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# TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

## GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 946 A. Press
B.P. No. Mis.

Dated 6.3.1877 197 .

*Not to be folded or roughly handled*

**Famine Relief.**

No. 175A. Read the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 22th February 1877, No. 922 :—

Read the following letter from R. DAVIDSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Karnool, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated 20th February 1877, No. 159.

I HAVE the honor to forward the relief reports and the returns of prices and rainfall for the week ending 10th February 1877 with the following explanatory remarks.

2. *Statement No. I.*—On the whole, the fall of prices reported last week continues still as shown in the margin. In Nundikotkur, Pattikonda, and Sirwell prices were stationary. In Ramalkotta the prices of all grains, except horse-gram, fell slightly. In Koilkuntla the prices were all stationary, except that of cholum, which rose from 8·25 in the previous week to 7·42. In Cumbum the price of wheat rose from 5·78 in the previous week to 4·95, while that of horse-gram fell from 9·08 in the previous week to 9·90. In Markapur the fall in the prices of all grains, except wheat and horse-gram, was considerable, materially affecting the average for the district, as will be seen from Statement No. I submitted to the Board. This result is presumably owing to the sharp importation of grains. Explanation has been called for from Mr. Farmer. In Nundial, however, the prices of rice, ragi, and horse-gram rose from 6·26, 7·94, and 7·48 in the previous week to 6·06, 7·48, and 7·12 respectively, and those of cholum and wheat fell from 6·87 and 6·31 to 7·89 and 8·19 respectively. No explanation is given in the taluq returns for these variations in prices. No rain fell during the week.

| | Average for District. 10th February. | 3rd February. |
|---|---|---|
| Rice ... ... ... ... | 6·82 | 6·67 |
| Cholum ... ... ... | 8·21 | 7·83 |
| Ragi ... ... ... .. | 9·5 | 8·56 |
| Cumboo ... ... ... | 8·85 | 8·01 |
| Wheat ... ... ... | 6·63 | 6 32 |
| Horse-gram ... ... | 7·81 | 7·75 |

3. The number of works sanctioned for execution in each taluq, those in progress, and the probable cost of executing them are shown in the subjoined table :—

| Names of Taluqs. | Number of Works sanctioned. | Number of Works in progress. | Probable Cost of sanctioned Works. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Rs. |
| Ramalkotta ... ... | 26 | 13 | 17,75,629¼ |
| Nundikotkur ... ... | 13 | 11 | 1,34,250 |
| Pattikonda ... ... | 11 | 5 | 98,600 |
| Koilkuntla ... ... | 15 | 8 | 6,61,758 |
| Nundial ... ... ... | 25 | 22 | 4,33,026 |
| Sirwell ... ... ... | 25 | 11 | 1,71,661 |
| Cumbum ... ... ... | 23 | 16 | 2,76,541 |
| Markapur ... ... ... | 15 | 7 | 1,21,080 |
| Total ... | 153 | 93 | 36,72,545¼ |

As I have already reported, the probable cost of the works is not accurate. Estimates are now coming in from the District Engineer. The Taluq Officers have not as yet furnished the required information regarding the works which have been completed up to date.

4. A taluqwar abstract is enclosed to show the outlay on works in the week, and up to the end of the week, as also the number of persons employed on works, and those gratuitously relieved.

5. The grants made up to the 10th February 1877 amounted to Rupees 21,21,000.

6. The outlay during the week under report amounts to Rupees 1,59,239 against Rupees 2,03,515 in the previous week. The decrease was partly owing to adjustments made between the Huzoor and taluq accounts and partly to reduced numbers who were employed on works. The total outlay on relief works since the commencement of distress amounts to Rupees 22,42,935.

