

Revenue (1897) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 308

DATED 8<sup>th</sup> May 1897.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Fortnightly Narrative, Kurnool D<sup>t</sup>.

Passing orders on certain questions raised  
in the — for the period ending 15<sup>th</sup> March  
1897.

# BACK PAPERS.

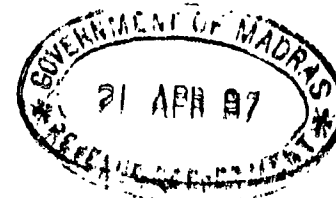
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# FURTHER PAPERS.

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## Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3309



The Hon: Mr. Justice C.R.  
H.R. Me. Governor

From The Board of Revenue  
Revenue Settlement, La S  
Record and Agriculture.

For Orders.

the points requiring notice

are: —————

(1) The insufficiency of the  
P.W. Staff and their unpre-  
paredness (para 5 of the R.P.).

Reference is also solicited to  
the remarks of the collector at

bottom of page 6 and top

of page 7. It was understood  
some time ago  
that the Executive Engineer Mr.

S.A. Subramani aiyar had been  
replaced by Mr. Johnson, but  
it now appears from C. No.

3362 (consulted with this)  
that he has only been relieved  
of his ordinary work and  
that he is still in charge  
of relief work.

from and see  
C.E. for disposal  
Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1897.

Received 21-4-97

Registered 21-4-97

Enclosures

Spare copies

## SUBJECT.

Fortnightly Returns..

Submitting to Government  
— of the Tirunelveli district  
for the period ending 15<sup>th</sup>  
March 1897.

⊕ A communication from Mr.  
De Winton that the Executive  
Engineer has been unnecessarily  
found fault with and criticized.  
This has been referred to the  
Board for remarks.

PTC

22/4/97  
23/5/97

RJ  
22-5-97

- (2) The inadequacy of the medical staff (para 7 of the R.P.)
- (3) The proposal of the Revenue Engineer <sup>that</sup> ~~to make~~ the working hours on relief works should be 5 A.M. to 12 noon during the hot weather. (para 8 of the R.P.)
- (4) Admission of the duty of the of native states to Govt. relief works. (para 9)

18/4/97

27-4-97

A All ordinary works in this country go through the "humble ordeal" of working in the afternoon, & I don't think any general rule should be issued relaxing this ordinary incident of cool-labour in favour of the labourers in relief works. It may, however, be desirable to give the indulgence in the case of particular gangs for a specified number of days, & I would give the officer in charge of each work discretion to relax the rules so far as advised by the R.D. in para 8.

1. To consider in the proposed meeting by the Hon. Mr. Goss.
2. The inadequacy and inefficiency of the D.P.W., & the Medical Staff, and of the P. & S. District Collector.
3. From the linked file, it seems that the more responsible for the defects of the D.P.W. is

BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No.         | Department. | Date.    |
|------|-------------|-------------|----------|
| R.P. | 230         | Sett        | 15-3-97  |
| "    | 34          | Sett        | 14-1-97  |
| "    | 168         | Pict        | 20-2-97  |
| "    | 220         | Sett        | 4-3-97   |
| C.O. | 14, 11, 678 |             | 13-3-97  |
|      |             |             | 30-11-97 |

FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department.                 | Date. |
|------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|
|      |     | No distribution and be made |       |
|      |     | 7.94                        |       |
|      |     | 15.97                       |       |

The P. & S. Engineer. If he is not fitted for the present emergency, I think Mr. Campbell should be asked to shift him, and send a better man in his place. At the same time, it must be remembered that the deficiency of staff in the affected districts, Mr. Campbell should be asked if he cannot make men in unaffected districts do extra work, and drop the men so released into the affected tracts.

4. The Surgeon General should be asked whether he too cannot, in the same way, provide additional staff for the affected districts. The Surgeon Genl. should be reminded of the responsibility imposed upon him by Sec. 149 of the Famine Act.
5. I think the B.D. are mistaken in thinking that the Deputy Collector is Shohammad Saif at Hassan. I suspect that his name is Aladdin Hassan, and that he is acting as Dist. Collector, his permanent office being Talukdar. The Collector did tell him that if he at once moved his ways, he will resort to his post.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

1897.

# Board of Revenue

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

Printed April th.

Proceedings, 2nd April 1897, No. 270.

APRIL.

Fortnightly Narrative.—Submitting to Government — of the Kurnool district for the period ending 15th March 1897.

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

READ—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool District during the period ending 15th of March 1897 :—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

|                                              |       |
|----------------------------------------------|-------|
| Rainfall in rain registering stations        | INS.  |
| Do. up to the period from 1st April 1896     | ...   |
| Average rainfall expected in the period      | 15.91 |
| Do. expected up to the period from 1st April | 27.25 |

The water-supply was generally sufficient for drinking purposes, except in some of the villages in the western section and in parts of the country lying at the foot of the western slopes of the Nallamalas. Several dried-up wells in villages, in the neighbourhood of which relief works are in progress, were deepened by famine labour. Finding that in several places in the Owk firka the wells in the hamlets, inhabited by Malas and Madigas which are for the most part shallow and not substantially built, had run dry, I made arrangements for the supply of water to these out-castes by a caste man specially stationed at a suitable caste-well to draw water for them. The Divisional officers are being instructed to make similar arrangements in other affected parts with the help, where necessary, of funds obtained from the taluk boards. The water-supply was generally insufficient for irrigation purposes except in canal villages and under wells.

*Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.*—Cotton-picking continued, but was almost over, except in the northern section, where ragi and bengal-gram were also harvested. In the eastern section, wheat, grams, cotton, castor and ragi were harvested with a fair outturn. The standing crops under canal and wells are in moderate condition. There are no other crops worth mentioning.

*Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.*—Pasture was becoming insufficient even in the eastern section, and it was not available elsewhere except to a small extent in the vicinity of hills and in canal villages. Fodder was sufficient in the northern and eastern sections and in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks of southern section and insufficient elsewhere. Hill-grass continued to be used. The weakness of the cattle was increasing in the western and southern sections. In the other sections there were no visible signs of deterioration. Rinderpest continued to prevail in parts of the western and northern sections and in certain villages around Koilkuntla.

