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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th January 1872.*

No. 236. Read the following letter from G. THORNHILL, Esq., Member of the Board of Revenue, on Special Duty, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Madras, dated Aska, 7th January 1872:—

I HAVE the honour, in continuation of my last letter,* to report the result of my proceedings since landing at Gopalpore to the present date.

* 29th December 1871.

Dec. 26th, 1871, Gopalpore to Chetterpore.
" 29th, " Chetterpore to Ganjam.
" 30th, " To Rumbah, *via* Chilka Canal.
" 2nd, " To Chetterpore, *via* Biridy
Fort and Ganjam.
Jan. 3rd, 1872, To Berhampore.
" 6th, " To Aska.

2. The marginal statement will show the places I have visited. At Chetterpore I conferred with the Deputy-Collector and with the Tahsildar of Berhampore, and received much information from them regarding the general state of the district.

3. I arranged, in the first place, to visit Ganjam and Rumbah, as I heard that the loss of crop in that direction had been very great.

4. My attention was at once drawn to the enormous traffic passing along the trunk road. Carts going northwards were mostly unladen, while those returning were all laden with paddy. The traffic-returns to the end of the year have already been furnished to you. The effect of this unaccustomed strain has been to wear the road into ruts and pits in all directions.

5. I found at the same time that there had been extensive loss of crop in most of the villages adjoining the road, and that employment was much needed by them. After consulting with Captain Beckley and Mr. Harris, therefore, I telegraphed for a special allotment of Rs. 7,500 for seventy-five miles of road for preparing metal to be spread at the commencement of the rains. I beg thankfully to acknowledge the speedy sanction granted to this and to my other requests.

6. At Ganjam I found that the crops had failed almost entirely, and the same remark is applicable to the Zemindaries of Hoomma and Paloor and the eastern part of Biridy.

7. To afford some employment to those most needing it I applied for a grant of Rs. 1,500 for the completion of the road to the merchants' godowns near the mouth of the river at Ganjam.

8. On visiting the salt-works with the Deputy-Collector I found the ryots just commencing the salt manufacture, but labouring under great difficulties in procuring funds to pay the workmen. I was informed that they received advances from Soucars for this purpose, agreeing to pay 25 per cent. for the accommodation on their accounts with Government being settled some three or four months later. With a view to assist them in this matter, and to stimulate the manufacture, Rs. 5,000 advance of kudivaram was applied for. It must be remembered that these salt-ryots also hold paddy-land in the neighbourhood, and the crop having failed, they were without means to commence the manufacture of salt.

9. The Deputy-Collector is now engaged in distributing the advance which will be recovered when the final payments are made on the salt being delivered into store. I also allotted Rs. 700 to the Deputy-Collector for the construction

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of a tank near the Hoomma salt-pans to give employment to the poor and to supply water to the salt-traders.

10. I found there was as usual a good deal of fever in Ganjam, and I therefore directed Mr. Fonseca, the Apothecary who accompanied me from Madras, to remain there and open a small dispensary. He has reported that he has a considerable number of patients daily, and that the fever seems to yield readily to medicine. I shall leave him there for the present.

11. I proceeded to Rumbah in company with Captain Beckley and Mr. Harris by the Chilka Canal. This canal was never dug to its proper depth, and has been but little used. We found that it had two feet of water at the shallowest part, and nearly three feet on the average.

12. It is uncertain whether or not locks will be required at each end hereafter, but, under any circumstances, it must be deepened by three feet if possible, and Captain Beckley roughly estimates that Rs. 15,000 will be required for this purpose. Much work cannot be done on it, however, before March, but I think it should be sanctioned at once, and arrangements made for carrying on the work so soon as the water is low enough.

13. It is quite certain that there will be large numbers of men requiring employment thereabouts by that time. I would therefore strongly recommend a sum of Rs. 15,000 being appropriated to this work.

14. At Rumbah I was visited by the Cullicote Rajah, who is in good circumstances. The southern and eastern parts of his estate have suffered, but he said he had already allotted Rs. 10,000 or 12,000 to be spent in repairing his tanks, etc., and promised to do more. I am in great hopes that he will not fail in this respect; but Mr. Crosthwaite will visit this part of the district before long, and will see if any further assistance is needed.

15. In returning from Rumbah I passed through Biridy Fort and Ganjam. From the road I had a good view of the western parts of the Biridy estate. Some of the villages have yielded a fair return, but the failure has nevertheless been great and employment will be needed by many. This will be afforded to some extent by the repairs to the trunk road and by the Chilka Canal, but I hope also to make some arrangement with the Collector by which the Zemindar may be enabled to spend money on his works of irrigation.

