

Revenue (1897) Department.

Misc.
ROUTINE SERIES.

G.O., No. 2131

DATED 28th April

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Mr. P. submitting to the
Govt of India monthly report for March 1897
on the affected districts in the Madras Presidency

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3307



*Re Hon. Secy. C. 32
The Hon. Secy. in col
H. L. the Governor.*

21/4/97

no. 21318/28th April 97

Order mis

Recorded

28/4/97
24/4/97

From

The Board of Revenue
Rev. Sett. L. R & Agri.
Madras.
No. 299 Press.

Dated 12th April 1897.

Received 21-4-97

Registered 21-4-97

Enclosures

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24/4/97*

SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government of India monthly report for March 1897 on the affected districts in the Madras Presidency and a copy thereof to the Local Government.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1660		25-3-97

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

1897.

Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), MADRAS.

Printed April th.

Proceedings, 12th April 1897, No. 299.

APRIL.

Affected districts in the Madras Presidency.—Submitting to Government of India monthly report for March 1897 on the — and a copy thereof to the Local Government.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE
(REVENUE SETTLEMENT, LAND RECORDS AND AGRICULTURE).

RESOLUTION—dated 12th April 1897, No. 299.

The following letter will be despatched to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, Simla :—

“With reference to section 48 (VI) of the Madras Famine Code, I am directed to submit herewith the Board's monthly report on the affected area in this Presidency. Two copies of the map prepared as laid down in rule VII are appended.”

2. Copy will be submitted for the information of Government, with copies of the map.

(True Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department,
with two copies of map.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner, with a copy of map.
 „ to all Collectors.

MONTHLY FAMINE STATEMENT A

FOR the period ending Saturday the 27th March 1897.

Districts.	Area.	Population in thousands.	Affected area.	Estimated population in column 4 in thousands.	Numbers on relief works on the last day of the period including weavers.		
					Class A.	Class B.	Class C.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Circars—	SQ. MLS.		SQ. MLS.				
Ganjām	8,369	1,897	2,392	1,057	..	..	66
Vizagapatam	17,242	2,803	873	438	..	3,546	..
Total ..	25,611	4,700	3,265	1,495	..	3,546	66
Deccan—							
Kurnool	7,514	818	2,436	311	251	9,292	12,645
Bellary	5,975	900	3,833	510	301	45,382	913
Anantapur	4,886	709	4,277	572	865	4,241	1,242
Cuddapah	8,731	1,272	2,177	383	..	9,235	7,315
Total ..	27,106	3,699	12,723	1,776	1,417	68,150	22,115
Grand Total ..	52,717	8,399	15,988	3,271	1,417	71,696	22,181

Districts.	Numbers on relief works on the last day of the period including weavers—cont.		Numbers on gratuitous relief.	Price of principal food grains in seers of 80 tolas per rupee.			Monthly death-rate.	Deaths due to starvation
	Class D.	Total.		Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.		
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Circars—								
Ganjām	5	66	638	11.1	..	15.2		
Vizagapatam	..	3,551	411	9.8	16.2	17.0		
Total ..	5	3,617	1,049	..	..	..		
Deccan—								
Kurnool	227	22,415	142	9.2	14.0	15.5		
Bellary	..	46,596	2,787	9.1	12.2	15.6		
Anantapur	184	6,532	471	9.4	13.9	17.8		
Cuddapah	64	16,614	439	9.2	13.9	17.8		
Total ..	475	92,157	3,839	..	..	..		
Grand Total ..	480	95,774	4,888	..	..	..		

REMARKS.

