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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue.....DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	378.	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24. 3. 1874	196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

578

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th March 1874.*

No. 211. Read the following Proceedings of the Court of Wards, dated 14th March 1874, No. 590:—

Read the following letter from W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, to J. GROSE, Esq., Secretary to the Court of Wards, dated Ramnad, 2nd March 1874, No. 29.

With reference to the Court's Proceedings, Miscellaneous No. 1,125, dated 19th February 1874, I have the honour to submit copy of a letter from the Special Assistant in charge of the Ramnad Zemindari, dated 24th February, No. 29.

2. I have seen the worst part of the Zemindari, and think that the future condition of the people depends on the result of the harvest of the Koday crop which will be reaped in July. The merchants at Keelakaray expect grain from Burmah in their own ships, and the prices at our sea-ports are not likely ever to be much higher than they are at Negapatam. I enclose four statements which will give an idea of the existing import and export trade in rice at the ports in the Zemindari. The markets are sufficiently supplied, and I have no distress of an exceptional character to report at present.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. LEE-WARNER, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, Ramnad, to W. McQUHAE, Esq., Collector of Madura, dated 24th February 1874, No. 29.

To allay the apprehension of an immediate outbreak of distress in the Court of Wards that, from the 17th to the 20th instant, heavy showers of rain fell throughout the entire estate, which, though coming too late to restore the already withered wet crops, have softened the ground for ploughing, have given a present supply of water for the cattle as well as the people, and have revived the hopes of all as to the future. But for this providential change in the weather, it is impossible to think how matters would have gone on, where so early in the season the remaining water in the wells was barely enough for household purposes, and cattle had to be taken immense distances to be watered.

2. I found in my tour, which for purposes of famine prospecting happily terminated at Sayelgudy, that the ryots, who had settled to remain in their villages for the last season, hoped to pull through it somehow or another, the rich helping the poor; and their only anxiety was to secure a positive promise from me that I would send them an advance to commence the repairs of their tanks at once. I saw in my zigzagging rides from village to village many a tank which will pay immediate attention; and the opinion that I have formed is that it will pay the estate well to repair the tanks of the Kamudy Taluq in preference to any other in this division from end to end.

3. Prices of all sorts of grain are now nearly exactly double what they were at this time last year. I account for this by the badness of last season, the drain on the market for the supply of the Government in Bengal, and the fact that the Cowledars are generally storing all their share of the "Melwaram," and not letting the ryots buy it on the ground. If prices rise hereafter, which I hope they will not, and if there are any signs of a scarcity of food-supply, I shall keep you informed. Unfortunately for the dweller in the south, their known character as thieves and the awful state of communications over that black cotton and clay sponge act as effectual checks on the free importation of grain from other places. But I see that the weekly fairs of Kadalady and Kamudy will make admirable centres at which we can introduce relief into those parts by sending down a supply of grain from Keelakaray and other ports under protection, if even there is a necessity for taking so decided a step. Luckily it is the normal state of things for the poorest

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
24th March 1874.*

ryots of the most ill-supplied villages on the estate to emigrate in search of employment to other districts and to Ceylon, as soon as the crop is off the ground, and this emigration relieves the market for the time.

4. I have only now to request that you will authorize my entering the sum of Rupees 7 in the chuttrum accounts, paid by me in anticipation of your sanction, for commencing to excavate the mud at the bottom of the pond attached to the Kodugumalai chuttrum — a very necessary work — the water had already fallen so low that it could only be collected in ladles, and smelt offensively. The rough estimate was only 15 Rupees, but the progress of the digging was interrupted by the rain.

5. I am now going up to the taluqs of Arunoothumangalom and Anumantagudi, whence I had received reports prior to this fall of rain, however, that the ryots were crying for labour on the tanks, and were much distressed for water.

ENCLOSURES Nos. 2 to 5.—Statements.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The reports of the Collector and Special Assistant are satisfactory. The timely fall of rain from the 17th to 20th February seems to have been highly beneficial in its effects, although too late to save the withered crops.

3. The Court trust to Mr. Lee-Warner to keep them accurately informed of any change in the prospects of the Zemindari, and will be glad to learn that the tank-repairs, for which the people seem so anxious, have been put in hand, and are should be carefully watched.

4. The Court will be prepared, if necessary, to increase the allotment for tank-repairs. Judicious expenditure on works of irrigation in Ramnad must be remunerative in a fiscal point of view, and will be of great assistance to the people in a year like the present.

