M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-8-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2425 Press ~~Mis.~~

233.234

Dated 10 - 9 — 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 233. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 5th September 1866.

Read the following letter from the Collector of Ganjam, to the Acting Secretary, Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpoor, 25th August 1866, No. 2,142 :—

1. 'The seed paddy supplied to me by the Board of Revenue for distribution was landed at Gopalpore on the 17th instant. The quantity received fell short of the advices by 24 bags, as shewn in the annexed Memorandum. The greater part of the seed has been distributed, and the rest is in course of distribution. I hope that this timely assistance, so promptly afforded, will add 2,500 acres to the breadth of paddy land cultivation this year.

2. The Ryots of the Berhampore Talook have now received, or are receiving by means of this and the Board's earlier grant of Tuccavy, by the refund of surplus collections, by remissions and, lastly, by the weekly distribution of rice to upwards of 9,000 persons of this class, all the aid that circumstances permitted us to afford, and though they have gone through much suffering, and food is still scarce among them, and though we have lost many by death or migration in search of maintenance, I think the Board may reflect with satisfaction that their efforts have arrested a tide of misfortune, which if unchecked would have depopulated half the Talook, and occasioned great loss of revenue to the State.

3. About 3,000 of the distressed Ryots in the Zemindary Estates, north of the Ganjam river, are also receiving weekly supplies of rice.

4. My weekly telegrams have already announced the promising character of the season, and I need add nothing here on that subject.

5. As regards the steps to be taken for the eventual recovery of advances, and the collection of revenue in the coming season, I feel sure that the Board will be prepared to approve a very considerate course of dealing with that section of the agricultural class, which has been so near total shipwreck.

6. The proposals I shall have to lay before them on this head, must, however, of necessity be delayed till the harvest is gathered in, and prices declare themselves.

7. I take this opportunity to explain, that I propose to add to the number of Ryots receiving assistance as fresh cases of failing resources appear, and that I understand the rice to be brought by the "Tubal Cain" to be placed at my disposal for this and similar purposes.

8. I had intended to explain earlier to the Board the reason why my application for seed grain was reserved till so late a period, and then made by telegram.

9. I need not say that if I had announced an intention early in the season of distributing seed grain, I should in the existing scarcity have been overwhelmed with applications. I waited therefore until the time had come when the whole of the seed paddy available to the Ryots might fairly be supposed to be in the seed beds, and the fields destined to receive it already ploughed. An acre of seed bed plants out from 38 to 39 acres of paddy, setting aside about that proportion of land for the existing seed beds, it became a fair presumption that all fallow, in excess of this allowance, would remain uncultivated, from *bona fide* want of seed, and it was then comparatively easy to form a correct list of the Ryots to whom the fallow belonged, and who were consequently proper claimants for assistance in the form

of seed grain. I caused this to be done rapidly, and without previous warning, by the three Revenue Inspectors of the Talook, who were furnished with tickets for delivery to the owners of the fallow lands, and the holders of these were instructed to be ready with their tickets and means of carriage at Gopalpore, on the arrival of the Steamer, which was duly notified. This arrangement has ensured the rapid distribution of the grain, and it is nearly all I hope sown ere this.

MEMORANDUM.

	According to advices.	According to the reports of the Sea Customs Superintendent, Gopalpore.	Difference.
	Bags.	Bags.	Bags.
From Madras, as per Telegram of 16th from Board's Secretary	159	158	1
From Cocanada, as per Mr. Linares' letter of 14th	2,141	2,118	23
Total ...	2,300	2,276	24

1. Submitted for the information of Government.
2. The Board approve the Collector's proceedings.
3. Enquiry will be made as regards the missing bags.

No. 234. ORDER THEREON, 10th September 1866, No. 2,425.

Land Revenue.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Pkd. S. T. Augustin.

Rev. Dept. Jr.
Pro. of Govt. for Sept. 1866
No. 2985.
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 5th
Desp'd 5th } September 1866
Rec'd 6th

No

Submitting for information letter from Collector of Ganjam reporting on the distribution of the seed Paddy sent from Madras—

No. 2425.

Recorded

J. D. S.
10th Sept. 1866

Nos 233-234

In original Folio Book of Rev. Despatches