M.R.O. 1—38,000—16-10-29.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 284 Press Mis.

233-34

Dated 20th October 1889.

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

No. 233. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th October 1869, No. 7,625 :—

Read the following letter from the Acting Sub-Collector in charge of Bellary, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 16th September 1869, No. 242.

With reference to Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, dated 10th July last, communicated by the Board in their Proceedings of 17th idem, calling for particulars regarding nineteen deaths, said to have been the result of starvation, as reported in letter, No. 281, from this office, dated 21st November last, I have the honour to state that particulars were afforded regarding three deaths in letter, No. 198, from this office, dated 20th August 1868. These deaths occurred in May 1868. The circumstances regarding three more deaths were communicated in letter No. 147, by the Acting Sub-Collector in charge, on the 4th July 1868, recorded with Board's Proceedings, No. 5,262, of 20th July.

2. With regard to the remaining thirteen deaths, alleged to have resulted from starvation, one is said to be the result of old age which the impoverished circumstances of the deceased, he being a professional beggar, probably hastened. He is reported to be a resident of Toochinacoontah in the talook of Madaksirah, and died in the fields of the adjoining village of Avinacoontah of the same talook. There is no reason to suppose that the people of the latter village were aware of his destitute circumstances, and it is not likely that the people of the former, unless they were relations of the deceased, would have taken more than a passing notice of his absence.

3. Two other alleged deaths by starvation are now explained: in the one case as that of an infant at the breast, whose mother died; and the other, is the case of a lunatic who persistently abstained from food. The remaining ten deaths are now attributed to the refusal of sick persons to take nourishment.

4. From the explanation called for and afforded by the talook and village officials, it is plain that not one death is strictly due to starvation as a result of famine. A notice to the Curnums of villages, pointing out to them the necessity for using a little more discrimination in judging of the cause of death, has been inserted in the *District Gazette*, and Tahsildars have been directed to see that these instructions are carried out.

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Submitted for the information of Government, with reference to their Order of the 10th July 1869, No. 1,995.

2. The particulars given are not very full, but it does not seem likely that anything more definite is attainable.

3. The village officer's registration of death is necessarily based on information received at second-hand at best, and there seems no reason to doubt the explanation that when disease had rendered the patient incapable of taking food, the resulting death was attributed to starvation.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,*
*20th October* 1869.

No. 234. ORDER THEREON, 20th October 1869, No. 2,814.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) H. WELLESLEY,

*Acting Under-Secretary to Government.*

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of {1869} Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

*Dated* October, 20th.

*Read.*

*G. O., 20th October* 1869, *No.* 2,814

**OCTOBER.**

**Nos. 233-234.**

*Deaths from starvation in Bellary District.*—Proceedings of the Board of Revenue on this subject, recorded.

Ro 10 July 69 No 220-21.

Revenue 1869. August

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

No. 3590.

PROCEEDINGS, 13TH OCTOBER 1869, No. 7,625.

Ct. D. 19 Oct. 1869 Encl.

Received 20 Oct.

OCTOBER

No. 7,625.

*Deaths*—in Bellary District, alleged to have resulted from starvation,—Collector's letter furnishing particulars regarding certain, submitted to Government.

No. 2784

RECORDED.

20 Oct 69