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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

1257

Press.
Mis.

Dated

28.3.1877

1977.

roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd March 1877.*

Famine Relief.

Read the following:—

No. 880. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 10th February 1877,
No. 573.

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah,
to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Madras,
dated Cuddapah, 30th January 1877, No. 54:—

Letter from Sub-Collector, dated 19th January 1877, No. 68. I HAVE the honor to forward reports
Letter from Head Assistant Collector, dated 11th January 1877, No. 35. from the divisional officers, as per
Letter from Deputy Collector on General Duty, dated 18th January 1877, No. 12. margin, on the progress of famine
Letter from Temporary Deputy Collector, dated 22nd January 1877, No. 23. relief-works in their divisions up to
the end of December 1876.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of
Cuddapah, dated Madanapally, 19th January 1877, No. 68.

With reference to your foot-note to Board's Proceedings, No. 3,244, dated 21st December,
I have the honor to forward my progress report.

Work done up to January 1877 in Cuddapah Sub-Division.
Road, 174 miles 3 furlongs, of which 107 are completed,
and the remainder require tampering.
Tunnels, 3, completed.
Road dams, 6, completed.
Wells, 60, 23 completed.
Channels 16.
Tanks, 20, 6 complete.
Konerous, 7, 2 complete.
Village-sites, 10. In progress (more in contemplation).

2. The annexed Statement A shows the
amount of work done up to date and the several
amounts spent. In the margin I give an
abstract of this amount. The total amount
expended up to date is Rupees 3,91,502 which
is distributed as follows:—

	RS.
Roads	10,166
Village improvements	34,744
Irrigation works	14,259
Miscellaneous	32,332
Total ...	3,91,502

Under my system of work one mile is complete before another is commenced, so that the
66 miles entered as incomplete are, in reality, almost complete, and only require a few days'
damassing. The average cost per mile is Rupees 1,790, and as one-half of the coolies have not
been supplied with tools, and in many cases hard gravel is excavated and side channels have to
be dug with grass-cutter's hoes, I do not think that the cost can be said to be excessive.

I take this opportunity of requesting that my indents for tools may be complied with, with as
little delay as possible.

Regarding the items Village Improvements and Irrigation Works, I will not allude to them
here, as I shall notice them hereafter. The large item of Rupees 32,332 for Miscellaneous
expenses will naturally excite surprise, but the statement given below will show that this amount
has been spent almost entirely in landy-bire and commission to merchants for purchase of grain:—

Rs. 13,100	Rs. A. P. 2,079 11 0	Rs. A. P. 288 3 11	Rs. A. P. 1,168 8 4	Rs. A. P. 223 15 8	Rs. A. P. 10 3 0	Rs. A. P. 8,069 6 8	Rs. A. P. 1,009	Rs. A. P. 67 4 0	Rs. A. P. 243 11 5	Rs. A. P. 1,337 11 8	Rs. A. P. 32,232 14 1	
Money paid to Messrs. A. G. & Co. for Goods.	Money paid to Messrs. A. G. & Co. for Goods.	Amount paid for the Support of Lingarabada.	Exhibition Charge.	Stationery Charge.	Amount paid for Ins. & at Hospital.	Bandy-dine.	Cost of building Band-a.	Cost of Gunpowder.	Cost of destroying Corpses by fire.	Cost of building Mats, &c.	Cost of making wooden Banners and Instruments for visiting Jocky-tar.	Total.

3. I trust now that I am being better supplied with assistants, and shall be able to exercise complete supervision to be able to reduce considerably my average cost of roads per mile. When I first began, and the numbers were more manageable, the roads did not cost me more than Rupees 1,000 per mile. I believe that the usual average in the Public Works Department is about Rupees 2,000, so that even now my rate cannot be considered excessive. In several portions the work has been very costly, and whenever the roads lead over some of the numberless tanks in the division, opportunity has been taken to thoroughly repair the bunds. This expenditure, however, is shown entirely under the head of Roads.

4. In addition to road-works, numberless wells, tanks, channels, and koneroos have been started, and the expenditure on these has been as shown in the margin. A large koneroo has been dug at Royachoty and an excellent spring found. This work is about 150x100 feet, and will be a really fine work. The same may be said of a new koneroo, which is being excavated in Voilpaud. Upwards of 220,000 cubic feet have been dug out, and a capital spring found. This is the same size. In the new site at Madanapally two large square wells have been dug, in both of which good springs have been found, and two small hand-wells have also been sunk with the same success. This site has been laid out with great care, broad roads laid down, and gravelled, drains built, squares made. Considerable work, however, still remains to be done, and there will be employment here for several months to come for several hundred coolies. In Kadiri an old koneroo has been thoroughly repaired at great expense, a new bund built to protect it from the river, the earth restored, &c. Another koneroo has also been dug and water found at an easy distance. A new site is also being laid out here in the same way as at Madanapally, and wells, &c., have been sunk. In both these towns the new sites are near the new taluk offices. In several other towns, similar improvements are being made, old fort walls pulled down, ditches filled in, and wells dug and deepened wherever asked for.

5 Repairs to eight tanks have been completed, and repairs on six others are in progress. Some of these are large and expensive works, and consist for the most part in filling in breaches. The principal of these are the Rachervoo at Tambullapally and the Morusalamurry tank in Beyachoty. This latter is under the supervision of Mr. Maclean. One channel, about a mile in length, has been thoroughly excavated. Work is going on, on two other large and important channels in the Kadiri Taluk—one the supply channel of the Putnam tank, and the other of the Kokkuntly tank. Both these works extend for more than three miles. Another ancient channel are going to be set in hand to supply the Tummala tank with water from a neighbouring Vanka. This is a work which requires professional knowledge, and has been undertaken by Mr. Traill, the Range Officer. Several other spring channels near Madanapally are also being excavated, and the result has been an improved water-supply.

6. On those portions of the roads which have been finished, the gangs have been broken up, and parties of 8 (4 men, 2 women, and 2 children) placed in each furlong, with instructions to collect two heaps of gravel on every 20 yards. The heaps are to be of a certain size (7x3x1 yard), and a week's payment will be made when two heaps are collected. This will employ 64 coolies per mile of road for 5½ weeks, and there will be sufficient material at hand to repair the roads for a couple of years to come.

* 7. Since my last inspection report, I have ridden and driven about 415 miles. I have inspected a great many of the works in Royadioty Taluq, the whole of those in the Pochair Taluq and of Veilpaul, most of those in the Veilpaul Taluq, and have twice been over one long road

of 18 miles in the Madanapally Taluk. My next tour will be through the rest of Madanapally, and on a second inspection of Kadiri.

and on a second inspection of Kadiri.

8. The result of my inspection is that the work turned out is good, the roads are excellent, and some of the koneroos will be really fine works, but the cost of the work is increasing with every week. The cost per mile is now nearly double what it was when I commenced my works. There are several reasons for this. First, want of tools. My last indent sent last month have not yet been complied with, and many thousands of coolies are working either with grass-cutter's spuds or with no tools at all. This, of course, renders the work turned out very costly. Second, increased difficulty in getting water. For the most part I use for tapping water taken from old wells excavated for the purpose, or from new wells sunk by the side of the road. Third, weakness of the coolies. In spite of the high rate of wages sanctioned, as special case, by Mr. Thornhill, grain is so difficult to obtain that the coolies cannot even now purchase sufficient. Many drop down exhausted whilst at work. Several deaths from starvation have been reported from gangs at work, and the deaths from cholera and dysentery brought on by eating Devavary leaves and also pith have been enormous. I believe no proper accounts have been kept of these deaths, but from all sides I hear of bodies and fragments of bodies lying unburied. My orders are that every body should be at once burnt, and the cost defrayed from relief funds; but I fear, indeed, I know that my orders are frequently neglected. The last and the principal reason for the increase of the cost is the want of proper supervision. Up to the commencement of this year I only had one assistant, Mr. Swan, and one Overseer. B. Teperumal Chetty, my Sheristadar, was appointed as 1st-class Magistrate towards the end of the year, and I sent him to inspect some works. Under these circumstances, and considering the materials I have had to work with I hope the Board and Government will be pleased to consider the amount of work turned out to be satisfactory. What is done is well done. I have to acknowledge the willing assistance I have received in all occasions from the Range Officer, Mr. Traill, and from his subordinates. Without this, I should scarcely have been able to get on at all. Mr. Traill is now going to take over a number of works and execute them departmentally. The payments being made from relief funds. Mr. Swan, my special Assistant, has also been of very great assistance, and has been untiring in his work. Generally speaking, the Tahsildars and other subordinates have also been energetic and zealous; indeed, with no extra establishment, except a few special Sub-Magistrates; it will at once be understood that we have all had to work hard in order to get any work at all out of such large numbers.

9. The total number of coolies at work by the last weekly accounts is 114,321, the numbers having more than doubled since my last report. This is attributable to several causes. First to the increasing distress which is being felt by all classes; second to the difficulty of obtaining food except on the relief-works. Almost the whole of the local traffic is now employed in bringing up grain for the depôts, and the consequence is, that even for higher rates, the people will now go to work, because they can only get grain on the relief-works. The grain I hitherto obtained was got entirely through the local market, and was sold to relief coolies at cost price, a portion of the cost of transport being put down to profit and loss. Under the new system this is now altered, and I am straining every nerve to get up grain so as to

Mr. In consequence of orders frequently received from the Acting Collector, Messrs. J. & Co. have been reduced to 21 mss, 1 anna 4 pds, and to give poor men, women, and child.

M.B. In consequence of orders & requisition received from the Anti-Corruption Commission, the following have been reduced to 2 1/2 pms, 1 sura 4 pms, and 10 pms per L.S. women and child. (initialled) J. D. B. G.

(Initialed) J. D. B. G.

grain being transported from the railway stations. I am building and hiring bandies, and under Mr. Thornhill's sanction have made arrangements, through Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., for the supply of 100 pairs of bandy-wheels and axcs.

11. I can hardly describe how intense the distress is now becoming. In the Peclair portion of the Voilpaul Taluq, from which I have just returned, I rode over hundred of square miles one day without seeing a blade of vegetation or a drop of water. The country was like a desert, not a soul to be seen, and even the villages were empty, with the exception perhaps of a woman scraping up a little muddy water from the bottom of the only well, in which there were a few drops left. One peculiarity that struck me was that the thatches had been removed from nearly all the houses. On inquiry I found that this had been done to give to the cattle as fodder. The coolies are all lean and emaciated, and have a wild hungry look. In the words of one of the native officials: "The coolies are now all loose and no longer tight as before."

12. In this report I have made no mention of the wells. I have started in the different villages during the last few days and weeks. They do not as yet appear in the progress reports of the taluqs, and will be referred to in future reports.

13. A great deal has been said about the necessity of carrying out village improvements in preference to roads which will be costly to maintain. I am, and always have been, an earnest advocate of such improvements, and am now doing my best to carry them out everywhere. I would, however, respectfully bring to notice that such works are not enough to provide employment. I will take, for instance, the estimate recently circulated by Mr. Puckle. This provides for works costing Rupees 500 to employ 180 people. It is manifest that if the works only cost that sum, the people could not be employed for more than ten days, and then they would have to be provided with fresh labor, supposing however such improvements were started in every village (I have about 400), it would be impossible to devise some fresh work for each gang as its labors were ended. My plan has been to open out roads, so that no one has to go more than 8 or 10 miles for labor, and then, as I can find out, what village works can be carried out to draft, a few of the villagers from the road and employ them for some weeks in their own village. In this way I gradually hope to effect a great deal of improvement, and at the same time never to be at a loss to find employment for all who may require it, if not in their village at all events on the nearest road.

14. I have before remarked on the increasing cost of all works, and I venture to suggest that it will be almost impossible to apply a money value like that attached to Public Works Department works, to relief-works, and that the expenditure incurred will in no way represent the value of the work turned out. For instance, in a Public Works Department work every thing is carried out as economically as possible, and labor is spared whenever practicable, water will be carried in casks, carts will be dragged by bullocks, &c., &c., but on these works we have to make use of our coolies in every possible way, and I am sometimes under apprehension that a work will be finished too quickly, and I shall not then well know how to employ my gang. Accordingly water is carried by coolies, sometimes long distances, and carts are also dragged by them, and the grain stores and material required for the work is thus transported; what I insist on especially is, that the work done should be thoroughly good; and if I find it has been badly done, I turn a gang back and make them do it over again. Whenever I find there has been lazy or scamped work, I fine the whole gang one or two or even three days' pay, and in such cases invariably fine the maistries and sub-maistries half a month's pay. I have requested all my subordinates to be equally strict, and thus hope to instil some kind of fear into the coolies.

15. The Board have been pleased to approve of my system of carrying out work and of the forms I use. I now take the liberty of appending copies of all the forms I use.

Form No. 1—The rules which it will be seen are exactly similar to those subsequently approved by Government.

Form No. II—Is the head cooly form, which should be kept entirely by the head cooly and when pay is distributed should be at once packed up and sent to the divisional officer. This form will subsequently serve as a voucher for the money spent.

Form No. III—Is the sub-maistry's form, which should be kept daily, and which is an abstract of the daily numbers in each of his ten head cooly gangs. This same form is kept by the head maistry as a daily abstract of his eight sub-maistry gangs. If these forms are regularly kept, and the rules strictly adhered to, and if, when checked in the divisional office, they agree with each other, and the sum-totals agree with the memorandum of total amount disbursed by disbursing officer, there can, I think, be little chance for fraud; at all events, it will rest with the head coolies (whose gangs are expressly kept small) and reduce the probable cheating to a few annas. If, however, there is a constant supervision by maistry, sub-maistry, and superior officer, and if gangs are continually mustered, the cheating should be almost infinitesimal. If on being checked any discrepancies are found the head maistry is held responsible.

Form No. IV—Shows every work going on in the taluq, the amount expended up to last return, and the amount during the day. This form is sent daily by the Tahsildar to the divisional officer and weekly by him to me.

Form No. V—Is an abstract of the number of coolies and their description employed upon each work. This also is kept daily and sent to me weekly.

In addition, the Tahsildars send weekly progress reports to the divisional officers showing amount of work done up to last report, and amount finished during the week. They also send inspection reports, and these and his own inspection report is forwarded to me every week by the divisional officer. These are all the accounts I keep, with the exception of a ledger in my Office, in which each sanctioned work is entered and the amounts sanctioned for payments of all kinds. I have had considerable difficulty in getting these progress reports regularly and fully submitted, and also some difficulty in keeping the ledger regularly posted. I am necessarily so much absent that I cannot be always looking after matters in head-quarters.

16. I am apprehensive that I have lately incurred the displeasure of the Board and Government on account of my supposed leniency. Mr. Puckle has told me that I am pampering my coolies, and that I am causing great anxiety by insisting upon keeping up my rates. As regards the first charge I can only answer that I am as strict as possible, and if the Board think that my coolies are lazy through being too well fed, I wish that some one would come and inspect the miserable half-starved beings I am employing. It occurs to me that Dr. Fitzgerald, the Deputy Surgeon-General, has just been making a tour through Madanapally and Kadiri. I have never had the pleasure of meeting that gentleman, nor have I the faintest idea what opinion he may have formed; but, in justice to me, I beg that the Board and the Government will be pleased to ask him his opinion on the physical condition of the people. As regards the second charge, I can only say that the increased rates were given with the approval of the late Collector,—an approval endorsed by Mr. Thornhill, again repeated to me verbally in Cuddapah (viz., not to alter my rates until I had sufficient grains in stock to commence grain-payments) and since then reiterated to me in a semi-official letter received only two days ago. Under these circumstances, I trust I shall be exonerated from all blame; I earnestly disclaim the charge of pampering, but I do admit a deep pity for and a great interest in my coolies; and I also claim to know more about them than any other officer in the district, for during the last three months, in spite of the diseases prevailing amongst them, I have spent almost the whole of my time among them. I beg, therefore, most respectfully to submit that it gives me infinite pain to find that what I have endeavoured to do has only caused anxiety and exposed me to the suspicion of persistent disobedience and weak leniency.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From RALPH S. BENSON, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector of Cuddapah, to the Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 11th January 1877, No. 35.

I HAVE the honor to submit a report taluqwar on the general result of relief operations in my division up to 31st December 1876. The delay in doing so has been caused by the necessity of

waiting for payment and work returns up to that date. Those from Budwail have only been received this day.

