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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 5721 Press

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Dated 22.9 ~~195~~ 1887

Not to be folded or roughly handled

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE

(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

J. GROSE, ESQ., M.A., C.S.

READ—the following G.O., dated 29th June 1887, Nos. 619, 619A., Revenue:—

Read—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 26th April 1887, No. 33:—

Read—the following letter from E. B. HAVELL, Esq., Superintendent, School of Arts, on Special Duty, to the Secretary to the Commissioner in the Department of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture, dated Madras, 20th April 1887, No. 46:—

With reference to G.O., Revenue, dated 25th January 1887, No. 86, I have the honor to submit a report on the arts and manufactures carried on in the districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur.

2. *Cotton-weaving—Colored cloths.*—There is a considerable industry in colored cloths for female wear carried on chiefly in the Bellary and Anantapur districts. The cloths are of an ordinary kind worn by the lower castes with common check patterns. The better sort have silk borders. Excepting the dark blue (indigo) colored cloths, they are invariably made of European colored thread. The common cotton cloths vary in price from Rs. 3 to 4 each. Mixed silk and cotton cloths or cotton cloths with silk borders from Rs. 7 to 15 each, according to the quality of the silk used.

White cloths.—Fine white cloths with brocaded ends are made only at Pullampet (Cuddapah district) and the surrounding villages. They are of superior quality and well woven. European thread is always used. The industry seems to be flourishing. The price of the cloths varies greatly according to the amount of silver lace or brocade. Weavers of coarse white cloths worn by agriculturists are scattered in many villages throughout the districts. Country thread is generally used. These cloths are preferred to European long cloth by the agriculturists on account of being more durable and warmer. The demand is uncertain and the weavers very poorly paid.

Cotton carpets.—Cotton carpets are made at Cumbum and Kurnool, in the Kurnool district, and at Bellary and Adóni. The Cumbum carpets are well designed and good in color, but rather coarsely woven. Country thread is used. There is only one family employed at Bellary, but good work is turned out. The designs and execution are very good as a rule, and when native dyes are used the colors are pleasing and fairly permanent. Carpets of large size are made to order. At Adóni and Kurnool, over 300 families are employed. All the best woven carpets are spoilt by the glaring colors of the European thread which are generally arranged in violent contrast to obtain the maximum of "effect." The European dyes are used: 1st, because the native purchasers prefer glaring colors; and, 2adly, because they are less expensive and more easily prepared than the native dyes. The latter, when carefully prepared, are more permanent. European thread is used at Bellary, Adóni and Kurnool for the finer carpets. At Cumbum only country thread is used.

Cotton-spinning.—Only coarse thread is spun for the common white cloths worn by the agriculturists and for cotton carpets. Spinning, however, is not followed as a regular occupation; the females of a weaver's or agriculturist's family employ their spare time in spinning whatever is required for their own use.

3. *Silk-weaving.*—Fine silk cloths are made at the places noted in the margin. The industry is in a very depressed condition. The total number of families engaged in it is very small, and the finer cloths are only made to order. The depression is attributed chiefly to the rise in the price of silk owing to disease among the silk-worms in Mysore. Three varieties of cloth are made. At Kurnool

Kurnool.	Bachigandanahalli.
Bellary district—	Tambrahalli.
Adóni.	Humpasagra.
Bellary.	Anantapur district—
Kampli.	Dharmavaram.

one family makes fine pagidees or turbans worn by Mahomedans. They are generally plain white with the ends brocaded in simple bands.

The silk weavers at Bachigandanahalli, Tambrahalli and Humpasagra make mostly colored silk cloths for cholis. The patterns are good, but the effect is generally spoilt by the use of crude imported green, purple or yellow, which are quite out of harmony with the low-toned native crimson (lac) dye. The more harmonious country green and yellow dyes are rarely used except when specially ordered.

Dharmavaram, in the Anantapur district, and Kampli, in Bellary, are the chief places where fine cloths for female wear are made. At Kampli the weavers only work to order. The most effective and characteristic cloth is one with a white ground of a wide check pattern, crimson borders and brocaded ends, sometimes with figures of flowers, birds, &c. The best of this kind are made at Dharmavaram. At Kampli some handsome cloths are made of the same style with the ends prettily embroidered in various simple patterns.