General remarks on above subjects.—Nil.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th of March 1897.

| Station.       | Rice.                  |                           | Ragi.           |                 | Cholam.                              |                                | Cumbu.          |                 | Remarks.                                                       |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | End of last fortnight. | End of current fortnight. | Last fortnight. | This fortnight. | Last fortnight.                      | This fortnight.                | Last fortnight. | This fortnight. |                                                                |
| Pattikonda ..  | 9.72                   | 9.18                      | ..              | ..              | { 12.87 (W)<br>13.90 (Y)             | { 12.87 (W)<br>13.39 (Y)       | 12.22           | 11.28           | Prices are either stationary or rising at almost all stations. |
| Pyapalli ..    | 8.64                   | 8.64                      | ..              | ..              | { 13.39 (Y)<br>14.42 (W and Y)       | { 14.42 (W and Y)<br>14.04 (Y) | 11.28           | 11.28           |                                                                |
| Kurnool ..     | 8.58                   | 8.58                      | 12.90           | 15.48           | { 14.04 (W)<br>14.38 (Y)             | { 14.04 (W)<br>14.04 (Y)       | 12.33           | 11.87           |                                                                |
| Nandikotkur .. | 8.58                   | 8.58                      | ..              | ..              | { 15.07 (W and Y)<br>15.75 (W and Y) | { 15.07 (W)<br>15.75 (Y)       | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Atmakuru ..    | 10.01                  | 10.01                     | ..              | ..              | { 14.38 (W)<br>14.04 (Y)             | { 15.07 (W)<br>14.38 (Y)       | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Nandiyal ..    | 9.29                   | 9.29                      | 16.77           | 16.77           | { 13.70 (W)<br>15.07 (Y)             | { 13.70 (W)<br>15.07 (Y)       | 10.00           | 10.00           |                                                                |
| Kalva ..       | 8.58                   | 9.29                      | ..              | 15.48           | { 13.82 (W)<br>13.43 (Y)             | { 14.11 (W)<br>13.43 (Y)       | 13.05           | 13.05           |                                                                |
| Koilkuntla ..  | 9.96                   | 9.96                      | 15.00           | 15.00           | { 13.43 (W)<br>12.64 (Y)             | { 13.43 (W)<br>12.64 (Y)       | 11.60           | 11.60           |                                                                |
| Owk ..         | 9.96                   | 9.96                      | 15.00           | 15.00           | { 12.33 (W and Y)<br>12.87 (W and Y) | { 12.87 (W)<br>14.22 (Y)       | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Allagadda ..   | 8.58                   | 8.58                      | 15.00           | 14.19           | { 15.80 (Y)<br>..                    | { 14.22 (Y)<br>..              | 13.05           | 13.05           |                                                                |
| Giddalore ..   | 8.71                   | 8.71                      | 15.00           | 15.00           | ..                                   | ..                             | 14.50           | 13.77           |                                                                |
| Markapur ..    | 9.96                   | 9.96                      | 18.00           | 18.00           | ..                                   | ..                             | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Average ..     | 9.21                   | 9.23                      | 15.38           | 15.61           | { 13.93 (W)<br>14.16 (Y)             | { 14.20 (W)<br>14.18 (Y)       | 12.25           | 11.99           |                                                                |

*Activity of trade.*—Trade continues to be moderately active and grain to be freely sold in most of the markets.

Imports into and exports from Kurnool and Nandyal were extensive as usual.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—I inspected the relief works at Allagadda and Alamur and on the Rampur Pass road between Chennur and Royalkuntla in the Sirvel taluk, and at Koilkuntla and Owk (first section only) in the Koilkuntla taluk. Except at Owk, where there were a good many cases of anæmia amongst the women, the workers appeared to be in very fair health. There is no doubt that the kitchens attached to these works are at present anything but a success, and I have everywhere impressed on the Tahsildars that it rests chiefly with them, the Revenue Inspectors, and the Kitchen Superintendents, and is one of their most important duties, to combat the prejudices that exist to the acceptance of cooked food. In the Koilkuntla taluk especially, the separation of the caste sections of the kitchen sheds from the other sections was not sufficiently marked, and this defect was ordered to be remedied forthwith. Reductions in tasks to suit the capacity of the workers and allowances for distant residence from the work spot were being made on all the works visited. At the Owk work it was satisfactory to find two carpenters employed in attending to any complaints that the stone-breakers might make regarding the handles of their hammers.

The Head Assistant Collector visited the works at Panyam and Betamcherla and his account of the condition of the coolies employed thereon is on the whole favourable. He was with me when I inspected the works at Allagadda and Alamur.

The Pyápali Deputy Collector inspected the Kodumur work and found nothing particular to complain of. This officer's omission to visit the works near Maddikera and Pattikonda, though he appears to have been at those places for at least one day during the fortnight, has not been explained. I have received from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer notes of inspections of the above-mentioned works recently made by him, from which it appears that he was satisfied with what he saw and has no suggestions to offer as to the management of the kitchens.

The District Medical and Sanitary Officer draws my attention to the fact that it will be impossible to arrange for the frequent medical inspection of the relief works to be opened in future, unless the staff of subordinates at his disposal is strengthened. The Medical officers in charge of the Local Fund dispensaries in the affected taluks are almost all engaged on the special duty of attending the relief works, either in the morning or evening, without prejudice to their ordinary duties, and where works are started at places at a distance from these institutions, for example, at Chagalmarri and Nossam, the workers will be without medical aid, if the existing state of things continues. The Surgeon-General states that, beyond a single hospital assistant, whom he has detailed for duty in this district, he has no others to send and suggests advertising for private men for famine purposes. The Board's orders are requested in this matter.

The Executive Engineer suggests that during the existing hot weather the hours of attendance on relief works prescribed by the Famine Code should be modified in the interests of the workers, and that attendance should be enforced only between 5 A.M. and noon. This, I do not think, can be allowed, as the working day would be curtailed and the second meal, dispensed at the kitchens, would have to be served at an absurdly early hour.

