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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th August 1868.*

Read the following letters:—

No. 402. From the Honorable T. CLARKE, First Member of the Board of Revenue, on special duty, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated on Circuit, Muddenpully, 16th June 1868.

1. I have the honor to report that, in pursuance of the instructions of Government conveyed in their Order, dated 29th April 1868, No. 1,160, I proceeded on the 5th May to Cuddapah, and arrived there in the afternoon of the same date. I found that the Collector, Sub-Collector, and Head Assistant Collector were all in the Sub-division, to which part of the district I learnt that the distress which led to my deputation was entirely confined.

2. My instructions were to proceed, in the first instance, *via* Cuddapah to the Kadri talook in that district, where the Acting Collector was making inquiries, and to pass from thence to the Palmanair talook of North Arcot, and so on to the Kistnagherry talook of the Salem District, using my discretion as to visiting other points, where the state of the people may appear to be critical.

3. I was also instructed to note particularly how far the measures of relief already sanctioned and in operation have sufficed to meet the present requirement of the case, and, in the event of my recognizing anywhere the necessity for further immediate action, I was vested with full powers to order the immediate commencement of relief works, or the establishment of relief-houses.

4. In their Order of the 19th February 1863, No. 470, the Government authorized the commencement of work on three district roads in Budwail talook, with an allotment of 1,000 Rupees for each from the Local Fund Budget of 1867-68, in order to afford employment for the distressed poor of that talook; and on the 23rd March 1863, they sanctioned the expenditure of 4,000 Rupees for digging and deepening of wells in the Budwail talook. In their Orders of the 16th March, and of the 1st, 6th, and 11th May 1863, they sanctioned the completion of a road from Kadri, by the Mullapa Pass and Pulivendla, to the Moodanoor Railway Station; and the expenditure of 5,000 Rupees to extend the road from Kadri to Mutialchervoo, *via* Obaldavachervoo, to the Bellary frontier; and also of 10,000 Rupees for work on wells and minor irrigation works; and of 5,000 from Imperial Funds for relief houses, a similar grant having been made by the Madras Famine Committee; and the expenditure of 5,000 Rupees on the road from Kadri to Royachoty; and of 10,000 Rupees on a new road to be constructed from Pulikunta to Balasamudrum.

5. On reaching Cuddapah, though I found that the price of food-grain in the town was high, I could not discover that there was any approach to famine, or even to serious distress. Grain was abundant, the markets were well supplied, and the people possessed not only the means of purchasing enough food for themselves, but were also able to maintain the poor of the town.

6. The poor-house in the town contained but very few inmates. No restrictions are placed on admissions; all indigent poor who apply for relief are received and provided with housing, food, and clothing. The food consists of rations of Sunkaty, (a pottage of equal parts of raggi and cholam,) and of condiments, and is served out twice a day; once a week meat is added; and clothing is supplied

twice a year. But parties who are admitted into the poor-house are not allowed to go out begging; if found doing so they are struck off the rolls of the Institution. Out of a population of 20,000, only 24 were supported in the poor-house.

7. The greater part of the poor in the town prefer begging, which they find a more agreeable and profitable kind of life than residing in the relief-houses; but it was not so in 1866, the year of famine. The contrast between the existing state of things, and the scene witnessed at the poor-house in that year, is very significant and suggestive.

8. In that year, out of contributions raised in the town of Cuddapah from Europeans and Natives, 500 Rupees were weekly disbursed in providing grain, and a few pice to purchase condiments, for from 500 to 700 persons who flocked to the town from distant parts of the district, some coming from forty to fifty miles. Many of these famished creatures, who surrounded the relief-house and that of the relieving officer, were pitiful objects, reduced almost to skeletons through leanness and hunger. The relieving officer on duty was hardly able to maintain order or to carry on the work of distribution. He was jostled and trodden on by the hungry people crowding and clamouring for food, and hours were consumed in supplying them with it. Now a very limited, but almost fixed, number of poor, infirm, helpless, and friendless objects, blind, lame, and aged receive their daily rations in a quiet orderly way, without importunity or clamour.

9. In addition to the lesson to be gleaned from this contrast, I conferred with all classes who could afford me any information regarding the state of the district: with Europeans, East Indians, and Natives; with officials and non-officials; with merchants and those who, though not engaged in trade, had opportunities of judging of the condition and wants of the people, and I received one unanimous reply that the district was well supplied with all kinds of food, and that generally, except perhaps in parts of the Kadri talook, the people had no difficulty in purchasing it. I was informed that rice and paddy had been largely imported into the town of Cuddapah from Madras, and were selling at nearly the Madras prices, and that the town of Cuddapah was computed to possess more than a year's supply of grain. I also learnt that raggi and cholun had been imported from different quarters to supplement any local deficiencies, and that no fears were entertained of a failure of a sufficient supply of them. In some talooks of the district there was said to be a sufficient stock of these grains to meet the local demand for a long time, and to furnish supplies for export to other parts. In most markets raggi and cholun, the staple food in this district, were selling at the time of my visit at 16 per cent. less than they could be procured in 1867.

10. My attention was, however, repeatedly and earnestly drawn to the state of the water-supply in the town, which was daily decreasing, and I was informed that water was very scanty in some of the southern talooks and in Budwail. In company with the Assistant Collector, the Secretary of the Municipal Commission, the active and able Zillah Surgeon Iyaswamy, and the Sub-Magistrate, I visited several of the wells of the town, and found five large expensively built stone-wells, 30 to 40 feet deep, almost dry. In some cases the parties using them were baling out the water in small tin-pots or cocoanut shells, in others, a quarter to half a small chatty of water was obtained at a lift. In consultation with some of the above officers and

with the Vice-President of the Municipal Commission, I authorized the digging and sinking of four new wells and the deepening and enlarging of about eight old ones at an estimated cost of 4,000 Rupees.

11. On the morning of the 9th May I left Cuddapah for Royachoty, intending to proceed from thence to Kadri, but I had not got beyond the first stage from Cuddapah, when I received intelligence of the sudden death of Apothecary Grove from heat apoplexy. It was impossible, under these circumstances, for the Acting Zillah Surgeon Iyasawmy to join me, I therefore asked the Acting Collector, who was making the settlement of the Muddenpully talook, to meet me at Gurumkonda, in the Voilpand talook.

12. In conference with Mr. Molony it was determined that the Head Assistant Collector, who had just finished the settlement of another of the Sub-Division talooks, should proceed to Budwail to devise and carry out measures for increasing the water-supply of that talook, and that I should return to Royachoty and enter the Kadri talook at its eastern extremity, as I should then be able to see the relief works commenced in that part of the talook, and should probably find the Sub-Collector in the neighbourhood.

13. The Acting Collector was to meet me at Kadri, after finishing the settlement work he was engaged on. The Collector informed me that arrangements had already been made to distribute grain daily to the young, the aged and infirm,

Peddapally.	Kurly.
Wonkamiddy.	Putnam.
Gandlapenta.	Thalupula.
Gowkanapally.	Kokunty.
Kutakulla.	Obicherla.

who were not able to work for their subsistence, at the ten villages noted in the margin, and, as a beginning, he had by written instructions authorized the Acting Sub-Collector to spend Rs. 15 a

week on the purchase of cholun and raggi, to be given at the rate of half a seer for each adult, and of half that quantity for each child. The Collector informed Mr. Roberts that he did not consider this arrangement as by any means a final one, and trusted to him to find out where it was faulty, and suggest the remedy; and wherever the Sub-Collector might find the weekly allowance insufficient, he was authorized to increase it to any amount he might consider necessary. The Collector also gave him detailed instructions in writing, in regard to the disbursements of the sums sanctioned by Government to be expended on relief works and on wells.

14. In passing through Royachoty, on the 11th May, the Tahsildar of that talook brought to my notice the great distress of the people of the village for want of drinking water, and after visiting parts of the town, I sanctioned the expenditure of Rupees 150 in deepening three wells, and of 200 Rupees for the clearing out and deepening of a spring channel, the people of the village engaging to subscribe 100 Rupees to the same object. On my return to Royachoty from Gurumkonda, on the evening of the 16th May, I found that the Native Surgeon had already arrived there.

15. On my second visit to Royachoty, I examined the other parts of the village, which I was unable to see on the first occasion, and I sanctioned the outlay of a further sum of Rupees 98 for deepening and clearing three wells at Massapett. In Royachoty I visited a very large number of wells, and found them all either quite

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or almost dry, there being only a little water at the bottom of each of the latter class. I restricted the sums granted for deepening wells to as few localities as possible, at the same time endeavouring to secure a good supply of wholesome drinking water for each section of the village.

16. In reference to the grant of 5,000 Rupees sanctioned to complete the road from Royachoty to Kadri, a distance of about 44 or 45 miles, I found that nine miles of this road from Royachoty towards Kadri had been made in previous years, and with the exception of a very few portions, was a good carriage road, but from the 9th mile to about 16 miles from Kadri it was an unmade track, and very difficult to travel over. I found several gangs of coolies employed on different parts of the unformed sections of the road working well, under the superintendence of the Range Officers in charge of the talooks of Royachoty and Kadri. There were five gangs, consisting of 200 men and 300 women and children, employed on the eastern section of the road under the Range Officer in charge of the Royachoty talook, and three gangs, of 150 men and 200 women and children, employed in the western section, under the Range Officer in charge of the Kadri talook. This latter section will be soon finished, but a larger grant of money being necessary to complete this useful and important road, and as there were many coolies in this part of the division in want of work, I authorized the Collector to disburse 4,000 Rupees from his treasury to complete the work.

17. A large proportion of the men and women employed on the eastern section were of the laboring class, and came from the village of Royachoty and its several hamlets and the surrounding villages; but many were small Puttahdars, who had paid up all their kists, often for waste land or land that had yielded nothing, as well as their contributions to the road fund, and were gaining their daily cooly of two annas each man and of 1 anna 3 pice each woman and each child.

18. These are the ordinary rates of cooly paid throughout the district, both by the Department of Public Works and, as far as I could learn, by farmers in grain and daily food. I found the coolies regularly and frequently paid in the eastern section and generally contented. Some asked for an increase of hire, but after discussing this request fully with the Collector and with the Range Officer in Kadri, and with others, it seemed inadvisable, under the existing state of things, and taking the price of grain into consideration, to introduce any disturbing elements into the labor market by granting it. The hire paid was sufficient not only to support a laboring man with abundance of food, but enabled him to assist such members of his family as might remain at home; and coolies were willing to come in vast numbers, sometimes as far as 50 miles, to obtain work at this rate.

19. In the gangs on the western section I also found small Puttahdars at work, and I met with one or two instances of Puttahdars paying as much as from 30 to 40 Rupees a year to Government, laboring on the road.

20. In the Appendix will be found a list of the places I halted at, and their distances from the previous stage. I generally travelled every day but Sunday, and my stations of encampment were always chosen with reference to the amount of work to be supervised at each halting place. I went through the village we halted at, and if possible some of the surrounding ones, conversed with the people and the heads of the villages, and endeavoured to learn as much as possible regarding their

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condition and welfare; the result of my enquiries I will embody in my general remarks at the end of the report.

21. As I proceeded on my journey I was invariably besieged by parties complaining of the difficulty and distress they labor under from the want of drinking water, and wherever it was necessary I sanctioned the disbursement of small sums of money to clear out and deepen the village wells. A list of the sums so sanctioned will be found to form Appendix B. to this letter.

22. My first few stages were short, for I found that to examine the road and to have an opportunity of seeing the coolies at work, it was necessary to be on the ground early. I was generally out at $4\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ to 5 o'clock P. M. It was impossible to leave the tent earlier; even in the tent, under the shade of trees, the heat was excessive, the thermometer ranging early in the day above 100° . After the rains and in the cloudy weather it fell to 100° in the afternoon, and was comparatively speaking cool.

23. At the villages of Yegga Gutived, Gaulved, and Yellagal, 12, 17, and 21 miles west of Royachoty, I was chiefly occupied in examining the relief work done on the road between Royachoty and Kadri, and in conversing with the coolies employed on different parts of the road. The coolies at Yellagal complained there was great delay in the payment of their hire, and that they were compelled to go into Pulikunta to be paid, and so lost half a day's cooly. I brought these irregularities to the notice of the Range Officer, and he took immediate steps to prevent their recurrence.

24. On the evening of the 21st May I reached Pulikunta, and on the following morning I inspected the repairs sanctioned on the two tanks in that village in the Order of Government of the 1st May 1868. I found that, owing to want of tools, the repair work was confined to the larger tank, the breach in this tank was being carefully and strongly closed. From 150 to 200 coolies were employed, they also complained of delay in receiving their hire; I requested the Sub-Collector, who was with me, to order the Tahsildar to disburse 200 Rupees to pay them. I found that the amount sanctioned will not cover the expense of repairing this tank. The Sub-Collector has therefore, out of the funds at his disposal for such works, supplemented the original amount by Rupees 600. I then visited the western section of the village and the road work near at hand, where about 200 coolies were employed.

25. On the evening of the 22nd May, the Sub-Collector, the Native Surgeon, and myself proceeded to Peddapully, and on the following morning I visited, with Iyasawmy, the site of the breached tank, which the Komaties of this place obtained permission to repair. The tank is a fine one of former days. The bund, except at the breach, appears in good order. It is strong and revetted throughout with stone. I believe the cost of closing the breach will exceed 6,000 Rupees. I saw the Komaties, and endeavoured to ascertain from them their true intentions in regard to the repair of the tank. As far as I could learn, I have every reason to believe that these men are possessed of sufficient means to complete the work; they are said to have not less than 21 lacs of Rupees between them. They assured me they were in earnest in making their offer, and that they are prepared to spend as much as 15,000 or 20,000 Rupees, if so much were needed, to restore the tank and anicut. They had evidently counted the cost, and fully considered the best means of making the most of the tank. They reckoned on eventually bringing 300 acres under irriga-

tion. I did not see any signs of their commencing work, but they assured me that they were in treaty for workmen and materials. I think that the Chetties should be warned, that if in six months they do not give evidence, by the collection of a sufficiency of materials and men, that they are intending to carry out their proposal, the Collector should be called on to ascertain whether by additional land being brought under cultivation the tank will pay, and if the undertaking be found remunerative, it should be proceeded with as early as possible as a Government work. The Collector entertains some doubts as to the remunerative character of the work. He considers the soil under it too poor to bear a sufficiently heavy assessment to make it worth the while of Government to engage in it.

26. After examining the tank and proceeding down its channel to the site of the proposed anicut in the river Papugnee, I next visited the road-making between Balasamudrum and Poddapully. This work was progressing very satisfactorily. It was under the charge of an active and popular maistry, who was working away heartily and efficiently. The coolies, about 200 in number, were regularly paid twice a week, and about two miles of the road had been laid out and cleared of jungle and stones. Many of these coolies were puttah holders in the neighbouring villages. Had there been tools, a larger number of coolies would have been employed both on this and on the northern section of this road.

27. On returning to my tent, I witnessed the distribution of food to about 37 persons. The term "relief-house" is a misnomer; there is no such place. Raw grain, cholum, and raggi in equal parts, is daily distributed in an open space before the Police Station to the parties admitted by the village officers to the relief. Adults receive half a Madras measure or $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs of grain, and children $\frac{3}{4}$ lb or quarter measure per diem. The village officers were furnished with 15 Rupees at first which, as soon as it was expended, was to be re-placed by a like sum or more if necessary. It was intended by the Collector that the village selected as the place of distribution should be the centre of relief for all the neighbouring villages and hamlets, but through some misconception or perverseness of the village officers, none were admitted to the relief but the poor of Poddapully and its nearest hamlets; those that I saw present did not show any physical marks of serious distress; they were the ordinary beggars of the place, and declared that they were not so well off as in prosperous times, and often had to be satisfied with half a meal instead of two meals a day, and that if this relief had not been extended to them they would have starved. I could not satisfy myself that they had had recourse this year to jungle products or to the aloe-bush for food, though they admitted that in 1866 wild roots and leaves, the heart of the aloe, tamarind stones, and such like things had formed the staple of their food. I felt inclined to discontinue the distribution of relief at Poddapully, but I hesitated to set my judgment, formed on so slight a knowledge of the district, against the experience of the able and devoted local officers, who considered it necessary, and I also thought it would be safer to afford the measure a longer trial. If, after the removal of the misconception which seemed to exist as to the parties to be admitted to participate in the relief, it was found that none but the professional beggars of Poddapully attended, and that no great necessity was shewn to exist for the further distribution of grain relief there, it might safely be discontinued.

28. The comparative merits of distributing cooked or raw food, and of the daily, or weekly, or bi-weekly distribution of it, often formed the subject of conference and discussion with the Collector and other local officers, and it was generally agreed that a bi-weekly distribution of raw grain was preferable to any other method. No doubt this mode has its objections; the recipients may more readily dispose of raw rations than of cooked ones, but I do not think they were likely to barter or sell them. The quantities of grain given were the smallest on which it was found an ordinary adult or a child could live, and I can testify that, as a rule, very great care was taken that none but really destitute objects participated in the relief; that in this respect the conduct of the village officers would challenge strict scrutiny, and that if they erred it was on the side of over-strictness rather than on that of laxity in the admission of parties. No unprejudiced enquirer into the system of relief followed in this talook could entertain any doubt as to the recipients of the grain rations, though many of them were professional beggars, being destitute and in want of food. The power of those who had hitherto supported the poor was greatly crippled. Their small stocks of grain were rapidly growing less, and they were unwilling to deprive themselves and their families of any portion of the slender store; their daily dole of food or grain to beggars was therefore discontinued, and those who were receiving relief had no inducement to sell their rations of the commonest grain and of very limited quantity. In some few cases where the appetite of the recipient might be exceedingly small, some of the grain perhaps might be exchanged for condiments, but I believe there was little, if any traffic, even of this kind in the rations. The people were usually clamorous for the addition of salt and condiments to their daily allowance of grain.