16. There is one work, namely, the repair of an anicut* on the Korakorif river and its subordinate channels, by which a large extent of Zemindari and Government land might be irrigated, and

by means of which the Town of Ganjam might be supplied with wholesome water for at least a portion of the year. I shall confer with Mr. Master on this point, and trust that something may be done towards its execution.

17. In addition to the above I arranged for the clearing of some wells at Rumbah, and for digging one or two new wells at Ganjam, the water in the larger number of those now in existence being brackish and unwholesome.

18. I hope and believe that the arrangements for opening work as above detailed will suffice to stave off any great distress in the country adjacent to

Ganjam; at all events, for the present, a good sum of money will be thus put in circulation, and there is no want of food for those able to buy it.

19. The Zemindars of Hoomma and Biridy visited me at Rumbah, and I saw the latter again in his own village. The former is poor, and not in a position to do much for his people. The latter is young and not wealthy, but will, I think, follow such advice as the Collector may give him from time to time.

20. I had been in frequent communication with Mr. Crosthwaite, who was engaged in examining the Zemindaries north-west of Berhampore. He met me at Berhampore on the 5th, and I was sorry to learn from him that, owing to the almost total failure of the crops in certain portions of the Dharacote, Sherugada, and Chinna Kimeddy estates, very considerable distress was beginning to manifest itself. The eastern face of these Zemindaries appears to have suffered most, and the worst tract is described as lying right and left of a line drawn on the map from Aska southwards to a place named Sideswaram. The villages to the west nearer the hills, and those to the east are within the influence of the river. A little employment is still found in getting in the small harvest, but that will soon cease, and Government work must be found.

21. The Rúshkúliya Canal would have been the best work on which to employ the poor of the country, but as that* cannot be taken up now, there remain (1st) the road from Aska to Itchapore, which runs through Sherugada, Puttupuram, and Degupudi; this road has been completed to Degupudi, but it is said that it much needs widening; and (2nd) the road from Berhampore to Degupudi; this is a sanctioned work, and plans and estimates are ready. Both works could be put in hand at once, and I only defer arranging for the commencement of one or both till I have seen Mr. Master, whom I hope to meet to-morrow at Russelcondah.

22. Mr. Crosthwaite returned from Berhampore to complete his examination of the Pedda Kimeddy, and to enable him to meet any emergent cases of distress, I placed in his hands Rs. 1,000 to be expended in digging wells, or in any work which he may find urgently called for.

23. On my return from Russelcondah two days hence, I shall visit all the Zemindars, and inspect their countries and endeavour to arrange with them to undertake such further works of relief as may be necessary.

24. Under ordinary circumstances I should have delayed ordering the commencement of works until I had myself inspected the country, but Mr. Crosthwaite's very careful inquiries have shown me that no time ought to be lost in making a beginning.

No. 287. ORDER THEREON, 24th January 1872, No. 146.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government are indebted to Mr. Thornhill for keeping them, by official and demi-official communications, so fully informed of his movements and of the results of his observations, and for so completely giving effect to the intention of his instructions. They continue to recognize the necessity which existed for deputing him on this special duty, but they are glad to believe that the emergency has been met in time, and that the

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th January 1872.

measures adopted will prevent suffering, and enable the people to tide over this season of distress.

2. The Government observe that the appropriations sought have been granted for the following purposes:—For the relief works on the trunk road from Ganjam northwards; the Chilka Canal; the small branch road in Ganjam Town; the road from Aska to Itchapore; and the road from Digupudi to Berhampore. The advances to the salt-ryots have been sanctioned, and steps have been taken to expedite the disposal of the Rûshkûliya and Mullada Tumpara or Korakori anicut projects. Grants have also been made for sinking and deepening wells.

3. The Government entirely approve Mr. Thornhill's own proceedings, and note with satisfaction his acknowledgments of the assistance he has derived from Mr. Crosthwaite's active inquiries in the Zemindaries.

4. The Government are glad to learn that, excepting the fever in Ganjam, which unfortunately is commonly prevalent at that place, there does not appear to be any manifestation of serious disease.

5. The Government desire that Mr. Thornhill will keep in mind the desirability of encouraging the ryots by all means to adopt more extensively the cultivation of food-grains other than rice, which is so dependant on an abundant local rain-fall. They will be glad to receive from him any suggestions for promoting the attainment of this desirable object.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,
Secretary to Government.