2. *Budwail Taluq.*—The first work started in my division was the repair of the Nellore and Budwail road, which was commenced on 19th October 1876. I opened the work in person aided by the sub-divisional Public Works Department Officer. I prescribed returns in the forms appended, and arranged for payment every third day. It will be seen that these returns give all the information necessary for the general information and control, and are yet very simple and demand a minimum of office-work from the officer in charge. I remained a couple of days, and then went to Porumamilla to open work there. A general impression prevailed not only among the coolies, but on the part of the taluq officials, that the only object was to spend so much money among the poor, and that a return was not to be exacted except for appearance sake. Immense numbers came to the work, and in a week after my departure 1,750 were in receipt of wages. The returns of work were delayed, and when they did come to hand, I found the metal collected was costing four and five Rupees a yard! I at once suspended the officer in charge, and sent the Tahsildar to inquire and followed myself in a few days. Every one was astonished at my demanding a fair outturn of work, and the numbers fell to 300. In fact, for some days they entirely refused to work, hoping to get higher wages. At this time the rates were men As. 1-9, women 1 anna, children from 12 to 7 years 6 pies, girls over 12 years and boys from 12 to 18 being paid as women. The stringent measures I adopted and the censure passed on the Sheristadar who had gone to the work almost daily produced an effect throughout the taluq, and since then I am able to report a fair return for the expenditure, considering that we have to employ all, whether able-bodied or comparatively weakly, whether skilled wudders or soft-handed weavers. For some time broken metal of first-class quality was turned out and stored along the road, 1 cubic yard to each yard of road run, at a cost of 8 Annas a cubic yard including all extras. As the stones had to be sometimes carried a considerable distance, this is not much dearer than Public Works Department contract rates. In fact, it was almost their rate in these parts. After a time the continued rise in price of grain impelled me, in consultation with the Collector, to raise the rates to 2 annas a man, 1 anna 3 pies a woman, and 9 pies a child, and later on, a special concession was made in the case of Budwail Taluq by giving pay without exacting work for Sunday in the case of all coolies who had worked on four days in the previous week. These caused a great and immediate increase in the number of coolies on the work, and it became more difficult to supervise and exact honest work from them. This circumstance and the higher rate of pay have caused the value of the outturn of work to fall short of the payments made; but, even now, I consider the outturn is creditable for a relief-work. The number at work on the 31st December was 1,066. The total expenditure on the road from the beginning was Rupees 2,880-8-11, and the work turned out was metal 2,226 cubic yards, morumba 741½ cubic yards, and gravel 28½ cubic yards, actually stacked on the road-side ready to be spread without the expense of carting.

(3.) The second work begun was the continuation of the main road from Porumamilla via Jellala to the Cumbum frontier to meet the road from Cumbum to our frontier. Mistakes occurred here also in the early days of its management, and owing chiefly to the same idea deeply engrained in the people and lower officials. Stringent measures were again used and with the best results. Two Sappers arrived at the same time, and have been useful in training others to work and supervising the simpler operations of road-making. The line was chosen and marked by the sub-divisional Public Works Department officer, who has several times seen the works and reported on the progress made. On the 31st December 1876, the number of coolies employed was 2,225. The amount spent was Rupees 5,084-6-5, and for this sum five miles of road (first class) had been almost entirely completed, except masonry work, and some distance more had been commenced. This is, I think, very satisfactory, and if it can be maintained, it can hardly be said that money will have been spent without a reasonable return. I receive an exact return weekly of the work done in cubic yards and the money spent, and can thus at once detect and check waste, but I do not give the figures, as the call is only for a report on the general result of the works.

(4.) The Mydukur road, that is, the road from Porumamilla via Akkampett (near Munnelli) and the Yedadugu Pass to Mydukur, was opened only on the 26th. On the 31st, 660 coolies were at work there; Rupees 552 had been spent, and a certain amount of earth-work and metal breaking had been done, but no part of the road had been finished. This road had long ago been determined on, and was marked out by the Professional Department.

These were the only works in Budwail in last year, and they were carried out satisfactorily with economy.

5. *Sidhout Taluq.*—(1) The first work opened in this taluq was the road from Wontimetta to Kotapad on the 26th October 1876. Three miles of it were completed up to 31st December 1876, at a cost of Rupees 6,662, and the numbers at work on that date were 1,900.

6. (2) The collection of material for repair of the Sidhout to Wontimetta road was carried on at the same time; and under the same officer up to 31st December 517 cubic yards of metal had been stacked on the road side at a cost of Rupees 1,023, and 408 coolies were at work. The outturn on both these roads compares very unfavorably with those of Budwail, but much of the Kotapad road passes over rather difficult ground and metal, for the Sidhout road had to be carried ½ of a mile. Still the cost is excessive and must be reduced. Up to the 10th November both these were in charge of the Public Works Department, so that I am not entirely responsible for the poor outturn.

6. (3) On the 30th November work was opened at Kondur on the Sidhout-Budwail road, collecting material for its repair. A fair outturn was at first obtained, but lately owing to increased numbers and consequently less close supervision, the value of the outturn has fallen below the amount spent. On the 31st December 2,317 coolies were at work; 2,183 cubic yards of metal and 570 cubic yards of gravel had been collected, carried and stored on the roadside at a cost of Rupees 3,801, but this also included a road dam of some size.

As to minor work Rupees 150 were sanctioned for the repair of the Machupally tank supply-channel. Six wells have been repaired and deepened, 20 wells are in progress, being either dug a new or repaired at a cost to date of about Rupees 400. These are nearly all given on contract to the Reddies, who employ the poor of their own villages. Their work is supervised by taluq officers.

7. (1) *Pulampett Taluq.* Work in this taluq was commenced on the 11th November 1876, on the road from Kondur to Settigunta. Four miles have been almost completed at a cost of Rupees 5,448 up to 31st December, on which day 2,043 coolies were at work.

8. (2) On the 18th November the road from Rajampett to Chitwail was opened and up to the 31st December three miles had been finished at a cost of Rupees 5,577, and a fourth mile was in progress. Three furlongs of this was over a tack (Pott) bund, and required no work, but part was along the edge of a hill and very difficult, requiring blasting. On the 31st December 2,289 coolies were at work.

9. (3) On the 22nd November gangs of coolies were employed at Settigunta to work down towards Kodur and meet the gangs from that place, and on the 31st December they had completed two miles of road at cost of Rupees 2,373; 957 coolies being then at work. Besides these some wells were dug and deepened and an important village-road about a quarter of a mile in length from Chitwail to Dawamasapally was completed for Rupees 250. The Chitwail to Hobly road was begun on the 27th December, and nearly half a mile finished at a cost of Rupees 612, there being 1,360 coolies at work on the 31st.

(10.) I append a statement showing the numbers on each work weekly from date of opening to 31st December. The fluctuations arose from many causes. Outbreaks of sickness; emigration to other works to seek less exacting masters; emigration to Nellore, refusal to work when pressed for a fair return, and the like, and also to mistakes made in the returns at first through inexperience.

(a.) Work was not done owing to refusal of coolies to work.
(b.) The coolies on this road had during the time been making on Kotapand road owing to influence of cholera in Wundwintha.
(c.) This is also due to refusal of coolies to work.
(d.) The numbers of coolies on this road have been varied from the 9th November 1900, because we could ascertain only from that date. The Talamilar appears to have made a reference to Public Works Department for the daily numbers of coolies for previous days, but no reply seems to have been received.

ENCLOSURE No. 3. •

With reference to your predecessor's letter, No. 925, dated 26th December last, I have the honor to forward a statement showing the money spent upon each work in progress up to 31st of that month. The statement would also serve to answer the purpose of monthly report called for by the Board in their Proceedings, No. 3,244, of 21st ultimo, inasmuch as the quantity of work done has also been shown.

2. The relief-works of the division can be classed under three heads, viz. :—

- (1.) Construction of roads.
- (2.) Repair of Government Irrigation Works.
- (3.) Do. and construction of works for the improvement of water-supply.

Of roads.—The roads in progress are 17 in number, and their length is 129 miles. Of these 13 are important, as they connect the important places of the neighbouring taluqs and districts with those of this division, and are calculated to improve the commerce of the country. The remaining 4 are village roads, i.e., which connect one village with another or join railway-feeder, &c. Up to 31st December Rupees 36,131-2-9 have been expended on these works. For this sum 11 miles of road have been thoroughly finished with tamping, &c., and nearly 10 miles without tamping. About 37 miles have had earth and rough metalling works done. How unfavorable black cotton soil is to road-making will not fail to strike one who has the least knowledge of that work. A greater part of this division is a pure black cotton plain devoid of trees for shelter and water for drinking; and this natural disadvantage, coupled with the difficulty of procuring good materials, is the cause why this division is so notoriously destitute of good communications. Through such unfavorable soil 65 miles of our road must run as now proposed. With this process it can therefore be seen how tedious and expensive the road-work is here when compared with the hard gravelly soil roads where spreading of rough metal with earth and gravel, and with tamping over once, will make finer than the finest black cotton roads. More than 15 miles of road run over hills, and though here the ground is firm, clearing of underwood and removal of stones are more laborious tasks than digging for gravel and tamping. Amongst the hill roads the most important is that which connects Jammalamadugu with Moodanoor, where there is a Railway Station. The distance between these two places is about 13 miles with a chain of hills running between from east to west, with a breadth of 10 miles a part, across which the road is taken. This communication will draw Jammalamadugu very close to the Railway Station of Moodanoor and increase its commercial relations with the neighbouring taluq of Pulivendla and the district of Bellary. The other two roads (Nos. 4 and 5) in the list which connect the Pulivendla with this taluq also cross hills, and these three roads, as far as the made portions, are excellent, and can

challenge comparison with the best roads of the district. To connect the Karnool District with this division three roads have been started, two from Jammalamadugu and one from Proddatoor. Of the two from Jammalamadugu, one runs in the north-westerly direction into the Koilkuntla Taluq, and the other north-easterly direction into the taluq of Chagalmarray after passing through a portion of Proddatoor Taluq. The third road runs north of Proddatoor and connects it with Chagalmarray. Two roads have been started to connect Proddatoor with Budwail Taluq of the Head Assistant Collector's division. Both these roads run through the Yeddadugu Ghaut of Nallamallai Hills. The other roads connect important villages in the division.

3. *Government Irrigation Works and works for the improvement of Water-supply.*—Rupees 2,927-4-8 have been expended on works under both these heads. This division is more badly off in respect of water-supply than the other divisions of the district. Therefore repair and clearance of wells have been undertaken, and this sort of relief is most necessary. The clearance of five wells has been completed, and others are being repaired. The particulars of repairs have been minutely given in the statement. Works Nos. 8 and 12 are important. They are tanks useful only for drinking purposes, and their situation in the midst of a waterless black cotton plain renders them inestimably useful. Three works of irrigation have been taken up for repairs: two are river channels and one is a tank. River channels in the division have not been cleared since the floods of October 1874, and some of them were becoming hopelessly bad. The usefulness of the expenditure on such works out of the relief funds need hardly be over-estimated. All the river channels of the taluq have been sanctioned for repairs, and two more channels have been taken up for clearing in this month.

4. *Relief-houses.*—A relief-house for the old and infirm has been opened on the 11th December last at Jammalamadugu out of relief funds unaided by local subscription. The number of people fed on the 31st ultimo amounted to 77, and the total expenditure up to that date was Rupees 62.

5. *Organization of labor and mode of taking work.*—Much of Mr. Gribble's hints for relief-works has since been in practice in this division. Though at the first starting of relief-works system was much wanting, as experience was gained rules were framed and instructions were given at different times to carry out the works on a thoroughly systematic plan, and I can now confidently say that works are being carried out quite on the same plan, which is so harmonious with that of Mr. Gribble in almost all respects. A map is enclosed showing the relief-works in progress.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

From H. SCOBBA ROW, Temporary Deputy Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector, of Cuddapah and Tanjore, 22nd January 1877, No. 28.

With reference to your letter, No. 180, dated 26th December 1876, forwarding copies of the Proceedings of the Government and Board of Revenue, Nos. 1,203 and 3,152, dated 11th and 12th December 1876, respectively, I beg to submit the following report regarding the progress of the relief-works in the Pulivendla Taluq, together with a statement therein called for.

When Relief-works were opened.—The relief-works were commenced in my division on the 21st October 1876. At first only the Moodanoor and Kadiri road was commenced near Pulivendla, and afterwards the rest of the works were taken on gradually as the necessity of finding employment to the increasing coolies arose.

Nature of Relief-works.—At present four important main roads connecting Pulivendla and other large towns in the taluq with the adjacent taluqs of Cuddapah and Bellary Districts, and also two Railway Stations as marked in black ink lines in the accompanying rough sketch, measuring in all 100 miles, have been undertaken, and they are in fair progress.

Besides the abovesaid road-works clearance of wells in two villages, where there was total failure of water for drinking purposes, have been undertaken.

In how many places Relief-works are going on.—The coolies are employed on the above-said four main roads at nine different places, as shown in the subjoined statement, at the distance of 6 or 7 miles from each other, with a view to avoid congregation of coolies at one place, and also to find work for them within an easy distance from their villages, so that they may go back to their houses in the evening after the day's labor.

No.	Name of the Main Road.	Length in Miles.	Places at which Coolies are employed.	No. of Coolies working on 31st December 1876.	Date on which the Work was commenced.
1	Moodanoor Road.	27	1. Royapuram 2. Teloor 3. Melivada	3,450 2,000 3,300	21st October 1876. 23rd November 1876. 10th December "
2	Royachoty " "	33	1. Sorooboo 2. Chandroo 3. Kodupalli	1,600 900 1,300	28th November " 31st December 1876.
3	Parnapalli " "	20	1. Korajand 2. Veldarala	1,250 1,150	16th November " 21st December "
4	Sindhadrupalli Road	20	1. Sindhadrupalli	1,250	28th "

Expenditure and Progress.—The total amount expended up to the end of December last is Rupees 21,057; of this only the sum of Rupees 82 was spent on clearance of wells. The difference Rupees 21,005 has been expended on the road-works alluded to. The amount of work turned out for the above sum is as follows: 3½ miles of road has been completed, 51 miles of earth-work, such as digging side-channels, raising and forming the road, &c. has been finished.

On average 7 inches of metal has been spread over 11½ miles of road.

Besides these a large quantity of metal has been collected and heaped up on the road and also by its sides. A large quantity of gravel has also been dug and kept ready on the Moodanoor road.

In digging gravel pits in some localities where there was no water for travellers, I have tried to select such places as would suit for gravel and also for wells, and succeeded in forming two good wells between Pulivendla and Royapuram. These wells have been of very great use to the coolies employed on the road, and also for tamping the road. To make them permanent I have taken steps to have them revetted with stone.

	A.	P.
Men	1	8
Women	1	0
Boys and girls between 7 and 12	0	9
Boys and girls between 5 and 7	0	6
Men	2	0
Women	1	3
Boys and girls between 7 and 12	1	0
Boys and girls between 5 and 7	0	6

Rates of Wages.—When the relief works were started the coolies were paid at the rates as per margin. These rates were continued up to the end of November. Only from the beginning of December last the rates were increased as noted in the margin in consequence of the rise of prices of grain.

Owing to the large importation of grain from Madras and other places to Cuddapah at present the local markets are better supplied. The prices also have fallen slightly as compared with the prices of previous months.

Water-supply.—There is, however, no scarcity of water as yet for drinking purposes except in a few villages. But the wells throughout the taluq are generally commencing to fail

for irrigation purposes. In the few villages where the wells had totally failed steps have been taken to augment its supply by clearing and deepening them.

Name of Grain	Comparison.		
	Prices in October per Rupee	Prices in November per Rupee	Prices in December per Rupee
Rice, 2nd sort ..	LOCAL SEERS	LOCAL SEERS	LOCAL SEERS
Cholam	41	41	41
Raggy	5	41	54

Average
Daily No.
of Coolies.

In October 2,300
In November 3,000
In December 19,200

Number of Coolies.—The number of coolies is fast increasing. I believe the people who were feeling backwards to attend the relief-works are forced to seek employment on roads, as would be seen from the figures in the margin.

Fodder.—There is no fodder for cattle. Mortality among them is increasing. Ryots are going to the Nallamallai Hills, a distance of about 120 miles, to fetch hill grass to save only such cattle as are now used in drawing water from wells for irrigation purposes.

A large number has already been taken to Nallamallai Hills, where it is rumoured that they are dying for want of water and also from sickness.