Area affected—Condition and prospects thereof.—The affected area has increased to 15,988 square miles against 12,754 square miles reported in the statement of the previous month. The increase is due to addition of a portion of the Vizagapatam district, and to the extension of the areas affected in Ganjám, Anantapur and Bellary. In Ganjám, distress has not yet reached an acute stage, and the people, who in the more seriously affected tracts are to a great extent Uriyas, are averse to the discipline of relief works and prejudiced against the acceptance of relief. The numbers on relief works in that district are very small, but the extent to which it has been found necessary to give gratuitous relief to save life shows that limit of endurance without relief has been nearly reached. In Vizagapatam there was a similar reluctance to attend relief works, but after the first few had made a start on March 14th, others came with a rush, and the numbers at the end of the month were 3,550. This shows that abstention from works is not necessarily a sign that there is no distress. In both

these districts, the rainfall of the month has been considerable; but while being of but little use for cultivation purposes, it has replenished the sources of drinking-water supply, and brought into existence the normal hot weather pasturage for cattle.

In the Deccan districts, there has been no improvement, nor can any be expected before June. Agricultural operations are practically over for the present. The numbers on relief have increased by nearly 50 per cent., and are likely to mount considerably higher. The conditions of, and outlook for, cattle is decidedly poor, for although the more valuable cattle are carefully fed, the inferior kind is suffering much from want of pasturage and water.

2. *Nature of works.*—The work given is almost entirely road-work, *i.e.*, collection, breaking and stacking of metal, collection of gravel, cutting side-drains and spreading of metal and gravel.

3. *Operations under the Loans Acts.*—In addition to the numbers employed on relief works, about 13,000 are reported to be employed on land improvement works, for which over Rs. 2,00,000 have already been disbursed by the State, as shown in the subjoined table:—

Districts.	Land Improvement Loans.								Number of wells.		Esti- mated number of labourers em- ployed.
	For wells.				Other purposes.						
	Accepted.		Disbursed.		Accepted.		Disbursed.		Com- pleted.	Under construc- tion.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.			
<i>Circulars.</i>		rs.		rs.		rs.		rs.			
Ganjam	..	..	..	..	31	3,960	24	3,500	..	..	Not reported.
Vizagapatam ..	..	..	..	..	10	1,500	2	400	..	..	..
Total	..	..	..	..	41	5,460	26	3,900	..	..	..
<i>Deccan.</i>											
Kurnool	81	16,628	75	12,043	130	12,980	130	12,980	..	3,965	1,542
Bellary	33	5,735	24	2,755	1,026	1,15,795	806	89,070	1	20	4,619
Anantapur ..	881	1,13,952	802	71,367	353	50,060	301	36,155	38	692	6,443
Cuddapah ..	15	2,285	14	1,355	..	..	..	..	..	14	60
Total	1,010	1,38,600	915	87,520	1,509	1,78,835	1,237	1,38,205	39	4,691	12,664
Grand Total ..	1,010	1,38,600	915	87,520	1,550	1,84,295	1,263	1,42,105	39	4,691	12,664

4. *Wages.*—During the month the majority of relief-workers has been on B class wages, though over 20,000 have been receiving C class wages. Under the orders of Government referred to below in paragraph 8, all actual workers are henceforth to be placed on B wages, the C class being reserved for untasked labour.

5. *Gratuitous relief.*—Except in Ganjam, gratuitous relief has been confined to the offer of cooked food at kitchens, and the persons relieved have been for the most part the children or infirm dependants of relief-workers. On the last day of the month, however, Government considered that the time had come for a more extended organisation of gratuitous relief and ordered the administration of gratuitous relief in villages, sanctioning the grant of money doles to dependants of workers who attend on works, and grain doles in villages, in those cases where the recipients are debarred by caste prejudices from attending public kitchens.

6. *Prices.*—Prices have fallen slightly in Ganjam and Vizagapatam where rice and ragi are the staple grains. But in the Deccan where cholam is the principal staple, there was, except in Anantapur and Kurnool, a distinct rise, especially in Bellary, and the tendency to rise has continued since in Bellary and Cuddapah and has been felt in Kurnool.

7. *Imports and Exports.*—Trade is fairly active as evidenced by the subjoined figures:—

Imports and exports by rail.