29. I believe that greater opportunities of fraud would have existed had the food been distributed cooked; several of the recipients came from various distances; the numbers were not always the same, and there would be great temptation to the cooks under a most plausible guise to cook a larger number of rations than were needed, the surplus of course would fall to the cook and his assistant as their perquisites. Opportunities for peculation would also exist in the purchase of firewood and cooking vessels, and I believe there often would be exception taken to the receiving of cooked food on the part of the recipient when he might be one of the more respectable classes. On the whole the judgment of the majority, in which I may include both myself and the Native Surgeon, was in favor of raw food. It was found, after trial in Cuddapah, that the distribution of uncooked grain with a few pice for condiments was the best and the most economical mode of affording relief in extraordinary seasons of general distress to large numbers of poor. The cooked ration system was pronounced better suited to ordinary times.

30. In favor of a bi-weekly instead of a daily distribution, it was urged that to make the lame, blind, and diseased walk miles daily to the place of distribution was virtually to exclude them from the relief, and often they were the most needy. To congregate large bodies of indigent and diseased poor in one village was objected to, and is on obvious grounds undesirable, if it can be avoided a bi-weekly distribution secures the end desired.

31. Wherever it was found that the community of a place generally, or any portion of them, were willing to support their own poor, the Collector encouraged

such manifestation of charity, and discontinued the distribution of relief through the Government officers. This he has done at Obicherla, where from 18 to 25 poor were daily fed. A Komati of that place named Vencataramana came forward and offered to undertake the privilege and obligation hitherto met by the funds placed at the Collector's disposal for the purpose from the general treasury and from the amount standing at the credit of the Madras Relief Committee.

32. It was only when the community of any place was found unable or unwilling to support its poor, and when, if others did not rise up to help them, they would be forced to emigrate or to resort to unlawful or violent measures to obtain food, or be reduced to starvation, that strangers or the Government were, in the opinion of the Collector, called on to step in and discharge the duty which properly falls on the inhabitants of the place to which the poor belong. This, I believe, is the principle on which the Collector of this district has acted, and he has encouraged the people to help each other rather than to look for extraneous aid; but when local charity has failed, then relief has been afforded by the funds at his disposal. From all I could see, and I visited and closely inspected the working of the system at eight out of the ten places at which grain relief was bestowed, I must bear testimony to the care and judgment evinced by Mr. Molony and his subordinates in this delicate and difficult work.

33. On the evening of the 23rd May our party returned to Pulikunta, and on the way examined that part of the new road which lies between Pulikunta and Peddapully to the north of the latter village. This portion of the road is under the superintendence of the same Talook Overseer as the works of Pulikunta. I found only sixty-nine coolies at work here, there had been above one hundred employed, but the late fall of rain had dispersed them. The same complaints made elsewhere were repeated here, of delay in the payment of the cooly hire; I found the coolies had received their pay on the day of my visit. The work in this part of the road was progressing, though not so rapidly as in the southern section beyond the village; several Puttahdars had been employed on the works, but at the time of my visit I only found coolies working on the road. We next visited some wells which the Collector had sanctioned being deepened. The work was in progress. Fresh springs had been started in both wells.

34. On the morning of Monday the 24th May I visited Wonkamiddy, a little to the north of Pulikunta, in company with Iyasawmy, and there witnessed the distribution of grain. The numbers relieved were sixty-nine; they seemed fit objects of charity and to be suffering from want. They were chiefly Malas and Madigas and a few Mahomedans. Women and children as usual were the most numerous. The recipients were almost exclusively residents of Wonkamiddy and Pulikunta and their hamlets. One or two came from some distant villages. There was a great want of drinking water in this village. I therefore sanctioned 30 Rupees to deepen a hand-well in the neighbourhood. I also visited some wells which the Collector had, on the report of the Sub-Collector, ordered to be cleared out. The work was nearly finished and was successful. In the evening I visited the eastern section of the village of Pulikunta. I found a splendid well, the well of this section of the village, almost dry. I sanctioned its being deepened.

35. On Monday evening the 25th May I reached Gandlapenta, and on the following morning was present at the distribution of food. One hundred and

sixty-four persons made their appearance here. I saw many shewing signs of being badly fed. There were two broken down ryots and some poor of the better classes, but the bulk of the recipients were of the lower orders, and the greater proportion were women and children.

36. From Gandlapenta I proceeded to Kadri, where I found the Collector and the Range Officer, Captain Begbie. On the morning of the 27th May, the Collector, the Native Surgeon, and myself visited the road-making from Kadri to Moodanoor station, *via* Bhuttrapully Pass, Kurli, the Mullappa Pass, and Pulivendla. The new road commences about two miles to the north of Kadri, about two miles of it had been traced and cleared. From want of tools the number of coolies was very much restricted, but by the time of our return from Talupudu large supply of tools had been received from Cuddapah, and the number of coolies employed had been increased to 1,200. Our visit to the Kurli road on the 27th May was too early to find the coolies at work, but I learnt that 700 were then employed in this part of the road; they were paid by the village officers, and were under the superintendence of a maistry employed by the Collector.

37. We next proceeded to Kootakoola to witness the distribution of grain; 172 persons were relieved, some new admissions were made. The relieved came from Kadri, Kootakoola, and the neighbouring parts; many of the recipients of the relief were very miserable and poor, wretchedly clad and thin, and shewing physical marks of being ill-fed and in want. There was a large number of beggars, some ryots in reduced circumstances, one Brahmin, and a few motherless children. The arrangements at this place were good. Order and method were observed. The Native Surgeon favored me with some rules for the management of these institutions, which I submitted to the Collector for his consideration and approval, and, with the alterations he has suggested, they are submitted for the information of Government.

38. On our return to Kadri we examined one of the wells which was being deepened, and were glad to see that the work was successful, and that a fine large spring had been tapped. The well supplied drinking water to many of the inhabitants of Kootakoola and some of Kadri.

39. On the morning of the 29th May we proceeded to Kurli, through the Bhuttrapully Pass. This is an important line, opening out the rich grain stores of Pulivendla, and affording access to the rail to the people of this impoverished talook of Kadri. The whole distance from Kadri to the rail at Moodanoor will be about 44 miles, and to Pulivendla about 25 miles. The track now in use is only passable for pack-cattle in dry weather, and is bad even for them.

40. The Range Officer preceded us to Kurli, and he hopes he has discovered a fair and practicable line, part of which has already been made, but has been allowed to be again overgrown with jungle.

41. At Kurli we were present at the distribution of food; on the 29th May 125 persons received grain. Many of them were miserable objects, emaciated and ill-clad, and shewing marked signs of great distress. It was clear that they had not enough nourishing food. Many stated they got only half a meal or even less a day. They belonged to all castes and classes. They came from the surrounding

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villages and hamlets; the men were twelve, the women ninety-nine, and children twenty-four.

42. On the morning of the 30th May the Collector, the Range Officer, the Native Surgeon, the Collector's Sheristadar, and myself visited the Mullappa Pass; a more extraordinary line to choose for a road cannot be well conceived. After going over much undulating, rocky, and difficult ground, the track passes over immense slabs of sloping rocks, steep and slippery, and the pass terminates in the bed of a violent torrent, full of immense boulders and rocks of all shapes and sizes, precipitated from above. The whole distance from Kurli to the end of the pass is computed to be seven miles. The Range Officer who accompanied us considered that a good road of easy gradient and not difficult to be made might be formed on the tops of the hills under which the present track passes.

43. This part of the talook, north of Kadri, is very sterile and rocky, but is yet cultivated at much expense and trouble. There are several small tanks dotted about, which this year received no water at all, and the greater part of the dry cultivation in these parts also perished. The ryots seem extremely poor.

44. On Monday morning, the Native Surgeon and myself again witnessed the distribution of food to the poor of Kurli, and in the evening we proceeded to Tallapoola. Here too, the country about is very sterile. Tallapoola is enclosed in hills. A number of dilapidated Mahomedan families reside in the village, several are supported by begging. The poor are very numerous. At the distribution of grain on Tuesday the 2nd June, 250 persons were present. There were some ryots who had no means of support. It is clear that in this part of the talook the ryots are very impoverished, and there is much distress.

45. In the evening I returned to Kadri over a difficult pass, called the Domura Pass, through which nothing but pack-animals can travel. It is very steep in parts, and much of it is paved, and over a minor pass called the Eddurla Pass. This also is very steep in parts, and is largely paved. I found great distress in these parts for want of water, and therefore sanctioned the deepening and clearing of three wells.

46. On Wednesday morning we went out to Kootakoola, and were again present at a distribution of grain to 178 persons.

47. On Thursday evening we proceeded to Putnam; on this day the south-west monsoon broke in upon us with great violence. Heavy rain, wind, and severe thunder marked its arrival. At Putnam, 75 persons received grain. They were chiefly professional beggars, and persons of the lower castes. There did not appear to be as much distress in these parts as in the north, and there are many wealthy persons fully able to maintain their poor. The grain first brought was so bad that the Native Surgeon pronounced it to be unwholesome. It was very musty and was drilled through by insects. It was said to belong to the Reddy of the village, who got rid of it at the market price by giving it to the poor. It was condemned and fresh grain brought. This Reddy is very unpopular. It is alleged that shortly before my arrival, in order to secure some fish, he had cut the tank bund and let out all the little water which remained in the tank, and which was useful for the cattle. I brought his conduct to the notice of the Sub-Collector, who I doubt not will deal with him as he deserves.

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48. I returned to Kadri on Friday the 5th June, the rain prevented my moving out on Saturday. On Monday I visited the Mootialchervoo tank, which was being repaired out of relief funds. I found 103 persons employed on the tank, and eighty on the road. It is a splendid tank, and is said never to be dry.

49. I learnt from Mr. Roberts, the Sub-Collector, who had just returned from a tour among the villages to the west and north-west of Mootialchervoo, that there was a large number of poor people in those parts in want of labor. Now that a sufficiency of tools has been received in Kadri, I hope measures will be taken for commencing the road from Mootialchervoo to Obaldavachervoo, a distance of nine miles. About four miles of this road from Kadri are completed, but it has taken two years to finish this small distance from want of funds. The road is an important one, and all the merchants in the town of Kadri begged it might be completed to the Bellary frontier, and carried on from thence to Hindupur, an emporium of grain. Grain is now being brought into Kadri by this route, but on pack-cattle or on men's heads, and by the same means, by another route to the north, from Buchapatnam in the Bellary District.

50. On Tuesday evening I proceeded to Nullachervoo, and from thence, on Wednesday evening, over a very broken and difficult country to Kokunt. This place is situated in the centre of hills, and is now very inaccessible. The people produce their own food; they say the want of roads prevents their having much communication with persons inhabiting the country round. Sixty-three persons—eighteen men, twenty-eight women, and seventeen children—came for relief. They did not appear to be suffering much. They came from the surrounding hamlets and from the village. A few beggars, blind, lame, and halt, and the usual proportion of women and children made up the company. Considering the wealth of many of the ryots in these parts, I think this kind of relief might soon be discontinued to be afforded here. On the evening of Thursday, 11th June, I proceeded to Balasamudrum, the termination of the line of road to be made from Pulikunta via Kokunt. This appears a very difficult line of country, but a road is a great necessity, and none can be more useful than the one proposed. There are said to be a large number of men in need of labor in these parts. I hope this road may be pushed on with vigor. As soon as the line is traced out by the Range Officer, coolies might be employed on the southern as well as the northern end of it.

51. I reached Chikatamanipally, the southern boundary of the Kadri Talook on the morning of Friday the 12th June, and proceeded to Muddenpully on the evening of the 13th.

52. I have now concluded a cursory review of my circuit of the Kadri Talook, having entered it at its eastern extremity at about the centre of the boundary line, I proceeded first to Kadri, lying directly west, thence I visited the northern parts of the talooks. I then went out to the extreme west beyond Kadri, and concluded by visiting the southern portions of the talook.

53. In my tour through the talooks of Royachoty and Kadri I have gone carefully over many of the villages, have examined the wells, and inquired into the condition of the people; conversed with the Reddies' ryots, and merchants; and with reference to the first point of inquiry laid down for me in the Proceedings of the 1st May last, have endeavoured in every possible way to obtain true and correct information regarding the stocks of grain in store, the sufficiency of the existing

supply, and the state of the market; but I found it utterly impossible to arrive at anything like an approximation to the truth in regard to the stocks of grain in store, or to the sources from which the supplies were drawn. The merchants are very jealous of any inquiries of this kind, and resent them either by making the most absurd and self-refuted statements, or by declaring that they were unable to afford any information. To attempt to base any conclusion on calculations of the supposed out-turn of the several harvests, during the present and past years, and the assumed consumption, is equally futile. On neither of these points are there means of getting at any thing like reliable evidence. The ryots who are willing to give any aid in hazarding guesses, or in opening their stores to inspection, are those who are possessed of no grain or very little, and their information is of the same slender character. The rich ryot is, like the merchant, averse to giving any account of his stock. Although there may not be a very large supply of grain laid up in the town of Kadri, I believe there are hidden stores in some parts of the talook, in the houses and farm-steads of some of the opulent Reddies and ryots. The grain produced by the Reddy of Putnam had been taken out of some old store, and probably there are the accumulations of many years hidden away somewhere in his premises. Grain is largely imported into the Kadri talook in various quantities from Pulivendla and from different parts of the Bellary District, also from the direction of Muddenpully; and strange to say, I have seen more than once a string of bandies conveying grain out of Kadri to Muddenpully. I doubtless might submit a statement prepared from the information wrung by persuasion and cross-questioning from merchants, and from the returns sent to me from the Collector's Office, and made up of the reports of the Tahsildars and other officers in the district, of the supposed quantity of grain in each talook, and of the quantities calculated to be consumed by the population in a given time but such a statement could answer no practical end, and would only tend to mislead. Besides, a sudden emergency, causing large transfers of grain, such as are daily going on in smaller quantities from one part of the district to another, and even beyond it, would vitiate the whole calculations, even supposing the date on which they were founded to approximate the truth, which they would not by a great distance. I was, however, able to satisfy myself that no apprehensions are entertained by the merchants or by the people, of any difficulty in obtaining a sufficiency of grain to meet all the wants of the talook to the end of the year. The general belief, and I am sure it is a well founded one, was that grain was to be had in abundance both in and out of the district, and that there was no cause to apprehend any famine of food. The people readily admitted that a failure of the approaching monsoon would lead to an enhancement of price, but they did not expect it to rise very greatly. They usually turned to the bright side of the picture, and hoped that a breaking in of the monsoon would tend rather to a fall than to a rise in the price. How graciously have their hopes been realized in the very seasonable and abundant rain they have now had, and which has already begun to affect prices and give them a downward tendency!

54. In regard to the powers vested in me by paragraph 5 of the above quoted Order of Government, I have to report that I exercised them in the following instances. First in regard to the distribution of grain for the relief of the

myself saw, I had reason to fear that the large number of poor people around and about Royachoty would, as the season advanced, be exposed to severe suffering for the want of food. The limited stocks of food held by the ryots were fast diminishing and would soon be exhausted. Those who had the ability were unwilling to undertake the sole responsibility of feeding the poor, who were daily increasing in number, while many of those who had hitherto aided in supporting them, were no longer able to do so, and in some instances were themselves numbered among the destitute. I therefore, after consulting the Collector, requested that grain rations should be distributed at the Cusbah town of Royachoty and at Noolived, and for the same reason, on the report of the Sub-Collector of the distress prevailing in the western parts of the Kadri Talook, I begged that two new relief places of grain distribution should be opened in the western part of the Kadri Talook, one at Sunkapully, in the north-west, and another at Mahomedabad, in the south-west corner of the talook. An additional place of relief had been opened by the Sub-Collector at Lukasamudrum, where the village had been burnt down, and the people had lost a large quantity of property and are reduced to great distress.

55. Soon after the establishment of these additional places of relief, the south-west monsoon commenced, and I hope the prospects of the district are so greatly improved, that it will not be necessary to continue long to afford relief at them, and that even some of the originally selected places, such as Peddapully, Kokunty, Poolicoonta, and Gowkanapully may, like Obicherla, soon be closed, and that it may be left either to one or more individuals, or to the combined liberality of the rich among the community generally, to provide, as heretofore, for their poor.

56. In regard to wells, as already noticed, I sanctioned the disbursement of 4,000 Rupees in the town of Cuddapah, for improving and digging wells; and of Rupees 218 in the Royachoty Talook for the same purpose; and of 200 Rupees for clearing out a spring channel; and of Rupees 242 in the talook of Kadri for improving wells. I further authorized the additional expenditure of 4,000 Rupees on the road from Royachoty to Kadri. This is a very important road, and there exists a great demand for labor in this place, and I believe that this must be the case till the next harvest is gathered in.

57. Before proceeding to record my general remarks, it may be interesting to bring under review some of the statistics, and the general information I have gleaned regarding the condition of the talook of Kadri, which occupies so exceptional a position in the district as to require the direct aid of Government to enable it to weather out the season of distress which has overtaken it.

58. Kadri is the most western and is the largest of the talooks in the Cuddapah District. It is most irregular in shape. Its extreme length is 45 miles, and its extreme breadth 35 miles, while its whole area is only 1,093 square miles. Kadri is also one of the most populous of the talooks in this district as may be seen from the margin. The number of the population to each mile of area is only 106, and that of the Put

Budwail	75,224
Poddatoor	85,486
Sidhout	66,912
Pullampet	114,796
Cuddapah	147,566
Jannalamadga	97,321
Pulivendla	95,512
Royachoty	105,186
Kadri	116,119
Voilpand	128,693
Muddenpully	135,511

population is one to every eleven.

