M.R.O. 14-5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 2737 Press ~~Mis.~~

246.247

Dated 10-10-1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 10th October 1866.

No. 246. Read the following letter from the Sanitary Commissioner, on Special Duty, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 21st September 1866, No. 218 :—

1. I have the honor to report that, in accordance with the instructions conveyed to me in the Proceedings of Government, dated 31st July 1866, No. 756, I have visited those parts of the Salem and North Arcot Districts where distress, caused by the failure of the ordinary rains, has been most severely felt.

2. In the Salem District I rode through the Talooks of Utangirai and Tripatore, and inspected the towns of Tripatore, Utangirai, and Harroor.

3. In the North Arcot District I rode through the Talooks, Vellore, Polur, Gudiattum, and Palmanair, and inspected the towns of Vellore, Arnee, Polur, Gudiattum, Satghur, Palmanair, and Chittore.

4. I was accompanied in the Salem District at one time by the Head Assistant, Mr. Brandt, and afterwards by the Collector, the Honorable Mr. D. Arbuthnott.

5. In the North Arcot District I was accompanied by Mr. Barlow, the Sub-Collector, and later by the Collector, Mr. J. Robinson. My tour occupied altogether twenty-four days, and I am able, I believe, to give a fair idea of the condition of these Districts.

6. The circumstances of both these are very similar. In both there has been a failure of the ordinary rains, accompanied by a most unusually hot season. As a consequence, the wet cultivation has been very limited, and at the commencement of my tour there was serious apprehension that in both Districts the dry crops, which are dependent on seasonable rains, would be entirely lost.

7. When I entered the Salem District early in August, the country presented a miserably parched appearance ; the tanks were dry, cultivation had ceased, except in the neighbourhood of wells, and the prospects were of the gloomiest description.

8. Since then there have been frequent showers in both Districts ; the tanks have been partially filled, and in both there are hopes of the dry crops being reaped. A few showers will render them safe, but they will be short crops. The failure of the wet crops, and the probable deficiency of the dry crops in these Districts, together with the distress which has generally prevailed throughout the country, and especially in Mysore and Bellary, have had the effect of extraordinarily raising the price of the grains, which are the staple food of the people. For many weeks these grains have been selling at more than double their ordinary price.

9. Raggy was in Salem selling at from seven to eight measures per Rupee, the ordinary price being twenty measures.

10. Rice was selling at four and a half measures per Rupee as against the ordinary rate of ten measures per Rupee, and these prices have since risen.

11. The prices in the North Arcot District are about the same as in Salem. The misery caused by these high prices, accompanied as it has been by the cessation, for weeks, of the usual demand for agricultural labor, may easily be imagined. The Railway passes through both these Districts, and has carried away from them large supplies of grain towards the Western Coast, Mysore, and Bellary, where the

distress had caused prices to rise still higher. In neither of these Districts has there yet been any absolute failure in the supply to the markets. But the grain-merchants, always a timid race, have been chary of shewing that they have any abundant store of grain. They have preferred exporting their grain to other Districts where the excessive prices enabled them to make a large profit, rather than increase the prices much beyond the present high rates in their own towns and villages. They fear popular indignation and riots ending in attacks on the grain shops.

12. This has caused some difficulty in supplying the local markets in the North Arcot and Salem Districts, but I do not apprehend that this feeling will be permanent, or that there is any real cause for apprehending that there will be any serious deficiency in the supply of food to the people, so long as they have money to purchase. But all have gone through and will have to endure for some months great privation.

13. I am happy to be able to state that this suffering, though general in both Districts, has not as yet increased to that point when distress becomes famine. I neither saw nor heard of any number of people perishing of hunger as was the case in Ganjam and more recently in Bengal, and the people I met on the roads rarely presented any outward appearance of great suffering.

14. It was only at the Relief Houses that there were any outward signs of severe privation; at these places were congregated the aged and infirm and a large number of children who were very sickly and in many cases very emaciated. This was especially the case in the Salem District. At some Relief Houses, the old and infirm were just able to crawl to their meals, and the children were so reduced from exhaustion, that they could hardly lift the cups of food to their lips. Now that the Relief Houses have been thoroughly organized, this suffering is speedily relieved, and it may be confidently hoped, that there will be no deaths from starvation, such as undoubtedly occasionally occurred in the more distant jungle tracts and in the hill villages.

15. In order to give a tolerably clear idea of the condition of this part of the country, I have prepared the two Maps which accompany this report.

