M.R.O. 14–5,450—22-10-25.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 835 Press Mis.

Dated 11. 4- 1866.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
11th April 1866.

No. 123. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 27th March 1866 :—

Read the following paper from the Collector of Salem, dated 21st March 1866.

Season Report for the first fortnight in March 1866, *Salem District.*

1. No rain has fallen in this fortnight. Except in Ahtoor there is a great scarcity of water and of pasture, so much so that Ryots who have large number of cattle are driving them to the banks of the Cavery for water and fodder. Ryots having no means of removing them to the river are losing considerable numbers, chiefly from want of water. In Uttenghery and Trippathur Talooks murrain among cattle, and cholera amongst the people exist to a small extent.

2. In the District generally, there is no water in the tanks. Many wells are dry, and in others there is only a small quantity of water not sufficient to irrigate the existing or standing crops on the lands dependant on wells for their irrigation. In some villages the people are obliged to go to a great distance for water.

3. Owing to the scanty rain that fell this year the dry crops generally were poor. There was also some failure of Nunjah crops.

4. The paddy and dry grains produced in the District are largely exported to Coimbatore, Palghaut in Malabar, Vellore, Bellary, and Trichinopoly by merchants who flock in for the purpose from the above Districts, as well as by the merchants who belong to the District. Merchants in the principal towns of the District buy up the grain brought in by Ryots before it reaches the local markets, and they seem inclined to hold their stock in expectation of higher prices. The prices have risen very high this year, about 25 per cent. higher than last year, and are steadily increasing. These high prices are severely felt by the laboring classes other than Ryots. Should seasonable rain fall shortly, I see no reason to think that any remedial measures on the part of Government will be necessary.

Submitted for the information of Government.

No. 124. ORDER THEREON, 11th April 1866, No. 835.

Land Revenue.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Editor's Table.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rev. 1866. Desp^tc^h
Pro: of Govt. for April
No. 921.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 27:
Desp^d. 27 } March 1866.
Rec^d. 28^th^.

Submitting report of
Collector of Salem on the
state of Season during
first fortnight of
March 1866.

2. 835.

Records

14 Board of Revenue
Ld. Tuttle.

Ap^x. 123 & 124.