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59. The number of coolies and laborers depending on daily hire is very large, and as might be expected from the nature of the country, cattle abound in the talook.

60. Out of a total area of 1,093 square-miles, 1,96,914 acres, or 308 square-miles, are cultivated; but of this cultivated area, 1,87,903 acres, or 95 per cent., is dry land; 5,615 acres, or 3 per cent., is irrigated land; and 3,396 acres, or 2 per cent., is garden land. The average rate of dry land assessment on the cultivated area is about 6 Annas an acre, that of the wet land about $7\frac{1}{4}$ Rupees an acre, and that of the garden is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ Rupees an acre. The average rate of assessment on the whole cultivated area is about 10 Annas an acre, while in the other talooks this average is not less than 1 Rupee an acre, and rises to more than 3 Rupees an acre. It is further to be noted that in 1864, 4,734 Rupees were collected in this talook as Income Tax. This sum represents, at 3 per cent., the rate at which the tax was collected, an annual income of 1,57,768 Rupees, which supposing it to have been obtained as the income of the Komaties in this talook chiefly is by interest at 12 per cent., sets forth a capital of about thirteen lacs of Rupees. The stamp collections in the same year amounted to Rupees 7,046.

61. This talook is most unmistakeably an exceedingly impoverished one. I have it on the authority of several, able to form a judgment on the matter, that not less than 75 per cent. of the ryots are in debt to Komaties and others; and this to a large amount, many to the full value of their available property, and many to half or quarter of its amount. Komaties and Chetties prosper under such a state of things, especially when the usual rate of interest on grain lent is 50 per cent., viz., 25 per cent. each harvest. When tangible security is given, and the loan is in money, the ordinary rate of interest is about 12 to 20 per cent. The Income Tax was levied on merchants, traders, and capitalists, not on the ryot, and the stamp duty represents the amount of litigation undertaken by creditors to compel the adjustment or payment of loans, and of the bonds and deeds passed on loan transactions.

62. This talook was long infamous in the Police annals for large gangs of ruthless and daring robbers, under notorious leaders, many of them Reddies of villages which infested it, and preyed on the rich Komaties and ryots in it in the neighbouring parts of the country. A large number of most brutal and successful robberies were committed, one or two in the town of Kadri. The gangs were the scourge and terror of the country, and there are few places in the talook in which some tale cannot be told of the atrocities and daring of these gangs; but by the consummate skill, and the determined zeal and energy, and the combined action of the Police and Sub-Collector, now Collector of the district, these gangs were hunted down and dispersed. Most of the leaders were either shot in the pursuit, or have since been apprehended, and were either hanged or transported, and crime in Kadri this year has been very small indeed, and considering the sufferings of the people, quite insignificant.

63. One Sub-Collector writes regarding the ryots of the Sub-division, especially of those of Kadri, "as a rule, the agricultural classes are excessively poor; were it otherwise, I may ask what is the reason crime is so prevalent. It cannot be alone because the natural formation of the country favors it, for we see in other districts of an equally wild and rugged nature, that the statistics of crime are far below what they are here. I believe it to be sheer poverty which drives

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"the people to commit crime, and I am satisfied that a more liberal administration of revenue matters will effectually eradicate that which the utmost efforts of the Police can only check."

64. The chief if not the sole causes of the extent and depth of the poverty and depression observed to exist in this talook are unquestionably natural ones; first, the extreme poverty of the soil; second, the absence of any permanent sources of irrigation; and third, the succession of bad seasons which have been experienced for more than ten years; but in addition to these natural causes, I believe, first, the total absence of roads; second, the refusal to grant to the ryots of this and the other talooks of this district the privilege conceded to all other ryots in the Presidency, of fully enjoying the benefits of all improvements effected by the skill and at the cost of the ryot; and third, the misapplication of the remission rules in some instances, and the rigid, not to say harsh and cruel, application of them in others, have operated more or less in aggravating the evils which have arisen from the natural causes above shewn, and have seriously aided in retarding the material progress and prosperity of the people of the talook.

65. From all that I myself have witnessed, I can testify that there cannot be a more laborious, skilful, and thrifty set of farmers than those of Kadri. Every thing is done which skill can suggest to fertilize their fields and make them productive, and every natural advantage is turned to account for the same purpose. Wells are dug, water is stored wherever it can be turned to account, manure of every kind is carefully preserved and abundantly used, the rotation of crops is invariably observed, and persevering and immense labor is bestowed in clearing their fields of stones. In almost every part, but chiefly in the north of the talook, each field contained several large heaps of stones collected out of it, and yet the field might emphatically be termed "stony ground;" immediate advantage is always taken of every shower and fall of rain to plough and to sow, but the soil is poor in the extreme, and makes but a very poor return to the cultivator for all his toil.

66. I have often been surprised at the character of the land brought under cultivation. In all my tour, and I have gone through a large part of the talook, I have seen very little soil indeed which could be called fairly good. The greater portion of it was either a coarse red sand, heavily covered with stones of all shapes and sizes, or a light sand mixed with soda. Here and there I have seen a little loam and a little cotton soil, but the bulk of the soil is the worst possible.

67. In addition to this poor soil, there is very little water in the talook available for irrigation but what is drawn from wells. From the Papugnee, the Madelliar, and the Chuttrawaty, a few channels are taken off, but the first two rivers supply very little irrigation. In addition to the supply of these rivers, there is some little drainage from the hills gathered in tanks, but though there are 576 tanks in the talook, only sixteen hold from six to eight months' supply of water, while 442 hold only a three months' supply and less. Thus it will be seen that the irrigation works are small and unimportant and that but little water can be stored at a time. But these reservoirs, either from the adverse character of the season, or from their being in an inefficient state of repair, seldom hold more than half to quarter of their registered contents. There are in this talook 7,258 wells, on 6,074 of which the extra garden rate is levied; 1,184 are new wells dug lately, and the land under them pays only the usual dry land tax.

68. But in addition to this poverty of soil and want of permanent sources of irrigation, the Kadri Talook has been afflicted by an unprecedented series of bad seasons. I have read through a number of Jumma-bundy reports, and have been very much struck with the large majority of bad seasons which of late years mark the calendar.

69. In 1863, the Sub-Collector reports that this season was the worst "for agricultural operations of any of the long series of bad seasons with which this division has been afflicted since I arrived in the beginning of 1859. In the Kadri Talook in particular, the consequences of the want of rain have been most disastrous to the people. You are aware that, in the beginning of this year, I felt it my duty to recommend that a grant of money should be devoted to road-making in that talook, to put food in the mouths of the people thrown out of employment in absence of demand for agricultural labor, and prevent them from taking to robbery to sustain life. I am happy to say that this measure has had the anticipated result, and that I know of no instance but that of two individuals, where want was the inducement to crime. I feel certain that the grant sanctioned by Government has had the best effect in keeping honest people from criminal practices." Further on in his report the same officer observes, "Enclosure C. exhibits very clearly the nature of the cultivation in each talook; Kadri shews an area of 182,604 acres of dry cultivation, whilst Kalkada has but 90,547, or not quite half the same area. Muddenpully has 19,463 acres of wet cultivation, whilst Kadri has but 9,361. Regard being had to the fact that remissions are granted on wet and not on dry land, this statement explains the otherwise somewhat anomalous fact, that Kadri, suffering from famine, has not decreased in point of revenue nearly to the extent that Muddenpully has which has not experienced the same pressure. Again, this account shews that remissions on dry land are not necessary in the Kadri Talook, for the area of dry cultivation being double that of Kalkada, the assessment is lower by some 3,000 Rupees; the average rate in Kadri being about 5 Annas 9 Pies an acre. The waste remitted was the highest in Muddenpully, which has the largest area of wet cultivation, and which suffered proportionably from the failure of the north-east monsoons." Again we find him saying, "the chief remissions on dry land were in the Kadri talook, but the whole amount of this remission was only Rupees 56-12-10."

70. The dry waste in Kadri that year was 6,328 acres, bearing an assessment of 2,671 Rupees, about 2 per cent. of the assessment of the whole talook. But as this sum would probably be collected from the poorest and most indebted of the ryots, it must have proved for them a high sum to pay, especially as they had lost much if not all the fruit of their labor on the lands owned by them. The next year the Sub-Collector reports, "This season has been very similar to that of Fasly 1273. It has been hitherto remarkable for the small rain-fall." In 1865, the Sub-Collector writes, "The season has been a premature one, and not favorable to dry cultivation; rain has fallen but at unseasonable times, and not in such large quantities as last year. The cultivation of dry crops has been most unprofitable to the ryots this year. The rain fell early, holding out hopes to the ryots of a favorable season. Land was sown more extensively than usual, but further rain was required to sustain the growing crops; the looked for supply failed, and consequently the crops withered. Time, labor, and seed-grain were thus lost to

"the ryots, and this loss led to my application for a remission on dry lands in certain talooks which was happily granted." This remission amounted to 61,000 Rupees, at the rate of 6 Annas in the Rupee, on all dry lands cultivated in the Sub-division; 20,000 Rupees of it belonged to Kadri.

71. The next year is represented to have been "a more favorable season than the last, the rain-fall having been larger. The principal dry crops yielded upwards of three-fourths of a full crop, the yield of the wet crops was over half the same measure. In lands under wells, it was three-fourths of a full out-turn."

72. The present, however, is a more disastrous season than any of the previous ones, and coming after the resources of the poorer ryots (the great bulk of the ryots in the Kadri Talook are such) have been drained by a continued succession of bad seasons, the result is most calamitous. In the early part of the year there was scarcely any rain; there was a large fall in October, and the ryots availed themselves of it to sow largely, but these latter crops entirely failed, and, from the absence of any further rain-fall, many of their wells began to dry up and an enormous number is computed to have failed. Great difficulty was felt in many localities in procuring water for ordinary household purposes, and cattle were only saved by driving them to long distances for water, or by drawing water for them from any of the few wells which still had a supply. The dry crops, on an average, scarcely produced a quarter of an ordinary yield; in many cases where they did not altogether perish the quantity gathered fell below one-eighth or one-sixteenth.

73. The subjoined table shews the amount of rain-fall in this talook during the last agricultural year:—

Months.	Amount of rain-fall.		Months.	Amount of rain-fall.	
	In.	10ths.		In.	10ths.
May...	...	1½	December ...	...	...
June...	...	5½	January ...	...	...
July...	...	2	February ...	...	...
August...	...	7½	March ...	...	...
September...	...	6½	April ...	...	8
October...	...	...	Total...	10	9
November...	...	...	Average...	...	9

In this year only 28 tanks received a full supply of water, of which

3 contain 4 months' supply.

7 do. 3 do.

8 do. 2 do.

10 do. 1 do.

35 received three-fourths supply, of which one was a tank of six months' capacity; 44 tanks received half supply; 9, one-fourth supply; 115 tanks only received a month's supply, while 345 received no water at all; and I have been informed, on high authority, that one-half of the irrigated land of this talook, classed as Nunja,

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was irrigated entirely by wells, one-fourth by channels, and only one-fourth by the tanks. The produce of the wet crops and the lands under wells was somewhat better than that of the dry lands. Out of 10,324 acres of wet land, assessed at 60,161 Rupees, engaged for, only 5,615 acres assessed at 36,188 were cultivated. Out of 1,99,153 acres of dry land engaged for, 1,87,903 were cultivated.

74. Notwithstanding the severity of the season, the indebtedness and admitted poverty of the ryots, out of waste assessed at 27,793 Rupees, 22,469 Rupees have been remitted, and 5,324 Rupees have been charged, though I believe the land on which the waste is charged could not have been cultivated; much of the irrigated waste charged is improperly called Shamlat Bunjer. The ryots holding lands under tanks and channels agreed to divide the water received fairly between them; half or portions of fields were consequently left waste, solely on account of there being no water to cultivate them, and such land has been taxed as Shamlat Bunjer. 11,250 acres of dry land, which could not be cultivated from failure of rain, has also been charged to the ryot. In observing the laws of rotation of crops, the farmer in this district sows down part of his land on the fall of the early rains, with sujjaloo or cumboo, and part is retained till the latter part of the year to be sown with cholum or gram as it may be. If the latter or former rains entirely fail, and the land in consequence is left waste, this is not deemed a sufficient explanation of the ryot's failure to cultivate the whole of his holding, though no better could be assigned, and the impoverished ryot, already hampered by a heavy debt, is cruelly told that he must pay for his waste. Had the waste been owing to his neglect or carelessness, instead of to the season, this fine would have been more reasonable, though to impose it on a laborious and hard-working peasantry, heavily encumbered with debt, would still, as a matter of policy, be in my opinion a very questionable proceeding; but when the ryot is thus fined for pursuing a sensible and wise system of cultivation, it is no wonder the people lose heart and harbor hard thoughts, and well may a Sub-Collector write that a more liberal system of revenue administration is needed.

75. I do not think that the Revenue Officer who settled the Kadri Talook this year, would have been reprehended for obtaining permission to grant full remission for all the lands reported to be lying waste, as well as large remissions on the dry land which yielded no crop. The ryots had labored to the full extent of their means, and many of them beyond their means to bring their lands under cultivation, and more than half of their time, their labor, and their seed has been utterly lost to them: to fine them for not sowing the little land left fallow, savours rather of a strict and rigid adherence to the letter of the rules, than of that consideration and liberality which every settling officer is expected to exercise when circumstances imperatively call for such generous treatment. In other parts of the country and of this district, ryots have grown rich from the enhanced price of agricultural products, while those in the Sub-division, and in the Kadri Talook in particular, have fallen deeply, I hope not irretrievably, into debt.

76. I append a list of waste remitted and charged to the ryot for the last eight years, and two of these years, it is to be recollected, were seasons of very exceptional

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severity, demanding and receiving from Government special aid, yet in these two exceptional years, waste to the amount of Rupees 36,000 was saddled on the ryots.

Fuslies.	TOTAL WASTE.		TOTAL REMISSION.	
	Extent.	Assessment.	Extent.	Assessment.
	Acres.	RS.	Acres.	RS.
1270	8,446	3,728	1,024	4,817
1271	10,478	14,824	1,650	8,252
1272	9,231	16,212	2,195	11,809
1273	12,133	21,577	3,530	17,542
1274	10,256	17,583	2,451	13,132
1275	14,228	9,301	650	3,345
1276	13,200	14,983	1,650	9,062
1277	16,080	27,223		21,546

77. Considering the condition of the ryots in the Sub-division of this district, I would strongly recommend that the operation of the remission rules be, for the present at least, suspended in this part of the district, and that the Collector be authorized to grant full remission on lands which have been left waste solely by the unfavorable character of the season; that is, when the ryot has been prevented by the failure of the earlier or the later rains from bringing into cultivation any portions of the lands retained in his Pattah. I would also recommend that liberal remissions be allowed for withered wet crops, and that in any exceptional seasons this remission be extended to dry lands.

78. But another cause which has acted, and that most seriously, in retarding the material progress of the Kadri Talook, has been the want of roads. Till 1860, nothing in the shape of a road was to be found to exist, unless some short paved ways, formed at an immense cost of labor and means by wealthy Komaties and merchants through passes in the hills which separate one part of the district from the other, can be called such. These paved ways are carried over muddy or excessively rugged parts of mountain passes, and are made for the benefit of pack-cattle. In 1860, the road between Muddenpully and Kadri, and from thence to the Bellary frontier, was commenced. This road was only completed last year at a cost of Rupees 45,197-15-8. Its structure had extended over a space of nine years; the rate of expenditure at first was only a little above 2,000 Rupees a-year; this expenditure was increased in 1861 to 5,000 Rupees a-year. In 1864-65, owing to famine, it was increased to 10,000 Rupees, but the next year and since then the expenditure has never been 5,000 Rupees a-year. In the same famine year, 1864-65, 3,789 Rupees were also granted for the purpose of opening a road between Royachoty and Kadri, and 3,500 were expended in the two succeeding years on that road. A further grant of Rupees 1,260 was made in the same year to construct a road from Kadri to Mootialchervoo, in the western part of the talook.

79. This talook stands greatly in need of roads. When at Nallachervoo, a village on the road from Kadri to Muddenpully, I saw a large herd of pack-cattle carrying grain. I made inquiries and found they were carrying raggi to Poddapully from some village in the westward; the whole distance was 16 miles,

the quantity was one putty, for which 4 Rupees were paid for carriage. A bandy would have carried two putties at half the price. It will be seen from this one instance how much the profits of the ryots are diminished in years of plenty, and how highly they are taxed in the year of scarcity, by the want of good roads. The roads sanctioned by Government this year will greatly aid in opening up the talook; but in order that the people inhabiting it may be placed as far as possible beyond the reach of famine, it should be united by good carriage roads to the grain emporium of Hindupur and Buchapatnam in the district of Bellary.

80. The amount sanctioned for the extension of the Obaldacheryoo road will probably enable the Collector to complete this line to the frontier of his district, where it should be connected with a road reaching *via* Balasamudram to Hindupur. I believe that an easier passage can be found into the Bellary District at this point than lower south. This road will connect the Cuddapah system with the north of the Bangalore District and with the south of the Bellary District.

81. The other important road tapping a rich grain emporium, and which will prove of essential service in saving this talook from famine, is the one from Malakavendla, a village in the Kadri and Bellary frontier, through Pondurty to Buchapatnam, in the Bellary District. Of this line only three miles are in the district of Cuddapah. Grain is now being brought into Kadri at a greatly enhanced price by these two routes. Another road is wanted from Tallapoola to Gandlapenta, *via* Yellaclumalla and Veparalla; these three roads, with those already sanctioned, would open up the talook and place one main part of it in communication with another main part, and also connect it with rich grain markets beyond the district, and would thus, I hope, reduce the probability of its suffering from want of food.

