

- (1) Number of pages 20
(2) Date of repair 20-4-70
(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

REV DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. B.P. No.	2766	Press Mis.
Dated	21-11-1876	196

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Statement showing the average number of local measures of each commodity sold per Rupee in the District of Madura

2700/1

Articles	Year	May <small>Measures per Rupee</small>	June	July	August	Septem- ber	October
Rice first sort.	1866	5	4.90	4.58	4.28	3.20	3.34
	1868	5.80	5.60	5.57	5.55	5.28	5.37
	1874	7.66	6.35	6.29	6.20	6.12	5.87
	1876	7.72	7.70	7.26	7.06	6.79	6.50
Do 2 nd sort	1866	5.42	5.30	5.70	4.50	3.69	3.59
	1868	6.11	5.92	5.88	5.83	5.57	5.71
	1874	7.64	6.76	6.58	6.90	6.45	6.50
	1876	8.37	8.27	7.68	7.46	7.20	6.86
Paddy first sort	1866	10.49	10.37	9.60	8.77	7.03	7
	1868	11.70	11.56	11.23	11.06	10.61	11.02
	1874	14.96	14.12	13.43	12.95	12.66	12.66
	1876	16.52	16.30	15.33	15.08	14.73	13.58
Do 2 nd sort	1866	11.42	11.20	10.12	9.32	7.50	7.68
	1868	12.70	12.31	12.10	12.15	11.65	12.05
	1874	16.35	15.22	14.39	14.12	13.79	13.95
	1876	17.89	17.72	16.47	16.27	15.64	14.24
Horse grain	1866	9.26	8.69	5.75	6.82	6.11	5.01
	1868	10.85	9.17	7.96	8.10	8.21	8.31
	1874	12.56	12.01	11.26	10.81	9.79	10.20
	1876	15.64	15.45	14.33	13.46	12.56	10.59
Cholam	1866	10.30	9.29	8.86	7.98	6.84	5.63
	1868	12.69	12.10	12.05	12.52	12.15	12.35
	1874	19.81	13.15	13.78	13.59	14.12	13.72
	1876	22	20.60	18.22	18.25	17.77	15.44

Statement showing the average number of local measures of each commodity sold per Rupee in the Madras District

2766

Articles	Year	May Measures per Rupee	June	July	August	Septem ber	October
Varagoo	1866	19.21	19.21	15.05	14.	12.36	11.02
	1868	11.51	11.51	23.12	23.12	23.12	23.12
	1874	29.18	22.16	24.81	22.5	21.75	18
	1876	35	35	35	28	28	22.75
Cumbos	1866	10.15	9.54	8.80	7.39	6.44	6.27
	1868	12.92	12.71	12.58	12.21	12.81	12.47
	1874	16.37	14.54	14.35	13.45	14.19	13.99
	1876	19.52	17.74	16.85	14.73	16.04	15.01
Raggy	1866	9.71	9.44	8.43	7.68	6.23	6.26
	1868	12.98	12.71	12.31	12.81	13.28	13.29
	1874	16.37	15.37	15.06	13.81	13.58	13.72
	1876	19.56	19.26	16.77	16.23	17.16	15.21
Salt	1866	9.80	11.22	10.30	9.51	11.47	9.29
	1868	10.19	10.12	10.04	10.12	10.12	9.74
	1874	9.2	9.08	9.27	9.39	9.27	9.33
	1876	9.6	9.52	9.41	9.5	9.54	9.72
Wheat	1866	3.79	4.03	3.75	3.95	3.20	3.21
	1868	4.49	4.37	4.43	4.47	4.65	4.50
	1874	6.35	6.33	6.3	6.33	6.23	6.2
	1876	6.14	6.16	5.81	6.12	6.18	5.81
Ulundoo	1866	5.27	5.06	4.50	4.02	3.66	3.55
	1868	3.05	3.60	4.21	3.60	3.70	4.01
	1874	6.87	6.79	6.74	6.81	6.79	6.79
	1876	9.08	9.14	8.81	8.56	8.12	7.75

Madras
Collector's Office
7 November 1876

J. H. M. J. A. collector

Madras

27/11/07

27/11/07

Dear Mr. Carmichael

The Board have received
the Madras application for Rs
1,64,000, and were rather staggered
by it. It came in on the day
of the rain. I've telegraphed to
Kannur whether they had got the
monsoon there & whether relief
was still necessary. Yesterday
morning came the answer
that they had no rain & that
relief was still wanted. We
then tried to ascertain present
C-14: Nov 176 R 16: Nov

2766 A
prices at Madras & Boudigul
as those reported by the Govt. as
being so very terrible were only
about 8 or 9 per cent higher
than ordinary at this season,
and by no means up to famine
rates. We shall probably get
reply today & the papers will then
go on sharp.

