapalli, Lakshmireddipalli, Timmapuram, Sunnapurallapalli, Nalaballi, Chinnareddipalli, Yamavaram, Bondalakunta, Ummareddipalli, Chinna Dudyala, Chinnakunta, Mangapatnam, Koduvandlapalli, Settivaripalli, Kammavaripalli, Korapod, Diguva Brahmanapalli, Gandlur, Abannapet, Sidduramapuram, Kondapuram, Anantapuram, Timmapuram, Lavanur, Chennamanenipalli, Lingamanenipalli, Yetur, Penujuvi, Regadupalli, Talla Proddatur, Bakkupatnam, Dathapuram, Yerragudi, Nemalladinne, Sukkapalle, Kodur, Proddatur.

General Remarks.

Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.—The harvest of the standing dry crops and ragi under wells will be about over by the end of the current month. Instructions were issued to the Executive Engineer to provide for adequate supervision to start the work of Nallakunta of Tippalur-Sunkesala in Cuddapah taluk as a test work. Orders of the Board were also solicited in this office Ref. No. C. 70-Tour, dated 11th February 1897, to start the repair of road from Yerraguntla to Vempalle as a test work in Cuddapah taluk under the Famine Code conditions. The road in question runs through the tract of country where the fate of the late sown cholum is doubtful and where the low class labourers are supposed to be in need of employment. The sanction of the District Board was obtained for its execution and the work is estimated for at Rs. 17,680.

Proddatur.—In Proddatur, the repair of Ramesvaram channel and the construction of the railway feeder road from Kalamalla to Sankarapuram are proposed to be taken up. An estimate is ready for the road work. The estimate for Ramesvaram channel has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer by the Board (*vide* B.P., Mis. No. 534, dated 26th January 1897), for provision of the required funds. Steps will be taken to open both works as soon as possible. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu, more works may be required after the present harvest season is over, a period which ranges from fifteen days to one month and a half. The relief to weavers in Proddatur, Pulivendla and Cuddapah does not seem to be required at present. The weavers are reported to have a fair amount of work with the advances which they are continuing to receive from local merchants. In Ramesvaram of Proddatur taluk, about 29 looms are reported to be without work; but I propose to take no action until I inspect the places, which I will do very shortly. Meanwhile, the Tahsildar and Deputy Collector are maturing proposals for their relief, so that action may be taken in time when necessity arises. According to the recent instructions of the Board, the supervision of the weavers' relief scheme at Jammalamadugu was transferred from the Special Famine Deputy Collector to enable him to freely move about to inspect the condition of crops, &c., in the division and instructions were issued by me to the Divisional Officer (M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau) to supervise the relief in question. I do

not think that M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau will be able to cope with this work, considering that he has to be on tour and to do jamabandi of two taluks. It is represented that a special officer for the weavers' scheme itself will be required shortly: but I defer making any proposals until I visit Jammalamadugu again. The Special Deputy Collector reports that in the village of Talla Proddatur, the Village Magistrate got for weavers in his village, advances of Government yarn for more looms than were actually at work and that some of the weavers let out the looms to be worked for profit. Steps will be taken to prevent such occurrences. The abolition of the post of Circle Inspector is reported to be causing much inconvenience in working the scheme. The Deputy Tahsildar appointed to relieve the Tahsildar of his ordinary duties and who has been put in immediate charge of the scheme is not able to be always present, as he has to discharge the ordinary duties of the Tahsildar. He cannot afford time to carefully watch and prevent the commission of fraud by the subordinate establishment of appraisers, paymaster and storekeeper. Constant supervision over these men is absolutely necessary to get them to work properly all through the day; and the absence of a supervising manager on the spot is reported to be much felt. I request therefore that the sanction for the appointment of the Circle Inspector which was cancelled by Government may be revived. Considering the large interests involved, I request early orders. *Southern section.*—The Sub-Collector reports that there is no necessity for the opening of relief operations in Ráyachóti and Madanapalle. In Kadiri, the poorer ryots are likely to suffer about a month hence. In Vayalpad, the expansion of minor irrigation and repair of roads by the Local Fund Engineering establishment will afford sufficient labour for the cooly classes for some months to come.

Personal explanation.—The unfavourable remarks made by the Board as to my touring in its review of my narrative for the first fifteen days in January having been followed by further remarks unfavorably criticising my narrative for the second half of January, I think that it is due to myself to place on record the following:—

I returned to duty on 6th January having been absent on privilege leave to Europe from 2nd October. When I left India, the north-east monsoon was not due and the entire anxieties and responsibilities in connection with the failure of the October rains fell to the lot of my *locum tenens*, Mr. A. T. Forbes. After rejoining on 6th January, I had to study the voluminous records of three months very anxious time in the district, as well as make myself acquainted with the Famine Code, which had not been issued before I went away, and which I was unable to obtain at the India Office while on leave, although I endeavoured to obtain it. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary that I should remain some days at head-quarters after rejoining. I intended going out on 12th or 13th January to Jammalamadugu, but before starting heard from the Conservator of Forests to the effect that he would reach Cuddapah on a tour of inspection on 15th January. Considering the great importance of forest matters in the Cuddapah district and the fact that I had not seen the Conservator for a year, I respectfully consider that I acted discreetly in postponing leaving my head-quarters until after the Conservator's arrival. I have been continuously touring in the portion of the district reported to be most curiously affected by adverse season from 18th January until 14th instant, on which date, I cut my tour short in order to meet the Famine Commissioner at Cuddapah. As regards my narrative for the second half of January in which I showed that I had carefully examined a large extent of the tract reported to be affected, I am found fault with for furnishing no statistics and for giving vague information. I beg respectfully to represent that the narrative in question chiefly differs from its predecessors, which the Board unfavourably comments in the fact that it gives a more hopeful and sanguine estimate of the agricultural prospects. In the nature of things, it had to be based in the main upon the reports of subordinates, and in the absence of statistics furnished by them, it was *ex-necessitate* to a corresponding degree devoid of statistics, and was to a very large extent a mere resumé of their reports like its predecessors. I am glad to state that I was able, in consequence of my personal inspections to afford some information leading to the inference that their reports were not quite accurate and were unnecessarily gloomy. [In this connection, I wish to emphasize that in my comments upon Deputy Collector M.R.Ry. Narrainsami

