

(1) Number of Pages.....36
(2) Date of repair.....6. 6. 66
(3) Initials of the Referencer.....Jms

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	156	Press
B.P. No.		~~Mis~~
Dated	3. 2.	1964 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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156

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
3rd February 1874.*

Read Proceedings of Government, No. 150, of this date recording certain papers respecting the present state of the Madura District :—

Read also the following papers :—

No. 20. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 30th January 1874, No. 177 :—

Read the following letter from R. K. PUCKLE, Esq., Collector of Tinnevely, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Lakshmiparatope, 22nd January 1874, No. 42.

THE north-east monsoon has so entirely failed in this district that the bulk of the area under the rain-fed tanks has not even been ploughed, and where cultivation has been attempted the crop has withered in the blade.

2. Most of the river-channels have now been dry for days, and the crops under them are beginning to fail on the higher levels and on the outskirts of the irrigation. The crops under the channels, however, are so near maturity that a few heavy showers or a fresh in the river would secure them in most cases, but though the clouds are gathering, there is no immediate prospect of rain.

3. The price of paddy has risen from 4 Rs. to 10 Rs. a cottah within the last two months; the present price is the equivalent of 4 Rs. a-bushel of rice, or rather more than five Madras measures of rice per rupee.

4. The dry crops have failed altogether in the Sankaranainarkovil Taluq; and in the uplands of the river-irrigated taluqs but little will be harvested.

5. The price of cotton is so low, 110 Rs. a-candy of 500 lbs., that there is but little to set off against the loss of the cereal grains.

6. Under these circumstances, I request permission to remit up to 50 per cent. of the dry land assessment in those localities that most urgently need assistance; such a remission may be estimated at about a lakh of rupees. The remissions for waste and withered crops under rain-fed tanks will be about two lakhs of rupees, and it will probably be necessary to remit about a lakh more for failure of crop under minor rivers and channel-fed tanks. Probable total remission four lakhs of rupees.

I will telegraph a weekly report.

Telegram from Collector of Tinnevely, to Secretary, Revenue Board, dated 26th January 1874.

"SHOWERS have fallen since I wrote; these may save the rice-crop now in ear, but water in the river is needed to save the crop in blade. My estimated remission is not affected by rain-fall now."

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The drouth, which the Collector describes, is very serious, and the price he quotes for rice (seven imperial seers per rupee), considering the sudden rise, is alarming. In December the price list shows that, on an average through the whole district, 10.7 seers of first sort rice and 12 seers of second sort rice were sold for a rupee.

price is very expensive in my mind. there is a great want

Proceedings of the Madras Government Revenue Department,
3rd February 1874.

3. The amount of remission which the Collector expects to have to give, viz., four lakhs, is enormous, and the Board think it most important that an active and zealous officer should be deputed to act for Mr. Puckle when he takes the leave, which has been already granted to him. With regard to the leave which has been recommended in the case of Mr. Bird, the Board think he should, if possible, postpone leaving the district until the Jambundi is over. The grant of large remissions is always attended by extensive frauds, and the only way in which these can be checked is by the personal inspection of tracts for which remission is claimed by the Collector and his Assistants. If Mr. Bird leaves the district, there will be no Assistant Collector in it.

4. The Board will be prepared to authorize liberal remissions of the assessment on dry land on receipt of fuller information; but they do not feel at liberty to give the Collector the wide discretion which he asks on a general and incomplete statement that the dry crops have failed in the Srakarainareovil Taluk, and that little will be harvested in the uplands of the river-irrigated taluqs.

5. The localities where the dry crops have failed and the extent of the failure in each such locality must be more exactly stated, and the information should be based on personal inspection by some responsible officer.

No. 21. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 2nd February 1874, No. 193.

Read the following letter from J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 20th January 1874, No. 45.

Under the Board's Circular Order, No. 20, of 1872, remissions of puzjah assessment can only be granted with the special sanction of the Board in very exceptional years, or under very exceptional circumstances, and the Board's sanction must be applied for before the end of January.

