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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1526A	Press
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	23-4-1877	197.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

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

Famine Relief.

No. 550-A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 14th April 1877, No. 1,681:—

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 Sidhout, 28th March 1877, Extra No. 650:—

In reference to the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, No. 283, dated 24th January last, I have the honor to transmit an interesting and detailed report from Mr. MacCartie, touching the experiment of feeding cattle in the Cuddapah Taluq with prickly-pear.

2. Of the sum of Rupees 500 sanctioned by the Board, Rupees 250 were allotted to Cuddapah and the remainder to Mr. Benson, whose report has yet to come.

3. The Special Assistant Collector's report shows that, unless Government interferes, there is not much chance of the ryots doing anything in the way of using prickly-pear as fodder. That the experiment has been the means of saving several cattle there can be no doubt, and I would suggest its continuance and extension. The people in relief camps where prickly-pear is available might easily be employed in preparing and cutting up the leaf. This would cost very little more than if they were allowed to sit quiet and do nothing.

4. The assistance afforded by Mr. Audrie in carrying out the experiment at Cuddapah deserves recognition. His hint regarding wiping the leaf with cloth or gunny however is one already given by Messrs. Harvey and Sabapathy of Bellary.

5. If the Board will permit a further outlay of Rupees 750, I will continue the experiment in the Cuddapah Taluq, and, if Mr. Benson's report is favorable, in his division.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From C. F. MACCARTIE, Esq., Special Assistant Collector, to J. F. PRICE, Esq., Acting Collector of Cuddapah, dated 26th March 1877, No. 50.

A MONTH having elapsed since the commencement of the prickly-pear experiments in this taluq, I have the honor to submit the following report upon the results obtained, together with a detailed account for the sum of Rupees 250 which were placed at my disposal.

2. Four depots were opened in the taluq, of which the first at work was that near Cuddapah which began on 16th February 1877. During the month ending 16th March 1877, 1,927 cattle were fed at a total cost of Rupees 114-5-0, which includes charges for labor, tools, and contingencies, such as salt, oil-cake, &c.

3. Cuddapah camp was opened in the large compound belonging to Mr. J. H. Audrie, an old resident of Cuddapah, as prickly-pear was abundant, and he expressed his willingness to supervise the coolies and to note the results upon the cattle fed.

4. Mr. Audrie commenced operations on 16th February, and at the end of four weeks he had fed 379 cattle at a total cost of Rupees 23-4-10. The following is an extract from Mr. Audrie's report to me:—

“As anticipated I experienced some difficulty in overcoming the prejudices of the natives with regard to the effects of the new fodder upon the cattle. They believe that feeding cattle upon the leaves of prickly-pear brings on diarrhoea and bloody urine. I find on the contrary after careful observation that the excreta and urine of beasts so fed differ neither in consistency or color from that of beasts fed on grass or other green fodder.

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

"I have observed that cattle fed on the leaves drink little water, yet urine freely, which leads me to believe that the fodder is just suited for consumption by cattle during the hot months when grass and green fodder is scarce.

"After the prickles are removed, I find it necessary that they should be wiped with cloth or gunny. The leaves are cut in pieces of about an inch square with a sharp knife. These pieces ought to be quickly handled as the slightest pressure with the fingers causes the exudation of a glutinous substance which cattle do not like to have smeared about their muzzles.

"If a beast does not eat of the fodder readily a few pieces ought to be forcibly introduced into its mouth, with a little salt or oil-cake, which latter may be dispensed with after a few days.

"I might mention that before establishing the depot for feeding cattle brought me by those who could not afford to keep them, I had been feeding my own beasts on the leaves and found them improving considerably.

"A set of tools follows my camp equipage when out, and I make it a point to instruct those who hire their cattle (i.e., buffaloes carrying gravel on his contract works) to feed them on the prepared leaves.

"I feel perfectly satisfied that cattle will eat the fodder if they can only get at it, and if the leaves were only free from prickles very little of what is now considered a nuisance would be left to be destroyed at the expense of Government."

5. The next camp in order of seniority was opened at Kopparti, six miles south-west of Cuddapah, on 21st February under the care of a Revenue Inspector; up to 16th March, 247 cattle had been fed at a total cost of Rupees 23-11-3.

6. The leaves were cut up by relief coolies, mixed with salt and bran at first, and supplied to the cattle quite green at the rate of 20 to 25 lbs. per diem.

7. The cattle, mostly buffaloes, devoured the fodder greedily, but their owners were bitterly opposed to the experiment, and the cattle had to be taken by a moral suasion, not very far removed from force, and kept tied up by night and day, as if once let go they would never have been permitted to return.