Pillai's report, I had not the slightest intention to question honesty of purpose or good faith, but merely wished to record for the information of the Board and Government, facts that had come under my personal observation and that of another officer of some standing and which seemed to indicate either that his (Narrainsami Pillai's) observation was not acute or else that language used by him was too general and his *opinion* such as could be gathered from his language was open to question.] The fortnightly narratives should depict as accurately as possible the facts of the fortnight. I am entirely in agreement with other officers in the district that when harvest operations are over in March, it is to be expected that there will be a considerable increase of workers on relief works. We are quite prepared for such a contingency if the Public Works Department Officers have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness. I fear that there will be some difficulty about their subordinate staff, and consider that early arrangements should be made to have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.								Other purposes.								Total.								Number of wells.	
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.				Constructed or re-paired.	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.				
Sidhout	1	200	1	200									1	150			1	150	1	200						1
Badvel	1	200	1	100									1				1	200	1	100						1
Cuddapah					15	2,690								100							15	2,690				4
Proddatur	11	1,675	11	987½	5	950							1				11	1,675	11	987½	5	950				
Jammalamadugu	2	250			8	1,820								100			2	250			8	1,820				4
Pulivendla					23	8,300															23	8,300				1
Kadiri	6	740	4	370	1	100								700			6	740	4	370	1	100				4
Rayachóti	1	100	1	50													1	100	1	50						1
Vayalpad	4	800	4	600	1	Not stated.											4	800	4	600	1	Not stated.				4
Madanapalle																										
Total	25	3,965	22	2,207½	46	13,060							1	950			25	3,965	22	2,207½	54	14,010			15	21

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.							
Cuttack											1	100						
Nellore																		
Kurnool											2	200						
Anantapur											1	150						
Cuddapah																		
Chittoor																		
Total											4	450						

Resolution—dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The narrative read above is ancient history, not having been received till long after it was due. The Collector will be requested to see that such delays do not again occur.

3. The only portion of the district at present giving cause for anxiety is the northern section, comprising the four taluks of Cuddapah, Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. They are, for the most part, black cotton-soil taluks and contain only a small area protected by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, chiefly in the two first-mentioned taluks, and but moderate areas protected by channels and wells. Except under the canal, the water-supplies are getting short, and it is from the canal that the Kundér obtains the supply that is now flowing in it. Drinking water is said to be growing scarce in some parts. This is a matter that should receive immediate attention from the district and taluk boards, and to the improvement of the supplies thereof their funds should be directed.

4. Except for the limited extent under the canal, channels or wells, cultivation is now over for the season in the affected area, and the Board considers that, ere this, the local officers should have been able to state pretty definitely what the probable results of the later sowings will be. So far as can be gathered, in the Cuddapah taluk, the harvest will be over in a few days, and it is estimated that less than two-thirds of the area occupied by the late-sown food-crops will yield crops of 8 annas or less, and between one-third and one-fourth has failed entirely. Under channels and wells the crops are estimated at 8—12 annas. Both estimates are probably unduly sanguine. That any area of the dry crops sown after November will yield 8 annas is most improbable. The Collector was present when the Commissioner inspected *irrigated* fields near Cuddapah, on which the cholum was an entire failure, except for the straw, and the ragi was from 3 to 4 annas. If this was so with irrigated land, the prospects of the dry late crops must be extremely bad, and for the cholum crop, speaking generally, hopeless. It has failed over the whole affected tract in Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool, and the other dry crops there, such as castor, horse-gram, gingelly, bengal-gram, may, in the most favourable cases, yield from nothing to 3 or 4 annas.

In Proddatur, the crops under wells and the canal are expected to yield as much as in Cuddapah, and the cotton crop is said to be fair throughout, but the special forecast reports received from the Tahsildars show not only a considerable deficiency in area, but on the whole barely half a crop as the expected yield in any taluk of the section, whilst the yield is expected to be lower in this than the other taluks. The late-sown crop has withered or is withering, and is fast being renewed. That the cotton in Jammalamadugu yielded fairly, is as regards the tract north of Jammalamadugu, correct. This crop was well advanced before the November rains. Otherwise, in Jammalamadugu, it is clear that the only crops in fair condition are those—a very limited area—protected by irrigation; the information given as to the condition of the rest is not re-assuring, and the Board has grave doubts whether anything like half will yield an average crop as the Collector forecasts.

Taluks.	Area.		Estimated yield.
	Average.	1896-97.	
	Acs.	Acs.	As.
Cuddapah	4,226	4,957	8
Proddatur	16,553	14,812	7
Jammalamadugu ..	49,327	46,060	12
Pulivendla	16,793	11,674	8

In Pulivendla, the state of the crops is much the same. A portion may yield "some crop," but the bulk must assuredly fail, if it has not already been lost. The cotton crop in Pulivendla is estimated at from 6 to 12 annas. This is very improbable. The crop in Tadpatri adjoining is partly *nil* to 2 annas.

In this connection, the Board must observe that Mr. Tate has entirely failed to grasp the drift of the remarks made in its Proceedings No. 93 of 1897. The Board did not call for statistics, but desired to have set before it an intelligent appreciation of the relative importance and the actual condition of the crops on the ground, such as any observant officer might frame after personal inspection of the country. To the casual observer, nothing is more misleading than the existence of favoured patches of crop here and there, and this is too often shown in all the season reports that come before the Board. They show that such features have caught the eye, but the real significance thereof has been missed. The Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Narrainsami Pillai, is one of the most highly qualified officers in his grade. A distinguished mathematician, and officer of wide experience, and trained to make accurate observations. If "another officer"—the Superintendent of Police—"of some standing" differed in opinion, on a matter peculiarly within his knowledge, from him, the probability would be that the other officer was mistaken. The Superintendent of Police is not a Revenue officer; he did not visit the tract regarding which he expressed an opinion for the purpose of reporting on the crops, and probably does not possess the requisite knowledge to make his opinion valuable. In fact mere riding through a tract is useless for arriving at accurate conclusions. The crop, and ears if any, must be actually handled and examined. Even then the officer's accuracy may be open to doubt, as it would be quite possible for an officer to go through his whole service without having ever seen a bumper crop of any particular product from which to form conclusions. The irrigated cholum which the Commissioner saw at Cuddapah stood five feet high or more, and had large ears. On inspection, which should only be done by handling, these were barren. A passer-by would probably have estimated this to be a 12-anna crop, if he had never seen a bumper crop of 12 feet high or more. Mr. Tate may place full confidence in Narrainsami Pillai's previous reports, and, if he wishes to verify them, he would do well to take the Deputy Collector with him, and discuss the crop on the ground. Mr. Tate sums up the position more correctly in his report for the subsequent fortnight, just received, where he observes, regarding the northern section, "in the remaining three taluks, the late sown cholum is, on the whole, a failure. In some places, the crop may yield something, and, where it is irrigated, it will yield about an eight-anna crop. Kusuma and variga have not failed to the same extent as cholum.

