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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue — DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 558. Press ~~Mis.~~

90-1

Dated 4th March 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Revenue Department.

No

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 16th February 1869.

Read the following letter.

No 23.

From

James Fraser Esq.
Collector.

To

A. MacGregor Esq.
Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

I have today received from my Acting Head Assistant a report on the state of the Talúks under his charge, and beg to forward a copy for the Board's information.

2. I am glad to find that the supply of water for domestic purposes in the Northern parts of the Eliore Talúk is better than I have till now believed it to be.

I have &c
(signed) J. Fraser
Collector.

Godavery District,
Collector's office,
Cottapatta Amala.
Sir Talúk,
4th February 1869.

From

No. 3.

W. A. Dasspell Esq.

Ag. Head Assistant Collector.

To

James Fraser Esq.

Collector of Godavery District

Sir,

I have the honor to furnish the report called for in your letter No. 7 of the 20th Instant.

2. This season has been an unfavorable one for the ryots in the upland portion of the Ellore Taluq; but I do not think there is any reason to apprehend scarcity or even serious hardship among the laboring classes.

3. The crops have failed chiefly in Government Villages. The Zemindary Villages are for the most part watered from the Kistna and Godavery canals and from the Tammileru and Ramaleru rivers in which there was a sufficient supply of water. The detailed remarks I have to make will therefore be confined to the Government Villages.

4. The population of the 88 Government Villages of the Taluq is 64,576. Fourteen Villages containing a population of 31,205 are completely irrigated from the Godavery and Kistna canals and eight Villages with a population of 8335 are irrigated partly from the canals and partly from tanks. Nearly the half of the crops under tanks in these eight Villages failed, but remission has been granted and no further relief is required. There is plenty of water and food for cattle in all these 22 Villages.

5. Fifty four Villages with a population of 23,232 are dependent entirely on tanks for irrigation. Owing to the abundance of the early rain there was an unusually large area cultivated this year. But no rain fell after the beginning of October and the dry months, paddy crop failed almost every where. A good deal of the land, however, was sown with paddy which only takes four and five months to ripen. This yielded a half or three quarter crop.

6. The people of these fifty four Villages however as well as of twelve other Villages having a population of 1304, in which there are no tanks principally eat dry grains. As there was plenty of rain in the early part of the season the early dry crops turned out well. Most of these only Ronda Jonna is largely used for food. The later dry crops of which jonna is the most important

important, failed to a considerable extent, though not completely, in Sandy and other light soils. In black cotton soil the Sowna is but little below the average.

7- I do not think any dry crop remission need be given. The Villagers have no where asked for it. The average out-turn of the dry crops is at least thirty per cent below the out-turn of a good year, but years like the present were taken into account by the Settlement Department in fixing the present assessment of the land. The rule that the assessment on dry land shall not be remitted was meant I presume to be observed except in cases where a clear necessity for setting it aside should be shown to exist. I do not think such a necessity exists in the present case.

8- I have not seen the Yernagudem Saluq this year myself but to judge from what I have heard from Mr. Ronsall and others, I should say it was very much in the same state as the Ellore Saluq. If remission of dry assessment is to be given in the Yernagudem Saluq, I think the same remission ought to be given in the Ellore Saluq also, so that it

do

do not exceed thirty per cent of the whole assessment.

9- Drinking water both for men and cattle is at present plentiful and will I think continue so. There are only five Villages in the Saluq without wells. The inhabitants of these Villages have always been in the habit of procuring water from other Villages in the hot season, and they will find it no greater hardship this year than they found it in previous years. They have no wells because water is only to be found in these Villages at great depths and there is no certainty that even at great depths it will be found at all. There is plenty of water at present in the wells.

10- There is very little cattle disease in the Saluq.

11- The health of the people is unusually good for this season of the year. There is very little fever or small pox and no cholera.

12- Work is abundant and wages are high. The Executive Engineer in charge of the range informed me that he has great difficulty in getting coolies to work on the Chintala-poody road which passes through that part of the Saluq in which the crops failed to the greatest

greatest extent.

13. Very many of the tanks are in bad repair. A considerable part of the loss of wet crops is due to this cause.

14. I enclose a comparative statement ~~of the prices~~ of the principal food grains. The rise is not very considerable. Last year the prices were so low as to seriously affect the legitimate profits of the cultivator. There has been some exportation of grain to Hyderabad and if the scarcity increases there, the prices will doubtless rise higher. They are at present Stationary.

15. On the whole this has been an unusually bad year for the ryots in the upland parts of the Taluq; but for the rest of the population it can hardly be considered unfavorable as prices are not unreasonably high and there is plenty of work to be got as well as good wages.

I have &c

(Signed) W. A. Kaspel

Ag. Head Assist. Collector

(True Copy)

Signed) L Fraser

Collector.

The Board resolve to submit the above letter with its enclosures for their information and orders of Government.