Yours sincerely
H. Stokes

No 409

Madras Collector's Office
7th November 1876

From J. G. Horsfall Esquire
By Collector of
Madras

To H. E. Stokes Esquire
By Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir

I regret to bring to the notice
of the Board the extremely unfavourable
nature of the Season in this District.
The monsoon has so far proved a
total failure and from all sides I
am receiving reports that there is either
no cultivation or that the crops are wither-
ing from want of rain. I trust that
my Season telegrams have sufficient-
ly shown how adverse the season
was, but even up to date I have been
unconsciously looking forward for the rain
which usually falls in the month of
October. Even now if rain falls within
a week many of the paddy crops
will

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vult 4776
16/11/76

will be saved and some of the dry crops
yields fully a half, but failing rain I
can only anticipate a general failure of
the crops both wet and dry, and this
following a year which resulted un-
favourably and with other districts already
suffering leads me to fear that scarcity
will before long begin to be severely
felt.

2. The rain-fall of this year is compared
with the rain-fall for the same months
in the years immediately preceding
1866-1868 and 1874 which are the
most recent years in which scarcity
has been severely felt is shown in
the margin. It will be observed
that it corresponds most nearly with that
of 1865 succeeded as it was by the
worst year that has been known for
50 years.

Years	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
1865	4.55	0.80	3.52	0.57	2.89	5.33	16.90				
1867	2.11	0.07	2.14	1.54	1.19	6.65	13.70				
1873	3.49	0.11	0.60	2.28	1.55	7.64	15.67				
1876	2.00	0.73	1.19	3.16	2.41	2.91	12.40				

3. The prices of grain for this year
are also compared in the accompanying
Statement with those of 1866-1868
and 1874 but with regard to this
comparison it must be borne in mind

that the scarcity in those years was the
result of the deficiency of rain of the
previous years and that the effect of
the failure of ~~the~~ rain this year will be
felt more particularly in the course of
next year, though no doubt the adverse
season has had considerable effect
in raising prices excessively already
and this result has been further brought
about by the large demand for other
distressed districts and by the ready
means of exportation provided by the
Southern Indian Railway. I must
observe too that prices are now rising
rapidly and there is every probability
of their continuing to do so; whereas
in the years above referred to the down-
ward tendency commenced in November
or December at the latest. Prices
may not rise so high as they did in
1866 but there is as far as I can see
no probability of their becoming lower
than they now are until next year's
crops are safe that is, ^{until} this time next year.

4. I had been carefully watching the progress of the season for some time, but as rain usually falls here in the month of October, last year it was over 14 inches in that month alone, I trusted that we should at least receive sufficient to keep the growing crops alive, but this has been I am sorry to say far from the case, the month commenced propitiously with a fall of nearly 3 inches and since then with the exception of a slight shower here and there the rain-fall has been nil. The Dy Sub Collector reports that the dry crops in the two Taluqs of Dindigul and Pulni are withering and withered and that should rain fall now the yield will not be more than from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an ordinary crop.

He states that the people are suffering greatly from the present high prices, want of water, and of labour and adds that immediate relief measures are necessary.

5. I have myself only this morning

2700
returned from a tour through portions of the Madura, Dindigul and Melur Taluqs and have been deeply impressed with the dried up aspect of all the dry crops excepting in only a small portion of the Dindigul and Melur Taluqs where the yield of dry crops such as Tonna, Saraga bamboo and Raggy will be fair if only they receive a shower or two of rain within the next ten days; in the other portions I do not expect the yield to average $\frac{1}{4}$ an ordinary crop. I propose in a day or two to travel through the Southern portion of the Madura Taluq, Tirumangalam and Periakolam. In the latter Taluq I hear that they have had rain, and as the crops were looking well when I passed through in the last week in September I presume that they cannot be so badly off as in other places though the Tahsildar does report that they are withering and withered.