(2) *In villages.*—The condition of the people in the northern and eastern sections is reported to be still good. *Western section.*—The Pyápali Deputy Collector's narrative contains no detailed information under this head, in spite of my having remarked on his last narrative that the information furnished was most insufficient, and that the result of the inspection of each village made by him and the Tahsildar should be as far as possible separately reported. What is stated in general terms is that prospects are gloomy and that more relief works should be opened. A relief work was started at Gonegundla on 9th instant and by the end of the fortnight was being attended by 1,500 workers. Another work near Katarkonda on the track between Mallyala and Kodumur has, it is believed, been started within the last few days. I hope to have more works in progress before the end of the month. On the now long established work at Kodumur, there was an increase of 700 labourers, while on the Hosur work near Pattikonda the numbers rose by 200. At Maddikera the rise was merely nominal. As regards the Ramallakot taluk, in which there are at present no works, the Deputy Collector promises to submit certain proposals at an early date. *Southern section.*—I have been on tour in this section since the beginning of the month. Halts have been made at Allagadda, Chagalmarri, Mutyalpad, Alamur, Rudravaram, Mahadevapuram, Pasarapad, Koilkuntla and Owk. Relief was not urgently required in the neighbourhood of Chagalmarri, where I found a large betel garden and several fields of ragi under wells; the people having expressed a wish to be provided with some employment before the end of the month, I requested the Executive Engineer to arrange to take up once more the work of embanking the canal, and this should afford suitable labour, provided that the tasks imposed be not in excess of the capacity of the workers. Again at Mutyalpad, there was no urgent demand for employment; but, as I found several persons at Godiganur and Todendlapalli in the immediate vicinity looking emaciated, I ordered road work to be started at once close at hand; to this business I understand that an overseer has been deputed. At Alamur a work had been already started, while at Rudravaram and Mahadevapuram most of the labourers were finding work in the Nallamalas and the Reddis said that relief works were not required for the present. The Public Works Department is about to put in hand the repairs of some tanks at China Kumbalur; the District Forest-officer is prepared to offer line clearing along the foot of the hills, whenever required; a relief work is in progress

near Boyalkuntla; a choice of occupation is, therefore, offered to the people of those parts. At and near Pasurapad there had been fair crops under the canal. The Koilkuntla work, on which the coolies number between 800 and 900, seemed, so far as I could ascertain, to give sufficient relief to the centre of the taluk. On the three Owk works the numbers are rapidly increasing. Three new works, about which the Public Works Department was addressed some time back should be started without delay, viz., one in the village of Nossam, another somewhere between Mayalur and Vuyyalavada and a third at Akumalla or Mukkumalla on the road proposed to connect Owk and Koilkuntla. Considering the condition of the Owk firka to be somewhat critical, I abandoned my intention of going as far south as Nossam, which, however, had been visited by the Head Assistant Collector in the previous fortnight, and came westward instead reaching Owk on 14th instant.

*Relief for Weavers.*—The scheme for the relief of weavers in the Pattikonda taluk was working at two centres, viz., Pattikonda and Kodumur. The Pyápali Deputy Collector spent a whole week at the latter place, but has furnished no information whatever under this head in his narrative. From a demi-official communication since received from him, I learn that some 800 weavers were relieved from the Kodumur centre, and that the weavers of Maddikera, where a sub-depôt was about to be opened, refused to accept our terms. Nothing is said as to what has been going on at the Pattikonda centre. My revised scheme for the relief of the Kurnool weavers having been approved by the Board, steps to offer relief in accordance therewith were taken by the Head-quarter Deputy Collector. I regret to say, however, that from a report just to hand it appears that the weavers have refused to work for the wages proposed and ask for the rates allowed at Adoni. A scheme for the relief of weavers in Sirvel and Koilkuntla taluks was submitted to the Board for orders towards the close of the fortnight.

*Jail population.*—The fluctuations in the jail population are reported to be due to no particular causes, except that a slight increase of 4 and 7 in the number of prisoners in the Pattikonda and Markapur sub-jails, respectively, is attributed to the present adverse season.

*Banganapalli State.*—The Head Assistant Collector reports that at least 300 of the Nawab's subjects are attending our relief works. Some 140 belong to the northern villages and the rest are almost all inhabitants of the isolated jaghir that lies to the south-west of the main portion of the State. I have spoken to the Nawab to-day of the necessity for offering relief to his subjects, and he has undertaken to open works on the Rampur pass road and at Banganapalli without delay. The Nawab does not hesitate to admit that the state of the people demands his attention.

*Sickness and mortality.*—No deaths were reported from want of food. Small-pox was slightly prevalent in parts, the public health was otherwise good.

*Remarks.*—Nil.

#### MEASURES OF RELIEF.

*On works.*—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers.

| Taluks.    | Number employed. |                 |
|------------|------------------|-----------------|
|            | Last. fortnight. | This fortnight. |
| Koilkuntla | 3,164            | 4,728           |
| Sirvel     | 1,669            | 2,686           |
| Pattikonda | 3,692            | 6,298           |
| Nandyal    | 1,505            | 1,950           |
| Total      | 10,030           | 15,662          |

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Cno 227  
31-3-97  
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*Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

| Taluka.    |     |     |     |     |     |     | Number relieved<br>at kitchens. |                    |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------|
|            |     |     |     |     |     |     | Last<br>fortnight.              | This<br>fortnight. |
| Koilkuntla | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 222                             | 235                |
| Pattikonda | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 154                             | 363                |
| Sirvel     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29                              | 139                |
| Nandyal    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 92                              | 178                |
| Total      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 497                             | 915                |

*Private charity.*—A Komati named Bala Subbanna and some others of Bachepalli in the Sirvel taluk have been feeding certain Chenchu women and children who have come down to their village from the hills and are in want of food. I may mention that the District Forest-Officer is about to offer these hill people some relief work of a light description.

*Remarks.*—Nil.

#### INSPECTIONS OF THE COLLECTOR AND THE DIVISIONAL OFFICERS.

*Taluks and places visited.*—I was on tour throughout the fortnight and visited the following places:—*Sirvel taluk.*—Allagadda, Padakandla, Obalampalli, Alamur, Peda Bhojanam, Maddur, Chagalmarri, Settivid, Godegenur, Mutyalpad, Todendlapalli, Chakravartapalli, Krishnapuram, Narsapuram, Nagalavaram, Rudravaram, China Kambalur, Srirungapuram, Appallapalli, Kotakonda, Mahadevapuram, Boyalakunta, Dipaguntla, Nagalapuram and Pasarapad. *Koilkuntla taluk.*—Koilkuntla and Owk.

