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*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
6th March 1872.*

No. 68. Read the following letter from G. THORNHILL, Esq., Acting Second Member of the Board of Revenue on Special Duty, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Salur, 20th February 1872, No. 7:—

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival at Bimlipatam, and my subsequent progress as per marginal statement.

Date.	Stations.
14th February,	arrived at Bimlipatam, proceeded to Vizianagram.
17th	to Gazzapatinagram.
19th	to Rega.
20th	to Salur.

2. I met Mr. Melville, Captain Beatty, R.E., and Deputy-Collector Mahomed Alli at Bimlipatam. After consultation with them, and referring to the reports which Mr. Melville had

received from his Assistants Mr. Kelsall, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Johnson, as to the state of the country, it was determined to apply to Government for sanction to spend money on the works enumerated in the telegram despatched on the 15th instant, copy of which is annexed.

3. Mr. Melville had himself visited every part of his district during the past two months, and his Assistants had made more detailed inquiries in the parts assigned to them for examination. It was their unanimous opinion that, although no great distress prevailed, it was quite time to afford employment to the large numbers, who, since the gathering of the harvest, were without work.

4. The works proposed are scattered over the whole of that part of the district where the crops have failed, which may be roughly described as being bounded by the Jeypore hills on the north-west, by the sea on the south-east, by a line drawn from Bobbili to Chicacole on the north, and by the limits of the district on the south. The works are not very extensive, but will suffice for the present, and will show to what extent work is wanted.

5. At Vizianagram I saw and spoke frequently with the Maharajah's Dewan Jaggannatha Raz, and learned from him that he was prepared, on the Maharajah's part, to spend considerable sums of money on ordinary repairs to tanks, etc., and was also about to put in hand some irrigation works of greater importance. These works will find employment for considerable numbers, and will render the Government task comparatively easy.

6. Although the season has been very similar to that in Ganjam, so far as I can learn and see, the consequent distress is not nearly so great. Notwithstanding the prices of all food are higher here than there, I cannot speak with much confidence as to the reason for this; but I think the following, among other causes, contribute to the result:—The practice of growing paddy on unirrigated ground is not so common, although by no means unusual; there is more well cultivation; there is more trade and a greater disposition on the part of the people to seek a better market for their labour, where wages are higher, especially in the Godavery Delta and Upper Godavery works.

7. As regards the supply of food there need be no apprehension. The last two weekly returns of imports by sea show that two lacs of Rupees worth of food have entered the district during that period. There is a constant influx by land from Chicacole, from the Godavery, from Purla Kimidy, and from Gunupur. Jeypore

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proper is said to be overflowing with surplus grain, but the cost of carrying down the ghaut on bullocks at present prevents much import in that direction.

8. No work would more surely benefit both countries* than the rapid completion of the bandy-ghaut now in progress under the direction of Mr. Turner,

* Vizagapatam and Jeypore.

and its connection with the roads of the district at this place. I shall again address Government on the subject after full discussion with Mr. Melville, who, I may add, has been good enough to accompany me on the tour.

No. 69.

ORDER THEREON, 6th March 1872, No. 396.

Miscellaneous.

COMMUNICATED to the Board of Revenue.

2. It is observed that sanction has already been given by telegram to the relief works already proposed for the Vizagapatam District.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

W. HUDLESTON,

Officiating Chief Secretary.

14 Feb 1872 No 220-221

14 Feb 1872
1 - 38 March 1872

Received by Mr. Turner

14 March 1872

No 69

14 March 1872

Received by Mr. Turner
14 Feb 1872
1 - 38 March 1872
No 69
14 March 1872

Revenue 1872. Dept.
From Mr. 694.

The 42nd Member
of the Board of Revenue
on Special Duty

To The Secretary to Government
Revenue Dept.
Madras.

Dated 20th February
1872

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Reporting on his arrival
and subsequent progress
in the District of
Vizagapatam

With Order
No 396-6 March 1872

Govt. of 1872 Madras.
REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Secy. Secy. Secy.

Dated March 6th.

Recd.

Recd.

G. O., 6th March 1872, No. 306.

MARCH

Mem. 68-69.

Mr. Thornhill's proceedings in Viragapalam District.—Letter from Mr. Thornhill reporting on this subject, communicated to the Board of Revenue.

10/5/86/S4