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# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

*Revenue* DEPARTMENT

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

11th June 1877, No. 1,952-A

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper:

No. 182. From H. T. BLANFORD, Esq., Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Calcutta, 21st May 1877, No. 393.

The questions discussed in Dr. Hunter's recent pamphlet on the periodicity of drought and famine in Southern India is one of such importance, if Dr. Hunter's surmises are correct, as to make it very desirable to bring it to the test by the comparison, more specially of those rain-fall registers that extend over lengthened periods.

2. Having discussed those of Bangalore and Mysore for the last forty years, I find that the rain-fall of those stations does not fluctuate in the same manner as that of Madras, nor, indeed, do the registers show any well-marked periodical variation. But these stations receive the greater part of their rain-fall from the West Coast, and at a different season from that which chiefly brings rain to Madras. And, although it would appear, therefore, that Dr. Hunter's views do not hold good for Southern India generally, it is still possible, and even probable, that the rain-fall of the Carnatic and the Northern Circars may show a greater agreement with that of Madras.

3. Such long-established and important stations as Trichinopoly and Tanjore, Coimbatore, Arcot, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, &c. if not the majority of the Collectorate stations, probably have some record of the rain-fall for many years past, which, if not laying claim to the minute accuracy now demanded, may still give a very fair representation of the rain-fall of past years. I find, in Dr. Baist's Manual, rain-fall registers of Trichinopoly and some other stations for several years prior to 1850, and doubtless many others are extant either in the Office of the Board of Revenue or those of the Collectorates.

4. At a time when all civil officers must have their hands full of famine work, it would be unreasonable to ask that much time be devoted to a search for such registers. But, if any are readily available, I would submit a request that His Excellency the Governor may be pleased to direct that the registers or copies of them should be communicated to me for examination.

No. 183. ORDER THEREON, 11th June 1877, No. 1,952.

Miscellaneous.

Communicated to the Government Astronomer for report as to the information available at the Observatory, with

the request that a statement showing the rain-fall for as many years as possible at the head-quarters of each district, and at each station in it where a register of rain-fall is kept, may be submitted to this Office for transmission to the Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

(True Ext. act.)

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

To the Government Astronomer.  
.. the Board of Revenue.  
.. the Finance Department.

Ed. F. B. Santamar

chiefly

FROM

THE METEOROLOGICAL REPORTER TO THE

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

The Secretary to the Government of Madras  
Madras

Dated, Calcutta, the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1877.

SIR,

The position discussed in Dr. Hunter's recent pamphlet on the periodicity of drought and famine in Southern India, is one of such importance, if Dr. Hunter's surmises are correct as to make it very desirable to bring it to the test by the comparison of a collation of those rainfall registers that extend over lengthened periods.

Having, since the time of Bangalore and Mysore for the last forty years, I find that the rainfall of those stations does not fluctuate in the same manner as that of Madras, nor indeed do the registers show any well marked periodical variation. But these stations receive the greater part of their rainfall from the west coast, and at a different season from that which is chiefly

Report of the Meteorological Department to the Government of India, for the year 1877, and the year ending 1878. The Government of India, for the year ending 1878. The Government of India, for the year ending 1878.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

THE SECRETARY

REVENUE.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

chiefly brings rain to Madras. And although it would appear therefore that Dr. Hunter's views do not hold good for Southern India generally, it is still possible and even probable that the rainfall of the Carnatic and the Northern Circars may show a greater agreement with that of Madras.

Such long established and important stations as Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Pondicherry, Arcot, Vellore, Juddah, Masulipatanam, &c. if not the majority of the collectorate stations probably have some records of the rainfall for many years past, which, if not very accurate, may still give a very fair representation of the rainfall of past years. I find in Dr. Buist's manual, rainfall registers for Trichinopoly and some other stations for several years prior to 1860, and doubtless many others are extant either in the office of the Board of Revenue or those of the collectorates.

At a time when all civil officers must have their hands full of famine work,

it would be unreasonable to ask that much time be devoted to a search for such registers. But if any are readily available, I would submit a request that His Excellency the Governor may be pleased to direct that the registers or copies of them should be communicated to me for examination.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant

J. B. Mansford

Meteorological Reporter  
to the Government of India

Mrs. C. A. de la Motte  
 de la Motte  
 de la Motte

The following is a list of the  
 names of the persons who  
 have been in the service of  
 the Government of the  
 State of New York, from  
 the year 1800 to the year  
 1850, in the office of  
 the Secretary of the  
 State.

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