No. 244. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 17th September 1873, Miscellaneous No. 6,125 :—

Read the following letter from C. G. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Chetterpore, 3rd September 1873, No. 2,074.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of letter, dated 2nd instant, from Mr. T. D. Harris, Executive Engineer, reporting his observations during his recent tour through the greater part of the principal division of this district.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From T. D. HARRIS, Esq., Executive Engineer, Ganjam, to C. G. MASTER, Esq., Collector of Ganjam, dated Berhampore, 2nd September 1873, No. 47.

I BEG to enclose the season report for the week ending 30th ultimo, and, with reference thereto, I beg to inform you that I have been over almost the whole of the Berhampore and Goomsoor Taluqs since the 9th of the last month. On my proceeding through the Berhampore Taluq, I found the cultivation in a very backward state, and no water in tanks or channels in the vicinity of Injelly and down the valley of the Godahallow and Jeyamangalam channel, notwithstanding the very trifling freshes. I found the cultivation mostly done ; the only drawback was that the stock-plough or weeding, owing to want of sufficient moisture, could not be performed, and the skutch-grass was getting the better of the paddy. Between Injelly and Aska also I found the cultivation in a similar forward state, and up to Russelcondah, Baroodah, and over the Goomsoor Taluq generally ; but there was no water in tanks, not even in the Boary reservoir, one of the best irrigation sources in the district. The rain-fall, however, to the north from Bullypodu was more plentiful, and the cultivation was all nearly done, and in a very promising state. At Suradah, on the other hand, I was much surprised the drought was very great up to the 22nd of last month when I left, and the cultivation in a backward state. I estimate that seven-eighths only of the Goomsoor Taluq of the cultivable area will be safely planted, and with favourable rains may yield a good harvest. I proceeded through the Zemindaris of Dharacotta, Sherugada, Chinna Kimedy, Pedda Kimedy, and Cheekaty, from the 24th. In the first three named, I found the cultivation in a fair state of preservation, and three-fourths complete ; the plantation was being done of the remainder one-fourth with great difficulty owing to want of water : all tanks were dry, the rivers as well. I walked across the Godahallow at Pattoopoor in the Chinna Kimedy Estate without wetting my shoes, but notwithstanding I found the prospects of the harvest favourable down the valley of the Godahallow, and particularly about the vicinity of Pattoopoor, where it appears to me the ryots have been most successful this year with their indigo cultivation, and were in good spirits, and working with good heart and will. On proceeding through the Pedda Kimedy Estate, I found the cultivation in a most backward state, particularly in the southern half, and not more than one-fourth of the land gave any promise of crops ; in fact, I fear not so much was up to this time cultivated. I walked across the Dehollee river without wetting my feet on the 26th ultimo. On proceeding through the Cheekaty Zemindari, I was surprised and grieved to find the cultivation still more backward ; in fact, hardly anything done, and the nursery beds were all nearly ruined, burned up. I went over numerous paddy-fields ; here the ryots were losing heart, and some of the best paddy-land in the district was uncultivated. I met the Tahsildar of Berhampore Taluq at this place, and he was proceeding on through the Pedda Kimedy Zemindari, and will be able to afford you valuable information. I am pleased, however, to inform that after midday on the 26th rain set in, and from

that time there has been copious showers sufficient to admit of the cultivation being carried out, which is being done vigorously ; and I can, I trust, assure you that there is no fear of any serious scarcity ; but I must confess that, from all I have seen, I cannot hope to assure you of a full harvest : one-eighth will be lost in Goomsoor Taluq ; one-fourth will be lost in Berhampore and over most of the Zemindaris in this part.

2. Importation of grain had vigorously set in : I met droves of bandies going out by the Aska and Berhampore road to Nowgada for paddy, and coming up the Doegam road from the Zemindaris. At Cheekaty 300 bandies came in with grain on the evening and during the night of the 26th ultimo from Rambha. The price of paddy had increased from Rs. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0 per bandy of 960 lbs., but, since the rains set in, it has fallen again ; and I am in receipt of valuable and trustworthy information from Orissa that the crops promise well, though the rains have been very moderate there also and freshes in the rivers the same. There has been a failure of rains evidently all along the Eastern Ghauts ; but there is now good prospects, as the rains have set in, and there has been freshes down all the rivers. If the north-east monsoon is favourable, there is still a prospect of a good harvest. I am sorry to tell you that the ryots have in many places lost some of their cattle by disease, but these rains will, I trust, put a stop to the distemper.

3. The wells sunk in various places during last year have proved a great boon to the people.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

No. 245. ORDER THEREON, 30th September 1873, No. 1,051.

Miscellaneous.