Crime.—There was much crime in the months of October and November, particularly torch-light gang dacoities.* But after the relief-works were started in every locality, providing employment within an easy distance, it has entirely stopped the above crime.

* In October 5.
In November 10.

In December last there was not a single dacoity.

Supervision.—In conclusion I beg to state that I have inspected several times all the works except the Royachoty road, which was under the direct superintendence of the Tahsildar.

I have also personally superintended the works on the Moodanoor, Parnapalli, and Simbadripalli roads a few days on each occasion.

Arrangement of Coolies, &c.—The coolies are divided into gangs of fifty each; over each gang there is a head cooly at Annas 2-6. For every two such gangs there is a mastery at Annas 4, who keeps the individual list and also superintends the work. At each place of work there is one responsible officer in charge of a work, who supervises the works and distributes the wages. The coolies are paid twice a week.

Each gang of coolies performs certain amount of fixed work daily.

The coolies are working cheerfully and willingly, and try their best to do the day's work.

State of Health.—Throughout the taluk the coolies have been enjoying good health. Though there is cholera in a few villages in the taluk, the working places are quite free from this.

Enclosure No. 5.

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876.

Taluk.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
Royachoty Taluk.	1. Road from Galived to Luckireddipally.	3,651 0 3	1 mile and 4 1/4 furlongs of road completed and 4 1/4 furlongs of do. partly completed.	
	2. Nalived road ..	5,954 14 11	1 mile and 4 furlongs of road completed; 3 furlongs of road partly finished.	
	3. Goranchoru tank repairs.	2,033 14 4	4,198 1/2 yards of earth-work in closing the bund; 56 yards of rough stone revetment; 67 1/2 yards of burnt stone in chunam done up to date.	
	4. Road from Galived road into Gottivedu village.	397 4 3	1 1/4 furlongs of road completed; 2 furlongs of road partly completed.	
	5. Road from Galived road into the village of Galivedu.	323 10 9	2 furlongs of road partly finished.	
	6. Road from Chinnamundem to join the trunk road No. 17 at Devapatta.	4,872 13 11	1 mile and 4 furlongs of road completed.	
	Work near Mundem ..	1,645 12 4	6 furlongs of road partly done.	
	7. Digging koneru near Royachoty at the bank of the river.	2,486 9 8	1 mile and 4 furlongs of road completed.	
	8. Improving the village site of Royachoty.	1,812 11 6	30 X 25 X 9 yards of koneru was formed. Excavation is commenced for building steps and forming jetty. 23 3 yards of rough stone revetment to the front portion of the river-bank is done.	
	9. Digging Koneru east of trunk road No. 17 near Royachoty.	1,795 7 8	Work of removing fort wall and filling the ditch 125 X 8 X 6 of do.; making road through the lanes in the village in six different places.	
	10. Repairs to Sidi-nayamunda of Masapet.	804 3 2	1 furlong and 40 yards of do. completed.	
	11. Road from Masapet to Veeralully.	5,430 9 4	3 Do. and 265 yards of do. unfinished. Building wall round the Musaphankhona (travellers' bungalow). 150 yards in length and 1 1/2 yards in height of wall is raised.	
	12. Road from Sanipoya to Chendupully.	2,054 12 6	46 X 10 X 3 yards of decayed rock, removing from the koneru.	
	Road from Ungullu road into the village of Mundem.	582 3 9	1,960 cubic yards of earth-work in closing the breach and tamping is done.	
	Repairs to Rajayachervu of Sanipoya.	256 11 4	1 mile and 4 1/4 furlongs of road completed.	
	Yerrananchervu of Sanipoya.	91 10 0	2 miles of road partly completed.	
	Peddachervu of Sanipoya.	291 5 8	224 cubic yards of earth-work of closing bund; 15 yards of stone in chunam in repairing the high level of do. has been carried out.	
	Repairs to Palanmudram tank of Chinnamundem.	862 10 0	Bund raised throughout 1 yard height, including tamping.	
	Repairs to Peddachervu of Bottachervu.	250 14 4	Building stone to apron of the culvert all completed.	
			Clearing bank of the supply-channel is completed.	
			Earth-work, including tamping, is being done to the bund.	
			Bund raised to the height of 1 yard, and tamping also completed.	

Works under 1,000 Rupees.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23th March 1877.

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876.—(Continued).

Taluk.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
<i>Works under 1,000 Rupees (Continued).</i>				
Royachoty Taluk.— (Continued).	Repairs to Anantapuram Mallechervu.	Rs. A. P. 209 13 8	Earth-work partly done to the breach, and the work is stopped in obedience to the orders of Sub-Collector.	
	Repairs to Wells.			
	Making steps dug out of the Local Funds.	250 0 0	2,500 cubic yards of earth-work is done.	
	Digging a well east of Mundem road in the vicinity of Vondady.	550 0 0	The well is dug as far as water is found, and steps are being made.	
	Repairing the well in the village of Mundem.	100 0 0	Silt being cleared and the rock being blasted.	
	Digging a well near Melapally do.	10 7 0	The well is completed and stone revetment is under progress.	
	Repairs to Cunniavandla well in Royachoty.	10 0 0	Removing and rebuilding stone revetment is completed.	
	Well belonging to Mopadanta of Chin-tukuntubunda in the side of Sanipoya road.	50 0 0	The well is dug as far as water is to be found and only steps remain to be made.	
	Repairing Cunniavandla well of Chin-makapally on the side of Sanipoya road.	11 8 9	Clearing silt completely finished.	
	Repairs to the well in the Government tope at Tamballapally.	10 0 0	Repairs completed.	
Madanapally Taluk.	Digging a well in the Pubcunta ghaut.	50 0 0	Digging is completed; stone-work remains to be done.	
	<i>Miscellaneous Expenditure.</i>			
	For Lungerkhana.	130 0 0		
	For building huts, pandals, and purchasing miscellaneous from things.	243 14 5		
	For bandy-hires, &c.	1,496 3 4		
	Total Expenditure in the taluk of Royachoty.	39,657 2 11		
	Road from Madanapally to Agraharam via Munoor and Nimmanapally.	45,850 3 2	Road 7 miles completely gravelled. 1 Tunnel with 3 vents completed. 2 Road-dams completed.	Total distance 13 miles and 5 furlongs. The whole has nearly been completed of earth-work with stone channels. More than 4 wells were taken up for repairs and nearly completed. 2 Tank-bunds, over which the road was laid were much strengthened. In the 3rd mile there is a tank, the road requires to be taken across, much work done to it. No. 1—A. Basinikonda round road 6 furlongs and 67 yards, forms a branch from Punganoor road to No. 1 road joining opposite Basinikonda village. The whole line completed as regards earth-work, &c. completely gravelled. No. 1—B. Repairing a well in Government tope of Battulungudda, repairs to 4 wells and spring channels being executed.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
28th March 1877.

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876.—(Continued).

Taluk.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
Madanapally Taluk.— (Continued).	Roads.	Rs. A. P. 7,014 1 1	5 furlongs completely gravelled.	Three small wells sunk; 2 big wells under progress; stone work required; 2 small tunnels and several drains and body walls covered with stones and chunam completed, and some more under progress. Repairs to 4 spring channels in Battulungudda and Madanapallygudda are being executed.
	Roads and wells in the Newpetta, near the new Taluk Cut-cherry and in the compound of the dispensary of Madanapally.			No. 2—A. Big well in the market is under progress; stone-work required.
	Road from Mudived to Gopidimma via Tamballapally.	9,182 10 7	First portion from Mudived to Tamballapally, about 10 miles completely gravelled, 3 road-dams completed.	Distance is about 15 miles; 2nd portion from Tamballapally to Gopidimma is about 5 miles, of which 2 miles and 7 furlongs of earth-work with side channels is under progress. 5 furlongs gravelled.
	Repairs to Rachervu tank of Tamballapally.	1,938 15 11	11,648 cubic yards of earth-work, 330 running yards of stone-work, have been executed.	The work is under progress.
	Road from Velighul to Papapally via Kalicharla and Pedda Mundem.	13,410 4 9	About 3 miles completely gravelled 4 1/2 miles half completed.	Distance is about 7 1/2 miles.
	Road from Gollapally to Kosuvaripally.	4,713 0 9	1 mile and 1 1/2 furlongs completely gravelled. 1 road-dam completed; 3 1/2 miles of road half completed.	Distance is about 5 miles. Repairs to tank-bund over which this road runs are being executed. A thick jungle is now being cleared. 1 well repaired for public use in the 1st mile.
	Road from Kosuvaripally to Mudived.	2,327 2 5	1 furlong completely gravelled, 3 miles and 3 furlongs of road half finished.	Distance is about 4 1/2 miles. 2 wells for public use under repairs.
	Repairing a portion of Chudum road from Kandlamadagu to Gattu.	4,042 15 1	2 miles nearly gravelled.	The bad portion, viz., 7 miles from Kadiri road junction, were taken up for repairs. Gravel of superior kind is procurable from a great distance.
	Repairing Kadiri road near Burakayalacotah over the 2 Dassavandara tanks between 17th and 18th miles.	2,100 11 11	The 2 tank-bunds were greatly widened and strengthened. Completely gravelled stone revetments on the outer sides of these bunds required.	Distance about 1 mile.
	Demolishing the old fort of Kotakota and levelling the ditch.	3,323 8 0	Seven-eighths work has been done.	One-eighth work is remaining to be done. The rampart walls of this old fort were of gigantic size, and the ditch was filled with all sorts of filth and nuisance, and was the cause of fever lately prevailed which carried away nearly more than 1,500 lives in Kotakota last year.
	A new well at Kandukur.	161 9 4	By 10 yards in length, 10 yards in breadth, with 42 feet fathom boat. It is now being widened. It is much required for a new site to secure sanitary improvement.	This village is famous for fever disease, and it requires to be removed to the new site where this well is in progress.
	Road from Kotakota to Rungasamudram. Removing an ancient, which was an encroachment to irrigation channel to Rungasamudram tank.	760 12 3 131 7 8	About 3 miles completely gravelled. Lately completed.	Distance is about 4 1/2 miles in all.

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876.—(Continued).

Taluk.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
Roads.—(Continued).				
Madanapally Taluk.	Road from Kotacota to Bahkayalappally.	Rs. 1,328 0 0	About 3 furlongs completely gravelled, the other portion is under progress.	Distance is about 3 miles.
	Road from Kotacota to Deerungi.	1,216 4 8	About 1 furlong completely gravelled; other portion is under progress.	Distance is about 2½ miles.
	A continuation of Chudum road.	1,394 9 6	About 2 furlongs earth-work with side channels completed; the remainder is under progress.	Distance is about 3 miles.
	Road from Cunducor to Viasasamudram tank-bund via Godugavariappally.	1,293 2 3	About 1 mile earth-work with side channels from Cunducor side completed. About ½ mile earth-work from Viasasamudram tank-bund side finished, and the other portion is under progress.	Distance is about 4 miles.
	Repairing a well in Godugavariappally, a hamlet of Cunducor.	51 3 0	Under progress.	
	Road from Marianappally to Kottabavi via Ponchupad.	2,167 10 3	5½ furlongs earth-work with side channels, and 1 furlong gravelled completed, the remainder is under progress.	Distance is about 8 miles.
	Repairing a well in Tavalam.	100 0 0	Under progress.	
	Do. in Kurabalacota.	40 0 0	Do.	
	Road from Vepuricota to Devalcheruvu.	494 8 9	About 2 furlongs earth-work with side channels completed; gravel spread, the remainder is under progress.	About 3 miles.
	Road from Vepuricota to Pactalapuram so as to join Rangasamudram road.	875 15 8	Earth-work for about 4 furlongs and 130 yards of road is completed, gravel being spread.	Distance is about 6 miles.
	Road from Malaya-garipally in Pedda Tippasamudram to Peddapally via Palligul so as to join Kadiy road.	1,410 17 0	About 1 mile earth-work completed, ½ mile gravelled.	Distance is about 6 miles. 3 wells, 3 spring channels of Peddatippasamudram are under repairs.
	Branch road to Kandlamadugu tope.	88 15 0	Already completed.	
Vailpaud Taluk.	Repairing 4 wells and 2 tanks, viz., Mathapachervu and Kattalcheruvu in Tottu.	309 11 8	Under progress. About 700 cubic yards of earth-work already executed.	
	Road from Mudvedu to Velighal.	1,332 13 3	About 3 miles earth-work, with side channels, completed. 1 mile gravelled completely on both sides.	Distance is about 7 miles.
	Total ..	1,07,661 1 11		
General Miscellaneous charges.				
1. Establishment, &c.		751 11 4		
2. Cart-hire for tools, &c., supplied from Madras.		243 0 0		
3. Cart-hire for cash remittance, tools, &c., despatched to out-stations for relief-works.		104 6 2		
4. Gun-powder purchased for blasting operations.		57 4 0		
5. Advances made for making new country carts.		1,000 0 0		
6. Monthly hire for country carts engaged for conveying grain from Gurram and Cuddapah.		1,338 2 0		

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876.—(Continued).

Taluk.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
<i>Miscellaneous charges.—(Continued).</i>				
Madanapally Taluk.—(Continued).	7. Grant-in-aid to poor houses maintained by private subscription.	Rs. 319 1 11		
	8. Other miscellaneous charges, such as stationery, tamped, wooden new instrument for preparing prickly-pear as fodder for cattle Batta for Police guards from other districts when accompanied.	1,217 11 3		
	9. Advances made to merchants for grain.	10,900 0 0		
	10. For destroying by fire dead corpse.	80 0 0		
	Total ..	15,121 4 8		
	Total, Miscellaneous.	15,121 4 8		
	Grand Total ..	1,22,785 5 9½		
	of Madanapally taluk.			
Vailpaud Taluk.	1. Road from Vailpaud to Mustoor.	6,844 12 4	5 miles and 4 furlongs of road completely gravelled and tamped.	Distance 5½ miles.
	2. Road from Gurramconda to Peddapally.	1,502 12 6	5 miles and 1 furlong completely gravelled and tamped.	Distance 5 miles and 1 furlong.
	3. Branch road from the Subudary Jail to meet the Gurramconda road.	1,203 10 6	1 mile of road completely gravelled and tamped.	Distance 1 mile.
	4. Road from Kalkiri to Mahal.		8½ miles do. 4 furlongs of earth-work completed.	Distance 9½ miles. The remaining portion is under progress.
	5. Branch road from Kalkiri to Mahal.	23,601 0 7	1½ miles of road completely gravelled and tamped, 2 miles completely gravelled and 1 mile of earth-work completed.	Distance 1½ miles. The remaining portion is under progress.
	6. Road from the branch road to Madukurti to Chundupalli.	12,308 10 3	2 miles completely gravelled and tamped. 3 miles of earth-work completely done.	Distance 16 miles. The remaining portion is under progress.
	7. Road from Vailpaud to Gundlur.	3,302 3 11	6 furlongs of road completely gravelled and tamped. 1 mile and 2 furlongs of earth-work completed.	Distance 4 miles. The remaining portion is under progress.
	8. Road from cherlapally to Kadira-chervu.	3,087 13 6	6 furlongs of road completely gravelled and tamped. 1 mile and 2 furlongs of earth-work completed.	Distance 10 miles. The remaining portion is under progress.
	9. Road from Kadira-chervu to Gundlur.	2,723 10 2	3,328 cubic yards of earth-work has been done.	Requires stone-work and paid advance to stone-work. Work is completed.
	10. Digging a koneru at Vailpaud.	1,528 4 10	1,650 cubic yards of earth-work do.	
	11. Syedimam tank of Gurramconda.	1,341 11 8	1,100 cubic yards of earth-work do.	Do.
	12. Nallacheruvu of Reddyvaripally.	603 13 6	Clearing silt, &c., completed.	
	13. Old koneru at Vailpaud.	89 6 2	225 cubic yards of earth-work done.	The work is carried on.
	14. Repairs to the well in the Government tope at Kalkiri.	584 12 8	Completed.	The work is completely done.
	15. Repairs to Pedda-chervu of Kona-mustoor.	122 6 4	54 cubic yards of earth-work done.	The work is completely done.
	16. Repairs to the well belonging to Varanasi Venecha Row.	150 9 10	340 cubic yards of earth-work and 35 cubic yards of stone-work done.	The work is already finished.
	17. Repairs to Mala-lhavi at Vailpaud.	11,630 0 0	6 miles of road completely gravelled and tamped, and 6 furlongs of road half finished.	
	18. Road from Peclar to Nagapatta.			

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876—(Continued).

