M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

(1) Number of Pages 24.

(2) Date of repair 23. 6. 66.

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	279		Press / Mis.
Dated	2. 3		~~196~~ 1874

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 5. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 19th February 1874, No. 377 :—

Read the following letter from the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, Collector of Tanjore, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Vallam, 14th February 1874, No. 40 :—

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Board, that owing to the almost total failure of rain since October last, in the greater part of the district, the second crop of rice has been to a great extent lost, while in those poorly irrigated parts of the delta where cultivation commences later in the year, the yield of the first crop has also been deficient. As the harvest is not yet over, what the actual outturn of the staple produce of the district, *i. e.*, rice will be, cannot yet be stated with any degree of precision ; but roughly, it may be taken to be between two-thirds and three-fourths of the average. As regards dry crops, all later crops or those of the second six months as they are generally called, have more or less failed.

2. This being the case, and the exports of rice and paddy both by sea to Ceylon and inland to districts westward being brisk, prices have gone on rising fast since the beginning of this month, and two slight disturbances of the nature of grain ryots have taken place. One of these occurred at Nagore, on the evening of the 7th instant. It appears that some Musselmans of bad character set some Pariahs to upset the baskets of the women who were selling rice in the bazaar, and that the contents were picked up by a crowd of people which collected at the spot. A room supposed to contain grain was also broken open. The Police at once interfered, and the disturbance ended in the arrest of six or seven individuals who are being tried by the Joint Magistrate. Mr. Stokes does not attach any importance to this fracas except that it was accompanied by rumours of rice ryots about to take place at Negapatam and Nagore ; a very similar occurrence being reported to have taken place at the same time at the adjoining French Settlement of Karrical.

3. I enclose a copy of Mr. Stokes' letter, together with one of the statements of export by sea for the last three months, as compared with those of the corresponding months of last year.

4. The other disturbance took place at Combaconum on the evening of the 12th instant, just the day after I left that place. A clamorous crowd having collected in the bazaar, the grain merchants closed their shops, and the crowd threatened to break them open ; but the Tahsildar and the Inspector in charge of the Town Police were promptly on the spot and dispersing the crowd, restored order and peace. Captain Rolland, the Superintendent of Police, proceeded to Combaconum yesterday with a body of Police from the reserve, and in case matters assume a serious aspect, I propose myself to go there again.

5. The prices of paddy at Negapatam on the 7th and at Combaconum on the 12th instant, (these being the days on which the disturbances above mention-

ed took place) were Rupees 1-12-0 and Rupees 1-8-0 per kallam, respectively, being equivalent to 14 and 16 Patnam padies, or the supposed Madras measures, per rupee. They have so stood up to yesterday in those two towns as also elsewhere, excepting Pattukottai, where the price rose to nearly 2 Rupees, per kallam, or 12 ¼ padies per rupee on the 12th, but slightly fell the next day; yesterday's report from Puttukottai being 13½ padies per rupee.

6. All timely precautions in respect of Police arrangements have been taken, and I hope there may be no more disturbances. Should any occur, however, I shall report them in due course.

7. I beg this report may be forwarded for the information of Government; as, owing to nothing serious in the nature of crime having happened, I have not considered it necessary to report to Government in the Magisterial Department.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From H. S. STOKES, Esq., Joint Magistrate, to the Hon. D. ARBUTHNOTT, District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 9th February 1874, No. 29.

I HAVE the honour to report that there was a slight disturbance in Nagore on the evening of the 7th. Some Musselman, bad characters, put forward some Pariahs to upset the baskets of the women who sold rice in the bazaar, and a crowd collecting, the contents of the baskets were stolen. A room also supposed to contain grain was broken open. The Police interfered at once, and six or seven individuals were arrested, and will be tried by me. I do not attach any importance to this disturbance, except that it has been accompanied by rumours of rice ryots about to take place in Negapatam and Nagore on account of the rise in price of grain. A very similar occurrence, I hear, took place at the same time in Karrical also.

2. The Assistant Superintendent of Police and I visited Nagore yesterday evening and found all quiet. We have, however, agreed that it would be prudent to have down a small re-inforcement of Constables (twelve men) from the reserve at Tanjore to strengthen the force at Nagore Station. It is expected to arrive to-day.

3. A close watch will be kept on the proceedings of dubious characters; and I shall let you know immediately if any thing further occurs. At present I see no cause for anxiety.

