M.R.O. 14—18,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No: 3037 Press Mis:

387.88

Dated 20—12—1887

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 20th December 1867.

No. 387. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 18th December 1867:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 17th December 1867, No. 413.

1. I have the honor to submit the weekly season report of this district.

2. No rain has fallen anywhere, and agricultural operations have, therefore, been at a stand still everywhere, except in the localities where there are river-channels or large wells.

3. Madurantakum is the only talook where the crops are reported to be in anything like a promising condition, as the rains that fell there at the end of last month were heavier than anywhere else in the district; even there, however, the Tahsildar reports that unless more rain fall, and that very soon, the crops now growing will come to nothing.

4. In parts of the Conjeeveram Talook there are a few river-channels from which spring-water is obtainable in small quantities; there the Sumbah crops has been reaped, and the Navarai cultivation is in progress. In all the other villages of that talook the crops are dependent on the falling rains, or upon tanks filled by the rain, or by the river freshes. As there has been so little rain and no freshes down the Palar, the crops are everywhere perishing, but the Tahsildar thinks that even now a good down pour would save some of the crops.

5. The accounts of the season from the Chingleput Talook is of the same tenor as that from Conjeeveram, excepting that there is little or no cultivation under river-channels, the seed-beds which the ryots had ready, and which would have been transplanted twenty days ago, if rain had fallen, have now all dried up, so that even if rain did now fall there would be no plants, except from new nurseries.

6. The Sydapet Talook, which has also but little river irrigation, is worse off than any other talook in the district. The Cooum, or Madras river, is the only one which passes through it, and down it no freshes whatever have passed this year. The crops were somewhat revived by the rains that fell in November, but they are now again all perishing, and Savi reports are being received from all parts of the talook.

7. The accounts from Ponneri and Trivellore are equally bad, and the greater portion of the rice crop in both talooks will no doubt fail.

8. Prices are still as in last week, and the markets are still well supplied. Pasture also is still abundant, but it is to be apprehended that this state of things cannot continue long.

9. In the Sydapet and Ponneri Talooks a little sickness prevails. In the former small-pox and fever, in the latter fever only: the cattle diseases called Vukka and Dommy are reported to prevail in four out of the six talooks, viz., Sydapet, Conjeeveram, Madurantakum, and Chingleput; but this was to be expected, as the pasturage, although reported to be sufficient, cannot be very strengthening, as it is too much lacking in moisture. No distress seems yet to be felt among the laboring classes; it would perhaps, however, be as well to anticipate any such, by making

a commencement at once of the numerous roads and other local works already sanctioned, thereby employing the large mass of present unemployed labor in the district, and before distress and want of food makes it unproductive and remunerative.

1. Submitted for the information of Government, in continuation of the Board's letter dated 16th instant.

2. Mr. Fane, when submitting to the Board the result of his further inquiries as to the prospects of the district and the condition of the people, is requested to report the acreage of the crops stated to have withered, and to give some sort of estimate of the numbers of the unemployed population, to whom he refers at the close of his letter.

No. 388. ORDER THEREON, 20th December 1867, No. 3,037.

Miscellaneous.

The Government have already, in their Order of 17th instant, placed Rupees 50,000 at the Collector's disposal for special road works, and they await his further report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
a M. Robinson Esq.

Exd. F. R. Cantleman.

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Madras,
Collector's Office,
Said date
17th December 1877.

Shame Ven
Signed C. G. P. Lane
Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government in continuation of the Board's letter dated 16th instant.

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(A true Copy and Extract)

H. Walgell
Secretary.

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Col. Ramsbotham
Offg. by the Secretary

3 W. 3037. 3

Mr. Lane already in Minute of 17th Instant placed Rs. 50,000 at the disposal of Special Works - awaits his further Reports

I would stop at "upon". I see no use to further discussion in the division of Ramnad

20th December