Taluq.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
Vellore Taluq.— (Continued).	19. Road from Bastrap to Chundupally.	RS. A. P. 6,040 0 0	1 mile and 7 furlongs of road completely gravelled and tamped. 4 furlongs of road half done.	
	20. New Koneeru at Peelur.	795 0 0	2,000 cubic yards of earth-work has been executed.	
	Total ..	77,465 11 5		
	Hires for carts, &c.	311 12 4		
	Grand Total of Vellore Taluq., including Peelur Division.	77,770 1 9		
Kadiri Taluq.	Road from Talisaleva to Gowampally.	12,635 14 3	5 miles completely gravelled and tamped. 3 miles line marked out.	
	2. Road from Mala-kavimala to Kuthi.	9,110 1 4	2 miles completely gravelled and tamped. 1 mile of gravelling completed and tamping is under progress.	
	3. Road from Kuthi to Taliputi.	10,551 0 4	1 mile completely gravelled and tamping is under progress.	
	4. Road from Balasamudram to Tum-mala.	17,070 0 0	3 miles completely gravelled and tamped.	
	5. Road from Tumala to Mahanadabad.	4,519 0 0	2 miles completely gravelled and tamped.	
	6. Road from Mahanadabad to Tum-mala.	1,974 0 0	4 furlongs completely gravelled and tamped. 4 furlongs gravelled.	
	7. Road from Obalade-varachervu to Mahanadabad.	3,623 9 4	1 mile completely gravelled and tamped. 1 mile gravelled.	
	8. Road from Obalade-varachervu to Koudacomerla.	3,263 8 0	1 furlong completely gravelled and tamped.	
	9. Road from the trunk road at Gungapally to Mudugubla.	1,660 0 0	1 mile completely gravelled and tamped.	
	10. Road from Ananta-puram to Voojalapud.	2,780 0 0	1 mile completely gravelled and tamped. 4 furlongs gravelled.	
	11. Road from Sugara-chervu to Panatula-chervu.	872 13 0	Road is made for 3 furlongs, of which 80 yards well tamped.	
	12. Road from Kadiri to Tumala.	709 0 0	7,920 square feet of aloe fence, &c., removed. 1 mile of road completely gravelled and tamped. 5 furlongs of excavation of side channels on both sides completed.	
	13. Road to ramping top from Tanakul and repairs to well.	560 0 0	210 cubic yards of spreading metal and mortar. 40 cubic yards of excavating side ditches completed, also clearing silt from the well completed.	
	14. Road on the bank of Numbala Pulikuntachervu.	640 0 0	4 furlongs gravelled.	
	15. Road from Peshapally to Gopidimudi.	4,010 0 0	1 mile completely gravelled and tamped. 1 mile gravelled.	
Works near Kadiri Town.				
	16. Road near the new Taluq Cutcherry.	2,351 8 2	5 furlongs and 110 yards of road completely gravelled and tamped.	
	17. Road from the Ravacherry road to Peelugutta.	1,521 7 10	2 furlongs completely gravelled and tamped. 1 furlong only gravelled.	
	18. Road to ramping top.	800 8 0	75 yards completely gravelled and tamped.	
	19. Improvements to Koneeru (Bougher-Bam).	4,334 9 7	14,500 cubic yards of earth-work done. 511 cubic yards of stone-work done.	
	20. Road from Koneeru to Kuthi.	2,563 9 6	700 cubic yards of earth-work done.	

Statement showing the Amount spent and Quantity of Work done up to the end of
December 1876.—(Continued).

Taluq.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
Kadiri Taluq.— (Contd.)	21. Improvements to the well in the Mosque.	RS. A. P. 1,133 7 0	202 cubic yards of earth-work done. 62 cubic yards of stone-work done.	
	22. Repairs to 3 hand wells and one big well near the new Taluq Cutcherry.	600 9 6	150 cubic yards of earth-work done.	
	23. Road from the Travellers, Bunglow into the village of Patnam.	456 0 10	1 furlong and 140 yards completely gravelled and tamped; 128 yards grave led.	
	24. Repairs to supply channel of Rungachervu.	1,543 6 3	2,243 cubic yards of earth-work done. 12 cubic yards of stone-work done.	
	25. Levelling the fort wall at Patnam.	2,035 9 11	9,780 cubic yards of earth-work is done.	
	26. Repairing a well in the fort of Patnam.	70 0 0	76 cubic yards of earth-work done.	
	27. Repairing a small well at Patnam.	60 0 0	43 cubic yards of stone-work done. 44 cubic yards of earth-work done.	
	28. Repairs to the supply channel of Primalini Tank.	1,873 3 2	2,475 cubic yards of earth-work done. 1,791 cubic yards of the stone-work done.	
	29. Repairs to Mumbulapudikunta well.	161 0 0	Clearing silt and building parapet wall round the well completed.	
		RS. A. P. 92,357 6 7		
	Miscellaneous charges.			
	Advance paid for digging well in hospital.	20 0 0		
	Advance made to the merchants of Kadiri for grain.	4,100 0 0		
	Money sent to Arbutnot & Co., for grain.	2,075 11 0		
	Money paid for Lungarkhana.	84 2 0		
	Pay of Establishment of Mr. Swan.	16 1 5		
	Cost of stationery and Contingencies.	117 12 2		
	Bandy-hire for bringing grain, &c.	1,673 9 0		
	Cost of diet, &c., at hospital.	5 0 0		
	Total, Miscellaneous ..	8,092 3 7		
	Grand Total of Kadiri Taluq ..	1,00,449 10 2		

MADANAPALLY,
22nd January 1877.

(Signed) J. D. B. GRIBBLE,
Acting Sub-Collector.

List of Relief-works in Progress.

Taluq	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
Jammalamadugu	1 Raising roads in the streets of Jammalamadugu Town.	1,528 4	850 yards of metalled road have been completed with tamping. 400 yards earth-work done with the excavation of side trenches.	The entire length of the road now in progress is 1,250 yards, with an average breadth of 8 yards. The streets have been raised about 1/2 a yard over the former level.
	2 Road from Proddatur to Jammalamadugu (Jammalamadugu section).	3,698 8	8 miles of earth-work completed with side trenches. Out of this about 6 miles metal has been spread. About 1 mile of road has been completed with tamping.	This road runs through this and Proddatur Taluq. The length of Jammalamadugu section of the road is 8 miles with an average breadth of 8 yards.
	3 Road from Jammalamadugu to Muddanoor.	6,625 2	4 miles of metalled road have been completed with trenches. 1 mile of road is being raised with earth-work.	The entire length of the road is about 13 miles and breadth 6 yards. The line runs through the hilly part of the country.
	4 Road from Kondapuram to Lavanoor.	2,211 13	2 miles of road have been completed with trenches, tamping, &c.	The entire length of the road is about 8 miles and breadth about 6 yards.
	5 Road from Nallabally up to Lavanoor through Gopalsawmy ghaut.	2,554 9	2 miles of metalled road have been completed with tamping, &c. 3 miles trenches have been dug with rough earth-work.	The entire length of the road is about 12 miles.
	6 Road from Jammalamadugu to Chagalamurri of Kurnool District (Jammalamadugu section).	1,073 12	7 miles side trenches have been dug and rough earth-work done. 1 mile metal is spread over.	This road runs through both the taluqs. The length of Jammalamadugu section is about 8 miles. The entire length of the road is about 15 miles.
	7 Road from Jammalamadugu to Thimmanayunipett of Kurnool District.	1,607 5	About 3 miles (from Chinnakomera to Talamanchipattanam) side trenches have been dug and metal is being spread. 2 1/2 miles (the hill portion) gravel has been spread, and the road has been nearly completed to that length.	The entire length of the road is 15 miles.
	8 Road from Vuddala to Dhodien.	1,337 8	2 miles trenches have been dug and metal spread nearly completed.	The entire length of the road is 3 miles through a hill.
	9 A mile of road near the village of Talamanchipattanam.	973 42	8 The road has been completed with the exception of road-dams.	The length of the road is 1 mile.
	10 Road from Chennaspet up to Kondapuram railway feeder and up to the Gandloor channel.	370 12	0 The earth-work has been nearly completed with the exception of tamping over a small portion. Side trenches have been dug, material is being collected.	The length of the road is 650 yards.
	11 Raising road over a portion of the bandy-track from Gandloor to Jammalamadugu.	235 1	0 Earth-work has been completed and tamping commenced. Metal is being collected.	The length of the road is 250 yards.
	12 Raising and metalling the two streets of the village of Namalladiene.	129 8	3 Earth-work with side channels has been completed.	The entire length of the road is 400 yards.
	13 Retvetting and raising a compound wall around a koneru well, north of Jammalamadugu Town.	101 12	0 Strong stone revetment, &c., on one side has been reconstructed and the work is almost complete. Western compound wall has been completed.	
	14 Clearing a well between Jammalamadugu and the village of Chinnakomera.	23 5	3 Completed.	
	15 Clearing and repairing a well in the village of Thoravanna.	16 11	0 Clearing finished. Stones are being gathered for revetment.	
	16 Clearing a well in the village of Bondalakuntah.	25 3	1 Completed.	
	17 Clearing a well in the village of Westkayalupally of Beladoor.	10 0	0 The work has been commenced recently.	
	18 Repairing a koneru in the village of Bunchampally.	32 2	6 Clearing has been nearly completed.	

List of Relief-works in Progress—(Continued.)

Taluq	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
Jammalamadugu (Continued.)	19 Repairing a well in the village of Nallabally.	Rs. A. P. 68 8 9		The well is being widened to afford margin for constructing steps with stone. This has been recently commenced. Some silt has been taken out.
	20 Repairing and clearing a well in the village of Ramiraddy-pully of Yetoor.	23 3 6		
	1 Road from Proddatur to Jammalamadugu (Proddatur section).	3,523 5 11	7 miles of road with earth-work has been completed with side trenches. Sanding and tamping has also been completed. Out of these 7 miles, 4 miles rough metal has been spread and for 3 miles gravel has been spread.	The entire length of this section of the road is 7 miles.
	2 Raising streets in the town of Proddatur.	2,664 3 6	451 yards of metalled road completed, except tamping 666 yards rough metal has been spread. 1,678 yards side trenches have been dug. 150 yards earth-work in filling up the pits by the sides of the road.	
	3 Road from Proddatur to Dhoor.	830 2 8	6 miles and 5 furlongs earth-work completed with trenches on both sides. Out of this extent metal has been spread for nearly 2 1/2 furlongs.	The whole length of the road is 10 miles.
	4 Road from Proddatur to Chagalamurri in the Kurnool District via Corrapaud and Gadigoodoor.	303 0 9	2 1/2 furlongs earth-work completed.	The entire length of this road is about 15 miles.
	5 Road from Jammalamadugu to Chagalamurri into the Kurnool District (Proddatur section).	2,052 9 3	5 miles earth-work has been completed with side trenches. Out of this extent 3 miles have been completed with tamping and 1 mile metal has been spread over.	The entire length of this section of the road is about 7 miles.
	6 Road from Mydukoor to Yeddadugu Ghaut.	2,580 3 6	3 miles 7 furlongs 151 yards trenches have been dug on both sides. Earth-work completed out of this extent.	
			4 furlongs 163 yards of road have been completed with tamping and 7 furlongs 208 yards without tamping.	
			3 miles 1 furlong 77 yards side channel on the eastern side has been dug.	
			2 miles 7 furlongs 19 yards side channel on the western side dug.	
	7 Road from Vampenta to Proddatur through Chintakuntah.	151 7 10	2 furlongs earth-work with side channel has been completed. Out of this extent 172 yards rough metal has been spread. 132 yards gravel has been spread.	The entire length of the road is about 10 miles.
Proddatur.	8 Repair of a reservoir in the village of Nukkaiadinne.	418 14 13	1,501 yards earth-work for the bund completed. 118 yards gravel has been spread on the bund. 99 yards stone revetment inner side the tank completed. 12 cubic yards of stone have been gathered near the reservoir. 12 cubic yards of stone have been taken out of quarry.	
	9 Clearing of Kulloor channel.	791 0 6	25,607 cubic yards of silt have been taken out.	
	10 Clearing and repairing a well in the village of Godaroodoor.	106 10 10	Clearing has been completed. Stone for revetment is being gathered.	
	11 Clearing and repairing the Kottipally Ponnai river channel.	747 8 3	14,000 cubic yards of silt have been taken out.	
	12 Clearing and repairing a reservoir in the village of Chinnasettipally.	355 7 6	5,200 cubic yards of earth has been dug out of the tank. 193 yards of bund has been repaired with stone revetment.	

List of Relief-works in Progress—(Continued.)

Taluq.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st Dec. 1876.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
Proddatur. (Continued.)	13 Repairing the Government tank in the village of Coiyepoud.	Rs. A. P. 188 12 8	300 yards length bund has been strengthened with earth-work and gravel. Gullies and pits have been filled up, revetment repaired all along 1,500 yards. Bund near the Calingulah has been repaired with gravel tamping to the length of 50 yards.	

N.B.—The figures in column 3 include miscellaneous payments.

JAMMALAMADCOU,
18th January 1877.

(Signed) A. KRISHNA ROW,
Acting Deputy Collector.

ENCLOSURE No 7.

Statement showing the Amount spent and Workdone on Relief-work in the Division of the Head Assistant Collector of Cuddapah up to 31st December 1876.

Taluq.	Name and Nature of Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December.	Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.
		Rs. A. P.	
Budwail Taluq	Collecting metal, murambu and gravel for repairing Nallore road. Constructing a new road, Porumamilla via Jiljala to Cumbum frontier. Constructing a new road from Porumamilla via Akkampett near Munnesh and Yekadugu Pass to Mydukur in Proddatur Taluq. Minor works—none	2580 8 11 6084 6 8 552 15 7	One mile completed, and work going on in 42 to 45 miles. Five miles of road completed, except masonry work. Work now going on in five miles, i.e., from 60 to 64. This was commenced only on the 26th December. Work going on in 8 and 9 miles. A certain amount of earth-work and metal breaking has been done, but no part of the road has been finished.
	Total ..	8,017 14 11	
Sidhout Taluq	Constructing a new road from Wontimetta to Kotapaud. Collecting metal for repairing Sidhout-Wontimetta road. Do. do. for Kondur to Budwail road.	3,162 12 9 1,023 2 10 3,501 14 6	3 miles of the road completed. Work going on from 6 to 7 miles. 517 cubic yards of metal collected. Collection of metal and gravel from the 20th mile 1st furlong to 21st mile 3rd furlong. Work going on in 4 to 8 furlongs in 21st mile.
	Total ..	11,577 14 1	
	Minor Works— Repairing, constructing, and deepening wells. Repairing Machupally tank supply-channel.	400 0 0 99 7 0	6 wells completed; 20 wells in progress 150 Rupees have been sanctioned. In progress.
	Total ..	4,9 7 0	
	Grand Total ..	11,977 5 1	
Pullampett Taluq	1. Kodoor road, constructing a new road 2. Constructing a new road from Rajampett to Chitwail. 3. Bettigunta road, making a new road. 4. Chitwail-Hobly road	5,448 12 7 5,577 14 5 2,373 10 5 672 15 6	4 miles completed. 5 miles completed. Work going on in the 4th mile. 2 miles completed. 1 mile finished. Was commenced only on the 27th December.
	Total ..	14,073 4 11	
	Minor works— Chitwail to Davamachupally village road 1 mile in length Digging and deepening wells	250 0 0 250 0 0	Completed. Given on contract.
	Total ..	450 0 0	
	Grand Total ..	14,463 4 11	
	Great Grand Total of three Taluqs ..	31,887 8 11	

(Signed) R. S. BENSON,
Acting Head Assistant Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

Statement showing the Progress made in the Relief-works opened in Pulivendula Taluq up to the 31st December 1876.

Taluq.	Name and Nature of the Work.	Amount expended up to 31st December 1876.		Quantity of Work done up to 31st December 1876.	Remarks.
		RS.	A. P.		
Pulivendula.	1. Moodanoor road	13,678	14 9	2 miles road is completed. Earth-work is finished for 14 miles. Metal is spread over 3 miles. A large quantity of gravel also has been dug and kept ready.	
	2. Royachoty road	2,652	8 6	1 1/2 miles road is completed. Earth-work is completed for 7 1/2 miles and metal is spread over 5 1/2 miles of road.	
	3. Parnapalli road	2,900	1 7	Earth-work for 7 miles is completed, and metal is spread over 3 1/2 miles.	
	4. Sinhadripalle road	1,713	5 6	Earth-work is completed for 2 1/2 miles, and metal is spread over 2 1/2 miles.	