6. With regard to wet crops the aspect of affairs is still more unfavourable

Not nearly one half of the land have ^{been} sown, and almost every where what has been sown is withering from want of rain and will be lost if we do not have a good down-pour within ten days. This morning coming in to Madura from the Melur side but in the Madura Taluk I rode through miles of country in which the land was uncultivated or the paddy sown was withered and this I fear is the case generally.

7. The reason for this is ^{not} far to seek. The rain-fall this year has been totally inadequate, and as all the wet lands in the District depend upon rain-fed tanks or upon tanks fed by the Vaigai which has scarcely once been in fresh this year and as these tanks hold only from 15 days to 2 months supply of water, the tanks are now as a rule quite dry and the crops under them perishing from want of water.

8. With a view to ascertain more

accurately the probable out-turn I have already directed the Divisional Officers, Tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors to make a careful examination without delay of both wet and dry lands and trust shortly to be able to give detailed information of the result.

9. There is no doubt that relief is needed and I propose at present the postponement of the collection of the first instalment of Rist which falls due next month and the immediate prosecution vigorously of several roads in the District and for this latter I must solicit the liberal assistance of Government. The Local Fund Board will I have no doubt readily sanction the expenditure of Rs 12000 the balance available under grant III D for the deepening of tanks and wells and I need not at present apply for assistance under that head. A list of these works is being prepared and will

will be laid before a special meeting of the Local Fund Board on Monday next.

10. I now proceed to enumerate the roads on which I consider work should be commenced at once and the amount I request that Government will be pleased to sanction for expenditure on each road. The list is a long one and the expenditure proposed very large but looking at the history of previous years and at the prospects of the coming year, I do not consider it beyond the actual requirements of the District. In order to carry out these works it is absolutely necessary that additional Overseers be appointed and that they be authorized to disburse money daily to the people employed on the works.

Description	amount required	Remarks
1 Road from Vadamadura to Vedaasundur via Eniole (16 miles) to be continued to Palakanuthur. amount of estimate 17900.		

2766

Description	amount required	Remarks
Deduct probable expenditure up to date 6900	10000	In Dindigul Taluq
2 Road from Appeliaputti towards Darajuram in the Coimbatore District about 20 miles	10000	In Pulni Taluq. Estimate has been promised for a portion of this road
3 Road from Pulni west to Thimara Lingam about 10 miles	10000	In Pulni Taluq
4 To metal road from Dindigul towards Madura Pulni and Bahoot	20000	In Pulni and Dindigul Taluqs.
5 Madura to Nattam (miles 22) Estimate Rs 26690 actual expenditure up to date 18450	6000	In Madura and Melur Taluqs
6 To metal road from Madura to Melur about 18 miles	15000	Do
7 To metal road from Madura to Tirumangalam 19 miles	10000	In Madura and Tirumangalam Taluqs
8 To metal road from Tirumangalam to Tennerelly limit (13 miles)	13000	In Tirumangalam Taluq
9 To metal road from Melur to Tiruchal via Tirupparavanam about 22 miles	10000	In Ramnad & Cherazungal Zeminaries.
10 To metal road from Permagudi to Ramnad 23 miles in length amount of estimate 114400 Probable expenditure up to date 25000	10000	In Ramnad Zeminariy
11 Reconstructing and metalling road from Ramnad to Seripatam (10 miles)	20000	Do
12 Constructing a road from Ramnuthy towards Viruthupatti via Arappucottai (Railway feeder about 18 miles)	10000	Do
13. Metalling road from Tirumangalam to Ossilamputti 16 miles	20000	In Tirumangalam Taluq
	164000	

I request further that sanction may be accord-
ed by telegram for the two first works
at least - Copy of ~~this letter~~ has been
sent direct to Revenue Secretary to
Government -

I have the honor to be

^{Sir}
Your most obedient servant
(signed) J. G. Horsfall
Dy Collector

(True Copy)

J. G. Horsfall
Dy Collector

To, The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George

Dated

Not to be folded or roughly handled

March 1876 Definite

Nov 4/96

The Dry Collection

Madame

to the Secretary to Govt.

Belonging to Fort
Cassimo Department.
Fort Sacul. George

Dated 7th November 1896
Dec 10: - - - - -

Q No 2584
Enclosure 111

Submitting copy of
letter to the Secretary to
the Board of Revenue
dated 7th instant no log
reporting on the State of the
Season and requesting
sanction for the expenditure
of Rs 16,000 on relief
works.

Leahurst