8. During the third week however I noticed that the beasts were allowed to go home at night, and as most of them came back in the morning unmolested this is a sign that the objections of the owners are fading out.

9. A buffalo unfortunately died of dysentery during the first week of the experiment, and this gave some color to the complaints of the ryots that the use of the leaf caused dysentery or diarrhoea.

10. That most of the cattle had a touch of diarrhoea at the camp is quite true as I noticed at my frequent visits, but this I attribute to the fact that the leaf was given unwiped and quite green.

11. I think the fresh exudation to which Mr. Audrie refers has an injurious effect, and that the fodder should either be half sun-dried or else wiped carefully. I draw this inference from the fact that at Cuddapah where the leaf was wiped and at the other camps where it was given half dry, bowel-looseness was the exception and not the rule.

12. All things considered I cannot describe the experiment in this village as a success. I see no chance of overcoming the obstinacy of the villagers sufficiently to induce them to carry on the experiment of themselves, and I accordingly propose to transfer the depot to a village near Erraguntla where I have discovered prickly-pear (a rarity on that side) and where the cattle are far worse off.

13. The third camp was opened at Kajeepett on 22nd February, also under a Revenue Inspector, where 515 cattle were fed up to 16th March, at a total cost of Rupees 46-10-9.

14. The method of feeding was the same as at Kopparti, with the exception that the fodder was given at the rate of 25 lbs. a day and half dried.

15. I visited the camp two or three times, and the Tahsildar paid great attention to it. I never noticed diarrhoea to be prevalent among the animals which devoured the fodder

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

greedily and seemed to thrive, so far as old buffaloes and worn out cows can be said to do so, as no valuable cattle were permitted to come by their owners, who seem to have still plenty of fodder for them.

16. The villagers are generally averse to the experiment, and as a rule prefer to divide a bundle of innutritious hill grass, costing 6 Annas among four wretched animals to letting them fill their bellies with prickly-pear which they insist on believing to be the cause of diarrhoea in the face of potent evidence to the contrary.

17. The fourth camp was opened at Tallaganganapalli, only four miles from Kopparti, on 24th February. Here 786 cattle were fed, at a total cost of Rupees 20-10-2, up to 16th March, and the experiment may be described as a triumphant success, as it is very popular with the villagers who have taken five or six sets for private use at home, and the cattle come each morning and evening of themselves both from the village itself and the neighbouring hamlets.

18. Before the experiment was started they were literally starving, but are now all doing well. I saw forty-seven fed the other morning, and there was a perfect stampede for the full baskets as they were brought out by the coolies who prepare them.

19. There were no complaints of diarrhoea till a few days ago, and in each case I found out that the affected animals here got hold of raggy husks which had evidently disagreed with them.

20. Cuddapah and Tallaganganapalli depots are evidently successes which it would be a pity to discontinue, as the latter place especially will become a centre for many villages which will be utterly devoid of fodder during the next two months. Kopparti is a failure and will be discontinued at once in favor of the village alluded to above—Kirtapalli—where I have strong hopes that the attempt will be as successful as at Ganganapalli.

21. Kajeepett is a doubtful case which I think should be given another month's trial, as I think the ryots' prejudices are not so strong as they were, and the increasing scarcity of fodder will induce them to veer round and believe the evidence of this eyesight in preference to the idle rumours which are spread by mischievous persons mainly because Government has taken the matter up.

22. During the past week I have changed the ration to 40 lbs. leaf + 1 lb. rice-straw, and will report the result in due course.

23. Mr. Audrie deserves credit for the pains he has been at in watching the cattle at Cuddapah depot, and his suggestion of wiping the leaves seems to be a valuable hint.

24. The Tahsildar has also done his very best in endeavoring to overcome the ryots' prejudices to the obstinacy of which I can testify.

25. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the week ending 24th March from the commencement which has just come in:—

Number.	Particulars.	Amount.			Remarks.
		RS.	A.	P.	
1	Wages to coolies	118	1	6	
2	Cost of tavadu or bran	1	12	10	
3	Do. of grain	0	8	0	
4	Do. of earth-salt	1	3	8	
5	Do. of oil-cake	0	10	2	
6	Do. of baskets	1	5	6	
7	Ropes	0	13	4	
8	Mats	0	1	0	
9	Cost of instruments, 100 at Annas 2-6 each	15	10	0	
	Total	140	2	0	
					Amount sanctioned ... 250 0 0
					Amount spent ... 140 2 0
					Balance ... 109 14 0

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

Statement showing the amount spent at each station where Prickly-pear experiment was commenced.

