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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. ~~B.P. No.~~	1375-B	Press Mis.
Dated	9-4-1877 ~~197~~.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1375-

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department, *9th April* 1877.

Famine Relief.

No. 201C. Read the following letter from J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, to J. H. GARSTIN, Esq., Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated Sidhout, 26th March 1877, Extra No. 593 :—

I HAVE the honor to forward the report called for in your Circular No. 407, dated 30th January last, and to enclose copies of the letters of my Divisional Officers.

2. *Sub-Collector.*—Mr. Gribble's report is gloomy, far more so than I consider, from what I saw when going through his division, the state of affairs warrants. A considerable change must have been effected by the recent fall of rain, especially in Kadiri, where it amounted to very nearly 4 inches. I cannot say that Mr. Gribble's report is by any means well or carefully written. He omits all mention, for instance, of the Papagni, a very important stream, in which in the beginning of last month I saw large pools of water. In my report upon the sub-division, which was submitted to Government with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue marginally noted, I have gone into the matter of watter-supply, and expressed my opinion thereon.

No. 1,115, dated 2nd March 1877.

3. *Head Assistant Collector.*—Mr. Benson's report is one which has been carefully and well drawn up, and which furnishes very complete information regarding his present division. The state of this is such, I think, as to give little, if any, ground for apprehension, even supposing that the rain holds off. The recent fall has replenished the pools in the rivers, and at Wontimitta, which I have just quitted, there is about two months' water in the tank, and the wells are all full. Village wells, which are but shallow and built in such a way that it is a dangerous affair to attempt anything more than clearing the mud out of them, may fail, but there will remain for many months more of dry weather water in the river pools and in the agricultural wells, which are quite close enough to the villages to allow of drinking water being obtained from them.

4. *Budwail Taluq.*—The Temporary Deputy Collector, Mr. Cox, does not say much, and what he does is not very cheering. He has, I know, been looking carefully to the drinking wells. According to his account the Sagelair valley alone is fairly supplied. I am, however, going over the taluq in the course of my present tour, and shall be able to see for myself. From what I have heard the supply of water all over it is not good.

5. *Cuddapah Taluq.*—Mr. MacCartie, who has been about a good deal in this taluq, has gone carefully into matters, and I agree with him in the conclusions at which he arrives. The last fall of rain has altered very considerably the state of things since he wrote, especially in the town of Cuddapah, where a fresh down the Booggair has filled the pools in the bed of the stream and revived the springs in the wells.

6. *Jammalamadugu.*—The Acting Deputy Collector, A. Kristna Row, has sent in a very fair report, but has not given particulars. He has forgotten to mention the Pennair in Jammalamadugu and the Irrigation Canal in Proddatoor. The number of villages in which he considers that the supply of drinking water will fail, if the

drought continues, is very small, and I think that, with the attention to the subject which can be given by the increased staff now employed in the division, no fears of any serious scarcity need be entertained.

7. *Pulivendla Taluq.*—The report of the Temporary Deputy Collector, H. Subba Row, is exceedingly brief, but his opinion that there will be no want of drinking water in his taluq is supported by that of Mr. MacCartie, who made a detailed tour of it.

8. On the whole I am of opinion that the supply of drinking water throughout the district is fair, and that for the next two months, at any rate, supposing that we have no more rain, which, from the variable nature of the weather, I think is improbable, there will be enough every where excepting, perhaps, in a few isolated villages. I have impressed upon all my Divisional Officers the necessity for constantly inquiring into and looking to the deepening and constructing of wells wherever required.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. F. MACCARTIE, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Pulivendla, 15th February 1877, No. 12.

WITH reference to Board's Circular No. 407, communicated from your office on 6th February 1877, I have the honor to submit the following report upon the water-supply, present and prospective, of the Cuddapah Taluq.

2. The taluq, which contains 165 villages (123 Circar and 43 Inam), is sub-divided into four sections for Revenue administrations, named Kamalapoor, Cuddapah, Chennoor, and Aldena, each being the charge of an Inspector.

3. The supply in ordinary years for the three first sub-divisions is derived from the Pennair and Papagni, and their channels supplemented by a large number of wells which furnish the main supply of the Aldena Section.

4. The Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildar whom I have consulted carefully with the map on the table are of opinion that even if rain should hold off till July, one-half of the villages which comprise the taluq will not suffer materially, owing to the good springs which exist in most of the wells.

5. The parts of the taluq in which they consider the supply to be good may be described as the Chennoor Division, or that north of the Pennair where there are plenty of wells.

6. That part of the Cuddapah Division in the immediate neighbourhood of the cusbah town, and the Aldena Division which follows the base of the hills separating Cuddapah from Royachoti, and that part of the Kamalapoor Division which abuts on the Papagni, where water is always procurable at a very few feet from the surface.

7. The tract, therefore, where a scanty supply may be feared is the west part of the Cuddapah Division between the town and Kamalapoor and the west of the Kamalapoor Section, which is remote from the river and the numerous wells on the bank, and which is generally of a mere sterile and desolate aspect.

8. It is in these parts that special measures are necessary for improving the water-supply.

9. The Revenue Inspectors in charge of the affected tracts have received stringent orders to visit every village and submit rough estimates at once for sinking fresh wells and repairing old ones without delay, and two smart Gumastahs from the Settlement Department have been detached for the same duty, each having been put in charge of 30 villages within the above-mentioned parts with orders to estimate for wells only.

10. It is hoped that these measures will alleviate suffering during the hot months. Great scarcity there may be and considerable inconvenience, but that an actual water famine will take place I do not believe so far as the taluq is concerned.

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11. Water is always to be had by digging, and a large number of new wells will be in existence within a month. Five estimates have been sanctioned by me, and the work is in progress on contract, one large well having already been finished and another repaired. Six fresh estimates have just been received, and they will doubtless come in every day, now that the estimating staff has got to work.

12. Rupees 2,500 for wells have also been furnished under the Land Improvement Act; and the Tahsildar informed me that he is receiving a large number of applications daily, now that information on the subject has diffused itself throughout the cultivating classes.

13. With regard to Cuddapah Town the prospect is not so cheerful, and I anticipate very considerable scarcity in some quarters of the town where the wells are already drying up fast.

14. In an ordinary year the channel which supplies the Pata Cuddapah tank from the anicut over the Bugga river affords a considerable supply, being absolutely dry for only a couple of the hottest months, while the abovenamed tank and that called Dongalacheruvu are fine sheets of water under ordinary circumstances.

15. The inhabitants have now to depend upon the wells, which are thirty-svuen in number, four being brackish as mentioned above; and they are failing in an alarming manner.

16. The difficulty with these wells is that the nature of the soil requires a revetment in every case, so that they cannot be deepened below the revetment without pulling it down and rebuilding—a laborious and expensive process.

17. Most of them also are so narrow at the bottom that no supplemental well can be dug in the centre without a considerable risk of the revetment falling in.

18. Of the thirty-three sweet wells ten have already been deepened and four spring wells have been excavated in the river bed. I have also just sanctioned estimates for sinking four new wells and deepening five old ones.

19. Trial pits have been sunk in parts of the town, but except in the bed of the river and in the two large tanks we have failed to strike any but brackish water.

20. I propose, and the estimate is in progress, a square koneru in the Dongalacheruvu and a round well in the same place; also a large well in the Pata Cuddapah tank, there being good water at a depth of 17 feet.

