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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1821	Press. / Mis.
Dated	13.11.1878	197 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives I—6,806—24-2-76.

1821
1

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

13th November 1878, No. 1,821.

Read the following paper:—

No. 148. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 1st November 1878, No. 2,924.

Read the following letter from A. CRUICKSHANK, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, to C. A. GALTON, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Cuddalore, 24th October 1878, No. 432:—

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Board, that from a report of the Sub-Collector, dated 17th instant, I learn that a flight of locusts alighted near the hill of Thuthiput, in the Villupuram Taluk, at noon on the 13th instant, and during their short stay there caused damage to the cholum and varugu crops on cawnies 25-14-0 and then went off towards the Tirukoilur Taluk. From a report of the Tirukoilur Tahsildar, dated 17th instant, it appears that a swarm of locusts visited the village of Gudalore in his taluk on the evening of the 14th, remained there till about 11 o'clock on the following morning, and caused damage to the dry-crops on about a thousand cawnies. The Tahsildar has sent a Revenue Inspector to the village to ascertain the amount of loss. On the same day, the 15th instant, there passed a swarm of the insects through cusbah Kullakurchi. A copy of the Tahsildar's report is herewith enclosed.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

From T. BADRACHALAM, Tahsildar of Kullakurchi, to A. CRUICKSHANK, Esq., Collector of South Arcot, dated Kullakurchi, 17th October 1878, No. 47.

I BEG most humbly to bring to your Honor's notice the following accounts regarding the locusts that visited this taluk.

2. On the morning of the 15th instant, at 8 o'clock, I received a report from the Monegar of Karanoor village to the effect that the locusts came to his village and damaged the crops and again took their flight eastward towards cusbah Kullakurchi, and having learnt from the toty who brought this report that the locusts almost followed him to cusbah, I collected some people and at once went to meet and drive them away.

3. The locusts came in numberless crowds from westward, more likely from the hills (Eastern Ghauts), and whilst they were coming at a distance of two miles from cusbah, the scene was as if some whirlwind of red dust was travelling on. The trees, hills, sky, and in fact every thing through which they passed were not visible.

4. The locusts ranging themselves into several companies, each company containing incalculable numbers, two miles in length and two miles in breadth, as if by some command, came flying in great crowds. The height of their flight was between three to ten yards from above the earth and as they passed on they clouded the sun entirely. Their size was between 3 to 4 inches in length and half an inch in breadth, with four wings and four legs, with saw-like teeth in them, and the locusts during their flight resembled sparrows in size and possess strong wings with which they constantly travel, and that whenever they happen to arrive a place where crops are grown, they alight and begin to refresh and rest and enable themselves thus for their further march. They sit on the crops and eat away the crops, ears, stems, &c., in no time. The important scene that attracted our attention was that the moment locusts alight on the crops, the crops appear as if beaten about by heavy storm, and as if to perish by excessive heat. The locusts bite the crops, and when they do so, the crops

if they were cut by sharp instruments. They fly very swiftly, and from my personal observance I am able to say that they travel on at the rate of two miles in half an hour; some of them are red and some are black, and it is reported that the red ones are females and the black colored are males; when they prey upon the crops, they first catch the crops with their saw-like legs and then bite the stems, ears, stalks, &c.

5. At Kullakurchi they alighted on several fields of varugu, cholum, &c., and committed some damage before I and the cultivators were able to drive them away with the assistance of some crowd of people, and the locusts being thus driven they ultimately took their flight towards the east.

6. I have at once written to the Tahsildars of Virudachalam and Tirukoilur and Sub-Magistrate of Ulundurpet to be prepared against the ravages of their wonderful plague.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. CRUICKSHANK,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) C. A. GALTON,
Acting Secretary.

No. 149. ORDER THEREON, 13th November 1878, No. 1,821.

Miscellaneous. RECORDED.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
Under-Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.

Prd. W. H. French.

1821/2

Revenue Department

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue
Dated 1st November 1878.

No. 3

Read the following

No. 432.