Dyes.—For silk the dyes in common use are: crimson, lac or cochineal; yellow, turmeric, various shades of orange, arnotto (prepared from the seeds of *Bixa Orellana*) used alone or together with turmeric; black from iron; more rarely a rich green, indigo and turmeric; when ordered a blue from indigo. Three very crude European dyes are also commonly used everywhere—a yellow, green and purple. The contrast of these with the low-toned native crimson or orange is painful. The native dyes are not only more harmonious, but more lasting. I forward small samples* of yellow and green silk for comparison.

* Four samples.

Prices.—Silk cloth for cholis is generally made in lengths sufficient for six or more. Each choli is about three-fourths of a yard in length and cost from Re. 1 to Rs. 2-8-0, according to the pattern and quality. The price of the fine silk cloths of Dharmavaram and Kampli is estimated by the value of the silk and silver brocade and by cost of labor. A superior cloth will contain about three seers of silk, costing from Rs. 7 to 9 per seer. The value of the brocade depends entirely on the width. The cost of labor for the body of the cloth will be about Rs. 6 or 7 and for the brocaded ends Rs. 8 to 12 according to the pattern. A cloth with elaborately brocaded ends will take as long as six weeks in execution.

4. *Printed cottons.*—The industry is carried on at the places noted in the margin

Jammalamadugu (Cuddapah district).
Banganapalle and Nandyál (Kurnool district).
Cholloor and Pamidi (Anantapur district).

The Jammalamadugu chintzes are very inferior turbans for Mahomedans roughly printed with the simplest patterns on a black ground. The Pamidi and Cholloor cloths are mostly roughly printed handkerchiefs and turbans, but a rather effective screen cloth or purdah used in marriage ceremonies is also made. This is well printed and tastefully designed. One man at Pamidi and one at Cholloor prepare hand-printed cloths with mythological subjects similar to those made at Kálahasti and elsewhere. The handkerchiefs and turbans made at Banganapalle are rough, but on the coarse country cloths the patterns are sometimes effective.

5. *Gold and silver smith's work.*— There is nothing specially noteworthy in these districts.

6. *Brass-smiths.*—There are very few brass-smiths and none specially skilful.

7. *Black-smiths.*—Very rough work, as in other districts.

8. *Wood carving.*—There is some good wood carving to be found in various parts of the Bellary district, though little of it is modern. The best work is noticeable for the absence of the extravagance which generally disfigures characteristic Madura carving. In design and technique it somewhat resembles northern work. A very good old example of it, now in the Central Museum, was procured by the Collector for the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. There are now a few good workmen at Adóni and at Kampli. In design the Adóni carving is much the best; but the Kampli men are rather better carvers.

9. *Lacquer work.*—Very fine lacquer work on trays, fans, boxes, &c., is done at Nandyál and Banganapalle, in the Kurnool district, by two families. It is equal, if not superior, to any other Indian lacquer. This is a very effective and comparatively

inexpensive form of decoration, which, if brought into notice and skilfully adapted to furniture and interior decoration, might become popular. The process is similar to that of the Mandasa lacquer described in my last report, except that the composition for raising up the ornament is made from a white shell found in the river beds, which is finely ground up and mixed with white dammer. The Nossam lacquer work is similar in style, but much inferior both in design and execution. Some very inferior lacquer work is done in Kurnool town.

