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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No: 2057	Press. / Mis.
Dated 10. 4. 1877	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—10,006—19-4-79.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

24th March 1877, No. 1054.

Famine Relief.

Read the following paper :—

No. 310. *From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated 16th March* 1877, *No.* 39.

I have the honor, with reference to your telegram of the 14th instant, received by me this day, to report that the Mysore frontier extends along the Vencataghiricotta Division of the Palmanair Taluq of this district and the western border of the Poonganoor Zemindari. The country is wild and hilly, and there are no roads connecting the district with Mysore except at Vencataghiricotta.

2. This town is situated 21 miles from the Coopum Railway Station on the Bangalore Branch of the South-West Line. It is connected with Coopum by an excellent road. The town, which is situated about 3 miles from the Mysore frontier, is very small, and there are no large buildings in it where grain can be stored in any quantity. On account of its extreme unhealthiness the town is now being removed and erected on a higher and better site at a little distance. Many of the houses in the old town have been pulled down, and their materials are being employed in the construction of others. It will be within the remembrance of Government that I recently obtained their special sanction to expend the sum of Rupees 700 in erecting a house for the residence of the Sub-Magistrate of Vencataghiricotta on account of the great difficulty experienced by that officer in procuring house accommodation.

3. A few years ago there were at Vencataghiricotta the remains of extensive buildings erected long ago by Mr. Turner when he held the abkári contract of this district; but, on his death, they were sold by auction by Messrs. Oakes and Co., of Madras, and the materials have been availed of for the construction of new houses by the residents. Vencataghiricotta is the only place along the whole line of the Mysore frontier which, so far as situation is concerned, can be selected in this district for a grain depôt, and even there it will be necessary to erect sheds for the storage of grain. The country is treeless, and there is an entire absence of palmyra and cocoanut trees, the leaves of which might be employed for roofing. In consequence the natives of that part of the country have flat mud roofs for their houses. If the Government decide on establishing a depôt there, I beg to be favored with early orders in view to my commencing at once the construction of sheds for storage. I would make long ranges of mud walls with flat mud roofs such as are in use ordinarily by the people.

4. In the Poonganoor Zemindari there is as yet no road communication direct with the Mysore territory. A road from Poonganoor through Ramasamudrum to a village on the Mysore frontier is now under construction as a relief work, but it will not be open to traffic for some time to come, and the great distance that the grain will have to be carried from the nearest Railway Station (Gudiattum) to the frontier (60 miles) would be a great objection to the use of the road for the conveyance of grain.

No. 311. ORDER THEREON, 24th March 1877, No. 1054.

The Collector will report his own opinion as to the expediency of establishing a depôt at Vencataghiricotta in view of possible future pressure in the Mysore country absorbing all available supply from Bangalore whence this tract of North Arcot is ordinarily supplied.

(True Extract.)

Offg. Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of North Arcot.
" Revenue (Famine) Department.
" Board of Revenue.

Ed. A. Grubert.

572

2051/2

Rev. 1877 Dept
Fn. 2307

Govt. of {1877} Madras.

FINANCIAL.

To
THE COLLECTOR OF NORTH ARCOT.
&c., &c., &c.

Dated March, 24th.
Issued 7/6
Recd. 9/6. Encl.

G.O., 24th March 1877, No. 1054.

MARCH.
Nos. 310-311.

Famine Relief.—Calling for opinion as to the expediency of establishing a depôt at Vencataghiricotta.

No. 2051
Lodged
Dt
10th April/77