No. 212.

ORDER THEREON, 24th March 1874, No. 378.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed)

C. G. MASTER,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. W. H. French.

of a scarcity of food supply.
 I shall keep you informed.
 Unfortunately for the dwellers
 in the South, their known charac-
 ter, as thieves, and the awful
 state of communications over that
 black cotton and clay sponge
 act as effectual checks on the
 free importation of grain from
 other places ~~and~~ ^{but} the
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Cost of 1874-75

REVENUE.

REVENUE.

REVENUE.

REVENUE.

REVENUE.

State of Society in British India
 and the progress of the
 various branches of the
 Indian Empire.

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Madura Collrs Office } I have recd
(Camp) Rannad } E. W. McLuhac
2^d March 1874 } Collector

N^o 29

Rannad 24th February 1874

From,

J. Lee Warner Esq^r
Special Assistant Collector
Rannad

To,

W. McLuhac Esq^r
Collector of Madura

Sir,

To allay the apprehen-
sion of an immediate out-break
of distress in the southern angle
of the Estate, such as my letter
N^o 23 dated 3^d Instant may have
excited I have the pleasure

to inform the Court of Wards that
from the 17th to the 20th instant
heavy showers of rain fell
throughout the entire Estate, which
though coming too late to restore
the already withered wet crops,
have softened the ground for
ploughing, have given a present
supply of water for the Cattle,
as well as the people and have
revived the hopes of all, as
to the future. But for this
providential change in the
weather it is impossible to think
how matters would have gone
on, were so early in the season
the remaining water in the
wells was barely enough for
household purposes, and the
Cattle

5
374

Cattle had to be taken immense
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2. I found in my tour,
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at Sayegudy, that the ryots, who
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hoped to pull through it some-
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the poor; and their only anxiety
was to secure a positive promise
from me that I would send
them an advance to commence
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it will pay the Estate, will
to repair the Tanks of the Tranvandy
Taluk in preference to any other
in this division, from end to end.

3. Prices of all sorts of
grain are now nearly exactly double
what they were at this time
last year. I account for this
by the badness of last season,
the drain on the market for
the supply of the Government in
Bengal, and the fact that the
Cowledars are generally storing
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on the ground. If prices rise
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of

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Court of Wards
dated 14th March 1874

N^o 29. Read the following

From,
W. Mc Lachlan Esquire
Collector of Madras

To,
J. Lyrose Esquire
Secretary to the Court
of Wards, Madras

Sir,

With reference to the
Court's Proceedings Miscellaneous
N^o 1125 dated 19th February 1874,
I have the honor to submit
copy of a letter from the Special
Assistant in charge of the
Revenue

Raminad Zaminadari dated
24th February No. 29.

2. I have seen the worst
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four statements which will
give an idea of the existing
import and export trade in
rice at the ports in the Zaminadari.

378
The rough estimate was only 15
Rupees, but the progress of digging
was interrupted by the rain.

5. I am now going up to the
Taluk of Annanthamangalam
and Annantagudi, whence I
had received reports prior to
this fall of rain however that
the ryots were crying for labour
on the Tanks, and were
distressed for water.

I have
(Sd) J. Lee Warner
Manager
(True copy)
(Signed) W. McQuhae
Collector

Submitted for the in-
formation of Government.

2. The reports of the Collector
and Special Assistants are

satisfactory. The timely fall of rain from the 17th to 20th February seems to have been highly beneficial in its effects although too late to save the withered crops.

3. The Court trust to Mr. Lee Warner to keep them accurately informed of any change in ~~the prospects of the ground~~ and will be glad to learn that the tank repairs for which the people seem so anxious have been put in hand and are progressing satisfactorily. The progress of the Koday crop towards maturity should be carefully watched.

4. The Court will be prepared

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prepared if necessary to increase the allotment for tank repairs - judicious expenditure on works of irrigation in Ramnash must be remunerative in a fiscal point of view and will be of great assistance to the people in a year like the present.

True copies & Extracts

H. Elston

Acting Sub Secretary

To,
The Acting Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
with 4 original statements to be
- returned

[Signature]

C. M. Narasimha Chetty

Revenue 1874 to 1875
\$850

Proceedings of the
Board of Wardens

St. Albans March 1874

Sept 21/74 ———

Dec 18/74

Jan 18/75

Submitting to

with remittance of for

from Coll^y of Madison

on state of Vermont

in Vermont State

of Jani.

March 1874

13th Nov. 1875 3 7