

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1201

Press

~~Mis~~

Dated

1-5-1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st May 1868.*

No. 35. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st May 1868, No. 3,173a.

Read the following letter from F. B. MOLONY, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated on Circuit at Kadiri, 25th April 1868, No. 63:—

1. I have the honour to inform you that, since the date of my last report* to the Board on the state of this district, I have personally visited the section of the Kadiri talook, where I was informed that the severest distress existed.

* Dated 17th April 1868, No. 61.

† Dated 8th April 1868, No. 54.
Dated 17th April 1868, No. 61.

‡ G. O., dated 23rd March 1868, No. 741.
G. O., dated 16th March 1868, No. 681.

2. I regret to have now to report that the anticipations in my last two letters,† that the people would be able to get over the crisis without further relief than had already been sanctioned,‡ have not been realized. On the contrary, I find the people in some villages suffering very severely for want both of food and water, and throughout the whole of the south-eastern and eastern portion, which is the part I have visited, relief is required everywhere.

3. I would here notice some peculiar features in the present state of affairs in the talook, which I must acknowledge entirely misled me when making former reports. In the first place, distress does not arise from absence of food, for there is grain sufficient, nor does it arise from the price of food, for prices have not varied for six months, and are absolutely lower than they were this time last year. Then the state of crime does not indicate famine, as, up to this time, there has been a most unusual absence of crime against property all through the talook. I myself inspected the Crime Registers of two Police stations, one of them in the village of Pedabully, as far as I can see at present, the worst of any in the talook, and I find that they are almost blank as regards crimes against property since the beginning of the year, and I have satisfied myself, by conversation with the people, that no crime has occurred which has not been registered. This is undoubtedly a very unusual thing in famine-stricken districts. Again I was informed, and my own observation bears out my information, that there was nothing in the physical appearance of the people to indicate want of a severe type. The conclusion I drew from these facts is, however, I regret to say, erroneous.

4. The villages I have personally visited are Balasamudrum, Kokunt, Kortecotta, Peddapully, Poolecontah, and Gandlapenta, and I have sent the Tahsildar of the talook the Dresser attached to my office, and others to inspect the villages lying at either side of my own route. The villages thus inspected are Yedumdonga, Gootybyl, Vunkamuddy, Cooramamidy, and Semayalapully. In all these villages expect perhaps Balasamudrum and Gandlapenta, which are a little better off than the rest, a large proportion of the people, I may almost say, the majority subsist either entirely, or in part, on the root of the aloe seeds of the tamarind, jungle leaves, and nuts. Water in all the villages is deficient, and in some almost absent.

5. The classes most afflicted are the lower castes Malas and Madigas, and the smaller ryots, who have exhausted both their funds and credit. The cattle look wretched, and were it not for what they can pick up in the jungle, could not exist at all. Even there, they can but barely subsist, such is the utter want of forage and water.

6. I have passed and inspected a number of tanks, but in one only near Kokunt was there a drop of water. Even here, such is the imprudence of the people, I found that notice of a fishing had been given, and that people were collecting from all parts to catch the fish. The water would have been let out of the tank, and the fish caught in the mud, had not my arrival just in time prevented so suicidal an act. The absence of water in that tank would have caused all the wells on which the people of the village rely to be exhausted in a very short time.

7. I ascertained that the prices of grain in the different villages are the same as those entered in Mr. Roberts's list, copy of which with one of his reports I have the honour to enclose, and as these prices are not unusually high, I conclude that there is food in the country, if the people had the money or credit to buy with, I do not think there is any tendency in the merchants to withhold grain, or to sell at prices higher than they can fairly demand.

Dated 17th April 1868, No. 57.

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8. From the above facts, I conclude that the famine is the result of the want of money and water, and that the remedy lies in public works, and digging or deepening wells.

9. I will now state what measures I have taken, on my own* responsibility, to provide money and water, till such time as Government may be pleased to sanction expenditure on famine works. The first immediate necessity I discovered, was the want of a well for the Malas and Madigas at Kokunt. They were taking water for domestic purposes from a filthy hole, the water obtained from which, was quite unfit for human consumption, nor was there any other available. There was, however, a place, where it was clear that a fine supply of water could be obtained, at an expense of a little more than 100 Rupees. I ordered this well to be commenced at once, and advanced money that it should be put in hand next morning. By this time I have no doubt, they have plenty of water, though the stone-work will not be completed for some days. It is necessary here, and in some other places, to face the wells with stone, to prevent slips of earth, which would fill up the wells continually.