2. I, therefore, lose no time in informing the Board that I fear, from what I hear, there will be an absolute necessity this year for remitting the whole or considerable portions of the dry assessment in parts of some, if not of all, of the taluqs of this district. I have as yet only been able to discuss the matter orally with some of my divisional officers and Tahsildars, but their opinions generally point to the probability of a very bad harvest of dry grains.

3. I have called for reports not only on the prospect of the harvest, but also on the probability (which, I fear, is not by any means remote) of a scarcity of food in some of the taluqs during the next four or five months, and will again address the Board when the replies are received with fuller information in detail.

4. In the meanwhile, and in order to be within the limit of time prescribed for the application by the Circular Order above quoted, I beg to apply for power to remit personally, or through the divisional officers, at the approaching Jambundi, the whole or such portion of the assessment on dry lands as the circumstances of the case in any particular locality may urgently call for.

Proceedings of the Madras Government Revenue Department,
3rd February 1874.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The Collector will, of course, be careful that, if a scarcity is really coming, it is foreseen and provided against. He should keep the Board informed on the subject.

3. The Board must have further information before they can grant the Collector the wide discretion as to remission on dry land which he asks for. The several localities in which the remission will have to be given must be specified after they have been inspected by some responsible officer, and the maximum percentage, which will have to be remitted in each, must be specified.

No. 22. ORDER THEREON, 3rd February 1874, No. 156.

Miscellaneous.

WHILE awaiting the further reports from these districts (Madura, Tinnevely, and South Arcot) which have

been called for by the Board of Revenue, His Excellency in Council thinks it highly desirable that a special officer should be employed in each district to assist the Collector and divisional officers in reporting upon the tracts, in respect of which a remission of assessment to such a serious extent is likely to be demanded. The selection of such an officer may probably best be made under present circumstances by the Collector of the district in each case; some experienced Tahsildar or Sheristadar being nominated for the duty, who will then be gazetted by the Government as a Temporary Deputy-Collector. Orders to this effect will be communicated to the three Collectors by telegram, with instructions to reply in the same way.

2. Mr. Bird's leave will be postponed as suggested by the Board; and the Government are confident that Mr. Puckle, in the existing state of the Tinnevely District, would desire to remain at the head of affairs, unless advised to absent himself by the medical officer.

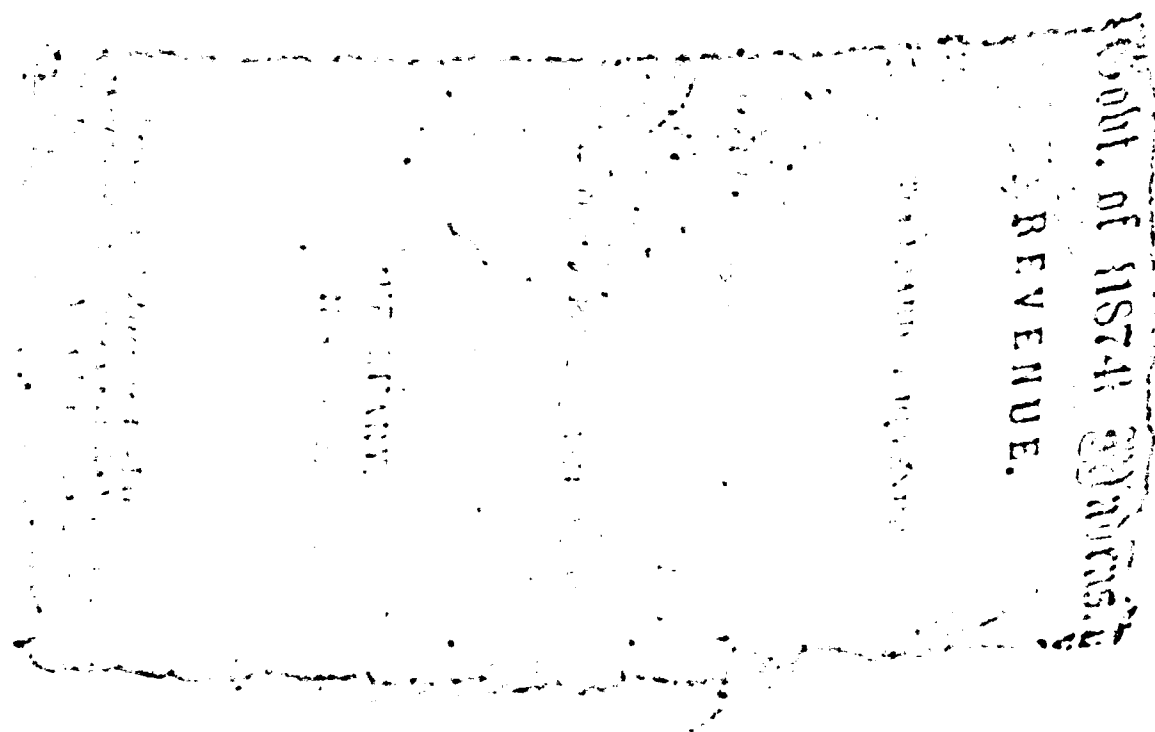
(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