7. *Numbers on relief works.*—The numbers employed on works in each taluq as contrasted with those reported for the previous week are given in the subjoined table. On the whole there was a decrease of 52,477, which was chiefly in Nundial and Cumbum. This result is satisfactory, and is attributed chiefly to the weeding of those who are not really destitute, partly to the desertion of those who were unwilling to do task-work, and partly to desertion caused by an outbreak of cholera in a few places. The accuracy of the last cause is doubted, and the taluq authorities have been called to report on the subject. The small increase in Nundikotkur is attributed partly to the resumption of certain works which had been stopped in the previous weeks and partly to the increased numbers who sought employment on two other roads :—

| Taluqs. | 3rd February 1877. | 10th February 1877. | Difference. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ramalkotta ... ... ... | 53,778 | 50,368 | — 3,410 |
| Nundikotkur ... ... ... | 5,264 | 8,907 | + 3,643 |
| Pattikonda ... ... ... .. | 26,418 | 26,519 | + 101 |
| Koilkuntla ... ... ... ... | 43,000 | 37,229 | — 5,771 |
| Nundial ... ... ... ... | 46,184 | 23,457 | — 22,727 |
| Sirwell ... ... ... ... | 23,453 | 17,282 | — 6,171 |
| Cumbum ... ... ... ... | 76,049 | 56,468 | — 19,581 |
| Markapur ... ... ... ... | 17,065 | 18,504 | + 1,439 |
| Total ... | 29,121 | 238,734 | — 52,477 |

8. The following table shows the percentage of the coolies distinguished as to sex and age in the taluqs, lying to the east and west of the Nulla Mallais as contrasted for the weeks ending 3rd and 10th February 1877 :—

| | | Men. | Women. | Children. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cumbum and Markapur... | 3rd February ... ... | 46 | 39 | 15 |
| | 10th February ... ... | 38 | 48 | 14 |
| Rest of the district ... | 3rd February ... ... | 38 | 47 | 15 |
| | 10th February ... ... | 47 | 42 | 11 |

9. The sanctioned rates of money wages were paid throughout the district, except in Cumbum Taluq, where 1 Anna instead of 10 Pies was paid to each child. I shall again call Mr. Farmer's attention to this. Grain wages were stopped in all the taluqs, except in Cumbum, Markapur, and Pattikonda. There seems no necessity to continue grain wages in any of the taluqs, as the price returns received for the week under report show that the sanctioned money rates would purchase the



prescribed rations of rice. As regards Pattikonda, Mr. Clogstoun, the Sectional Officer, [illegible]s the following remarks :—

"[illegible] Grain wages were discontinued on the Ramnur road in the Pattikonda Taluq make[illegible] from about the 7th or 8th instant, and arrangements were made by me with certain merchants of Peapally last Saturday, which I trust will do away with the necessity for making grain payments after the 14th instant on the Anigamarri road. These two are the only roads in the Pattikonda Taluq in which grain payments were in force on the 3rd instant.

"As regards the question whether it was necessary to have continued grain payments on this road to so late a date, I have the honor to state that both these roads ran through a part of the country where the bazaars are small and ill-supplied ; that the supply of grain to these roads by private traders failed absolutely in the month of December ; and that I was not therefore willing to take the responsibility of ordering a return to money payments until, by a visit in person to the locality, I was able to satisfy myself that, on the introduction of money wages, the coolies would of a certainty be able to obtain grain in exchange for their money."

As regards Cumbum and Markapur, Mr. Farmer in one of his letters observes :—

"The merchants distinctly declined to deliver grain anywhere but at Cumbum and Bestarpett ; and except at these places, grain in any thing like sufficient quantities cannot, I believe, be bought by coolies. At Cumbum I gave instructions some time ago to pay in money, and will order money payments to be received when the supply now in the field depot is exhausted."

The same officer in another letter makes the following remarks :—

"It will still be necessary to expend grain as wages except near Cumbum, where orders have been issued to stop grain payments. I believe that, if the merchants could not sell wholesale to Government, they would export rather than sell retail to coolies."

I have called* on Mr. Farmer to explain why merchants will sell to Government wholesale and not retail to the coolies, no data for the opinion expressed having been given in the letter.

* Letter, dated 14th instant.