21. These, with a number of temporary wells in the Bugga river bed, will stave off famine, but people will have to go a good way for their water from some of the most disadvantageously situated quarters of the town.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

From H. SUBBA ROW, Temporary Deputy Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Pulivendla, 21st February 1877, No. 57.

WITH reference to the circular letter from the Additional Secretary to Government, No. 407, dated 30th ultimo, communicated with your footnote, No. 71, dated 6th instant, I beg to submit the following report.

1. Balapanoor.
2. Karnapapaipalli, hamlet of Velidandla.
3. Singala.
4. Ambakapalli.
5. Komanootala.
6. Diogavapalli, hamlet of Murarichintala.
7. Deeddekunta.
8. Davatapuram.
9. Meedipruta.
10. Motanutanapalli, hamlet of Yerraballa.
11. Kanampalli.
12. Gottlamitta.

2. The present supply of drinking water throughout the taluq is fairly good.

3. Eight villages are supplied by rivers and river channels, and all the rest of the villages in the taluq are dependent on wells.

4. Only in twelve villages, as per margin, the supply of drinking water is scanty. I have already got cleared and deepened the wells at Balapanoor, Singala, and Gottlamitta. These villages have now a pretty good supply of it.

5. As regards the other villages, steps have been taken to clear and deepen the existing wells, and also to dig new wells for them.

6. From the present state of wells and other sources I have no reason to think that there will be any scarcity of drinking water in my taluq.

Enclosure No. 3.

From J. H. M. COX, Esq., Special Deputy Collector in charge Buduail Taluq, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 27th February 1877, No. 107-54.

With reference to your letter of the 6th ultimo, No. 40, I have the honor to state that from the reports hitherto received from different parts of the taluq the supply of water is very scanty, except, perhaps, along the line of the Sagelair, in which there are still large pools in many places, from most of which water is being freely drawn to irrigate fields of raggi which look promising; other minor hill streams also furnish a moderate supply, which is being utilized for the same purpose, but these are fast drying up.

2. There is also a fair show of crop under wells in some places where the ryots have been able to spend something in deepening them, but on the whole the water-supply is very low, and several reports have been received of wells running nearly if not quite dry.

3. I had hoped that the threatening clouds about ten days ago would have brought us some rain and so have replenished the springs, but all passed away to the north of this.

Enclosure No. 4.

From Lieutenant G. E. MONEY, Officer in temporary charge of Famine Works, Cuddapah Sub-division, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapalli, 7th March 1877, No. 413.

With reference to Circular No. 407, dated 30th January last, from the Additional Secretary to Government, communicated to me with your endorsement, No. 144, I have the honor to report that in almost all the taluqs of the sub-division there does not at present exist any real deficiency in the supply of drinking water, but that there is, however, every likelihood to apprehend danger in some parts of the division during the ensuing hot weather, when some relief in the shape of excavating wells, water-pits, and repairing spring heads of channels, &c., will be urgently required.

I do not think that any such aid should be given to the villagers living on the banks of rivers and jungle streams, as water can be found by digging pits in the river beds at a depth of few yards. This does not also entail any cost on the people.

2. The above is the general state of things throughout the sub-division, and I now proceed to give taluqwar details.

In the Voilpaud Taluq, though the wells which are in the houses in several villages have become dry, sufficient water required both for the use of men and cattle can at present be had at the wells dug in the fields at a distance of one or two furlongs from the village.

The Temporary Deputy Collector in charge of the relief-works in the Voilpaud Taluq reports that water-supply is plenty in only one village, Madicheruvu, which is at the extreme end of the taluq. He suggests that provision should be made for the future supply in the marginally-noted villages.

1. Vusticoilpenta.
2. Gurnimitta.
3. Vagulla.
4. Noothanacalva.
5. Jandla.
6. Gorantlapalle.
7. Jillallamanda.
8. Peddagoltical.
9. Munchoor.
10. Yerravaripallam.
11. Motumallala.
12. Peddamallala.
13. Soracoilpetta.
14. Kalikerry.
15. Peelair.
16. Bundakindipalle.
17. Mahal.
18. Chintaparthy.
19. Tarriconda.
20. Gurramkonda.
21. Kadiraicheruvu.

It does not, therefore, seem that there will be any actual difficulties to procure water in other villages.

Madanapalli Taluq consists of 84 Government villages and 19 Shrotriem and Inam villages. In only 8 villages is water-supply good for the present, and in other villages it is deficient. Wells in these villages, though sunk deep enough, do not afford sufficient quantity. It is reported that some inconvenience is felt for want of water in the following 14 villages:—

1. Koorabalacotta.
2. Tettoo.
3. Moosilicoonta.
4. Boochipalle.
5. Goommasamudram.
6. Pooligulloo.
7. Katnagalloo.
8. Kondamarry.
9. Tavalam.
10. Kollabyle.
11. Nadigadda.
12. Malapaud.
13. Kuttoobhoy.
14. Penchoopaud.

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The Taluq Sheristadar reports that in some of these villages people go so far as one or two miles for water.

Wells are now being dug from relief funds in the villages of (1) Koorabalacotta, (2) Tavalam, (3) Kondamarry, and (4) Tettoo. The great boon of obtaining loans under Land Improvement Act for the purpose of excavating wells is made known to all the ryots; and people are now coming forward. Steps will, however, be taken to have wells, water-pits, &c., dug in the villages where scarcity of water is greatly felt by the people.

Royachoty Tahsildar reports that in the villages lying on the banks of the river Babooda and Mandaviar water-supply is moderately well, and no difficulty is at present experienced. In other villages the people procure water in cultivation wells situated at some distance from the village, and the supply thus obtained is reported to be hardly sufficient. Tahsildar thinks that during the hot season that great scarcity of water will be felt in many villages. Necessary assistance to the people in procuring drinking water will, of course, be given in villages where required.

3. The report regarding the state of the Kadiri Taluq has not yet been received, and will be forwarded as soon as it comes to hand.

Enclosure No. 5.

From Lieutenant G. E. Money, Officer in temporary charge of Famine Relief-works in Cuddapah Sub-division, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapalli, 8th March 1877, No. 414.

In continuation of my letter, No. 413, of 7th instant, I beg to inform that Kadiri Tahsildar's report regarding the condition of the water-supply in his taluq came to hand this morning. This report is too general. He says that no complaints have yet been received from a single village about the deficiency in the supply of drinking water, but in a few villages wells excavated in the houses have become dry, and the people get their water-supply from the cultivation wells situated outside the villages. If the weather continues in the same way as it is at present, and if no rains fall before the end of April or May next, he fears that a great inconvenience for want of water will be felt throughout his taluq.

Enclosure No. 6.

From A. KRISTNA ROW, Acting Deputy Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Jeeredoikottapalli, 9th March 1877, No. 63.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 87, dated 6th ultimo, on Circular No. 407 of 30th January last, from the Additional Secretary to Government, I have the honor to report that throughout my division the present condition of drinking-water supply is tolerably good, and I hope, judging from the present circumstances, the hot season now set in would not alter the condition to any appreciable degree. The chief sources of supply in my division are wells, and where the villages are situated on river banks fountains dug in the river beds afford a good supply.

