M.R.O. 1—10,006—28-2-50.

(1) Number of pages 10

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

Government of Madras

Revenue DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 619 & 619-A		Press	Original
~~B.P. No.~~		~~Mis.~~	
Dated 29. 6.		1887	
		195	

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of 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 2ndly, 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 one family makes fine pagidees or turbans worn by Mahomedans. They are generally plain white with the ends brocaded in simple bands.

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

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. 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.

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

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 district 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. Weavers.	Gold-smiths.	Carpenters.	Brass-smiths.	Black-smiths.	Potters.	Other particulars.
Cuddapah district.							
Chitvél	20	5	2	..	2	7	One family of muchis painting palmyra leaf fans, palanquins, &c.; inferior to similar work done at Nosam and elsewhere.
Doverspully, Wattaloor	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making ordinary grass mats.
Cuddapah, Gopagudipalla, Sompallee, Parnapallee, Jammalamadugu	44	65	25	3	12	5	A few families making common glass bangles.
	80	6	3	..	1	15	*Weavers.*—Course white cloths and turbans. One hundred families of cotton printers making rough turbans, &c.
Pullampet, Sangampet and surrounding villages, Rayachóti, Ghanlvaid and many other places	200	..	..	..	..	..	Fine white cloths with brocaded ends.
	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families of weavers making coarse white cloths of country or English thread.
Rámeswaram, Wonypenta	60	6	2	3	2	..	Brass-smiths making lamps, chembus, &c., of an ordinary kind.
	..	4	1	51	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.
Cooraksl	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making common grass mats.
Kurnool	36	30	31	4	12	9	One weaver making fine silk brocaded turbans. Eleven families of muchies 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, Dachipalle, Srirangapuram	..	..	..	..	..	..	Villages in the Sirvel 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	2	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 muchies; 60 families of dyers.
Bachigandanahalli	200	3	..	..	..	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.
Harpanahálli	23	12	1	4	6	3	*Weavers.*—Mixed silk and cotton colored cloths and coarse white cloths.
Hirehall	100	5	..	6	2	4	*Weavers.*—Common colored cotton cloths with silk borders. Brass-smiths—Common beaten work.
Hospet	144	29	10	8	14	2	*Weavers.* Mixed silk and cotton and common cotton colored cloths.
Humpasagra	400	7	..	..	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	..	..	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.
Rayadrug	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 Bachegandanahalli.
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 duppattu worn by Brahmins.
Gutur	..	..	..	..	..	..	A few families making glass bangles.
Somadapally	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Namadalla	..	..	..	..	..	..	Eight families making common country paper.
Penúdi	5	9	2	..	3	6	Thirty houses of cotton printers employing two hundred workmen; block printed screen cloths, handkerchiefs, &c.; one man painting mythological subjects by hand.
Rustapaud	238	3	3	..	3	6	*Weavers.*—Mixed silk and cotton cloths or common colored cotton cloths with silk borders.

Place.	Number of			Other particulars.
	Weavers.	Gold-smiths.	Carpenters.	
Anantapur District—cont.				
Rayalcheru	..	..	..	one mason making paper-weights, e and mortars, &c., out of a diar stone found in the neighbour-d.
Tadpatri	311		5	*vers.*—Mixed silk and cotton cloths common colored cotton cloths with lk borders.
Yadiki	380		2	*vers.*—Two hundred and sixty fami-lies 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 18 , No. 33.

Submitted fe e infor overnment.

(T opies an

ned) ARATNA MUDALIAR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Dep
with t les of dy silk.

Copy to the Superintendent, Scho l of Arts

ORDER—dated 29th June 1887, No. 19,

Miscellaneous.

ecorded.

The Government observe that ell says nothing in the body of his report regarding the damascening on ste on at Kurnool or the excellent blankets or cumblies made at Nimbalaghe llary district.

3. The districts which Mr. Havell has re Nellore, Chingleput, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Tinnevelly, M Canara. The Commissioner will in due course submit proposals for a tour i these districts next cold season.

(True

ned) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

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

No. 6

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ned) J. F. PRICE,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. W. H. French.

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Govt. of [1887] Madras.

REVENUE.

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G.O., 29th June 1887,
Nos. 619, 619A.

JUNE.

Arts and Manufactures.

Board's Proceedings submitting Mr. Havell's report on the — of the districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur, recorded with remarks; and the Commissioner of Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture requested to submit proposals for a tour in some of the districts which Mr. Havell has not visited.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

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No. 33.

Havell's ro-
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for 25- 1887 No 86
2. 12. 86 No 2268
26. 9. 86 No 5789
11. 8. 86 No 695
5. 1. 87. No 3.
3. 11. 85 - No 1228
26. 12. 85 - No 1668
16. 9. 86 No 1044

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Recorded

2. The Govt. observe that Mr Havell says nothing in the body of his report about the damascening on steel carried on at Kurnool or the excellent blankets or cumblies made at Kumbalagherry in the Bellary Dt.

3. The Dts. which Mr Havell has not visited are Nellore, S. Arcot, Coimbatore, and Nilgiris, Tinnevelly, Malabar and Canara. The Commr will in due course submit proposals for a tour in some of these Dts. next cold season.

To
25 The Commr of Rev. Sett. L. Records & Agriculture
1b The Commr of Land Revs
Jud. Dept
Educl. Dept
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on the 5.7. Accompanied by [illegible]

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1887.

Board of Revenue

(Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture),

MADRAS.

RECEIVED 20 MAY 87 REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Printed May th.

Proceedings, 26th April 1887, *No.* 33.

Submitting to Government Mr. Havell's report on the arts and manufactures carried on in the districts of Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary and Anantapur.

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