There is very extensive want. There is a great want.



Threatened distress in Madura

Ext. taken from M^{rs}. Roberts, the
Dist. Engineer. 4/24-1-74.

(1) Any report from Coler?

" We are in a bad way here for
water - the hot weather has already
begun, & the fields & crops are quite
parched - Rice has already gone up
50 percent in price & I fear the poor
people have a hard time before them.

(2) Any information about
prices?

Fortunately they are a much enduring
people, or we should probably have riots.

(3) Any unusual
exports by sea to
Ceylon or elsewhere?

The sending up of Rice to Bengal
will have a lamentable effect here -
In the poverty stricken hamlets
of Pannam & Sivaganga there are
famines in certain localities in the
last year - what the people will
suffer this year, Heaven alone knows.

4/26.

1. Ltr. from Coler 16 Jan 74 N^o 4. Dry crops have failed in large
tracts. Cholam specially bad. Season in Ramanam very bad. Pungah
crops much below the average. Pungah remissions will be wanted
(This letter will be submitted to the Govt. this evening)
2. Prices are rising. Vide list enclosed wth please return.
(The principal figures give the amount sold per Ruper in Rupees)
3. Rice is only exported to the Govt. There is a great want

in the exportation of rice

April to Dec 1871 ^{cwt} 5,822
 1872 ^{cwt} 14,791
 1873 - 20,379

Jan 4
 1872. 975
 1363
 2697
~~1872~~
 5,035

	1871	1872	1873
April	6	563	41
May	0	1947	89
June	0	3582	1959
July	553	910	2870
Aug	13	3833	6241
Sept	2904	1109	4833
Oct	1539	1684	2436
Nov	522	577	617
Dec	285	586	1293

Jan 5822
 1872 14791
 975 20379
 1873 not known

Feb 1363 5416

Mar 2697 5551

10857 32173

[Faint, illegible handwritten notes at the bottom of the page.]

5
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My dear Carmichael,
I send replies. Rice
has gone up but not quite
50 pct at Madras. Perhaps
it wd be better if it had gone
up a little more, for that
wd have put a drag on the
exportation

Luchinopol, is also very dry

Yours sincerely
J. G. Cole

Jan 26

Recd. 1/27/00
100.00

Read Prop. Govt No 150 of this date,
concerning districts, inappreciating certain papers respecting the
present state of the Madras district.

Read also Bds Pro. of 30th Jan

2nd Feb.

While awaiting further reports from
these districts - Madras, Tinnevely,
and South Arcot - we have been called
for by the Govt, H. E. inf. thinks it
highly desirable that a special officer
should be employed in each district to enquire
and report upon the facts in respect
of which a remission of assessment to
such a serious extent is likely to be
demanded. The selection
of such an officer may probably best
be made under present circumstances
by the Govt of the district in each case;
some experienced Tahsildar or
Sawabdar being nominated for the
duty, who will have to be gazetted by
the Govt as a Temporary District Collector.
Orders to this effect will be communicated
to the three Collectors by telegram, with instructions
to reply in the same way.

2. Mr. Bird's leave will be postponed as
suggested by the Govt; and the Govt are confident
that Mr. Puckle will be able to cope with the existing state of

The Govt & Personal Officer

be turnedly disheart
not desire to remain at
the head of affairs, unless advised
to about himself by the military
officer.