2. Prices are considerably in advance of what they were in the corresponding months last year but their condition in September and October last gives reason to hope that the stores of grain in hand are more abundant than they were at a corresponding period in 1867.

3. So far as personal knowledge goes, the report is limited to the upland portion of the Ellore Taluk. The condition of this part of the Taluk, comprising 88 Government Villages with a population of 64500 souls is far more satisfactory than the Board anticipated. The season has indeed been unusually unfavorable, but there is sufficiency of food at not extravagant prices. Water and pasturage are abundant, wages are high, and there is ample employment for those who ~~remain~~ have been granted on irrigated lands but have not been sought on dry lands. The health of the people is good.

4. The losses in wet lands are mainly attributed to the bad state of repair in

in which very many of the tanks are. A simi-
-larly unfavorable, but more particular report
of the tanks in the Yernagudem Taluk was
submitted to Government with the Board's Pro-
-ceedings of the 22d December last. The Board
strongly recommend that the attention of the
Local Offices of the P.W. Department be im-
-mediately and forcibly directed to the condi-
-tion of the Irrigation works in the upland part
of the District which naturally incur some hazard
of being overlooked in the energetic prosecution
of the great works of the adjacent Delta.

5. On the whole the Board are of opi-
-nion that no special measures of relief are as
yet called for in the Ellore Taluk.

6. Mr. Fraser should submit a
detailed Statement of the tanks in the Ellore
Taluk which are alleged to be out of repair,
shewing their Ayakut and assessment and
the average cultivation and revenue for the last
three years, and state what sum is required to
put them in efficient repair and what annual
allotment will be required to keep them so.

(A true Copy and Extract)

A Macfarlane
Ag Secretary

To The Ag Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.
With an Enclosure.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, 4th March 1869.

No. 90. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th February 1869:—

Read the following letter from the Collector of the Godavery District, to the Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras, dated Kotapetta, Amalapur Talook, 4th February 1869, No. 23.

1. I have to-day received from my Acting Head Assistant, a report on the state of the talooks under his charge, and beg to forward a copy for the Board's information.

2. I am glad to find that the supply of water for domestic purposes in the Northern parts of the Ellore Taluk, is better than I have till now believed it to be.

From the Acting Head Assistant Collector, to the Collector of the Godavery District, dated —— 1869, No. 3.

1. I have the honor to furnish the report called for in your letter, No. 7, of the 20th instant.

2. This season has been an unfavorable one for the ryots in the upland portion of the Ellore Taluk; but I do not think there is any reason to apprehend scarcity or even serious hardship among the laboring classes.

3. The crops have failed chiefly in Government villages. The Zemindary villages are for the most part watered from the Kistna and Godavery Canals and from the Tammileru and Ramaleru rivers in which there was a sufficient supply of water. The detailed remarks I have to make, will therefore be confined to the Government villages.

4. The population of the eighty-eight Government villages of the taluk is 64,576. Fourteen villages containing a population of 31,205 are completely irrigated from the Godavery and Kistna Canals, and eight villages with a population of 8,835 are irrigated partly from the canals and partly from tanks. Nearly the half of the crops under tanks in those eight villages failed, but remission has been granted, and no further relief is required. There is plenty of water and food for cattle in all these twenty-two villages.

5. Fifty-four villages, with a population of 23,232, are dependent entirely on tanks for irrigation. Owing to the abundance of the early rains, there was an unusually large area cultivated this year. But no rain fell after the beginning of October, and the six months Paddy crop failed almost everywhere. A good deal of the land, however, was sown with paddy, which only takes four and five months to ripen. This yielded a half or three quarter crop.

6. The people of these fifty-four villages, however, as well as of twelve other villages, having a population of 1,304, in which there are no tanks, principally eat dry grains. As there was plenty of rain in the early part of the season, the early dry crops turned out well: but of these, only Konda Jonna is largely used for food. The later dry crops, of which Jonna is the most important, failed to a considerable extent, though not completely, in sandy and other light soils. In black cotton soil, the Jonna is but little below the average.

7. I do not think any dry crop remission need be given. The villagers have nowhere asked for it. The average out-turn of the dry crops, is at least thirty per cent. below the out-turn of a good year; but years like the present were taken into account by the Settlement Department in fixing the present assessment of the land. The rule that the assessment on dry land shall not be remitted was meant, I presume, to be observed, except in cases where a clear necessity for setting it aside should be shewn to exist. I do not think such a necessity exists in the present case.

8. I have not seen the Yernagudem Talook this year myself, but to judge from what I have heard from Mr. Horsfall, and others, I should say it was very much in the same state as the Ellore Taluk. If remission of dry assessment is to be given in the Yernagudem Taluk, I think the same remission ought to be given in the Ellore Taluk also, so that it do not exceed thirty per cent. of the whole assessment.

