M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1155 / B.P. No. Press / Mis.

Dated 23-8-1876 196 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

DA

No. 246. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 16th August 1876, No. 2,093 :—

Read the following letter from J. R. DANIEL, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 9th August 1876, No. 197.

In continuation of my letter, No. 186, of July 25th, I have the honor to report further upon the state of the district.

2. I am glad to be able now to give a more favorable account. At the time I last wrote we have had no rain, and no cultivation had been commenced. In the early part of this month we have had a fair fall of rain, and cultivation has commenced. The Deputy Collector visited the Kamalapore Division, and found its condition, on the whole, satisfactory; but there were a number of the poorer classes without means of employment. The rain, however, which has since fallen, will enable them to find employment in cultivation, so that I have no present apprehensions in regard to this portion of the district. I have received too good accounts from Pulivendala; fair amount of rain has fallen. This was a taluq about which I had apprehensions. The worst account I have to give is in regard to the three northern taluqs, Jamalamadugu, Prodatoor, and Budwail. I enclose a report* from the

* Dated [illegible] 1876, No. [illegible] Deputy Collector in whose division the two former taluqs are. It is since this report was written that we have had rain, but I fear that there has been less there than in the remaining portion of the district. I have requested the District Engineer to direct his attention to this part of the district, and carry out there all works that are possible, and I do not now ask for sanction to start relief works; in fact, I am very anxious to avoid them if possible.

3. The Board appear to think that the appearance of distress is very sudden. When I took charge of the district early in July there was ample time for the fall of rain, and so long as hopes could be entertained of timely rains, there was no fear of distress.

4. There is no actual want of grain any where in the district, but the poorer classes who usually live by cooly are in danger of being thrown out of employment. Crime has increased considerably of late, principally house-breaking and mischief by fire to obtain grain; there have been several serious cases, and petty thefts are very common.

5. It is unfortunate that at this juncture there are no available funds in the Local Funds. We have a deficit balance of more than Rupees 1,000, and Rupees 8,000 has recently been withdrawn from the Provincial Grant. There are only three new works being carried out, one of them is in Prodatoor, and this I am urging on; it was on this account that I felt it necessary to apply to Government for funds in case of need, because without a special grant of money from Government I have no funds for any works.

6. There are now appearances of rain, and I hope that we shall have a still further downfall.

7. Since writing this I have received the order* of Government placing at the disposal of the Board Rupees 10,000. I shall make further report to the Board if I find it necessary to start any relief work, but I trust the necessity will not arise.

* Dated 3rd August 1876, No. 1,039, communicated with Board's Miscellaneous No. 1,655, dated 5th August 1876.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From A. KRISHNA ROW, Acting Deputy Collector, to J. R. DANIEL, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Jamalamadugu, 2nd August 1876, No. 160.

Being unwilling needlessly to raise an alarm, I purposely delayed submitting this report up to date on the state of season and agricultural prospects in my division, in the hope that there would be, as all appearances indicated, a heavy fall of rain. But my expectations not having been realised, I am sorry that I have now to give an unfavorable account of them.

2. There is no rain to speak of throughout the division, and, except under river-channels and wells, there is not a single acre that has come under the plough out of tank ayacuts. Dry cultivation is entirely at a standstill throughout the division, except in a few localities under private wells. Pasture for cattle has been very scarce. The prices of food-grains are steadily rising every day. The river is entirely parched up, and the continuance of this state of things for about a fortnight more will inevitably bring on scarcity of water also.

3. The Tahsildar of Jamalamadugu brings to my notice that the famine so much apprehended at this early stage of its development has tended to increase crime, theft, and mischiefs by fire. The truth of this fact may be undeniable, since a great mass of population entirely depending on agriculture and labour as their [illegible] for fear of want or safety to their property. The decrease in cultivation, as particularised in the margin, fully bears out this fact. Cases have come to my notice in which houses and straw-yards have been set fire to, to facilitate thefts, and the Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu puts in my ears another fearful news of the organisation of a new band of robbers in the hills adjoining Chintakunta and other villages, which lie on the borders of Pulivendala Taluq. Inquiry is being made as to the authenticity of this information. Other exaggerated news I hear every day of famine, &c., in the neighbouring taluqs of this as well as of other districts; but I do not know how far can I give credit to them. As an instance of this, the Tahsildar of Jamalamadugu reports, from his personal knowledge, that in his taluq some extremely poor people are living upon boiled tamarind seeds and leaves of trees, but I do not think that famine has advanced to such a degree as to keep off ordinary food-grains quite beyond their reach. No doubt, we will have to hear of such cases if the present season continues in unchanged monotony for some time to come. Thinking, therefore, that it is good opportunity, both to the advantage of the State and of the laboring classes, to finish off all minor Local Fund works proposed by me, I have directed my Tahsildars to commence the works at once. This arrangement will temporarily afford labor and relief to some people to a very limited extent. As these works are only small, they cannot afford labor to the yet remaining great majority of industrious population, and allure those men who have turned to crime to come and settle as laborers. I therefore suggest that any of the famine relief works should be taken on hand at once; and the expediency of adopting such a course at this critical juncture both for the preservation of the lives of thousands from starvation, and their property from the attacks of robbers is very desirable till the subsidence of this calamity, which, I think, is now in its infancy. The Tahsildar of Jamalamadugu suggests that the road from Jamalamadugu to Muddanoor may be started with at once, under the superintendence of the Public Works Department, as originally