16. Those Talooks which have suffered extremely from drought, are colored dark brown; the Talooks where distress from failure of rains prevailed in a less degree are marked drab.

17. These Maps also exhibit the works which are affording relief to the able-bodied poor.

These works may, for convenience, be divided into—

1st.—Ordinary Imperial Works under the Department of Public Works. These are colored lake; the crowns, colored lake, indicate tank and channel work, deepening wells, &c., &c., as distinct from road work.

2nd.—Special Relief Works—The same symbols are used, but the color used is black.

3rd.—Works executed from Local Funds, which were this year unusually large in both Districts. These works are colored burnt sienna.

18. The places where Relief Houses have been established are indicated by green crosses. A glance at the Map will, I think, satisfy the Government, that all has been done that is required for the present to meet the emergency.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
10th October 1866.

19. The Relief Works have been planned so as to bring the labor close to the distressed portions of the Districts, and the Relief Houses have been placed as centrally as possible so as to enable the old and infirm from surrounding villages to reach them as easily as possible. It is impossible to determine for how long a period these extraordinary measures will be required; but if the approaching monsoon be favorable, we may anticipate a partial fall in the prices of food, and such a demand for labor, as will lead to a rapid reduction of the numbers of those seeking labor at Relief Works. Simultaneously with this better condition, the numbers of applicants at the Relief Houses will be reduced. No great change can, however, be anticipated before the end of December next.

20. The Special Relief Works which have been organized in both the Salem and North Arcot Districts consist in the construction of a few useful cross-roads, and short feeding roads to Railway Stations.

Special Relief Works.

The repair of roads already in existence.

The repair of irrigation works, such as tanks and channels.

The deepening and repair of wells and tanks used for drinking water.

Planting trees by road sides, and enclosing and trenching spaces of jungle with a view to the protection of trees most useful for fuel.

21. Works already in progress, under the Public Works Department, for which estimates had been made and sanction obtained, gave on the first occurrence of the distress considerable occupation to the poor, and before the funds allotted to these works were exhausted, the Special Relief Works were commenced.

22. In both Districts there were Local Funds available, and these have been judiciously expended in those parts of the District where distress was most prevalent.

23. The wages in the Salem and North Arcot Districts have varied from 2 Annas to 2 Annas 6 Pie, for men coolies; for women the wages have been from 1 Anna to 1 Anna 6 Pie; and for children from 6 Pie to 1 Anna.

24. It has been possible to bring the works within tolerably easy reach of the suffering villagers, and it has not been necessary to hut the gangs of workmen.

25. The congregation of great numbers of workmen together, during a time when epidemic cholera was more or less prevalent, has been wisely avoided. Many of the works, such as the repairs of tanks and channels, will be directly remunerative and will bring an increased area of land into cultivation. The number employed on the works has been subject to considerable fluctuation. Whenever rain has fallen, numbers have left the works to resume, as far as possible, the ordinary agricultural operations of ploughing, sowing, and weeding. These operations concluded, a considerable number return to the road or other works. This causes little inconvenience to the works which have been purposely designed, not as being emergent, but as affording relief to the agricultural classes who are thrown out of work by the adverse season, and the great loss of cattle which has so greatly circumscribed the area of cultivation in these Districts.

26. The cost of the Special Relief Works in the North Arcot District is estimated at one lac of Rupees which will provide labor until the end of December. In the Salem District 50,000 Rupees have been specially sanctioned by the Government for Relief Works, and a large proportion of this sum has been devoted to small irrigation works, such as the repairs of tanks and channels. A considerable extension of Relief Works is, I think, required in the Salem District, where prices are rising and distress increasing. I venture to suggest that the Collector should be assured of the support of the Government in the energetic extension of all useful works which can for the next few months afford employment to unskilled labor.

27. As stated above, I cannot pretend in this report to give any very accurate estimate of the probable total cost of the Relief Works in either of these two Districts.

28. Favorable weather which would give an impulse to the ordinary agricultural labor, may cause the works to be partially deserted—an adverse season would, on the other hand, cause an influx of persons seeking employment.

29. In these Districts as in others, where Special Relief Works have been organized, there has been considerable uncertainty as to the principles to be observed.

30. The true principles have, some years ago, been very clearly laid down by Colonel Baird Smith, in his admirable report on the Famine of 1860-61. As it may perhaps be necessary to continue employing large numbers of the able-bodied poor for some months, I beg to quote what Colonel Baird Smith has said upon this subject, which will perhaps prove useful to those engaged in organizing labor under the present peculiar circumstances.