10. The following table shows the quantity of rice which the sanctioned money wages would purchase in each taluq, calculated at the rates given in the taluq price returns :—

| Taluqs. | Man at 2 Annas. | Woman at 1 Anna 4 Pies. | Child at 10 Pies. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | LBS. | LBS. | LBS. |
| Ramalkotta ... ... ... ... | 1·60 | 1·07 | ·67 |
| Nundikotkur ... ... ... ... | 1·60 | 1·07 | ·67 |
| Pattikonda ... ... ... ... ... | 1·75 | 1·16 | ·73 |
| Koilkuntla ... ... ... ... ... | 1·86 | 1·24 | ·77 |
| Cumbum ... ... ... ... ... | 1·65 | 1·10 | ·69 |
| Markapur ... ... ... ... ... | 2·06 | 1·37 | ·86 |
| Nandial ... ... ... ... ... | 1·51 | 1·01 | ·63 |
| Sirwell ... ... ... ... ... ... | 1·60 | 1·07 | ·67 |

It is evident from the above table that the money rates purchased more than the prescribed quantities of rice throughout the district in the case of men and women. As regards children, *vide* my remark in paragraph 10 of the last week's report.

11. *Gratuitous relief.*—The number of persons in receipt of this form of r[illegible] in each taluq is compared in the subjoined table with that for the previous week. decrease on the whole is a mere trifle. The cause for the great increase in Koilkuntla, and the Tahsildar is directed to explain it. It does not, however, seem surprising considering how few were returned for the week ending 3rd February 1877 :—

| Taluqs. | 3rd February. | 10th February. | Difference. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ramalkotta ... ... ... ... ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Nundikotkur ... ... ... ... | 668 | 659 | — 9 |
| Pattikonda ... ... ... ... ... | 443 | 169 | — 174 |
| Koilkuntla ... ... ... ... ... | 46 | 186 | + 140 |
| Nundial ... ... ... ... ... | 458 | 560 | + 102 |
| Sirwell ... ... ... ... ... ... | 214 | 241 | + 27 |
| Cumbum ... ... ... ... ... | 701 | 802 | + 101 |
| Markapur ... ... ... ... ... | 1,144 | 950 | — 194 |
| Total ... | 3,674 | 3,567 | — 107 |

12. The percentage of men, women, and children receiving gratuitous relief is noted below :—

| | 3rd February. | 10th February. |
|---|---|---|
| Men ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 31 | 32 |
| Women ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 41 | 43 |
| Children ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... | 25 | 25 |

13. The cost of gratuitous relief during the week was Rupees 1,499, of which Rupees 973 was in money and Rupees 526 in grain. The cost per head on an average came to 6½ Annas for the week The entire cost on account of gratuitous relief since the commencement of distress is Rupees 11,416.

14. The return of establishment called for in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 8th January last, No. 64, is herewith submitted, as also a map of the district showing the works in progress, &c., called for in paragraph 3 of the Board's Proceedings, dated 12th December 1876, No. 3,157.

Enclosure No. 1.—Statement.

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings, dated 23rd February 1877, No.—, forwarding the detailed returns reviewed by the Acting Collector in this letter.

2. The Board are glad to note that the accuracy of the report that the increase of numbers was partly due to cholera is doubted.

3. Explanation is furnished as to the continuance of grain wages in parts of Pattikonda and in Cumbum. In the former case the bazaars were ill-supplied, and Mr. Clogstoun was unwilling to order the stoppage of grain wages until he could satisfy himself on a personal visit that it could be done with safety. In Cumbum much the same reason is assigned by Mr. Farmer, who says further that merchants are willing to sell wholesale to Government, but not to sell retail to the coolies. No doubt they prefer the former course, but when Government purchases are discontinued, they will be glad enough to sell in the usual way.



[illegible] establishment return will be embodied in the Board's report for the

(True Copy an[illegible]

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Secretary.

No. 175B. Order thereon, 6th March 1877, No. 946A.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded. The report is not sufficiently full as to the state of the population generally and of the villages visited.

(True Extract.)

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

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

Exd. A. F. Goodall.

Tuesday

Revenue Depot

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
dated 28th February 1877.

Read the following

No 139.