5. To state that, after a drought of nearly three months' duration, "the supply of grass is diminishing" conveys to the Board the idea that the reporter is deficient in humour; whilst the reported storing up of large supplies of fodder again shows want of observation or of knowledge of the country, these stores consisting of the half-grown straw of the crops that have already failed. A comparison of these stores with those usually made at the late harvest would be instructive.

6. In a statement given below the Board summarises the latest cultivation returns for the affected taluks. They show that a large portion of the original deficiency in the area brought under crop has been made good, and that the area of second sowings has been most exceptionally large. The failure and loss to the ryots will, in the dry crops, be in the same proportion.

Taluks.	First crop.						Second crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.			Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.
	1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.	
	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.	Acs.
Cuddapah	153,327	156,750	162,036	15,853	16,078	17,812	30,472	7,706	10,969	7,437	6,309	7,513
Proddatur	134,987	134,283	134,935	7,042	7,590	7,650	33,419	3,649	4,734	2,361	2,096	2,398
Jammalamadugu	170,492	182,635	182,821	5,581	5,627	5,879	34,324	2,930	3,359	2,575	1,612	2,002
Pulivendla	167,184	189,812	193,130	6,232	7,279	7,513	33,581	4,200	4,773	3,264	2,647	3,595
Total ..	625,990	663,480	672,922	34,708	36,574	38,854	131,796	18,485	23,835	15,637	12,664	

7. Prices have not shown much change of late, but the figures reported by the Collector suggest that the manner of recording them needs investigation, the differences in the rates reported for nearly adjacent stations in the northern section showing variations which it is hard to explain, whilst the comparative cheapness of ragi at Proddatur, where it is, it is believed, an imported grain, is extraordinary. The cheapness of cholum at this station is also very noticeable, and incompatible with the reported activity of trade at Jammalamadugu.

8. No extension of the measures for the relief of the people has yet been made by the Collector, and he considers that none are urgent. He states that he and his officers are prepared for an expansion as soon as the harvest is over, but that he fears that the Public Works Department is not. Attention is at present given to the relief of the Jammalamadugu weavers, from whom already 32,520 cloths had been received at the end of the period under report. It is estimated that 7,405 weavers were then on this form of relief, but since there has been a decrease owing to a break-down of the arrangements for maintaining a proper stock of yarn. In regard to these operations, the Collector protests against the withdrawal of the special officer appointed to supervise them, and the Board considers that, seeing the large scale on which they are proceeding and the very great danger of fraud and loss of public money that must accompany such operations, a special officer of the rank and pay of the one recently sanctioned for Bellary (G.O. No. 500, dated 27th January 1897) is even more necessary in Cuddapah than in Bellary. It is also of opinion that, seeing how extensive these schemes for the relief of weavers are becoming, a specially selected officer, on the pay of a Deputy Collector, should be appointed, to go from district to district and enquire and report on the "weaver relief" operations. It is only an officer who can give his whole time to the work who can be expected to master the whole subject, and to be able to give the Collectors reliable advice in the matter.

9. As regards the extension of relief works, the Collector's proposal to start work on the Yerraguntla-Vempalle road was approved of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1289, dated 19th February 1897. His attention has already been drawn to the undesirable flocking of labourers from his district into the Tadpatri taluk, and he should take measures, not after the harvest, or after the end of March, but at once, to prevent a recurrence of this. His attention has also been drawn to other complaints indicating remissness in offering the people employment where needed, and the Board trusts that there will be no recurrence of these complaints; nor can there be if Mr. Tate appreciates his duty to the people in his charge as fully as he does that to the Government. In connection with the Collector's concluding remarks, the attention of the Chief Engineer will be drawn to the probable requirements of the district.

10. On the 15th ultimo the Collector promised to start a work near Yerraguntla in four days. The Board wishes to know if this was done.

11. Collector need not supply any further information regarding the jail population, as this is being received in accurate form from the Inspector-General of Prisons.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Cuddapah.
" Chief Engineer.
" the Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 194, Revenue, date 24th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. A Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6, is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Financial Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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REVENUE.

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G.O., No. 194, 24th March 1897.

MARCH.

Fortnightly Narrative.

Recording the — of the Cuddapah district for the period ending 14th February 1897, and sanctioning a Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6 per mensem.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184 :—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative of the Cuddapah District for the 1st fortnight of February 1897 :—

State of the Country.

Rainfall and water-supply—Eastern section.—The condition of this section gives no cause for anxiety at present. *Northern section.*—No rainfall was registered at any of the registering stations during the fortnight except 3 cents at Pulivendla. In Cuddapah taluk, the crops under canal channels and wells are in good condition. River-and-spring channels are said to be flowing, but not freely. In Proddatur taluk all the tanks are empty. The Kundér river flows knee-deep in some portions of its course and the Kurnool irrigation canal contains sufficient supply. Supply in channels and wells is diminishing. Want of drinking-water is reported to be felt in four villages, where it has to be brought from considerable distance (*vide* my last report). In Jammalamadugu taluk the water in wells and channels is going down and the supply in all the tanks except two is exhausted. Want of drinking-water is felt in some villages. The standing crops under some of the tanks are being irrigated by wells. In Pulivendla taluk almost all tanks are empty and rivers are not flowing. The Papagni river channels and some of the spring channels are flowing. The Pulivendla Vanka channels are flowing freely, but the springs are reported to be going down. Wells hold sufficient water though springs in some are said to be diminishing. In Pulivendla I found that the supply in wells was generally ample for drinking and agricultural purposes. *Southern section.*—There is no change in the agricultural prospects of the season.