10. The next place, I found it practicable to do anything immediately, was at Peddapully, where a very old breached tank exists. This tank was formerly filled by an anicut of rough-stone across the river Papugny, turning the water by a channel over two miles long into the tank. This work has never been used for irrigation since the commencement of the British Government. Some merchants of the village of Peddapully, having applied to be permitted to restore these works at their own expense, calculated to amount to 4,000 Rupees, I inspected the whole of them, and found that no Government source of irrigation will be affected, as the water coming into the tank flows through an enormous breach, and is not intercepted again, till it reaches the Papugny river, by which it is carried into the Pennar. There were no objections on the grounds of any private interest, and the works are such as it would not be for the advantage of Government to undertake; so I gave applicants permission to undertake them, and they will be commenced immediately. This will give labour for the present to the distressed of Peddapully, Yedumdonga, Korticotta, and some villages to the north of the Muddenpully talook, where I am informed and can understand that the same state of affairs exists.

11. My next point was Poolicoontah on the road from Kadiri to Royachoty, on which work is in progress from the funds sanctioned for that purpose by Government in their Proceedings, dated 16th March, No. 684. I went in company with Captain Begbie, the Executive Engineer, to visit the works, and found about 150 men and women, employed on daily wages; removing rocks, graveling the road, and cutting catch-drains. There is work in progress further on the road in the Royachoty Range, which I had not time to visit. The villagers at Poolicoontah brought to my notice the existence of two breached tanks. I inspected these tanks, and had rough estimates framed by an Overseer of Public Works for their restoration. These estimates amount, for the Peddachervu, to Rupees 500, and for the Devarachervu, to Rupees 150. The revenue accounts show that the Circar Ayacut under the Peddachervu is A. 24, C. 33, V. 7, assessed at Rupees 128-7-7, and under the Devarachervu A. 35, C. 23, V. 7, assessed at Rupees 135-2-10. Most part of the service Inams of the village lies under the Peddachervu; its extent is A. 28, C. 22, V. 10, and assessment Rupees 229-5-9. The Inam under the Devarachervu is A. 12, C. 20, V. 2, assessment at Rupees 32-1-3. The average collections for the last five years have amounted to Rupees 59-0-5 under the Peddachervu, and Rupees 36-12-7 under the Devarachervu. The cultivation of Inam has been about half of the extent of Inam land.

12. As these figures seemed to show, that these were works, which it would be for the interest of Government to undertake, and as the Overseer in charge of the road close by, could also superintend the restoration of the tanks, I have requested Captain Begbie to commence work on them at once, and forward to me a regular estimate as soon as possible. Labourers will be employed on these tanks on Monday. I have caused it to be proclaimed in the surrounding villages, that the work will be commenced on Monday next, so that for the present provision has been made on the road and on the tanks for the people of that neighbourhood, which includes the villages of Poolicoontah, Vunemuddy, Murrycomoodinna, and Dananichervu, with their hamlets; as regards water, the village of

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Peddapully has three or four wells with from one to two feet of water in them. The people, collected on the merchants' tank-work, will, however, be in the neighbourhood of the Papugny, where, by digging, they will be able to obtain sufficient. It is useless to attempt well-digging at the Cusbah village of Peddapully, as there are, at present, a large number of very deep wells which have been sunk to the hard rock, and which are perfectly dry, nor could I find any place near the village which gave the smallest hope of finding water. At Poolicoontah there are three wells with a very fair amount of water in each; but the quality of the water is not very good, being earthy in taste. It did not, however, appear necessary to undertake any well-sinking there. At Danainchervu, on the road towards Kadiri from Poolicoontah, water was almost entirely absent, and at a hamlet named Toopully near the hills quite so. In these places I have ordered wells to be commenced at once. At Gandlapenta, where water was scarce, I commenced a well near the road, and the diggers had got down nearly six feet during the few hours I was at the village. At the town of Kadiri the people are better off, and I have heard of no instances of jungle leaves, and such things being used as food.

13. As, upon the recommendation of Mr. Roberts, and of the Tahsildar of the talook, I have ordered the sinking of a number of other wells, than those above alluded to, I have the honour now to enclose a list of all that have been already sanctioned by me for execution, and trust that the measures I have already taken may meet with the approval of the Board and Government. Exposure to the sun during a considerable portion of each day, and the intense heat of the weather, have rendered a short halt at Kadiri necessary both for myself and my office, but I propose presently to continue my inspection to the north and north-west.

14. As it seems necessary that some Civil Officer should be located in the talook for the present, and as it is impossible that I can remain here myself, I have directed Mr. Roberts to come here, as soon as Mr. Hardinge has relieved him of the settlement of the Voilpad talook, on which he is now engaged. Mr. Overbury has been directed to take charge of Mr. Hardinge's work, whose services will then be available for the Revenue and Magisterial work of three of the Sub-division talooks. Mr. Roberts will have enough to do with his special duties, and the Revenue and Magisterial work of the Kadiri talook. These arrangements have, of course, only been made temporarily, pending the sanction of the Board.