Cultivation in Jamalamadugu Taluq.

	Dry Area.	Wet Area.
In Fasli 1283 up to the month of July.	2,891	554
In Fasli 1286 up to the month of July.	1,749	399

U55/2

proposed. I think this is one of the works suggested by the late Acting Collector for the relief of famine and sanctioned by the Board. I fully concur in the advisability of the Tahsildar's suggestion, and request that you will be good enough to adopt measures to have the work carried out if you see no objection to do so. Every encouragement has been afforded to the merchants and influential ryots to expose grain for free sale for proper prices, and I am glad to hear that it has had good effect to some extent.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) J. R. DANIEL,
Acting Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

No. 247. ORDER THEREON, 23rd August 1876, No. 1,155.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED. IT is noted that the season has improved, and that the Collector trusts the necessity will not arise for using the 10,000 Rs. placed at the Board's disposal in the event of relief works becoming necessary (*vide* G.O., No. 1,039, dated 3rd August 1876.) The district officers should, however, watch the condition of the three northern taluqs.

(True Extract.)

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

2

To the Board of Revenue.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

Govt. of Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE.

Dated August, 23rd.

Read.

Encl.

G.O., 23rd August 1876, No. 1,165.

AUGUST.

Nos. 216-247.

Season in the Cuddapah District.—Recording with remarks, Proceedings of the Board of Revenue submitting further report on the state of the

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 16th August 1876.

Read the following

No. 197.

From J. R. Daniel Esquire

Ag Collector of Cuddapah.

To C. A. Galton Esquire

Ag Secretary to the Board of

Revenues. Madras.

No. 186

Sir,

In continuation of my letter of July 25th I have the honor to report further upon the state of the District.

2. I am glad to be able now to give a more favourable account - at the time I last wrote we have had no rain and no cultivation had been commenced - in the early part of this month we have had a fair fall of rain, and cultivation has commenced. the Dept

Collector visited the Kamalapore Division and found its condition on the whole satisfactory, but there were a number of the poorer classes without means of employment, the rain however which has since fallen will enable them to find employment in cultivation so that I have no present apprehensions in regard to this portion of the District.

I have received two good accounts from Pulivendula, fair amount of rain has fallen. This was a Taluq about which I had apprehensions. The worst account I have to give is in regard to the three Northern Taluqs Jammalamadugu, Proddatore, and Budwail. I received a report from the Deputy Collector in whose division the two former Taluqs

*Granted 2nd August 1876, No 160.

115/IX

are – It is since this report was written that we have had rain, but I fear that there has been less there than in the remaining portion of the District. I have requested the District Engineer to direct his attention to this part of the District, and carry out there all works that are possible and I do not now ask for sanction to start relief works – in fact I am very anxious to avoid them if possible.

3. The Board appear to think that the appearance of distress is very sudden: when I took charge of the District early in July – there was ample time for the fall of rain and so long as hopes could be entertained

of timely rains, there was no fear of distress.

4. There is no actual want of grain anywhere in the District, but the poorer classes who usually live by coolly work are in danger of being thrown out of employment. Crime has increased considerably of late - principally house breaking and mischief by fire to obtain grain - there have been several serious cases, and petty thefts are very common.

5. It is unfortunate that at this time there are no available funds in the Local Funds - we have a deficit balance of more than Rs1000 and Rs2000 has recently been withdrawn from the Provincial Grant - there

there are only three new works being carried out, one of them is in Pooddakore, and this I am urging on it was on this account that I felt it necessary to apply to Government for funds in case of need, because without a special grant of money from Government I have no funds for any works

6. There are now appearances of rain and I hope that we shall have a stop further downfall.

7. Since writing this I have received the Order of Government placing at the disposal of the Board 1 Rupees 10,000. I shall make further reports to the Board if I find it necessary to start any relief works, but I trust the necessity will not arise

Cuddapah Collector's office
9th August 1876

I have &c
R. Daniel
Ag Collector

Enclosure

No 160

From A. Krishna Row
Acting Deputy Collector
of Cuddapah

To J. R. Daniel Esquire
Acting Collector
of Cuddapah

Sir,

Being unwilling needlessly to raise an alarm I purposely delayed submitting this report up to date on the state of the agricultural prospects in my Division, in the hope, that there would be, as all appearances indicated, a heavy fall of rain. But my expectations not having been realized, I am sorry, that I have now to give an unfavorable account of them.