2. In the Jammalamadugu Taluq the present state of supply in 116 villages is good, and it is hoped that in 103 of these villages the supply may not fail in future, *i.e.*, until the next rains commence, if the wells and other sources are cleared and depeened. There are 5 villages in which the supply has entirely failed, and the people are resorting to the neighbouring villages to get water; 13 more villages will totally run short of their supply as the hot season advances in severity.

3. In 76 villages of the Proddatoor Taluq there is a good supply of water. The supply in 5 villages has already entirely failed, and it is anticipated that those 76 villages may not run short of their supply if the up-keep of the sources is properly attended to. I have enclosed a statement showing the number of villages in different parts of the two taluqs in my range where the supply is good, those in which the supply has failed, and those in which the supply will fail.

Statement showing the present state of Drinking-water Supply and its future prospects in the Division of the Deputy Collector of Cuddapah.

Taluq.	Number of Villages in the Taluq.	Present state of Water-supply.			Future Prospects.			Remarks.
		Parts.	Number of Villages where the supply is good.	Number of Villages where the supply has entirely failed.	Number of Villages which can have good supply of water.	Number of Villages which can have tolerably good supply if wells, &c., are deepened and cleared.	Number of Villages in which the supply will fail entirely.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jammalamadugu...	133	North	40	5	9	23	8	The number shown in Column 2 includes 12 depopulated villages.
		South	22	...	...	22	...	
		East	7	...	...	7	...	
		West	47	...	3	39	5	
Proddatoor	84	North	18	6	3	15	...	
		South	12	...	3	9	...	
		East	41	...	1	40	...	
		West	5	2	...	5	...	

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

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ENCLOSURE No. 7.

From R. S. BENSON, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Nagaripaud, 16th March 1877, No. 239.

I HAVE the honor to submit the report called for in your footnote, No. 98, dated 6th ultimo, on Circular No. 407, dated 30th January 1877, from the Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

2. PULLAMPETT TALUQ.—The taluq is usually very well supplied with water. The large river Cheyair flows through it, and has given a valuable supply to many channels this year, though there was no visible fresh in the river at all. This supply has now almost failed. The Pullangair and Gunganair also flow through the taluq. In the former there has been no flow for some time and in the latter only a mere trickle. There are, however, in each deep pools which still contain water, though in much diminished quantities. There is also the small stream Pamalair flowing from the hills which bound the south-west of the taluq. In this I was surprised to find last week a small stream still running, and the natives say it has never been dry at any time, and expect it to survive even *this* hot weather. I propose to consider the taluq in the following sections:—(1) The Cheyair villages, (2) the Pullangair villages, (3) the Gunganair villages, (4) the villages unconnected with any of those rivers.

(*a.*) *The Cheyair Villages.*—The river Cheyair takes its rise in the sub-division taluqs of Voilpaud and Royachoti and the neighbouring parts, but so little rain fell there that the water level was scarcely raised, and that only for a short time during the monsoons. At no time was there any visible fresh, but for a little time the level of the water under the sand rose. That level is now nearly two feet lower than is usual at the end of the hot season, and before the rains set in still water is everywhere to be had in its sands, and it is only a question of digging to the required depth. None of the villages on its banks can, therefore, be in danger of a water famine. Recourse can always be had to the sands of the river, and the wells near the river usually have water at the same depth as the level of the water in the river. I have therefore no fear for the 27 rich villages on its banks and in its vicinity as under:—

1. Rollamadugu.
2. Booduguntapalli.
3. Pulapatur.
4. Mandapalli.
5. Pathur.
6. Nagireddipalli.
7. Gundloor.
8. Nandaloor.
9. Tallapaka.
10. Aduppur.
11. Narayana Nellore.
12. Yellamarazupalli.
13. Nallatimmayapalli.
14. Labaka.
15. Pondaloor.
16. Nallapureddipalli.
17. Obili.
18. Tangatoor.
19. Tirumalarazpett.
20. Siddaveram.
21. Penagaloor.
22. Pottapi.
23. Rungiahpalli.
24. Kumarunipalli.
25. Singareddipalli.
26. Jativaripalli.
27. Timmarazpalli.

(*b.*) *The Pullangair Villages.*—This river takes its rise among the hills which divide the taluq from Royachoti and Voilpaud. To it pertain the following 7 villages:—(1) Pullampett, (2) Reddipalli, (3) Nanganapalli, (4) Garalamadgu, (5) Anantasamudram, (6) Nookanapalli, (7) Poli. The last of these includes Rajampett, a very fine village, and here only is there cause for uneasiness as to the sufficiency of the supply. The people are very rich, but refuse to do anything to help themselves. To prevent suffering to the poor I have directed a good well to be dug in this town. In the other villages the supply is sufficient, though, of course, less than in ordinary years.

(c.) *The Gunganair Villages.*—The Gunganair Section comprises 11 villages :—

1. Kodoor.
2. Obanapalli.
3. Nagaveram.
4. Nagariaud.
5. Kamapasamudram.
6. Chitwail.
7. Malenarpuram.
8. Velasacherla.
9. Kondoor.
10. Siriyavaram.
11. Tiranampalli.

Some anxiety has been felt in connection with these. The soil is light and sandy, and almost all the village wells are small, round, draw wells, built with wooden posts and round stones. Such a revetment is very insecure, and if disturbed falls in. It is therefore impossible to deepen wells of this kind, and the only resource is in digging entirely new ones. Happily, while I write, there has been a heavy fall of rain, apparently extending over all the valley. Even now there is a fresh in the river, and it is hoped that any danger which might have existed has been thus removed. Special orders have, however, been given to the Deputy Tahsildar of Chitwail to watch the water-supply and send in estimates for wells whenever the necessity arises.

(d.) *The villages unconnected with the above rivers.*—There remain some 36 villages scattered throughout the taluq and not included in the above. These depend entirely on their wells, and, should there be no showers, great incovenience may be felt in some of them. It has been observed that in many villages the *customary* drinking wells owing to their construction are not capable of being deepened, but the irrigation wells are on a larger scale and more strongly built. These have been deepened and cleared every where by the ryots, and from them a supply is always obtainable for drinking purposes. The inconvenience consists in having to go a longer distance for the daily supply of water for household use. In 6 of the above villages, (1) Kommanavarepalli, (2) Vallurpalli, (3) Dalavayipalli, (4) Katurazupalli, (5) Periayaveram, and (6) Apparazupett, the supply is expected to last up to the next monsoon even without rain. In the remaining villages, and notably in Wattaloor, Srirangarazupalliem, Anantarazupett, and a few others, there is cause for watchfulness, though hardly yet for anxiety. I am about to send the Tahsildar to visit them with my Overseer, Seshacharry, and frame estimates for improving the existing wells or digging new ones as required.

3. SIDHOUT TALUQ.—Like Pullampett, this taluq also is well supplied with water. The Pennair is a great river flowing right across the taluq. It had freshes some five months ago, and even still there is a small flow in it. The Sagelair flows down from Budwail. It had freshes in August last, but has been dry for the last five months except in a few pools. The Tummalair drains the Obalam valley, but has had no water in it for a very long time. I shall consider the taluq in sections as before—(1) The Pennair villages, (2) the Sagelair villages, (3) the Tummalair villages, (4), the Wontimittah group of villages.