The Head Assistant Collector was on tour for 12 days out of the fortnight and visited the following places:—Allagadda, Alamur, fields of Padakandla, Oblampalli, Yadavadu, Narasapuram, Muttalur, Mittepalli, Bachepalli, Mutyalpad, R. Krishnapuram, Nagalavaram, Rudravaram, Kondamayapalli, Sirvel, Govindapalli, Alamur works near Panem, Balpanur, Chilkala, Voddaguntla and Betamcherla works.

The Deputy Collector of Pyapali visited the following villages:—Kodumur, Mamidyalpad, Masa Masjid, Bavapuram, Pedda Tekur, Doddipaud, Bastipad, Chinna Tekur, Dhone, Tuggali, Pattikonda, Marlapuram, Venkatapuram, Laddagiri and Gorantla. It is not clear from his narrative how many days he spent in camp.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector, Nandikotkur, was in camp for 13 days and visited the following places:—Damaguntla, Nagaluti, Nandikotkur, Jupaud, Tangadancha, Tarigopala, Tatipaud, Bollavaram, Bannur, Parumanchala, Timmapuram, Cherukucherla, Byrapuram, Velpanur, Ragadigudur, Abdullapuram and Mothukur.

The Cumbum Deputy Collector visited the following places:—Badducherla, Bhupatipalli, Lingajipalli, Soorepalli, Saidapuram and Kamalapuram.

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

With reference to the Board's remark in paragraph 4 of Board's Proceedings, No. 168, dated 26th February 1897, that the Public Works Department in this district requires strengthening, I beg to state that the matter is really one of great urgency for the following reasons:—

(1) *Relief works that I call upon the Executive Engineer to open are started only after the occurrence of great delay.*—The most striking instance of this is the extraordinary delay that took place in starting the work at Gonedandla on the track between Kodumur and Yemiganur in the Bellary district. Having found the labouring classes in the northern portion of the Pattikonda taluk to be in need of work, I requested the Executive Engineer on 7th ultimo, to offer road work near the above-mentioned place without delay. I stated clearly that the requisition was made in consequence of my personal observation of the needs of the people. On 16th ultimo I despatched a reminder enquiring what arrangements had been made and when the work could be

started. To this the Executive Engineer replied by letter, dated 21st ultimo, that the work had been opened already; but having learned from the Sub-Divisional Officer at Kurnool that the work had not been started, I again addressed the Engineer on 27th ultimo, pointing out that the statements made by him and his subordinate officer differed, and asking him to inform me distinctly whether work was being offered or not. I have heard nothing further from the Engineer on the subject, and the reports received by me from my subordinate show that relief was not offered till 9th instant. Had I received notice that work could not be started without some delay, steps to start it with the help of the Local Fund Department would have been taken; but here the Executive Engineer left me entirely in ignorance of what he proposed to do.

(2) *Unsuitable persons are being employed on temporary engagements to supervise works.*—One Manika Mudaliar, who had been appointed to be overseer in charge of the Panyam work, having been reported against by the Head Assistant Collector, I requested the Executive Engineer to replace him by a more suitable man. He was thereupon removed and his place was filled by a Eurasian named Fox, who was, as stated by the Head Assistant Collector, both elderly and ignorant of Telugu, and turned out to be of intemperate habits. This man, after holding charge for a very short time, suddenly went off leaving six days' work unmeasured, and has apparently deserted the service. The Head Assistant Collector being in the neighbourhood has assumed charge of the work, and I have been obliged to telegraph to the Executive Engineer to appoint a fresh overseer forthwith.

(3) *It appears that, unless special orders are passed to the contrary, it will be almost impossible to open in future more than a very limited number of relief works.*—The Superintending Engineer, in his letter to me, No. 4475, dated 14th March 1897, states that the supply of Public Works Department upper subordinates is practically exhausted, and asks me to place at the Executive Engineer's disposal two Local Fund overseers for charge of new works in the Pattikonda taluk. I am quite ready to lend the services of some of the six Local Fund overseers for a limited period in cases of urgency and I may mention that the work near Boyalkuntla has been in charge of one ever since it was opened on the 21st instant; but it seems to me doubtful how far I should be justified in employing for any length of time my Local Fund subordinates on works, the execution of which has been ordered to be undertaken by the Public Works Department.

## LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

| Taluk.      | Repair and construction of wells. |           |                  |           |                       |            | Other purposes.        |           |                  |           |                       |            | Total.                 |           |                  |           |                       |            | Number of wells.         |                               |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
|             | Applications accepted.            |           | Loans disbursed. |           | Applications pending. |            | Applications accepted. |           | Loans disbursed. |           | Applications pending. |            | Applications accepted. |           | Loans disbursed. |           | Applications pending. |            | Constructed or repaired. | Under construction or repair. |
|             | Number.                           | Amount.   | Number.          | Amount.   | Number.               | Amount.    | Number.                | Amount.   | Number.          | Amount.   | Number.               | Amount.    | Number.                | Amount.   | Number.          | Amount.   | Number.               | Amount.    |                          |                               |
| 1           | 2                                 | 3         | 4                | 5         | 6                     | 7          | 8                      | 9         | 10               | 11        | 12                    | 13         | 14                     | 15        | 16               | 17        | 18                    | 19         | 20                       | 21                            |
| Pattikonda  | 24                                | Rs. 4,815 | 24               | Rs. 2,570 | 122                   | Rs. 38,240 | 50                     | Rs. 4,550 | 60               | Rs. 4,550 | 405                   | Rs. 61,745 | 74                     | Rs. 9,365 | 74               | Rs. 7,120 | 528                   | Rs. 89,985 | ..                       | 24                            |
| Ranallakot  | 7                                 | 1,750     | ..               | ..        | 37                    | 11,920     | 1                      | 250       | 1                | 250       | 13                    | 1,240      | 8                      | 2,000     | 1                | 250       | 50                    | 13,160     | ..                       | ..                            |
| Nandikotkur | 1                                 | 250       | ..               | ..        | 4                     | 610        | 3                      | 450       | 1                | 450       | 3                     | 300        | 4                      | 700       | 4                | 700       | 7                     | 910        | ..                       | ..                            |
| Nandyal     | 1                                 | 200       | ..               | ..        | 35                    | 10,475     | 11                     | 1,200     | 7                | 875       | 10                    | 1,170      | 12                     | 1,400     | 8                | 950       | 45                    | 11,645     | ..                       | ..                            |
| Sirvel      | 12                                | 2,250     | 12               | 2,250     | 65                    | 16,920     | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | 12                     | 2,250     | 12               | 2,250     | 65                    | 16,920     | ..                       | 12                            |
| Koilkuntla  | 8                                 | 1,490     | 8                | 1,490     | 21                    | 7,080      | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | 8                      | 1,490     | 8                | 1,490     | 21                    | 7,080      | ..                       | 8                             |
| Cumbum      | ..                                | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                       | ..                            |
| Markapur    | ..                                | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                       | ..                            |
| Total       | 53                                | 10,755    | 46               | 6,635     | 290                   | 86,695     | 65                     | 6,450     | 61               | 6,125     | 432                   | 54,455     | 113                    | 17,205    | 107              | 12,760    | 722                   | 1,41,150   | ..                       | 47                            |