10. The particulars given in my last report with regard to the condition, &c., of the various industries apply to these districts also. I append a detailed statement of the towns and villages showing the number of workmen and the industries carried on.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Place.	Number of Families.						Other Particulars.
	Weavers.	Gold-smiths.	Carpenters.	Brass-smiths.	Black-smiths.	Potters.	
Cuddapah District.							
Chitvél	20	5	2	..	2	7	One family of muchis painting palmyra leaf fans, palanquins, &c.; inferior to similar work done at Nossam and elsewhere.
Deverspully, Wattaloor	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making ordinary grass mats.
Cuddapah	44	65	25	6	12	5	
Gopagudipallu, Sompallee, Parnapallee	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making common glass bangles.
Jammalamadugu	80	6	3	..	1	15	*Weavers.*—Coarse white cloths and turbans. One hundred families of cotton printers making rough turbans, &c.
Pullampet	200	..	..	..	..	..	Fine white cloths with brocaded ends.
Nagarajapet and surrounding villages.							
Rayachóti, Ghanlvaid and many other places	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families of weavers making coarse white cloths of country or English thread.
Rámesvaram	60	6	2	3	2	..	Brass-smiths making lamps, chembus, &c., of an ordinary kind.
Wonyponta	..	4	1	151	1	..	
Kurnool District.							
Banganapalle	..	..	..	..	..	..	One family painting trays, &c., with very good lacquer work. Seventy families of cotton printers, turbans, handkerchiefs, &c.; only 20 families regularly employed.
Cumbum	50	12	12	..	1	..	*Weavers.*—Coarse white cloths; 12 families of cotton carpet weavers.
Goorakul	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making common grass mats.
Kurnool	36	30	31	4	12	9	One weaver making fine silk brocaded turbans. Eleven families of muchis making lacquered images, toys, &c. One man damascening on steel and carving in wood. Two hundred and six families weaving cotton carpets.
Nandyál	204	11	7	1	6	3	*Weavers.*—Common white and colored cloths; one family doing good lacquer work as at Banganapalle. Thirty-two families of cotton printers; rough handkerchiefs, turbans, &c.
Nosam	20	3	1	..	2	..	*Weavers.*—Coarse white cloths of country thread. Two families painting trays, boxes, fans, furniture, &c., with lacquer. Four families making painted wooden images, toys, &c.
Yelagode	..	..	..	..	..	..	Two families of fairly good wood-carvers.
Rudraveram, Chintacunta, Bachipalle, Srirungapuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	Villages in the Sirvél taluk where country iron is smelted.

Place.	Number of Families.						Other Particulars.
	Weavers.	Gold-smiths.	Carpenters.	Brass-smiths.	Black-smiths.	Potters.	
Bellary District.							
Adóni	700	10	28	5	15	10	*Weavers*—One or two families making fine silk cloths to order. The remainder common colored cotton cloths with silk borders or mixed silk and cotton cloths. One hundred families of cotton carpet weavers. Two of the carpenters good wood-carvers. Eight families of muchis; 60 families of dyers.
Bachigandanahalli	200	3	2	..	..	5	*Weavers.*—One or two families fine silk cholis. Two hundred families mixed silk and cotton cloths or cotton cloths with silk borders.
Bellary	300	150	50	6	50	100	*Weavers.*—One family fine silk cloths, the rest common white or colored cotton cloths or mixed silk and cotton cloths. One family of cotton carpet weavers.
Harpanahalli	23	12	12	4	6	3	*Weavers.*—Mixed silk and cotton colored cloths and coarse white cloths.
Hirahall	100	5	2	6	2	4	*Weavers.*—Common colored cotton cloths with silk borders. Brass-smiths—Common beaten work.
Hospet	144	29	16	8	11	2	*Weavers.*—Mixed silk and cotton and common cotton colored cloths.
Humpasagra	400	7	5	..	1	..	*Weavers.*—One or two families making fine silk cholis and cloths. Three hundred and fifty families mixed silk and cotton cloths or cotton cloths with silk borders. Fifty families coarse white cloths.
Kampli	200	10	4	..	1	1	*Weavers.*—One or two families fine silk cloths. Two hundred families mixed silk and cotton or cotton colored cloths with silk borders. Two of the carpenters good carvers. One family of muchis painting, lacquering images, toys, &c.
Ráyadrug	300	10	10	..	5	11	*Weavers.*—Fifty families ordinary silk cloths and common colored cotton cloths with silk borders or mixed silk and cotton cloths. Two hundred families common white cloths.
Tambrahally	182	11	14	..	8	10	*Weavers.*—One hundred and eighty-two families as at Bachigandanahalli.
Nimbalagerry	..	..	..	..	..	..	Ten families of weavers of woollen cumblies. Fine cumblies costing up to Rs. 40 made to order.
Anantapur District.							
Kalyándrug	100	..	..	..	..	..	*Weavers.*—Mixed cotton and silk cloths or common colored cotton cloths with silk borders.
Chilamattur	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making gunny bags.
Dharmavaram	150	5	7	1	2	3	*Weavers.*—Four or five families fine silk cloths; good colors and patterns, the remainder mixed silk and cotton cloths or common colored cotton cloths with silk borders.
Gooty	74	16	2	1	5	10	*Weavers.*—Common white cloths; one family making a kind of white cloth called duppattlu worn by Brahmins.
Gutur	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making glass bangles.
Somadapaly	..	..	..	..	..	..	Eight families making common country paper.
Namadalla	..	..	..	..	..	..	Thirty houses of cotton printers employing two hundred workmen; block printed screen cloths, handkerchiefs, &c.; one man painting mythological subjects by hand.
Pamidi	5	9	2	..	3	6	*Weavers.*—Mixed silk and cotton cloths or common colored cotton cloths with silk borders.
Kistapand	238	3	3	..	3	6	