Agricultural operations and conditions of the standing crops—Eastern section.—The usual operations are going on and the outturn of harvested crops is good. *Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.*—Harvesting paddy, ragi, bariga and horse-gram, baling water from wells, deepening rivers and spring channels are the agricultural operations now in progress. Paddy under Kurnool-Cuddapah canal and ragi under wells are in good condition, whereas Bengal-gram, indigo and kusuma are reported to be drooping. Cotton is still green. The harvest of the standing dry crops is estimated to be 4 to 6 annas and of those under channels and wells, 8 to 12 annas. Out of the extent of 80,115 acres representing the extent of standing crops by the end of January 1897, 36,900 acres represent the area cultivated with food crops. Out of this extent, the crop on 3,013 acres is estimated to yield a 12-anna crop and that on 14,012 acres and 5,331 acres is expected to yield an 8-anna and a 4-anna crop, respectively. The extent on which the outturn is expected to be less than 4 annas is only 3,890 acres, while the extent on which a total failure is expected is 10,654 acres. Over 75 per cent. of the area sown with paddy, early cholum and korra has been harvested. The entire extent under cumbu has also been harvested. About 30 per cent. of the ragi crop has been reaped and the remainder is in course of being reaped. *Proddatur.*—Lands are being ploughed in some places under wells to sow korra ; paddy, cholum, ragi and bariga are being harvested. The outturn of the crops under wells is estimated to be 8 annas, whereas the yield of the crops under the canal is said to vary from 8 to 12 annas. The standing crops under wells and canal are in good condition. Cotton is in fair condition throughout. It is reported that the later sown dry crops have withered in parts and are fading in others. Bariga is said to be a general failure. The withered crop is being fast removed. The information regarding the extent of crops under wells and channels required by B.P., dated 3rd February 1897, No. 93, is not immediately available. It has been called for and will be furnished in the next fortnightly narrative. *Jammalamadugu.*—Harvesting ragi, cholum, bariga, paddy and picking cotton, watering ragi, korra and other crops and ploughing are the agricultural operations during the fortnight. The standing crops—ragi, cotton, korra, paddy, garden cholum, turmeric, tobacco—are in good condition. The late cholum, bariga, kusuma, ellagisé, Bengal-gram and other pulses in dry lands have withered in some places. Approximate area of crops faded is 45,786 acres or 22·66 per cent. of the total cultivated area and 30,000 acres are expected to fail and the remaining area may yield an average outturn. *Pulivendla.*—Harvesting ragi, cholum and garden produce and clearing channels are the chief occupations. Of the standing crops, those under wells and channels are in good condition. Dry crops, such as cholum, horse gram, bariga, Bengal-gram and korra are reported to be beginning to fade in some villages. In some places they have yielded some crop. Cholum however will probably soon fail unless there be rain. Irrigated cholum and ragi are very good to the east of the Papagni river, *i.e.*, in the Surabhu valley, fair to good to the east of Pulivendla and middling in other parts. *Southern section.*—The usual agricultural operations are carried on and the crops are said to be in good condition except castors in some villages of Ráyachóti which are said to be attacked by caterpillars.

Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle—Eastern section.—Stocks of fodder have been almost exhausted. Pasture is sufficient everywhere. The condition of cattle is good. *Northern section—Proddatur.*—The supply of grass is diminishing. Owing to recent harvests fodder is available, but there is no reduction in the price. People have been storing a large supply at high prices to meet further demands. The hill grass is being brought in by some of the people and used as fodder. It is not as nutritive as ordinary grass. These remarks apply to Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla and Cuddapah also. Cattle disease prevails in some of the villages of Jammalamadugu taluk and three are reported to have died of rinderpest in Pydipalliem of Pulivendla taluk. *Southern section—Kadiri.*—Pasture available. Fodder will last for some time more. Cattle disease is subsiding. *Ráyachóti.*—Pasture available. Fodder insufficient. Condition of cattle good. *Vayalpad and Madanapalle.*—Pasture and fodder available. Cattle are in good condition.

General remarks on the above subjects—Eastern section.—The labouring classes in Pullampet and Badvel are reported to have sufficient employment in field-work. A large number from Sidhout taluk have gone to Cuddapah taluk where paddy harvest is going on. The labour available in the fields may continue for about two months. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—Agricultural operations are going on and labourers find work in the fields and will be able to do so till about the end of February, as the harvesting under wells will continue till then. The ryots have practically given up hopes about the late sown cholum ; Bengal-gram, kusuma and bariga are expected to yield a 4-anna crop on an average. In the black cotton soil taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla, the late sown cholum is showing signs of fading. The outturn of crops under wells and channels will be good and the cotton crop in Pulivendla is said to vary from 12 to 16 annas. *Southern section.*—The state of the season in this section does not cause any room for anxiety at present.

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 14th February 1897.

Stations.	Rice.		Ragi.		White cholum.		Yellow cholum.		Cumbu.	
	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.	End of last fort-night.	End of current fort-night.
Rázampéta	8·71	..	16·50	16·50	..	..	..	..	13·05	13·05
Chitvél	9·13	9·13	16·50	16·50	15·80	15·80	..	..	14·50	14·50
Sidhout	9·07	9·07	18·97	18·97	15·67	14·85	14·95	15·67	14·85	14·85
Badvel	8·25	8·25	18·75	18·75	16·59	16·59	16·59	..	13·77	13·77
Cuddapah	8·71	8·30	18·00	18·00	14·22	14·22	..	..	12·32	12·32
Kamalápuram	9·07	9·07	16·50	18·15	14·00	14·00	13·20	13·20	..	..
Proddatur	10·31	10·31	18·15	18·15	16·90	16·90	15·26	15·26	16·50	16·50
Jammalamadugu	9·13	9·96	16·12	16·50	15·01	15·01	12·64	13·43	..	..
Pulivendla	9·13	9·13	15·00	15·00	14·22	14·22	12·64	12·64	..	..
Kadiri	9·13	8·71	19·50	18·00	15·80	14·22	..	..	15·22	14·50
Ráyachóti	9·54	9·54	16·50	16·50	14·22	14·22	..	..	15·80	15·80
Vayalpad	10·79	9·13	18·00	18·00	15·80	..	..	..	15·95	14·50
Madanapalle	9·96	9·96	19·50	18·75	12 64	14·22	..	..	14·50	14·50

Activity of trade—Eastern section.—It is active in Badvel and Sidhout taluks in dry staple food-grains, but dull in Pullampet. There are no imports. *Northern section—Cuddapah.*—It is not so active as it was before, though the dry staple food-grains are being exported by rail. There are no imports. In Proddatur, it is dull, though in Jammalamadugu it continues active both in Taluk head-quarters and at Muddanúr. There are no imports in the three taluks of Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. *Southern section.*—Private trade is dull in Ráyachóti and Vayalpad and active in dry food-grains in Kadiri. In Madanapalle, it is active both in rice and dry staple food-grains. There are no imports in Kadiri and Ráyachóti, but rice and ragi are being imported into Madanapalle and Vayalpad.