(a.) *The Pennair Villages.*—There are about one-half the villages of the taluq on or near the Pennair. The most important is Sidhout. This at all times draws its chief supplies of drinking water from the river, and there is no doubt that a sufficient supply will be obtainable even without rain. At present the river flows in a small and diminishing channel, but very small excavations in the sand will give a safe and sufficient supply. The same is more or less true of all the villages in the Pennair valley. All near the river have doruvu wells, and though, as elsewhere, the customary village wells fail, yet the irrigation wells will supply water.

(b.) *The Sagelair Villages.*—The Sagelair villages, 26 in number, have also a supply which, though less than usual, will no doubt prove enough. Many advances under the Land Improvement Act have recently been given in small sums almost exclusively for the purposes of deepening wells. Last week some twenty applications were granted and Rupees 1,100 advanced, and the ryots are now quite alive to the advantages offered them.

(c.) *The Tummalair Villages.*—The villages drained by the Tummalair form what is greatly known as the Obalam valley. Many of these lie on or near the Pennair, which cuts across the southern end of the valley. Mr. Cox has for some time attended to minor works in these parts,

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and a very large number of wells has been cleared or deepened. So far as the southern parts near the Pennair are concerned, there is no cause for anxiety. The more northern villages, including Obalam itself, are badly supplied, and if no rain falls considerable pressure and inconvenience may arise. Mr. Cox [illegible] on the spot; the Tahsildar has just visited the firkah, and the position of the villages will be watched, and improvements made as necessity arises.

(d.) *The Wontimittah group of Villages.*—The Wontimittah group comprises 10 villages—

1. Wontimittah.
2. Gangaperur.
3. Pennaperur.
4. Shakarazpalli.
5. Narayanarazupett.
6. Rosigudipalli.
7. Mangampett.
8. Mantapampalli.
9. Konarazupalli.
10. Chintarazupalli.

In this group the supply is very poor. Five or six wells have been dug or deepened in Wontimittah, but have again become dry. I have now ordered a deep well to be dug in the vankah of the town. Here no doubt good water will be found. The Tahsildar reports that in Gangaperur no water will be found even if we dig for it. As the village is a large one, I have ordered a deep well to be dug. As the wells fail in the other villages, every effort will be made to deepen and improve them.

4. To sum up them. I conceive that in neither taluq and in no part of either taluq is there likelihood of a severe water famine. Many of the wells every where are dry, but these are chiefly the inferior wells. The supply is low even in the good wells, but it is capable of indefinite increase. The number of wells in Pullampett Taluq is between 3,000 and 4,000, and that in Sidhout Taluq is not less in proportion. The art of digging and clearing wells is thoroughly understood every where, and I have no doubt but that in the future as in the present the supply will keep pace with the demand. Still some tracts and villages demand watchfulness on our part, but you may rely on my vigilance not being relaxed in regard to them. The present supply may be called "fairly good" in those parts of Sidhout which lie near the Pennair and in those parts of Pullampett which border on the Cheyair. Those rivers and the wells dependent on them form the source of supply.

5. I regret that press of work and delay in obtaining some detailed information which I had to call for has caused this report to be so much later than I had intended it to be.

ENCLOSURE No. 8.

From J. D. B. GRIBBLE, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated Madanapalli, 18th March 1877, No. 533.

WITH reference to Circular No. 407, dated 30th January 1877, from the Additional Secretary to Government, communicated with your footnote, No. 144, dated 6th February 1877, calling for a report regarding the water-supply, I have the honor, in continuation of this office letter, No. 414, dated 8th March 1877, to state that in my opinion every thing depends upon whether we shall get any rain in May. A little will be no good ; the soil is now so dry that every drop will be absorbed unless we get sufficient to soak through 20 feet of upper soil.

2. In a few villages the supply in the wells has already run dry, but in all such cases I am clearing old wells or excavating new ones, and I have repeatedly urged upon my Assistants the necessity of making careful inquiries regarding this most important matter. For the present we have, generally speaking, sufficient water for drinking purposes to last for six weeks or two months longer. Under ordinary circumstances there would be enough at this time of the year to last much longer, but the ryots seemed to have strained every nerve to raise a cholum crop wherever they have a little well water available, and the supply is therefore being prematurely exhausted. The cows and buffaloes are allowed to take their chance and die, and all the ryot's care is now bestowed upon the bullocks used in lifting the water by kapellas. At most wells there are from three to four pair of bullocks working all day long.

3. If we get rain in May, I do not think that we shall have a water famine, but if we do not I greatly fear that in a very large proportion of my villages there will be absolutuly no water at all.

4. I have received reports on the subject from all my Assistants, and their opinions coincide with mine. During the last three months I have visited or been near almost every village in my division, and I therefore simply state the result of my own experience without sending you copies of all the reports I have received.

No. 201D.

ORDER THEREON, 9th April 1877, No. 1,375B.

Miscellaneous.

THE Government are glad to observe, from the eight reports forwarded by Mr. Price, that careful attention is being paid throughout the district by his Divisional Officers and himself to the important question of the water-supply, and that, in his opinion, the supply is at present fair, and is likely to suffice for two months more even if no rain fall.

2. They notice, however, that Mr. Gribble anticipates an absolute failure of water throughout a large proportion of the villages in his division if no rain falls during the month of May. It will be that officer's duty to use every effort to prevent such a catastrophe occurring. The Government observe that Mr. Gribble's fears are not shared by Mr. Price.

3. The 36 villages in the Pullampett Taluq alluded to by Mr. Benson, where great inconvenience from want of water may yet be felt, must be carefully watched, but no doubt that officer is correct in relying on the people to dig more, or deepen existing, wells, throughout his two taluqs, if necessity should arise.

4. The remarks of Mr MacCartie are thoughtful, and the Collector will doubtless see that the wants of the western part of the taluq of Cuddapah, and the town of Cuddapah itself, are well looked after, and that the measures which may be necessary for improving the water-supply in the former tract are given effect to.

5. In the 5 villages in the Proddatoor Taluq, where the supply of water is reported to have failed entirely, considerable inconvenience is probably felt which might be remedied by the sinking of a few wells by means of advances under the Land Improvement Act.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. GARSTIN,
Additional Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
,, the Board of Revenue.
,, the Financial Department.
,, the Public Works Department.

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

1375—B
6

Govt. of (1877) Madras.

REVENUE.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF CUDDAPAH,

&c., &c., &c.

Dated April, 6th.

Recd. " Encl.

G.O., 9th April 1877, No. 1,375B.

APRIL.

Nos. 201C-201D.

FAMINE RELIEF, No. 924B.

Water-supply in the Cuddapah District.—Reviewing reports regarding the —.

Cuddapah Special Asst Collector's office at Pulivendala.
15 February 1877

No. 12

1375 B

From C. F. MacCartie
Special Asst Collector of Cuddapah

To J. F. Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

Sir.

With reference to Board's Circular No 407 communicated from your office on 6 February 1877, I have the honour to submit the following Report upon the water supply present and prospective of the Cuddapah Taluq.

2. The Taluq which contains 165 villages (123 Circar and 43 Inam) is subdivided into 4 sections for Revenue Administration named Kamalapoor, Cuddapah, Chennoor and Aldema, each being the charge of an Inspector.

3. The supply in ordinary years for the 3 first subdivisions is derived from the Pennair and Papaghni and their channels supplemented by a large number of wells which furnish the main supply of the Aldema Section.