Place.	Number of Families.						Other Particulars.
	Weavers.	Gold-smiths.	Carpenters.	Brass-smiths.	Black-smiths.	Potters.	
Anantapur District—cont.							
Ráyalcheru	..	..	..	..	..	..	One stone mason making paper-weights, pestle and mortars, &c., out of a peculiar stone found in the neighbourhood.
Tadpatri	311	11	5	..	2	5	*Weavers.*—Mixed silk and cotton cloths or common colored cotton cloths with silk borders.
Yadiki	380	2	2	..	2	6	*Weavers.*—Two hundred and sixty families common colored cotton cloths with silk borders. One hundred and twenty families common white cloths. Four families mixed silk and cotton cloths.

Resolution—dated 26th April 1887, No. 33.

Submitted for the information of Government.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) P. RAJARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with the four samples of dyed silk.

Copy to the Superintendent, School of Arts.

Order—dated 29th June 1887, No. 619, Revenue.

Miscellaneous.

Recorded.

2. The Government observe that Mr. Havell says nothing in the body of his report regarding the damascening on steel carried on at Kurnool or the excellent blankets or cumblics made at Nimbalagherry in the Bellary district.

3. The districts which Mr. Havell has not visited are Nellore, Chingleput, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Nílgiris, Tinnevelly, Malabar and Canara. The Commissioner will in due course submit proposals for a tour in some of these districts next cold season.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner of Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture.
" Commissioners of Land Revenue.
" Superintendent, Government Central Museum.
" Judicial Department.
" Educational Department.
" Military Department.
" Editors' Table.

No. 619-A.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, with copies of previous reports.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

READ—the following letter from E. B. HAVELL, Esq., Superintendent, School of Arts, Madras, to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, in the Department of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture, dated Madras, 6th August 1887, No. 410 :—

With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., Revenue, Nos. 619, 619-A, of the 29th June last, I have the honor to report that the one man at Kurnool who is able to damascene on steel is now employed in the Collector's office in marking weights and measures. There was no specimen of his work available, and consequently I was unable to make any comment on it in the body of my report.

2. Similarly, with regard to the fine cumblies made at Nimbalagherry, they are only made to order and I could not obtain a specimen to examine.

READ—the following letter from E.B. HAVELL, Esq., Superintendent, School of Arts, Madras, to the Director of Public Instruction, dated Madras, 6th August 1887, No. 411:—

With reference to your official memorandum, No. 4954, of the 3rd instant, I have the honor to state that no orders have yet been passed regarding my next tour. On the first occasion I left Madras in November, but afterwards towards the end of January. The first two tours lasted about three months each, but the last only two. I would suggest that it is desirable that the tours be arranged so that I may not be absent from Madras longer than a month at a time.

Endorsement by H. B. GRIGG, Esq., Director of Public Instruction, dated 8th August 1887, No. 5135.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Agriculture for favor of consideration when submitting proposals to Government for Mr. Havell's tour in accordance with G.O., dated 29th June 1887, No 619, Revenue.

RESOLUTION—dated 16th August 1887. No. 283.

Communicated to the Collectors of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, and to the Superintendent of the School of Arts.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Government order, Mr. Havell explains that the one man at Kurnool who is able to damascene on steel is now employed in the Collector's office in stamping weights and measures, so that there was no specimen of his work available for inspection, and that, as regards the fine cumblies made at Nimbalagherry, these, it is said, are only made to order, and no specimen could be got at the time of Mr. Havell's visit.

3. With reference to paragraph 3 of the order, the Board observe that in 1885 the Collectors of Nellore, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Tinnevelly and South Canara reported to the Director of Revenue Settlement and Agriculture that there were no arts or industries in their districts of sufficient importance or interest to call for investigation by Mr. Havell. From the District Manuals the Board gather that some important industries were carried on in some of these districts, viz., Nellore, Chingleput, South Arcot and Coimbatore, as shown in the statement appended to these Proceedings. The Collectors concerned are requested to report, at an early date, whether the industries are still carried on. In Tinnevelly, it is understood that excellent mats are made, though the Collector, in his report of 1885, omitted to mention the fact. The Collector of Malabar reported, in the same year, that the following industries in his district might, with advantage, be examined into by Mr. Havell :—

(1) Weaving industry at Pálghat and Tellicherry;
(2) Manufacture of grass mats at Pálghat;
(3) Brassware of Cherpalcheri in Walawanád taluk and of Kunhimangalam in Chirakal taluk.