ORDERED to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. A. DALYELL,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No 47

Berhampur

From

The Officer in charge of
No. 1 Range Ganjam

To

The Collector of
Ganjam District
Chetterpore

Sir,

I beg to enclose the season report for the week ending 30th ultimo and with reference thereto, I beg to inform you that I have been over almost the whole of the Berhampoor and Goomsoor Taluks during the 9th to 12th of the last month. On my proceeding through the Berhampore Taluk I found the cultivation in a very backward state and no water in tanks or channels in the vicinity of Injelly and down the valley of the Godahallow and Syamangalam channel notwithstanding the very trifling freshes, I found the cultivation mostly done, the only drawback was that the stock plough or weeding owing to want of sufficient moisture could not be performed and the skutch grass was getting the better of the Paddy. Between Injelly and Asika also I found the

cultivation in a similar forward state, and up to Russelkondah, Baroodah and over the Goomsur Taluk generally but there was no water in tanks not even in the Boary Reservoir, one of the best irrigation sources in the district: the rainfall however to the North from Bullypoche was more plentiful and the cultivation was all nearly done and in a very promising state. At Surradah on the other hand I was much surprized the drought was very great up to the 22nd of last month when I left and the cultivation in a backward state. I estimate that 7/8 only of the Goomsur Taluk of the cultivable area will be safely planted and with favourable rains may yield a good harvest. I proceeded through the Zamindaries of Pharacotta Sherugada, Chinna Kimedy, Pedda Kimedy and Chekaly from the 24th in the first three named, I found the cultivation in a fair state of preservation and 3/4 complete, the plantation was being done of the remainder 1/4 with great difficulty owing to want of water, all tanks were dry, the Rivers as well: I walked across the Godahallo at Pattoopoor in the Chinna Kimedy Estate without wetting my shoes, but notwithstanding I found the prospects of the harvest favourable down the valley of the Godahallow and particularly about the vicinity of Pattoopoor where it appears to me the ryots have been most successful this year with their Indigo cultivation and were in good spirits and working with good heart and will. On proceeding through the Pedda Kimedy Estate I found the cultivation in a most backward state, particularly in the southern half and not more than 1/4 of the land gave any promise of crops - in fact I fear not so much was up to this time cultivated. I walked across the Dehollee river without wetting my feet on the 26th ultimo. On proceeding through the Cheekaly Zamindary I was surprized and grieved to find the cultivation still more backward, in fact hardly any thing done and the nurserey beds were all nearly ruined, burned up. I went over numerous paddy fields, here the ryots were losing heart and some of the best paddy land in the district was uncultivated. I met the Tahsildar of Berhampore Taluk at this place and he was proceeding on through the Pedda Kimedy Zamindary and will be able to afford you valuable information. I am pleased however to inform that after this day on the 26th rain set in and from that time there has been copious showers sufficient to admit of the cultivation being carried out which is being done vigorously, and I can, I trust assure you that there is no fear of any serious scarcity but I must confess that

from all I have seen, I cannot hope to as-
-sure you of a full harvest; 1/8 will be lost
in Goomsur Taluk, 1/4 will be lost in Ber
-hampur and over most of the Zamindaries
in this part.
2 Importation of grain had vigorously set in.
Inset droves of bandies going out by the
Aska and Berhampore road to Nowgada
for Paddy and coming up the Doegam road
from the Zamindaries. At Chekaly 300
Bandies came in with grain on the evening
and during the night of the 26th ultimo
from Rambha the price of Paddy had in
-creased from Rs 1 to Rs 1-8 per bandy of
960 lbs, but since the rains set in it has
fallen again and I am in receipt of valua
-ble and trustworthy information from
Orissa that the crops promise well though
the rains have been very moderate there
also and freshets in the rivers the same;
there has been a failure of rains evidently
all along the Eastern Ghauts, but there is
now good prospects as the rains have set-
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the rivers. If the North East monsoon
is favorable there is still a prospect of a
good harvest. I am sorry to tell you that
the ryots have in many places lost some
of their cattle by disease but these rains

will I trust put a stop to the distemper.
3 The wells sunk in various places during
last year have proved a great boon to the people
I have &c
/ Signed / T. D. Harris
Executive Engineer

True Copy
C Munster
Collector, Ganjam

Copied
E. H. Johnson
Asst Clerk

R2919/73

Enclosure in a letter from the Collector of Gayaim, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Dated Letter from 3d September 1873 No 2074.

Judl No 5391/72.

Copy of Mr. Harris's Letter Dated 2d September 1873.

Rec'd 1873 Sept-

No 2919

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD
OF REVENUE.

Dated 17th September 1873

Despatched 17 " "

Rec'd. 19 Sept. 1873

No. 1051

Recorded 6125

30 Sept '73

SUBJECT.

Submitting letter
from Coll.r of Ganjam
forwarding copy of one
from Executive Engr.
Mr. Harris reporting his
observations during his
recent tour through greater
part of principal Division of
the Dt. on state of crops &c.