

(1) Number of pages 21(2) Date of repair 4-3-72

(3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENTG.O. No.
B.P. No.

653

Press
Mis.

Dated

13-2-1877

197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

652

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th February, 1877.*

No. 404. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 13th February 1877.

Read the following letter from H. SEWELL, Esq., Acting Collector of Trichinopoly, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 31st January 1877, No. 31:—

THE adverse state of the season for agricultural operations in the current fasli, following as it did a bad year, such as the past one had been, obliged me to take steps to ascertain from time to time, since October last, the state of both the wet and dry crops in the district without in the least holding out hopes of remission to the ryots. I myself personally visited several parts, and the Divisional Officers have gone round their divisions carefully as often as it was practicable. The accounts of the state of the crops I received till the middle of December last were most discouraging; we had a shower on the 24th and 25th, which, although pretty general, was indeed very scanty in parts where it was most needed. There fell 3.13 inches in the town, 1.72 in Musiri, 1.40 in Kulittalei, .22 in Perambalur, and .80 in Udaiyarpalaiyam. Notwithstanding this unequal distribution of the late rain it has to a great extent saved the standing dry crops, such as the horse-gram, dholl, and other pulse grains, and some late cumboo and cholam and produced pasture for cattle.

2. The crops on the wet lands under the river channels, and on the permanently improved dry lands to which water is baled from these sources, are promising well as the supply to these channels does not depend on local rains, although a seasonable monsoon would be the means of a plentiful harvest. The first crop kar under these channels yielded a fair average. The first crop sumbah is now being harvested, and although it suffered at first from the river getting unusually low is yielding not much below the average except at the ends of the channels; but the wet crops under the tanks in all the taluqs have suffered very greatly. In some villages the ryots raised dry crops under the tanks with success.

3. The following statement shows for each taluq the quantity of rain that fell in each month from July to December 1876. The Board will find that the rain was most unequal in its distribution in the several taluqs and very scanty because it does not amount to more than three-fifths the quantity of the previous nine years' average for the period. The only taluq where there has been a fall equal in quantity to that in the previous year is Udaiyarpalaiyam, but even there the dry crops yielded a very poor return:—

Rain Account—Fasli 1286.

Month.	Trichinopoly.	Musiri.	Kulittalei.	Perambalur.	Udaiyarpalaiyam.	Total.	Average.
1876.							
July ...	2.25	0.80	0.65	4.70	4.30	12.70	2.54
August ...	4.41	1.15	1.10	2.45	0.00	9.11	2.00
September ...	4.96	5.23	4.90	2.32	3.80	20.71	4.14
October ...	0.15	4.83	1.10	2.75	0.40	9.23	1.85
November ...	2.12	0.52	0.25	1.86	4.55	9.30	1.86
December ...	3.13	1.72	1.40	0.22	0.80	7.27	1.45
Total ...	17.02	14.25	9.40	21.34	22.20	84.21	16.84
From July to December, Fasli 1285...	20.80	17.96	17.88	26.63	22.05	105.32	21.6
Nine years' average for the above period ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26.40

extent, population, wet lands under the channels and under the tanks, and the number of wells both Government and private in each taluq, the extent of cultivation of each description of land as compared with that of the preceding year, and the extent cultivated with the several kinds of staple food grains are given in the accompanying statement. It will be observed that nearly one-sixth of the wet and more than one-fourth of the dry extent have been laid waste in consequence of the adverse state of the season.

5. *Trichinopoly Taluq.*—This taluq is the best watered in the district from the Cauvery, with 663 river channels, 287 tanks, and 2,055 wells. The first crop kar and first crop sambah yielded an average outturn, and the second crop sambah also is expected to yield half the ordinary crop. The Iluppur Maganam of this taluq, which is isolated and lies right in the midst of the Pudukottai territories, suffered badly for the past three years. In 1874 it was found necessary to sink drinking water wells in that Maganam from the scarcity of water. This part of the taluq often suffers from drought, and according to the latest accounts the wet crops under the tanks, which are the only source of irrigation in that part, failed almost entirely, and the dry crops fared just as badly except here and there where the later raggi, cumboo, and horse-gram, favored by the showers of 24th and 25th ultimo, are likely to give half the average outturn. The ryots there have thus lost both their wet and dry crops.

