M.R.O. 1—20,002—12-8-65.

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(2) Date of repair 16.6.69

(3) Initials of the Referencer 8/8.69

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 1509
~~B.P. No.~~ (232-33)

Press
~~Mis.~~

Dated 1915 October 1876 ~~196~~.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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1509

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th October 1876.

No. 2[illegible]2. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated [illegible]th October 1876, No. 2,580:—

Read the following letter from W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Palmanair, 4th October 1876, No. 466:—

Nos. 58 and 61, dated 25th and 26th September 1876.

WITH reference to Board's Proceedings, dated 29th September last, I have the honor to state that there is no doubt whatever that the suffering of the people in the Paykat of Adanapalli, Pakala, and Damalchervoo, in the Chendragherry Taluq, is acute, as will be seen from the enclosed copies of the Acting Head Assistant Collector's letters noted in the margin, the information therein contained being the result of Mr. Cox's personal local inspection and inquiry. When however conveying my approval of that officer's arrangements to open the Lungerkanas at Pakala and Damalchervoo, I anticipated that there will be a rush of people, many of whom would not be really needy and helpless. I took care therefore to direct the Tahsildar to see that the food distributed at the poor-houses was consumed at the spot by the recipients (as reported in paragraph 3 of my letter referred to at the head of the Proceedings under reply), and I also wrote to Mr. Cox demi-officially on the subject. My anticipations were subsequently verified, and therefore long before the receipt of the above Proceedings, the Lungerkanas in question were closed. They were only in existence for three or four days at a cost of Rupees 10 per diem. Mr. Cox I am aware was only induced to open them in view of the acute suffering of some very weak and aged people in the villages he visited, and as instructed by me he watched the experiment very closely and closed the Lungerkanas as soon as he found that they were being mobbed by able-bodied people. The relief now consists entirely of providing the employment for the sufferers in the way of repairing tanks and wells, extirpating prickly-pear, digging pits along the roads for eventual plantation of avenues, &c. &c.

2. Since my last report there has been some rain-fall in the localities in question, but the ryots obstinately refuse to commence cultivation of any dry crops. They contend that the season is too far advanced, or that their land is unsuited to the cultivation of those kinds of grain, viz., gram, cholum, varagoo, and millet, which might now be planted. There is also great want of seed grain. I am using my best endeavors to induce the ryots to recommence cultivation, and am also making arrangements to procure for them from Nellore the required quantity of seed. the value whereof can be recovered at the time of harvest. I have warned them that, if they absolutely refuse to make any attempt to raise crops, remissions will not be granted at the next Jamabandi.

3. As regards paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings under reference, I beg to explain that in this district, as in Tanjore, written applications are presented by those ryots who desire remission of assessment, azmaish is then conducted, and remission is eventually granted under the Board's rules. There is no rule that these applications must be written on stamped paper, and unstamped petitions are accepted without demur; but the ryots as a matter of fact generally do write these applications on stamped papers, which are as a matter of course accepted. It is to these applications

Mr. Cox has referred in his letter, copy of which was forwarded to the Board with my letter No. 448, dated 26th ultimo.

4. I shall address the Board hereafter with regard to the grant of dry remissions in this district during the current fasli when I am in possession of more accurate information as to the exact extent to which the dry crops have perished. As yet they have been entirely lost only in the villages of the three Payakats mentioned above in paragraph 1.

ENCLOSURE No.

From A. F. COX, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Damalcherla, 2[illegible]th September 1876, No. 58.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that when riding into my camp in this place this morning I took the opportunity of examining the cultivation for some distance on either side of my route, and found the failure more general and more serious than I anticipated. Almost all the wet lands lie waste, and those that have been cultivated seem in a hopeless state. The dry crops are in a most deplorable condition, only a few fields of ragy under such wells as are not dry being likely to produce a scanty outturn. There are, however, very few wells in this neighborhood as hard rock is generally reached before a spring is struck. It will, I am convinced, be absolutely necessary to obtain the sanction of the Board of Revenue for a remission upon dry lands at least in the Payakuts of Adanapally, Pakala, and Damalcheruvu, but probably also in others, which I have not inspected. The total remission necessary on wet and dry lands the Tahsildar thinks will amount to Rupees 15,000, and his estimate is, I fear, tolerably correct.