(Signed) H. SOOBBA ROW,
Temporary Deputy Collector.

ENCLOSURE No. 9.—Map.

With the foregoing letter, the Acting Collector of Cuddapah submits reports on the progress of relief-works in divisions comprising ten out of the eleven taluqs of the district, the one wanting being Cuddapah.

2. SUB-DIVISION—*Royachoti, Kadiri, Madanapalli, and Voilpaul*.—Mr. Gribble

Works.	*Expenditure.	RS.
{ Roads	3,10,166	
{ Village Improvements.	31,744	
{ Irrigation works. .. .	14,259	
	3,56,169	
Purchase of grain	25,176	
Carriage of do.	7,157	
Establishment, &c.	1,373	
Gratuitous relief	988	
Sundries	401	
Tools	1,238	
Total ...	3,91,502	

Number of Works.

Royachoti	28
Madanapalli	26
Voilpaul	20
Kadiri	20
	103

gives full detail of his expenditure* and of the work done for it. He has turned out a very fair amount of work, and considering the serious difficulties he had to contend with, viz., insufficient supervision for the large numbers employed and want of tools, the rate per mile of road made, Rupees 1,790, does not seem to the Board at all excessive. His rates of wages have been high, and in other ways his procedure has tended to draw large numbers to his works, but he has labored with unyearied zeal and devotion which merit recognition. He again adverts to the deterioration which he has observed in the physique of his gangs, but the Board are inclined to think that the

interest which, as he says, he takes in his coolies has somewhat misled his judg-

ment, and they see no reason why such deterioration should take place in the subdivisions rather than in others where however the coolies are reported to be in good health.

3. HEAD ASSISTANT'S DIVISION—*Baldail, Sidhout, Pullampett*.—Mr. Benson's is a clear and good report. His works are entirely road-construction and repair. He brings to notice how at first the idea fostered by the Native officials, that relief was to be had without labor, prevailed amongst the gangs. Mr. Benson took energetic measures to dissipate this idea, and the result has been a fair outturn of work, and a proper restriction of numbers. Relief, however, has been afforded as fully as was needed. The wages paid were at first 1 Anna and 9 Pies which was subsequently raised to 2 Annas for a male adult.

Expenditure.	RS.	Jammalamadugu and Proddatur.—The report shows that good and useful work has been done in this division at a not excessive cost. Some useful railway feeders are under construction.
17 Roads	36,131	
16 Wells and tanks...	2,927	
33	39,058	
Gratuitous relief... ..	62	

5. SPECIAL DEPUTY COLLECTOR'S DIVISION—*Pulivendla*.—The whole outlay, except a small sum of Rupees 82 spent on wells, has been on road-works, four in number. Of these the principal is that from Moodanoor (a railway station) to Pulivendla, which will be a very useful line. The cost appears to be moderate and a full tale of work is exacted.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 881. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 6th March 1877, No. 1,060.

Read the following letter from J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Vellichelamala, 13th February 1877, No. 15-B:—

I HAVE the honor to report regarding the state of my division.

2. From the last returns you will have observed that the number of coolies

Taluq.	Number of coolies working in the last week.	Number of coolies working during the week ending 1st February.	Amount spent up to present week.	Amount spent during the week.
Madanapalli.	41,056	29,544	1,67,211 0 0	28,791 0 0
Royachoty ..	13,913	15,371	97,721 4 9	10,815 7 8
Kadiri	26,873	14,389	1,98,412 1 9	2,892 7 6
Voilpaul ..	18,006	12,916	1,61,481 1 2	Not recd. yet.
Poolair ..	7,402	7,130	43,077 10 8	6,231 14 4

employed on relief works have very greatly decreased. The greatest decrease has been in the Kadiri Taluq in week ending 11th February where the numbers have fallen from 42,000 to 12,000. The highest number did not continue for more than a few days, and was

caused by a sudden influx of Mysore coolies and a few Bellary men. I was at the time in Cuddapah, but I at once sent most stringent orders, and the consequence was that they fell to 36,000, 26,000, 14,000, and eventually to 12,000. This decrease is attributed to several causes: (1) exclusion of Mysore coolies, (2) outbreak

My idea is that there have been many (paper) coolies, as I noticed that superintending payments that there were many absentees for whom no satisfactory account was given.

Cholera may have led to the breaking up of some gangs, but is having pretty nearly ceased, there ought to be an increase in the numbers. An order of Mr. Gribble's directing all coolies to produce certificates of indigence from their respective Bellaries has probably led to a considerable reduction as at Royachoty. I found that many had gone home to get them.

Cholera, Mysore coolies, and shroffing however will not fully account for the decrease. I suspect very strongly false returns.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

I quite agree with Mr. Gribble regarding the taluq officials. They are a most incompetent set. Ranga Row clearly did not attend to his coolies as a famine officer. Nagasa Row's character as given by Mr. Gribble is, I believe, correct. I do not think though that exposure on famine work has been the cause of his bad health. He is a man of weakly physique.

devoid of judgment; he is hard working, and is in very bad health, brought on principally by exposure in famine works. It would be a good thing to move him to a taluq where he would have less to do. I have no post to offer him.

3. I have (whilst on tour with you) been making careful inquiries regarding

I commenced making close inquiries into this as I felt satisfied from what I had seen and heard elsewhere that there had been gross exaggeration. Mr. Gribble's inquiries when with me were made in regard to the part of the division where cholera has been worse than anywhere else. The results do not bear out the statement that the people were dying "by hundreds daily" of cholera. I believe that I am within the mark if I put down the total deaths of the cholera in the whole subdivision at 8,000 in three months. Cholera in several places at which I inquired had appeared in November. The outbreak in Kadiri was, I believe, the result of the coolies from gangs on the roads having caught it there and taken it to their villages, the filthy condition of which caused the disease to spread. According to the death returns 2,284 persons died in Voilpand out of a population of 155,000; it was in this taluq that I found the coolies the lowest in condition.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

of cholera, (3) shroffing the gangs; all of these reasons, however combined, do not satisfactorily account for this enormous decrease, and I can only suspect that the taluq officials have rushed from one extreme to the other, and having first admitted a number of persons not deserving are now rejecting fit subjects for relief. I am however now in the taluq, and will at once take steps to see that any errors in this direction are rectified. The taluq officials are, I regret to say, utterly unfitted for a crisis like the present one. Ranga Row, the Acting Tahsildar, has at length been removed, and when his successor comes I hope we shall get on better. The permanent Taluq Sheristadar, Nagasa Row, now acting as special Magistrate, is a man utterly

the outbreak of cholera recently reported, and have come to the conclusion that it has been greatly exaggerated. There is no doubt that between the 6th and the 31st January there was a very severe outbreak, and the deaths amounted to several hundreds. Reports reached me from all sides that coolies were dying, and in some places by hundreds. Since then I have made careful inquiries from as many Village Magistrates and Maistries as I could collect. Annexed I give a copy of the result of these inquiries as far as this taluq is concerned. There are of course many other gangs and villages which I have not as yet visited, but the villagers here questioned are scattered over two-

This occurred at the villages of Molavaripalli and Chikatimanipalli which I saw when going to Kadiri with Mr. Gribble. In the first instance there had been 35 deaths of cholera. The body which we saw was that of an old woman who had been travelling along and having been stayed with cholera had died and been left not far from the road. The people here had quitted the village and camped under a tree. In the second instance cholera had been severe and the body of a man who died in a topi not far from the village had been left unburied and had been eaten by dogs. The people here were not camping out. It was at Vinnalavaripalli alone that we saw this.

I went I believe to the same spot once when there had been a severe outbreak in a large gang. I looked for skeletons and skulls; saw four of the former and seven of the latter. The corpses had been buried in shallow graves and in river sand, and as a matter of course had been dug up. Excluding these and the two bodies mentioned above, I in a tour of over 200 miles saw two skeletons and one skull, two cholera corpses being buried and two cases of cholera.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

* Did he count them.

and other district officers have assured me that they have come across many unburied bodies. The outbreak has for the present subsided.

4. As regards the present state of the Kadiri Taluq, I have been much surprised to find it far more promising than I anticipated. When I visited it in September the dry crops were all withering. When I came again in November every thing was dead, but now I have with you passed through a tract of country covered with some of the finest cholum crops I have ever seen. These are all under wells which have still a sufficient supply of water to bring the crops to maturity. Over

I think this is correct all through. There was not very much in the way of crops between where I quitted Mr. Gribble (Talakahaya) and Royachoty, but here and there, as for instance at Peelikunda, there was a good show.

I think it probable that there will be quite a month's supply of grain after this harvest comes in and two months' fodder for the agricultural stock.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

harvest will probably last a month) there will be sufficient food for the people for at least six weeks or two months. We have a good two months' supply of rice for our coolies in stock, and this aided by the

The crops are very good in the Royachoty and Madannipally Taluqs, and there is a considerable amount of them all under wells. Voilpand seems to be the worst off, but only in the bit between Peclair and Voilpand. I speak from what I saw and heard from the natives.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

thirds of the taluq and their answers to my questions will give a fair idea of the general state of things. Cholera appears to have broken out in one gang about the 6th or 7th of January, to have spread rapidly over almost all, and to have ceased about the 25th. In some villages it still prevails; as far as my own personal observation is concerned I have in the last four or five days in two places seen bodies being eaten by dogs, and have seen villagers who have left their village sitting huddled and scared under a tree. I have passed in the last month about half a dozen persons attacked by the disease, whom of course I at once took steps to relieve, and have had one of my own Gumasta attacked. My Dresser has found 25* unburied skulls in one town (Royachoty), a skeleton near my camp in this village,

18 miles of road in Kadiri I must have seen at least 1,500 acres of cholum which will yield a full crop in about a month's time. If the rest of the taluq is anything like the large portion I have already seen, I do not anticipate any danger here. There may be little or no grain here now, but as soon as this cholum crop is reaped (and the

local market, even if the worst should happen, ought to bring us well into June, before which it is to be hoped that rain will fall. None of the other taluqs that I have seen can in any way compare with the crops I have seen in Kadiri. Of the other three taluqs Royachoty is the best.

I have not been here. The country in that direction looks rocky and barren.
(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

There is however nothing to complain of. The crop in the Tanakel valley is in place such as I have never seen elsewhere.
(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

5. During the past month the gangs have been subjected to strict scrutiny, and all persons unworthy of relief have been sent away. I find that the native officials frequently show a great want of judgment in this matter, but I have impressed on my subordinates the necessity of seeing that this system of shroffing is fairly carried out.

I think that this has been pressed too far in some places. In others it has not been done at all.
(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

6. On the 7th and 8th of this month there were some showers, and from P.clair it is reported that as much as 1 inch fell. Elsewhere it does not seem to have amounted to more than one or two ounces.

I do not think that it has been very great amongst agricultural stock. Amongst cows and ordinary cattle it has been exceedingly heavy, certainly half and probably still more. There is no help for it. What fodder there is is kept for the agricultural animals; there is no grass or prickly-pear, the jungle has been stripped of what leaves there are, and upon the hills there is little, if any, grass or water. There is no place to which to drive the less valuable cattle, and the only hope of saving anything but very small fraction of them is a fall of rain. The country is shown with their skeletons of those which have died. Water is abundant except at Pclair where the rock is close to the surface.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

8. The coolies now upon the works are almost all from the very poorest classes.

The famine is certainly in many places telling upon the coolies. I have not noticed this in the towns and villages but only with the works. I believe that the falling off in condition has to a considerable extent been owing to the coolies having been left unpaid for a fortnight and sometimes three weeks; this was not due to want of money or grain, but to carelessness and stupidity on the part of Tahsildars and their subordinates. I have seen one or two cases of emaciation. A large proportion of coolies are at that point at which a reduction of the amount of food which they can obtain will produce positive emaciation and consequent uselessness for work.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Acting Collector.

Some portions of Voilpau are very bad, and in the part enclosed by the villages of Surakoyalapett, Talupula, and Bhakarapett, I scarcely saw a blade of vegetation. In the Madanapally Taluq there is a fair show of cholera under a few wells, but nowhere (as far as I have seen) is there anything so fine as in Kadiri.

7. The mortality among the cattle has been and continues to be very great, as scarcely any forage is obtainable. Water is still to be got in wells, and is generally obtainable from 15 to 20 feet from the surface. I believe no accurate returns of cattle deaths have been sent, and I am therefore diffident about making any statement. In the neighbourhood however of every village there are invariably a number of bones and skeletons.

Some of the Wudders are still fine stalwart looking men, but the distress is beginning to tell upon the old men, the children, and many of the women; generally speaking the people are all greatly reduced in condition. The word "emaciated" seems liable to be misunderstood. When I used it I meant that the coolies were steadily falling off in condition, and I believe you agree with me in the opinion that they are now, generally speaking, at a point below which they cannot stand much further reduction.

9. I greatly regret that I have not yet been able to submit my progress report for the month ending the first week of February. There were several inaccuracies in the returns submitted from the taluqs, and I have had to return them for correction; it shall however be submitted in a few days, and in the meantime I beg you will be good enough to forward this report for the information of the Board with such remarks as your recent tour and inspection may suggest.

No. 92.

FORWARDED for the information of the Board of Revenue. Mr. Gribble is at present engaged in a complete inspection of the Kadiri Taluq and will forward a further report. He will then take either Royachety or Voilpau.

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON,
Special Deputy Collector,
for Acting Collector.

CUDDAPAH,
24th February 1877.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Inquiry at Kadiri on 11th February 1877 regarding Cholera, and Deaths. Population. Coolies, 53 4,714 100
on 12th at Talkalva. tion. Strangers.

Tanacal.—Maistry Choud Reddy, reddy of village, highest number of coolies 1,600. Cholera began on 19th January; up to 30th January 22 cases of death among the villagers; 2 of the gang coolies died. The coolies then all bolted, and there are now 220 working. Since 30th January 31 people in village have died. Produces his Death Register; greatest number of deaths in one day 11 (3rd February).

Singarayachervoo.—Asatha Reddy. Highest number of coolies 2,000. Cholera commenced on 29th January. Up to date 13 persons died of cholera up to 3rd February. Work done.

Obalavachervoo.—Gurumoorthy, Curnam. Cholera appeared 26th January; from that time up to date 7 men died.

Moothialchervoo.—20 deaths.

Molkaramala to Coorly.—Cholera appeared 1st February. Since then 56 deaths (6-10-20-20) and coolies all bolted on 7th; 1,000 coolies at work; highest number at any time 1,000.

(Memo.—Maistry a liar. Graves to be inspected).

Toomala.—Cholera broke out on 26th January; since then 33 attacks and 19 deaths all among villagers. No coolies attacked. 80 acres of cholera and cora under wells said to be drying up and crops worse than at Tanacal. Cholera still in villages; results not known; second-sort rice 3½.

Pedapully.—Cholera broke out on 8th January; 41 deaths amongst a 61 4,000 1,500

gang of 2,000; 20 deaths in the village and hamlets. About 30 acres cholera

Cooly gang. and cora under wells, but wells are said to be dry
(Signed) J. F. PRICE, and crops withering. When cholera broke out
Acting Collector. coolies ran away, but have returned for work.

Second-sort rice 3½ and 3½. Two bandies or three come in a week.

Grundlapenta.—Cholera broke out on 8th December; 43 deaths up to 43 3,356 ..
date; 7 deaths in December; 26 deaths from 6th to 31st January; 6th
and 7th February 9. 100 acres of choitum and cora in good condition, three
quarter crop. Second-sort rice 3½ measures.

Mahanadabad.—28th January cholera came. Up to date 8 deaths, and 8 4,000 532
10 people now suffering. 50 or 60, cholera and cora under 20 wells; crop wants
water and the rest good, about 20, 25 a. estab. Second-sort rice, 4 measures.
2 or 3 bandies, 20, 30 pack-bullocks in a week.

Coolienanda.—Cholera came on 19th December. In that month 10 89 1,019 200
deaths, in January 69, this month 10. Rice 3½, 2 or 3 bandies in a week, 40
acres under 20 wells in good state, under 10, crop entirely failed.

Idodoo.—Cholera appeared on 15th January; 30 deaths in January; 31 65 800 4,000
deaths in this month; 35 recovered. No fresh cases when he left his village.
60 acres of cora and cholera under wells, half in good state, half a four-anna
crop. The cholera cases were all his own villagers

Cooly gang. working on the road; and maistry says one other
(Signed) J. F. PRICE, death occurred among the gang where there were
Acting Collector. 5,000. Second-sort rice 3½ measures.