Aska
7th January 1872.
Desp 12 2 0 3M

W. Hudleston Esq
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Madras.

Sir

x 29th December 1871.

I have the honor in continuation of my last letter to report the result of my proceedings since landing at Gopalpore to the present date.

Dec: 1871.
26 — Gopalpore to Chettipore
29 — Chettipore to Ganjam
30 — To Rumba via Chilka Canal
Jan: 1872
2 — To Chettipore via Berdy
Fort and Ganjam
3 — To Berhampore
6 — To Aska.

2. The marginal statement will show the places I have visited. At Chettipore I conferred with the Deputy Collector and with the Tahsildar of Berhampore and received much information from them regarding the general state of the District.

3. I arranged in the first place to visit Ganjam and Rumba and heard that the loss of crop in that direction had been very great.

4. My attention was at once drawn to the enormous traffic passing along the Trunk Road. Carts going Northward

northwards were mostly unladen while those returning were all laden with paddy. The traffic returns to the end of the year have already been furnished to you. The effect of this unaccustomed strain has been to wear the road into ruts and pits in all directions.

5. I found at the same time that there had been extensive loss of crop in most of the villages adjoining the road and that employment was much needed by them. After consulting with Captain Beckley and Mr. Harris therefore, I telegraphed for a special allotment of Rs 7,500 for 75 miles of road for preparing metal to be spread at the commencement of the rains.

I beg thankfully to acknowledge the speedy sanction granted to this and to my other requests.

6. At Ganjam I found that the crops had failed almost

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entirely, and the same remark is applicable to the Zamindaries of Goomma and Paloor, and the eastern part of Beredy.

7. To afford some employment to those most needing it I applied for a grant of Rs 1,500 for the completion of the road to the Merchants' godowns near the mouth of the River at Ganjam.

8. On visiting the Salt works with the Deputy Collector, I found the Ryots just commencing the salt manufacture but labouring under great difficulties in procuring funds to pay the workmen. I was informed that they received advances from Soucars for this purpose, agreeing to pay 25 per cent for the accommodation on their accounts with Government being settled some three or four months later; with a view to assist them in this matter and to stimulate the manufacture, Rs 5,000 advances of Kudivaram was applied for. It must be remembered that these Salt Ryots also hold paddy land in the neighbourhood and the crop having

having failed they were without means to Commence the manufacture of salt.

9. The Deputy Collector is now engaged in distributing the advance which will be recovered when the final payments are made on the salt being delivered into store. I also allotted Rs 700 to the Deputy Collector for the construction of a tank near the Hoomma Salt Pans to give employment to the poor and to supply water to the salt traders.

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Canal. This Canal was never dug to its proper depth and has been but little used. We found that it had two feet of water at the shallowest part and nearly 3 feet on the average.

12. It is uncertain whether or not locks will be required at each end hereafter. but under any circumstances, it must be deepened by 3 feet if possible and Captain Beckley roughly estimates that Rs 15,000 will be required for this purpose. Much work cannot be done on it however before March, but I think it should be sanctioned at once, and arrangements made for carrying on the work so soon as the water is low enough.

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14. At Rumbah I was visited by the Cultivator Rajah who is in good circumstances. The Southern and

and Eastern parts of his Estate have suffered but he said he had already allotted Rs 10,000 or 12,000 to be spent in repairing his tanks &c and promised to do more. I am in great hopes that he will not fail in this respect, but Mr Crosswaite will visit this part of the District ^{very long} and will see if any further assistance is needed.

15. In returning from Rumbah I passed through Berdy Fort and Ganjam. From the road I had a good view of the western parts of the Berdy Estate. Some of the villages have yielded a fair return but the failure has nevertheless been great and employment will be needed by many; this will be afforded to some extent by the repairs to the trunk road and by the Chilka Canal, but I hope also to make some arrangement with the collector by which the Zamindars may be enabled to spend money in his works of irrigation.

16 There is one work viz: the repair of an ancient on the Korakong River and its subordinate Channels ^{alluded to in my D.O. letters as the Mulladar Sampara Scheme} by

by which a large extent of Zamindari and Government land might be irrigated and by means of which the town of Ganjam might be supplied with wholesome water for at least a portion of the year. I shall confer with Mr. Master on this point and trust that something may be done towards its execution.

17. In addition to the above, I arranged for the clearing of some wells at Rumbah and for digging one or two new wells at Ganjam, the water in the larger number of those now in existence being brackish and unwholesome.