27 - Feb 74

3rd Feb 74

Supd in h. l. 6th of
Rev. 3. Feb 74
14th Mar do. 6 Feb 74
The following is a list of the
names of the persons who have
been in the service of the
Government of India since the
1st of January 1874 to the
31st of December 1874. The
names are given in the order
in which they were appointed
to the service. The names of
the persons who have been
in the service of the
Government of India since the
1st of January 1874 to the
31st of December 1874 are
given in the order in which
they were appointed to the
service.

40
14th Mar do. 6 Feb 74

The following is a list of the
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Government of India since the
1st of January 1874 to the
31st of December 1874. The
names are given in the order
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in the service of the
Government of India since the
1st of January 1874 to the
31st of December 1874 are
given in the order in which
they were appointed to the
service.

20-22.

From the collector's office -
22-23 January 1874

No. 42

Trinivelly Collectors Office
Cutcherry Lakshimpuram
22nd January 1874

From,

R. H. Puckle Esquire
Collector

To,

J. Grace Esq
Secretary to the Board
of Revenue, Madras

Sir,

The North east monsoon
has so entirely failed in this
District that the bulk of the
area under the rain fed tanks
has not even been ploughed
and where cultivation has
been attempted the crop has
withered in the blade.

2. Most

2. Most of the river channels have now been dry for days and the crops under them are beginning to fail on the higher level, and on the outskirts of the irrigation. The crops under the channels however are so near maturity that a few heavy showers or a fresh in the river would secure them in most cases, but though the clouds are gathering there is no immediate prospect of rain.

3. The price of paddy has risen from 4 Rupees to 10 Rupees a Cottah within the last two months. The present price is the equivalent of 4 Rupees a bushel

5
9/156
bushel of rice or rather more than 5 Madras measures of rice per Rupee.

4. The dry crops have failed altogether in the Sankara-namarkovil Taluq; and in the uplands of the river irrigated Taluqs, but little will be harvested.

5. The price of cotton is so low, 110 Rupees a candy of 500 lbs, that there is but little to set off against the loss of the cereal grains.

6. Under these circumstances, I request permission to remit up to 50 per cent of the dry land assessment in those localities that most urgently need assistance. Such a remission may be estimated at about a lac of Rupees. The

The remissions for waste and
withered crops under rain-
fed tanks will be about two
lacs of Rupees and it will pro-
bably be necessary to remit
about a lac more for failure
of crop under minor rivers and
channel fed tanks - Probable
total remission 4 lacs
of Rupees.

I will telegraph a weekly
report.

I have been

(Signed) R. H. Puckle
Collector.

(True copy)

I Gole

Secretary

[Signature]

C. D. M. K.

[Faint handwritten notes in the right margin]

Telegram

To, Madras

From Trinnevelly

To Secretary, Revenue Board

From Collector

" Showers have fallen since I wrote these may save the Rice crop now in ear but water in the river is needed to save the crop in blade - My estimated remission is not affected by rain-fall now."

(True Copy)

J. G. G.
Secretary

[Signature]

Enclosed find
of the Board of Revenue
to the Secretary to
Government - R. S.
dated 30 January 1874

Rs. 2
295/74

Trinnevelly Collector's
Report on the unfavourable
character of season
in his District

19. 27 3 Feb 1874
20. 13 Feb 1874

Read the following papers:-

20 - Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 30th January 1874

Read letter from the Collector
of Ponnivelly dated 22nd January 1874
No. 42.

Read also Telegram from the
same officer dated 26th Idem.

Submitted for the information
of Government

The drought which the Collector
describes is very serious and the
price he quotes for rice (Superior
Seers per Ruplee) considering the
sudden rise, is alarming. In Decem-
ber the price list shows that on
an average through the whole
district 10.7 seers of First sort rice

and

Enclosure in No. -
-reading of the Board
of Revenue to the Secretary
to Government, 1874
dated 30th January 1874
Rev. 295/74

Copy of Telegram from
Collector of Ponnivelly
reporting the & same
wherein have been
stated the various
to the Board & that the
estimated amount
is not likely to be
affected -
149: 33rd February 1874
In 1874 No. 20

and 12 sars of second sort rice were
sold for a Rupee.