4. The Revenue Inspectors and the Tahsildar whom I have consulted carefully with the map on the table, are of opinion that even if rain should hold off till July ~~one~~ half of the villages which comprise the Taluq will not suffer materially owing to the good springs which exist in most of the wells-

5. The parts of the Taluq in which they consider the supply to be good may be described as the — Chennoor Division or that North of the Pennair where there are plenty of wells-

6. That part of the Cuddapah Division in the immediate neighbourhood of the Cusbah Town and the Aldima Division which follows the base of the hills separating Cuddapah from Rayachoti and that part of the Kamalapoor Division which abuts on the Papaghni, where water is always procurable at a very few feet from the surface

7. The tract therefore where a scanty supply may be feared is the west part of the Cuddapah Division between the Town and Kamalapoor and the west of the Kamalapoor Section which is remote from the river and the numerous wells on the bank and which is generally of a mere sterile and — desolate aspect-

8. It is in these parts that special measures are necessary for improving the water supply-

9. The Revenue Inspectors in charge of the affected tracts have received stringent orders to visit every village and submit rough estimates at once for sinking fresh wells and repairing old ones without delay and 2 smart Gumastahs from the Settlement Department have been detached from the same duty; each having been put in charge of 30 villages within the abovementioned parts with orders to estimate for wells only-

10. It is hoped that these measures will alleviate suffering during the hot months- Great scarcity there may be and considerable inconvenience, but that an actual water famine will take place, I do not believe, so far as the Taluq is concerned-

11. Water is always to be had by digging and a large number of new wells will be in existence within a month. 5 Estimates have been sanctioned by me and the work is in progress on contract, one large well having already been finished and another repaired. 6 fresh estimates have just been received and they will doubtless come in

every day. Now that the estimating staff has got to work.

12. Rs 2500 for wells have also been furnished under the Land Improvement Act; and the Tahsildar informed me that he is receiving a large number of applications daily now that information on the subject has diffused itself throughout the cultivating classes.

13. With regard to Cuddapah Town the prospect is not so cheerful and I anticipate very considerable scarcity in some quarters of the town where the wells are already drying up fast.

14. In an ordinary year the channel which supplies the Patha Cuddapah Tank from the anikat over the Bugga river affords a considerable supply, being absolutely dry for only a couple of the hottest months while the above named Tank and that called Dougala Cheruvu are fine sheets of water under ordinary circumstances.

15. The inhabitants have now to depend upon the wells which are 37 in number, 4 being brackish as mentioned above, & they are failing in an alarming manner.

16. The difficulty with these wells is that the nature of the soil requires a revetment in every

6

1375-B/09

case so that they cannot be deepened below the revetment without pulling it down and rebuilding a laborious and expensive process.

17. Most of them also are so narrow at the bottom that no supplementat well can be dug in the centre without a considerable risk of the revetment falling in.

18. Of the 33 sweet wells 10 have already been deepened and 4 spring wells have been excavated in the river bed. I have also just sanctioned estimates for sinking 4 new wells and deepening 5 old ones.

19. Trial pits have been sunk in parts of the town but except in the bed of the river and in the two large tanks, we have failed to strike any but brackish water.

20. I propose and the estimate is in progress, a square Konéru in the Dougalacheruvu and a round well in the same place, also a large well in the Pata=Cuddapah Tank there being good water at a depth of 17 feet.

21. These with a number of temporary wells in the Bugga River bed will stave off famine, but

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10

people will have to go a good way for their water from some of the most disadvantageously situated quarters of the town.

I have &c

Signed C. F. MacCartie

Special Asst. Collector

(True Copy)

Acting Collector.

Exd

Enclosure No. 5
In a letter from the Acting
Collector of Cuddapah dated
26th March 1877 Section No.
593

No 5
2212.

Cuddapah Temporary Deputy
Collectors Office Pulivendla
21 February 1877

En No. 2

No 57.

1375 B
11

From
The Temporary Deputy Collector
of Cuddapah

To
The Acting Collector
of Cuddapah

Sir

With reference to the Circular letter from the Additional Secretary to Government No 407 dated 30th ultimo communicated with your footnote No 71 dated 6th instant I beg to submit the following report.

2. The present supply of drinking water throughout the Taluq is fairly good.

3. Eight villages are supplied by rivers and river channels and all the rest of the villages in the Taluq are dependant on wells.

4. Only in twelve villages as per margin the supply of drinking water is scanty. I have —

Balapanoor
2. Karnabapipalli hamlet of Velidandla
3. Lingala.
4. Ambakapalli
5. Komanootala
6. Tijavarapalli hamlet Mararichintala —
7. Veedakunta
8. Saratapuram
9. Medipenta
10. Motamutaanapalli, hamlet of Yerraballa
11. Kamasampalli
12. Gottlamitta

already got cleared and deepened the wells at Balapanoor, Lingala and Gottamitta - These villages have now a pretty good supply of it -

5. As regards the other villages steps have been taken to clear and deepen the existing wells and also to dig new wells for them -

6. From the present state of wells and other sources I have no reason to think that there will be any scarcity of drinking water in my Taluq -

I have &c.

Signed H. Subba Row

Temporary Deputy Collector

(True Copy)

Acting Collector

Sd

1375-B
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Enclosure No 8.
In a letter from the Ag
Collector of Cuddapah
dated 27th March 1877
Ex for No 593

Ln 8
X 2212

10

Camp Sillela. Badwail Taluq
27 February 1877

Enc No 3

No. 107/54

1375-B/13

From
J. H. M. Cox Esquire
Special Deputy Collector in charge
Badwail Taluq

To
J. F. Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

Sir

With reference to your letter of the 6th ultimo No 40, I have the honor to state that from the Reports hitherto received from different parts of the Taluq the supply of water is very scanty except perhaps along the line of the Sagileru in which there are still large pools in many places from most of which water is being freely drawn to irrigate fields of Ragi which look promising - other minor hill streams also furnish a moderate supply which is being utilized for the same purpose but these are fast drying up —

2. There is also a fair show of crop under wells in some places where the ryots have been able to

spend something in deepening them but on the whole the water supply is very low and several reports have been received of wells running nearly if not quite dry.

3. I had hoped that the threatening clouds about ten days ago would have brought us some rain and so have replenished the springs but all passed away to the north of this.

I have &c.

Signed/ H M Cox.
Special Dy Collector.

/True Copy/

Acting Collector

Exd
KMWHC

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14

Enclosure No. 6.
In a letter from the Ag.
Collector of Cuddapah
dated 26th March 1877
Rev. No. 593

En. 6
2212

En. No. 6

1375 B
15

No. 413.

Cuddapah Sub Collector's Office
Madanapalle
7th March 1877.

From Lieutenant G. E. Money
Officer in temporary charge of
Famine Works Cuddapah Sub Division

To J. F. Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

Sir,

With reference to Circular No. 407 dated 30th January last from the Additional Secretary to Government communicated to me with your endorsement No. 144, I have the honor to report that in almost all the Talugs of the Sub Division there does not at present exist any real deficiency in the supply of drinking water, but that there is however every likelihood to apprehend danger in some parts of the Division during the ensuing hot weather when some relief in the shape of excavating wells, waterpits and repairing spring heads of channels &c. will be urgently required.

I do not think that any such aid should be given to the villagers living on the banks of rivers and jungle streams as water can be found by digging pits in the river beds at a depth of few yards. This does not also entail any cost on the people.