2. I have already reported having directed a ruined gunta near Pakala to be deepened at a cost of Rs. 200 and, having opened two langerkhanas, one at Pakala and one in this place, I strongly insisted upon the relief in these being restricted to such destitute persons as could not earn their bread, and I have just returned from witnessing the distribution here. Certainly none who did not greately need it obtained relief to-day. I found that Sudras, though reported to be almost starving, were too proud to receive this alms, which was given entirely to the lowest classes only and not to the able-bodied, but Rs. 5 a-day is hardly sufficient to [illegible] the applicants.

3. As a relief-work in Damalcheruvu I have ordered the prickly-pear which grows thickly upon the village tank-bund to be removed, restricting the outlay for the present to Rs. 200, though it will probably cost more, since the implements required for removing the cactus are not yet ready. I shall have pits for avenue trees dug along the road to Nindragunta, but this work will be stopped when the other can be put in hand. I have authorized the Tahsildar to draw Rs. 500 from his treasury in anticipation of the necessary sanction as immediate relief is, I consider, necessary. Affairs since yesterday have begun to look more cheerful as a welcome shower of rain fell at mid-day, and it is now again pouring. I hope that the ryots may at once take steps to put grain into their fields, but I find that there is no seed grain or hardly any here, and it will take some days to procure it from the neighboring towns. Grain is unfortunately not the usual crop in these villages though it is the only one which can now be sown. Every effort will be made to get them to sow it at once, and in their distress they can hardly refrain from undertaking its cultivation.

4. All the food grains available here are brought daily from the Nellore District, the local supply having for some time been exhausted. Prices are double those of ordinary seasons, and it is only by borrowing that most people can supply themselves. Those who have not credit depend now upon such relief as Government can give, for the supply of jungle leaves, roots, aloes, and tamarind stones on which they have hitherto subsisted is exhausted. Emigration has begun, ten persons having deserted this place yesterday to emigrate to the Mauritius; but, if the rain

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induces the ryots, as I think it must, to commence cutivation again, I hope that this will be entirely checked.

4. I was requested this morning by an inhabitant of Pakala to advance to him Rs. 150, with which he engaged to excavate an old gunta. It is now dry, but before it fell into disrepair was used by him for cultivation and also by the villagers for domestic purposes. He promised to repay the money in three yearly instalments, and the Tahsildar informs me that his credit is good. Under these circumstances I am of opinion that his request may be advantageously granted if the present distress continues, as the work will afford relief to the people after that now in progress is over. I do not, however, feel at liberty to do anything in the matter without your approval.

5. Further work may be needed here, but I shall be as sparing in expenditure as possible. Meanwhile I request that you will approve of my action in directing the Tahsildar to draw Rs. 500 for the works I have described.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From A. F. COX, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, dated Damalcheruvu, 26th September 1876, No. 61.

I REGRET to say that all efforts to induce the ryots to venture upon any crop sowable at this season have proved vain. Gram, which is the crop most successfully sown in September, is I believe unfitted for these parts as the soil is so rich that the plants all run to leaf. I have asked several ryots in various villages why they do not cultivate it, and each makes the same reply, so that I think, that their hesitation, or rather refusal to venture upon this crop, is perhaps reasonable. It is late for every other crop, but I fancy they might venture upon millet (korrelu), varagu, cholum, ulundoo, chamalu, and perhaps others which are last month's crops. On my suggesting this, however, they say either that it is two or three months too late, or that it is not the custom to grow these crops, and they do not know how to manage them. It may be that they decline to cultivate from fear of losing all chance of dry crop remission, but at all events the result is that the punjah fields will be fallow for some months, and it is only the nunjah crop which may be raised after more rain has fallen that will give employment to the starving laborers of these firkas. I have held out no hopes of remission if they do not at least try to put some grain into the ground.