Number.	Stations.	Date of commencement.	Amount spent.	Number of cattle fed up to 15th March.	Number of coolies employed up to 15th March.
1	Kopparti	21st Feb. 1877.	RS. A. P.	247	219
2	Tallaganapalli	24th " "	48 7 5	786	190
3	Kajeepeett	22nd " "	28 0 9	515	476
4	Cuddapah	16th " "	23 4 10	379	210
5	Cost of instruments		15 10 0	...	...
	Total		140 2 0	1,927	1,095

(True Copy.)

(Signed) C. F. MacCARTIE,
Special Assistant Collector,
for Acting Collector.

Submitted for the information and orders of Government.

2. In anticipation of sanction, the Board authorize the continuance of the experiment at a further cost of Rupees 750.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 550-B. ORDER THEREON 23rd April 1877, No. 1,526-A.

Miscellaneous.

The Government have perused Mr. MacCartie's report with interest, and notice with satisfaction Mr. Andrie's exertion. The experiment should certainly be continued, and the facilities with which the prickles of the cactus are got rid of by roasting and crushing should be exhibited.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

the Financial Department.

Ed. J. W. Fischer.

which began on February 16-1877

Cuddapah
Collector's Office 26 March 1877

No 50.

From
C. F. MacCarte Esquire
Special Asst Collector Cuddapah

To
J. L. Price Esquire
Acting Collector of Cuddapah

Sir,
A month having elapsed
since the commencement of the
Prickly heat experiments in this
Talug I have the honor to submit
the following report upon the
results obtained together with a
detailed account for the sum of
Rs 250, which were placed at
my disposal.

2. Four depots were opened in
the Talug of which the 1st at
at work was that near Cuddapah
which began on February 16th 1877,

7/2/29 II

14-3-

Original

Govt of (1877) Cuddapah

REVENUE

THE BOARD OF REVENUE

CC, Secy, &c.

16th April 1877

Encl

G.O. 3rd April 1877, No. 1798A.

APRIL

No. 5531-5533.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT, H. K. J. A. N.

Printed and Published by the Government of Madras, at the Government Press, Madras.

during the month ending
March 16" - 1877 - 1927 Cattle
were fed at a total cost of
Rs. 114-5-0 which includes
charges for labour, tools and
contingencies, such as salt
oil cake &c.

3. Cuddapah Camp was
opened in the large compound
belonging to Mr. J.H. Audrie, an
old Resident of Cuddapah,
as Prickly pear was abundant
and he expressed his willingness
to supervise the coolies and
to note the results upon the
cattle fed.

4. Mr. Audrie commenced
operations on 16" February and at
the end of four weeks he had

total 191/5
fed 379 cattle at a cost of Rs. 23-
4-10. The following is an extract
from Mr. Audrie's report to me.

"As anticipated I experienced
some difficulty in overcoming the
prejudices of the natives with regard
to the effects of the new fodder -
upon the cattle. They believe that
feeding cattle upon the leaves of
Prickly pear brings on diarrhoea
and bloody urine. I find on the
contrary after careful observation
that the excreta and urine of beasts
so fed differ neither in consistency
or colour from that of beasts
fed on grass or other green fodder.

5. I have observed that cattle
fed on the leaves drink little
water yet urinate freely which
leads me to believe that the fodder
is just suited for consumption
by cattle during the hot months
when grass and green fodder is
scarce.

6. After the prickles are removed
I find it necessary that they
should be wiped with cloth
or gunny. The leaves are cut
in pieces of about an inch square
with a sharp knife. These
pieces ought to be quickly handled
as the slightest pressure
with the fingers causes the
exudation of a glutinous
substance which cattle do
not like to have smeared about
their muzzles.

7. If a beast does not eat
of the fodder readily a few
pieces ought to be forcibly intro-
duced into its mouth with
a little salt or oil cake -
which latter may be dispensed
with

with after a few days. 1585A
5A
8. I might mention that before
establishing the depot for feeding
cattle brought me by those
who could not afford to keep
them. I had been feeding my
own beasts on the leaves and
found them improving con-
siderably.

" A set of tools follows my
camp equipage when out and
I make it a point to instruct
those who hire their cattle (e.
buffaloes carrying gravel on
his contract works) to feed
them on the prepared leaves."
I feel perfectly satisfied that
cattle will eat the fodder if

they can only get at it
and if the leaves were
only free from prickles very
little of what is now Consider-
ed a nuisance would be
left to be destroyed at the
expenses of Government."