"The primary condition of admission on Relief Works is, that applicants shall not be so helpless as to be unfit for ordinary labor in digging, carrying, and the like. If they are so helpless, they properly fall under charge of the agents for relief of the helpless poor, but they would be improperly placed on Special Relief Works."

* * * *

"All people then willing to give labor in exchange for wages are admitted on these works. The wages given are calculated at the lowest rate needful for subsistence, and for that only. Profit on labor that is not wanted, but is a mere drug in the market, is wholly out of the question. It is in a pecuniary sense even at least a very expensive method of working, for the average capacity of the workers is much below that of ordinary laborers, and the cost of work so executed must always be high. But no middle course exists between employing those people and maintaining them. They certainly cannot support themselves, and it is better far to accept the high rates of work consequent on their employment than to let them subside into the class of helpless poor or die. It is clear that on Special Relief Works no specific rates can possibly be fixed. They must range from very nearly the entire cost of subsistence to the rates due for ordinary labor, according to the comparative working capacity of the people employed, and may, at any time, shew fluctuations dependent on this capacity alone, and thus be wholly beyond the control of the officer in charge. Some officers have tried to work within limiting

rates, but it is only practicable to do so systematically by overlooking the fact, that wages on Special Relief Works are subsistence wages only, and cannot be retrenched for short work without starving the work people. It is remarkable, however, how well and cheaply, amid all the difficulties of the case, an energetic officer can execute Special Relief Works. But this comparatively satisfactory result cannot be obtained by reducing wages. It depends on close personal supervision, on the careful adjustment of tasks to strength, in the formation of working parties, so that the strong and the weak may each have just the kind or quantity of work they are best fitted to do. In this way the best may be made of the system, but at best it will never be an economical one. It, however, returns in labor a sensible proportion of the cost of maintaining the people, and what is perhaps of more importance it teaches them to continue reliance on their own capacity to work as their best means of subsistence, and maintains their self-respect by keeping them above the position of helpless paupers."

Loss of Cattle.

31. Among the calamities which attend a season of drought is the loss of cattle.

32. In both the Districts of Salem and North Arcot there has been disease of cattle, caused by the failure, for some months, of pasture. There is no accurate return of the actual loss at present available. The miserable condition of the cattle along the line of my tour confirmed the accounts of cattle disease which were given by the Ryots, and this cause will seriously limit cultivation for a considerable time.

33. The great mortality of the cattle reported was also confirmed by the great number of carts laden with hides which I saw, especially in the Salem District, and by the very low prices at which hides were selling.

34. In a letter this day received from the Collector of Salem, he represents the loss of horned cattle in two Talooks of his District, Uttangirai and Dharampury, as 100,000, and states that there have been very serious losses in four other Talooks.

35. In North Arcot, the cattle of the Polur Talook have suffered almost as severely as in the worst parts of the Salem District, and throughout the Arcot District cattle disease has extensively prevailed.

Health of the Population.

36. As might have been expected, the pressure of high prices and the reduced demand for labor have told injuriously on the public health of both these Districts.

37. Cholera and small-pox have prevailed, and there has been unusual mortality from both these diseases. Until the Relief Works could come into full operation, and until the Relief Houses were opened, numbers of the lower orders, who are hired agricultural laborers, and the old and infirm paupers and young children were driven to feed upon roots and edible roots and leaves. The jungle tree, called Devadani, furnished these. The leaves were boiled down and eaten, the decoction also being drunk. The interior pulp of the aloe boiled down in tamarind leaf broth was also largely consumed. Tamarind stones were baked and the kernels

eaten, as was a species of ground-nut called Goligada, which is found in the beds of tanks and marshes.

38. As may be imagined, these miserable substitutes for food produced great sickness and predisposed to cholera, which has caused so many deaths. The pulp of the aloe tree was especially pernicious, and appeared to produce rapid ulceration of the mucous lining of the intestines.

39. In both Districts, the filthy condition of the native towns and villages presented all the conditions required for the rapid spread of epidemic disease. As usual, there was in the towns nothing deserving the name of drainage or conservancy, and the water supply was almost invariably contaminated by the percolation of town sewage.