6. The Thachankurichi Maganam or the north-east portion of the taluq depends entirely on tank irrigation and local rains, is also nearly as bad as Iluppur. I myself visited this part and found the state of crops not at all encouraging except under tanks, and even those irrigated by tanks did not look very thriving in the spring. The Maganam to the east of this taluq has also suffered greatly.

7. *Musiri Taluq.*—This taluq ranks next as regards irrigation, being watered by 113 river channels, 56 tanks and 6,978 wells. The wet lands in the southern portion of this taluq, which lies right along the northern bank of the Cauvery, yielded a good outturn of first crop kar and first crop sambah. The second crop kar paddy, which will take three months more to ripen, is not likely to give more than one-third of the usual average, the river having gone down too low to benefit the crops. The wet crops under tanks suffered equally everywhere and mostly failed. Except in the Chettykulam and Turaiyur Maganam the dry crops have either failed or yielded a very poor return.

8. *Kulittalei Taluq.*—This taluq comes next in point of irrigation, and is irrigated by the Cauvery along the south side of the river with 56 river channels, 60 tanks, and 3,999 wells. The remarks as regards the river irrigated portions of Musiri apply as well to this taluq also; but the dry crops in the Manaparai Division of this taluq fared worse than in the dry parts of the Musiri Taluq. Almost all the tanks have failed, and there was scarcely any cultivation under them, and if there had been any cultivation the crops either failed or promised a very poor return. The dry crops scarcely yielded any return.

9. *Perambalur.*—Except a small extent by the side of the Vellar, which forms the northern boundary of the district, the wet crops under tanks yielded a very poor return, although under some tanks they are doing fairly. Of the dry crops the early cumboo, cholam, and varagu fared just as bad. With the exception of some parts,

which were favored with occasional copious fall of rain, the dry crops have yielded more than one-third of the usual average.

10. *Udaiyarpalayam Taluq.*—This taluq fared comparatively better than Perambalur as regards dry crops. Some timely rain saved the early cumboo, which is said to have yielded three-fourths of the usual average. The wet crops also under the Ponneri and Nandavar channels are promising a good crop; but the wet crops under the tanks shared the same fate as those in other taluqs.

11. The low rates of assessment in this district do not justify any remission in an ordinary bad year, as the settlement rates of assessment have been fixed after making all allowance for bad years, and in due consideration that the whole dry extent of a ryot's holding could scarcely ever be cultivated although it must be paid for. The ryots, under such favorable rates of assessment, must be able to tide over an occasional bad year, such as the last year had been; but the present year, succeeding as it did another bad year, renders remission necessary. As a rule I am quite against either dry or wet remission in this district, although the rules allow remission for the latter class of lands; but I am afraid that the dry assessment, as it is, can hardly be realized in some parts of the district, such as the Iluppur and Iluvagudi Maganams of the Trichinopoly Taluq, and the Manaparai Division of the Kulittalei, where the ryots have lost both their wet and dry crops and have hardly any grain left to live upon till the next harvest season. Applications for wet and dry remission are being constantly received, and the inspection reports of the Divisional Officers confirm the distress of the ryots in the affected parts. I have therefore to request the Board's sanction for dry remission in those parts which I have named as being specially affected. I would not propose to give more than 50 per cent. remission on any tract, and it will not be necessary to give nearly so much in most cases. I trust that the whole remission to be granted will not exceed 20 per cent. of the dry revenue. I have the honor to request early instructions on the subject. I have purposely delayed writing till the latest date in order to get the latest information possible.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Statement.

