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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

Rev

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	2927	Rev	Press.
B.P. No.			Mis.
Dated	2-12-1878		197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Archives 1-5,806-24-2-78.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
MARINE DEPARTMENT.

19th November 1878, No. 582.

Wrecks.

Read the following paper :—

No. 17. From H. St. A. GOODRICH, Esq., Acting Collector of Vizagapatam, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, dated 6th November 1878, No. A.

I regret to report the occurrence of three wrecks with serious loss of life during the storm yesterday.

2. At Vizagapatam the French Barque *Canbodge* (wooden) struck the bar at 8-15 yesterday morning and capsized at 9-15. Of the crew of sixteen hands only one man has been saved. The ship was of about 400 tons, and was loaded with 5,694 bags of gingelly seed for Marseilles.

3. The English Barque *Fifeshire* (iron) struck the shore at noon opposite Waltair at a point a little south of the Racquet Court. Her crew consisted at the time of fourteen men and two apprentices. Of these, four men came ashore on floating wreckage, and another had been previously on shore. The remaining eleven men must with 8,439 bags of gingelly seed for Marseilles.

4. The Masters, Captain Andrew Land of the *Fifeshire*, and Captain G. Rabien of the *Canbodge*, have both perished. The shore for three miles north of the port is strewn with wreckage consisting almost entirely of shattered timber. It is guarded by constables. Lloyd's Agent has notified that he has authority to take charge of it. No dead bodies have been yet recovered.

5. I leave at once for Bimlipatam where the *Olive Branch* is reported wrecked with the loss of four lives.

6. The warnings of the Cyclone appeared to have been unmistakeable. I was at Vizianagram and the unbridged rivers at Chittivilsa and Gambhiram delayed my journey into Vizagapatam (these bridges were damaged twenty-five months ago in the last Cyclone).

7. At Vizianagram there was a threatening appearance of the sky on Friday the 1st, followed by very heavy rain and a falling barometer. It began to blow a gale of wind from the north at 10 A.M. on the 4th and veered to the east at 7-30 A.M. on the 5th. I found it in the evening blowing very strong from the south-east near Bimlipatam, and at Sontiam this morning it was south, and at Simhachellum south-west at 8 A.M.

8. The gale has wrecked most of the older plantain gardens, and the jonna (cunboo) cultivated in patches high upon the hills. It was not however so violent in the opinion of old residents as many past gales have been, and few trees are down. The violence of the surf was caused by the strong gale from the north which had been blowing for two days previous to yesterday.

9. The most serious damage within the district is the injury to the rice crop. The ryots express great apprehensions, and think that a large proportion of the stalks which bear the ears have been broken, as not more than one grain-bearing spike is borne by each plant ordinarily. This would be very serious, but I think the damage will not turn out to be very great. The rice is rather backward, the grain only just forming and the ear consequently very light. The fields are almost all full of water

which supports the straw almost to the top of the blade, and the plant is very vigorous. I inspected carefully at several places this morning and found but a small proportion of twisted and broken straw. A fortnight later the effects of such a gale would have been far more disastrous to agriculture.

10. The Port Officer's report is sent through the Master Attendant, Madras.

No. 18.

ORDER THEREON, 19th November 1878, No. 582.

Communicated to the Master Attendant, Madras. Paragraph 9 will be sent to the Revenue and Revenue (Famine) Departments for information.

(True Extract.)

G. H. Foster
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Master Attendant, Madras.
Revenue Department.
Director of Vizagapatam.

Exd. J. Wright.

Revenue Dept.

No 5268
Govt. of 1878

MARINE

THE MASTER ATTENDANT,
MADRAS,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated November, 1878.

Received
28th Dec

G. O. 10th November 1878, No. 582.

NOVEMBER.

Nos. 17-18.

Wicks - Communicating letter from Collector,
Vizagapatam, reporting the wreck of a vessel at
Badrinarayan and of two others at Vizagapatam on
the 5th November with the loss of several lives.

10/29/78
Communicated to the
Board of Revenue.

20 Dec 78

7 to Mr. Secretary Revenue &c. &c.