40. Among the works which have been organized are the construction of drains in some of the towns, and the improvement and defence of the tanks and wells used for drinking. Nothing effectual will, however, be done towards the conservancy necessary for the preservation of the public health, until it is rendered compulsory by law, and I trust that before long the Towns Improvement Act, recently passed, will be generally applied to all towns in the interior. I was able, through the assistance of the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department, during my tour in the North Arcot District, to distribute cholera medicine in some of the towns and villages where cholera was prevalent. But I think it my duty to point out that, during the time when cholera was most severe in the North Arcot District, there was no organization for affording medical advice or relief in any towns except the Civil stations where there are Dispensaries.

41. In Arnee alone, out of a population of 5,000, 500 deaths occurred, and the helpless condition of the large towns and villages in this respect seems worthy of consideration. Medicines in sufficient quantities should always be provided on the first signs of an approaching epidemic, and given for distribution to the Police, Magisterial, and Revenue authorities. If this precaution was properly attended to, many lives would probably be saved. In the Salem District, medicine was distributed soon after the appearance of cholera.

42. One of the first and most immediate effects of the violent rise in the price of food-grains, accompanied by a rapid decrease in the demand for agricultural labor, was to leave entirely without means of support, the large mass of permanent pauperism which, in ordinary times, is sustained by the charity of the community. To these, as disease became more or less prevalent, were added the children who had lost their parents, women who had been deserted by, or lost their husbands, and others who, by caste prejudice, were unable to avail themselves of the labor offered at the public works.

Relief Houses.

43. To meet the wants of the helpless poor, Relief Houses have been opened in both Districts. No large town in the distressed tract is without its Relief House, where hundreds are daily fed. Other Relief Houses have been opened in centrally situated villages, and to these the aged and infirm from the neighbouring villages resort for their daily meal.

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44. Twelve thousand Rupees have been already granted by the Madras General Relief Committee to the Collectors of North Arcot and Salem, and subscriptions have been raised in the principal towns in both Districts. It will be necessary still further to supplement the funds of the Relief Houses in the Salem District, but in North Arcot this will not be required, for in addition to the grants made from the Relief Fund and local subscriptions, there are the accumulations of the endowment, known as the "Lungerkhana Fund," which are available for the support of the poor at the Relief Houses.

45. In both Districts it will probably be necessary to keep the Relief Houses open for some months, for until prices are considerably reduced, it is not probable that the charity of the community will be available for the support of even the ordinary pauperism of the country which, from various causes, has been considerably increased.

46. I personally visited a large number of these Relief Houses. When I commenced my tour of inspection, they had only been recently opened, and there was, as might be naturally expected, great variety of system and occasional mistakes. The system which is at present general in both Districts, seems well calculated to relieve the helpless poor without affording encouragement to mendicancy.

47. The relief is almost entirely of cooked food; when the relief is continuous, tickets are issued, after enquiry, to the recipients. Casual relief is given to persons evidently suffering hunger, who may be present at the time of the distribution of food.

48. The rule is, that the cooked food is to be consumed at the Relief House and not carried away. In exceptional cases, such as that of Mahomedan women who cannot appear in public, but who are in great distress, the food is sent to them by their male relatives. In rare instances small doles of money have been given to sustain the aged and infirm persons of respectability who are suffering severely from the present high prices.

49. The superintendence of these Relief Houses has thrown great additional labor upon the public officers of all grades. This work has been most cheerfully done by all, and the natives of respectability in both Districts have willingly assisted.

50. In the Salem District there are thirty-three Relief Houses. I have not yet received an exact return of the large numbers who are being relieved at these houses and which are subject to great fluctuations, but some idea may be formed from the return received from North Arcot, in which District are seventeen Relief Houses, where six thousand persons are fed daily.

51. I heard natives of all classes speaking in terms of approbation of the system pursued in affording relief to the aged and infirm, and I concur in the opinion unanimously expressed in these Districts, that these houses of relief have been the means of saving many lives.

52. I have in this brief report endeavoured faithfully to convey the impressions received during a rapid tour. The Government will, no doubt, be furnished by the Revenue authorities with accurate reports of the effect of the long continued drought in reducing the area of cultivation in both the North Arcot and Salem Districts.

53. I may, however, state that from accounts furnished to me by the Collectors of North Arcot and Salem, it would appear that, up to the end of August in the four Talooks of the North Arcot District which have suffered most severely from the adverse season, there has been a decrease in the area of cultivation of—

	Acres.
Dry	1,22,728
Wet	46,617
Total Acres.	1,69,345,—of which the assessment is 4,30,543.

