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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. / B.P. No.	1493	Press. / Mis.
Dated	12-9-1878	197

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Archives I—S.806—24-2-78.

1493

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

12th September 1878, No. 1,493.

Read the following paper :—

No. 1,33. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 3rd September 1878, No. 2,143.

Read the following letters :—

From H. LEFANU, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector, to C. T. LONGLEY, Esq., Collector of Salem, dated Krishnagiri, 19th August 1878, No. 420.

I REGRET to have to state that young locusts have appeared in large quantities towards Madapally and other villages in the east of the Krishnagiri Taluk. I have taken the necessary steps for their destruction before they get wings, but I fear that we are unable to cope with their number. Yesterday at Madapally a trench about 20 feet long × 4 feet × 2 was filled with them to a depth of about 3 feet when they were covered in and trampled on. Special persons were employed all night killing and burning them. The ground was almost black with them; every field in the village was covered, and they swarmed in the houses and on the roofs and walls. There is another swarm about five miles from Krishnagiri which I have taken in hand. Takeeds have also been sent to other villages where they have appeared and the Tahsildar, Sheristadar, Revenue and Relief Inspectors are instructing the people how to deal with them. These swarms were hatched in the jungles at the foot of the hills and made their way to the cultivated lands when able to walk. With all our efforts I fear that enough will escape to do considerable damage.

Since writing the above they have come in again from the jungles in greater numbers than before and the supply is inexhaustible. Some twenty trenches in the jungle were filled with them, and there is no appreciable decrease in their numbers. They march steadily on to the cultivated lands and are eating the ragi and cumbu.

FORWARDED through the Board for the information of Government.

SALEM,
21st August 1878.

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

From the same Officer, dated Krishnagiri, 20th August 1878, No. 423.

IN continuation of my letter, No. 420, dated 19th instant, I have the honor to forward an arzi from the Tahsildar of Krishnagiri. The locusts are being hatched out and spreading in several directions in this taluk. In addition to the other officers employed I am now sending out Mr. Ryves to see what he can do. The crops in this taluk are now in the most satisfactory condition possible. When these locusts get wings there are enough of them to destroy everything in a week. The ground is black with them, and as fast as they are killed fresh battalions swarm in

from the hills and jungles where they were hatched. I trust I am wrong in apprehending the gravest danger from this influx of insect life. I am not sending any specimens as you have had too many already. The young insects are black and gold about the size of a large bee. They move in ranks as if by word of command. I do not know how soon they will get wings, probably within a week. All that can be done with the limited means at our disposal is being done to destroy them. The *people* will not work unpaid. The ryots alone could not cope with the evil, and they cannot afford to pay coolies in the number required. It would be impossible without destroying the crops to attack them in the fields, and there are many in the open spaces than we can deal with.

FORWARDED to the Board of Revenue for information.

SALEM,
26th August 1878.

(Signed) C. T. LONGLEY,
Collector.

SUBMITTED for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

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

No. 154. ORDER THEREON, 12th September 1878, No. 1,493.

Miscellaneous.

RECORDED.

2. The Board will circulate this report to all Collectors.

(True Extract.)

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

To the Board of Revenue.

Extd. W. H. French.

Revenue Department

No.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue.

Dated 5th September 1878.

Read the following

No: 1420.

From The Sub Collector of Salem

To The Collector of Salem

Sir,

I regret to have to state that young locusts have appeared in large quantities towards Madapully and other villages in the East of the Kistnagerry Taluq - I have taken the necessary steps for their destruction before they fet wings but I fear that we are unable to cope with their number - Yesterday at Madapully a trench about 20 feet long x 4 feet x 2 was filled with them to a depth of about 3 feet when they were covered in and trampled on. Special persons were employed

employed all night killing and burning them. The ground was almost black with them. Every field in the village was covered and they swarmed in the houses and on the roofs and walls. There is another swarm about 5 miles from Kristnagerry which I have taken in hand. Jamedars have also been sent to other villages where they have appeared and the Jahsildar, Shereistadar Revenue and Relief Inspector are instructing the people how to deal with them. These swarms were hatched in the jungles at the foot of the hills and made their way to the cultivated lands when able to walk. With all our efforts, I fear that enough will escape to do considerable damage.

I have &c
Camp Kristnagerry } (Sd) H. Le Fanu
19th August 1878 } Actg Sub Collector

Since writing the above they have come in again from the jungles in greater numbers than before and the supply is inexhaustible.

Some 20 locusts in the jungle were filled with them and there is no appreciable decrease in their numbers. They march steadily on to the cultivated lands and are eating the ragi and Cumbu.

(Sd) H. Le Fanu
19-8-78

(True Copy) Forwarded through the Board for information of Government.
Salem Collectorate Office (Sd) C. J. Longley.
21 August 1878 } Collector

No 1420

From
The Sub Collector
of Salem

To
The Collector
of Salem

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No 1420 dated 19th instant, I have the honor to forward an urgent from the Jahsildar of Kristnagherry. The locusts are being hatched out and spreading in several directions in this Taluq. In addition to the other officers

officers employed I am now sending out Mr Raynes to see what he can do. The crops in this taluq are now in the most satisfactory condition possible - when these locusts get wings there are enough of them to destroy every thing in a week. The ground is black with them and as fast as they are hatched battalions swarm in from the hills and jungles where they were hatched. I trust I am wrong in apprehending the greatest danger from this influx of insect life. I am not sending any specimens as you have had too many already. The young insects are black and gold about the size of a large bee. The moves in bands as if by word of command. I do not know how soon they will get wings probably within a week. All that can be done with the limited means at our disposal is being done

to destroy them. The people will not work unpaid. The ryots alone could not cope with the evil and they cannot afford to pay coolies in the number required. It would be impossible without destroying the crops to attack them in the fields and there are more in the open spaces than we can deal with.

I have &c

Salem Sub Collector's Office
Camp Krishnagherri
26th August 1878

A. de Faun
Actg Sub Collector

True Copy forwarded to the Board of Revenue for information.

Salem Collector's Office (sd) C. J. Longley.
Salem 26th August 1878 Collector

Submitted for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract)

[illegible]
Acting Secretary

To
The Secretary to
Government R. D.

L&S

5