Condition of the people.

(1) *On works.*—In Proddatur and Pulivendla the condition of the relief-workers is reported to be good and in Jammalamadugu it is fair. In the other taluks of the district no works have been opened.

(2) *In villages.*—Good.

(3) *Jail population*—

Taluks.	Current fortnight.	Corresponding period.			Average.
		1894.	1895.	1896.	
Badvel	1	..	..	..	12·6
Sidhout	4	..	..	..	4·33
Pullampet	Information not received.				..
Chitvél	3	..	..	..	4·00
Cuddapah	21	23	11	13	15·
Kamalápuram	Information not received.				..
Proddatur	4	28	8	6	The figure in column 2 is up to 10th February 1897 and in the other columns for the whole of February.
Jammalamadugu	6	24	20	28	Do. do.
Pulivendla	5	..	..	..	2·6
Kadiri	3	11	1	..	4·
Ráyachóti	3	5	8	4	6·
Vayalpad	Information not given.				..
Madanapalle	Do.				..

I regret that subordinate officers here again failed to report on this subject properly; but it may be inferred that the jail population is quite normal.

Sickness and Mortality—Eastern section.—None in Badvel taluk. Fever in a few villages in Sidhout taluk, cholera in one village—four attacks and two deaths. In Pullampet taluk cholera of a virulent type is prevalent in Rázampéta, Nandalúr, Chinna Orampod, Mylapalli and Devamachupalle. Attacks 158 and deaths 97. Fever and dysentery also prevail. *Northern section.*—Public health is good. No mortality among relief-workers. There is no case of death by starvation. Fever and small-pox prevail to a small extent in Proddatur taluk. *Southern section.*—Cholera in two villages of Vayalpad taluk. There were 7 attacks and 4 deaths. Fever is reported to prevail at Tsadum, Madanapalle taluk.

Measures of Relief.

(1) *On works.*—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers :—

Taluks.	Number employed.		Remarks.
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	
Proddatur	642	625	There is a decrease all round, which may be ascribed to harvesting operations being in progress.
Jammalamadugu	506	483	
Pulivendla	1,184	998	

(2) *Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchen and otherwise :—

Taluks.	At kitchens.		Number of looms of weavers up to last fortnight.					Up to the end of this fortnight.				
			Number of looms advanced for.					Number of looms advanced for				
	Last fortnight.	This fortnight.	Turbans, 7×7 cubits.	Turbans, 6×6 cubits.	Turbans, 5×5 cubits.	Panchalu.	Probable number of persons relieved.	Turbans, 7×7 cubits.	Turbans, 6×6 cubits.	Turbans, 5×5 cubits.	Panchalu.	Probable number of persons relieved up to the end of fortnight.
Jammalamadugu	25	37	60	819	217	317	6,006	75	888	306	341	7,405
Proddatur	47	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	47	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Number of cloths received—												
During the fortnight ..	..	..	241	11,164	1,358	3,612	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	16,375				..	..	..	..	..	..
Up to the end of fortnight.	..	..	930	21,804	4,030	5,956	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	32,720									

(3) *Private charity.*—Seventy-six persons were fed in the private kitchen at Jammalamadugu and eighteen at Pulivendla. This is irrespective of the usual daily flow of private charity in villages.

Inspections—Taluks and places visited.

Collector—Pulivendla taluk.—Pulivendla, Adimurthipalli, Yerraballi, Nallapureddipalli, Kottapalli, Brahmanapalli, Ippatla, Gondipalli, Bestuvaripalli, Velpala, Vemula, Ammayagaripalli, Alireddipalli, Vempalli, Musalreddipalli, Kothupalli, Tatimakulapalli, Thallapalli, Thiguvaluvapalli, Kondavandlapalli, Marellamadaka, Chakrayapet, Gadikovur, Surabhu, Balatimmayagaripalli, Mittumidipalli, Bodigundupalli, Vatkuri, Vandlapalli, Chinnappareddipalli, Kuppagutlapalli, Nerusupalli, Rajapalli, Kottapalli, Mahadevapalli, Kuppam, Malikavandlapalli, Komatipalli, Nakkaladinnepalle, Addalamarri, Mallapgaripalli, Yerra Bhommanapalli, Cherukampalle,

Kumarakalva. *Cuddapah taluk.*—Diguva Tavvapalli, Nandimandalam, Nummayagaripalli, Chintlapalli, Pendlimarri, Srinivasapuram, Ramapuram, Vellatur, Ramarajapalli. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Katineni-Erragudi.

Deputy Collector—Cuddapah division.—Gonamakulapalli, Palagiri, Maillacheruvu, Indukur, Peddanapod, Kodur, Yerraguntla, Chinna Chorek, Ukkayapalli, Kopparthi, Tadigotta, Ramapuram, Velatur, Pendlimarri, Cheemalapenta, Gondipalli, Nandimandalam, Tengedupalli, Utukur, Buggalapalle, Buggalitipalli, Rudrayagaripalli, Chinnakampalli, Chintakommadinne, Viswanathapuram.

Deputy Collector—Sidhout division—Tudur, Akutotapalli, Atlur, Varikunta, Virur, Cherlopalle, Adiruvadipalli, Jaffir Sahebpalle, Jonnavaram, Tsontapalli, Chintala-Vandlapalli, Vontimitta, Gangaperur, Pennaperur, Darjepalli, Mukkemdapuram.

Sub-Collector—Kadiri taluk.—Tanakal, Puliguntapalli, Morlapalli, Tanalam, Kotapet, Kotivaripalli and Kadiri. *Madanapalle.*—Kurubalakota and Angallu. *Vayalpad.*—Gurramkonda. *Ráyachóti taluk.*—Kesapuram, Chinnamandeni, Rayachoti, Abbavaram, Veeraballi, Malapalli, Mutli.