82. But in addition to these local lines, it is of the greatest importance that the Sub-division of the district should have access to large grain stores and the best markets, as well to the rail-road on the eastern side. To secure this end, a road is required from Peelair, through the Nagaputla Pass, to the Tripatty station. A considerable portion of this road lies in the district of North Arcot, but I believe a road already exists from Nagaputla to the station; if so, the work in the North Arcot District will be confined almost entirely to the Nagaputla Pass which lies in that district. This road will provide an outlet for the produce of the eastern section of the Voilpand Talook, and will give the people of that section easy communication with the railway.

83. Another road to perfect the road system of the district is required from Royachoty to Soondapully. The object of this road is to open out a number of important villages to the south-east of the Royachoty Talook, at present quite unconnected with any road.

84. Should these important and absolutely necessary roads be completed from Imperial Funds, the less important lines may be, from time to time, formed from grants out of the Local Funds.

85. Another disadvantage under which this part of the district of Cuddapah has labored, has been the refusal of the late Collector to extend to this district the relief granted by the orders of the Secretary of State to all the other districts in this Presidency, of allowing the ryots to enjoy the benefits of the improvements effected by means of the capital and skill employed by them on their lands.

However, measures are now being taken by the present Acting Collector to carry out the orders referred to, and it is to be hoped that this measure of relief will greatly add to the material wealth of the district and of this afflicted talook in particular.

86. After the fullest consideration that I have been able to give the subject, I am led, on personal inspection and from the reports I have received, to the conclusion that this year in the Cuddapah District has been one of severe drought and not of famine, if famine be taken to mean a dearth of food. The failure of water has no doubt caused a great diminution of produce as seen above. The out-turn of dry grain in the talook of Kadri is computed at not above one-fourth or one-eighth of an ordinary harvest. Only half of the wet land in the ryots' holdings was cultivated, and the out-turn of this portion was about half of an average crop. The garden produce too was far below the average. Notwithstanding this failure in the produce of the ordinary grains consumed in the talook, prices ruling in it at the time of my visit were 16 per cent. less than they were at the same time last year, and at this date they are selling at only 9 per cent. above the most favorable prices known during the last eight years. Further, grain is abundant in all the markets, and the stocks in hand can easily be replenished at near markets. During the whole of my tour, I was never so importuned for food as I was for water. I was constantly besieged at all places and by persons waiting for me at almost every village, and implored to adopt measures to increase the water supply, either to sink, enlarge, or deepen wells, or to repair tanks. The one great cry was for water for man and beast. The want of water greatly restricted agricultural operations, and threw out of employ a large number of agricultural and other laborers, and over-stocked the labor market with labor. Want of money to purchase food or of credit to borrow it pressed heavily on many of the ryots. The bulk of ryots had neither the one nor the other, and were almost all greatly in debt. The Komaties lent largely both grain and money to the more substantial ryots, whose crops had afforded them but a small harvest. Such persons themselves living on borrowed stocks did not recognize the duty devolving on them of assisting or supporting the poor among them. The means of the more substantial ryots were reduced to the slenderest margin, and many of the smaller class of ryots were obliged to seek a livelihood by working as coolies.

87. Little if any employment was to be found in agricultural operation. Starvation and death, emigration or crime were the alternatives left to them to choose from.

88. It was at this juncture the Collector applied to Government for sanction to commence relief works, and to open relief-houses. Both kinds of relief were absolutely needed if the people were to be preserved. A want of tools prevented as many of the people being employed in public works as could be desired; but this want has now been supplied, and I doubt not that before long from eight to ten thousand persons will be employed in the Kadri and Royachoty Talooks.

89. The grain distribution has been carefully and judiciously conducted. The Sub-Collector visited most of the villages of the district, and has gone through an amount of bodily fatigue, a discomfort hardly to be conceived. The Collector has also more than once visited the suffering parts of the talook, and the Range Officer is doing all in his power and contending against many difficulties to aid the

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Collector in carrying out the relief works. It would be well if the Superintending Engineer could make it convenient to visit this part of his charge, and give the Range Officer the aid of his advice in laying out the Mullappa Pass road and the road *vid* Kokuntty. His hearty co-operation and assistance would doubtless be valuable.

90. The measures of relief which have been afforded have been of incalculable benefit, and have averted those serious evils which generally have marked years of famine in India. They have been judiciously and carefully executed. There has been no waste of means, no extravagance that I could detect. The officers have labored to suppress fraud, while they have done all in their power to alleviate the distress which had overtaken a part of the district, and which was patent to every unprejudiced mind. The people too were sensible and grateful for the care evinced by Government in their behalf, and for the timely aid extended to them.

91. The south-west monsoon burst over the whole district early in June. In all parts rain has fallen in greater or less degree, many tanks have received a good supply of water, and in most some water is collected. A large breadth of land is being brought under cultivation. In some parts the fields have only been ploughed, in others they have been sown. I trust all cause of anxiety for the future prospects of the district for this year is removed, and that this most gracious and abundant fall of seasonable rain is but the earnest of a still more abundant rain-fall and of a fruitful harvest.

92. I found that the leaves of the Devadari shrub were largely eaten by the poor, but this leaf forms an article of commerce, and is sold in all the bazaars; it is collected and is used to flavor the food of all classes. This I fancy is what is termed in some places the "native salad." It is, I believe, used cooked, and not raw. Tamarind stones, jungle berries, roots, and the heart of the aloe plant are only had recourse to in "hard times" and times of distress. They never form a portion of ordinary food in ordinary seasons. In 1866 they were very much eaten, and this year tamarind stones have formed a portion of the food of the poorer classes, but they have not been driven to the use of the aloe, an unwholesome and dangerous article of food. It is impossible to go through a country where this plant abounds, and not at once detecting its being used. Through my tour in Cuddapah I saw no traces of such use.

93. It will be impossible in consequence of the rains to curtail the measures of relief now in operation. The same causes of distress which have led to their being afforded still exist, and will do so till the next harvest is gathered in. Many of the members of each ryot's family will quit the public works to carry on ploughing and sowing, but others will continue on the works to obtain food, and those who are now ploughing will be glad again to return to the Government works as soon as this operation is over.

94. I have to thank the Collector and the Sub-Collector for the valuable aid they have afforded me. They were always ready to meet my wishes, and at much personal inconveniences visited my camp and remained with me for several days. The Collector also made every arrangement for my comfortable passage through his district, and did all in his power to afford me all the information I required. I have also to bring to the notice of Government the valuable aid afforded me throughout my tour by the Native Surgeon Iyasawmy, whose activity and zeal in

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endeavouring to ascertain where distress existed, and whose efforts to relieve it were exemplary. He attended to all the sick that came to him.

95. I have also to notice the assistance rendered me by the Sheristadar, Simhadri Pantulu, and the Tahsildar of Muddenpully.

P. S.—Since closing my report I received a communication from the Collector of North Arcot, and one of similar character from the Collector of Salem, in which both officers express their opinion that they do not consider it necessary for me to extend my inspection to these districts. The Collector of North Arcot writes, "I cannot say that there is any cause for a visit from you as Famine Relief Commissioner; our principal source of anxiety had been scarcity of water, but since the late good general rain that condition of things has passed away. Cultivation is in full progress, and special works are languishing. There is of course occasional distress amongst the poorest classes, but this could be discovered in any year if special steps were taken to do so. To meet such cases a few works will be left open."

The Collector of Salem states, "I do not think that your visit would be of any advantage whatever. Remissions both on Punja and Nunja have been liberally granted where needed, and the special relief grants have been carried out where required."

"The Divisional Officers have reported that many of those employed on the several works have left to attend to their own cultivation, which shews that no distress any longer exists."

"The late rains which have filled most of the tanks, have quite turned the aspect of affairs."

"Already the principal crops are springing up and look remarkably healthy. The only parts of the district where the very poor would have felt any distress, but for the timely rain, were Kistnagherry, Uttengherry, and a part of Sunkerrydroog Talook. Everything now, however, bears the appearance of comfort and happiness, and if you paid the district a trip you would find scarcely anything to do."

Under these circumstances I have availed myself of the permission granted to me in the order of Government, and have returned to Madras.

No. 403. From M. IYASAWMY PILLAY, Native Surgeon on special duty in Cuddapah District, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, dated on Circuit, Muddenpully, 16th June 1868.

1. In obedience to the orders given me, I beg to submit the following remarks on the present state of the affected parts of the Kadri Talook, which I have visited with the Honorable T. Clarke, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue.

2. On my arrival from Madras, where my presence was required on public business, I met Mr. Clarke, and pointed out to that gentleman the present defective state of the water supply in the town of Cuddapah. He, after a careful inspection of the several wells, sanctioned the sum of Rupees 4,000 for clearing and deepening some of them, and also for sinking new ones at different parts of the town.

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3. I was delayed joining Mr. Clarke in his visit to the interior for some days, owing to the sudden death, from "heat apoplexy," of Mr. Apothecary Abel Grove, who was appointed to act for me during my absence on special duty. I did not leave Cuddapah till the arrival of Native Surgeon Manikam Moodelly from Salem, who relieved me on the 13th May, and I proceeded to join Mr. Clarke's camp, which was then at Royachoty. On my arrival there, I was informed that Mr. Clarke had proceeded to Gurumkonda, and I awaited his arrival. Mr. Clarke returned on the 16th, we visited the town of Royachoty, and inspected all the wells in and about the place. Mr. Clarke sanctioned the clearing and deepening of some of them which he thought would increase the water supply of the town.

4. I next proceeded with that gentleman to the different parts of the Kadri Talook, where distress was said to be much prevailing.

5. Our attention was next directed towards the relief-houses already established by the Collector, as marginally indicated. After personal inspection of a few houses, we were of opinion that it required to be governed by a proper system which would ensure a proper distribution of food to the needy, and a careful expenditure of Government money placed in the hands of the Reddies and Curnams for the purchase of the rations distributed. I was therefore directed to frame a set of rules as well as to prescribe certain forms for the guidance of these officers. These were approved of by Mr. Clarke, and transmitted to the Collector for circulation, after being translated in the vernacular of the district.

6. The number of recipients which I have seen at the several relief-houses, sharing in the charity so liberally permitted by Government, impressed me with the belief that there was no apprehension of any appalling distress for the present. When the present state of affairs are contrasted with the disastrous season of 1866, when the Cuddapah relief-house was besieged and thronged with hundreds of miserable creatures, who traversed miles and miles to obtain the relief, I am inclined to reiterate my opinion that there is no certain shew of any disaster that may terminate in a famine. The present relief is not participated by any of the poor of distant villages, but it is chiefly confined to those of the village in which the relief-house has been established.

7. The only perceptible distress under which the people are generally suffering is the great want of water for man and beast. The Honorable T. Clarke is making minute inquiries on this subject, and has sanctioned the sinking, clearing, and deepening of many wells in different parts of the talook, with a view of increasing the water-supply. The long failure of the monsoons contributed towards the present want of water.

8. The condition of the ryots is generally poor, and they are much in debt to the merchants, owing to the failure of the seasonable rains for a series of years.

9. The present prices of food-grain, however, in no way exhibit a tendency to famine rates, but on the contrary, they may be considered comparatively cheaper than last year or the year before last; but the poorer ryots and laboring classes,

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who are already deeply involved in debt, are unable to purchase it from want of means. This district, and particularly this talook, had for a series of years been suffering from the failure of the monsoons. The year before last the ryots had small supplies of grain, which added to last year's harvest, which amounted only to $\frac{1}{4}$ th to $\frac{1}{8}$ th crop, they were enabled to tide over the trying season for some time. When this stock on hand was exhausted, they were compelled to have recourse to the markets. This rush into the grain mart gave an impetus for extensive importation of grain from Pulivendla and Bellary. Though there was an overflow of grain, the ryots and laboring classes were still unable to purchase it, owing to their slender means, except by pledging their immovable, and movable properties in mortgage to the Komaties.

10. From minute inquiries made, I find that there is no large stock of grain in this talook. But the merchants do not entertain any fear; even if the monsoon should fail, large quantities could be brought from Pulivendla and Buchapatnam.

11. The relief works, such as repairing and making roads, repairing tanks, deepening or sinking wells which have been opened out in many parts of the talook, will in a great measure relieve the able-bodied poor who are employed on these works. Here one may see the once well-to-do ryot (with his family) working contentedly together with his former farm servants or with other common coolies, and thanking Government for this temporary yet timely aid. The numbers employed on the relief works amount to nearly 5,000, and more will be draughted into employment when fresh works are opened out.

12. The aspect of the country is dry and arid, and there is a great deficiency of fodder; little or no pasturage is to be found. The cattle are, therefore, in a very low condition, often fed with leaves growing wild in the jungles.

13. The people, notwithstanding the present drought, are in good and healthy condition. Very few, except the beggars and other professional mendicants, appeared to be suffering from deficient nourishment, and none, as far as I know, from real starvation. I made it also a point of duty to inquire if any of the poorer classes are or have been compelled from want of better food to eat jungle leaves, nuts or aloes. There appears to be no foundation for any such belief. A few might have had recourse to such a food before the relief works were opened out, but none do now; but I was informed that in the famine year of 1866, the poorer classes made use of these wild products as food.

14. There has been no endemic or epidemic diseases prevailing; and I took especial care to inquire in the villages I passed through if its inhabitants are suffering from fever or other local miasmatic diseases, and I may say I did not meet with more than half a dozen cases of intermittent fever during my tour of inspection.

15. The western and north-west sections of this talook are no doubt suffering in a greater degree than the other portions. But I trust, with the arrangements now made, their condition will be materially alleviated.

16. During the past week there has been a fine fall of rain throughout the district; many of the tanks have received a fair supply of water, and most of the ryots and farm servants, who were employed on the relief works, have returned to their agricultural occupations.

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17. In conclusion, I beg to be pardoned for this short and meagre report. All the details required by Government will be more fully reported on by the Honorable T. Clarke in a few days hence.

No. 404.

ORDER THEREON, 26th August 1868, No. 2,257.

Miscellaneous.

1. The failure of the north-east monsoon in November and December last had such a serious effect upon the agricultural resources of the people of the home districts of Madras, North Arcot, and South Arcot, that it was deemed advisable, at the commencement of the present year, to direct a Member of the Board of Revenue to proceed to those districts in order to obtain, by local inquiry, detailed information as to their condition and prospects. The inquiries which were at the same time made by the Board of Revenue, regarding the state of the other districts of the Presidency, elicited in regard to that of Cuddapah, that though the later rains had only been partial, the rain-fall of the year on the whole had not been much below the average, that the cultivation was equal to that of previous years, and that prices were by no means exceptionally high. It was not, therefore, then thought necessary that the Officer engaged on special duty should extend his inquiries to this district.

2. Early in February, however, the Collector of Cuddapah reported that the poorer classes in the Budwail Talook were suffering much from the failure of their crops and the scarcity of water, that they were already in considerable straits for their livelihood, and that further distress was to be apprehended. The Government accordingly sanctioned the outlay of Rupees 15,000 from Local Funds upon certain road works in this talook, in view to giving employment to the distressed, and subsequently, on the application of the Acting Collector of the district, they sanctioned a special grant of Rupees 4,000 for the purpose of deepening wells, as a serious deficiency of drinking water was reported.

3. On the 4th March the Acting Collector again reported unfavorably of the condition of the district, stating that the poorer classes in many parts of it were much in need of assistance. A portion of the population of the Kadri Talook were said to be subsisting on leaves. Money to purchase food, and water for domestic purposes, were stated to be the chief wants of the people, as prices were not high and grain was plentiful. The Government accordingly, in their Order of 16th March 1868, No. 1,146, sanctioned a special grant of Rupees 6,000 for the employment of the able-bodied poor on relief works, and for deepening wells in the Kadri and Royachoty Talooks.

4. The reports of the Acting Collector from this period until the 25th April were favorable, and he more than once expressed his belief that the relief works already sanctioned would enable the people to tide over their difficulties. On his forwarding a report from the Sub-Collector, giving a very unsatisfactory account of the condition of the Kadri Talook, which he then considered highly colored, the Government, in their Order, dated 15th April 1868, No. 977, directed his particu-

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attention to this portion of the district, and authorized him, in case of necessity, to act on his own responsibility in making any expenditure for the relief and support of the poor.

5. On the 26th April, Mr. Molony telegraphed that there was scarcity amounting to famine in the Kadri Talook, and in reply was authorized to purchase and import grain into the talook, if the local market was not well supplied, and to open relief-houses if the relief works did not afford immediate support to the people. On the 25th and 27th of the same month, the same Officer reported the results of a personal tour in the Kadri Talook. He found the people in many parts of it suffering severely from want of food and water, and a large proportion of them subsisting entirely or in part on the root of the aloe, the seeds of the tamarind, jungle leaves, and nuts. Though he had seen but one case approaching positive starvation, he felt bound to state that the people could not possibly exist for any length of time on their present food. He also explained that the entire absence of crime against property, the comparatively low rates of prices, and the knowledge that there was no scarcity of grain in the talook, had led him to erroneous conclusions as to the state of the people before his personal inspection of their condition.

6. On receipt of these reports, orders were issued placing certain Covenanted and other Officers at Mr. Molony's disposal for the prosecution of relief works and the management of relief depôts, and he was informed that the only measure of the expenditure to be made to prevent and relieve distress should be the actual requirements of the case.