54. In the Salem District, where the distress has been of more general extent, the decrease of cultivation is—

	Acres.
Dry	3,00,970
Wet	19,471
Total Acres.	3,20,441—representing an assessment of 4,95,088 Rupees.

55. These figures convey clearly enough the serious loss of revenue which will have been caused by the failure of the usual rains; and it is not difficult to imagine how much misery has resulted from the rapidly decreasing demand for agricultural labor, accompanied as it has been by the extravagantly high prices which have prevailed during the last six months.

56. It is a subject of congratulation that the sufferings of the poorer classes have been very patiently borne, and that there has been little increase of crime in these Districts. Bearing their privations with patience, the poorer Ryots have also shewn themselves most eager to resume their cultivation whenever slight showers gave hope that they might still rescue a portion of their land and raise a crop, however scanty.

57. Those who had lost their cattle and who were not, even when favored by partial rain, able to resume their usual work, accepted gratefully the opportunity for employment offered them by the Government at the Relief Works. Still, with all the aid the State and private charity could give, the sufferings of the people have been great, and the effects of the drought of 1866 will for years be felt in portions of these Districts.

58. It has been observed that in India seasons of drought have a certain periodicity of occurrence. Thus Colonel Baird Smith shews that during ninety years, from 1770 to 1861, there have been six droughts variable in the extent of areas they have influenced and in their destructiveness of life and property, but all of the most serious importance in their effects on the resources of Government and the material condition of the people. The average period of recurrence is about fifteen years, and it would appear the same recurrence of drought at shorter intervals has been noticed in Australia and South America.

59. The regular intervals thus accorded between periods of scarcity should serve to stimulate a careful examination and execution in each District of projects which, if they did not actually prevent the effects of drought, would at least mitigate some of the sufferings which result from even partial failure of rains in

Districts where there are no artificial means of retaining the waters of those rivers and mountain streams which now so frequently run entirely or partially unused to the sea.

60. In both the Districts which I have recently visited much remains to be done in this respect, and there are in the records of the Board of Revenue and of the Public Works Department plans of irrigation works which, if they had been executed, would not only have been highly remunerative, but would have this year made the serious failure of rain result in only a partial instead of an entire loss of crops. It is beyond my province to do more than allude to this question; but it was impossible that it should not be constantly a subject of thought and regret, for there was scarcely a village through which I passed in company with the District Officers, where there was not the same complaint of breached tanks and channels out of repair; while in many places great natural reservoirs were pointed out to me, which only required a comparatively moderate outlay of money, to bring into cultivation large tracts of country now lying waste.

61. Considerable rivers and streams are allowed to flow away into the sea, carrying away the drainage of thousands of square miles of country; which, if retained by a carefully improved system of dams in the river valleys, with connected channels, might store water sufficient to carry the crops through even as severe a season as that which we have recently experienced.

Transferred to the Revenue Department.

FORT SAINT GEORGE,
1st October 1866.

(Signed) J. D. SIM,
Secretary to Government.

No. 247. ORDER THEREON, 10th October 1866, No. 2,737.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government are greatly indebted to Mr. Ellis for the admirable manner in which he has performed the duty entrusted to him, and for the excellent report he has submitted of the condition of the North Arcot and Salem Districts, and the measures adopted for the relief of the people.

2. The Government have only to signify their approval of these measures, and their readiness to afford such assistance in labor and money as may be necessary.

3. With reference to paragraph 26, the Collectors of North Arcot and Salem, as well as the Collectors of other Districts, of which the condition may, in the judgment of the local officers, be such as to render the measure necessary, will be informed that they are at liberty to act on the Order of 25th July last, at their discretion. Estimates, &c., of the relief works undertaken must be submitted for the sanction of Government, but the works may be commenced and proceeded with, in anticipation of their sanction, and with the assurance that all judicious arrangements for the relief of distress will meet with the approval of Government. Collectors, who have not hitherto taken advantage of the Order, will intimate to Government at once, whether they deem it necessary to do so, and the proba ble expenditure in their Districts up to the end of the year.

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4. The early attention of the Board of Revenue will be requested to paragraphs 31 to 35, in view to their consulting Collectors as to the expediency of making advances for the purchase of agricultural stock.

5. The Board's attention will also be drawn to paragraphs 36 to 41. They will again impress upon Collectors that the responsibility of providing medical relief rests with them. It is but rarely that the Government can afford the services of Medical Officers, but medicines can always be had on application, and it is most important that they should be supplied with the necessary instructions, at the outbreak of epidemics. The Board will place themselves in communication with the Inspector General of the Medical Department, and issue explicit instructions on the subject.