2. The above is the general state of things throughout the Sub Division and I now proceed to give talegwar details.

In the Voilpaud taluq though the wells which are in the houses in several villages have become dry, sufficient water required both for the use of men and cattle can at present be had at the wells dug in the fields at a distance of 1 or 2 furlongs from the village.

The Temporary Dy Collector in charge of the Relief Works in the Voilpaud Taluq reports that water supply is plenty in only one Village Madiskerum which is at the extreme end of the taluq. He suggests that provision should be made for the future supply in the marginally noted villages.

1 Kistievilpenta
2. Gurrimitta
3. Vayulla
4. Hothanacalva
5. Jaugla
6. Gorantlapalle
7. Jillallamanda
8. Paddapolliaul
9. Munakhoor
10 Yerravaripolliam
11. Chokitimallala
12. Peddamallala
13. Sozavilpakta
14. Malikerry
15. Pelair
16. Rundakindipalle
17. Mabal
18. Chintaparthy
14. Tavvianda
20. Gurramkonda
21. Madiraicherum

It does not therefore seem that there will be any actual difficulties to procure water in other villages.

Madanapalle taluq consists of 84 Government villages and 19 Shrotriem and Inam villages. In only 8 villages is water supply is good for the present and in other villages it is deficient. Wells in these villages though sunk deep enough, do not afford sufficient quantity. It is reported that some inconvenience is felt for want of water in the following 14 villages.

1. Koorabalacotta
2. Ittoo
3. Moosilicoonta
4. Borchipalle
5. Goommasamudum
6 Pooligulloo
7 Katnagalloo
8 Koudamarry
9 Tavalam
10 Kollabgle
11 Madigadda
12 Malapaud
13 Kuttoobhoy
14 Punchoopaud.

The Taluq Sheristadar reports that in some of these villages people go so far as 1 or 2 miles for water.

Wells are now being dug from Relief funds in the villages of Koorabalacotta, 2. Tavalam, 3. Koudamarry and 4 Ittoo.

The great boon of obtaining loans under Land Improvement Act for the purpose of excavating wells is made known to all the ryots, and people are now coming forward. Steps will however be taken to have wells, water pits &c dug in the villages where scarcity of water is greatly felt by the people.

Royachoty Tahsildar reports that in the villages lying on the banks of the river

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Babooda and Mandavim water supply is moderately well and no difficulty is at present experienced. In other villages the people procure water in cultivation wells situated at some distance from the village and the supply thus obtained is reported to be hardly sufficient. Tahsildar thinks that during the hot season that great scarcity of water will be felt in many villages. Necessary assistance to the people in procuring drinking water will of course be given in villages where required.

3. The report regarding the state of the Kadiri Taluq has not yet been received and will be forwarded as soon as it comes to hand.

I have &c
Signed G. E. Money Lieut
Officer in Temporary Charge
Famine Works Cuddapah Sub Dn.

(True Copy)

Fredrick Price
Ag Collector

Exd. [illegible]

Enclosure No. 1.
In a letter from the Acting
Collector of Cuddapah
dated 26th March 1877
Extra No. 593

In 1/72212.

Gn No. 5

15

13759/18

No. 414.

Cuddapah Sub Collector's Office
Madanapalle
8th March 1877.

From Lieutenant G E Money
Officer in temporary charge
of Famine Relief Works
in Cuddapah Sub Division

To J F Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 413 of 7th Instant I beg to inform that Madira Tahsildar's report regarding the condition of the water supply in his taluq came to hand this morning. This report is too general. He says that no complaints have yet been received from a single village about the deficiency in the supply of drinking water, but in a few villages wells excavated in the houses have become dry and the people get their water supply from the cultivation wells situated outside the villages. If the weather continues in the same way as it is at present and if no rains fall before the end of April or May next he fears that a great inconvenience for want of water will be felt throughout his Taluq.

I have &c
Signed G C Money Lieut
Officer in Temporary charge
of Reliefworks in the Subdn

(True Copy)

Ag Collector

Exd
KB, VAH

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Enclosure No 2
In a letter from the
Acting Collector of
Cuddapah dated
26th March 1877 Extn
No 593

En 2/72212

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Gov. No 6.

Cuddapah Deputy Collector's office
~~Jammalamadugu~~ 9 March 1877.
Jeeraddi kottapalli

1375-B/20

No 63.

From
A. Kristna Row
Acting Deputy Collector
of Cuddapah

To
J. F. Price Esquire
Ag Collector of Cuddapah

Sir

With reference to your endorsement No 87 dated 6th ultimo on Circular No 407 of 30 January last from the Additional Secretary to Government, I have the honor to report that throughout my Division the present condition of drinking water supply is tolerably good - and I hope judging from the present circumstances, the hot season now set in would not alter the condition to any appreciable degree. The chief sources of supply in my Division are wells and where the villages are situated on river banks, fountains dug in the river beds afford a good supply:—

2. In the Jammalamadugu Taluq the present state

of supply in 116 villages is good, and it is hoped that in 103 of these villages the supply may not fail in future, i.e. until the next rains commence, if the wells and other sources are cleared and deepened. There are 5 villages in which the supply has entirely failed and the people are resorting to the neighbouring villages to get water. 13 more villages will totally run short of their supply as the hot season advances in severity.

3. In 76 villages of the Troovaloor Taluq there is a good supply of water. The supply in 5 villages has already entirely failed, and it is anticipated that those 76 villages may not run short of their supply if the upkeep of the sources is properly attended to. I have enclosed a statement showing the number of villages in different parts of the two Taluqs in my Range where the supply is good, those in which the supply has failed, and those in which the supply will fail.

I have &c.a
Signed A. Kristna Row
Ag. Deputy Collector

(True Copy)
Fred Nicholson
Acting Collector

Exd KWR NHC

Statement showing the present state of drinking water supply and its future prospects in the Division of the Deputy Collector of Cuddapah.

Taluq.	Number of villages in the Taluq.	Present state of water supply.			Future prospects.			Remarks.
		Parts	Number of villages where the supply is good	Number of villages where the supply had entirely failed.	Number of villages which can have good supply of water.	Number of villages which can have tolerably good supply if wells &c. are deepened & cleared.	Number of villages in which the supply will fail entirely	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jamalmadugu	133	North	40	5	9	23	8	The number shown in Column 2 includes 12 depopulated villages.
		South	22	-	-	22	-	
		East	~~7~~	-	-	7	-	
		West	47	-	3	39	5	
Proddatur	84	North	18	6	3	15	-	
		South	12	-	3	9	-	
		East	41	-	1	40	-	
		West	5	2	-	5	-	

Signed A Kristnarow
Ag Dy Collector

(True Copy)

Fredrick Price
Ag Collector

Exd KWMHC

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Enclosure No 7

In a letter from the Acting
Collector of Cuddapah
dated 26th March 1877
Extra No. 593

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En 7
72212

En. No. 7.

Head Asst Collector's Office
Camp Nagaripaud.
Dated 16 March 1877
Despd. 17 Do.

13/5/23

No. 239.

From The Ag Head Asst Collector
Cuddapah.

To
The Acting Collector
Cuddapah.

Sir

I have the honor to submit the report called for in your footnote No 98 dated 6th ultimo on Circular No 407 dated 30th January 1877 from the Additional Secretary to Government Revenue Department.