The next camp in order of
Seniority was opened at -
Kopparti 6 miles South West
of Cuddapah on February 21st
under the care of a Revenue
Inspector upto March 16th -

247 Cattle had been fed at
a total cost of Rs 23-11-3.

9. The leaves were cut up by
Relief Coolies, mixed with

1526/6
Salt and bran at first &
supplied to the cattle quite
green at the rate of 20 to 25
lbs per diem -

10. The Cattle, mostly buffaloes,
devoured the fodder greedily
but their owners were bitterly
opposed to the experiment -
and the cattle had to be taken
by a moral suasion not very
far removed from force and
kept tied up night and day -
as if once let go they would
never have been permitted to
return

11. During the third week however
I noticed that the beasts were
allowed to go home at night and
as most of them came back
in the morning unmolested

This is a sign that the
objections of the owners
are fading out.

12. A buffalo unfortunately
died of dysentery during the
1st week of the experiment
and this gave ^{some} colour to the
complaints of the ryots that
the use of the leaf caused
dysentery or Diarrhoea.

13. That most of the cattle
had a touch of diarrhoea at
the camp is quite true as
I noticed at my frequent
visits but this I attribute
to the fact that the leaf
was given unwiped and

quite

quite green

14. I think the fresh exudation
to which Mr. Audric refers has
an injurious effect and that
the fodder should either be
half sun dried or else wiped care-
fully. I draw this inference
from the fact that at
Cuddapah where the leaf was
wiped and at the other camps
where it was given $\frac{1}{2}$ dry bowel
looseness was the exception and
not the rule.

15. All things considered I can
not describe the experiment in
this village as a success. I see no
chance of overcoming the
obstinacy of the villagers suffi-
ciently to induce them to carry on

the experiment of themselves
and I accordingly propose
to transfer the Depot to a
village near Erraguntla where
I have discovered prickly
pear (a rarity on that side).
And where the Cattle are far
worse off.

16. The 3^d Camp was opened
at Rajampett on 22^d February
also under a Revenue Inspector
where 515 Cattle were fed
upto 16th March at a total
cost of Rs 46-10-9.

17. The method of feeding was
the same as at Kopparti
with the exception that the
fodder was given at the

1888
rate of 25 ^{to} a day & half
dried.

18. I visited the Camp two or
three times and the Tahsildar
paid great attention to it.
I never noticed Diarrhoea,
to be prevalent among the
animals which devoured
the fodder greedily and seemed
to thrive so far as old buff
-aloes and worn out cows.
Can be said to do so, as no valu-
-able cattle were permitted
to come by their owners who
seem to have ^{still} plenty of fodder
for them.

19. The villagers are generally
averse to the experiment and

as a rule prefer to divide a
bundle of innutritious hill
grass costing 6 annas among
4 wretched animals to letting
them fill their bellies with
Prickly pear which they insist
on believing to be the cause
of Diarrhoea in the face of
patent evidence to the
contrary.

20. The 4th Camp was opened
at Tollagangampalli only
4 miles from Koppertti on
February 24. Here 786 Cattle
were fed at a total cost of
Rs 20 - 10 - 2 upto March 16.

15064
and the experiment may
be described as a triumphant
success, as it is very popular
with the villagers who have
taken 5 or 6 sets for private use
at home and the cattle
come each morning and
evening of themselves both
from the village itself and
the neighbouring hamlets.
21. Before the experiment was
started they were literally
starving but are now all
doing well. I saw 47 fed
the other morning and
there was a perfect stampede

for the full baskets as
they were brought out by
the Coolies who prepare
them.

22. There were no complaints
of Diarrhoea till a few days
ago and in each case I
found out that the
affected animals were fed
with Ragi husks which
had evidently disagreed
with them.

23. Cuddapah and Tolla-
gampalli depots are
evidently successes which
if

15/11/14
it would be a pity to dis-
continue as the latter place
especially will become a
centre for many villages
which will be utterly
devoid of fodder during
the next ^{two} months. Kopparti
is a failure and will be
discontinued at once in
favour of the village —
alluded to above, Hirtapalli
where I have strong hopes
that the attempt will be
as successful as at Gangan-
palli.

24. Rajipelt is a doubtful
Case which I think should
be given another month's
trial as I think the
prejudices are not so
strong as they were and
the increasing scarcity of
 fodder will induce them
to see round and believe
the evidence of their eye
sight in preference to the
idle rumours which are
spread by mischievous
persons mainly because
the Government has taken

the matter up.