6. Paragraphs 59 to 61 of the Report will be communicated to the Department Public Works.

7. Copies of Mr. Ellis' Report will be sent to all Collectors.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. D. SIM,

Secretary to Government.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of North Arcot.
,, the Collector of Salem.
,, the Collector of
,, the Principal Inspector General, Medical Department.
,, the Public Works Department.
the Editor's Table.

Exd. S T. Augustin.

REFERENCE

Ordinary Roads under D.P.W.

Special Roads of Road Works.

Special Irrigation Relief Works.

Roads from Local Funds.

Relief Houses.

Vide Govt. Order 25th July 1866 No. 306

No. 1.

Skeleton Map

Showing parts of the TRUNK ROADS Nos. I & V in the

SALEM DISTRICT.

SCALE 8 MILES TO 1 INCH.

NORTH ARCOT

SOUTH ARCOT

SALEM

COIMBATORE

TRICHINOPOLY

From Bangalore

To Vellore and Madras

Denkanicotah

Rayacottah

Kistnagherry

Hosur

Attibelle

Anakal

Mulleagherry

Shoolagherry

Woodanhully

Nullampully

Tripatore

Malapaudy

Yishnagherry

Kadayur

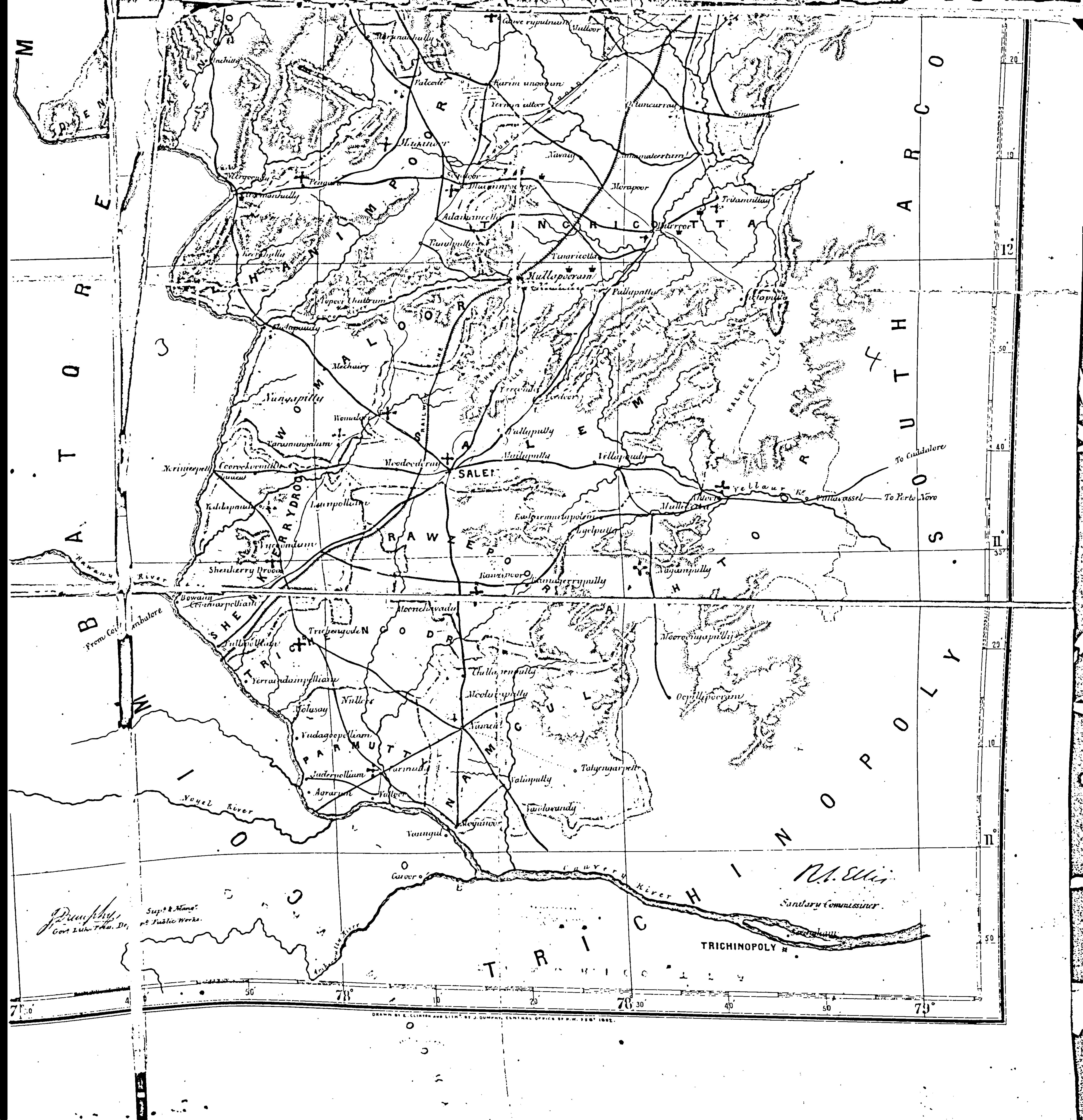
Alumgeer

Yercaud

Salem

TRUNK ROAD No. I

KAILAICHERRY HILL



SOUTH ARCOT
TRICHINOPOLY
SALEM
To Cuddalore
To Porto Novo
Noyel River
Cauvery River
R. A. Ellis
Sanitary Commissioner

Rec'd October 1866 L. b 246

Map

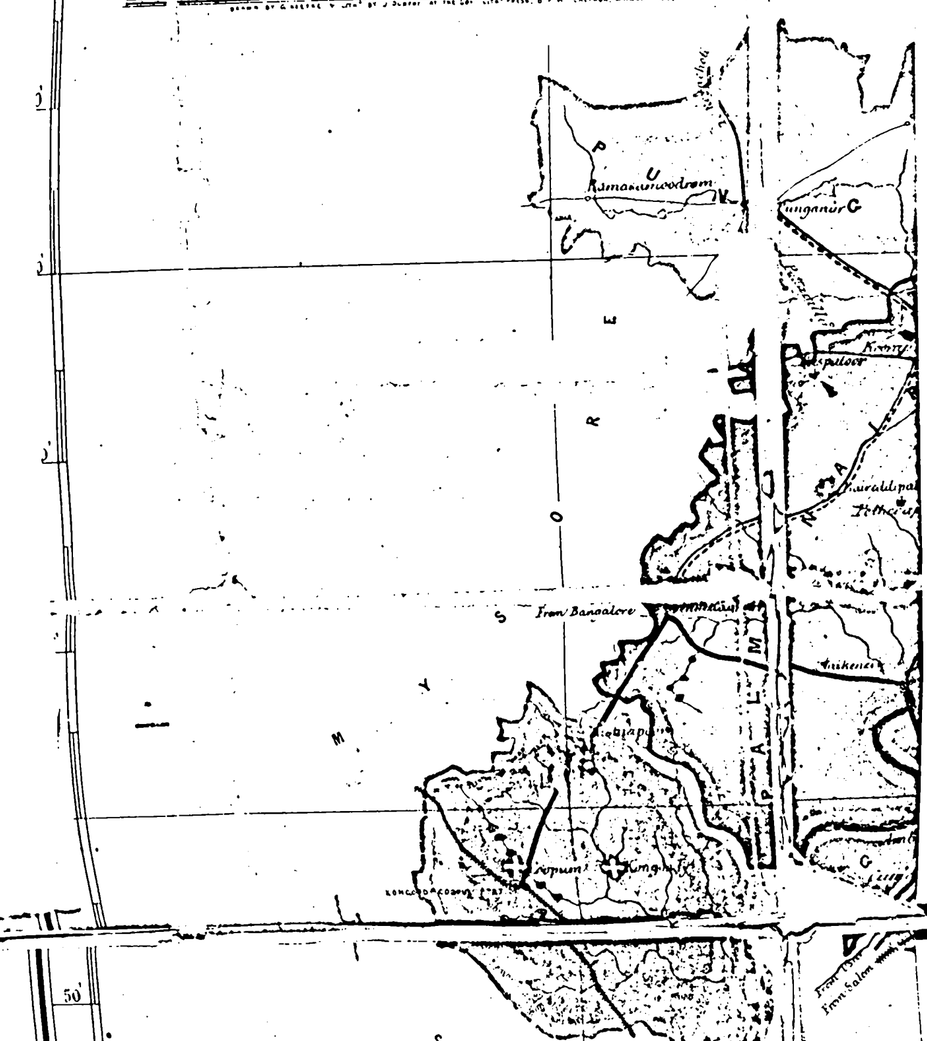
shewing the

TRUNK ROADS

in the

NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT

SCALE OF 8 MILES TO AN INCH.