7. The Government, in the meantime, had had under their consideration the propriety of renewing the mission of a Member of the Board of Revenue to the provinces, which had been suspended after Mr. Robinson's visits to the districts of Madras, South Arcot, North Arcot, and Salem. The relief which had been experienced, owing to the rain-fall at the end of January, was felt to be but temporary, and it had become necessary to provide against the uncertain but contingent and possible danger of a failure of the south-west monsoon. The Government accordingly resolved* to depute Mr. Clarke, the

*G. O., under date 29th April 1868, No. 1,160. Senior Member of the Board, to visit the districts of Cuddapah, North Arcot, and Salem. He was requested to note particularly how far the measures of relief, already sanctioned and in operation, had sufficed to meet the requirements of the case, and to confer with the several Collectors on the state of their districts, having in view more especially the supply of food on hand and the prospects of the country, in the event of a deficient south-west monsoon. In case of his recognizing any where the necessity for further immediate action, he was vested with full powers to order the immediate commencement of relief works, or the establishment of relief-houses. As the reports recently received of the Kadri Talook in Cuddapah were very unfavorable, he was directed to commence his inspection in that district.

8. Within a week of the issue of these orders, Mr. Clarke proceeded to Cuddapah, and the first communication above recorded is the report on his tour in that district. On arrival at Cuddapah, he found on due inquiry that there was

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nothing like general famine in the district, though in many parts of it the want of water for domestic purposes was severely felt. The condition of the town itself presented a marked contrast to what it had been in the famine year (1866), and no measures of relief appeared to be necessary beyond improving the supply of drinking water, for which purpose Mr. Clarke accordingly issued orders for the expenditure of Rupees 4,000 in clearing out the wells of the town.

9. Mr. Clarke was informed by those best acquainted with the condition of the district that food was plentiful in all parts of it, prices being 16 per cent. below those of the previous year, and that the people were generally well able to purchase food, except in the Kadri and parts of the Royachoty Talook. To these localities he accordingly confined his attention, and made a careful tour of nearly a month's duration through this part of the district. He travelled over 260 miles, usually making a move each day, and halting at places which were conveniently situated for observing the distribution of food at the relief depôts, and for inspecting the relief works in progress.

Peddapally.	Putnam.
Wakamiddy.	Thalupula.
Gadlapenta.	Kokunt.
Kut. kalla.	Obicherla.
Kurly.	Gowkunapally.

10. Previous to Mr. Clarke's arrival in the district, the ten depôts for the issue of food-grain, noted in the margin, had been established under the orders of the Acting Collector. Of these, Mr.

Clarke inspected the first eight. There were apparently about 1,000 people receiving relief at these places at the time of Mr. Clarke's visit. They were chiefly women and children, though a few adult males were among the recipients at each place, and there were even occasional instances of Government ryots being applicants for food. At most of the depôts the people shewed physical signs of want. They were generally emaciated and wretchedly clad, and had evidently been suffering from deficiency of food. At Peddapally, Kokunt, and Putnam, however, the persons relieved were merely the ordinary beggars of the neighbouring villages. At the last named place the Reddy in charge of the depôt had endeavoured to get rid of some inferior grain by using it at the depôt, and shortly before Mr. Clarke's arrival he had cut the bund of the tank in order to secure the fish for his own use. Mr. Clarke reported him to the Sub-Collector. The Government, however, observe that he rendered himself liable to punishment for both these offences under Sections 273 and 430 of the Indian Penal Code.

11. With this exception, the relief depôts appear to have been well conducted, and the rules drawn up by Native Surgeon Iyasawny, and approved by Mr. Clarke, are well calculated to ensure careful management. The Acting Collector also seems to have selected the centres of relief with great discretion. Every endeavour was made to induce the wealthy inhabitants of the villages to support their own poor, and it was only when local charity altogether failed that relief was given from the funds at the Collector's disposal. The Government entirely approve of the course adopted. The Board of Revenue should impress upon all Collectors that, whenever it becomes necessary to issue relief in food, the measure should be undertaken on this principle only, and that every inducement should be held out to the charitable to come forward for the assistance of the poor. On the present occasion it appears

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that at one of the relief depôts, (Obicherla,) a wealthy merchant of the place took the entire expenditure on himself. The Government would be glad to know from the Acting Collector whether this individual has properly fulfilled his undertaking, in order that they may have an opportunity of marking their sense of his public-spirited liberality.

12. From the information as to the condition of the country which Mr. Clarke obtained during his tour, he deemed it advisable to direct relief depôts to be opened at Royachoty and Noolived in the Royachoty Talook, and at Sankapillay, Mahomedabool, and Lakasamoodrum in Kadri. He, however, expresses his opinion that the depôts at Peddapally, Puliconta, Gowkunapully, and Kokunt might shortly be closed, and the recent fortunate change in the season has probably rendered these depôts still less necessary than at the time of Mr. Clarke's visit. The Acting Collector will accordingly be authorized to discontinue relief at these places if he concurs with Mr. Clarke in considering that they are no longer needed, and he will also be requested to report generally upon the other relief depôts, with reference to the present circumstances of the district.

13. Mr. Clarke visited the relief works on the roads (1) from Royachoty to Kadri, (2) from Kadri to the Mallapah Pass and Pullivendla, (3) from Kadri to Mutialchervoo and Obdalachervoo, and (4) from Puliconta to Balasamoodrum. The wages paid were 2 Annas per day for men and 1 Anna and 3 Pies for women and children, and it was found that laborers were willing to come to work from long distances for these rates of hire, and occasionally Government ryots were found among the working gangs. Though at first some difficulty was felt in the prosecution of these works owing to the want of tools, on the whole they were progressing satisfactorily, and provided employment for a large number of persons. As the amount sanctioned for the road No. 1 was found to be insufficient, Mr. Clarke very properly sanctioned a further allotment of Rupees 4,000. Road No. 2 should be pushed forward to completion without delay, and a new line should be marked out through the Pass, as Mr. Clarke reports that the present trace is altogether unsuitable. The third road should also be completed to the frontier of the district, and the fourth should be commenced from its southern end, if this has not already been done, as the people in the neighbourhood of Balasamoodrum are stated to be much in need of work.

14. The irrigation relief works in progress at Puliconta and Mutialchervoo were also inspected by Mr. Clarke, and were proceeding satisfactorily. The tank repairs at Peddapally, which were undertaken by some merchants of the town, had not however been commenced upon at the time of Mr. Clarke's visit. His proposal to warn these persons that if the work is not commenced within some limited time, it will be undertaken on behalf of Government, is approved. The Acting Collector should lose no time in giving the merchants the necessary notice of the intentions of Government.

15. Mr. Clarke's careful and intelligent inspection of the Cuddapah District has satisfied him that though the season has been one of severe drought, there has been no absolute scarcity of food. His observations do not corroborate the Acting Collector's former reports in regard to the large resort by the people to jungle

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produce and leaves for food. The distress, which has undoubtedly been severely felt in many parts of the district, was not occasioned by high prices, but simply from the action of an unfavorable season upon a population in an exceptionally depressed condition. The failure of the seasonable rain greatly restricted agricultural operations, and threw out of employment a large number of agricultural and other laborers, and in the Kadri Talook, the number of coolies and laborers dependent upon daily hire is unusually large. This talook has also been long known for its natural poverty. The soil is poor and unproductive, there are no permanent sources of irrigation, there is but one made-road in the talook, and that has only recently been completed, and the seasons for a series of years have been unfavorable.

16. To these causes, for the exceptional poverty of the people of Kadri, Mr. Clarke adds a fifth. He states that the revenue administration has been harsh and illiberal, and that the salutary rule under which a ryot is allowed the full benefit of his own improvements has never been adopted. As to the latter point, however, it appears that the rule promulgated in 1854, under which the enhanced produce obtained by the outlay of private capital was left untaxed, has been adopted in Cuddapah as elsewhere; but that the more recent concession of the Home Government, under which the assessment of lands under *old* wells, (*i. e.*, wells sunk before 1854,) was directed to be reduced to the highest dry rate of the village, has not yet been extended to the Cuddapah District, owing to the peculiar tenure on which a considerable proportion of these lands are held. The necessary information on the subject has, however, recently been obtained, and the requisite instructions will shortly be issued.

17. Mr. Clarke apparently bases his charge of harshness against the revenue administration upon the requirements of the existing rules under which a ryot is called upon to pay the assessment of *all* the dry land in his puttah even though he leaves a portion of it waste. He animadverts at some length on the impolicy of this course, and considers that the poverty and indebtedness of the ryots of Kadri is to be ascribed in no small degree to the operation of the rule. The Government must, however, observe that the practice has been everywhere in force for years with the approval of Government, and without its arresting the general increasing prosperity of the country, and they cannot but consider that, as a general rule, it is far preferable so to reduce assessments as to allow of dry land being occasionally left fallow rather than to revert to the old system of charging for the *cultivation* only, with all the concomitant evils which have so frequently been exposed.

18. At the same time, sufficient has been elicited by Mr. Clarke to shew that the Kadri Talook is in an exceptionally impoverished condition, and as Mr. Clarke is of opinion that this is to be in some measure ascribed to the severity of the existing rules of revenue procedure, the Government resolve to refer, for the consideration of the Board of Revenue, his recommendation, that the present powers of the Board to grant remission of assessment on dry lands left waste, or on which the produce has not come to maturity be vested temporarily in the Collector. The district Officers should however be instructed, when conducting the annual settlement, to bear in mind that the eventual interests of Government, which are identified with those of the people, must be considered rather than the exaction of all the Government can claim under the rules.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th August 1863.*

1. Mulakvendla to Bookapatnam.
2. Obdalachervoo to Balasamoodrum.
3. Pallapoola to Gandlapenta.
4. Royachoty to Soondaputti.
5. Peclair to the Nagaputta Pass and Tripaty.

19. The proposals contained in paragraphs 80 to 83 of Mr. Clarke's Report, for the construction of the roads noted in the margin, should also receive the early attention of the Board of Revenue, in view to funds being provided for the purpose in the Local Fund Budgets of the districts of Cuddapah, Bellary, and North Arcot for the coming year.

20. The Government regret that they are unable to assign imperial funds for these roads, as they are essentially local in character. As it appears, however, from paragraph 93 of the Report that employment for the people is likely to be needed for some months longer, and as it is highly undesirable that the full advantage of the expenditure already incurred should not be obtained, the roads now under construction from special funds, as adverted to in paragraph 13 *supra* should at once be energetically prosecuted to completion, and the Collector is authorized to advance and debit to the special head of Relief, any sums which may be necessary for this purpose. The outlay incurred under Mr. Clarke's orders on the road from Royachoty to Kadri, (Rupees 4,000,) and the expenditure in deepening wells in several parts of the district, (Rupees 4,690,) is also formally sanctioned.

21. The Superintending Engineer of the division should lose no time in visiting the Kadri Talook, and should submit a special report on the progress of the relief works, and upon the irrigation works, with any suggestions which may occur to him for the repair, extension, or improvement of the latter. In a part of the country where there are so few irrigation works of any magnitude, it is of special importance that they should be kept in perfect order.

22. It is satisfactory to know that the copious rains of the south-west monsoon have removed all fear of further disasters, and that any extension of Mr. Clarke's tour to the districts of Salem and North Arcot is now unnecessary.

23. It is no less gratifying to the Government to be made aware that the measures of relief in the Cuddapah District were every where carried out with the greatest discretion, and that no needless expenditure was incurred. It is satisfactory also to learn that the precautionary measures adopted by Government were timely, and that they were really required by the circumstances of the district.

24. The exertions of the district Officers for the benefit of the people were indefatigable, and they afforded valuable aid to Mr. Clarke. Native Surgeon Iyasawmy, who submitted the brief report recorded above in anticipation of Mr. Clarke's, shewed the greatest activity and zeal, and the services of the Sheristadar, Simhadri Puntulu, and of the Tahsildar of Muddenpully, are also favorably noticed by Mr. Clarke.

25. The Board of Revenue will accordingly be requested to convey the acknowledgments of Government to the gentlemen whose names are entered in the margin, and Mr. Clarke himself will be requested to accept the cordial thanks of His Excellency in Council for the

- Mr. Molony, Acting Collector.
Mr. Roberts, Acting Sub-Collector.
Native Surgeon Iyasawmy.
Simhadri Puntulu, District Sheristadar.
N. Appa Rao, Tahsildar of Muddenpully.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
26th August 1868.*

careful and conscientious manner in which he has performed the duty committed to him, and for the comprehensive report which he has submitted of his proceedings.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Honorable T. Clarke.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Cuddapah.
,, the Public Works Department.
,, the Superintending Engineer, 3rd Division.
,, the Relief Committee.
,, the Inspector General, Indian Medical Department.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman



Rev. Mr. Bridgman 7/18 L. Dir.

Appendix A.

When travelled	Places travelled	Distance in Miles.
Saturday 9 th May 1868 Morning	Cuddapah to Guntur	15 ✓
Sunday 11 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	18 ✓
Monday 12 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Chinna Mandiyam	10 ✓
Tuesday 13 th " " " " " " " "	Chinna Mandiyam to Guramkonda	15 ✓
Wednesday 14 th " " " " " " " "	Guramkonda to Chinna Mandiyam	15 ✓
Thursday 15 th " " " " " " " "	Chinna Mandiyam to Rayachoti	10
Friday 16 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	13
Saturday 17 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	14 - 1
Sunday 18 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	7 - 2
Monday 19 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	3 + 3
Tuesday 20 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	5
Wednesday 21 st " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	5
Thursday 22 nd " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	4 + 1
Friday 23 rd " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	5
Saturday 24 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	5
Sunday 25 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	4 + 1
Monday 26 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	10
Tuesday 27 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	8
Wednesday 28 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	5 + 1
Thursday 29 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	6
Friday 30 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	15
Saturday 1 st June 1868 Evening	Guntur to Rayachoti	5
Sunday 2 nd " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	6 + 1
Monday 3 rd " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	13 + 2
Tuesday 4 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	5 + 1
Wednesday 5 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	5 + 1
Thursday 6 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	10
Friday 7 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	10
Saturday 8 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	10
Sunday 9 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	10
Monday 10 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	8
Tuesday 11 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	6
Wednesday 12 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	4
Thursday 13 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	29
Friday 14 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	13
Saturday 15 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	5
Sunday 16 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	18
Monday 17 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	11
Tuesday 18 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	8
Wednesday 19 th " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	6
Thursday 20 th " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	9
Friday 21 st " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	9
Saturday 22 nd " " " " " " " "	Rayachoti to Guntur	102
Sunday 23 rd " " " " " " " "	Guntur to Rayachoti	80

Mark

19

Appendix B.

List of wells &c. sanctioned by the Honorable
J. Clarke.

Rev. 2285/68

Talugs	Description of work.	Amount sanctioned.	For which purpose
Uddapa Town	For certain wells	4000.	Clearing & deepening.
Roychoty	Well in the Bazar street	50.	Do.
	Do. in the Komaty street	50.	Do.
	Do. near the Mussalmans quarters	50.	Do.
	Subirudda Bavee at Masapet	36.	Do.
	Batta bavee at Do.	32.	Do.
	Repairing the Channel	200.	Sanctioned on condition of the inhali - tants contri - buting -
	Comaravaree Bavee at Galveid	10.	An equal sum
	A well behind the betel garden	20.	
		4448	
	A small well at Wonthamaddy	32.	For re - pairing.
	A large Do. at Pulicunta	50.	Do.
	Do. in Bramin Street at Gandlapenta	30.	Do.
	Nagalamutta Bavee at Talupula	50.	Do.
	Venetasa Bavee on the western side of the Dommaradamy Pass	20.	Do.
	A well close to the hill between Lakasamudram & Talupula	50.	Do.
	Kullachervoo well	10.	Do.
		242	
	For completing the Roychoty road	4000.	
	Total Rupees	8690.	

Clarke

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Appendix C with forms
Rules.

Relief houses are opened at Kothkanti, Peetapally, Gonkanapally, Gandlapenta, Kurli Patnam, Kutagulla, Pulikunta, Zalapola, Lakkasamudram, Cusba, Royachoty, Melivedu, Mahomedabad and Sunkapally, and the same has been notified in all the adjoining villages.

2. All parties who answer the descriptions given in Rule No. 1 will be relieved in the villages in which relief is afforded, by the village officers to whom they present themselves. It is to be fully understood that the relief is not to be confined to the villagers of the village in which it is to be distributed.

3. The relief for the present will consist of grain and money to be given twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays at hours to be fixed by the officer in charge of the Relief House.

4. Relief will be strictly confined to aged and infirm persons of both sexes and to children and women in really destitute condition

condition - Those who are able to subsist without their relief and able-bodied poor will not be admitted. The latter will be ordered to seek labor on the relief works established in the District.

5. The relief will be distributed as follows. On Mondays every adult male and female will receive $1\frac{1}{2}$ seer of raggi or Cholam and nine pice in cash, for the purchase of condiments. On Thursdays every adult person will receive two measures of Cholam or Raggi and ranna for condiments. Children will be granted half of the above quantities of grain and money.

6. Every recipient of relief will be entered in the daily Register of relief to be kept by the Reddy and Kurnam (Form A) and he will be granted relief on the dates and hours notified, as long as his name is retained on the list. The register will be daily signed at the close of distribution by the Reddy and Kurnam and countersigned by the Superintending officer, whenever he may be present.

present or may visit the station.

7. Each relief station will be supplied with a printed Register which will be carefully kept by the Kurnam and Reddy of the village, the admission of each recipient should be accurately entered according to the headings given in the Register.

8. The Kurnam and Reddy will submit an abstract in the Form B at the end of each week to the Inspecting officer who will transmit an abstract in the Form C to the Sub Collector and Collector once a fortnight.

Alur

Form A.