From

A. Carnickshank Esquire
Collector of South Arcot.

To

C. A. Galton Esquire
Ag Secretary to the
Board of Revenue.
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to report for the information of the Board that from a report of the Sub Collector dated 17th Instant I learn that a flight of Locusts alighted near the Hill of Thuthipet in the Villupuram Taluq at noon on the 13th Instant and during their short stay there caused damage to the Cholam and varagu crops on Cs 25-14-11 and then went off towards Tirukoilur Taluq. From a report of the Tirukoilur Tahsildar dated 17th Instant it appears that a swarm of Locusts visited the village

village of Cuddalore in his Taluq on the evening of the 14th. remained there till about 11 o'clock on the following morning, and caused damage to the dry crops on about a thousand Cawnies. The Tahsildar has sent a Revenue Inspector to the village to ascertain the amount of loss. On the same day the 15th Instant, there passed a swarm of the insects through Cuddalore Kallakurchi. A copy of the Tahsildar's report is herewith enclosed.

Collector's Office
Cuddalore
24th October 1878.

I have &c
(Signed) A. Cruickshank
Collector.

Submitted for the information of Government.

(True Copy & Extract)

A Secretary.

To

The Secretary to Government R.D.
with copy of enclosure.

Copy
Gholam Dustgeer.

1821
A

No 47 Kallakurichi
17-10-78.

To (821)

A. Cruickshank Esqre
Collector of South Arcot.

Most Honored Sir,

I beg most humbly to bring to your honor's notice the following accounts regarding the Locusts that visited this Taluq.

2. On the morning of the 15th Instant at 8 o'clock I received a report from the Moregar of Karanoor village to the effect that the Locusts came to his village and damaged the crops and again took their flight eastward towards Cusbah Kallakurichi and having learnt from the Jotty who brought this report that the Locusts almost followed him to Cusbah. I collected some people and at once went to meet and drive them away.

The Locusts came in numberless crowds from westward more likely from the Hills (Eastern Ghauts) and

Received 1st November 1878
Read 4—11—1878
Ans.

Submitting to Government Letter from Collector of South Arcot reporting the appearance & Ravages of Locusts in certain Taluks in the District.

Accordd
13 January 79

14 To the Board of Revenue 18 Nov

Received 18 November 1878
Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Copies Rec'd 18/11/78

1859

and whilst they were coming at a distance of two miles from Cusbah, the scene was as if some whirlwind of red dust was travelling on. The trees, hills, skys and in fact every thing through which they passed were not visible.

The Locusts ranging themselves into several Companies, each Coppany ~~company~~ containing incalculable numbers, 2 miles in length and 2 miles in breadth as if by some Command, came flying in great Crowds. The height of their flight was between 3 to 10 yards from above the earth and as they passed on, they clouded the sun entirely. Their size was between 3 to 3½ inches in length and half an inch in breadth with 4 wings and 4 legs, with saw-like teeth in them, and the Locusts during their flight resembled sparrows in size and possess very strong wings with which

which they constantly travel, and that whenever they happen to arrive at a place where crops are grown, they alight and begin to refresh and rest and enable themselves thus for their further march. They sit on the crops and eat away the crops, ears, stems, stalks &c in no time. The important scene that attracted our attention was, that the moment the Locusts alight on the crops, the crops appear as if beaten about by heavy storm and as if they are to perish by excessive heat. The locusts bite the crops and when they do so, the crops appear as if they were cut by sharp instruments. They fly very swiftly and from my personal observance, I am able to say that they travel on at the rate of 2 miles in half an hour, some of them are red and some are black and it is reported that the red ones are females and the black colowred are males; when they prey upon

upon the crops, they first catch the crops with their saw like legs and then bite the stems, ears, stalks &c.

At Kallakurchi, they alighted on several fields of Varagoo, Cholums &c and committed some damage before I and the Cultivators were able to drive them away with the assistance of some crowd of people and the Locusts being thus driven, they ultimately took their flight towards the east.

I have at once written to the Tahsildars of Vemdaachalam and Tirukovilur and Sub-Magistrate of Ulundurpet to be prepared against the ravages of their wonderful plague.

I beg &c
(Signed) T. Badrachalam
Tahsildar

(True Copy)
(Signed) A Cruickshank
Collector

(True Copy)

Ag Secretary.

Capt Gholam Dustgeer.

1821
7

Enclosure in Board's
Proceedings to the
Secretary to Govern-
ment R. D dated
14th November 1878
No. 2924.

Rev 4877/78

G.O. 13th Nov 1878 L & L 148