Paralum.—Cholera came 19th January, up to 200 5,000 ..
end of January 161 deaths, 1 fever. 1st to 7th 300 ? ..
February 39 deaths. These deaths all among
villagers, except 8 cases of coolies on the road.
Says that he saw 300 men being carried away
in blankets. This he entirely omitted to tell
Price on the 9th, but had told it to Swan day before.
Sticks to the story now that he saw many being
carried. 40 acres of Jonna expects half crop.
Second rice 3½.

Vellichelamala.—6th January cholera appeared. Since then up to date 79 1,455 3,000
26 died among villagers and 53 amongst coolies.
40 acres cholera half will get half crop; other
half drying up. Second-sort rice 3½.

Gowkanapally.—Cholera came 11th January. Up to 25th 11 deaths. 11 978 ..
acres of cholera; outturn one-fourth. No rice, but get grain from Vainpally 724
3½ measures. 300 ?
1,024

(True Extract).

(Signed) J. D. B. GRIBBLE,
Acting Sub-Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

2. The report gives a clearer idea of the state of affairs in the sub-division of
Cuddapah than has been hitherto attainable. It is plain that there was in the early

stages undue encouragement to numbers, and also the Board fear that the weeding
of the gangs and reduction of numbers under recent orders has gone too far. Mr.

	Mr Gribble's figures	Weekly Reports.	
		27th Jan	21st Feb
Kadiri ..	26,875	18,987	2,353
Royachoty ..	13,913	14,717	1,556
Madanapally ..	41,056	40,095	36,114
Vainpally ..	25,103	26,612	5,224
	107,282	110,641	25,537

Gribble's figures are apparently for the
27th January, but the numbers have
fallen enormously since then, and on the
24th February stood as shown in the
margin. The total on the latter date is
only one-fourth of Mr. Gribble's figures,
and in Royachoty there are now hundreds
where there were thousands.

3. Mr. Gribble has evidently been working hard and doing his best to put
things in order, but his native establishment of subordinates is condemned as
inefficient. Nothing is said as to the distribution or efficiency of his European
Assistants. The Collector is requested to report on these points, and to state
whether further assistance is wanted.

4. The mortality from cholera has evidently been very heavy, though Messrs.
Price and Gribble think that it has been exaggerated in reports. The Board note
with anxiety the remarks made with regard to the condition of the people, which
is stated to be deteriorating. Reduction has been carried very far, and any
further measures in the same direction must result in increased mortality. It is
most essential that the effect of the discontinuance of relief to such large numbers
should be narrowly watched.

5. The description of well cultivation in Kadiri and indeed of crops gene-
rally in the sub-division is as hopeful as it was unexpected. Not the least benefit
to be derived from it is unquestionably the production of a considerable quan-
tity of fodder for the cattle, and the probable yield in Kadiri is estimated as
sufficient for the population for a month. So considerable an accession to the supply
will have a marked effect on prices.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 882. *Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th March 1877,*
No. 1,115.

Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah,
to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated
2nd March 1877, No. 95:—

I HAVE the honor to submit the report upon my recent tour in the Sub-division,
awaited in G.O., Revenue Department, No. 338, dated 23rd January 1877. I
regret that, owing to my hands being constantly full of important work, I have
not been able to send it in sooner.

2. *Route taken.*—I proceeded from Cuddapah via Guvalcheruvoo to Royachoty,
thence via Kalkudda to Peelair, thence to Vainpally, thence to Madanapally via the

Moosktoor Famine road, and thence to Kadiri and Tanakal. From Kadiri I visited the country six miles out on the Hindupur road, and then went on to Galived, to Royachoty, and thence on to Sanipoy and the Cheyair Ghaut to Rajempett, from which place I returned by rail to Cuddapah.

3. *Work done.*—My tour occupied very nearly three weeks, and during that time I inspected a considerable amount of work and coolies, made inquiries regarding crops, public health, cattle, &c.; gave to organization, and consulted Mr. Gribble upon various matters connected with the administration of famine relief in his division.

4. *General results of Inspection.*—The result generally has been that, though I found that there had been a severe and pretty general outbreak of cholera and that small-pox of a mild type was rather prevalent, the public health was not nearly so bad as I expected; that where I looked to have met a scene of barren desolation, there were cholera and other crows which promised to soon materially assist in removing in some measure the difficulties regarding food for the people and forage for the agricultural stock; that there was little want of water anywhere; that the coolies were not so much down in condition as I had been led to fear; that there was a considerable want of proper supervision and consequent lack of organization; that the accounts were in a confused state and had not been worked up; that there was reason to suspect much fraud; that there was not a proper supply of tools; that many works had proved of an expensive character; and that the native officials were, with hardly an exception, not of the stamp which the present occasion requires.

5. *Order of remarks and mention of Mr. Gribble's conduct.*—I will now proceed to remark upon each of the taluqs of the Sub-division in the order in which I entered them, but before doing so I desire to pay the Acting Sub-Collector, Mr. Gribble, the due of stating that he has worked exceedingly hard and energetically in regard to famine relief, and that though I feel bound to condemn a portion of his operations on the ground that some of them have been on a needlessly magnificent scale, and that he might have been more economical, and that I hold it necessary to observe that I consider that his organization might have been better, and that he took too much for granted what those under him said, I am of opinion that he deserves great credit for the unsparing way in which he has devoted himself to the duty of relieving the distress which certainly exists to a considerable extent in his division.

6. ROYACHOTY—(a) *Route.*—I traversed this taluq from north to south and from east to west.

(b) *Condition of the Country and state of Crops.*—From Guvalcheruvoo to Kalkudda every valley along the road bore very promising well crops, principally of cholera. Along the road from Galived to Sanipoy there was not nearly so much, but this was owing more to the nature of the country, which is broken, jangly and in many places very poor, than to inability to cultivate owing to the drought. There were but few tanks to be seen along the road, and the fields were all of the dry class. The people and villages were here poor and wells few and far between.

(c) *Public Health.*—Cholera had been severe at Royachoty, Galived, Sanipoy, and many other villages, but the outbreak in the taluq was of a brief character, and the disease has now, so Mr. Cotton, the officer in charge, informed me yesterday,

subsided. Small-pox too had been going about, and I saw some cases of it, but it was of a mild type and it is on the decline.

At Royachoty the cholera caused a panic, and many corpses were either thrown on to the sands of the adjacent river, or else imperfectly buried that the dogs dug them up and partly ate them. This has however been set right and the remains have been collected and burnt. There was no fever.

(d) *Water-supply.*—Excepting at Sanipoy there was, as far as I could see or learn, no want of water, which was almost invariably near the surface. I wrote to Mr. Gribble to have the wells in that neighbourhood cleared and deepened.

(e) *State of coolies.*—The coolies everywhere were in good condition. I met no cases of what I should call emaciation until my return to Royachoty en route home when I saw some persons who were decidedly in this condition. I ascertained that this was the result of a misinterpretation of an order of Mr. Gribble's directing that all coolies coming on to the works should bring certificates of indigence from their respective Reddies. Work had, in consequence of the people having gone away to obtain these, been stopped, and some of those who had remained behind were very much reduced in flesh owing to their being deprived of the means of obtaining food. I gave immediate orders for the relief of those persons and the recommencement of work.

(f) *Fodder for Cattle.*—Fodder for the ordinary cattle was everywhere wanting, and I found, in more than one instance, the coarse smoke-dried thatch from the houses being used for this purpose. The trees wherever fit had been stripped of their leaves and small branches in order to afford food for the cattle, and when riding through the Sanipoy Ghaut, I observed that the Red Saunders trees for miles had been with this object lopped and cut about in a manner which must render them in future pretty nearly useless as forest.

(g) *State of Cattle and other Stock.*—From what I could learn, and judging from the skeletons which strewed the country, from half to two-thirds of the cows and ordinary cattle had died from want of pasture. No remedy can be applied to this, for there is no grass even on the hills and no bricky-pear to speak of, and what straw the crops now being and being about to be reaped will yield must be retained for the agricultural stock. There is no place to which the suffering animals can be driven to find food, for all around things are just as bad, except in the Nallamalla Hills, which are far too distant. The mortality amongst the ploughing and well oxen had been far lower. I take it not to have exceeded one-fourth. The goat seemed to be none the worse for the scarcity, but sheep had suffered a good deal.

(h) *Prices of Food and supply of Grain.*—Rice was selling at from 4 to 4½ Cuddapah measures per Rupee, and cholera and aggy, which were not plentiful, at from 5 to 5½ measures. The supply of grain in the market appeared sufficient to meet the wants of the people.

(i) *Relief Works.*—The works going on in the taluq were principally roads, the section of which was faulty. There were also many unnecessarily heavy embankments, and the tampering was often indifferent. Streets in villages where they were hardly required were being converted into gravelled roads, and large square tanks were being excavated, some in exceedingly hard material and in places where there was

no pressing necessity for them. In almost every instance they were far larger than requisite. I noticed in some spots gravelled platforms being put up by the coolies in order that District officers might pitch their tents upon them. At Royachoty the Tahsildar was making a gravelled road to the Jamabandi Top. At the same place the restoration of every large ruined tank had been undertaken as a famine relief work without any previous estimate. This was done before the Board's rules were promulgated. It would however be the cause of the loss of a good deal of money if operations were entirely abandoned. I have communicated with the District Engineer on the subject. I measured up work in several places and found it had cost something surprising. There was no task-work, no proper organization of gangs, or of arrangements for paying. The coolies had in some instances been left unpaid for a fortnight at a time even though there was sufficient money in the treasury, and payments in grain had been made when they should have been in money. The supply of tools was very insufficient. I had some sent up from Cuddapah. Several coolies were using their own tools and digging with ordinary grass hoes. The supervision was of the most inferior kind. Here and there a Reddy who took an interest in matters looked after the coolies in a fashion, but the so-called head coolies and mistries appeared to be coolies in the proper sense of word, and tray and useless Brahmins who had not the remotest idea of measurements or how works should be done. The Tahsildar who is, in my opinion, the best of the poor quartette with which the Sub-division has been burdened had evidently moved about a good deal, but to little purpose, and both he and his Sheristadar, the latter of whom is certainly not a satisfactory officer, were exceedingly ignorant of all the details connected with the coolies, and the work done, &c., on the works over which they accompanied me. The Tahsildar is an officer of the old school, a fair weather man, and not equal to an emergency. I however gave him a talking to, and under this and the excellent examples caused by the prompt removal of the Tahsildar of Kadiri, he has, I learn, improved a good deal.

(j) *Probabilities as to future supply of grain by Merchants.*—The merchants were unable, so they asserted, to enter into any contracts for grain, if required. I am in hopes that a Mr. St. Martin, who has, I believe, been making a successful venture by importing wholesale and selling retail here, will try a like speculation at Royachoty. If he makes money by it, there will probably be many more who will try their fortune in the same line.

(k) *Applications for advance under Land Improvement Act.*—Applications for advances to dig wells had been very few. The people seemed to be rather afraid of making them. They are not so enterprising as the ryots below the ghats, and there is evidently an idea about that Government has some trap concealed under the proffered boon.

7. VOILPAUD—(a) *Route taken.*—My inspection of this taluq was in a southerly direction and then for about half its length from east to west.

(b) *Condition of the Country and state of Crops.*—From Kalkudda to Peelair there was a large quantity of cholam cultivation under wells, which was in most places just coming into ear, and looked in very good condition. About Peelair

itself there was a fair amount of sugar-cane which was being harvested. From that place however on to Voilpaud the country was for the greater part barren and jungly, and in some villages the supply of water in the wells had run too low to allow of cultivation being carried on. I heard that to the northward and east of Peelair, where the country seemed very barren and rocky, that there was little, if any, cultivation, but that to the north-west there was a good deal.

(c) *Public Health.*—Cholera had prevailed along the road by which I came and small-pox had also appeared, but both were decreasing. I saw a couple of skeletons of persons who had evidently been wayfarers, and who being overtaken by the disease and unable to go any further had lain down at the roadside and expired. I had these burnt as also some cloths which were scattered about and marked the spot where others had died. At Peelair also there had been a good deal of cholera, and two cases occurred amongst the prisoners in the lock-up whilst I was there. There were no medicines or medical attendance in the place, and I was then without my dresser. I wrote at once to the Sub-Collector regarding medicines. According to the death returns, Voilpaud, as a taluq, suffered from cholera more than any other in the Sub-division. I cannot account for this in any way. The outbreak in all four taluqs appears to have been simultaneous, and there is nothing in Voilpaud to lead to the belief that it was one more favorable to the spread of the disease than others. The people there were however the most down in condition of any that I saw in the Sub-division, and the villages were surpassingly filthy. This may have helped the mortality a good deal.

(d) *Water-supply.*—At Peelair, which stands high and is on very rocky soil, water was scarce and not good. A large well was however being dug near the town and water had been reached. There was still a fair supply in the river which is close to the village, but the people said that the hot weather would cause its disappearance. Between Peelair and Voilpaud there was in some places a scarcity of water, but not for drinking purposes.

(e) *State of the Coolies, &c.*—The coolies at Kalkudda were all, with very few exceptions, much down in condition, and I saw one or two cases of considerable emaciation. At Peelair the same was the case. At works between, however, this was not observable and many persons were positively plump. At Voilpaud again I found amongst some 1,800 persons only one or two who were in flesh. I ascertained that at Peelair and Kalkudda the people had not been paid for over a fortnight which would account for their condition, as they belonged to the poorest classes. The excuse given was a blunder in the Taluq Catcherry, but I do not feel at all satisfied with regard to this, and am inclined to believe that black mail had been levied, and that by intentional delays the coolies had been kept out of wages until they consented to pay it. The matter is under inquiry. At Voilpaud many of the coolies had but recently come to work and were reduced in appearance. I found too that there had been delays in payment said to have arisen from the non-receipt of money from head-quarters. This however occurred before I joined the district, and there is, and will in future be, no ground for this excuse. The people on the works between Kalkudda and Peelair were many of them ryots, and better to do than the coolies elsewhere, so they had managed to keep themselves in good condition. There had been just before I entered the taluq a falling off in the number of

the coolies to the extent of some 8,000. The explanation given by the Tahsildar was that it had arisen from the appearance of cholera, the partial weeding out of gangs and the exclusion of North Arcot and Mysore coolies. I do not think that this could account for so great and abrupt a decrease. Cholera may have frightened away a few. There were certainly no very large numbers of coolies from other districts in the taluq. My belief, from looking at the quantity of work done, is that there was a large number of persons on the books who did not exist at all, or who, though entered, never did a day's work, but, for a small fee to the Maistry or Head cooly in charge, were permitted to draw wages which they did not require for their subsistence, and for which they did no work, and that when signs of a stricter administration than had hitherto held began to manifest themselves, those concerned thought a reduction advisable. Inquiries made in the Kadiri Taluq since I visited it and expressed my opinion on the subject to Mr. Gribble have led to the detection of frauds perpetrated in this way.

(f) *Feeder for Cattle*.—Water for all ordinary cattle was just as scarce in the Voilpaud Taluq as in that of Royachoty. There were no trees to lop as the jungle is all, or nearly all, brushwood.

(g) *State of Cattle and other Stock*.—The mortality amongst cows and ordinary bullocks has in my belief been quite between half and two-thirds, and in some villages even more. What few were to be seen presented a more wretched appearance, and if they survive the famine will not be fit for anything for months to come. As in Royachoty nothing can be done excepting to hope for a heavy fall of rain. The mortality amongst ploughing cattle had been comparatively light. Sheep and goats had not suffered much.

(h) *Prices of Food*.—Rice was selling at 4 to 4½ measures a Rupee. Raggy and cholam, both scarce, at from 5 to 5½.

There appeared to be a fair stock of grain everywhere; in Voilpaud there was a sufficient supply.

(i) *Relief Works*.—The works were of the same class as in the Royachoty Taluq. At Peelair a large square tank had been excavated in hard rock. The site was ill-chosen and the work badly executed; a good draw-well would have cost far less and been more useful. In Voilpaud a fine "Koneru" containing excellent water had been cleared and a well of equal size was being dug near it. The necessity for this is not apparent. The coolies might have been more profitably employed in clearing wells between Peelair and the Voilpaud, and in collecting material for the road between these places. The supply of tools was fair, but not always judiciously assorted. Cowbars and jumpers were not used for digging hard and rocky gravel, and the consequences had been much wear and tear of pickaxes and mamooties.