15. As yet no deaths from famine have been reported; nor could I ascertain that any had occurred in the villages through which I passed; and as regards those capable of labour I feel no anxiety, as we shall be able probably to find work for them; but as regards the young, the aged, and infirm, the case is different, and I fear we shall have to establish Relief-houses for the distribution of food to those unable to work for it, in order to avoid extensive mortality. I have this subject under consideration, but as yet have taken no measures regarding it. The food of the people there is raggy, which can be procured from other talooks of the district if the supply in the Kadiri talook runs short. I am collecting statistics of the numbers unable to work for their livelihood, so that if Relief-houses must be established, we may be in possession of information to guide us in the quantities of food required for each locality.

16. There are three roads on which money might be usefully laid out. One is a cross line joining the villages of Poolicoontah on the road from Kadiri to Royachoty, and Balasamudrum or Tannacull, on the road from Kadiri to Muddenpully. The road would pass through the villages of Peddapully and Kokunt; it would be about 23 miles in length, and would open up a part of the country now impracticable for wheeled-traffic. The nature of the country is tolerably easy most of the way; but there are places, where a large quantity of rock will require removal, and where there will be some difficulty in framing a road. For the present, I would beg to recommend, that merely a tract be cleared practicable for wheeled-traffic, but that the line be so laid out as to form the foundation for a made road in the future.

17. The second is a continuation of the present road from Kadiri to Mootialchervu, as far as the village of Obuldevarachervu, on the way to Hindoopoor, in the Sub-Collectorate of Bellary. The new part of the line would be about ten miles long, and would run over an easy country. The village of Obuldevarachervu is an important one on account of its fine tank.

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18. The third, and by far the most important of the three, is the road from Kadiri to Pooli-vendala through the Mallappah Pass. It has already been made as far as the village of Cootagoolah, two miles from Kadiri, and there is a sum of Rupees 1,100 for expenditure this year from the Local Fund Budget. I think this sum might be increased, and the road thoroughly made from Cootagoolah to Coorly at the Kadiri end of the pass. The distance is about eleven miles, and country very rocky. I cannot recommend any work to be commenced in the pass, till it has been carefully examined by a competent officer, and an estimate for the road through it, submitted for the approval of the Government. Till that has been done, any money spent beyond Coorly would very probably be wasted. The traffic through the pass is very large, but entirely on bullocks. I have been through it twice myself, and can answer for the fact, that it is only with the greatest difficulty, a Pegu poney can be safely taken through it; no horse would have a chance. The expense of forming a road through this pass, I cannot pretend even roughly to estimate.

19. There are, doubtless, besides these roads, other works, chiefly repairs of tanks and such like, on which the poor may be kept advantageously employed all over the talook; but for the present, as I have only been over a part, and cannot estimate the probable requirements of the whole, I will not make any definite proposition regarding works to be undertaken, or sums to be allotted. My proposals in these respects, I shall have the honour of laying before the Board probably in my next weekly report.

No. 36. From P. L. ROBERTS, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Cuddapah, to the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapally, 17th April 1868, No. 57.

1. With reference to the 3rd paragraph of the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th March 1868, No. 1,813, directing me to make a careful tour of those parts of the Kadiri talook in which the people are suffering worst, in order that immediate measures for their relief may be applied on the spot, and directing to report the price of food and the supply in the markets, I have the honour to state that, prior and subsequently to the receipt of the Board's Proceedings, I examined a large portion of the talook, and found that, notwithstanding there were everywhere complaints of the extreme deficiency of produce this year, yet, when the people were strictly questioned as to whether they thought any persons were likely to die of starvation during the next few months, they almost invariably answered that there would be considerable distress amongst the poorer ryots and the coolies, but they did not think any persons would actually perish for want of sustenance.

The poorer classes would probably, in too many instances, have to live upon a half or a third of their proper allowance, and to eke out their small purchases of grain with wild nuts, roots, and leaves when they would become liable to the attacks of disease.

2. Although I was told, in many places, that there was little or no grain to be had, and the people showed me the leaves and nuts they obtained from the jungle for the purpose of eating, yet I never observed in the countenances or bodies of the poorest any symptoms of starvation. The people appeared to be in good health, and able to do any amount of work. As the well-to-do ryots are not very numerous, and cultivation is almost at a standstill, while the Comaties can only employ a limited number of coolies in fetching firewood, running errands, building houses, &c., it appeared to me advisable to relieve the working class for the time with a famine grant, and I, therefore, requested in my letter of March 10th a grant of 20,000 Rupees for the Sub-division.