9. Drinking water both for men and cattle is at present plentiful, and will I think, continue so. There are only two villages in the talook without wells. The inhabitants of these villages have always been in the habit of procuring water from other villages in the hot season, and they will find it no greater hardship this year than they found it in previous years. They have no wells, because water is only to be found in their villages at great depths; and there is no certainty that even at great depths it will be found at all. There is plenty of water at present in the wells.

10. There is very little cattle disease in the talook.

11. The health of the people is unusually good for this season of the year. There is very little fever or small pox, and no cholera.

12. Work is abundant, and wages are high. The Executive Engineer in charge of the range, informed me, that he has great difficulty in getting coolies to work on the Chintalapoody road which passes through that part of the talook in which the crops failed to the greatest extent.

13. Very many of the tanks are in bad repair. A considerable part of the loss of wet crops is due to this cause.

14. I enclose a Comparative Statement of the prices of the principal food-grains. The rise is not very considerable. Last year, the prices were so low as to seriously affect the legitimate profits of the cultivator. There has been some exportation of grain to Hyderabad, and if the scarcity increases there, the prices will doubtless rise higher. They are at present stationery.

15. On the whole, this has been an unusually bad year for the ryots in the upland parts of the talook; but for the rest of the population it can hardly be considered unfavorable, as prices are not unreasonably high, and there is plenty of work to be got as well as good wages.

The Board resolve to submit the above letter, with its enclosures, for the information and orders of Government.

2. Prices are considerably in advance of what they were in the corresponding month last year, but their condition in September and October last, gives reason to hope that the stores of grain in hand are more abundant than they were at a corresponding period in 1867.

3. So far as personal knowledge goes, the report is limited to the upland portion of the Ellore Talook. The condition of this part of the talook, comprising Eighty-eight Government villages with a population of 64,500 souls is far more satisfactory than the Board anticipated. The season has indeed been unusually unfavorable, but there is sufficiency of food at not extravagant prices. Water and pasturage are abundant, wages are high, and there is ample employment for those who desire it. Remissions have been granted on irrigated lands, but have not been sought on dry lands. The health of the people is good.

4. The losses in wet lands are mainly attributed to the bad state of repair in which very many of the tanks are. A similarly unfavorable, but more particular report of the tanks in the Yernagudem Talook was submitted to Government, with the Board's Proceedings of the 22nd December last. The Board strongly recommend that the attention of the Local Officers of the Public Works Department be immediately and forcibly directed to the condition of the Irrigation works in the upland part of the district, which naturally incur some hazard of being overlooked in the energetic prosecution of the great works of the adjacent Delta.

5. On the whole, the Board are of opinion, that no special measures of relief are as yet called for in the Ellore Talook.

6. Mr. Fraser should submit a detailed Statement of the tanks in the Ellore Talook which are alleged to be out of repair, shewing their ayacut and assessment

and the average cultivation and revenue for the last three years, and state what sum is required to put them in efficient repair, and what annual allotment will be required to keep them so.

No. 91. Order thereon, 4th March 1869, No. 558.

Miscellaneous.

1. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is glad to receive this comparatively more favorable report of the condition of some of the upland portions of the Godavery District, and he concurs with the Board of Revenue in considering, that no special measures of relief are needed at present.

2. The Superintending Engineer of the 1st Division has already been directed* to submit a special report on the irrigation works of the Yernagudem, Peddapon and Rajamundry Talooks.

* G. O., P. W. D., dated 4th February 1869, No. 366.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,

Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Public Works Department.

Exd. G. A. Turton.

Govt. of India.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated March, 4th.

Recd.

Ansd.

G. O., 4th March 1869, No. 558.

MARCH.

Nos. 90-91.

Condition of the upland portions of the Godavery District.—Favorable Report of the Collector, recorded. No special measures of relief considered necessary for the present.

1869 Dec 1st

Proceedings of the Board of Examiners

Dated 10th Dec. 15 January 1869.

Ans. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Mr. Thomas & Brooks Esq

Referred to the State Public Instruction Office

Transmitting Statistical Abstract of Primary Schools to June.

Rec. 1, 75/69

Con. in the Res. of the Bd. of Ed. to the beg. to forward Statistics &c.

Feby 1/69.

Rec. 1, 75/69

Copy of Statistics showing the prices of the principal food grains in Ellore Taluk.

Thos. A. Marshall Esq Ld. Sec.

Revd Department

Proceedings of the Madras Government
Under date 1st Feby March 1869.

Read the following Rep. of
the Board of Revenue.
(Dated 16th February 1869)

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irrigation works of the Jeanagudem Pollam
[illegible]

W.H.

Rep.

J.

· Ex G. O. Pub. Dept. dated
4th Feb. 1869 No 366

14 Copies sent to the Board of Revenue
21 " " Chief Engr. Mr. 4

No. 2.

State of Ohio
Hocking County
Probate Court

C. Rhodes

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