2. I have written to the Range Officer suggesting that any works in this neighborhood which are sanctioned may be put in hand at once. The Pakala tank sadly needs repair, and an estimate, amounting, I think, to Rupees 6,000, was framed a year ago, but I fear that it has not been sanctioned. If its sanction could be expedited, a work much needed could be completed, and ample employment given to the distressed in the neighborhood. I should be glad if you could take steps towards having the necessary sanction obtained.

3. The news from Kalloor is very bad, and I have addressed the Poligar suggesting that he should establish some useful relief works, but have little hope of his doing so. I fear that it will be necessary to improve a gunta there at a cost of perhaps Rupees 200.

4. The langerkhanas which I opened have attracted crowds, increasing in numbers every day, until it has become impossible to feed all applicants for Rs. 5 at each place, and the result was general discontent. I feel that the money would be more usefully expended in other ways, and have ordered them to be closed from to-day.

5. I think that it will be necessary to give more work, up to Rs. 150, in clearing out a gunta near this place dug some years ago by Mr. Robinson, but I have not yet ordered it.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
19th October 1876.

6. As my presence here is not necessary, and as my work at headquarters demands my return there, I leave this place to-morrow, having directed the Tahsildar to keep me informed of the progress of affairs. I am glad to say that he is exerting himself to the utmost to relieve the people and also to induce them to create a demand for labor by cultivating after the recent rain

(True Copy.)

(Signed) W. S. WHITESIDE,
Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The Collector should continue to use every effort to induce the people to cultivate their land with such grains as may yet yield a crop.

3. With regard to applications for remissions, the Board observe that if petitions are received by the Divisional Officers from individuals, they must under the law be stamped. The presentation of such petitions should be discouraged. Applications should be made through the village officers, who should be required to give intimation to the Tahsildars in sufficient time to admit of arrangements being made to have the lands of the village examined in due course.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 238. Order thereon, 19th October 1876, No. 1,509.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.
" the Inspector-General of Police.

Exd. J. W. Fischer

Govt. of 1876 Madras.

REVENUE,

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 19th.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 19th October 1876, No. 1,509.

OCTOBER.

Nos. 232-233.

Relief proposed to be given in the Chendragherry Taluq, North Arcot District.—Recording Board's Proceedings regarding the —.

No 58.

North Arcot
Head Asst. Collector's Office
Camp Damalcherla 25th Sept/76

From
Arthur F. Cox Esquire
Ag Hd Asst Collector
North Arcot

To
W. S. Whiteside Esqr
Collector of North Arcot

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that when riding into my camp in this place this morning I took the opportunity of examining the cultivation for some distance on either side of my route and found the failure more general and more serious than I anticipated. Almost all the wet lands lie waste and those that have been cultivated seem in a hopeless state. The dry crops are in a most deplorable condition, only a few fields of raggy under such wells as are not dry, being likely to produce a scanty outturn. There are however very few wells in this neighbourhood as hard rock is generally reached before a spring is struck. It will I am convinced be absolutely necessary to obtain the sanction of the Board of Revenue for a remission upon dry lands at least in the Payakuts of Adanapally, Pakala, and Damalcheruvu, but probably also in others which I have not inspected. The total remission necessary on wet and dry lands the Tahsildar thinks will amount to Rupees 15,000 and his Estimate is I fear tolerably correct.

I have already reported having directed a ruined Gunta near Pakala to be reopened at a cost of Rupees 200 and having opened two langerkhanas one at Pakala and one in this place. I strongly insisted upon the relief in these being restricted to such destitute persons as could not earn their bread and I have just returned from witnessing the

Govt. of 1876: Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated October, 19th.