Districts.	February.		March.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.	MDS.
Ganjam	10,600	10,200	4,000	10,700
Vizagapatam ..	58,600	4,300	35,200	1,200
Kurnool	9,640	1,871	14,800	3,000
Bellary	26,580	6,512	40,500	6,100
Anantapur ..	16,806	6,373	10,065	10,234
Cuddapah ..	26,311	12,878	33,281	11,140

8. *Condition of People.*—On the representation of the Sanitary Commissioner that the diet prescribed in section 120 of the Famine Code was deficient in vegetable salts, and that the grain equivalent was insufficient to provide the "other items" of the diet, Government issued orders at the close of the month to place all workers in A or B class, and untasked labourers in C class. The Government of India has been addressed in the matter. The Sanitary Commissioner considered the condition of some relief-workers who had been long on C class wages, to be unsatisfactory, but the condition of others was, on the whole, fair.

9. *Mortality.*—The following table shows the deaths in February 1897 and in the period, October—February in 1896–97, and the average rates for the same periods. Figures for March are not available:—

Districts.	Number of deaths reported.			
	During February		From October to February	
	1897.	Average.	1896–97.	Average.
Ganjam	2,847	*	12,392	*
Vizagapatam ..	2,238	2,431	12,328	15,131
Kurnool	916	1,289	5,801	7,081
Bellary	1,218	1,395	6,956	6,882
Anantapur ..	922	812	5,585	4,802
Cuddapah ..	1,827	1,864	10,406	11,790

* Figures not available.

The death-rate during February was below the average everywhere except in Anantapur, but in Bellary and Anantapur, the average was exceeded for the period for October—February, being noticeable only in the case of the latter district and the three most affected taluks of Bellary. Any inference from the figures would, however, be possibly misleading, for the rates entered are considerably below those to be expected when a comparison is made with census statistics. The Sanitary Commissioner, however, is of opinion that "it is possible that a marked decrease of fever in malarious districts may follow a drought and that mortality may be exhibited in reference to scarcity by its influence on the very old and the very young."