If money and work are supplied, everything that is required will be done for the relief of the present distress, for the main roads of the Sub-division are in good order, affording the greatest facility for the transport of grain, and grains of all kinds are comparatively cheap.

3. It was estimated, a month ago, that there were 20,000 Putties of grain in Kadiri talook, which may be considered as about a four months' supply. This store in hand, with the present low prices, precludes the idea of a famine suddenly invading the country before we are able to provide against it. But in such a season as this, every precaution should be taken to prevent serious disaster within the next four months. Large remissions have been given to the ryots; and next year, when

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the garden rates are changed into dry, we may expect an era of prosperity to commence. The wells both garden and wet, and those sunk in dry and wet lands under tanks and channels at the ryots' own expense, have done much to save the country in the present crisis. The water in the wells has been very deficient, and is now fast failing altogether; but the lands under them have probably produced a half crop this year. The ryots have thus been saved from total loss.

4. Though there is much scarcity of grain in a vast number of villages and hamlets, yet the most important villages where there are rich ryots of Comaties have considerable stores in hand, so that I consider no ryot or cooly would have to go more than six or eight miles to get cooly and buy grain. The south, east, and north of the talook are worse off than the centre and west, and everywhere the crops have failed more or less, and there is scarcity of work and food for the poor. The supply of good jungle leaves for eating is also stopped through lack of rain, so that the ryots will shortly have no resource left but their own grain stores, and the more injurious kinds of jungle produce.

5. In passing northwards from Kadiri along the main road to Anantapur in the Bellary district, I found the route to be remarkably destitute of wells; but this serious defect was in great measure compensated for by the charity of some individuals who had placed water-pandals at different stages at their own cost. Thus opposite Erradoddi, four or five miles north of Kadiri, the Curnum Venkata Ramappa has set up a pandal in his new tope by the roadside. He pays some people 3 Rupees a month to keep the pots full of water, and to pour out to the travellers. He keeps it supplied for two months in the year, but no doubt if the rains hold off he will continue the charity as long as it is needed. All the pandals along the road have been established within the last few years, and they are kept supplied with water only during the hot season from two to four months. In the abovementioned tope there is a well which has filled up, and the Curnum is too poor to repair it.

The expense of repair would be 100 Rupees, and I think the Department of Public Works cannot undertake a better work than to clear out a few such wells along the roads whenever the owners consent.

6. The expense of constructing an entirely new well in such a country as Kadiri would be too great. A hand well would not be of much value to travellers, and a well with steps is a work that will cost from 100 to 500 Rupees, according to the nature of the soil, and the depth of water. I have already mentioned in my Road Report the advantage to be derived from deepening the existing wells in ghauts, and other places, for the benefit of the Police guards and travellers.

7. A mile or so beyond Erradoddi there is another water-pandal. The water is brought from the river half a mile distant. This year it is maintained by Overseer Runga Row. Last year Narain-sawmy, the Inspector, paid the cost, and the year before Ulappa, a rich merchant of Patnam. There is another pandal near the 64th milestone kept by Bayappa Reddi, of Sanivanapalli, and a new one has been erected this year by Linga Reddi near the 67th milestone. I mention this to show that there is a great deal of charity amongst the natives, and there is no doubt but in the event of the distress increasing, many persons would come forward and subscribe for the public good, but of course this would not be sufficient of itself without Government aid.

8. In many villages wells in fields are being deepened by private individuals, and thus a little water is obtained to meet the requirements of the inhabitants.

In Kutagulla Sidda Reddi has spent of late years 100 or 150 Rupees in deepening his well, and this year he omitted to cultivate a second crop in order that the people might have some water left to drink. He wants 50 Rupees to deepen this well. In Dorigulla the Reddy has not cultivated under his well as the people would thus be left destitute of water. I could name other instances of a similar nature.

With regard to granting money for the deepening of wells in villages, I found that, in almost every village and hamlet, the people wanted a well deepened or re-dug at Government expense. But in no case did I find a village without at least some water within the distance of half a mile. Of

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course it is a great hardship to the people to have to go from 200 to 800 yards for water; but I do not think there is any probability of great suffering on this score. The cattle and sheep have water raised for them in buckets and poured into troughs, and fodder is very scarce. Still the health of the cattle, as well as of the inhabitants, is so far well-maintained.