| Taluk.      | Purchase of fodder.    |         |                  |         |                       |         | Cattle and seed grain. |         |                  |         |                       |         | Total.                 |         |                  |         |                       |         | Number of wells.         |                               |
|-------------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
|             | Applications accepted. |         | Loans disbursed. |         | Applications pending. |         | Applications accepted. |         | Loans disbursed. |         | Applications pending. |         | Applications accepted. |         | Loans disbursed. |         | Applications pending. |         | Constructed or repaired. | Under construction or repair. |
|             | Number.                | Amount. | Number.          | Amount. | Number.               | Amount. | Number.                | Amount. | Number.          | Amount. | Number.               | Amount. | Number.                | Amount. | Number.          | Amount. | Number.               | Amount. |                          |                               |
| Pattikonda  | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Ranallakot  | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Nandikotkur | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Nandyal     | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Sirvel      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Koilkuntla  | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Cumbum      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Markapur    | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |
| Total       | 1                      | 100     | 1                | 100     | 31                    | 3,180   | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                       | ..                            |

RESOLUTION—dated 2nd April 1897, No. 270.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The distress is deepening in the district; the supply of drinking water is getting scarce; there is hardly any agricultural operation or standing crop in the affected tracts; what little of pasture and fodder there was is fast disappearing; the numbers on relief-works have gone up by more than 50 per cent. and the number of kitchen inmates has nearly doubled. Several dried-up wells were deepened during the fortnight by means of famine labour; and arrangements are being made for the supply of drinking water to the Panchama classes from *caste-wells*, as their own wells have in many places run dry. With the advance of the hot weather, the advent of cholera is a possibility, and no pains should therefore be spared to increase the supply of drinking water and to guard it from contamination.

3. Prices are fluctuating, but the markets are well supplied, and trade is active.

4. The condition of the people is reported to be fair except at Owk works where the women are, many of them, anæmic. This fact was already noticed by the Sanitary Commissioner, and the Board has issued the necessary instructions in the matter in its Proceedings, dated 15th March 1897, No. 230. The numbers on relief-works have increased from 10,030 to 15,662 during the fortnight and had further risen to 18,806 by the 20th March. The rise is general in all the affected taluks, the largest increase, nearly 2,600, being in Pattikonda. In this taluk, the prospects are gloomy, and more relief-works are required, which the Collector promises to start before the end of the current month. The Collector states, as the result of his personal inspection of the tract, that in the Sirvel taluk the works now in progress are sufficient to meet present requirements, but that more would be required by the end of the month. He, however, found several persons near Mutyalpad looking emaciated, and ordered the opening of a work for their benefit. The Sanitary Commissioner's opinion as to the need for relief in this taluk is somewhat different, and that officer's report has been communicated to the Collector for information and guidance in B.P., dated 11th March 1897, No. 220. The condition of the Owk firka in Koilkuntla taluk is considered critical, and more works are stated to be urgently required there; but the Public Works Department officers in the district seem—as usual—to be unequal to the task of organising relief-works with the promptitude which the occasion requires.

5. The attention of Government is specially invited to the general remarks made by the Collector at the close of his narrative regarding the inefficiency and inadequacy of the Public Works staff working in the district, and the urgent necessity for strengthening it. The matter has been brought to the notice of Government in the marginally-noted Proceedings. In his letter recorded in G.O., No. 1414, Revenue, dated 13th March 1897, the Superintending Engineer explained that the delays then complained of were due to the Collector not having supplied with promptness the information required regarding the works to be taken charge of by the Public Works Department; but it would appear from the Collector's remarks referred to above that the plea now put forward is want of sufficient establishment. This would not, however, explain the direct conflict of opinion as to a matter of fact between the Executive Engineer and his subordinate, referred to by the Collector. The Board requests that the paragraph regarding the District Engineering executive and its shortcomings may be sent to the Chief Engineer for disposal. Government ordered that all relief-works in the Kurnool district should be placed under the control of the Public Works Department, and orders were issued for further strengthening the Public Works staff in the district so long ago as November last—G.O., No. 678, Revenue, dated 30th November 1896. No effective steps seem, however, to have been taken to carry out these orders, and it is to be feared that, if the present state of things continue, the administration of relief in the district, the scope of which is widening rapidly, must come to a deadlock at no

B.P., dated 14th January 1897, No. 34 (paragraph 8).  
B.P., dated 26th February 1897, No. 168 (paragraphs 3 and 4).  
B.P., dated 4th March 1897, No. 220 (paragraph 5).

Flag C

Flag D

Flag F

Flag H

distant date. Pending the strengthening of the Public Works staff, the Collector should organize the necessary relief-works to the best of his ability with the aid of the Local Fund subordinates.

6. The increase in the numbers fed at kitchens, which is specially noticeable in the Sirvel and Pattikonda taluks, shows that better attention is being paid to this form of relief; but the small percentage of these numbers to the numbers on relief-works shows that there is scope for further improvement. The Collector's attention will be drawn in this connection to the remarks of the Board in paragraph 5 of its Proceedings, dated 8th March 1897, No. 202. The numbers of kitchen inmates in the Sirvel taluk in the fortnights ending 28th February and 15th March 1897 are stated to be 29 and 139, respectively, whereas the numbers reported in the weekly season reports for 27th February and 13th March are 145 and 285, respectively. The large variations between the two sets of figures should be explained.