Names of the Villages.	Names of Recipients	Sex		Grain.		Cash payment.	Date of payment 1868 month of															
		Males.	Females	Chil- dren	Cholum Measures		Paggy Measures	P.	A.	P.	Date	Date	Date	Date	Date	Date	Date	Date	do. on			
											Monday	Thursday	Monday	Thursday	Monday	Thursday	Monday	Thursday	Monday			
											8/28	9/1	9/4	9/7	9/10	9/13	9/16	9/19	9/22			
											Total amount paid											

Mark

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P. 26th Aug 1868
 P. 26th Aug 1868

Rev. 2285/68
 From 16th Aug 1868 to 10th Oct 1868

Form B.
 Weekly Report of the relief houses at from to

Name of Villages.	No. of persons relieved.			Total.	Quantity of Grain distributed.		Amount of Cash paid.		No. of Ryots out of Ryots entitled to Colium 5.	Remarks	
	Males.	Females.	Children.		Jonah.	Stage.	R.	A.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Amount remained on the 1868.											
Do received since—											
Do expended—											
Remaining in hand											
R-A-P.											
Reddy or. Hurnam											
In charge of the Relief houses.											
M. K.											

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 Board of Directors

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 Board of Directors

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 Board of Directors

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 Board of Directors

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 Board of Directors

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 Board of Directors

Form C.

Fortnightly Report of the Relief House inmates.

Names of the Relief Houses.	No. relieved		Quantity of Grain expended		Cash payments.		Remarks.
	Males.	Females. Children	Cholera Measures.	Regi Measures.	Gr.	St.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2							9
3							10
4							11
5							12
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7							14
8							15
9							16
10							17
11							18
12							19
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91							98
92							99
93							100

Superintendent of Relief Houses

Dec 22 85/68

26 Aug 1868
12 1/2 1868

Following morning, I visited with Igweading
the site of the breached tank, which the Roman
ties of this place obtained permission to repair.
The Tank is a fine one, of former days. The bund
except at the breach appears in good order. It
is strong and rivetted throughout with stone.
I believe the cost of closing the breach will exceed
6000 Rs. I saw the Roman ties and endeavored
to ascertain from them their true intentions in
regards to the repair of the tank. As far as I could
learn I have every reason to believe that these
men are possessed of sufficient means to complete the
work, they are said to have not less than 2000
lacs of Rupees between them. They assured me
they were in earnest in making their offer
and that they are prepared to spend as much
as 15000 or 20000 Rupees, if so much were
needed, to restore the tank and
Amant.

15
Ancient. Their hands evidently counted
the cost and fully considered the best
means of making the most of the tank. They
were bound on eventually bringing 300 acres under
irrigation. I did not see any signs of their
constructing work but they assured me
that they were in treaty for workmen and
materials. I think that the Chetties
should be warned that if in any way they
do not give evidence by the collection of a sufficient
of materials and men that they are intending
to carry out their proposal the collector should
be called on to ascertain whether by additional
land being brought under cultivation the
tank will pay and if the undertaking be found
remunerative it should be proceeded with
as early as possible as a Government work. The
collector entertains some doubts as to the
remunerative

His suggestion
should be
advised on
why

29
salt and continued to their daily allow-
ance of grain. I believe that greater oppor-
tunities of fraud would have existed
had the food been distributed cooked.
several of the recipients came from
various distances the numbers were not
always the same and there would be great
temptation to the cooks under a most
plausible guise to cook a larger number
of rations than were needed. the surplus
of course would fall to the cook and his
assistants as their perquisites. Opportu-
nities for speculation would also exist
in the purchase of firewood and cooking
vessels and I believe there often would
be exception taken to the receiving of
cooked food on the part of the recipient
when he might be one of the more
respectable

respectable classes. On the whole the judgment of the majority in which I may include both myself and the Native Surgeon, was in favor of raw food. It was found after trial in Cuddapah that the distribution of uncooked grain with a few pieces of condiments was the best and the most economical mode of affording relief in extraordinary seasons of general distress to large numbers of poor. The cooked ration system was pronounced better suited to ordinary times.

I should have been with Mr. Clarke

30. In favor of a bi-weekly instead of a daily distribution it was urged that to make the lame, blind and diseased

31. diseased walk miles daily to the place of distribution was virtually to exclude them from the relief and often they were the most needy. To congregate large bodies of indigent and diseased poor in one village was objected to and is on obvious grounds undesirable, if it can be avoided, a bi-weekly distribution secures the end desired. However it was found that the community of a place generally or any portion of them were willing to support their own poor the Collector encouraged such manifestation of charity, and discontinued the distribution of Relief through the Government officers. This he has done at Objerla, where from 18 to 25 poor were daily fed. A Zemindar of that place named Venatararaman came forward and offered to undertake the privilege and obligation hitherto met by the funds placed at the Collector's disposal for the purpose from the General Treasury and from the amount standing at the credit of the Madras Wdy Relief Committee. It was only when the community

community of any place was found unable or
 unwilling to support its poor, and when others
 did not rise up to help them, they would be forced
 to migrate or to resort to unlawful or violent
 measures to obtain food or be reduced to starvation
 that strangers or the Government were in the opinion
 of the Collector called on to step in and discharge
 the duty which properly falls on the inhabitants
 of the place to which the poor belong. This I believe
 is the principle on which the Collector of this
 District has acted, and he has encouraged the
 people to help each other rather than to look
 for extraneous aid, but when local charity has
 failed then relief has been afforded by the
 funds at his disposal. From all I could see
 and I visited and closely inspected the work-
 ing of the system, at eight out of the ten places
 at which grain relief was bestowed I must bear
 testimony

It would be
 well to determine
 the principle for
 which the Government
 has acted in this
 case, and whether it
 is a sound one or not.
 I am not sure that
 it is, but I am sure
 that it is a very
 good one, and that
 it is one which
 should be followed
 in all cases of this
 kind.

testimony to the care and judgment exercised
 by Mr. Molony and his subordinates
 in this delicate and difficult work.

33. On the evening of the 23rd May
 our party returned to Pulikunta and on the
 way examined that part of the new road
 which lies between Pulikunta and Peddapully
 to the north of the latter village. This portion
 of the road is under the superintendence of
 the same Taluk Overseer as the work of
 Pulikunta. I found only sixty-nine coolies
 at work here, there had been above one hundred
 employed, but the late fall of rain had dis-
 persed them. The same complaints made
 elsewhere were repeated here of delay in the
 payment of the coolie hire. I found the
 coolies had received their pay on the day
 of my visit. The work in this part of the

the road was progressing through not so rapidly
as in the southern section beyond the village,
several puttahdars had been employed on
the works, but at the time of my visit I only
found coolies working in the road. We next
visited some wells which the collector had
sanctioned being deepened. The work was in
progress. Fresh springs had been started in the
wells.

34. On the morning of Monday the 24th May
I visited Wonkamuddy a little to the north
of Pulikunta in company with Dyasammy
and there witnessed the distribution of grain.
The numbers relieved were sixty-nine
they seemed fit objects of charity
and to be suffering from want. They
were chiefly Malas and Madigas & a few Ma-
homedans. Women & children as usual were the most
numerous

and to Pulwadda about 25 miles. The track now
we use is only passable for pack cattle in dry weather
and is bad even for them. 40. The Range Officer presented us to
Kurli and he hopes he has discovered a fair
and practicable line, part of which has already
been made but has been allowed to be again
overgrown with jungle.

41. At Kurli men were present at
the distribution of food, on the 29th May 125 persons
received grain. Many of them were miserable
objects, emaciated and ill-clad, and showing
marked signs of great distress. It was clear
that they had not enough nourishing food.
In any case they got only $\frac{1}{2}$ a meal or even
less a day. They belonged to all castes and classes.
They came from the surrounding villages and
hamlets the men were twelve, the women
ninety-nine and children twenty-four.

42. On the morning of the 30th May the collector
the

the Pargana, the Native Surgeon, the Sahib
Shrivastava and myself visited the Mallaha Parg.

a more extraordinary line to choose for a road
cannot be well conceived. After going over and

who chose it
must be a
to the line
be made.

undulating rocky and difficult ground, the
trackers are over a mountainous state of stopping

into a steep and slippery, and the passengers
nates in the bed of a violent torrent full of

immense boulders and rocks of all shapes
and sizes precipitated from above. The whole

distance from the hills to the end of the Pass is
computed to be seven miles. The Pargana

who accompanied us considered that a
good road of easy gradient and not difficult

to be made might be formed on the top of the
hills under which the present track passes.

This part of the Taluk north of Radri
is very sterile and rocky but is yet cultivated at

much expense and trouble. There are several
small tanks dotted about, which the government

43.

He ought to have
seen from his
situation that
he has become
helpless in
such a
9. 7. 30

5430
1. 7. 11

22
there are many wealthy persons fully able to main-
tain their poor. The grain first brought was
so bad that the Native Surgeon pronounced
it to be unwholesome. It was very musty
and was drilled through by insects. It
was said to belong to the Reddy of the
village who got rid of it at the
market price, by giving it to the poor. It
was condemned and fresh grain brought.
This Reddy is very unpopular. It is alleged
that shortly before my arrival in order to
secure some fish he had cut the tank -
bund and let out all the little water which
remained in the Tank, and which
was useful for the cattle. I brought his
conduct to the notice of the Sub-collector
who I doubt not will deal with him
as he deserves.

I returned to Radri on
Friday the 5th June, the rain prevented
my moving out on Saturday, on Mon-
day I visited the Kotalchervoo Tank,
which was being repaired out of relief
funds. I found 108 persons employed
on the Tank and eighty on the roads.

It is a splendid tank and is said never to be dry.

49. I learnt from Mr. Roberts, the Sub-collector, who had just returned from a tour among the villages to the West and North West of Mootalchervoo, that there was a large number of poor people in these parts in want of labor. Now that a sufficiency of tools has been received in Kadri. I hope measures will be taken for commencing the road from Mootalchervoo to Obildavachervoo a distance of nine miles. About four miles of this road from Kadri are completed, but it has taken two years to finish this small distance from want of funds. The road is an important one and all the merchants in the Town of Kadri begged it might be completed to the Bellary frontier and carried on from thence to Hindupur an emporium of grain. Grain is now being brought into Kadri, by this route but on pack cattle or on men's heads, and by the same means by another route to the north, from Buckapatnam

Some of the
Kadri
people
are
suffering
from
want

24
first centre of the boundary line. I proceeded first to Kadri lying directly west, thence visited the northern parts of the Taluk. I then went out to the extreme west beyond Kadri and concluded by visiting the Southern portions of the Taluk.

53. On my tour through the Taluk of Poyachoty and Kadri I have gone carefully over many of the villages have examined the wells and enquired into the condition of the people, conversed with the Peddies, Cysts and Merchants and with reference to the first point of enquiry laid down for me in the proceedings of the 1. May last have endeavoured in every possible way to obtain true and correct information regarding the stocks of grain in store, the sufficiency of the existing supply and the state

state of the market but I find it utterly
 impossible to arrive at anything like an
 approximation to the truth in regard to the
 stocks of grain in store or to the sources
 from which the supplies were drawn.
 The merchants are very jealous of any
 enquiries of this kind and prevent them
 either by making the most absurd and self-
 refuted statements or by declaring that they were
 unable to afford any information. To attempt
 to base any conclusion on calculations of the supposed
 output of the several harvests during the
 present and past year and the assumed
 consumption is equally futile. On neither of
 these points are there means of getting at
 anything like reliable evidence. The ryots
 who are willing to give any aid in
 hazarding guesses or in opening
 their

No accurate
 balance sheet to
 be kept
 (see page 10)
 will be

their close inspection and those who are puffed
 up with vanity little and their information
 is of the same slender character. The rich ryots who
 the merchant aimed to give any account of his
 stock. Although there is not a very large
 supply of grain laid up in the town of Radri.
 I believe there are hidden stores in some parts
 of the Taluk, in the houses and farmsteads of
 some of the opulent Peedies and ryots. The
 grain produced by the Peedies of Cutram has
 been taken out of some old stores and probably
 there are the accumulations of many years hid
 den away somewhere in his premises. Grain
 is largely imported into the Radri Taluk
 in various quantities from Pulwaddan
 and from different parts of the
 Bellary District also from
 the direction of Madras fully
 and

and strange to say I have examined
the records and nothing but a few
scraping from out of the district
I doubt if I might submit a statement
prepared from the information
coming by persuasion and by questioning
from various districts and from the returns
sent to me from the Collector's Office and
made up of the reports of the Talukdars and
other officers in the District of the reported
quantity of grain in each Taluk and
of the quantities calculated to be consumed
by the population in a given time, but
such a statement could answer no practical
end and would only tend to mis-
lead. Besides a sudden emergency
causing large transfers of grain
such as are daily
going

and a
concealing
of the
Mughal

Police and Sub Collector, now Collector
of the District; these gangs were
hunted down and dispersed. Most
of the leaders were either shot in
the pursuit; or have since been ap-
prehended, and were either hanged
or transported: and crime in
Kadri this year has been very
small indeed, and considering
the sufferings of the people quite
insignificant.

63. One Sub Collector writes
regarding the ryots of the sub-Division
especially of those of Kadri as a
rule the agricultural classes are ex-
cessively poor, were it otherwise,
I may ask what is the reason
crime is so prevalent. It cannot
be alone because the natural
formation of the country favors
it; for we see in other Districts
of an equally wild and rugged
nature that the statistics of
crime are far below what they

are

"are here - I believe it to be inherent
poverty which drives the people
to commit crime, and I am
satisfied that a more liberal
administration of Penitentiaries
will effectually eradicate
that which the utmost efforts
of the Police can only check."

64. The chief if not the sole causes of the extent and depth of the poverty and depression observed to exist in this Valley are unquestionably natural ones - 1st The extreme poverty of the soil; 2nd the absence of any permanent sources of irrigation; and 3rd the succession of bad seasons, which have been experienced for more than ten years; but in addition to these natural causes, I believe 1st the total absence of roads; 2nd the refusal

1

This is the
spectral
radiation
of the
gas.
The
radiation
of the
gas.

refusal to grant to the ryots of this and the other Taluks of this District the privileges conceded to all other ryots in the Presidency of fully enjoying the benefits of all improvements effected by the skill and the cost of the ryot and 3^d the misapplication of the remission rules in some instances and the rigid & not to say harsh and cruel application of them in others have operated more or less in aggravating the evils which have arisen from the material causes above shown and have strictly aided in retarding the material progress and prosperity of the people of the Taluk.

Salute.
From all that I myself have
witnessed I can testify that there cannot
be a more laborious skilful and
thrift set of farmers than those of
Haddo. Every thing is done which skill
can suggest to fertilize their fields and
make

make them productive and every natural
advantage is turned to account for the
same purpose. Wells are dug water is
stored wherever it can be turned to
account manure of every kind is
carefully preserved and abundantly used
the rotation of crops is invariably
observed and persevering and immense
labor is bestowed in clearing. There are
fields of stones. In almost every
part but chiefly in the North of the
Taluk each field contained several
large heaps of stones collected out
of it and yet the field might em-
phatically be termed "stony ground".
immediate advantage is always taken
of every shower and fall of rain
to plough and to sow but the soil
is poor in the extreme and makes
but a very poor return to the cultivator
for

refusal

assessment is lower than some 3000 Rs.
the average rate in Shadri being about
3.9 an acre. The waste permitted
was the highest in Madrasaputten
which has the largest areas of
wet cultivation and which suffered
proportionately from the failure of
the N. E. Monsoon. I asked one of the
him saying the chief revenue officers
"dry" land were in the Shadri Taluk
but the whole amount of this re-
venue was only 56,200 Rs.
70. The dry waste in Shadri that
year was 1,328 acres bearing an
assessment of 2671 Rs. about 2%
of the assessment of the whole of
Taluk. But as this sum would probably
be collected from the poorest and
most indebted of the ryots it must
have proved for them a high sum
to pay especially as they had lost
much if not all the fruit of
their labor on the lands owned
by them. The next year the sub
Collector

But was it
collected?

Collector reports. This season has
been very similar to that of 1873.
It has been up hitherto remarkable
for the small rainfall. In 1865
the Sub-Collector writes "The season
has been a premature one, and not
favorable to dry cultivation, rain
has fallen but at unreasonable
times, and not in such large
quantities as last year. The culti-
vation of dry crops has been
most unprofitable to the
ryots this year. The rain fell
early, holding out hopes to the
ryots of a favorable season.
Land was sown more
extensively than usual
but further rain was
required to sustain the
growing crops the
looked

But the
Collector
had a decision
in favor of
the ryots
at the time

11,250 acres of Dry land, which could not be
cultivated from failure of rain, has also been
charged to the ryot. In observing the laws of
rotation of crops, the Farmer in this District
sows down part of his land, on the fall of the
early rains, with Suggar or Cumber, and
part is retained till the latter part of the year
to be sown with Bholam or Gram, as it may
be. If the latter or former rains entirely
fail and the land in consequence is left waste,
this is not deemed a sufficient explanation
of the ryots failure to cultivate the whole of his
holding, though no better could be assigned, and
the impoverished ryot, already hampered by a
heavy debt, is cruelly told that he must pay
for his waste. Had the waste been owing
to his neglect or carelessness, instead of to the
season, this fine would have been more
reasonable, though to impose it on a labori-
ous and hard working peasantry heavily
encumbered with debt would still as a matter
of policy be in my opinion a very questionable

proceeding

Fuslies	Total Waste		Total Remission	
	Extent	Assessment	Extent	Assessment
	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>	<i>Rs</i>
1270	8,446	3,728	1024	4,817
1271	10,478	14,824	1650	8,252
1272	9,231	10,212	2195	11,809
1273	12,133	21,577	3,530	17,542
1274	10,256	17,583	2451	13,132
1275	14,228	9,301	650	3,345
1276	13,200	14,983	1650	9,062
1277	16,080	27,223		21,546

77. ^{the abolition of} Considering the ~~pyots~~ in the Sub Division of this District I would strongly recommend that the operation of the remission rules be for the present at least suspended in this part of the District and that the Collector be authorized to grant full remission on lands which have been left waste solely by the unfavorable character of the season that is when the ~~pyots~~ has been prevented by the failure of the earlier of the latter rains from bringing into cultivation any portions of the lands retained in his Pattah.