9. There is only one well in Kalasamadram with a foot and a half of water in it. It is already seven mattu or men's height in depth. They want the well sunk deeper at a cost of 50 Rupees. In Malakavemala the only well in the village has scarcely any water at all. The people have to go for water a distance of 400 yards or more, where there is a little water in a well. Some distance beyond there is another well being deepened by the Reddy at a great expense. The ryots want a well sunk near the village at a cost of 400 Rupees; 100 Rupees would be sufficient for deepening the well which is 400 yards from the village. I have seen other villages, and find the want of water is so general that I think it would cost about 3,000 Rupees to meet the wants of all the villages, though only 50 or 100 Rupees were granted to each. If a grant is made the best mode of applying it would be to give the Reddy of each village 50 or 100 Rupees, and make him responsible for the execution of the work.

10. I have enclosed two lists of wells requiring to be deepened in villages and on roads. The amount of the first list is Rupees 1,130, and of the second Rupees 250, giving a total of 1,380 Rs.

I therefore consider that, if 3,000 Rupees are sanctioned for deepening wells in addition to the 1,000 Rupees, applied for in your letter recorded in the Board's Proceedings now under reply, the wants of the talook as to water will be supplied.

I also observe, in the first paragraph of the abovementioned Proceedings, that a grant has been made for completing the road in Royachoti talook leading to Kadiri. This will be a relief to the poorest part of the latter talook, and I should be glad if the road from Pulicunta through Pedaballe to Kokkanti could be taken up, and the road from Pulicunta to Kadiri repaired. The most important road remaining to be made is the one leading to Pulivendla, which will cost a lac of Rupees if well-bridged so as to be passable in all seasons.

11. From the enclosed list of prices for Kadiri talook, it will be seen that prices have been stationary since the 15th of December. This is partly accounted for from the fact that there is no export to Bellary, as in Fusly 1275, and that grain is being imported into the Sub-division from North Arcot, Nellore, and Bellary. There was a good dry crop in Fusly 1276, and at the high prices that then prevailed sales must have been limited in amount. I have been unable to ascertain what stores there are in particular villages, as the owners will give no information on the point; but from general report I should consider the largest villages to be tolerably well-supplied. If work is given to the coolies there will be no fear of their suffering. At present there is very little work for any except the Wudders.

12. It appears strange, with such prices as these, that the ryots should complain of being without food in their houses. A large number of them are in debt to the Comaties, and live, they say, by continually borrowing more from their creditors, or by selling their stock; still there is evidently grain in the chief villages, a list of which is furnished, and the ryots can no doubt get food to eat, though it may be on rather hard terms.

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List of Wells, the sinking or deepening of which was sanctioned by the Acting Collector of Cuddapah for the relief of the poor in the Kadiri Talook, under the authority of Government Order, dated 15th April 1868, No. 977.

Name of the Village.	Name or situation of the Well.	Amount allotted for its repair.	Total.	Remarks.
Sanctioned by the Acting Collector of Cuddapah on his own inspection.		Rs.	Rs.	
Kokkanti	For the sinking of a new well in the bed of Narrappanoyanicherva	134	.....	This provides for facing with new stone, but as old stone was afterwards found available, the cost will not be so much.
Davain Cherva	For deepening two wells in front of the house of Curnum Royappa	100	.....	These wells are in the street of Davain Cherva.
Gandlapienla	For the sinking of a new well close to the road	300	.....	This will be of great use to travellers.
Kadiri (Cusbah)	For deepening a large well called "Bhreguthurthum"	200	.....	Scarcely any water in the well now, amount required for cleaning it out.
Sanctioned on the recommendation of the Acting Sub-Collector.			734	
Kootagoolah	For deepening Sidda Reddy's well.	50	.....	
Do.	well to the south-west 15 chains from the road	30	.....	
Malakavemala	well 400 yards from the village	100	.....	Village very badly off indeed for water.
Kalasamudrum	well in the temple	50	.....	Do.
Lakasamudrum	Sidda Reddy's well	100	.....	
Kurli	old well near the village	100	.....	
Udumalakurthi	well 200 yards from the village	100	.....	
Kuruguntlapalli near Kurli	For the sinking of a new well in a convenient place	100	.....	
Siddareddigaripalli hamlet of Kurli.	For re-digging an old well	100	.....	
Near Alampoor in Bhuttarapalli pass	For deepening well near Police-yard	50	.....	
In Mullappa pass from Kadiri to Pulivendla	Do.	100	.....	If possible to be deepened for 100 Rupees.
Sanctioned on the recommendation of the Tahsildar.			880	
Errudoodd	For deepening Ayayari Bhavi	50	.....	All wells sanctioned on recommendation of the Tahsildar have been ascertained to be urgently required.
Yeguvatoorapalli hamlet of Peddapalli	Do. Musulappa Bhavi	100	.....	
Diguvatoorapalli hamlet of do.	Do. two wells near the village	100	.....	
Restapalli hamlet of Vunkamuddy	Do.	200	.....	
			450	
			2,064	

ON CIRCUIT AT KADIRI,
25th April 1868.