The new road-work was pitty to look at, but it was already breaking up though but little traffic had passed over it, and the tamping towards the sides was so bad that I could break it up with the point of a walking stick. The supervision was again very indifferent, and organization and task-work nil. The Tahsildar and permanent Sberistadar (now special Magistrate) are both old and useless. The Deputy Tahsildar at Peelair I found did know something about the work which was being done and the state of affairs in general, but he has shown himself careless

in many respects. I however entertain a better opinion of him than Mr. Gribble does.

(j) *Probabilities as to future supply of grain by Merchants*.—The merchants in Peelair were all unwilling to have anything to do with contracting to supply grain for coolies if such became necessary. They have no enterprise about them and prefer to tread in the steps of their fathers and not to run any risks. In Voilpaud, however, one or two men who seemed to be richer than the generality of traders to be found in the Sub-division have since my visit sent in tenders.

(k) *Applications for advances under Land Improvement Act*.—But few applications for advances under the Land Improvement Act had been made. The people appeared to know nothing about the matter.

8. **MADANAPALLY**.—(a) *Route taken*.—I proceeded from Voilpaud, where Mr. Gribble met me, in a south-westerly direction to Madanapally and then north-west down the valley to Tanakal.

(b) *Condition of Country and state of Crops*.—Along my route there was in many places, in fact in all the valleys, a good deal of cholam and raggy and some little sugar-cane. Around Madanapally itself there were capital crops, a good many of them irrigated by river channels and some by excellent spring channels, which Mr. Gribble had recently opened and cleared as a famine work with result, so he told me, of 40 acres of cultivation. On the way to Tanakal I saw some magnificent patches of cholam under wells, and everything looked better than it did to the eastward. Away from the influence of the wells and channels all was parched up; there was not a blade of grass, and even the smaller jungle trees were withered.

(c) *Public Health*.—Cholera and small-pox existed, but not to such a severe extent as it had in the Royachoty and Voilpaud Taluqs. Both diseases were abating. About sixteen miles from Madanapally, however, we came upon a village where the outbreak had been so severe that the people had left it and were camped under trees. It was in a most disgusting state, and the only marvel was that more had not died. Not far from the village was the corpse of a female traveller who had expired of cholera the day before, and which was being eaten by a couple of dogs. Orders to have it burnt were at once sent back. I did not see whilst in the taluq a single case of small-pox. There was a little fever.

(d) *Water-supply*.—There was no scarcity and it was to be found close to the surface.

(e) *State of Coolies, &c.*—All the coolies whom I saw in this taluq were in good condition, that is, that although they were not fat, they were not emaciated. They had, being in the head-quarter taluq, been paid more regularly than elsewhere, but still I found the same inexcusable delay in making payments to many of the gangs, as has been already alluded to, had been allowed by the Tahsildar who had resigned just before I came up. His accounts had been found to be in utter confusion and no satisfactory settlement of them, although Mr. Fricks, (one of Mr. Gribble's famine officers), Lieutenant Money, and the Sub-division Sheristadar had been engaged for two or three days trying to set matters right, had been effected up to the time that I left. I have the worst possible opinion of the late Tahsildar,

who is an acquaintance of mine of many years standing. He knew nothing whatever. It was hopeless work questioning him.

Weeding which had been carried out actively by Mr. Gribble and Mr. Fricks, combined with the commencement of task-work, had caused a considerable decrease in the numbers of coolies during the week preceding my visit, but I feel sure, as did Mr. Fricks, who is an energetic man and had been since his arrival looking into matters, that there has been a vast amount of fraud in connection with relief works in the Madanapally taluq, and that a great deal of this has been owing to the carelessness and indifference, if not worse, of the Tahsildar.

(f) *Fodder for Cattle.*—Fodder was not so scarce as in other places in the division. This I attribute to the existence of less really bad and barren land in it, and to there being a few fair hills scattered about the taluq. Prickly-pear had been tried at Madanapally, but had not met with the approval of ryots, who, after having allowed it to be given to their cattle for a time under Government auspices, declared that it brought on purgits, and took their animals away.

(g) *State of Cattle and other Stock.*—The state of the ordinary cattle was not quite so bad as in other taluqs, but still the mortality had been very great, probably quite 50 per cent. The loss in agricultural stock also appeared to be less than in Royachoty and Voilpaud.

Sheep had suffered somewhat; goats had not.

(h) *Prices of Food.*—Prices were the same as in the other taluqs. There seemed to be no lack of food anywhere. Where grain was not procurable in the villages the people went to the nearest fair and bought. Rice was the most easily procurable.

(i) *Relief Works.*—The works were of the usual kind, excepting that Mr. Gribble had laid out a new village site in Madanapally upon the most regular plan. It, I believe, cost some 7,000 rupees, and will cost a good deal more before it is completed. Where gravelled streets, some 30 yards wide, with trottoirs are constructed, large wells are dug, as much filling up and levelling goes on, much money must be expended. The site is an undeniably good one and beautifully laid out, but I consider it far too expensive for a famine relief work. The excavation of spring channels, which cost far less, was a work of much more useful and profitable kind, and it is to be regretted that Mr. Gribble did not sooner turn his attention in this direction. The portion of the road between the frontier of the Madanapally and Voilpaud taluq and within the former was very good, but expensively made, and much had been spent in the way of repairing tank-bunds in order to carry the road over them. The work was, however, a contrast to that of the Voilpaud portion, which was very bad indeed. Mr. Gribble had put an embankment along a portion of the river near Madanapally. This was useful work. A party of coolies was working, revetting, and widening the bund of a tank not far from the head-quarters. This ought not to have been taken in hand as a famine work, but the revetment having been pulled down and partly reconstructed, there was nothing to do but to allow it to be raised under the immediate superintendence of Mr. Fricks, who is a professional engineer.

The new roads everywhere seemed to be of the same type. I saw but little of any

a most disorderly affair, and showed Mr. Gribble a systematic method of effecting this, which he is now carrying out in the division. On the first march out to Kadiri I ascended Horsley-konda, up which Mr. Gribble had begun a road. I had, however, previously directed him to stop this war as not being appropriate for famine relief. The hill which is one to which the people of the neighborhood had driven their cattle was devoid of grass to its top, and the trees had been everywhere lopped to provide fodder.

(j) *Probabilities of the future supply of Grain.*—The merchants at the cusbah were willing to contract for the supply of grain, but on advances and a monopoly; attempting to deal with them is most unsatisfactory work.

(k) *Applications for Advances under the Land Improvement Act.*—The provisions of the recent orders, touching the advances under the Improvement Act, did not appear to have attracted any notice.

9. KADIRI—(a) *Route taken.*—I passed north through this taluq up the Tanakal valley, and then east from Kadiri to Galived, and I also inspected the country six miles to the westward of the cusbah.

(b) *Condition of the Country and State of Crop.*—All down the Tanakal valley—some 20 miles—there were in all the depressions between the hills splendid crops of cholam growing under wells. At one village, which we passed, I found a large expanse, probably 50 acres of the finest cholam that I have ever seen. It was quite 9 feet high and the heads were enormous. I was perfectly astonished, as I had been led to suppose, and so had Mr. Gribble, that Kadiri was in a most deplorable condition. About Kadiri itself the crops were very good, and so they were in more isolated patches up to Talakalva, some ten miles on the road to Royachoty. Beyond that point up to Galived, eighteen miles farther on, I only saw much or good crops at Pulikunta where they were in very satisfactory order. Along the banks and bed of the Papagni a little grass could be dug, and here and there I saw people procuring it in the hollows, which had once been water-pools. Everywhere else all was barren and dried up, but the trees, owing to the proximity of the water to the surface, were greener and fresher in appearance than in other parts of the division. Inquiries made by Mr. Gribble and myself led me to believe that, excepting in the villages amongst the hills where there are but few, if any, agricultural wells, the crop of cholam all over the taluq will be such as to add materially to its grain supply. The worst piece of country that I saw during my journey from Kadiri to Galived was the part between Pulikunta and the Papagni river. The land there was stony, poor and jungly, and at the best of time would not raise a decent crop of anything.

(c) *Public Health.*—Cholera had been reported to have been exceedingly prevalent, and it was from this part of the Sub-division that the assertion that hundreds were daily dying of it arose. I therefore, assisted by Mr. Gribble, made a series of searching inquiries, the result of which was that the hundreds dwindled down to a figure much more like tens. The history of the outbreak was pretty clear. Cholera, imported I believe in the one case from Bellary and the other from Mysore, appeared severely amongst two large parties of famine coolies who, headed by the people in charge of them, fled in all directions and caused the disease to spread like wild-fire all through the taluq. The attack was brief, but in many

places sharp. When I left, however, it was in many places subsiding. In two villages, which we visited, there were many cases, but though Dressers were sent to each with medicines, the people obstinately refused to take anything and declined to allow the officers to see the sick, saying, in excuse, that they were recovering. At Manipalle we came upon dogs eating the remains of the corpse of a man having been seized with cholera, made his way to the nearest top and buried. The villagers were afraid to touch the body, and it had therefore been buried and torn to pieces by the dogs. This, the corpse at Moolavaripalli, and the two skeletons which I saw on the way to Peelair, were the only instances of unburied bodies which I encountered in a journey of over 200 miles.

Small-pox existed in many villages, but it had caused very few deaths, and, according to the people's account of it, the patient was only ill for a week or ten days and then was able to get up again.

Dirt prevailed in every village that I entered.

(d) *Water-supply.*—There was, as far as I could learn, no want or probability of want of water in the taluq, except in a few villages towards Garramkonda, where the soil is very rocky and the population sparse. In Kadiri, the supply was excellent.

(e) *State of the Coolies, &c.*—The coolies varied in condition. At one place, where they were working at a tank, the people were stout and strong, and many belonged to the ryot class. There had been no weeding. At Kadiri, where weeding had, I think, been carried to far, there were many wretched specimens, and all were down in condition. At another place they were mixed. My impression is that, in point of condition, the coolies stood next to Voilpaud. There had, I learned, been a good deal of delay in making payments in many places, and the natural consequence had been deterioration in the physique of the coolies. I have since, from inquiries made, had every reason to believe that this arose from wilful omissions on the part of sundry of the Government officials, some of whom are now on their trial for fraud.

The decrease in the coolie just before, and during the time that I visited the taluq, was very great indeed. Cholera and weeding were the causes assigned for this, but I suspected at the time that frauds had much to do with it, and subsequent experience has proved that I was correct. It appears now that a Maistry and Revenue Inspector made a practice of starving the coolies into taking reduced pay, they pocketing the difference. Others have, I believe, done the same. I need hardly say that every effort to bring these persons to justice is being made.

That frauds existed to the degree that they did was owing much to the utter want of attention to his duties on the part of the Tahsildar, the stupidity and ill-health of the Sheristadar, and, I fear also, to Mr. Swan's not having been so energetic as he should have been. The Tahsildar has, I am thankful to say, gone and has been succeeded by a better man; the Sheristadar will go too, as soon as I can find some one to take his place, and Mr. Swan has improved very much in his work.

(f) *Fodder for Cattle.*—Fodder was very scarce and there being no good jungle to which to drive the animals.

(g) *State of the Cattle and other Stock.*—Cows had, for want of food, died to a large extent of the total number. The agricultural cattle, as in other taluqs, had, in a great degree, been preserved.

The state of the sheep and goats was the same elsewhere.

(h) *Prices of Food.*—Grain was dearer than in any other taluq, rice ranging from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ measures, generally below 4; ragi, being 5 measures for the Rupee, and cholam in some places not obtainable. Still there seemed to be no lack of food-grain. There was a considerable quantity of rice in the town of Kadiri, which is the finest and, I believe, the richest in the Sub-division, and the people in other places, as a rule, looked well-to-do and did not complain of prices. The fact that the taluq is farther from the rail than any other had, in my opinion, a good deal to do with the higher rate of prices.

(i) *Relief Works.*—I found in this taluq a tank being repaired in a most costly and unprofitable way, and at my request Mr. Gribble stopped the work. At Kadiri, a village site very similar to that at Madanapally had been partly laid out, one large koneru cleared and repaired, a very good job having been made of it by Mr. Swan; another old koneru which had been filled up was being re-dug and the streets had been gravelled. Roads were also being made in different directions. The improvements about the town, which I have mentioned, had cost the very large sum of Rupees 19,000, and of this I could obtain no particulars, for all the accounts were in confusion, and the checking of vouchers was in arrears since last November. I did not think very much of what roads I saw. They looked fairly neat, but were in too expensive a style, and for the greater part will not, I think, stand much work. I observed here that platforms for tents had been put up in a camping tope or two. The supply of tools was very fair.

It would have been better, as I pointed out to Mr. Gribble, who took immediate steps to carry out my views, to have employed the coolies in collecting and storing gravel and metal for the road between Kadiri and Royachoty, which has been terribly cut up by rice carts. I inspected and superintended payments at Kadiri, and gave instructions as to organization. The supervision was exceedingly bad.

(j) *Probabilities as to future supply of Grain by Merchants.*—The merchants were not inclined to enter into any contracts for the supply of grain. Some of those in Kadiri are well enough off, but there is no chance of their having anything to do with the supply of rice on account of coolies.

(k) *Applications for Advances under the Land Improvement Act.*—The ryots did not seem to know anything of the concession under the Land Improvement Act offered by Government. I spoke to several regarding it and they said they would make applications. The late Tahsildar does not appear to have troubled himself to make the matter known. His chief occupation, as far as I could gather, was remaining in his head-quarters to carry on a private feud which he had with the District Munsif.

10. *General view of the state of affairs and future prospects.*—Of the taluqs of the Sub-division I consider that Voilpaud is, in all respects, in the worst condition.

Hyachoty comes next, that there is danger of a into consideration, a far b expected by any one; that for probably a month or six grain sufficient to last the folder for the agricultural and the end of April anything pull through with our present not, Government must be prepared for a considerable increase upon the existing outlay. Sickness is, I believe, cleanliness in villages, it is ver-

Small-pox will, I fear, be vaccination.

The ordinary cattle cannot be saved; for nothing can be done for them. A fair proportion of the ploughing cattle will in all probability be preserved, but these will be the property of the well-to-do ryots. The unfortunate who holds only an acre or two of dry land, and whose only means of cultivating this was a pair of the wretched and low-priced animals bred in this district, has, in most cases, lost them, and will be in but a sorry plight when time for putting a stop to relief works, leaving him to his own devices, arrives.

As regards the grain-supply no trust can, should a pinch come, be placed in the local merchants. Nearly all are petty traders, and those who have money prefer, with only one or two exceptions, the safe and lucrative occupation of lending it at cent. per cent., to encountering the chances of risky, or what they think risky, speculations in rice. People from without might do something; the local trade will not.

11. *Remarks regarding Number of Coolies and Expenditure.*—In conclusion, I would offer the following remarks in respect to (I) the number of coolies, and (II) the heavy expenditure that has been incurred.

(I.) *Coolies.*—I have but little doubt that, although many coolies from North Arcot, Bellary and Mysore, were induced by the reports of high wages and little to do to come to the works in the Sub-division, their numbers were far smaller than has been supposed, and that very many shown in the returns existed on paper only, or were persons who, for the payment of a percentage, were permitted to draw the Government wage. There were doubtless also many, who were employed upon relief works, who should not have been, but it was, as I myself found in Bellary, very difficult to get rid of them when orders to take over, one applying for work existed. The extraordinarily rapid decrease in numbers has been due to many causes, which are, 1st—Elimination of coolies from other places; 2nd, weeding, which has been carried out to too great an extent by some of the Tahsildars of the Sub-division; 3rd, the misinterpretation of Mr. Gribble's order regarding the production of certificates of indigence, the effect of which was that

and Madanapalli are about equal. I believe ie, and that there will be, taking the season of cholera in the Sub-division than was ever help to keep down the numbers of the coolies ill give a local addition to the supply of food- something like six weeks, and will afford from two to three months. If between now and rain comes, we may probably be able to of expenditure, or perhaps less. If it does not, Government must be prepared for a considerable increase upon the existing outlay. Sickness is, I believe, cleanliness in villages, it is ver-

difficult to deal with unless we could compel

gangs were bodily turned off th under increased and more vigilant and 5th, the appearance of cholera.