I would also recommend that liberal remissions be allowed for withered wet crops and that in any exceptional seasons this remission be extended to dry lands.

78. But another cause which has acted and that most seriously in retarding the material progress

Waters
frontiers

progress of the Kadri Talug has been the want of roads. Till 1860 nothing in the shape of a road was to be found to exist unless some short paved way formed at an immense cost of labor and means by wealthy Homatias and Merchants through passes in the Hills which separate one part of the District from the other can be called such. These paved ways are carried over muddy or excessively rugged parts of mountain passes and are made for the benefit of pack cattle.

In 1860 the road between Muddenpully and Kadri and from thence to the Bellary frontier was commenced. This road was only completed last year at a cost of Rs 45,197-15-8. Its structure had extended over a space of 9 years the rate of expenditure at first was only a little above 2000 Rs a year, this expenditure was increased in 1861 to 5000 Rs a year. In 64-65 owing to famine it was increased to 10,000 Rs. but the next year and since then the expenditure has never been 5000 Rs a year. In the same famine year 1864-65-3789 Rs were also granted for the purpose of opening a road between Royachetty and Kadri and 3500 were expended in the two succeeding years on that road. A further grant of Rs 1260 was made in the same year to construct a road from Kadri to Mootal Chervoo in the western part of the Talug.

79. This Talug stands greatly in need of roads. When at Nallacheruvoo a village on the road from Kadri to Muddenpully I saw a large herd of pack cattle carrying grain. I made enquiries and found they were carrying Raggy to Peddapully from

from some village in the westward, the whole distance was 16 miles, the quantity was one putty, for which four Rupees was paid for Carriage. A bandy would have carried 2 putties at half the price. It will be seen from this one instance how much the profits of the pigots are diminished in Years of plenty and how highly they are taxed in the Year of scarcity by the want of good roads.

The roads sanctioned by Government this Year will greatly aid in opening up the Taluk, but in order that the people inhabiting it may be placed as far as possible beyond the reach of famine, it should be united by good Carriage roads to the grain emporium of Bindupur and Bockhapattanam in the District of Bellary.

80. The amount sanctioned for the extension of the Obladari Cheruvu road will probably enable the Collector to complete this line to the frontier of his District where it should be connected with a road reaching via Palasamudram to Bindupur. I believe that an easier passage can be found into the Bellary District at this point than lower South. This road will connect the Guddapah System with the North of the Bangalore District and with the South of the Bellary District.

81. Another important road tapping a rich grain emporium and which will prove of essential service in saving this Taluk from Famine is the one from Malakavendla a village in the Gadre and Bellary frontier through Pondurty to Bockhapattanam in the Bellary District. Of this line only three miles are in the District of Guddapah. Grain is now being brought into Gadre at a greatly enhanced price by these two routes. Another road is wanted from

from Tallipoola to Gavindlasenta via Mella, Chumalla and Neparalla these 3 roads with those already sanctioned would open up the Taluk and place one main part of it in communication with another main part and also connect it with rich grain markets beyond the District and would thus I hope reduce the probability of its suffering from want of food.

82. With the addition of these local lines it is of the greatest importance that the Sub Division of the District should have access to large grain stores and the best markets as well to the Rail road on the Eastern side. To secure this end a Road is required from Peclair through the Nagaputta pass to the Supatty Station. A considerable portion of this road lies in the District of North Knot but I believe a road already exists from Nagaputta to the Station if so the work in the North Knot District will be confined almost entirely to the Nagaputta pass which lies in that District. This road will provide an outlet for the produce of the Eastern Section of the Nairpadi Taluk and will give the people of that Section easy communication with the Railway.

83. Another road to perfect the road system of the District is required from Royakoty to Sondapully. The object of this road is to open out a number of important Villages

Villages to the S.E. of the Rajahmundry Salug.
are present quite unconnected with any road.

84. Should these important and absolutely necessary roads be completed from Imperial Funds the less important lines may be from time to time formed from grants out of the Local Funds.

85. Another disadvantage under which this part of the District of Cuddapah has labored has been the refusal of the late Collector to extend to this District the relief granted by the orders of the Secretary of State to all the other Districts in this Presidency of allowing the ryots to enjoy the benefits of the improvements effected by means of the capital and skill employed by them on their lands. However measures are now being taken by the present Acting Collector to carry out the orders referred to and it is to be hoped that this measure of relief will greatly add to the material wealth of the District and of this afflicted Salug in particular.

86. After the fullest consideration that I have been able to give the subject I am led on personal inspection and from the reports I have received to the conclusion that this year in the Cuddapah District has

This is the
question of the
Relief
No. 100
price of
the
21/10/10

42 43
has been one of severe drought and not of famine, if famine be taken to mean a dearth of food. The failure of water has no doubt caused a great diminution of produce as seen above. The output of dry grain in the Salug of Kadri is computed at not above $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{5}$ of an ordinary harvest. Only $\frac{1}{2}$ of the wet land in the ryots' holdings was cultivated and the output of this portion was about $\frac{1}{2}$ of an average crop. The garden produce too was far below the average. Notwithstanding this failure in the produce of the ordinary grains consumed in the Salug, prices ruling in it at the time of my visit were 10% less than they were at the same time last year and at this date they are selling at only 9% above the most favorable prices known during the last 8 years. Further grain is abundant in all the markets and the stocks in hand can easily be replenished at near markets. During the whole of my tour I was never so importuned for food as I was for water. I was constantly besieged at all places and by persons waiting for me at almost every Village

Village and implored to adopt measures to increase the water supply, either to sink enlarge or deepen wells or to repair tanks. The one great cry was for water for man and beast. The want of water greatly restricted agricultural operations and threw out of employ a large number of agricultural and other laborers and overstocked the labor market with labor. Want of money to purchase food or of credit to borrow it pressed heavily on many of the ryots. The bulk of ryots had neither the one nor the other and were almost all greatly in debt. The Romaties lent largely both grain and money to the more substantial ryots whose crops had afforded them but a small harvest. Such persons themselves living on borrowed stocks did not recognize the duty devolving on them of assisting or supporting the poor among them. The means of the more substantial ryots were reduced to the slenderest margin and many of the smaller class of ryots were obliged to seek a livelihood by working as coolies.

[illegible]

W. Hindlestone Esqre
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Madras.

Madras.

In obedience to the orders given me I beg to submit the following remarks on the present state of the affected parks of the Madras Taluk, which I have visited with the Honorable T. Clarke, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue.

On my arrival from Madras, where my presence was required on public business, I met Mr Clarke and pointed out to that gentleman the present defective state of the water supply in the Town of Ouddapah. He after a careful inspection of the several wells, sanctioned the sum of Rupees 4000 for clearing and deepening some of them, and also for sinking new ones at different parts of the Town.

I was delayed joining Mr. Clarke in his visit to the interior for some days, owing to the sudden death, from heat-
a proplexy, of Mr. Apothecary Abel Grove,
who was appointed to act for me

during my absence on special duty. I did not leave Maddurapah till the arrival of Native Surgeon Manikam Madetty from Salem, who relieved me on the 13th May, and I proceeded to join Mr. Clarke's camp, which was then at Royachoty. On my arrival there, I was informed that Mr. Clarke had proceeded to Guramkondah and I awaited his arrival. Mr. Clarke returned on the 16th we visited the town of Royachoty and inspected all the wells in and about the place. Mr. Clarke sanctioned the clearing and deepening of some of them which he thought would increase the water supply of the town.

I next proceeded with ^{that} gentle rain to the different parts of the Kadri Taluq. where distress was said to be much prevailing.

Our attention was next directed towards the Relief Houses already established by the Collector, as marginally indicated. After personal inspection of a few houses we were of opinion that it required to be governed by a proper system which would

- beddapurthy
- Mankamaddy
- Guramkondah
- Kurli
- Horlakonda
- Palnau
- Thokunty
- Guramkondah
- Talla-poola
- Chigpala

House in the
tail of the
before the difficulty
was, were felt

men and two hundred women and children employed in the western section under the Range Officer in charge of the Kadri Taluq. This latter section will be soon finished but a large grant of money being necessary to complete this work and important roads and as there were many coolies in this part of the Division in want of work, the Collector to the authority of the Collector to the Bureau 4000 Rs. for his treasury to complete the work and to employ a large proportion of the unemployed labour employed on the western section here of the Kadri Taluq. and came from the village of Royachoty and the surrounding districts and the surrounding districts. but many were small huts who had put up all their rights, often for small loans or loans that yielded

yielded nothing as well as their
contributions to the road fund and
were gaining their daily cooly of
2 annas each man and of ¹⁻³ ^{per three} ^{people work}
each woman and each child ^{with many} ^{pulling}

18. These are the ordinary rates
of cooly paid throughout the District
both by the Department of Public
Works and as far as I could learn
by farmers in grain and daily
food. I found the coolies regularly
and frequently paid in the eastern
section and generally contented.
Some asked for an increase of hire
but after discussing this request
fully with the Collector and with
the Range Officer in Rangoon
with others it seemed inadvisable.
Under the existing state of things
and taking the price of grain
into consideration to introduce any
disturbing elements into the labor
market

perhaps the
representation of
somebody
his name -

market by granting it. The hire paid
was sufficient not only to support
a laboring man with abundance of
food but enabled him to support
such members of his family as might
remain at home, and coolies were
willing to come in vast numbers
sometimes as far as 50 miles to ob-
tain work at this rate.

19. In the gauge on the western
section I also found small Suttah
gangs at work and I met with
one or two instances of Suttah
paying as much as from 30 to 40
Rs a year for government laboring
on the roads.

20. In the appendix will
be found a list of the places
I halted at and their distances
from the previous stage. I generally
travelled every day but Sunday
and my stations of incampment
were always chosen with reference
to

to the amount of work to be
performed, etc. each halting
place. I went through the
village we halted at and if
possible saw of the surround-
ing ones conversed with the
people and the heads of
the village and endeavor-
ed to learn as much as
possible regarding their con-
dition and welfare. The
result of my inquiries I
will embody in my general
remarks at the end of the
report. As I proceeded on
my journey I was unusually
blessed

Order in W. Phillips' report
circulated to the Am. W. Phillips
with reference to the remarks in paras 7, 15, 10, 18, 19.

Para 7.

W.D.

I have see note in the
margin of the draft, the
B.O. and minutes are
put up.

Para 15.

I have modified the
draft and have the B.O.
Circular in the subject.

M.D.

Very well - try it but I fear
it will be a call without intelligible
or trustworthy response.

I don't think it
helpful to quote
the quantity of
of several for
the Country
N

Would it not be as well
to try and get such
information. It is what
we always call for when
famine is upon us. I
believe the B.O. have sent
orders somewhat to the
effect, here proposed.
I have altered them
slightly, I am not
sure whether of any
immediate benefit. It
seems very commendable
to re-open this question
which has been so fully

in the dinner, just read

Draft on the

Clarke's Luddite

Report re-circulated

with note

Report on the

It is certainly to be regretted that
the peculiar views of a late collector
should have deprieved the Madras report
of the liberal benefits of the liberal
concessions ordered by the Govt. to be
granted to cultivators who had ex-
hausted their own resources. —
As however the present collector is
understood to be engaged in securing
these benefits to all those who can
claim them it will suffice I think, to
draw the attention of the Bd to paras
64 & 85 of Mr. Clarke's report and to
specify that the measures, if any,
which may be in progress under Mr.
Clarke's more liberal superintendence,
shall not be abandoned.

The Bd of Revenue may also be instructed,
in reference to para 77 of the Report, to remind
settlement officers in the following parts
of Madras, that applications for remissions
in arrears, which, under the rules in force,
should be submitted to the Board for
consideration, will, for some time to come,
be liberally granted.

It will remain with the Bd to determine
the period for which unusual indulgence
will be necessary.
The account given by Mr. Clarke of the
unbearable condition of the uncultivated lands
is painful to read. but to any call
for explanation of past neglect — we

No. 2285.

From

The Honble T. Clarke.
1st Member of the Board of Rev.
Dated 16th June 1868.

FORM ORDERS.

The thanks of government should be presented to Mr Clarke for the careful & conscientious manner in which he has performed the duty committed to him by government and for the comprehensive report which he has submitted of his proceedings. The govt. appear entirely of the measures taken by Mr Clarke in the prosecution of his duty for the relief and employment of the poor in the Kuder Salok and of the measures which he contemplates for the permanent amelioration of the District. orders should be issued with the Revenue and Public works Department that all the works started under the pressure of the present emergency should be energetically prosecuted until they are completed so that the expenditure sanctioned by Govt. may not be thrown away and that the country may reap the full benefit

shall simply be lost that funds have been wanting. That plea, with the large resources available from local funds, cannot now be urged. & I fully concur in the Lordships proposals as to the order to be pursued in this respect. It may safely be assumed that Kadir was a favorite Salok with any department and the state of the roads is mainly attributable to the omission of P.W. Dept. officers to visit. & do find what they are willing & ready to do in the Division closer to the Town of Muddapa.

I have made some remarks marginal on Mr Clarke's report as I read it. I beg to refer the Committee, should it become necessary to draft a proceeding. Particular in regard to the large Salok within the boundaries of the District. I would wish that I think these persons should not be allowed unlimited time for doing what they already not fully inclined to do. The Collector should step in and cancel the permission given to close the beach, if visible steps have not been taken to close & repair the beach generally.

I agree to the acknowledgments of Mr Clarke & the other officers labor being awarded in the terms suggested by His Lordship the President.
15 July 68. W.D.

of the labour and the money.

The Acting Collector should be entrusted to give immediate effect to the orders of government for the abolition of the garden rate on land cultivated under wells commencing in the Kudri Taluk.

The Country having suffered from a severe and indiscriminate system of revenue administration directions should be given to grant ^{in future} liberal remission on lands under lease left uncultivated indisputably in consequence of the drought of the season as well as in withered wet crops and in withered dry crops in exceptional seasons. - The Revenue authorities should look to the general economic interests of Govt. which are identified with the welfare of the people not to the rigid exaction of all the Govt. can claim in a particular season.

In a part of the country where there are so few irrigation works of any ^{magnitude} importance it is of special importance

that they should be kept in perfect repair. The Subcollector will therefore not lose sight of the restoration of the beach in the Tank at Saddapally which has been undertaken by two Konesters of the place. Should those persons not give satisfactory proofs of their real intention to prosecute the work within a reasonable period an estimate should be prepared in the Dept. of public works and the revenue authorities should be called upon to report upon the area of wet land which might be kept under cultivation.

The Superintending Engineer should be directed to visit the Taluk of Kudri at the expiration of three months and report on the progress of the works sanctioned by Govt. -

Favourable action should be taken of the conduct of the Acting Collector & of the Sub Collector - whose exertions for the benefit of the

9 Taluk have been indefatigable and
whose administration of the resources
placed at their disposal has been
prudent and economical.

The Govt. might also recognise the
services of the Native Surgeon Syasoomy
and of the Sheri taluk Simhadri
who are spoken of with approval
by Mr. Clarke.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text continues on this page.]

[Handwritten mark]

R.D. 50

No 2257

Proceedings of the M. Council

Under date the

Read the following
letter from the Honble
J. Clarke, M. Member of
the Bd. of Rev. -

Reporting the result
of his tour into the Cud-
dapa District. -

A. B. M. J. M. E.

[Large handwritten signature]

The failure of the
North East monsoon in Novem-
ber and December last had
such a serious effect upon the
agricultural resources of the
people of the home Districts of
Madras, North Arcot and South
Arcot that it was deemed ad-
visable, at the commencement
of the present year, to direct
a member of the Board of
Revenue to proceed to those

Districts

Districts in order to obtain by local inquiry detailed information as to their condition and prospects. The inquiries which were at the same time made by the Board of Revenue regarding the state of the other Districts of the Presidency elicited in regard to that of Cuddapah that though the later rains had only been partial the rain-fall of the year on the whole, had not been much below the average, that the cultivation was equal to that of previous years, and that prices were by no means exceptionally high. It was not therefore then thought necessary that the Officer engaged in special duty should extend his enquiries to this District.

2. Early in February however, the Collector of Cuddapah reported that the poorer classes in the Budivail taluk were suffering

much

much from the failure of their crops, and the scarcity of water, that they were already in considerable straits for their livelihood, and that further distress was to be apprehended.

The Government accordingly sanctioned the outlay of ^{Rs 15,000} ~~Rs 15,000~~ from local funds upon certain road works in this taluk in view to giving employment to the distressed, and subsequently, on the application of the ^{Asst} ~~Asst~~ Col^l of the Dist^y, they sanctioned a special grant of Rs 4,000 for the purpose of deepening wells, as a serious deficiency of drinking water was reported.

3. On the 4th March the ^{Asst} ~~Asst~~ Col^l again reported unfavorably of the condition of the District, stating that the poorer classes in many parts of it were much in need of assistance. A portion of the population of the Kadri talook were said to be subsisting on leaves.

Money

Money to purchase food, and water for domestic purposes. were stated to be the chief wants of the people, as prices were not high and grain was plentiful. The Govt accordingly in their order of 16th March 1868 H. 1146 sanctioned a special grant of Rs 6000 for the employment of the able-bodied poor on relief works and for deepening wells in the Nadri and Royachoty Tahkis.

The reports of the A. C. Coltr from this period until the 25th April were favorable, and he expressed his belief that the relief works already sanctioned would enable the people to tide over their difficulties. On his forwarding a report from the Sub Collector giving

giving a very ^{unpleasant} account of the condition of the Nadri taluk, which he then considered highly colored, the Govt in their order dated 15 April 68 No 977 directed his particular attention to this position of the District, and authorized him in case of necessity to act on his own responsibility in making any expenditure for the relief and support of the poor.