7. The staff of medical subordinates in the district is inadequate; and the Collector writes: "the Surgeon-General states that beyond a single hospital assistant, whom he has detailed for duty in this district, he has no others to send and suggests advertising (apparently by the Collector) for private men for the purpose." It is requested that the attention of the Surgeon-General may be drawn to section 149 of the Famine Code, which lays on him the responsibility of providing the requisite staff of medical subordinates for special duty in famine districts, and that he may be ordered to supply the additional officers required without loss of time.

8. The Collector's action in negating the proposal to change the working hours on relief-works was, under the circumstances, correct, but the Board would ask Government to consider the terrible ordeal of working without shade, under the Deccan sun. In the last famine it was not unknown that workers began stone-breaking at 3 A.M., and the Board would ask Government to consider whether the rules might not be so far relaxed as to allow of gangs leaving work when their task was finished. This they might do early by coming in the dark and giving up the noontide recess.

9. The condition of the people in the Banganapalle State is reported to be bad, and nearly 300 of the Nawab's subjects are stated to have come on the relief-works in Koilkuntla. The Collector adds that he has spoken to the Nawab and that the latter has promised to open works in the State; but in the last season report it is stated that the people in the State are unwilling to accept famine wages and that employment has been provided for the needy on ordinary works where a man earns 2 annas 8 pies a day. While on this point, the Board observes that the Famine Code makes no distinction between the subjects of Foreign States and British subjects as to admission to gratuitous relief (section 87), but it nowhere says that they should be admitted to works. It is presumed, however, that they should be admitted; and, considering the many thousands of British subjects from the Deccan districts who are enjoying the hospitality of Mysore at the present time, it would, the Board thinks, be invidious to draw any distinction.

10. The weavers' relief scheme for Pattikonda is reported to be in operation, but the scheme for the Kurnool town has not yet found favour with the local weavers. The Collector is requested to enquire into and report the real cause of the refusal of the weavers to accept even the favourable terms offered by the scheme sanctioned in B.P., dated 5th March 1897, No. 192.

11. The information furnished about the Pyápali Deputy Collector's division is in several respects defective and this is mainly owing to the dilatoriness of the Divisional Officer in supplying the required information. The Collector refers four times in the present narrative, and each time unfavourably, to this Deputy Collector. His name is Muhammad Sufdar Hussain Sahib. The Collector should impress on him the importance of submitting famine reports and returns with promptitude and punctuality. It is observed that the loans statement, which should have accompanied the fortnightly narrative for the period ending 28th February last, was subsequently submitted by the Collector in an incomplete form, that the incompleteness was due to the fact that particulars for the Pyápali division had not been reported for that period and that the Board has, in its Proceedings, No. 2297, dated 26th March 1897

instructed the Collector to warn the Deputy Collector that a recurrence of unpunctuality will necessitate his being reported to Government. The Deputy Collector should be directed to expedite the proposals promised by him in connection with the Ramallakot taluk.

12. A large number of applications for loans is pending in the Pattikonda taluk. The Board considers that a Special Tahsildar for loans work may be appointed for the Kurnool district also.

13. The Collector should consider whether it is necessary that the stone-breaking hammers should be refaced. The ends must be worn out by this time, and the matter was referred to in a recent communication to the *Madras Mail*.

(True Copy and Extract.)

Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.  
" Collector of Kurnool.

Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.  
" the Collectors of other affected districts.

Edw. A. F. Eccleston.

He has himself the district & is  
now Revenue officer Madras



Revenue Secretariat,  
11th June 1897.

Ootacamund.  
5th May 1897.

Dear Elwin,

In para 11 of B.P. 270 d/1  
97, it is stated that the name of the  
Deputy Collector whose work  
has been favourably commented on is Maham  
His Excellency the  
Governor has been mistaken and that  
the Board is mistaken and that  
the man, The Civil List, p. 1  
shows the latter as in charge of  
the Head-Quarter Division and the forfi  
having been in charge of the Pyapal d  
vision at the time. On the otherhand th  
appears from the letter printed in G.O.  
B d/ 15.3.97., that Mahamad Sufdar Hus  
in was in charge of Cumbum in Februa  
am therefore unable to find out who thic  
ficer to blame is. If it is Mahdi Hus-  
in, you are to tell him that if he does  
not mend his ways, he will have to revert  
to his permanent post of Tahsildar.

With reference to my D.O. of the 5th ultimo, I am directed to ask whether  
the officer to blame is Mahdi Hussain or Hussain Sahib. His Excellency the  
Mahomed Sufdar Hussain.

Yours sincerely  
(Signed) G. Stokes.

Yours sincerely  
(Sa) G. Stokes.

Reminded.  
D.O. d/11-5-97.

Uctacamund

5th May 1897.

My dear Campbell,

89  
7/5/97

Please see paras 4 and 5 of B.P. 273  
a/ 2.4.97., which are transferred to you for  
disposal in the enclosed G.O. It seems that  
the man responsible for the defects of the  
D.P.W. in Kurnool is the Executive Engineer  
Mr. S.A. Subramania Aiyar. His Excellency  
feels that the man is not fitted for the  
present emergency and has directed that you  
should be written to <sup>to</sup> shift him and send a  
better man in his place.

In regard to the insuffi-  
ciency of the P.W. staff in the affected dis-  
tricts generally, His Excellency directs that  
you should be asked if you cannot make men  
the non-affected districts do double or extra  
work and draft the subordinates so released  
into the affected districts. This direction  
has been embodied in another G.O. going in  
circulation to-day, but as it will be some  
time before the order reaches you, I let  
you know beforehand so that you may take  
action in the direction indicated.

Yours sincerely  
(Sd) G. Stokes.

Printed list to RD, 2/1/97, suggested general

2.

7/5/97

Q. & No. 308 of 8<sup>th</sup> May 1897.

Paras 4 and 5 will be trans-  
ferred for disposal to the Chief  
Engineer's ~~where attention has~~  
~~been drawn more than on~~  
~~occasion to the shortcomings of~~  
~~the PWD in Kumbhak.~~

2. The attention of the Surgeon General will be drawn to the remarks in para 7. He is reminded of the responsibility imposed on him by section 144 of the Famine Code and is requested to state if he cannot provide additional staff for the affected districts by making the men elsewhere do ~~double or~~ extra work.