FAMINE STATEMENT B

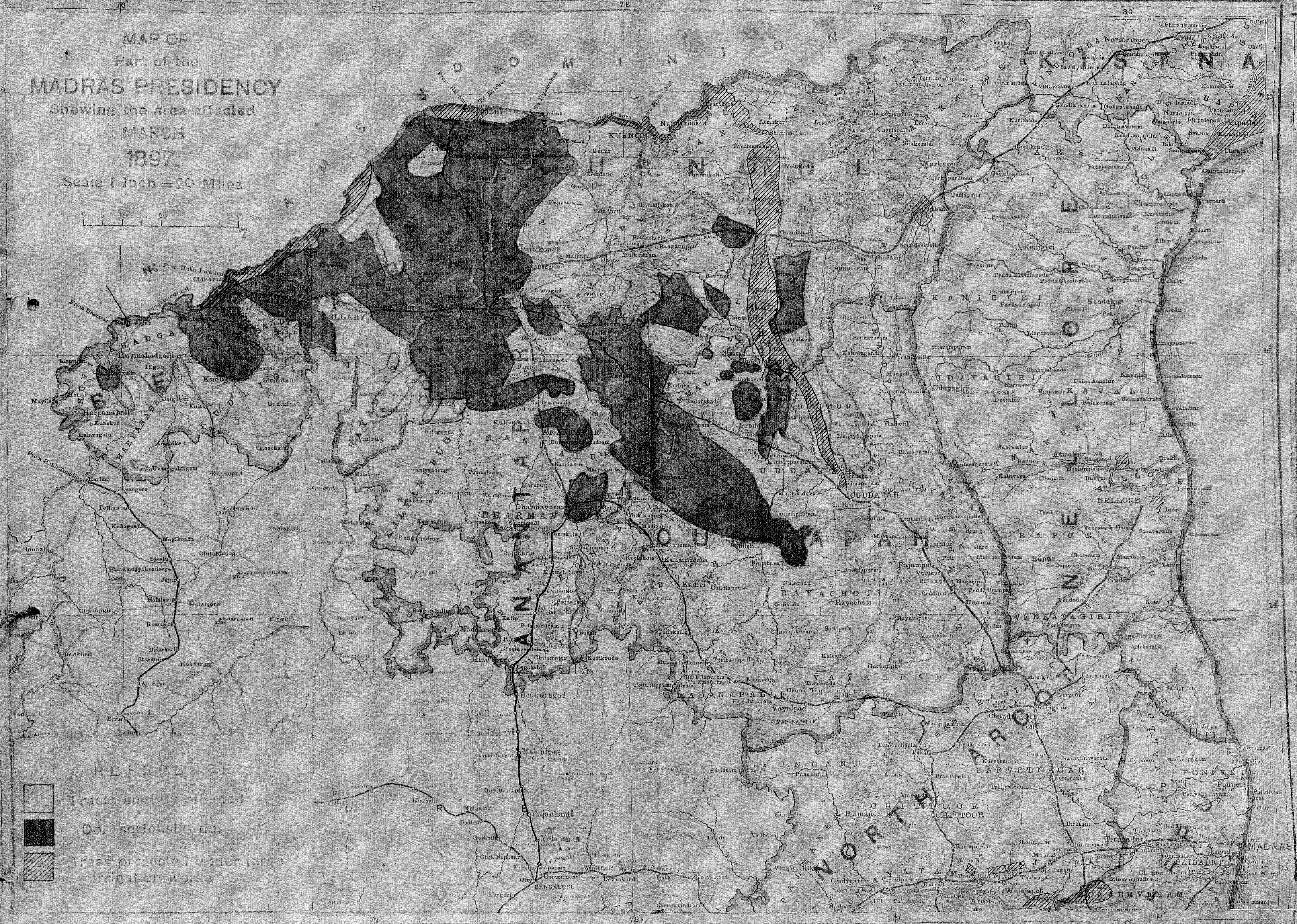
For the period ending Saturday the 27th March 1897.

Districts.	Maximum number for whom relief is estimated to be required in the case of serious famine.	Numbers for whom relief was provided in programme of famine relief works.			Maximum number for whom relief can be provided by works remaining in programme on date of report.	
		Date of programme.	On large works.	Others.	On large works.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Circars.</i>						
Ganjām	317,800	9th July 1896.	431,961	84,737	431,592	84,737
Vizagapatam	388,200	18th May 1896.	324,301	172,155	324,196	172,155
Total ..	706,000		756,262	256,892	755,788	256,892
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	163,000	18th May 1896.	198,041	87,368	193,940	87,039
Bellary	180,000	Do.	324,615	29,888	305,816	28,865
Anantapur	141,800	6th July 1896.	113,224	34,567	111,979	34,313
Cuddapah	253,800	22nd May 1896.	203,779	110,170	199,874	109,921
Total ..	738,600		869,659	261,993	841,609	260,138
Grand Total ..	1,444,600		1,625,921	518,885	1,597,397	517,030
Districts.	Expenditure since 1st April up to the latest day for which figures are available.			Advances given—1st April up to the end of period—under.		Revenue suspended beyond current official year.
	Date up to which expenditure is known.	Rupees omitting 000's.		Land Improvement Loans Act.	Agriculturists' Loans Act.	
		On relief works.	On gratuitous relief.	Rupees omitting 000's.	Rupees omitting 000's.	
	8	9	10	11	12	13
<i>Circars.</i>						
Ganjām	27th Mar. 1897.	3	2	4	5	3,85,000
Vizagapatam	Do.	2	..	2	3	2,19,000
Total ..		5	2	6	8	6,04,000
<i>Deccan.</i>						
Kurnool	27th Mar. 1897.	62	3	25	1	5,25,000
Bellary	Do.	228	10	92	6	2,30,000
Anantapur	Do.	21	1	108	8	2,11,000
Cuddapah	Do.	34	1	1	..	13,00,000
Total ..		345	15	226	15	22,66,000
Grand Total ..		349	17	230	23	28,70,000

MAP OF
Part of the
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
Shewing the area affected
MARCH
1897.