4. The retail price of paddy in the bazaar is now Rupees 1-12-0 per kalam, or about six or seven Madras measures of rice per rupee. It will probably still rise considerably as the export is brisk. I append a table shewing the increase of export from the ports of this district for the last three months as contrasted with the same period last year. Besides the export by sea, paddy has been carted from this division to Madura; and is now, I am informed, being purchased for carriage to that district at Rupees 1-10-0 per kalam.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) D. ARBUTHNOTT,
District Magistrate.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Statement.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government. The disturbances appear to have been of but little importance and proper precautionary measures seem to have been taken.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
2nd March 1874.

No. 6. ORDER THEREON, 2nd March 1874, No. 279.

Miscellaneous. RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated March 2nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 2nd March 1874, No. 279.

MARCH.
Nos. 5-6.

Disturbances in Nagore and Combaconum
—Records Board's Proceedings regarding — on account of the rise in price of grain.

Tanjore Joint Magistrate's Office
Negapatam 9th February 1874.

No. 29.

From The Joint Magistrate
Tanjore

To The District Magistrate
Tanjore

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I have &c
(Sig.) H D Skottes
Joint Magistrate

(True Copy)
(Sig.) D. Arbuthnott
Dt. Magistrate
(True Copy)

J Grote
Secretary

E/Le

Statement shewing the quantity of rice and paddy exported to Ceylon.

Months	Description	1872	1873	Increase	Decrease	
November 1873	Rice	78,861	77,915	"	946	
	Paddy	315	4,465	4,150	"	
December —" —	Rice	89,840	1,60,568	70,728	"	
	Paddy	692	3,185	2,493	"	
January 1874	Rice	1,75,043	2,57,530 ×	82,487	"	
	Paddy	5,873	3,062	"	2,811	
	Total Cwt—		159,858			
	Total Tons—		79,929			

× In January 1874, 2,196 Cwt of rice were exported to Mauritius from Tranquebar

(Signed) H. S. Stokes
Joint Magistrate

(Signed) D. Arbuthnot
Dt. Magistrate

(True Copy)

J Grole
Secretary

Encl. 3 to Dis. No. 379/74
Dated 19th March 1874.

Enclosure in Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue
to the Secretary to Govern-
ment, Revenue Department
dated 19th February 1874.

Rec'd 25/2/74

Copy of Sub Collector's
report on the grain riot
that took place at
Tanjore.

P.S. D 2 Records 1/4
M. B. A.S.

L. & P. Press
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3/279

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 19th February 1874

No. 40 Read the following

From,

The Honorable D. Arbuthnott
Collector of Tanjore

To,

J. Grose Esquire
Secretary to the Board of
Revenue Madras

Sir,

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for the information of the Board,
that owing to the almost total
failure of rain since October
last in the greater part of the
District, the second crop of rice
has been to a great extent lost,
while

while in those poorly irrigated parts of the delta where cultivation commences later in the year, the yield of the first crop has also been deficient. As the harvest is not yet over, what the actual outturn of the staple produce of the District i.e. rice will be, cannot yet be stated with any degree of precision; but roughly it may be taken to be between two-thirds and three-fourths of the average. As regards dry crops, all later crops or those of the second six months as they are generally called have more or less failed.

2. This being the case, and the

the exports of rice and paddy both by sea to Ceylon and inland to Districts westward being brisk, prices have gone on rising fast since the beginning of this month, and two slight disturbances of the nature of grain riots have taken place. One of these occurred at Nagore on the evening of the 7th instant. It appears that some Mussalmans of bad character set some Pariahs to upset the baskets of the women who were selling rice in the Bazaar, and that the contents were picked up by a crowd of people which collected at the spot. A room supposed to contain grain was also broken open. The Police at once

interfered and the disturbance ended in the arrest of six or seven individuals who are being tried by the joint Magistrate. Mr. Stokes does not attach any importance to this fracas except that it was accompanied by rumours of rice riots about to take place at Negapatam and Nagore, a very similar occurrence being reported to have taken place at the same time at the adjoining French Settlement of Karrical.

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Tanjore Collector's Office
Vallam 14th February 1874

I have &c
(Sd.) D. Arbuthnott
Collector
Submitted

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Submitted for the information of Government.

The disturbances appear to have been of but little importance and proper precautionary measures seem to have been taken.

/True copy & Extract/

J Grote
Secretary

To,
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with copies of 2 enclosures.

C Hemingway

Revenue 1874 Depto

No. 579.

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Dated 19th Feby/74
Desp. 19 — " — —
Rec. 20
cn 2

Submitting letter from
Collector of Tanjore reporting
the slight disturbances
that took place on account
of the rise in price of grain
in Nagore & Combaconum

No 279
Recorded

2d March 74

14 Bds. of Rev. dis. 3. 3. 74

Desp. 21st Feby/74 - No 24