Special Deputy Collector on Famine duty—Jammalamadugu division.—Muddanur, Chitivitichintla, Vemuguntapalle, Dedukulanarayanapalli, Kusnapalli, Kutusanikothapalli, Kothapalli, Lakshmireddipalli, Timmapuram, Sunnapurallapalli, Nalaballi, Chinnareddipalli, Yamavaram, Bondalakunta, Ummareddipalli, Chinna Dudyala, Chinnakunta, Mangapatnam, Koduvandlapalli, Settivaripalli, Kammavaripalli, Korapod, Diguva Brahmanapalli, Gandlur, Abannapet, Sidduramapuram, Kondapuram, Anantapuram, Timmapuram, Lavanur, Chennamanenipalli, Lingamanenipalli, Yetur, Penujuvi, Regadupalli, Talla Proddatur, Bakkupatnam, Dathapuram, Yerragudi, Nemalladinne, Sukkapalle, Kodur, Proddatur.

General Remarks.

Eastern section.—Nil.

Northern section—Cuddapah taluk.—The harvest of the standing dry crops and ragi under wells will be about over by the end of the current month. Instructions were issued to the Executive Engineer to provide for adequate supervision to start the work of Nallakunta of Tippalur-Sunkesala in Cuddapah taluk as a test work. Orders of the Board were also solicited in this office Ref. No. C. 70-Tour, dated 11th February 1897, to start the repair of road from Yerraguntla to Vempalle as a test work in Cuddapah taluk under the Famine Code conditions. The road in question runs through the tract of country where the fate of the late sown cholum is doubtful and where the low class labourers are supposed to be in need of employment. The sanction of the District Board was obtained for its execution and the work is estimated for at Rs. 17,680.

Proddatur.—In Proddatur, the repair of Ramesvaram channel and the construction of the railway feeder road from Kalamalla to Sankarapuram are proposed to be taken up. An estimate is ready for the road work. The estimate for Ramesvaram channel has been forwarded to the Chief Engineer by the Board (*vide* B.P., Mis. No. 534, dated 26th January 1897), for provision of the required funds. Steps will be taken to open both works as soon as possible. In Pulivendla and Jammalamadugu, more works may be required after the present harvest season is over, a period which ranges from fifteen days to one month and a half. The relief to weavers in Proddatur, Pulivendla and Cuddapah does not seem to be required at present. The weavers are reported to have a fair amount of work with the advances which they are continuing to receive from local merchants. In Ramesvaram of Proddatur taluk, about 29 looms are reported to be without work; but I propose to take no action until I inspect the places, which I will do very shortly. Meanwhile, the Tahsildar and Deputy Collector are maturing proposals for their relief, so that action may be taken in time when necessity arises. According to the recent instructions of the Board, the supervision of the weavers' relief scheme at Jammalamadugu was transferred from the Special Famine Deputy Collector to enable him to freely move about to inspect the condition of crops, &c., in the division and instructions were issued by me to the Divisional Officer (M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau) to supervise the relief in question. I do

not think that M.R.Ry. T. Ranga Rau will be able to cope with this work, considering that he has to be on tour and to do jamabandi of two taluks. It is represented that a special officer for the weavers' scheme itself will be required shortly: but I defer making any proposals until I visit Jammalamadugu again. The Special Deputy Collector or reports that in the village of Talla Proddatur, the Village Magistrate got for weavers in his village, advances of Government yarn for more looms than were actually at work and that some of the weavers let out the looms to be worked for profit. Steps will be taken to prevent such occurrences. The abolition of the post of Circle Inspector is reported to be causing much inconvenience in working the scheme. The Deputy Tahsildar appointed to relieve the Tahsildar of his ordinary duties and who has been put in immediate charge of the scheme is not able to be always present, as he has to discharge the ordinary duties of the Tahsildar. He cannot afford time to carefully watch and prevent the commission of fraud by the subordinate establishment of appraisers, paymaster and storekeeper. Constant supervision over these men is absolutely necessary to get them to work properly all through the day; and the absence of a supervising manager on the spot is reported to be much felt. I request therefore that the sanction for the appointment of the Circle Inspector which was cancelled by Government may be revived. Considering the large interests involved, I request early orders. *Southern section.*—The Sub-Collector reports that there is no necessity for the opening of relief operations in Ráyachóti and Madanapalle. In Kadiri, the poorer ryots are likely to suffer about a month hence. In Vayalpad, the expansion of minor irrigation and repair of roads by the Local Fund Engineering establishment will afford sufficient labour for the cooly classes for some months to come.

Personal explanation.—The unfavourable remarks made by the Board as to my touring in its review of my narrative for the first fifteen days in January having been followed by further remarks unfavorably criticising my narrative for the second half of January, I think that it is due to myself to place on record the following:—

I returned to duty on 6th January having been absent on privilege leave to Europe from 2nd October. When I left India, the north-east monsoon was not due and the entire anxieties and responsibilities in connection with the failure of the October rains fell to the lot of my *locum tenens*, Mr. A. T. Forbes. After rejoining on 6th January, I had to study the voluminous records of three months very anxious time in the district, as well as make myself acquainted with the Famine Code, which had not been issued before I went away, and which I was unable to obtain at the India Office while on leave, although I endeavoured to obtain it. It was, therefore, absolutely necessary that I should remain some days at head-quarters after rejoining. I intended going out on 12th or 13th January to Jammalamadugu, but before starting heard from the Conservator of Forests to the effect that he would reach Cuddapah on a tour of inspection on 15th January. Considering the great importance of forest matters in the Cuddapah district and the fact that I had not seen the Conservator for a year, I respectfully consider that I acted discreetly in postponing leaving my headquarters until after the Conservator's arrival. I have been continuously touring in the portion of the district reported to be most curiously affected by adverse season from 18th January until 14th instant, on which date, I cut my tour short in order to meet the Famine Commissioner at Cuddapah. As regards my narrative for the second half of January in which I showed that I had carefully examined a large extent of the tract reported to be affected, I am found fault with for furnishing no statistics and for giving vague information. I beg respectfully to represent that the narrative in question chiefly differs from its predecessors, which the Board unfavourably comments in the fact that it gives a more hopeful and sanguine estimate of the agricultural prospects. In the nature of things, it had to be based in the main upon the reports of subordinates, and in the absence of statistics furnished by them, it was *ex-necessitate* to a corresponding degree devoid of statistics, and was to a very large extent a mere resumé of their reports like its predecessors. I am glad to state that I was able, in consequence of my personal inspections to afford some information leading to the inference that their reports were not quite accurate and were unnecessarily gloomy. [In this connection, I wish to emphasize that in my comments upon Deputy Collector M.R.Ry. Narrainsami

Pillai's report, I had not the slightest intention to question honesty of purpose or good faith, but merely wished to record for the information of the Board and Government, facts that had come under my personal observation and that of another officer of some standing and which seemed to indicate either that his (Narrainsami Pillai's) observation was not acute or else that language used by him was too general and his *opinion* such as could be gathered from his language was open to question.] The fortnightly narratives should depict as accurately as possible the facts of the fortnight. I am entirely in agreement with other officers in the district that when harvest operations are over in March, it is to be expected that there will be a considerable increase of workers on relief works. We are quite prepared for such a contingency if the Public Works Department Officers have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness. I fear that there will be some difficulty about their subordinate staff, and consider that early arrangements should be made to have a sufficient number of subordinates in readiness.