(II.) *Expenditure.*—The expenditure indeed, and were it not that I have, the conclusion that Mr. Gribble any assistance, that his ordinary st had no proper machinery for efficie to characterize it as verging or had been in some instances too liberal views of relief, fo justly held altogether respect have, in several cases, been gingly, and with the best ir and the people under his c seconded by those under him, supervision, no one who has gone had occasion to differ from him relief, and to question the wisdom and proposals, and to the opinion correspondence which has passed b that I should not be acting honest view that he has, under circumsta manner very creditable to himself.

Mr. Price's able and exhaustive report submitted to Government.

2. The Board have little to add to Mr

3. While giving Mr. Gribble every cr vide for the wants of the division under swance for the limited number of officer- dity of some of his native officers, he car ice, and the highly unsatisfactory state ision is not creditable.

4. With the aid of Mr. Price's experi now be remedied, and with the incre division, it may be hoped that things v

5. Mr. Price will keep the Board in Sub-Collector's taluqs.

6. There is some danger of a scow de to provide against this; wherever a ic officers should be to dig wells and c

4th
n, of t.

tainly been ver-
reful observation,
some time left with
particularly bad, and t
on, I should be inclined
is it is, I consider that it
treated, and based upon
ble may perhaps not be
ds and very short work
at he has labored unflag-
interests of Government
at he has not been properly
been wretchedly short of
division can deny. I have
ats connected with famine
economy of some of his acts
ch I have expressed in the
us, I still adhere; but I feel
rds him did I not express the
great difficulty, worked in a

state of the Sub-division will

's remarks in which they fully

untiring zeal and anxiety to
arge, and while making every
him and for the very inferior
altogether acquitted of extrava-
ay Department throughout his

ry of the defects complained of
of Europeans now assigned to
to order.

om time to time of the state of

ater, and every effort should be
er exists the first duty of the
aels.

Government, Revenue Department,
March 1877.

It is agreed
whether it will
the more distant part
is believed is difficult

The state of the di-
very opportunely for the
rain all at different parts of the
believe Colonel Moberly, P
taken at many different
to have a statement extract

tion amongst the native traders. Mr. Price
will to increase the stores of Government
should endeavor to provide suitable storage,
and

in many parts is so good that rain must have
it would be interesting to have a report of the
Division since the 1st of December. The Board
however, keeps a very perfect register of rainfall
his subordinates. The Board would be glad
the Sub-division.

(and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 833.

ORDER THEREON, 28th March 1877, No. 1,257.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government have deferred passing orders on the first of the Proceedings above read until further inquiry had shown how far the unverified statements contained in the report of Mr. Gribble therein embodied were founded on facts. His subsequent report embodied in the second, and Mr. Price's able report embodied in the third, of the above Proceedings, show that the reports which formed the basis of Mr. Gribble's first narrative were unguarded and exaggerated. There seems to be no doubt, however, that a very considerable mortality from cholera occurred in the Voilpad and Kadiri Taluqs during the months of December, January, and February last, and that the loss of cattle, other than those used for agricultural purposes, has been very serious. That Mr. Gribble's expenditure has been inordinately lavish in more than one direction, and that his arrangements for paying his coolies were defective, the Government fear there is no denying; but at the same time they are satisfied that he has worked with untiring energy at a novel task under circumstances of great difficulty caused by the nature of the subordinate staff he seems to have had to work with.

2. Mr. Price's remarks on the sub-division, its condition and prospects, appear well considered, and show the interest he takes in its administration and the care exercised in endeavoring to form a sound and independent judgment on the various points involved therein. The Board fully concur with him, and the Government are glad to find that in his opinion, the condition of the laborers throughout the division is generally good. The instance quoted by him of coolies in the Kadiri Taluq being starved into accepting reduced pay by a fraudulent Maistry and Revenue Inspector who misappropriated the difference shows how important is the constant supervision and inspection of higher officers.

3. The special attention of the Board is called to Mr. Price's remarks relative to the ignorance of the recent orders respecting loans under the Land Improvement Act which exists in the Voilpad, Madhapalli, and Kadiri Taluqs, and particu-

No.

From

Rev. B. D.

Dated

23
Feb 6th 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

Mr. Gribble's report shows
that there has been
much exaggeration regarding
cholera & that matters
in Kadiri are much
better than there was any
prospect of. - There
seems to be no room
to doubt the correctness
of the H. E. conclusion
that there was undue
expenditure to
begin with in the first
stage of the work.
certainly making his
information right but
then he forwarded to
Govt. at first - Mr
Gribble's suggestion of
an official & official
letter B. D. then
a note
from an inquiry to
9/3/77 J. H. P.

FOR ORDERS.

No.

From *The Rev B. L.*

Dated *March 9th* 1877.

FOR ORDERS.

*Special attention must
be directed to the fact
that the report
in this case is a*

*Printed 1877
1/3*

*I am surprised that this
report of the Puccin, which
shows that the Puccin
reports of hundreds of letters
& fragments of letters
has a gross exaggeration,
being the disproof of along
with the report from the
Puccin in which these
statements occur, has
not yet been printed.
The printing of that report &
bringing it on P. 16. with
the reputation of its
summary, will then
have the effect of creating
more or less impression
regarding the life in the
Puccin & its being
sustained, with but the
fact of Puccin & the public
on the ground of the
Puccin & its being
being, which will
be a Robinson's objection
to the Puccin & its being*

to Department of War
filling first report
Order an answer

10/3/77 JHP

1.15.
The filling of report is in
accordance with a report
from the Bureau.

JHP

26

Mr. Dr. No. 13: 1847

27

In circulation these
papers serve to draw at-
tention to the character of
the instructions that have
gone from the Board - & the
Ref. Sec?

Its object & place
educational report on the
Editors table. I have no ob-
jection. Then any will
from the Gov. of India un-
derstand - in any way the
Gov. desire - I do not ob-
ject to instructions & the

needed. Dr. Stetson before our
 presentation of the paper in April he is
 called from the ice & his position
 practically vacant. He would not
 be in character in his absence
 with any member of the
 Association.

[illegible]

& verify so far as possible
the statement & testimony
of the soldiers of a good
kind

But I do not think
it safe - on some general
idea that there may be
exaggeration - that my
action should in any case
oppose to the way of
ways intelligence & the
the further they may be

14
I think that this collection has
in fact is such a
- that I do not want
- them to be made - the best
- credit and report of the
- Police & want in the
- probates & probates
- & something else

I believe after
much of the
publishing such report
as those of the side &
will hold such as
probates - however
it is not about - & the

Security desiring day about
the desecrated and officers same,
6/12

For each Comm.
Order to the Board

Lyman Robinson 31

I notice who
to P. H. to stop the
income, the letter from
Gibbs. In the present
of his only on the bank
it is to the effect that
we will stop the money
of the P. H. - I cannot
find any note to collect
which I have it up - but
a note to the above effect
containing two cents -
to the P. H. - I have
P. H. - I have

to examine a hazard
any portion of an office
report - using
J. H. F.

In circulating these papers, I wish
 to draw attention to the character of
 the instructions that have gone to the
 Board - and the reply received -
 I do not wish to place sensational reports
 on the Editor's table. I have no objection
 to their being withheld from the Government
 of India until verified - in any way the
 Government desire - I do not object to
 instructions to officers to verify so far
 as possible statement & testimony of
 Tahsildars of a general kind.

But I do not think it safe —
on some general ideas that there may
be exaggeration — to take any action.

that in any way discourages intelligence
even tho' further sifting may be needed.

Mr Whiteside's papers are communicated
to the press in which he is permitted
to give the lie to the Police statements
and practically assure the world that
there is no starvation in the District.

I doubt whether any member of Gov^t
believes him - I do not - ~~Whether the~~

A correspondant of mine, in
whose fidelity I have entire reliance,
writes to me of the languidly Zamindars
"There is a country belonging to the C.
in which a little very little cooked
food is distributed. Beyond this no
relief of any kind is available -
The Sub Magistrate has orders to

collect & send starving people to the relief
house at Bellero / I may add 70 or 80 miles
thro' a rough country that I know but
people don't leave their homes to go that
distances x x x

Reports of deaths from starvation frequent
ly reach the Sub. Magistrate from villages,
but the Sub. Magistrate thinks that the
Collector has no fault in such reports, &
does not want them to be made -
He discredits such report of this Police.
I want his Sub. Magistrates & Tahsildars
to scrutinize them -

I believe utter mischief arises from pub-
lishing such reports as those of Mr
Whiteside's & withholdg such as Gribbles -
However I do not object to the stricting

desired - I only object to the discouragement - as it appears from such communications to the Board.

27/2 (Am 17) J. B. Robinson

As called

No one has proposed to vary or exchange anything. But it is not desirable to publish a strictly account of the action which is thought to be inaccurate or exaggerated. I am signing B.

No. 1257. Revenue Dept.
Proceedings of the Madras Government
13/23 Mar 1877

Read Pres. Board of Revenue
of 10. February 1877 No. 57, 6th Mar
1877 No. 2141. & 9. March 1877.
No. 2324 -

The Govt. have deferred passing orders on the first of the Pres. above read until further enquiry had shown how far the sensational statements contained in the report of Mr. Gribble therein embodied were founded on facts. His subsequent report embodied in the second, and Mr. Price's able report embodied

W. B. L.
21/3

L. K. S.
22/3

in the third, of the above
Pro^s, show that the reports
which formed the basis
of Mr. Gribble's first narra-
^{with regard to}
~~ture~~ were greatly exag-
gerated. There seems to be no doubt,
however, that a very con-
siderable mortality from
cholera occurred in the
Voilpad and Kaderi Taluks
during the months of Decr,
January, and February last
and that the loss of cattle,
other than those used for
agricultural purposes,
has been very serious.
That Mr. Gribble's ex-
penditure has been inordinately
lavish in more than

one direction, and that his
arrangements for paying
his coolies were defective,
the Govt fear there is no
denying, but at the same
time they are satisfied
that Mr. Gribble has worked
with untiring energy at
a novel task under cir-
cumstances of ^{great} peculiar
difficulty considering the
subordinate staff he seems
to have had to work with.
2. Mr. Price's remarks
on the Sub Division, its condi-
tion and prospects, are
well-considered, and show
the interest he takes in
its administration and the
capacity he ^{possesses} for
forming

forming a sound and independent judgment on the various points involved therein. The Board fully concurs with him, and the Govt. are glad to find that in ^{his} Mr. Price's opinion the condition of the labourers throughout the Division is generally good [and that where it is the reverse it is more attributable to misconception of orders, or fraud, on the part of the supervising officers, than to insufficiency of the wages ^{actually} given.] The instance quoted by him of coolies in the Kadiri Taluk being starved into acceptance

of the wages given, is a very common one, and is a result of the ignorance of the labourers.

Shows how important is the constant supervision of the Division officers.

What a serious matter is the ignorance of the labourers.

accepting reduced pay by a Maistry and Revenue Inspector who misappropriated the difference, has excited in the mind of the Governor in Council a feeling of the deepest indignation.

3. The special attention of the Board is called to Mr. Price's remarks relative to the ignorance existing in the Volpab, Madnapalli and Kadiri Taluks regarding the recent orders respecting loans under the Land Improvement Act, and particularly to what he says regarding an impression prevailing in the Rayachoti Taluk that some trap is concealed by the offer of Govt. Such a feeling could

could hardly exist if
matter had been carefully
and properly explained
by the Tahsildar.

4. The general suffi-
ciency of the grain supply
for present wants is satis-
factory, ^{but} the unreli-
ability of the local trade
to meet a sudden demand
will probably be counter-
acted by the existence
of the Govt. reserve.

5. Subhead (F) of
Para. 6 of Mr. Price's report
will be communicated
to the Conservator of Forests.
The wholesale tapping
of the red Sanders trees
for

for fodder for cattle in the
neighbourhood of the
Sanipoy shawl seems to
indicate a want ^{of} proper
superintendence

And Capt. P. O. Oodoo, Conservator
2100 to the Conservator of Forests of
5 the Financial Dept.

JHS

150
7

Borids Pers. of
Feb. 10th 1877

Memo

This is I should hope a sensational
view of matters. But at the same
time I am not sure & requires
testing. I would send an
impartial officer to
examine into foundation of the
report as to deaths - want of
or sufficiency of grain &c.
We should not be justified in giving
such statements made by an
unimpartial officer & in Madras
should receive from publication.

Ref. 12/2/77

Mr. Gribble's - 19th January
Mr. Benson's - 11 - " -
Deputy Collector
(Subba Rao) - 22 - "
Deputy Collector
(Kistna Rao) - 18 - "

With the above
proceedings, the Board
forward the reports
from the 4 Divisional
Officers of the Andhra
District on the progress
of works in their
divisions. They are
dated as in the
margin. one of them
being a month old!
2. Mr. Gribble's report
contains

contains some ^{should omit the renewal comparison (to P. 7)}
noteworthy statements ^{to the effect of merely say}
For instance, in ^{Don't the for Librarian}
2 he shows how he ^{for the present from reviewing}
has spent 32,332 Rs ^{here - the Report is already}
"almost entirely" in ^{near a month old - and}
bandy hire and ^{the interest in the Coll. has, and}
commission to merchants ^{the urgent directions of}
for purchase of grain. ^{visited the division, and}

The account of this ^{the paper before him will}
expenditure shows 19,100 Rs ^{report fully on the statements made}
"money paid to merchants ^{measures described in}
for grain" and 20,750 Rs ^{oil around this report.}
paid "to merchants & others"

to "for grain" - It is ^{as to this effect -}
not clear whether these ^{It is I think inexpedient}
sums represent the ^{made on duty licenses pub-}
commission or not - ^{licy of drawing attention}
if they do, then, as the ^{a p.s. & many errors &}
commission was 2 percent, ^{serious mistakes not due}
as per para 9 ^{to want of judgment but}

the amount of rice ⁵¹
purchased on Mr. Gibble's ^{account seems to have}
account seems to have ^{been 21,175 x 50 which}
been 21,175 x 50 which ^{is equal to 10,58,750 Rs}
is equal to 10,58,750 Rs ^{worth, but, judging from}
worth, but, judging from ^{para 9, it may be}
para 9, it may be ^{presumed that he has}
presumed that he has ^{only purchased 34,000 Rs}
only purchased 34,000 Rs ^{worth of grain and paid a}
worth of grain and paid a ^{commission of 680 Rs on it}
commission of 680 Rs on it ^{which is not separately}
which is not separately ^{shown. The charge for}
shown. The charge for ^{bandy hire is 6099 Rs -}
bandy hire is 6099 Rs - ^{Why the bandy hire should}
Why the bandy hire should ^{be paid by Govt. is not}
be paid by Govt. is not ^{clear, unless the commission}
clear, unless the commission ^{of 2 percent was paid for}
of 2 percent was paid for ^{only fitting the rice from}
only fitting the rice from ^{Madras as far as the}
Madras as far as the

Railway stations in
the Cuddalore District.

The cost of building bandies
is put down at 1058 Rs
but, from other papers
since received, it
appears that Bulnithle
has contracted with
the Chapin Company for
100 pairs of wheels and
axles at 60 Rs a pair.
The gunpowder
purchased was probably
for blasting.

3 In para 8 he
says "the cost of the
work is increasing very
much" - This was
written before the order
directing the reduction of
the

the rates of wages were
issued. In the same
para he says "rain
"is so difficult to obtain
"that the coolies cannot
"even now purchase
"sufficiently. Many
"drop down exhausted
"whilst at work -
"several deaths from
"starvation have been
"reported from gangs
"at work and the deaths
"from cholera and dysentery
"have been "enormous".
"From all sides" he says
"I hear of bodies and
"fragments of bodies being
"unburied"

4. In para 9
he forces the cause of
the doubling in the number
of cows since his last
report, and these
deserve attention -

Among them he sets out that
fain can only be got on
the relief works and then
adds that what he got
was obtained entirely
through the local market,
by which it is presumed
is meant through his
brokers in Madras and
Somerset, for he says
it was sold to the
cories at cost price
"a portion of the cost of
transport being put down

to profit and loss:
why any was so put
down, or if any, why
not all, is unclear.
However he says the
system has been
abandoned.

5. In para 11, he
says he can hardly
describe "how intense"
the distress is becoming.
This was within nearly
a month ago.

6. In para 14 he
shows how he is compelled
to enforce discipline
by fines.

7. The other
reports are not sensational.

1. Instructions for writers
 2. Report on progress of Rating
 3. Memorandum on Rating

[illegible]

18/2/77 H.G.