(Signed) F. B. MOLONY,
Acting Collector.

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Prices of Grains that prevailed in the Kadiri Talook, Cuddapah District, on the 31st March 1868.

Grains.	Number of seers per Rupee.
Rice, 1st sort	5½ seers.
Do. 2nd do.	6 do.
Paddy, 1st do.	13 do.
Do. 2nd do.	14 do.
Cholum or Jonnaloo	12 do.
Raggy	13 do.
Sujja	14 do.
Wheat	6½ do.
Oil-seed	9 do.
Bengal gram	4½ do.
Red do.	7 do.
Green do.	7 do.
Black do.	4½ do.
Horse do.	13 do.
Salt	9 do.
Gingely-seed	8 do.
Aurikaloo	15 do.
Corralu	15 do.
Cleaned Cotton	5 Rupees per maund.
Raw Cotton	Rupees 1-2-0 per maund.
Tobacco	.....
Indigo	Rupees 51 per maund.

(Signed) P. L. ROBERTS,
Acting Sub-Collector.

(True Extract.)

ON CIRCUIT AT KADIRI,
25th April 1868.

(Signed) F. B. MOLONY,
Acting Collector.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary, Board of Revenue.

- Submitted for the information of Government.
- The Board approve the measures adopted by the Acting Collector.
- They suggest that the Famine Relief Committee be applied to, to place a sum of 5,000 Rupees at Mr. Molony's disposal for the relief of distress among the infirm poor, and among the families of able-bodied men employed on work away from home.
- Mr. Molony mentions three important lines of road, namely—
 - Crossroad from Royachoty to Balasamudam, twenty-three miles. Proper and clear track for wheeled carriage.
 - Continuation of Kadiri and Mootialchervu road to Obuldevarchervu on Hindupur road, ten miles.
 - Kadiri to Pulivendla, twenty-five miles, which are situated so as to afford labour to the distressed parts, but for which no allotments have been made in the Budgets.
- The Board find that the unappropriated balance of Road Fund in the Cuddapah district amounts to only 950 Rupees. The reserve is 9,590 Rupees; but from this a considerable sum has to be deducted for plant and the extra establishment recently ordered by Government. It is not likely, therefore, that more than 5,000 Rupees can be made available in the Kadiri talook, the condition of other parts of the district not being such as to admit of transfers.

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6. The Board propose to place the latter sum at the Acting Collector's disposal for the second of the roads abovementioned for which it may suffice, and they recommend that a special grant of 10,000 Rupees be made for the first line.

7. As regards the third named line, it appears that from Kadiri for two miles the line is made: thence to Coorly at the entrance of the Mallapa Pass, a distance of eleven miles, is the section on which Mr. Molony now proposes to commence operations. Next comes a section of thirteen miles to Pulivendla through the Pass, at present only practicable for bullocks; and then a section of twenty miles from Pulivendla to the Railway station. For this last section it is observed that Rupees 10,000 are provided in the present year's Local Fund Budget, Item 254.

8. The Board suggest that this whole line be at once put in hand, and thoroughly completed with an allotment limited only by the amount of labour procurable, and that a subordinate of the Department of Public Works be placed in separate charge for the purpose of tracing the line through the Pass. Meanwhile, the people in the neighbourhood may be employed on earthwork, and sinking wells, preparing metal, and digging pits for avenue trees along the line. These roads will be permanent improvements, and will be found most useful, should the south-west monsoon unhappily fail, or prove deficient, in facilitating the introduction and distribution of grain, not only into this part of Cuddapah, but into some of the poorest districts of Bellary. The Acting Collector is requested to report, as soon as possible, on the condition of the roads from Kadiri via Royachoty and via Peclar to the rail, and via Muddenpully into North Arcot. These lines are all of great importance, and should be placed in good working order, as a precautionary measure.

9. As regards wells, Mr. Molony forwards a list of such works on which he has already authorized expenditure to the amount of 2,064 Rupees.

10. In making these recommendations, the Board have future contingencies as much in view as present necessities.

No. 37.

ORDER THEREON, 1st May 1868, No. 1,201.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Government have received with much regret this unfavorable report of the state of things in Kadiri Talook, but they rely with confidence on Mr. Molony, to use to the utmost the powers granted him for the relief of distress.

2. The Government approve and sanction his proceedings and the proposals of the Board.

3. They understand that a grant of Rupees 5,000 will be at once made by the Famine Relief Committee for the establishment of alms-houses, where the aged, infirm, and infant-poor may be supplied with food.