Scale 1 Inch = 20 Miles

0 5 10 15 20 Miles

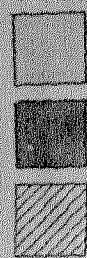


REFERENCE

- Tracts slightly affected
- Do. seriously do.
- Areas protected under large irrigation works

Scale 1 Inch = 20 Miles

0 5 10 15 20 25 Miles



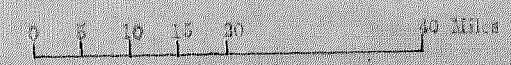
Tracts slightly affected

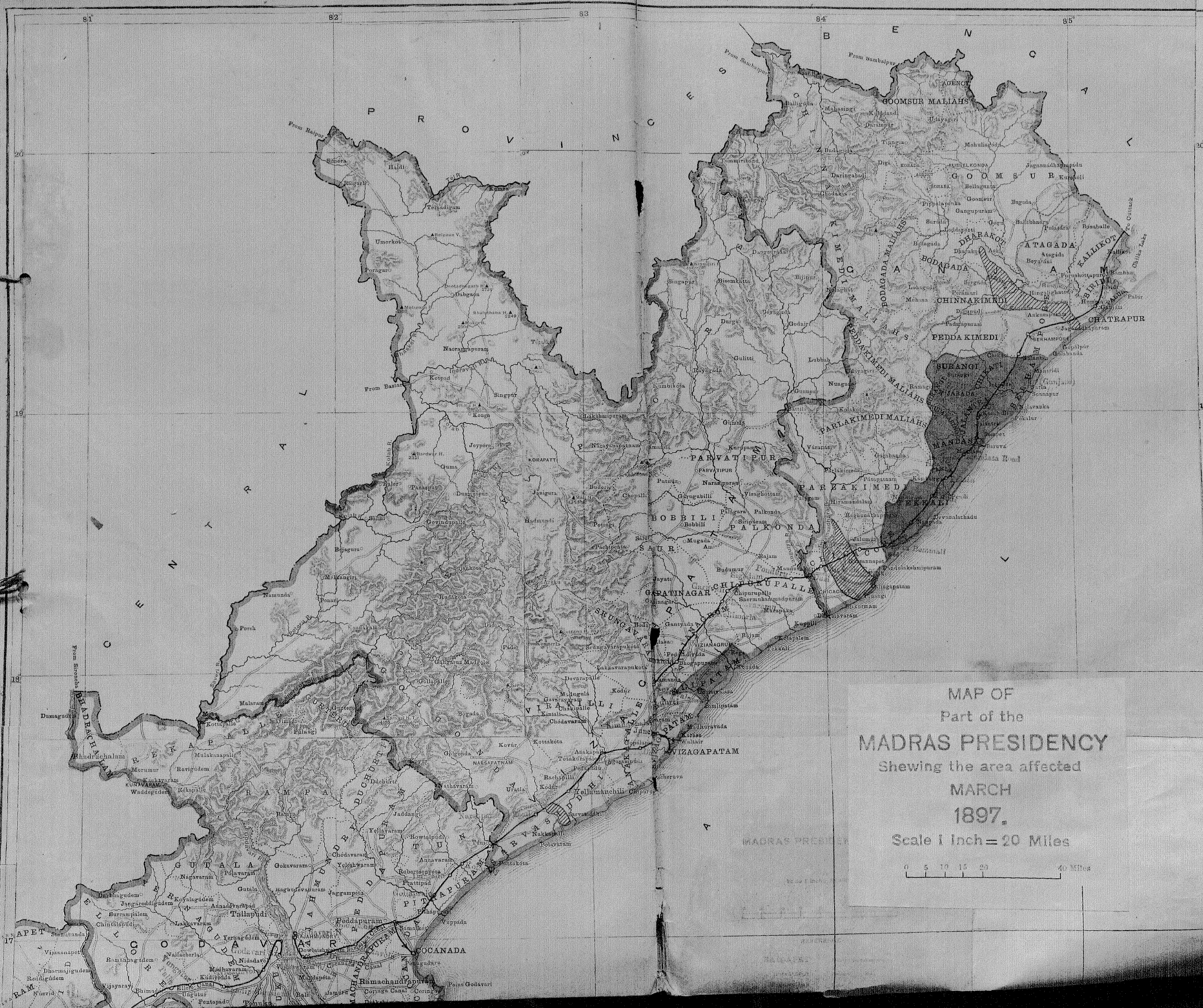
Do, seriously do,

Areas protected under large irrigation works

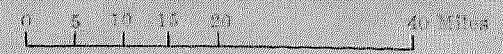


MAP OF
Part of the