3 In regard to the remarks in para  
8 the Govt does not consider that  
any general relaxation of the  
rules is necessary as all coolies  
in this country have <sup>ordinarily</sup> to go through  
~~what the Board calls the small~~  
~~scale of working~~ without shade  
It may, however, be desirable  
to <sup>allow</sup> ~~go~~ ~~that~~ the indulgence pro-  
~~posed~~ to particular gangs  
to ~~be~~ to work in the B. P. projects  
for a specified period.

officer in charge of works may therefore  
be given discretion to relax the  
rules to the extent recommended by  
the Board

4. The Govt concurs in the  
views expressed in para 9.

11/5/97

BD (sett) 11/5/97  
L. M. Dept  
P. W. D. 11/5/97  
S. D.  
A. G.  
Surgeon-General K. P. D.

10/7

# Revenue (1897) Department.

D. O.  
CURRENT No. 126.

The Hon. Mr. Secy. C. S.  
The Hon. Mr. Secy. C. S.

Lodged  
11/5/97

D.O.  
Read C. Nos 126 & 128

RS  
24-6-97  
From

H. A. Lim, Esq.

For Order

circulated for in-

formation.

A. D. O. has been re: from  
Mr. Elwin which is also  
RS 19-6-97 answered to the effect that  
Mukdi Hussain is the officer  
at blame. He has been recommended  
as undid.

Dated 16th June 1897

Received 17-6-97

Registered 18-6-97

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Seen. Could not Mr. Elwin  
letter be communicated to the  
press? Mr. Sagar Hussain  
was ~~presented~~ <sup>presented</sup> in  
the newspaper a day or two  
ago.

Forwarding a letter  
from the Revenue officer,  
Madras Municipal Comm  
mission, for circulation  
to the Hon. Members.

23/6/97

A d.o. to Mr. Secy. C. S.  
showed lead to the necessary  
connection

23/6/97

23/6/97

There was a reference  
to G. Hussain in  
the news

# BACK PAPERS. ○

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |

# FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |

Madras, 14th June 1897.



To

H.A. Sim Esq.,

Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,

Ootacamund.

Sir,

The Board in its Proceedings No. 270 (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture) dated 2nd April 1897, printed in G.O. No. 303 (Revenue) dated 8th May 1897, remarks as follows:-

"II. The information furnished about the Pyapalli Deputy Collector's Division is in several respects defective and this is mainly owing to the dilatoriness of the Divisional Officer in supplying the required information. The Collector refers 4 times in the present narrative and each time unfavorably to this Deputy Collector. His name is Mahomed Sufdar Husain Sahib". I beg to submit I left the Pyapalli Division nearly a year ago on transfer to Cumbam Division and so I could not have written the report referred to by the Board. The Officer who wrote the report is Acting Deputy Collector Mahdi Husain Sahib and not myself. I beg to request you will be pleased to lay this matter before His Excellency the Governor in view to removing any unfavorable impression which His Excellency might have formed of my famine work while employed in the Kurnool District.

2. I regret to have to inform you that the document in which this unfortunate mistake has been made is one which has been placed at the disposal of the Public Press.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

*M. N. Husain*

Dy. Collector, Kurnool.  
Revenue Officer  
Madras Municipality

20



GOVERNMENT HOUSE,

*Chennai.*  
16 June 1897.

Department.

A.O.  
CURRENT No. 128

My dear Stokes,

His Excellency  
thinks that Members would  
probably like to see the  
enclosed. Will you kindly  
circulate it to them.

Yours sincerely,

*L. S. S.*

From

*E. A. Elwin, Esq.*  
Colbr. of Burmese

No.

Dated 16th June 1897

Received 19th June 1897

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that Mahdi  
Hussain has been duly  
warned.

7  
A.O. 126  
Encl. 1

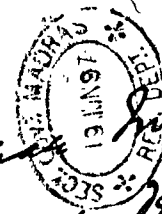
BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |

Kurnool  
16.6.97



My dear Mr. Stokes  
Your semi-official  
letter dated 11th inst. no 55.  
The Officer to blame is  
Mahdi Hussain, as  
warning in the terms  
indicated in your letter  
dated 5th ult. was duly  
administered to him.

Yours sincerely,  
Edwin

Page A

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |



25<sup>th</sup> June 1937.

To  
The Editor  
Madras Times

Sim

With reference to the  
leaderette in your issue of the  
21<sup>st</sup> instant headed "Out of  
danger" I ~~wrote~~<sup>wrote</sup> ~~to point out~~  
that the ~~sounds of~~<sup>words of</sup> ~~the~~  
~~officer~~<sup>who is to blame for the</sup> ~~disasters~~  
commented on by the Board  
of Review in the Resolution  
quoted from by you is not  
~~in the 11th~~<sup>11th</sup> Mahomed Infdr Hussain  
~~this officer~~<sup>who</sup> left the Poypalle  
Division nearly a year ago  
Yours faithfully  
#287625.

BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |

Revenue (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 5363

From

The Editor of the  
Madras Times

No.

Dated 27th June 1897

Received 29.6.97

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that a certain  
mistake which appeared  
in the Journal has been  
pointed out to the readers  
of the Times!

Order

Lodged.

13/6/97.

rs  
29697

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. (D) |
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|      |     |             |           |

# FURTHER PAPERS.

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

THE MADRAS TIMES,  
MADRAS.

27.6.77



Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your favour of the 25th inst. and have to thank you for pointing out the mistake. It had already been pointed out to me, and I have already pointed out the mistake to my readers.

The mistake was of course not through my fault, but I have expressed my regret privately to the printer in question.

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |
|      |     |             |       |
|      |     |             |       |
|      |     |             |       |

that - it got into the paper, as the  
~~cause~~ cause of the mistake in the G.O.

Yours truly  
 J. G. Bulow  
 Editor.

P.S. I should like to add  
 that I had no petty intention  
 of taking advantage of the mistake  
 in the G.O. to show it up  
 in a roundabout way to <sup>the public.</sup> ~~the public.~~  
 My remarks were honourable,  
 and were made in absolute ignorance that  
 the thing was a mistake.