THE Board sanction dry remission within the limits specified by the Collector in the three tracts named and lying to the south of the river. Remission should not be granted for lands which have yielded one crop.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No 405.

ORDER THEREON, 13th February 1877, No. 653.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Etd. F. R. Bantleman.

Revenue Department
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 6th February 1877

Read the following

No. 31

From the Acting Collectors of
Trichinopoly

To The Secretary to the Board of Revenue
Madras

Sir,

The adverse state of the
season for agricultural operations
in the current Pusti following as it
did a bad year such as the past,
and had been, obliged me to take steps
to ascertain from time to time since
October last the state of both wet
and dry crops in the District without
in the least holding out hopes of
remission to the ryots. I myself
personally

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Dated February, 1877.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 19th February 1877, No. 603.

SECRETARY.

No. 404/05.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Madras, should be granted for the year, which have yielded a crop.

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the Divisional Officers have gone
round their divisions carefully
as often as it was practicable. The
accounts of the state of the crops I
received till the middle of December
last were most discouraging, we had
a shower on the 24th and 25th which
although pretty general, was indeed
very scanty in parts where it was
most needed. There fell 3.18 inches
in the Town, 1.72 in Mysore, 1.40 in
Chittale, 2.2 in Perambalur and
.80 in Eldaiyarpalayam. Notwith-
standing this unequal distribution
of the late rain it has to a great
extent saved the standing dry crops
such

57
such as the Kharif grain, Kharif and
other pulse grains and also late
Kharif and Chokur and produced
pasture for cattle.

2. The crops on the wet
lands under the river channels
and on the permanently improved
dry lands to which water is baled
from these sources are promising
well as the supply to these channels
does not depend on local rains -
although a seasonable monsoon
would be the means of a plentiful
harvest. The 1st Crop Khar under
these channels yielded a fair average.
The 1st Crop Sunbakh is now being
harvested

harvested, and although it suffered at first from the river getting unusually low is yielding not much below the average except at the end of the channels. But the wet crops under the Tanks in all the Taluqs have suffered very greatly. In some villages the crops raised dry crops under the Tanks with success.

Rain account. Tuck 1286.

Months	Trichi. inches	Muni. inches	St. L. inches	Arum. inches	Adain. inches	Total	Aver. inches
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July	2.25	0.80	0.65	4.70	4.80	12.70	2.54
August	4.41	1.15	1.10	9.49	8.85	25.00	5.00
September	4.96	5.23	4.90	2.32	3.30	20.71	4.14
October	0.15	4.83	1.10	2.75	0.40	9.23	1.85
November	2.12	0.52	0.25	1.86	4.55	9.30	1.86
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From July to Decr. Tuck 1285.	20.80	17.96	17.88	26.63	22.05	105.32	21.6

Nine years average for the above period.
26.40.

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that fell in each month from July to December 1876. The Board will find that the rain was most unequal in its distribution in the several Taluqs and very scanty because it does not amount to more than $\frac{1}{5}$ the quantity of the previous 9 years average for the period. The only Taluq where there has been a fall equal in quantity to that in the previous ^{year} is Udaiyaspalayan but even there the dry crops yielded a very poor return.

4 The extent, population, wet lands under the channels and under the Tank and the number of wells both Government and private in each Taluq, the extent of cultivation of

of each description of land as compared with that of the preceding year, and the extent cultivated with the several kinds of staple food grains are given in the accompanying statement. It will be observed that nearly one sixth of the wet and more than one fourth of the dry extent have been laid waste in consequence of the adverse state of the season.—

5. Trichinopoly Talug—This Talug is the best watered in the District from the Cauveri with 563 river channels, 284 tanks and 2055 wells. The 1st Crop Rice and 2^d Crop

