

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	71	Press ~~Mis.~~
Dated	9 — 1 —	18 68.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1 a -

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
9th January 1868.*

No. 138. Read the following letter from the Collector of Bellary, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Camp at Adoni, 23rd November 1867, No. 59 :—

* No. 841.

1. In a letter,* dated 20th July of this year, addressed to the Secretary to the Relief Committee at Madras, which I requested to be forwarded for the information of Government, I remarked on the loss of population which resulted from the distress experienced during the third quarter of 1866.

2. I adverted to the mortality of that year from cholera and fever, which had doubled an ordinary death-rate, and a comparison of a census taken just before, and of one soon after, the distress, shewed that there had been a decrease of 27,000 in a population of 1,221,228, or two per cent. The doubled death-rate, against the ordinary birth-rate, would not account for so large a decrease. I adverted to my opinion that not less than 20,000 persons had emigrated from the fifteen talooks, which would account for the greater part of the decrease. The Superintendent of Police, quite independent of me, made the same calculation.

3. I endeavoured, however, to get more precise information from the villages, and from the returns of eight talooks (the other seven have not yet been received) that have reached me, I have an account of 14,226 persons who had left, of whom 5,418 have now returned.

4. Considering that the price of rice at one date reached two Madras measures per rupee, and cholam, the staple food, was sold at four (it is now 20 Madras measures per rupee), and that water was in many place not procurable, it will be satisfactory to Government to know that such distress was not followed by a greater mortality, and that the expenditure of four and a half lacs in public works, one and a half lacs of subscriptions, and an unknown, and probably much greater, amount of private charity in every village and town of the district, so much mitigated the pressure, caused by prices unequalled, combined with want of employment, to the poorer classes of the community.

No. 139. ORDER THEREON, 9th January 1868, No. 71.

Miscellaneous.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) F. BRANDT,
Under Secretary to Government,

To the Collector of Bellary.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

~~Handwritten scribble~~

~~Committed to the
Famine Relief Committee~~
L.B.

N?

Copy to B?

I should be disappointed to
read this letter
N.

by
won

Per 21 August/67 Rs 408 + 409
 - 18th October " 303. 304
 - 1st November " 9. 10.

Revenue 1868
 Proof Book for January/68
 1867 DEPARTMENT.

From, *Nr. 3266.*
 The Collector of
 Bellary.

To,
 The *Surpay to Government*
Revenue Department
Mudra

Dated 23rd November 1867.

Received 22nd Dec 1867.

Dispatched 28th Dec 1867.

No. 59

Enclosure.

Stating that the Inspector
 writing him in his letter to the
 Revenue Relief Secretary in re-
 gard to the number of semi-
 grants during the late distop
 has been ascertained to be
 true & that notwithstanding during
 that period considering the
 scarcity of the distop was
 not as great as it might have
 been.

Record
9th Jan/68

1 Copy Same Bellary Bellary Dec 1867

No 138 & 139

ex Dec 1867 21 Dec/67