4. With reference to Mr. Havell's letter of the 6th instant, he will be requested to state when and what districts he would propose to visit, and how he would arrange his tour so that he may not be away from Madras for more than a month at a time.

Arts and Industries.

District.	Taluk.	Village.	Nature of art or industry.	Remarks as to good or bad, existing or died.
1. Nellore ..	Nellore	Kovúr	Weaving ..	Fine shirtings, pocket handkerchiefs and muslins suitable for ladies' dresses are made to order.
	Udayagiri ..	Yapallagunta ..	Do. ..	Exceedingly fine muslin is made.
	Kandukúr ..	Kandukúr	Do. ..	Fine tent cloth is made.
	Gúdúr	Mudumanir and Rettapalli.	Do. ..	Fine cloths.
	Rápúr	Sayidapenam ..	Sculpture and stone work.	The workmen are noted for their skill in sculpture and ornamental work made on towers of native pagodas.
2. Chingleput ..	Conjeeveram ..	Conjeeveram ..	Weaving ..	Cloths.
		Sadras	Do. ..	Chintzes,
		Satyavedu	Do. ..	Red handkerchiefs, } almost extinct.
			Metal working.	Workers in metals abound in the district, but the workmanship is rude and exhibits little artistic skill. At a grand festival at Conjeeveram a fair of this sort is held.
3. South Arcot ..	Cuddalore & Chidambaram.	Cuddalore	Matting ..	
		Porto Novo		
		Chidambaram ..	Weaving ..	Women's cloths of a mixture of silk and cotton.
	Cuddalore ..	Old Town Cuddalore.	Rope-making ..	From cocoanut fibre.
		Chinnamanaickanpalliem.	Weaving ..	Formerly to a very great extent but since much decayed.
4. Coimbatore ..	Coimbatore ..	Coimbatore	Do. ..	Fine cloths are made. Number of looms in 1882-83 was 10,878.
	Bhavání ..	Bhaváni	Carpet-making.	Cotton carpets of excellent quality and color.
	Kollegál ..	Kollegál	Silk-weaving ..	Fine silk fabrics with silver and embroidery interwoven are made.
			Gunny ..	Good gunny of sunn hemp is manufactured in some of the northern villages of Erode and southern of Bhaváni taluks.
	Palladam ..	Tirupúr	Pebbles ..	Excellent spectacles of real pebble (quartz crystals), lingams and vigrahams of the same material are made in the neighbourhood.
	Do. ..	..	Metals ..	Good gongs are made near Palladam but the particular mixture is a trade secret.
5. Tinnevelly ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
6. Nilgiris ..				

(True Copies and Extract.)

Secretary.

To the Collector of Cuddapah.
" " of Kurnool.
" " of Bellary.
" " of Anantapur.
" " of Nellore.
" " of Chingleput.
" " of South Arcot.
" " of Coimbatore.
" " of Tinnevelly.
" " of Malabar.
" Director of Public Instruction.
" Superintendent, School of Arts.
Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Exd. E. Fernandez.

Sec -29- Lands to 619.

This Sec. No 57/21 4 2 19
Recorded pending further
report.
H.A.S
16.9

4
19/9. 22 Sept 87

To the Comm of Rev & Rob Des &c

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1887.

Board of Revenue

(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS. No. 7366.

DISPOSED OF BY GOVT ORDERS
Mis. No.
Date
12 SEP 87
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

C.No 7552/87
C.N. 28/88
C.N. 3/24/88
C.N. 3990/88

WS
12/9

Printed September th.

Proceedings, 16*th August* 1887, *No.* 283.

Rec'd 10th September 1887

Communicating, with remarks, Government order, Revenue Department, on Mr. Havell's report on the arts and manufactures in some of the districts of the Madras Presidency, and requesting information of certain Collectors as to the arts or industries carried on in their districts, with an inquiry of Mr. Havell as to how he would arrange future tour.