25. During the past week
I have changed the ration
to 40th leaf + 1th rice straw
and will report the result
in due course.

26. Mr. Audrie deserves credit
for the pains he has been
at in watching the cattle
at Andapah Depot
and his suggestion of wiping
the leaves seems to be a
valuable hint.

27. The Saheldar has also
^{See in original} done his level best in
endeavouring to overcome

the ryots' prejudices to the
distinacy of which I can
testify.

28. The following is a statement
of the expenditure for the week ending
24th March from the commencement
which has just come in

No. Particulars	Amount	Remarks
1 Wages to Coolies	118 1 6	
2 Cost of Javudu or Dma	1 12 10	Amount Sanctioned
3 Cost of Grain	8 - -	Rs 250-0-0
4 Cost of Earth Sack	1 3 8	
5 Cost of Oil Cake	10 2	Amount Spent Rs 140-2-0
6 Cost of baskets	1 5 6	
7 Ropes	13 4	Balance 109-14-0
8 Mats	1 - -	
9 Cost of instrument	15 10 -	
100 @ 2-6 each	140 2 -	

Statement showing the amount spent at
each station where Prickly-pear ex-
periment was commenced

Station	Date of Commence- ment	Amount Spent	No. of cattle fed upto 15 th March	No. of coolies employed upto 15 th March
1. Hopparti	21 st 1872	11 0	247	219
2. Tollagangudi	24 00	48 7 5	786	190
3. Rajupett	22 00	28 - 9	515	476
4. Cuddapah	16 00	23 4 10	379	210
5 Cost of instrument		15 10 -		
Total		140 2 -	1927	1095

Shave & Co.

Sd/ C. F. Mac Carte
Special Asst. Collector
(True Copy)

Sd/ C. F. Mac Carte
Spl. Asst. Collector
for Acting Collector

(True Copy)

W. C. M.
for Secretary

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 14th April 1877
No 1681

Read the following

Extra No. 650

Board G.R. No. 3647

From

J. F. Price Esquire

Acting Collector of Cuddapah

To

H. E. Stokes Esquire

Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

In reference to the Proceedings
of the Board of Revenue No 283
dated 24th January last, I have
the honor to transmit an
interesting and detailed report
from Mr. Mac Cartie touching
the experiment of feeding cattle
in the Cuddapah Taluk

Enclosure in Board's

Proceedings of the

Revenue Board Secretary

Government &c.

Dated 14th April 1877

No 22524

G.O. 23 April 1877 No 1526

Copy of the Special
Circular for the Cuddapah
Taluk on the subject
of the experiment.

with prickly pear.

2. Of the Sum of Rs. 500 Sanctioned by the Board Rs. 250 were allotted to Cuddapah and the remainder to Mr. Beucon whose report has yet to come.

3. The Special Assistant Collector's report shows that, unless Government interferes, there is not much chance of the ryots doing any thing in the way of using prickly pear as fodder. That the experiment has been the means of saving several cattle there can be no doubt, and I would suggest its continuance and

1526.7
14
extension. The people in Relief Camp where prickly pear is available might easily be employed in preparing and cutting up the leaf. This would cost very little more than if they were allowed to sit quiet and do nothing.

4. The assistance afforded by Mr. Andri in carrying out the experiment at Cuddapah deserves recognition. His hint regarding wiping the leaf with cloths or gunny however is one already given by Messrs. Harney and Sahapatty of Bellary.

5. If the Board will permit a further outlay of Rs. 750,

15268
15

I will continue the experi-
ment in the Cuddapah
Taluk, and, if Mr. Benson's
report is favourable, in
his Division.

Cuddapah
Collector's Office
Camp Sedhout
28th March 1877

I have &c.
S^r. W. Johnston
Special Dy. Collector
for Ag. Collector.

Submitted for the information
and orders of Government.

2. In anticipation of sanction,
the Board authorize the
continuance of ^{the} experiment
at a further cost of Rs 750.

(True Copy & Extract)

W. C. Allen
for Secretary

To
The Additional Secretary to Government, R.D.
with copy of enclosure

Jan 1877 Sept
7th 2524

Proceedings of the
Board of Revenue
dated 14 April 1877

20th 14
out

Handwritten notes

Submitting Government
letter from the Collector
of Madras dated
28 March 1877 as to
657 known by Mr. de
Carter, report on the
cricket year, document

Handwritten notes and signatures at the top of the page, including a circular stamp.