2. Pullampett Taluq.

(a) The Taluq is usually very well supplied with water. The large river Cheyair flows through it and has given a valuable supply to many channels this year though there was no visible fresh in the river at all. This supply has now almost failed. The rivers Pullangair and Gunjanair also flow through the Taluq. In the former there has been little flow for some time and in the latter only a mere trickle. There are however, in each deep pools which still contain water though in much diminished quantities. There is also the small stream, Pamalair, flowing from the hills which bound the South west of the Taluq. In this I was surprised to find last week a small stream still running and the natives say it has never been dry at any time and expects it to survive even this hot weather. I propose to consider the Taluq in the following sections. (1) The Cheyair villages; (2). The Pullangair villages (3) The Gunjanair villages. (4) The villages unconnected with any of those rivers.

The Cheyair villages

(b) The river Cheyair takes its rise in the Sub-Division Taluqs of Voilpaud and Rayachoti and the neighbouring parts but so little rain fell there that the water level was scarcely raised, and that only for a short time during the monsoons. At no time was there any visible fresh but for a little time the level of the water under the sand rose. That level is now nearly two feet lower than is usual at the end of the hot season, and before the rains sets in. Still water is everywhere to be had in its sands and it is only a question of digging to the required depth. None of the villages on its banks can therefore be in danger of a water famine. Recourse can always be had to the sands of the river, and the wells near the river usually have water at the same depth as the level of the water in the river. I have therefore no fear for the twenty seven rich villages on its banks and in its vicinity as under.

1. Rollamadugu.
2. Bodduguntapalli
3. Pulapatur
4. Mandapalli
5 Pathur
6. Nagireddipalli
7. Gundloor
8. Nandaloor
9 Tallapaka
10. Adappur.
11. Narayana Nellore.
12 Yellamarazupalli
13 Nallatimmayapalli
14. Lalaka
15. Pondaloor
16. Nallapureddipalli
17. Obili
18 Sangatoor
19 Tirumalarazpett.
20 Siddaveram
21 Penagaloor
22 Pottapi
23 Rungiahpalli
24 Kumarmipalli
25 Singareddipalli
26 Jativaripalli
27 Timmarazpali

The Pullangair villages.

(c). This river takes its rise among the Hills which divide the Taluq from Rayachoti and Voilpaud. To it pertain the following seven villages (1) Pullampett (2) Readipalli. (3) Ranganapalli (4) Garalamadugu (5) Anantasamudram. (6) Nookanapalli (7) Poli. The last of these includes Rajampett a very fine vill remaining villages and notably in Wattaloor ~ Srirangarazupallium, Anantarazupett and a few others – there is cause for watchfulness though hardly yet for anxiety – I am about to send the Tahsildar to visit them with my Overseer Seshachary and frame estimates for improving the existing wells or digging new ones as required –

4. Sidhout Taluq – Like Pullampett – this Taluq also is well supplied with water – The Pennair is a great river flowing right across the Taluq – It had freshes some 5 months ago and even still there is a small flow in it – The Sagilair flows down from Badwail It had freshes in August last but has been dry for the last 5 months, except in a few pools – The Tummalair drains the Obalam valley but has had no water in it for a very long time – I shall consider the Taluq in sections as before – (1) The Pennair villages – (2) The Sagilair villages – (3) The Tummalair villages (4) The Wontimitta group of villages –

The Pennair villages –

(5). (a). There are about one half the villages of the Taluq on or ~~nr~~ near the Pennair – The most important is Sidhout. This at all times draws its chief supplies of drinking water from the river and there is no doubt that a sufficient supply will be obtainable even without rain – At present the river flows in a small and diminishing channel but very small excavations in the sand will give a safe and sufficient supply – The same is more or less true of all the villages in the Pennair valley – All near the river have Doruvu wells – and though as elsewhere the customary village wells fail; yet the irrigation wells will supply water –

The Sagilair villages.

(b). The Sagilair villages twenty six in number have also a supply which though less than usual will no doubt prove enough – Many advances under the Land Improvement Act have recently been given in small sums almost exclusively for the purposes of deepening wells – Last week some twenty applications were granted and Rupees 1100 advanced and the ryots are now quite alive to the advantages offered them –

The Tummalair villages

(c). The villages drained by the Tummalair form what is generally known as the Obalam valley. Many of these lie on or near the Pennair which cuts across the Southern end of the valley. Mr. Cox has for some time attended to minor works in these parts and a very large number of wells has been cleared or deepened. So far as the Southern parts near the Pennair are concerned there is no cause for anxiety. The more northern villages including Chatam itself are badly supplied and if no rain falls considerable pressure and inconvenience may be felt. Mr. Cox however has a Gumastah on the spot; the Tahsildar has just visited the firkah and the position of the villages will be watched and improvements made as necessity arises.

(d). The Wontimittah group comprises ten villages. The Wontim
group of vil

1. Wontimittah
2. Gangaperur
3. Pennaperur
4. Shakarajpalli
5. Narayanarajupett
6. Rosigundipalli
7. Mangampett
8. Mantapampalli
9. Konarajupalli
10. Chintarajupalli

In this group the supply is very poor. Five or six wells have been dug or deepened in Wontimittah but have again become dry. I have now ordered a deep well to be dug in the vankah of the town. There no doubt good water will be found. The Tahsildar reports that in Gangaperur no water will be found even if we dig for it. As the village is a large one I have ordered a deep well to be dug. As the wells fail in the other villages every effort will be made to deepen and improve them.

6. To sum up then. I conceive that in neither Taluq and in no part of either Taluq is there likelihood of a severe water famine. Many of the wells everywhere are dry; but these are chiefly the inferior wells. The supply is low even in the good wells but it is capable of indefinite increase. The number of wells in Pullampett Taluq is between 3000 & 4000 and that in Sidhout Taluq is not less in proportion. The art of digging and clearing wells is thoroughly understood everywhere and I have no doubt but that in the future as in the present the supply will keep pace with the demand. Still some tracts and villages demand watchfulness on our part; but you may rely on my vigilance not being relaxed in regard to them. The present supply may be

called "fairly good" in those parts of Sidhout which lie near the Pennair and in those parts of Pullampett which border on the Cheyair. Those rivers and the wells dependant on them form the source of supply.

7. I regret that press of work and delay in obtaining some detailed information which I had to call for has caused this report to be so much later than I had intended it to be.

I have &c.a
Signed Ralph S. Benson
Ag Head Asst Collector

True Copy

Fredk. Rice
Acting Collector

Exd.
KWR/AHC

Enclosure No 4
In a letter from the Ag.
Collector of Cuddapah
dated 26th March 1877
Ex. No. 593

In 4
72212

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En. No. 8

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Cuddapah Sub Collector's Office
Madanapalli 18th March 1877

No 533.

From J. D. B. Gribble Esquire
Acting Sub Collector of Cuddapah

To J. F. Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

Sir

With reference to Circular No 407 dated 30th January 1877 from the Additional Secretary to Government communicated with your foot note No 144 dated 6th February 1877 calling for a report regarding the water supply, I have the honor, in continuation of this office letter No 414 dated 8th March 1877, to state that in my opinion every thing depends upon whether we shall get any rain in May. A little will be no good, the soil is now so dry that every drop will be absorbed unless we get sufficient to soak through 20 feet of upper soil.