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
Shewing the area affected
MARCH
1897.
Scale 1 Inch = 20 Miles





MAP OF
Part of the
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
Shewing the area affected
MARCH
1897.
Scale 1 Inch = 20 Miles

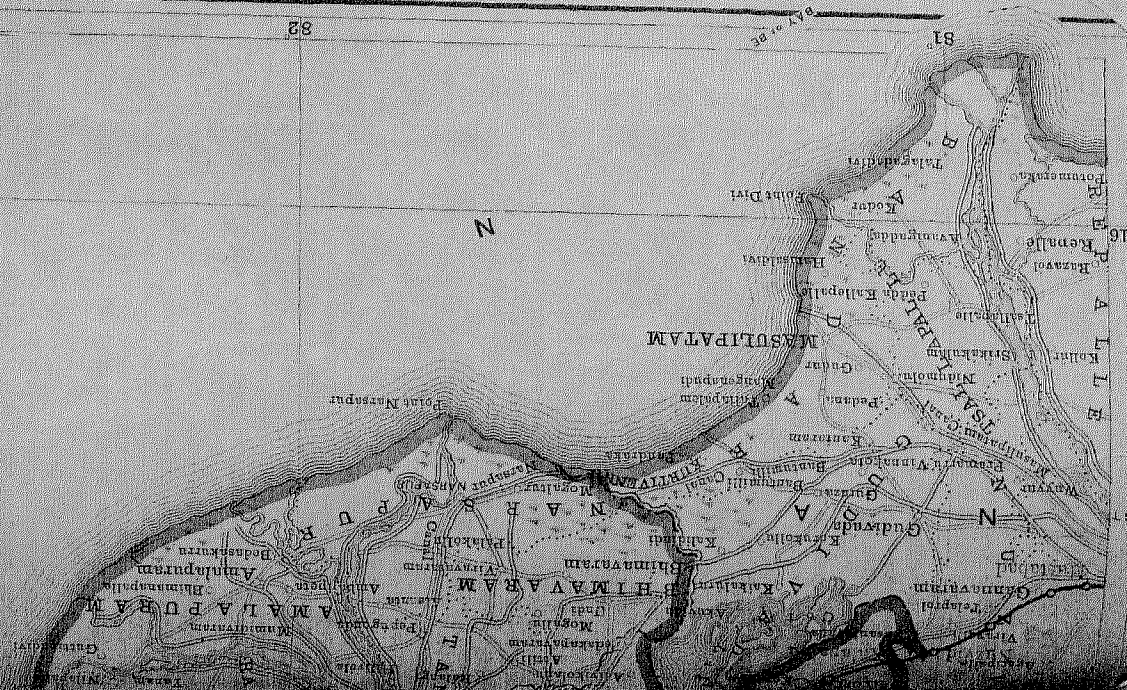
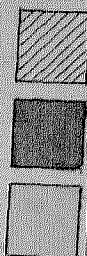


REFERENCE

Tracts slightly affected

Do. seriously do.

Areas protected under large
irrigation works



Map No. 2003

Madras Survey 1907