From The acting Collector
Kurnool

To The Secretary to the
Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward the Relief Reports and the returns of prices and rainfall for the week ending 10th February 1877 with the following explanatory remarks.

Statement No. I.

2. On the whole the fall of prices reported last week continues still

still as shown in the margin.

| Average for District. | 10th Feb. | 3rd Feb. |
|---|---|---|
| Rice | 6.82 | 6.67 |
| Cholam | 8.21 | 7.83 |
| Ragi | 9.05 | 8.56 |
| Cumbum | 8.85 | 8.01 |
| Wheat | 6.63 | 6.32 |
| Horse Gram. | 7.81 | 7.75. |

In Nandikotkur, Pattikonda and Dronachellam, prices were ... In Ramulcotta, the prices of all grains except horse-gram fell slightly. In Koilkuntla the prices were all stationary except that of Cholam which rose from 8.25 in the previous week to 7.42. In Cumbum, the price of wheat rose from 5.78 in the previous week to 4.95, while that of horse gram fell from 9.08 in the previous week to 9.90. In Nos-

clerkapur, the fall in the prices of all grains except wheat and horse gram was considerable, materially affecting the average for the district, as will be seen from Statement No. I submitted to the Board. This result is presumably owing to the short importation of grains. Explanation has been called for from all Tahsildars. In Nandial, however, the prices of rice, ragi and horse gram rose from 6.26, 7.94 and 7.48 in the previous week, to 6.06, 7.48 and 7.12 respectively and those of Cholam and

and wheat fell from 6.87 and 6.31 to 7.89 and 8.19 respectively. No explanation is given in the Taluq returns for these variations in prices.

No rain fell during the week.

3. The number of works sanctioned for execution in each Taluq, those in progress, and the probable cost of executing them are shown in the subjoined table:—

| Names of Talugs. | No. of works sanctioned. | No. of works in progress. | Probable cost of sanctioned works. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ramalakota | 26 | 13 | 17,75,629 ¼ |
| Vandikotkur | 13 | 11 | 1,34,250 |
| Pattikonda | 11 | 5 | 98,600 |
| Koilkuntla | 15 | 8 | 66,758 |
| Nandial | 25 | 22 | 4,33,026 |
| Sirvell | 25 | 11 | 1,71,661 |
| Cumbum | 23 | 16 | 2,76,541 |
| Markapur | 15 | 7 | 1,21,080 |
| Total. | 153 | 93 | 36,72,545 ¼ |



9468/15

As I have already reported the probable cost of the works is not accurate. Estimates are now coming in from the Taluq officers. The Taluq officers have not as yet furnished the required information regarding the works which have been completed up to date.

4. A Talugwar abstract is enclosed to show the outlay on works in the week, and upto the end of the week as also the number of persons employed on works, and those gratuitously relieved.

The

5. The grants made upto the 10th February 1877 amounted to Rupees. 21,21,000.

6. The outlay during the week under report amounts to Rupees. 1,59,239 against Rupees. 2,03,515 in the previous week. The decrease was partly owing to adjustments made between the Huzur and Taluq accounts and partly to reduced numbers who were employed on works. The total outlay on Relief works since the commencement of distress amounts to Rupees. 22,42,935.

7. Numbers on Relief Works. The numbers employed on works in each Taluq as contrasted with those reported for the previous week, are given in the margin. On the whole there was a decrease of 52,477 as which was chiefly in Mundial and Cumbum. This result is satisfactory and is attributed chiefly to the weeding of those who are not really destitute, partly to the desertion of those who were unwilling to do task work, and partly to desertion caused by an outbreak of

| Taluqs | 3rd Febf. 1877. | 10th Febf 1877 | Difference | previous week, are given in the margin. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gidalakota— | 53,778 | 50,368 | — 3410 | On the whole |
| Dikshtur— | 5,264 | 8,907 | + 3643 | there was |
| Markonda— | 26,418 | 26,519 | + 101 | a decrease |
| Kanigila— | 43,000 | 37,229 | — 5771 | of 52,477 as |
| Mundial— | 46,184 | 23,457 | — 22727 | which was |
| Cumbum— | 23,453 | 17,282 | — 6171 | chiefly in |
| Markapur— | 76,049 | 56,468 | — 19,581 | Mundial and Cumbum. |
| Total. | 17,065 | 18,504 | + 1439 | |
| | 29,121 | 2,38,734 | — 52,477 | |

fatal to many - Deaths of slow death prevailed 4 years of [illegible]

of cholera in a few places. [illegible]