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b/1509

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As a relief work in Damal Cheruvu I have ordered the prickly pear which grows thickly upon the village tank bund to be removed restricting the outlay for the present to Rs. 200 though it will probably cost more, since the implements required for removing the Cactus are not yet ready. I shall have pits for avenue trees dug along the road to Nindragunta but this work will be stopped when the other can be put in hand. I have authorized the Tahsildar to draw Rs 500 from his Treasury in anticipation of the necessary Sanction, as immediate relief is I consider necessary.

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Further work may be needed

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(Signed) Arthur F. Cox
Ag Hd Asst Collector

(True Copy)

W S Whiteside
Collector

Enclosure in a letter
from the Collector
of North Arcot to
the Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
dated 4th October 1876
No 455

O.P. 4913/1

[illegible] 7th Octr /76

1509

North Arcot
Head Asst. Collector's Office
Camp Damalcheruvu 26th Septr /76.

No 61

From
Arthur F. Cox Esqre
Ag Hd Asst Collector
North Arcot

To
W. S. Whiteside Esqre
Collector of N. Arcot

Sir,

I regret to say that all efforts to induce the ryots to venture upon any crop sowable at this season have proved vai
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I have asked several ryots in various villages why they do not cultivate it and each makes the same reply so that I think that their hesitation or rather refusal to venture upon the crop is perhaps reasonable. It is late for every other crop; but I fancy they might venture upon millet (Korralu), Varagu, Cholum, ulandoo, Chamalu, and perhaps others which are last months crops. On my suggesting this, however, they say either that it is two or three months too late or that it is not the custom to grow these crops and they do not know how to manage them. It may be that they decline

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framed a year ago but I fear that it has not been sanctioned. If its sanction could be expedited a work much needed could be completed, and ample employment given to the distressed in the neighbourhood. I should be glad if you could take steps towards having the necessary sanction obtained.

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6 As my presence here is not necessary and as my work at head quarters demands my return there, I leave this place tomorrow having directed the Tahsildar to keep me informed of the progress of affairs. I am glad to say that he is exerting

himself to the utmost to relieve the people and also to induce them to create a demand for labour by cultivating after the recent rain.

I have &c

(Signed) A. F. Cox
Ag Hd asst Collector

(True Copy)

W S Whiteside
Collector

12/1549

~~Not printed~~

Enclosure in a letter from the Collector of North Arcot to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue dated 4 October 1876 No 466.

In G. O. No 7026 / 78

19/1509

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 16 October 1876

No 5380

Read the following

No 466

From

W. S. Whiteside Esqr
Collector of North Arcot

To

A. E. Stokes Esqr
Ag Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

With reference to Board's Proceedings dated 29 September last, I have the honor to state that there is no doubt whatever that the suffering of the people in the Payakats of Adanapalli, Pakala and Damalcheruvu, in the Chendragherry Taluq, is acute, as will be seen from the enclosed copies of the Ag Head Assistant Collector's letter noted in the margin the information therein contained being the result of Mr Cox's personal local inspection and enquiry. When, however, conveying my

No 58 & 61 d/25th & 26th Sept 76

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2 Since my last report there has been some rain-fall in the localities in question; but the ryots obstinately refuse to commence cultivation of any dry crops. They contend that the season is too far advanced, or that their land is unsuited to the cultivation of those kinds of grain

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4. I shall address the Board hereafter with regard to the grant of Dry remissions in this District during the Current Fusli, when I am in possession of more accurate information as to the exact extent to which the dry crops have perished. As yet they have been entirely lost

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Extract H. Moffey : Signed
Comp Palmanaor
Roberts Jr
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Submitted for the information of Government.

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True copy & Extract

H. Elkins
Acting Secretary

To
The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department

16/1509

C. S. Rungachary

No 4347

Rec 1876 Dept

Proceedings of the

Board of Relief

Dated 14 Oct 76

Desp'd 14 Oct

Rec'd 19 No 1509

Received

19 Oct 1876

Submitting for informa

tion copy of letter from the Coll

of St. Bredt regarding the

relief proposes to be given

in the Chandraghey Talug

14 Oct to Board of [illegible] Sept 31/76

be the [illegible]

C-17-10 76 W-14-10 76