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

Taluks.	Repair and construction of wells.										Other purposes.										Total.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Number of wells.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Total.		Number of wells.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Number of wells.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.				Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		
Sidhout	1	200	1	200	..	..	1	150	..	1	1	150	1	200	1	200	2	350	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Badvel	1	200	1	100	..	..	1	100	..	1	..	..	1	100	..	..	1	100	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	15	2,690	15	2,690	..	4	..	..	..	..	1	100	1	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Proddatur	11	1,675	11	987½	5	950	16	2,625	..	1	1	100	..	..	1	100	2	200	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jammalamadugu	2	250	..	..	8	1,820	8	1,820	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	..	..	..	..	23	8,300	23	8,300	..	..	6	700	..	..	5	740	11	1,440	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kadiri	5	740	4	370	1	100	6	470	..	4	..	..	..	..	1	100	1	100	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rayachóti	1	100	1	50	..	..	1	50	..	1	..	..	..	..	4	800	4	800	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vayalpad	4	800	4	500	..	..	4	500	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madanapalle	..	..	..	..	1	Not stated.	1	Not stated.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	25	3,965	22	2,207½	46	13,060	71	16,025	..	15	8	950	..	..	25	3,965	33	4,915	..	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Taluks.	Purchase of fodder.										Cattle and seed-grain.										Total.									
	Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Number of wells.		Applications pending.		Loans disbursed.		Applications accepted.		Total.		Number of wells.		Applications accepted.		Loans disbursed.		Applications pending.		Total.		Number of wells.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Constructed or repaired.	Under construction or repair.
	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
		Rs.										Rs.																		
Sidhout	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..	1	100	..	..	..	..	1	100	..	..
Badvel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	200	..	..	..	..	1	200	..	..	2	300	..	..	..	..	2	300	..	..
Proddatur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	150	..	..	..	..	1	150	..	..	1	150	..	..	..	..	1	150	..	..
Jammalamadugu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulivendla	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kadiri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	200	..	..	..	..	1	200	..	..	1	200	..	..	..	..	1	200	..	..
Rayachóti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	150	..	..	..	..	1	150	..	..	1	150	..	..	..	..	1	150	..	..
Vayalpad	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madanapalle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	450	..	..	..	..	4	450	..	..	4	450	..	..	..	..	4	450	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	1,250	..	..	..	..	9	1,250	..	..	10	1,250	..	..	..	..	10	1,250	..	..

Resolution—dated 3rd March 1897, No. 184.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The narrative read above is ancient history, not having been received till long after it was due. The Collector will be requested to see that such delays do not again occur.

3. The only portion of the district at present giving cause for anxiety is the northern section, comprising the four taluks of Cuddapah, Proddatur, Jammalamadugu and Pulivendla. They are, for the most part, black cotton-soil taluks and contain only a small area protected by the Kurnool-Cuddapah canal, chiefly in the two first-mentioned taluks, and but moderate areas protected by channels and wells. Except under the canal, the water-supplies are getting short, and it is from the canal that the Kundér obtains the supply that is now flowing in it. Drinking water is said to be growing scarce in some parts. This is a matter that should receive immediate attention from the district and taluk boards, and to the improvement of the supplies thereof their funds should be directed.

4. Except for the limited extent under the canal, channels or wells, cultivation is now over for the season in the affected area, and the Board considers that, ere this, the local officers should have been able to state pretty definitely what the probable results of the later sowings will be. So far as can be gathered, in the Cuddapah taluk, the harvest will be over in a few days, and it is estimated that less than two-thirds of the area occupied by the late-sown food-crops will yield crops of 8 annas or less, and between one-third and one-fourth has failed entirely. Under channels and wells the crops are estimated at 8—12 annas. Both estimates are probably unduly sanguine. That any area of the dry crops sown after November will yield 8 annas is most improbable. The Collector was present when the Commissioner inspected *irrigated* fields near Cuddapah, on which the cholum was an entire failure, except for the straw, and the ragi was from 3 to 4 annas. If this was so with irrigated land, the prospects of the dry late crops must be extremely bad, and for the cholum crop, speaking generally, hopeless. It has failed over the whole affected tract in Bellary, Anantapur and Kurnool, and the other dry crops there, such as castor, horse-gram, gingelly, bengal-gram, may, in the most favourable cases, yield from nothing to 3 or 4 annas.

In Proddatur, the crops under wells and the canal are expected to yield as much as in Cuddapah, and the cotton crop is said to be fair throughout, but the special forecast reports received from the Tahsildars show not only a considerable deficiency in area, but on the whole barely half a crop as the expected yield in any taluk of the section, whilst the yield is expected to be lower in this than the other taluks. The late-sown crop has withered or is withering, and is fast being renewed. That the cotton in Jammalamadugu yielded fairly, is as regards the tract north of Jammalamadugu, correct. This crop was well advanced before the November rains. Otherwise, in Jammalamadugu, it is clear that the only crops in fair condition are those—a very limited area—protected by irrigation; the information given as to the condition of the rest is not re-assuring, and the Board has grave doubts whether anything like half will yield an average crop as the Collector forecasts.

Taluks.	Area.		Estimated yield.
	Average.	1896-97.	
	ACS.	ACS.	AS.
Cuddapah	4,226	4,957	8
Proddatur	16,553	14,812	7
Jammalamadugu ..	49,327	46,060	12
Pulivendla	16,793	11,674	8

In Pulivendla, the state of the crops is much the same. A portion may yield "some crop," but the bulk must assuredly fail, if it has not already been lost. The cotton crop in Pulivendla is estimated at from 6 to 12 annas. This is very improbable. The crop in Tadpatri adjoining is partly *nil* to 2 annas.