The accuracy of the last cause is doubted and the Taluq authorities have been asked to report on the subject. The mortality in Kandikottai is attributed partly to the necessity of certain works which had been stopped in the previous weeks and partly to the increased numbers who sought employment on two other roads.

8. The following table shows the percentage of the Coolies distinguished as to sex and age in the Taluqs lying to the East and West of the



of the Vellore collectorate contracted for the weeks ending 3rd and 10th February 1877.

| | | Men. | Women. | Children |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gudiyatham & Kaniyambadi. | 3rd Feb. | 46 | 39 | 15 |
| | 10th Feb. | 20 | 10 | 11 |
| Rest of the District. | 3rd Feb. | 38 | 47 | 15 |
| | 10th Feb. | 47 | 42 | 11 |

9. The ascertained rates of money wages were paid throughout the District except in Gudiyatham Taluq where one anna instead of 10 pice was paid to each child. I shall again call Mr. Farmer's attention to this. Grain wages were stopped in all the Taluqs except in Gudiyatham, Vaniyambadi and Pattikonda. There seems no necessity to continue grain

Transferred to Dear St

grain wages in any of the
Taluqs as the prices returns
received for the week under
report show that the exist-
-ing money rates would
purchase the prescribed
rations of rice. As regards
Pattikonda or Cloyetoor
the Sectional officer makes
the following remarks. "Grain
"wages were discontinued
"on the Rampur road
"in the Pattikonda Taluq
"from about the 7th or 8th Instant
"and arrangements were made
"by me with certain merchants
"of Peapally, last Saturday,
"which I trust will do away
with

"with the necessity for making
"grain payments after the
"14th Instant, on the Yanai-
"-gandrie Road. These two
"are the only roads in the
"Pattikonda Taluq in
"which grain payments were
"in force on the 3rd Instant.
"As regards the ques-
"-tion whether it was necessary
"to have continued grain
"payments on this road to so
"late a date, I have the honor
"to state that both these
"roads run through a part
"of the country where the
"bazaars are small and
"ill-supplied, that the sup-
"-ply of grain to these roads
by

"by private traders failed
"absolutely in the month of
"December, and that I was
"not therefore willing to take
"the responsibility of order-
"ing a return to money pay-
"ments until, by a visit
"in person to the locality,
"I was able to satisfy my-
"self that on the introduct-
"ion of money wages, the cooli
"would of a certainty be
"able to obtain grain in
"exchange for their money."

As regards Cumbum
and Adoniapur, Mr. Farmer,
in one of his letters, observes:—
"The merchants distinctly
declined to deliver grain any-
"where but at Cumbum and
"Bestorpett; and except at
"these places, grain, in any
"thing like sufficient quan-
"tities cannot, I believe, be
"brought by coolies. At Cum-
"bum I gave instructions
"some time ago to pay in money
"and will order money pay-
"ments to be resumed when
"the supply now in the Field
"Depot is exhausted."

The same officer in an
another letter, makes the
following remarks.
"It will still be necessary
"to expend grain as wages ex-
"cept near Cumbum, where orders
"have been issued to stop grain
"payments. I believe that if
the

"the merchants could not sell
"wholesale to Government, they
"would export rather than
"sell retail to Coolies". I have
called on Mr. Farmer to ex-
plain why merchants will
sell to Government wholesale
and not retail to the Coolies,
no data for the opinion ex-
pressed having been given
in the letter.

* Letter dated 14th Octr.