5. On the 26th April Mr. C. M. Gordon telegraphed that there was scarcity amounting to famine in the Nadri

allowed to purchase food, and

Kadri taluk, and in
reply was authorized
to purchase and
import grain into
the taluk if the
local market was
not well supplied
and to open relief
houses if the relief
works did not
afford adequate
support to the
people. On the
25 and 27 of the
same month the
same officer reported
the results of a
personal tour in
the Kadri taluk.
He found the people
in many parts
suffering

30/4
suffering severely
from the want of food
and water, and a
large proportion
of them subsisting
entirely or in part
on the root of the
dalo; the seeds of the
tamarind, jungle
leaves and roots.
Though he had seen
but one case approach-
ing positive starvation
and though want
was apparent from
the appearances
of individuals in
several instances,
he felt bound to
state that the
people could not
possibly exist for
any

any length of time
on their present
food - He also
explained that the
entire absence of
crime against property -
the comparatively
low rates of prices,
& the knowledge that
there was no scarcity
of grain, &c. &c. the
latter, had led him
to erroneous con-
clusions as to the
state of the people
before his induction
a personal inspection of their condition

6. One receipt of
these reports, orders
issued placing ^{certain}
officers at different posts.

[illegible]

I was hardly
 in real mass.
 It was brought about
 entirely by a letter
 from the Bureau
 of State containing
 a machine gun
 in a letter -
 W. H. C.

disposal for the pro-
-tection of Relief work
and the management
of Relief Depots and
was informed that
only measure of
expenditure to be made
to prevent and relieve
distress ^{should be} was the actual
requirements of
the case -

17. The Court, in its
measures, ^{had} not
their consideration
the propriety of
suing the mission of
Members of the House
of Revenue to the
provinces which
had been suspended
after Mr Robinson
went to the District
of Harris, S. A. & Co.
S. A. & Co. & Salem

Relief houses - As the reports recently received of the Chittatuk infundapah were very unfavorable he was directed to commence his inspection in the first place to proceed to that Pt -

8. Within a week of the issue of these orders Mr Clarke proceeded to Mississippi and the first communication above recorded is the report on his tour in that District. On arrival at Mississippi he found on due enquiry that there was nothing like

like general famine in the district, though in many parts of it the want of water for domestic purposes was severely felt. The condition of the town itself presents a marked contrast to what it has been in the famine year (1866) and no measure of relief appears to be necessary beyond improving the supply of drinking water. For which purpose Mr. Clarke accordingly issued orders for the expenditure of Rs. 4000 in clearing out the wells of the town.

9. Mr. Clarke was informed by those best acquainted with the condition of the district that food was plentiful in all parts of it, prices being 16 per cent below those of the previous year, and that the people were generally well able to purchase food except

1. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 2. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 3. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 4. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 5. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 6. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 7. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 8. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 9. *Phylloscopus collybita*
 10. *Phylloscopus collybita*

except in the Madir &
parts of the Royachoti em-
tates. To these localities
he accordingly confined
his attention & made a
careful tour of nearly a
month's duration through
this part of the district.
He travelled over 200 miles
usually making a move
each day, & halting at
places which were con-
veniently situated for
observing the distribution
of food at the Relief depots,
and for inspecting the
Relief works in progress.

10. Previous to Mr. Clarke's
arrival in the district
the ten depots for the
issue of food-grain noted
in the margin had been
established under the
orders of the Ag. Collector.
Of these Mr. Clarke inspected
the first eight. There
were apparently about
1000 people receiving relief at

Peddapally.
Wankarnaddip
Gandlapenta
Gowdarnapally
Chitakalla.
Thurly.
Putnam
Thalupula.
Thokuntly.
Obicherla.
Gowdarnapally

adult a

at these places at the
time of Mr. Clarke's visit.
They were chiefly women
and children though a
few males were among
the recipients at each
place and there were
even occasional instances
of food grains being ap-
plied for food. At
most of the depots the
people showed physical
signs of want. They were
generally emaciated and
wretchedly clad, and had
evidently been suffering
from deficiency of food.
At Peddapally, Thokuntly
and Putnam, however, the
persons who were re-
ceiving the ordinary be-
nefits of the neighbouring
villages. At the last
named place the Deputy
in charge of the depot
has endeavoured to get
rid of some inferior grain
by using it at the depot,
and shortly before Mr. Clarke's
arrival he has cut the
bund of the tank in order
to

to secure the fish for
his own use - Mr. Clarke
reported him to the Sub
Collector. The Govt however
observed that he considered
himself liable to punish-
ment for both these
offences under Sections
273 & 430 of the Indian
Penal Code -

11. With this exception
the Relief Reports appear
to have been well conducted,
the rules drawn up by
Native Surgeon Expressing
it approved by Mr. Clarke
are well calculated to
ensure careful manage-
ment. The Sub Collector
also seems to have selected
the centres of relief with
great discretion. Every
endeavour was made
to induce the wealthy in-
habitants of the villages
to support their own
poor, and it was only
when local charity alto-
gether failed that relief
was given from the fund
at

14-15
56/9
at the Collector's
disposal. The
entirely approve of the course adopted
Mr. Board of Revenue
should perforce up
all Collectors
that whenever
it becomes neces-
sary to issue a
 Relief in food, &
the measure should
be undertaken
on this principle
that every
inducement

inducement
should be held
out to the cha-
-ritable to come
forward for the
assistance of the
poor. It seems
that at one place

where the Society
On the present occasion it appears that
Collection has been
At one of the
instituted Relief
Depots (Ocherla)

8

for the purpose of dispensing
the relief to the poor
in the district of the
Society of the
Society of the

a wealthy Merchant of
the place took the entire
expedition on himself
The Court would be glad
to know from the folk
whether this individual
has properly fulfilled
his undertaking in
order that they may
have an opportunity
of making their sense
of his public spirited
liberality.

12 From the information
of the condition of the
Country which Mr.
Clark obtained during
his tour he deemed it
advisable to direct Relief
Depots to be opened at
Rogachotee & Tooliced
in the Rogachotee taluk
and at Sankapilly, Ma-
-komedahal & Kakavum
-oordum in Kasri
He

Mr. Homenet expressed
 his opinion that the
 Depots at Pudukkottai,
 Pudukottai, Chikmagalur
 and Kottur might
 shortly be closed, and
 the present fortunate
 change in the season
 has probably rendered
 these Depots still less
 necessary than at the
 time of Mr. Clarke's
 visit. The St. Collector
 will accordingly be
 requested to ~~consider~~
~~and report upon the~~
~~necessity of retaining~~
~~these places of relief~~
~~any longer and to~~
 also report generally
 upon the other Relief
 Depots with reference
 to the present circum-
 stances of the District.
 W. Clarke

I would authorize
 him to close at
 once any ~~which~~ ^{which} ~~are~~
 may seem no longer
 necessary -
 W. Clarke

authorized to discontinue relief
 close at these places if he
 concurs with Mr. Clarke in
 considering that they are
 no longer needed and he
 will also be requested to

13. Mr. Clarke visited
 the relief work on the
 road (1) from Rozacholai
 to Kadri (2) from
 Kadri to the Mellapah
 Pass & Kuttinenda (3)
 from Kadri to Attur
 - Chervoo & Obdackaroor
 (4) from Pudukottai
 to Palayamoodram.
 The wages paid were
 2 annas per day
 for men & 1 anna
 3 pie for women and
 children and it
 was found that
 laborers were
 willing to come
 to work from
 long distances for
 these rates of hire
 and occasionally
 even Government
 ryots were found
 among

among the working
gangs. Though at first
some difficulty was
felt in the prosecution
of these works owing
to the want of tools on
the whole they were
properly prosecuted
and provided employ-
ment for a large
number of persons.
As the amount
sanctioned for the
road No. 1 was found
to be insufficient
Mr. Clarke very
properly sanctioned
a further allotment
of Rupees 4000. Road
No. 2 should be pushed
forward to completion
without

64/12
without delay, and
a new line should
be marked out
through the pass, as
Mr. Clarke reports
that the present track
is altogether unsuitable.
The third road should
also be ^{completed} pushed for-
ward to the frontier
of the District and
the ^{route} should be
considered from
its ~~starting~~ end,
if this has not
already been
done as Mr. Clarke
reports that the
people in the
neighbourhood
of Palamodum
are

stated to be
are much in need
of work.

14. The irrigation
relief work, in
progress at Pakemuta
and Muthalcheruvu
were also inspected
by Mr. Clarke and
were proceeding
satisfactorily. The
tank repairs at
Poddapilly which
were undertaken
by some wealthy
merchants of that
the town
place had not
however been com-
menced upon at
the time of Mr. Clarke's
visit. This proposal
to warn these persons
that

full stop

62/13
that if the work is not
commenced within some
limited time it will be
undertaken on behalf
of Govt is approved. The
Ag. Collector should
accordingly lose no
time in giving the mer-
chants the necessary
notice of the intentions
of Govt.
15. With reference
to the instructions given
to Mr. Clarke in para-
graph 7 above he re-
ports that he found
it quite impossible to
arrive at any thing
like an approximation
of the stocks of grain
in the District, but he
concurred in the gen-
eral belief that food
grain was abundant.
As observed by Mr. Clarke
information of this de-
scription is always
difficult

difficult to obtain
 but especially so under
 the circumstances in
 which the Luddapah
 District was then placed.
 In times of scarcity how-
 ever it is of the greatest
 importance that the
 Govt should have before
 them reliable informa-
 tion as to the ordinary
 grain supply of the dis-
 tresses & localities
 and the Board of Revenue
 should ascertain and
 place on record for every
 taluk of the Presidency
 such statistical details
 of this nature as are
 available. In ordinary
 times there should be
 no difficulty in obtain-
 ing approximately ac-
 curate information re-
 garding the food supply
 of the people of any

I would much
 prefer to learn that
 the Board of Revenue
 has already taken steps to
 ascertain and place on
 record for every taluk of
 the Presidency such
 statistical details of
 this nature as are
 available. In ordinary
 times there should be
 no difficulty in obtain-
 ing approximately ac-
 curate information re-
 garding the food supply
 of the people of any

particular locality
 such as whether it is
 real or spurious grain whe-
 ther grown locally or
 imported from elsewhere
 where it is grown
 15th The result of
 Mr. Clarke's careful &
 intelligent inspection
 of the Luddapah District
 has satisfied him
 beyond all doubt that though
 the season has been one
 of severe drought, there
 has been no absolute
 scarcity of food. His
 observations do not
 corroborate the Agri-
 cultor's former reports
 in regard to the large
 extent to which the people
 are obliged to plough
 for food. The
 distress which has un-
 doubtedly been severely
 felt in many parts of
 the District was not
 occasioned by high
 prices but simply from
 the

the action of an un-
favorable season upon
a population in an
exceptionally depressed
condition. - The failure
of the seasonable rain
greatly restricts agri-
cultural operations
and throws out of em-
ployment a large
number of agricultural
and other laborers and
in the Kadi district the
number of coolies and
laborers dependent upon
daily hire is unusually
large. - This taluk has
also been long known
for its natural poverty.
The soil is poor &
unproductive, there are
no permanent sources
of irrigation, there is
but one made road
in

64/15
in the taluk and
that has only re-
cently been com-
pleted, and the
seasons for a
series of years
have been un-
favorable.

16/11 To these causes
for the exception-
al poverty of the
people of Kadi

W. Clarke adds
d

and I must say in
a fifth. - He states
that the revenue
administration
has been harsh
and illiberal,
and that the salu-
tary rule under
which a ryot is
allowed the full
benefit of his own
improvements has never
been adopted. - As to the latter
point

the enhanced produce obtained
by the outlay of private capital
was left untaxed,

enhanced I think.
I think the rule covers
an increase in value both
in quantity and kind if?

point however it appears that
the rule promulgated in
1854, under which ~~ryots were~~
~~given the full benefit of their~~
~~own improvements~~ has been
adopted in Cuddapah as
elsewhere, but that the more
recent concession of the Home
Govt. under which the appor-
-ment of lands under old
wells (i.e. wells sunk before
1854) was directed to be re-
-duced to the highest dry
rate of the village, has
not yet been extended
to the Cuddapah Dist.
owing to the peculiar tenure
on which a considerable por-
-tion of these lands ^{are} ~~were~~
held. The necessary infor-
-mation on the subject has
however recently been ob-
-tained, and the requisite
instructions will shortly
be issued

~~18th~~ 18th. Mr. Clarke appa-
 -rently bases his charge of
 harshness against the revenue
 administration upon the re-
 -quirements of the existing
 rules under which a ryot is
 called upon to pay the assess-
 -ment of all the dry land
 in his pottah even though
 he leaves a portion of it
 waste. He animadverts at
 some length on the impolicy
 of this course, and considers
 that the poverty and indebted-
 -ness of the ryots of Nadri
 is to be ascribed in no
 small degree to the operation
 of the rule. The Govt.
 must however observe that
 the practice has been every-
 -where in force for years with
 the approval of Gov. Genl
 without its affecting the ge-
 -neral increasing prosperity
 of the country, and they
 cannot but consider that

I would omit that.
 can't affirm that it
 I don't object to any
 but I object to
 affecting

as a general rule it is
 far preferable to reduce
 assessments as to allow of
 dry land being occasionally
 left fallow rather than
 to revert to the old sys-
 -tem of charging for the
 -cultivation only, with all its
 Concomitant evils which have
 so frequently been exposed.
 18th. At the same time
 sufficient has been elicited
 by Mr. Clarke to show
 that the Nadri taluk is
 in quite an exceptionally
 impoverished condition &
 as Mr. Clarke is of opinion
 that this is to be in some
 measure ascribed to the
 severity application of the
 existing rules of revenue
 procedure the Govt.
 will not object to accede
 to his recommendation
 resolved to refer for the consideration
 of the Bd of Rev. his recommendation
 that

I should be inclined
 to ask for an
 opinion of the
 collection of the
 Board upon paying any
 notice as the
 point. My should
 be total & annul
 the subject & report
 on it at once.
 I agree with Mr. Clarke N. C.
 very well - no doubt the
 of the Govt. is the
 member of the
 Board.

that the present powers of
the Board of Revenue
to grant remission of
assessment on dry lands
left waste, or on which
the produce has not come
to maturity be vested tem-
porarily in the Collector.

The Dist^l Officers should
however ~~also~~ be instructed when
conducting the annual
settlement, to bear in mind
that the eventual interests
of Gov^t which are identi-
fied with those of the people
must be considered rather
than the exaction of all
the Gov^t can claim under
the rules. It will however
remain with the Board
of Revenue to determine
for how long it may be
necessary to vest in the Col^r
the exceptional authority
adverted above.

The

will

- 67/16
- 19 The proposals contained
in paras. 80 to 83 of Mr. Clarke's
report for the construction of
1. Mulakvundla to Boorapatnam
 2. Odalacheru to Ppalamuram
 3. Tallapoodla to Lammalapenta
 4. Royachoti to Loodaputty
 5. Peelair to the Nagaputta Pass and Tripety

the roads noted in the margin
should also receive the early
attention of the Board of
Revenue in view to funds
being provided for the purpose
in the Local Fund Budgets
of the Districts of Cuddapah,
Bellary and North Arcot
for the coming year.

2097. The Government
regret that they are unable
to apportion imperial funds
for these roads, as they are
essentially local in char-
acter. As it appears however
from para 83 of the report
that employment for the
people

people is likely to be needed
for some months longer
and as it is highly con-
siderable that the full
advantages of the expenditure
already incurred should
not be obtained, the
roads now under construction
from special funds as
diverted to no para 13. ^{of para}
should at once be energeti-
cally prosecuted to com-
pletion, and the Collector
is authorized to advance
and debit to the special
head of Relief, any sums
which may be necessary
for this purpose. The

outlay

6/64 1911
outlay incurred under
Mr. Clarke's orders on the
road from Royachota
to Kadri (Rs. 4,000) and the
expenditure in deepening
wells in several parts of

the District (Rs. 4,090) is
also ^{form} finally sanctioned.

2/22 The Superintending
Engineer of the Division
should lose no time in
visiting the ^{Kadri} taluk, and
should submit a special
report on the progress
of these ^{work} works, and from the
irrigation ^{works} of the taluk, with
any suggestions which may
occur to him for ^{the} their repair
extension or improvement
of the latter. en

In a part of the country
where there are a few
irrigation works of any
magnitude it is of special
importance that they should
be kept in perfect order

22nd It is satisfactory to
know that the copious rains
which fell in the com-
mencement of the South West
Monsoon have removed

all fear of further
disasters, and that any
extension of Mr Clarke's
tour to the Districts of
Salem and North West
is unnecessary.

23rd It is no less
gratifying to the Govern-
ment to be made aware

X
There are ancient
histories now
hand down upon
the experience of
the monsoon.

W.D.J.

and that no need
was incurred. It is
also to learn that the
primary measures adopted
for the timely and
they were really required
by the circumstances of the
District, for it is clear from
Mr. Clarke's report that the
commencement of relief works and the
institution of relief depôts were
necessary of the people were
to be saved from starvation.

I would
this W.D.J. yes much
gladly
say as much
Nahiroph

well it will be
well to say something
to show that the
information was really
received.

not wholly unnecessary.
I defer to W.D.J.
wholly unnecessary N.
I would omit absolutely
wholly say necessary

that the measures of relief
in the Cuddalore District
were every where carried
out with the greatest
efficiency. It was only
when employment was
to be obtained on agricultural
operations and when
starvation or death, or migra-
tion or crime were the
alternatives left to the suf-
fering people of the laboring
class that relief measures
were adopted, and if the people
were to be preserved the
commencement of relief
works and the institution of
relief Depôts were indispensable.
24th The exertions of the
District Officers for the
benefit of the people were
indefatigable and they afford
valuable

Madras Govt.
August 1868

11 October 1868

Pro. of the Board of Revenue
13 October 1868 CP 3327

N: 402 @ 404