4. The Collector has been vested with ample authority to provide the means of earning a livelihood on relief-works for the able-bodied poor. He may rely on receiving whatever aid may be necessary from Government for the extension or maintenance of relief measures of any description. The Honorable Mr. Clarke, who has been deputed by Government to visit the district, will give him the benefit of his advice in the matter, and has full powers himself to inaugurate any measures he may deem necessary for the object in view.

5. Should Mr. Molony find that the merchants of Poddapully hesitate or delay to commence the repair of the tank and supply channel mentioned in paragraph 10

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
1st May 1868.*

of his letter, the Government desire that he will set the work going at once as a Government work.

6. The Board's recommendation, that a special grant of Rupees 10,000 be made for the road from Royachoti or Poolicoontah to Balasamudrum is approved and sanctioned, and the Collector is also authorized to set in hand at once such works as unskilled laborers can perform along the whole line from Kadiri by Pulivendla and the Mullappa pass to Modanoor station, for the last section of which provision has been made in the Local Funds Budget.

7. Orders will be given in the Public Works Department to make the best arrangement feasible for laying out the work and supervising its execution, the cost of superintendence being charged to Famine works.

8. Instructions have already been sent to place Mr. Supervisor Lewis's services at the Collector's disposal, and Mr. Molony, in communication with the Range Officer, must arrange for employing the most competent Maistries that can be found as temporary Overseers on the works.

9. Mr. Horsbrugh will by this time have joined Cuddapah, and the Government have arranged that Native Surgeon Iyalsawmy, now stationed at Cuddapah, shall accompany Mr. Clarke into the Kadiri Talook. His services will be available for superintending the organization of the alms-houses, and for employment in such other appropriate manner as Mr. Clarke may direct.

10. Ordered that the following telegram be despatched to the Collector of Cuddapah:—

"Do not hesitate in commencing relief-works and relief-houses by Native agency where you have reason to believe them necessary, without waiting for sanction and without personal inspection."

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Sub Collector's Office
Madanapally
17th April 1868.

No 57.

No 36 From

P. L. Roberts Esq^r

Acting Sub Collector of
Cuddapah.

To

F. B. Molony Esq^r

Acting Collector of
Cuddapah.

Sir,

With reference to the 3^d paragraph of the Board's Proceedings dated 12th March 1868 No 1813 directing me to make a careful tour of those parts of the Kadiri Taluk in which the people are suffering worst, in order that immediate measures for their relief may be applied on the spot and directing to report the price of food and the supply in the market.

I have the honor to state that prior and subsequently to the receipt of the Board's Proceedings I examined a large portion of the taluk and found that notwithstanding there were everywhere complaints of the extreme deficiency of produce

produce this year, yet when the people were strictly questioned as to whether they thought any persons were likely to die of starvation during the next few months. They almost invariably answered that there would be considerable distress amongst the poorer ryots and the Coolies, but they did not think any persons would actually perish for want of sustenance.

The poorer classes would probably in too many instances have to live upon a half or a third of their proper allowance and to eke out their small purchases of grain with wild nuts, roots and leaves when they would become liable to the attacks of disease.

2. Although I was told in many places that there was little or no grain to be had and the people showed me the leaves and nuts they obtained from the jungle for the purpose of eating

Prices of grains that prevailed in the Radiri Talook Buddapah District on the 31st March 1868

Grains	Number of seers per Rupee	Remarks
Rice 1 st sort	5 1/2 seers	3 2/3
Rice 2 nd sort	6 "	4
Paddy 1 st sort	13 "	
Paddy 2 nd sort	14 "	9 1/3
Loholum or Jonnaboo	12 "	8
Raggy	13 "	5 1/2
Lijja	14 "	
Wheat	6 1/2 "	
Oil seeds	9 "	
Bengal gram	4 1/2 "	
Red gram	7 "	
Green gram	7 "	
Black gram	4 1/2 "	
Horse gram	13 "	
Salt	9 "	
Gingely seed	8 "	
Murikhaloo	15 "	
Corrali	15 "	
Blanched cotton	5 Rs per Maund	
Raw cotton	Rs 1-2- per Maund	
Tobacco	"	
Indigo	Rs 51- per Maund	

(Signed) P. L. Roberts
Buddapah Talook's Office
On Circuit at Radiri
25th April 1868
True Extract
(Signed) G. B. Molony
Collector
A. M. P. S.

Telegram to Col. of Huddanah 4

Do not hesitate in commencing relief
works and relief houses ^{by native agencies} where you
have reason to believe them necessary
without waiting for sanction and
without personal inspection. N.

1. Mar 1888

B: 1443/88.