18. I hope and believe that the arrangements for opening work as above detailed will suffice to stave off any great distress in the Country adjacent to Ganjam at all events for the present, a good sum of money will be thus put in Circulation and there is no want of food for those able to buy it.

19. The Zamindars of Broomma and Berdy visited me at Rumbah and I saw the latter again in his own village. The former is poor and not in a position to do much for his people.

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wealthy but will I think follow
such advice as the Collector may
give him from time to time.

20. I had been in frequent communication
with Mr. Crossthwaite who was engaged
in examining the Zamindaries north-
west of Berhampore; he met me
at Berhampore on the 5th and I
was sorry to learn from him that
owing to the almost total failure
of the crops in certain portions
of the Dharadeo. Sherugada and
Chinnakennedy Estates, very
considerable distress was beginning
to manifest itself. The Eastern
face of these Zamindaries appears
to have suffered most, and the
worst tract is described as lying
right and left of a line drawn on
the map from Aska Southwards
to a place named Sideswarum.
The villages to the west, nearer the Hills
and those to the east
are within the influence of the river;
a little employment is still found
in getting in the small harvest, but
that will soon cease and good work
must be found.

21. The Rushikulya Canal
would

7 See my Telegram
dated 6th January
1872

6M
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which to employ the poor of the Country,
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to Ichapone which runs through Sherugada
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it is said that it much needs widening
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and I only defer, arranging for the
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I have the honor to be
Sir

Your Most obedient Servant
J. Thornhill.

Member of the Board of
Revenue on Special duty.

Revenue 1872 Sept.
No 226.

From
G. Thornhill Esq.
Ciska.

Dated 7th Jan'y. 1872.
Recd. 20th Jan'y. 1872.

Reporting, in contin-
uation of last letter, the
result of his proceedings
since landing at Gopalpre.

S. B. No. 146. 226 Jan'y 1872

Revenue Dept.

No 146.

Pros of the Madras Govt

Under date 17th January 1872.

Read the following
letter from G. Thornhill Esq.
Ciska -

Reporting, in continuation
of last letter, the result of
his proceedings since
landing at Gopalpre.

H. E. 7th January 1872

The Govt are indebted
- ed to Mr. Thornhill for
keeping them by official
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- munication so fully
informed of his move-
- ments and of the results
of his observations, and
for so completely giving
effect

A. A. N.
J. D. S.

effect to the intention of
his instructions. They continue to
recognise ~~more than ever~~
the necessity which existed
for deputing him on this
special duty, but they are
glad to believe that ~~nothing~~ the emergency has been
were taken in hand in
time, and that the measures
adopted will ~~drive off~~ prevent
suffering and enable
the people to tide over
this season of distress.

2. The Govt observe
that the ~~grants~~ ^{appropriations} sought
have been granted for the following purposes, for
the relief works on the
Trunk road from Ganjam
northwards

9M
northwards - the Chilka
canal. The small branch
road in Ganjam town,
the road from Aska to
Itchapore and from ^{the road}
Digipudi to Berhampur.
The advances to the
Salt ryots have ~~also~~
been sanctioned, and
steps have been taken
to expedite the disposal
of the Rushkulya and
^{the} Kullada Jumpang
or Korakori anicut
projects. Grants have
also been made for
sinking and deepening
wells.

3. The Govt entirely
approve

approve Mr. Thornhill's

own proceedings, and

^{with satisfaction}

~~are glad to~~ note his

acknowledgments of the

assistance he has derived

from Mr. Crosthwaite's

active enquiries in the

Zemindariis. His next

letter will report his

conference with the Acting

Collector on his return

from the Ghaut country,

and the Gov^t trust to

find that no distress

exists in those parts.

^{The Gov^t}

4. They are glad to

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the

I would omit.

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-sirability of encouraging

the Ryots by all means

to adopt more extensive

-ly the cultivation of food

grains other than rice

which is so dependent

^{abundant local rainfall}
on a ~~good season~~ They

will be glad to receive

From

From here any suggestions

for promoting the attain-

-ment of this ~~desire~~

and, whether by experi-

-mental or illustrative

cultivation at Govt

expense or by free or

cheap distribution of

seed grain [or by condi-

tional grants of waste

land] or by any other

means which may

suggest themselves to

him as appropriate

L.B.

demi-the Dept.

L.M. stop here *N.*

I would omit this.
indeed would rather
stop at A.

N. S.D.

1. G. Thornhill log. 25 January/72

14. Copy to Rev B.

2. — Prof. J. — D.

6 — Prof. J. — D.

5 — Prof. J. — D.

21 — D.W. D.