2. There is no rain to speak of throughout the Division, and except under river channels and wells, there is not a single acre that has come under the plough out of tank ayacuts. Dry cultivation is entirely at a stand still throughout the Division except in a few localities under private wells. Pasture for cattle has been very scarce. The prices of food grains are steadily rising every day. The river is entirely parched up and the continuance of this state of things for about a fortnight more will inevitably bring on scarcity of water also.

3. The Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu brings to my notice that the famine so much apprehended at this early stage of its development, has found

to increase crime, thefts and mischief by fire. The truth of this fact may be undeniable, since, a great mass of population entirely depending on agriculture and labors on fields must have been driven to gain livelihood by such unfair means. While others, whose respectability does not allow them to resort to dishonest courses, are prevented to leave their houses to seek labor elsewhere for fear of want of safety to their property. The decrease in cultivation, as particularized in the margin, fully bears out this fact. Cases have come to my notice in which houses and straw yards have been set fire to, to facilitate thefts, and

Cultivation in Jammalamadugu Taluq

In Fasli 1285 ending 30th June	Dry Acres	2691 — 854
In Fasli 1286 ending 30th June		1749 — 320

and the Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu puts in my ears another fearful news of the organization of a new band of robbers in the hills adjoining Chinta-kunta and other villages, which lie on the borders of Pulivendala Taluq. Inquiry is being made as to the authenticity of this information. Other exaggerated news I hear every day of famine &c in the neighbouring Taluqs of this, as well as of other Districts, but I do not know how far can I give credit to them. As on instance of this - the Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu reports from his personal knowledge that in his Taluq no

extra

extremely poor people are living upon
boiled tamarind seeds, and leaves of trees.
but I do not think that famine
has advanced to such a degree as to
keep off ordinary food grains quite
beyond their reach. No doubt, we
will have to hear of such cases,
if the present season continues in
unchanged monotony for some time
to come. Thinking, therefore, that this
good opportunity both to the advantage
of the state, and of the laboring
classes, to finish off all minor
Local Fund works proposed by me,
I have directed my Tahsildars to
commence the works at once. This arrange-
ment will temporarily afford labor
and
relief to some people to a very
limited extent. As these works are
only small, they cannot afford
labor to the yet remaining great
majority of industrious population,
and allure those men who have been
obliged to crime to come and settle as
laborers. I therefore suggest that
any of the famine relief works should
be taken on hand at once; and the
expediency of adopting such a course
at this critical juncture both for the
preservation of the lives of thousands
from starvation, and their property
from the attacks of robbers, is very
desirable till the subsidence of the
Palas

calamity, which, I think, is now in its infancy. The Tahsildar of Jammalamadugu suggests, that the road from Jammalamadugu to Muddanoor may be started with at once, under the Superintendence of Public Works Department, as originally proposed. I think, this is one of the works suggested by the late Acting Collector for the relief of famine and sanctioned by the Board. I fully concur in the practicability of the Tahsildar's suggestion, and request that you will be good enough to adopt measures to have the works carried out, if you see no objection to do so. Every encouragement has been afforded to the merchants, and influential ryots to expose grain for free sale for proper prices, and I am glad to hear that it has had good effect to some extent.

Cuddapah Deputy Collector's Office Camp Jammalamadugu 2nd August 1876

I have
Yours
Ag Dy Collector

True Copy

Signed J. R. Daniel
Ag Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

True Copy & Extract

Ag Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

Read
Copied

No 3641
Chairs 1876 Supp
Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue

Rec'd 16 Sept 1876
Repd 16 Sept 1876

No 1155

Submitting for sanction
a statement of Collr's letter
forwarding his report
on the state
of the season in the
Coimbatore District
No 1155 - 28 Augt 1876

Encl 1 Statement
Collr's letter
Report

The district appears as a whole to be in a thoroughly prosperous condition

The letter is a straightforward plain statement which does not require any comment

Recorded. Sir noted

I do not think the following letter very satisfactory but still I see no reason to be doubtful of the 3 northern taluks

That the season has been unfavorable, & that the trusts of the Collr there is necessity for the 10,000 Rs placed at the Bd's disposal in the event of relief works seeming necessary.

vide G.O. No 1039 d/3 Augt 1876 * D 16/9/1876