In this connection, the Board must observe that Mr. Tate has entirely failed to understand the drift of the remarks made in its Proceedings No. 93 of 1897. The

Board did not call for statistics, but desired to have set before it an intelligent appreciation of the relative importance and the actual condition of the crops on the ground, such as any observant officer might frame after personal inspection of the country. To the casual observer, nothing is more misleading than the existence of favoured patches of crop here and there, and this is too often shown in all the season reports that come before the Board. They show that such features have caught the eye, but the real significance thereof has been missed. The Deputy Collector, M.R.Ry. Narrainsami Pillai, is one of the most highly qualified officers in his grade. A distinguished mathematician, and officer of wide experience, and trained to make accurate observations. If "another officer"—the Superintendent of Police—"of some standing" differed in opinion, on a matter peculiarly within his knowledge, from him, the probability would be that the other officer was mistaken. The Superintendent of Police is not a Revenue officer; he did not visit the tract regarding which he expressed an opinion for the purpose of reporting on the crops, and probably does not possess the requisite knowledge to make his opinion valuable. In fact mere riding through a tract is useless for arriving at accurate conclusions. The crop, and ears if any, must be actually handled and examined. Even then the officer's accuracy may be open to doubt, as it would be quite possible for an officer to go through his whole service without having ever seen a bumper crop of any particular product from which to form conclusions. The irrigated cholum which the Commissioner saw at Cuddapah stood five feet high or more, and had large ears. On inspection, which should only be done by handling, these were barren. A passer-by would probably have estimated this to be a 12-anna crop, if he had never seen a bumper crop of 12 feet high or more. Mr. Tate may place full confidence in Narrainsami Pillai's previous reports, and, if he wishes to verify them, he would do well to take the Deputy Collector with him, and discuss the crop on the ground. Mr. Tate sums up the position more correctly in his report for the subsequent fortnight, just received, where he observes, regarding the northern section, "in the remaining three taluks, the late sown cholum is, on the whole, a failure. In some places, the crop may yield something, and, where it is irrigated, it will yield about an eight-anna crop. Kusuma and variga have not failed to the same extent as cholum.

5. To state that, after a drought of nearly three months' duration, "the supply of grass is diminishing" conveys to the Board the idea that the reporter is deficient in humour; whilst the reported storing up of large supplies of fodder again shows want of observation or of knowledge of the country, these stores consisting of the half-grown straw of the crops that have already failed. A comparison of these stores with those usually made at the late harvest would be instructive.

6. In a statement given below the Board summarises the latest cultivation returns for the affected taluks. They show that a large portion of the original deficiency in the area brought under crop has been made good, and that the area of second sowings has been most exceptionally large. The failure and loss to the ryots will, in the dry crops, be in the same proportion.

Taluks.	First crop.						Second crop.					
	Dry.			Wet.			Dry.			Wet.		
	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.	Up to January.		Annual average.
	1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.		1897.	Average.	
	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.	ACS.
Cuddapah	153,327	156,750	162,036	15,853	16,078	17,812	30,472	7,706	10,969	7,437	6,309	7,513
Proddatur	134,987	134,283	134,935	7,042	7,590	7,650	33,419	3,649	4,734	2,361	2,096	2,398
Jammalamadugu	170,492	182,635	182,821	5,581	5,627	5,879	34,324	2,930	3,359	2,575	1,612	2,002
Pulivendla	167,184	189,812	193,130	6,232	7,279	7,513	33,581	4,200	4,773	3,264	2,647	3,595
Total ..	625,990	663,480	672,922	34,708	36,574	38,854	131,796	18,485	23,835	15,637	12,664	15,508

7. Prices have not shown much change of late, but the figures reported by the Collector suggest that the manner of recording them needs investigation, the differences in the rates reported for nearly adjacent stations in the northern section showing variations which it is hard to explain, whilst the comparative cheapness of ragi at Proddatur, where it is, it is believed, an imported grain, is extraordinary. The cheapness of cholum at this station is also very noticeable, and incompatible with the reported activity of trade at Jammalamadugu.

8. No extension of the measures for the relief of the people has yet been made by the Collector, and he considers that none are urgent. He states that he and his officers are prepared for an expansion as soon as the harvest is over, but that he fears that the Public Works Department is not. Attention is at present given to the relief of the Jammalamadugu weavers, from whom already 32,520 cloths had been received at the end of the period under report. It is estimated that 7,405 weavers were then on this form of relief, but since there has been a decrease owing to a break-down of the arrangements for maintaining a proper stock of yarn. In regard to these operations, the Collector protests against the withdrawal of the special officer appointed to supervise them, and the Board considers that, seeing the large scale on which they are proceeding and the very great danger of fraud and loss of public money that must accompany such operations, a special officer of the rank and pay of the one recently sanctioned for Bellary (G.O. No. 500, dated 27th January 1897) is even more necessary in Cuddapah than in Bellary. It is also of opinion that, seeing how extensive these schemes for the relief of weavers are becoming, a specially selected officer, on the pay of a Deputy Collector, should be appointed, to go from district to district and enquire and report on the "weaver relief" operations. It is only an officer who can give his whole time to the work who can be expected to master the whole subject, and to be able to give the Collectors reliable advice in the matter.

9. As regards the extension of relief works, the Collector's proposal to start work on the Yerraguntla-Vempalle road was approved of in Board's Proceedings, Mis. No. 1289, dated 19th February 1897. His attention has already been drawn to the undesirable flocking of labourers from his district into the Tadpatri taluk, and he should take measures, not after the harvest, or after the end of March, but at once, to prevent a recurrence of this. His attention has also been drawn to other complaints indicating remissness in offering the people employment where needed, and the Board trusts that there will be no recurrence of these complaints; nor can there be if Mr. Tate appreciates his duty to the people in his charge as fully as he does that to the Government. In connection with the Collector's concluding remarks, the attention of the Chief Engineer will be drawn to the probable requirements of the district.

10. On the 15th ultimo the Collector promised to start a work near Yerraguntla in four days. The Board wishes to know if this was done.

11. Collector need not supply any further information regarding the jail population, as this is being received in accurate form from the Inspector-General of Prisons.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) R. V. SRINIVASIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.
" Collector of Cuddapah.
" Chief Engineer.
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 194, Revenue, dated 24th March 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. A Special Deputy Tahsildar on Rs. 120 to be in charge of the operations for the relief of weavers, with a clerk on Rs. 20 and a peon on Rs. 6, is sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture).
" the Financial Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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