The amount of Remission which
the Collector expects to have to give,
viz. 4 laes is enormous, and the Board
think it most important that an
active and zealous officer should
be deputed to act for Mr. Puckle,
when he takes the leave which has
been already granted to him. With
regard to the leave which has been
recommended in the case of Mr.
Bird, the Board think he should
if possible postpone leaving the
District until the famabund is
over. The grant of large remissions
is always attended by extensive
frauds, and the only way in which
them

Revenue Department

No. 21. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.
dated 2^d February 1874

Read the following to

No. 45

From,

J. H. Garstin Esq.,

Collector of South Arcot

To, J. Grose Esq.,

Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

Under the Board's Circular Order
No. 20 of 1872 remissions of panjah asseps-
ment can only be granted with the
special sanction of the Board in very
exceptional years or under very ex-
ceptional circumstances; and the Board's
sanction must be applied for before
the end of January.

2. I therefore lose no time in informing
the

the Board that I fear from what I hear, there will be an absolute necessity this year for remitting the whole or considerable portions of the dry assessments, in parts of some, if not of all, of the Taluqs of this District, I have as yet only been able to discuss the matter orally with some of my Divisional Officers and Tahsildars, but their opinions generally point to the probability of a very bad harvest of dry grains.

3. I have called for reports not only on the prospect of the harvest but also on the probability, which I fear is not by any means remote, of a scarcity of food, in some of the Taluqs during the next 4 or 5 months, and will again address the Board when the replies are received with fuller information in detail.

In

2 15
156
there can be checked is by the personal inspection of tracts for which remission is claimed by the Collector and his Assistants. If Mr Bird leaves the district there will be no Assistant Collector in it.

The Board will be prepared to authorize liberal remission of the assessment on dry land on receipt of fuller information, but they do not feel at liberty to give the Collector the wide discretion which he asks on a general and incomplete statement that the dry crops have failed in the Sankaranainarcoil Taluq and that little will be harvested in the uplands of the river irrigated Taluqs. The

The localities where the Dry
Crops have failed and the extent
of the failure in each such locality
must be more exactly stated, and
the information should be based
on personal inspection by some
responsible officers.

1. Enc. Extra.

J. Grose
Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with copies of letter and
Telegram from Collector.

E. Murphy
Capt. The Royal

4. In the meanwhile, and in order to be within the limit of time prescribed for the application by the Circular Order above quoted, I beg to apply for power to permit personally or through the Divisional Officers, at the approaching Jamma-bandi, the whole or such portion of the assessments on dry lands as the circumstances of the case in any particular locality may urgently call for.

South Arcot
Collectors' office
Madras
29th January 1874

I have H^{on}
Signed, J. H. Garstin
Collector.

Submitted for the information
of Government
The

Resum 1874 after
No. 295
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
Dated 30th 3 January
1874
Recd 31

and
S.O. No 156-3 Feb'y 74

Submitting to Government
request reports from
Collector of immediately
on information state
of season in the District
and requesting Collector
to report full details of
failures of dry crops.

The Collector will of course be careful that if a scarcity is really coming, it is foreseen and provided against. He should keep the Board informed on the subject.

The Board must have further information before they can grant the Collector the wide discretion as to permission on dry lands which he asks for. The several localities in which the permission will have to be given must be specified after they have been inspected by some responsible officer, and the maximum percentage which will have to be permitted in each must be specified.

(True copy & Extract,

J. G. S.
Secretary.

Esq. The Secretary to
the Government
Revenue Department,
Calcutta.

-Keweenaw 1874
 No. 327
 Proceedings of the
 Board of Revenue

D. H. H. 2
 D. H. H. 2
 D. H. H. 2 } Adams
 Recd. 31 1874.

S.O. No. 156-3 Jery 74

Subject.

Remission of mortgage
on dry lands in South Coast
State of California
for grant of — on account of
bad harvest — in harvest
for information of Bureau —
connect with records for
collecting guarantee for
insurance.