REFERENCE

- Ordinary Roads under D.P.W.
- Irrigation Works do do
- Special Relief Road Works
- Special Irrigation Relief Works
- Roads from Local Funds
- Irrigation Works from Local Funds
- Relief Houses

} Under Govt. Order 26th July 1876, G.O. 1760

J. Dunphy, Supt. & Manager
Govt. Lith. & Press, General Office of P.W.


ARCOT
VELLORE
Nagari
Thirupati
Kalastri
Sanitary Commissioner

1737

The first are greatly
indebted to Hon.
Ellis for the admirable
manner in which
he has performed the
duty entrusted to
him & for the excellent
report he has submitted
of the condition of the
N. Ancst & Salem dist
and the measures
adopted for the relief
of the people.

The first have only
to signify their ab-
-proval of these measures
~~&~~ and their wish
hereto to afford such
assistance in labor
& money as may be

26. the Colls of Perth
Kent & Salem - as
well as the Colls of
other districts - after
the latter the Contractor
may, in the judgment
of the Local Offices
be such as to render
the measure necessary -
will be informed
that they are at li-
berty to act on the
order of the Govt last,
at their discretion.
Estimates be of the
relief works under-
taken must be
submitted for the
sanction of Govt, but
the works may be
commenced & pro-
ceeded with, in
anticipation of
their sanction - and

with the assurance
that all judicious
arrangements for the
relief of distress will
meet with the approv-
-al of Govt. Colls, who
have not hitherto taken
advantage of the order
will intimate to Govt.
at once, whether they
deem it necessary
to do so - and the pro-
-bable expenditure in
their districts during
the end of the year.

The attention of
the Bd of Rev will be
requested to Instr. 31 &
35 - in view to their
consulting Colls as
to the expediency of
making advances for
the purchase of agri-
-cultural stock -

This will enable
Govt to interpose
if any Colls pro-
-ceed too fast.
& limit. hereby be
better than fettering
the Colls at the outset.

I am not very sure
of this - advances are
paid - & money will
not bring the cattle
to life again -

It is always
doubtful whether the
money debited, really reaches &
remains with the alleged recipient
but if Govt & Syndicate agree to make the
advances I have no objection to authorize
the Board of Rev to authorize
advances under
instructions. The Bd's attention
will also be drawn

Le communicated
to the Bd. of H.
Copies of Mr.
Ellis's letter with
Le Lent to the Ld

Ld.

1 Copy to the Sanitary Commissioners Boards in Octr
1/4 — Board of Police
5 — Coll. of Northeastern
1 — Salem
1/4 — Prince Draper Gaol & Medical Depts
1/4 — Public Works Dept
Table other Colls

Editing Table

Both references should be made known (for whom or the time for making the advances will be fixed among Dr Z

To any mind & heart my opinion on many years of observation this epidemic suffering medicines when they have taken should be applied to the bowels, Calomb Sarsaparilla Rhubarb, Senna, Manna, Epsom salts, Castor oil, Jalap & turpentine & the like, both vegetable & mineable but the latter should be used with great caution & only in cases of obstinate constipation. It will not be necessary to evacuate from the bowels as in cholera or dysentery

with my own impressions upon Colls. that the responsible duty of limiting medical relief rests with them. It is but simply that the Govt can afford the services of Medical advisers but medicines cannot always be had on application - and it is most important that they should be published with the necessary instructions, at the outbreak of Epidemics. The Bd. will please then take in com. with the Med. Staff of the Med. Dept & issue explicit instructions on the subject.

Paras 5 & 6 of the extract with

Reported to England
by 26th October No. 480 of 1866 –
Mrs.

Pro. No. 1510 31.7.66.

Revenue 1866 Departt
Pro. of Govt for October

No. 2737

Pro. of the Madras Govt
dy 10th October 1866 –

Pro. of Rec'd 29 Octr 66
No. 3963 – in Pro. 8 Nov. 1866
No. 7 Mrs

Sanitary Commrs
Scowes report on the distress
in N. Arcot and Salem
Districts reviewed and the
suggested modes of relief proposed
approved. –

No. 246 & 247

Mr. Ellis
Report on
N. Arcot &
Salem

Mr. Ellis
Sketch

Mr. Cockburn