10. The following table shows the quantities of rice which the same fixed money wages would purchase in each Taluq, calculated at the rates given in the Taluq Price returns.

| Taluqs | Man at 2 annas lbs | Woman at 1-4 lbs | Child at 10 pie. lbs |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ramalkota | 1.60 | 1.07 | .67 |
| Nundikottkur | 1.60 | 1.07 | .67 |
| Pattikonda | 1.75 | 1.16 | .73 |
| Koilkuntla | 1.86 | 1.24 | .77 |
| Cumbum | 1.65 | 1.10 | .69 |
| Markapur | 2.06 | 1.37 | .86 |
| Nundial | 1.51 | 1.01 | .63 |
| Sirivella | 1.60 | 1.07 | .67 |

It is evident from the above Table that the money rates purchased more than the prescribed quantities of rice throughout the District in the case of men and women. As regards children, vide my remark in para 10 of the last week's report.

11. Gratuitous relief. The number of persons in receipt of this form of relief in each Taluq is compared in the margin, with that for the previous week. The decrease on the whole is a mere trifle. The cause for the great increase

| Taluqs | 3d February | 10th February | Difference. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ramalkota | " | " | " |
| Nundikottkur | 668 | 659 | - 9 |
| Pattikonda | 443 | 169 | -174 |
| Koilkuntla | 46 | 186 | +140 |
| Nundial | 458 | 560 | +102 |
| Sirivella | 214 | 241 | + 27 |
| Cumbum | 701 | 802 | +101 |
| Markapur | 1144 | 950 | -194 |
| Total. | 3674 | 3567 | -107 |

in Kailkuntla is unknown and the Tahsildar is directed to explain it. It does not however seem surprising considering how few were ... due ... for the week ending 3rd ~~October~~ February 1877.

12. The percentage of men, women and children receiving gratuitous relief is noted below:—

| | 3rd February. | 10th February. |
|---|---|---|
| Men — | 31 | 32. |
| Women — | 44 | 43 |
| Children — | 25 | 25 |

13. The cost of gratuitous relief during the week was Rupees. 1499 of which Rupees. 973 was in money and Rupees 526 in grain. The cost per head on an average came to 6½ annas for the week. The entire cost on account of gratuitous relief since the commencement of distress is Rs. 11,41 16.

14. The return of establishment called for in para. 3 of the Board's Proceedings dated 5th January last No. 64, is herewith submitted, as also a map of the district showing the works in progress called for in para. 3 of the Board's Proceedings dated 12th December 1876 No. 3157.

I have &c.

Kurnool Collector's Office
20th February 1877.

Sd/ V. Jagannadha Row
Temp. Asst. to Collector
for absent Collector

Statement No. 1

Submitted to Government in continuation of Board's Proceedings dated 23rd February 1877 No. — forwarding the detailed returns

returns received by the Cty
Collector in this Taluq.

2. The Board are glad to note that the accuracy of the report that the increase of numbers was partly due to cholera is doubted.

3. Explanation is furnished as to the continuance of grain wages in parts of Pattikonda and Cumbum. In the former case the boza were ill-supplied and at Cloyetown was unwilling to order the stoppage of grain wages until he could satisfy himself on a personal visit that it could be done with safety.

safety. In Cumbum, much the same reason is assigned by the Farmer who says further that merchants are willing to sell wholesale to Government but not to sell retail to the Collr. No doubt they prefer the former course but when Government purchases are discontinued they will be glad to sell in the usual way.

4. The establishment return will be embodied in the Board's report for the 17th February.

/True Copy and Extract/

W Nicholas

Secretary.

To
The additional Secretary to
Government Rev: Depart
with original statement to be returned

Rev: 1877 Dept
7 Re 1038

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 28th Feb 1877.

Dept 28

Recd 1/3/77

7 3 77

Submitting to Govt. with remarks letter from Ag Collector of Kurnool forwarding relief reports and returns of prices and rainfall for the week ending 10th February 1877 with explanatory remarks

[illegible] 1877 No. 946 A

No. 946 B

Recorded. The report is not sufficiently full as to the state of the population generally & the [illegible]

1/3/77

C 2-3-77 R 6-3-77

[illegible]

108