13. 12. 87

utmost the power
granted

I think these reports are creditable
 to Mr. Mahoney. He was too
 in credulous of his trip in the
 first instance but he avows his
 mistake candidly and seems most
 anxious to repair his error. His
 proposals are judicious but he
 seems rather cautious & timid. I
 think the presence of Mr. Clarke
 will give him confidence. Mr.
 Clarke ought not in any sense
 to defer his departure
 beyond Monday. Kadi can

to be sent for Madison in twenty one
hours, 9 Railway and 12 Palanquin.
I don't think that a week was
sufficient for preparation. But Mr.
Clarke told me yesterday evening he
would be off on Monday and I don't
like to keep a letter of his
age & character. I assume
we have ordered the District to
accompany Mr. Clarke for Caddo
and set up a subordinate office
for the same District of the D. O. W.
of whom Colonel Orr speaks well.

10
There is another man coming here,
from the west, of the D. O. W. who
Colonel Orr proposes to send up, as
District. His District Def. (Collector
has been sent (as before) in (mail
on Tuesday.)

From one quarter or another in this
way an increased agency will
be in a few days collected on the
spot.

N.

The telegram received at the
end of the Gov. order has, I think,
been distributed already in
anticipation of the approval of
Gov. N.

Revenue Department

88-1201

Proceedings of the Madras Govt
under date the 1st May 1868

Read the fol-
-lowing Pro: of the Bd of
Revenue -

Submitting Re-
-port on the state
of Kadiri taluk in
Cuddapah Dt -

(Here enters 1st
May 1868)

The Govt
have received with
much regret this
unfavorable report
of the state of things
in Kadiri taluk
but they rely with
confidence on Mr.
Molony to use to the
utmost the power
granted

Wm

Wm

granted him for
the relief of distress-

The Govt. ap-
-prove and sanction
his proceedings and
the proposals of the
Board-

They under-
-stand that a grant
of Rs. 5000 will be
at once made
by the Local Re-
-lief Committee for
the establishment
of ~~stun~~ houses
where the aged
infirm

infirm and in-

-fant poor may
be supplied with
food-

The Collector
has been vested
with ample autho-
-rity to provide
the means of
earning a liveli-
-hood on Relief
works for the
able-bodied poor
Re.

he may rely on
receiving whatever
aid may be re-
=cessary from Govt
for the extension
or maintenance
of relief measures
of any descrip-
=tion. The Hono-
=rable Mr. Clarke
who has been de-
=puted by Govt to
visit the district
will give him the
benefit

17
benefit of his advice
in the matter and has
full powers himself
to inaugurate any
measures he may
deem necessary for the
object in view.

Should Mr. Molony
find that the Merchants
of Riddipully hesitate
or delay to commence the
repair of the tank and
supply channel men-
tioned in para 10 of his
letter, the Government
desire that he will set
the work going at once
as a Govt work.

The Board's recom-
mendation that a
special grant of Rs. 10,000
be made for the
road

road from Royachoti
or Puticoontah to Bala-
samudrum is approved
and sanctioned, and
the Collr is also author-
ized to set in hand
at once such works
as unskilled laborers
can perform along the
whole line from Kudri
by Pulivendla and the
Mullappa pass to
Modanoor station, for
the last section of which
provision has been made
in the Local Funds
Budget.

Orders will be
given in the Public
Works Dept to make
the best arrangement
feasible for laying out
the work & supervising
it.

its execution - the cost
of superintendence being
charged to Famine work.

Instructions have
already been sent to
place Mr. ^{Supervisor} ~~Overseer~~ Lewis
services at the Collector's
disposal, and Mr. Molony
in communication with
the Range Officer must
arrange for employing
the most competent
Maistries that can be
found as temporary
Overseers on the work.

Mr. Horsburgh
will by this time have
joined Suddapah & the
Govt have arranged
that Native Surgeon
Syahsawmy now sta-
tioned at Suddapah
shall accompany
Mr. Clarke into the

Kudri

Thiruv. taluk. His services
will be available for
superintending the
organization of the
almshouses & for employ-
ment in such other
appropriate manner
as Mr. Clarke may
direct.

Ordered that the
following Telegram be
despatched: ~~Mr. W. S. Clarke~~ ^{Mr. W. S. Clarke}.

"Do not hesitate in
"commencing Relief works
"and Relief houses by
"Native agency where you
"have reason to believe
"them necessary, without
"waiting for sanction &
"without personal inspec-
tion."

W.S.C.

14	To Revenue Board
20	— Dept Pub Works
1	— Insp. Gen. Ind. Dept
5	Public Dept
70	6 Acct. Gen.
8	1 Col. W. S. Clarke
1	Mr. W. S. Clarke