2. In a few villages the supply in the wells has already run dry but in all such cases I am

clearing old wells or excavating new ones and I have repeatedly urged upon my Assistants the necessity of making careful enquiries regarding this most important matter. For the present we have, generally speaking, sufficient water for drinking purposes to last for six weeks or two months longer. Under ordinary circumstances there would be enough at this time of the year to last much longer, but the ryots seemed to have strained every nerve to raise a cholum crop wherever they have a little well water available and the supply is therefore being prematurely exhausted. The cows and buffaloes are allowed to take their chance and die and all the ryots care is now bestowed upon the bullocks used in lifting the water by Kapillas. At most wells there are from 3 to 4 pair of bullocks working all day long.

3. If we get rain in May I do not think that we shall have a water famine, but if we do not I greatly fear that in a very large proportion of my villages there will be absolutely no water at all

4. I have received reports on the subject from all my Assistants and their opinions coincide with mine. During the last 3 months I have visited or been near almost every village in my Division and I therefore simply state the result of my own experience without sending you copies of all the reports I have received.

I have &c. —

Signed J. Rama Row

Sheristadar for Acting Sub Collector

True Copy/

Acting Collector

Exd

K. Venkoba Rao
1st Hd Clerk

Enclosure No 3.
In a letter from the
Acting Collector of Cuddapah
dated 26th March 1877
Extra No 593

Sec 3
72212
[illegible]/77 No 1375 B

Cuddapah Collector's Office
Camp Kurugontapalle, Sidhout
Extra No 593 Talug - 26th March 1877.

From:
J F Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah
To
J H Garstin Esquire
Additional Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George.

1375 B
31

Sir,

I have the honor to forward the report called for in your Circular No 407 dated 30th January last and to enclose copies of the letters of my Divisional Officers.

2. Sub Collector. Mr Gribble's report is gloomy, far more so than I consider from what I saw when going through his Division, the state of affairs warrants. A considerable change must have been effected by the recent fall of rain, especially in Kadiri where it amounted to very nearly 4 inches. I cannot say that Mr Gribble's report is by any means well or carefully written. He omits all

mention, for instance, of the Papagni, a very important stream, in which in the beginning of last month, I saw large pools of water. In my report upon the Sub. Division which was submitted to Government with the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue marginally noted, I have gone into the matter of water supply and expressed my opinion thereon.

No. 1115
dated 2nd
March 1877

3. **Head Assistant Collector.** Mr. Benson's report is one which has been carefully and well drawn up, and which furnishes very complete information regarding his present Division. The state of this is such, I think, as to give little, if any, ground for apprehension even supposing that the rain holds off. The recent fall has replenished the pools in the rivers and at Kontimitta, which I have just quitted, there is about 2 months water in the Tank and the wells are all full. Village wells which are but shallow

a dangerous affair to attempt any thing more than clearing the mud out of them, may fail, but there will remain for many months more of dry weather, water in the river pools and in the agricultural wells which are quite close enough to the villages to allow of drinking water being obtained from them.

4. **Budwail Taluq.** The Temporary Deputy Collector Mr. Cox does not say much and what he does is not very cheering. He has, I know, been looking carefully to the drinking wells. According to his account the Sagelair valley alone is fairly supplied. I am however going over the Taluq in the course of my present tour and shall be able to see for myself. From what I have heard the supply of water all over it is not good.

5. **Cuddapah Taluq.** Mr. MacCartie, who has been about a good deal in this Taluq, has gone carefully into

conclusions at which he arrives. The last fall of rain has altered very considerably the state of things since he wrote, especially in the Town of Cuddapah, where a fresh down the Booggair has filled the pools in the bed of the stream and revived the springs in the wells.

6. Jamalmadugu. The Acting Deputy Collector A Kristna Row, has sent in a very fair report but has not given particulars. He has forgotten to mention the Pennair in Jamalmadugu and the Irrigation Canal in Proddatur. The number of villages in which he considers that the supply of drinking water will fail, if the drought continues, is very small and I think, that, with the attention to the subject which can be given by the increased staff now employed in the Division, no fears of any serious scarcity need be entertained.

7. Pulivendla Talug. The report of the Temporary Deputy Collector H Soobarow, is exceedingly brief, but his opinion that there will be no want of drinking water in his Talug is supported by that of Mr. Mac Cartie who made a detailed tour of it.

8. On the whole, I am of opinion that the supply of drinking water throughout the District is fair and that for the next two months, at any rate, supposing that we have no more rain, which, from the variable nature of the weather, I think, is improbable, there will be enough every where excepting perhaps in a few isolated villages. I have impressed upon all my Divisional Officers the necessity for constantly enquiring into and looking to the deepening and constructing of wells wherever required.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obdt Servant

Ag Collector

Exd KWRAC

C 5-4-77 B 9-4-77

[illegible] 1877 [illegible]
Revenue Department
From
The Ag Collector
of Cuddapah
To The ^Additional Secretary to the
^Govt. ~~[illegible]~~ Government
Fort Saint George
Madras

Dated 26th March
Despd 2d April } 1877
Received 3 —

Enclosures 8.
Extra — No 593

With reference to your Circular No 407 dated 30th January last forwards copies of reports from Divisional officers on the state of supply of drinking water and states that on the whole it is fair throughout the District

G.O. 9 April/77 No 1375 B

28

1375 B / 34

Revenue Department

No 1375 B

Proceedings of the Madras Government

Under date the 9th April 1877

Read letter from the Ag Collector of Cuddapah dated 26th March 1877 Extra No 593, and its enclosures, regarding the supply of drinking water in the District ——

B.M. 6/4

7/4

The Government are glad to observe, from the 8 reports forwarded by Mr Price, that careful attention is being paid throughout the District by his Divisional Officers and himself to the important question of the water supply, and that, in his opinion, the supply

is

is at present fair and is likely to suffice for 2 months more even if no rain falls.

2 They notice, however, that Mr Gribble anticipates an absolute failure of water throughout a large proportion of the villages in his Division if no rain falls during the month of May. It will be that Officer's duty to use every effort to prevent such a catastrophe occurring. The Government ~~are glad to~~ have observe ~~find~~ that Mr Gribble's fears ~~gloomy forebodings~~ are not shared by Mr Price.

3 The 36 villages

Board see the board of [illegible]
reflection Gribble only says
that if rain does not fall
in May &c. If it does
not then all of course
be distress & dig hard
for water

in the Pullampett Taluq alluded to by Mr Benson, where great inconvenience from want of water may yet be felt, must be carefully watched - but no doubt that Officer is correct in relying on the people to dig more, or deepen existing wells throughout his 2 taluqs, if such necessity should arise.

4 The remarks of Mr MacCartie are thoughtful, and the Collector will doubtless see that the wants of the western part of the Taluq of Cuddapah, and ~~of~~ the Town of Cuddapah itself, are

are well looked after, and that the measures which ~~Dr. [illegible] Carter~~ ~~[illegible]~~ may be necessary for improving the water supply in the former tract are given effect to.

5. In the 5 villages in the Proddatur Taluq, where the supply of water is reported to have failed entirely, considerable inconvenience is probably felt which might be remedied by the sinking of a few wells by means of advances under the Land Improvement Act.

[illegible] Copy to the Collector of Cuddapah & Copy of 26 April/77 [illegible]
25 the Board of Rev
5 the Finance Dept
21 the P.W. Dept

G. O.

State of water supply in the Cuddapah District

Issue as amended

[illegible]

12 4 7