Crop Sambar yields an average return and the 2^d Crop Sambar also is expected to yield half the ordinary crop. The Pudur Maganani of this Talug which is isolated and lies right in the midst of the Pudukottai Territories suffered badly for the past 3 years. In 1874 it was found necessary to sink drinking water wells in that Maganani from the scarcity of water. This part of the Talug often suffers from draught and according to the latest accounts the wet crops under the tanks which are the only source of irrigation in that part

part failed almost entirely and the
dry crops fared just as badly except here
and there where the Later Paggi,
Rambur and horse gram favored
by the showers of 24th and 25th ultimo
are likely to give half the average
outturn. The ryots there have thus
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6. The Thachankurichi mag.
nam or the north east portion of
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on tank irrigation and local rains
is also nearly as bad as Shapur. I
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ging except under wells and even
those

those irrigated by wells did not look
very thriving as the spring water
in the wells was going down very fast.
Thuvagudi Maganam to the east of this
Taluk has also suffered greatly.

7. Musiri Taluk - This Taluk
ranks next as regards irrigation being
watered by 113 river channels, 56 tanks and
6978 wells. The wet lands in the southern
portion of this taluk which lie right along
the northern bank of the Kaveri yielded a
good outturn of 1st crop Rax and 1st crop
Samba. The 2^d crop Pear paddy which
will take 3 months more to ripen is not
likely to give more than $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ the
usual average, the river having gone
down too low to benefit the crops. The
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Wet crops under tanks suffered equally
everywhere and mostly failed. Except
in the Chettykulam and Turayur Ma-
-gumam the dry crops have either failed
or yielded a very poor return.

8. Chulittalai Talug - This
Talug comes next in point of irrigation
and is irrigated by the Canoeu along the
south side of the river with 56 river
channels but tanks and 3999 wells. The
remarks as regards the river irrigated
portions of Mysore apply as well to this
Taluk also. But the dry crops in the
lower Mysore division of this Taluk
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the Mysore Talug. Almost all the
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9. Prambalur - Except a
small extent by the side of the
Tellar which forms the northern
boundary of the District the wet
crops under tanks yielded a very poor
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the early Kanku Cholam & Soragum fared
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10. Udayanpalayam taluk.

This taluk fared comparatively better than Channarayana as regards dry crops.

Some timely rain saved the early

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three fourths of the usual average.

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The ryots under such favorable rates

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the last year had been. But the pres-

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bad year renders remission necessary.

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although the rules allow remission

for the latter class of lands. But I am

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Shuppur

Higham and Swagudi Inagams
of the Trichinopoly Taluk and the
Manapara Division of the Pudukkottai
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would not propose to give more than
50 per cent remission in any tract and

Wet remission
being prohibited
in a settled
district like
this - except
on a total
failure of
crops.

653/10
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so much in most cases. I trust that
the whole remission to be granted will
not exceed 20 per cent of the dry season
crop. I have the honor to request early
instructions on the subject. I have pur-
suedly delayed writing till the latest
date in order to get the latest informa-
tion possible.

Trichinopoly I have
Collyer's office
31st January 1879
Sd/- Henry Sewall
Acting Collector

The Board sanction
dry remission within the limits
specified by the collector in the three
tracts

tracts named and lying to the ^{south} of the
river. Permission should not be
granted for lands which have yielded
no crop.

/ True copy & Extract /

/ Sgd / H. C. Stokes

As Secretary

To The collector of
Chickinofdy.

/ True copy /

Johnston

Acting Secretary

To The Asst. Secretary
to Government P. A.
with copy of Encls.

653

Wells

Government wells	Private wells	Total
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1246	810	2055
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5095	1883	6978
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2908	1091	3999
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1697	1551	3148
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188	352	540
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11033	5687	16720
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Signed Henry Sewell
Ag Collector

True Copy

W. H. H.

Acting Secretary

W. H. H.

over 1770000

1st 11/09

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

At a meeting held on

2nd 6th
Decr 28th
1801

11

2nd 6th 1801
2nd 6th 1801

of the Commission in

the several parts of the District

and stating that the Commission

should be granted to

and that the Commission

and that the Commission

13th February 1771