M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-9-24.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 14 Press ~~Mis.~~

25-26 Dated 4 — 1 — 19 1868.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 4th January 1868.

No. 25. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th December 1867:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Sydapet, 23rd December 1867, No. 418.

1. In submitting the weekly season report called for by the Board in their Proceedings of the 22nd November 1867, No. 7,620, I regret to have to state that the prospects of the district are quite as unpromising as at the date of my last report. No rain has fallen, the crops that were then withering are now nearly entirely destroyed, and the chances of such crops also as were then reported recoverable if rain fell are now still smaller.

2. The Sydapet Tahsildar reports that in a few places in his talook the crops are said to be still looking green, but that is more from the heavy dews of the nights than from anything else, but that nevertheless in such places a few showers of rain would still save them.

3. The Ponnery Tahsildar is of opinion that any rain would now be too late.

4. The Chingleput Tahsildar reports that the Varagoo crop, one of the chief crops in his talook, has now so completely disappeared and withered as to be beyond hope. He also states that none of the Pooloodical paddy and regular Nunjah will be saved, except in the few villages where there is still a supply of water in the tanks sufficient to last a few days.

5. The Madurantakum talook is the only one, as already reported, where the season is at all likely to be a prosperous one, but even there the eventual prosperity depends upon their getting rain before the end of the year. Under the two large tanks of Madurantakum and Oottramallur however, the crop is pretty certain, as the water in the tanks is ample for it. The Varagoo crop, a large one in this talook, is also reported to be not so utterly withered as that a few showers of rain would not revive it. It is to be hoped, therefore, that rain will fall, and that a crop will be produced, which will greatly help the poorer classes, who in that part of the country greatly feed on Varagoo.

6. The prices throughout the district are curious enough, the same as last week, and have not at all risen. Grain is also reported to be abundant in Sydapet, Madurantakum, and Chingleput. In Ponnari and Conjeveram the markets are said not to be well supplied, but as Ponnari is close to Madras, its chief supply has always been the Madras market. Conjeveram being so near the distressed talooks of North Arcot has no doubt had all its extra grain drained off to supply its neighbour's wants.

7. The sanitary condition of the district is, on the whole, satisfactory. Small-pox and fever are the only sicknesses which at all prevail, but nowhere to any serious extent.

8. The cattle diseases called Dommay and Vekkai are said to exist more or less in all the talooks except Chingleput. In Sydapet and Conjeveram they exist to a great extent, and in the latter talook Mr. Thacker is now engaged in treating them.

arising.

9. Pasture is not so abundant as last week, and is of course everywhere falling off, and cannot be expected to recover until rain falls.

10. Notwithstanding the very bad aspect of the season, I do not apprehend any such immediate distress as to call for any special aid from Government, further than that already determined upon in the shape of numerous public works, both of irrigation and communication. I have ordered all the Tahsildars to itinerate through their talooks, and send me a daily report of the state of the several villages that they may visit each day. I have also called upon them to report the localities where the laboring classes are most numerous and most needy, so that if hereafter real distress does occur, we shall be able at once to know where most profitably to commence relief operations.

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1. Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Board trust that the works for which the special grant of Rs. 50,000 was made are being energetically pushed on, and they hope to receive at the earliest possible period the estimates called for in paragraph 2 of their Proceedings, dated 18th December 1867. All that can be done at present is to acquire the fullest and most detailed and accurate information of the state of all parts of the district, the condition of the people, the stock of grain in the district, &c., and to be prepared to act in the most prompt and decisive manner for the relief of the people immediately on the occasion arising.

3. A copy of these Proceedings and of the Collector's letter will be sent to the Acting third Member of the Board.

No. 26. ORDER THEREON, 4th January 1868, No. 14.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Rev Department

No.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue dated 30th December 1867

Read letter from Collector of Madras dated 23d December 1867 No. 418

Submitted for the information of Government.-

2 The Board trust that the works for which the special grant of Rupees 50000 was made are being energetically pushed on, and they hope to receive at the earliest possible period the estimates called for in para 2 of their Proceedings dated 18 Dec /67 All that can be done at present is to acquire the fullest and most detailed and accurate information of the state of all parts of the district, the condition of the people. the stock of grain in the district &c and to be prepared to act in the most prompt and decisive manner for the relief of the people immediately on the occasion arising.

arising.

A copy of these Proceedings and of the Collector's letter will be sent to the 3rd Member of the Board.

(A true Extract),

Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government
Rev Dept
with Copy of Collector's letter

Reported to England
Dy 11th January 1858 Ltr

Rec'd 1867 Letter from
Secy to Govt of Madras No 3507/68
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 30th }
Recd 31st } December 1867

Submitting for in-
formation of Govt Season
report of Coll'r of Madras
for week ending 23rd Dec/67

RECORDED

No 25-26.

Recd 4th Jany/68.