J.B.

BACK PAPERS.

|      |     |            |      |
|------|-----|------------|------|
| G.O. | No. | Department | Date |
|------|-----|------------|------|

Government {1897} of Madras.  
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 308, 8th May 1897.

MAY.

Fortnightly Narrative, Kurnool District.

Passing orders on certain questions raised in the —, for the period ending 15th March 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture), dated 2nd April 1897, No. 270:—

Read—the following Fortnightly Narrative for the Kurnool District during the period ending 15th of March 1897:—

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Rainfall and water-supply—

|                                                     | INS.  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Rainfall in rain registering stations ... ..        | ...   |
| Do. up to the period from 1st April 1896 ... ..     | 15.91 |
| Average rainfall expected in the period ... ..      | ...   |
| Do. expected up to the period from 1st April ... .. | 27.25 |

The water-supply was generally sufficient for drinking purposes, except in some of the villages in the western section and in parts of the country lying at the foot of the western slopes of the Nallamalas. Several dried-up wells in villages, in the neighbourhood of which relief works are in progress, were deepened by famine labour. Finding that in several places in the Owk firka the wells in the hamlets, inhabited by Malas and Madigas which are for the most part shallow and not substantially built, had run dry, I made arrangements for the supply of water to these out-castes by a caste man specially stationed at a suitable caste-well to draw water for them. The Divisional Officers are being instructed to make similar arrangements in other affected parts with the help, where necessary, of funds obtained from the taluk boards. The water-supply was generally insufficient for irrigation purposes except in canal villages and under wells.

*Agricultural operations and condition of standing crops.*—Cotton-picking continued, but was almost over, except in the northern section, where ragi and bengal-gram were also harvested. In the eastern section, wheat, grams, cotton, castor and ragi were harvested with a fair outturn. The standing crops under canal and wells are in moderate condition. There are no other crops worth mentioning.

*Supply of fodder and pasture and condition of cattle.*—Pasture was becoming insufficient even in the eastern section, and it was not available elsewhere except to a small extent in the vicinity of hills and in canal villages. Fodder was sufficient in the northern and eastern sections and in the Nandyal and Sirvel taluks of southern section and insufficient elsewhere. Hill-grass continued to be used. The weakness of the cattle was increasing in the western and southern sections. In the other sections there were no visible signs of deterioration. Rinderpest continued to prevail in parts of the western and northern sections and in certain villages around Koilkuntla.

General remarks on above subjects.—Nil.

FOOD SUPPLIES AND THE STATE OF THE MARKETS.

Prices of principal food-grains at principal markets in the affected tracts, in seers of 80 tolas per rupee, for the period ending 15th of March 1897.

| Station.       | Rice.                  |                           | Ragi.           |                 | Cholam.                                           |                                             | Cumbu.          |                 | Remarks.                                                       |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | End of last fortnight. | End of current fortnight. | Last fortnight. | This fortnight. | Last fortnight.                                   | This fortnight.                             | Last fortnight. | This fortnight. |                                                                |
| Pattikonda     | 9.72                   | 9.18                      | ..              | ..              | { 12.87 (W)<br>13.90 (Y)<br>13.39 (Y)             | { 12.87 (W)<br>13.39 (Y)<br>14.42 (W and Y) | 12.22           | 11.28           | Prices are either stationary or rising at almost all stations. |
| Pyapali ..     | 8.64                   | 8.64                      | ..              | ..              | { 14.04 (W)<br>14.38 (Y)<br>15.07 (W and Y)       | { 14.04 (W)<br>14.04 (Y)<br>15.07 (W and Y) | 12.33           | 11.87           |                                                                |
| Kurnool ..     | 8.58                   | 8.58                      | 12.90           | 15.48           | { 15.75 (W and Y)<br>15.75 (W and Y)<br>14.38 (W) | { 15.07 (Y)<br>15.75 (Y)<br>15.07 (W)       | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Nandikotkur .. | 8.58                   | 8.58                      | ..              | ..              | { 14.04 (Y)<br>13.70 (W)<br>15.07 (Y)             | { 14.36 (Y)<br>13.70 (W)<br>15.07 (Y)       | 10.00           | 10.00           |                                                                |
| Atmakuru ..    | 10.01                  | 10.01                     | ..              | ..              | { 13.82 (W)<br>13.43 (Y)<br>13.43 (W)             | { 14.11 (W)<br>and (Y)<br>13.43 (W)         | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Nandiyal ..    | 9.29                   | 9.29                      | 16.77           | 16.77           | { 12.64 (Y)<br>12.33 (W and Y)<br>15.80 (Y)       | { 12.64 (Y)<br>12.87 (W and Y)<br>14.22 (Y) | 13.05           | 13.05           |                                                                |
| Kalva ..       | 8.58                   | 9.29                      | ..              | 15.48           | ..                                                | ..                                          | 11.60           | 11.60           |                                                                |
| Koilkuntla ..  | 9.96                   | 9.96                      | 15.00           | 15.00           | ..                                                | ..                                          | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Owk ..         | 9.96                   | 9.96                      | 15.00           | 14.19           | ..                                                | ..                                          | 13.05           | 13.05           |                                                                |
| Allagadda ..   | 8.58                   | 8.58                      | 15.00           | 15.00           | ..                                                | ..                                          | 14.50           | 13.77           |                                                                |
| Guddalore      | 8.71                   | 8.71                      | 18.00           | 18.00           | ..                                                | ..                                          | ..              | ..              |                                                                |
| Markapur ..    | 9.96                   | 9.96                      | ..              | ..              | { 13.93 (W)<br>14.16 (Y)                          | { 14.20 (W)<br>14.18 (Y)                    | 12.25           | 11.99           |                                                                |
| Average ..     | 9.21                   | 9.23                      | 15.38           | 15.61           | ..                                                | ..                                          | ..              | ..              |                                                                |

Activity of trade.—Trade continues to be moderately active and grain to be freely sold in most of the markets.

Imports into and exports from Kurnool and Nandyal were extensive as usual.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

(1) *On works.*—I inspected the relief works at Allagadda and Alamur and on the Rampur Pass road between Chennur and Royakkuntla in the Sirvel taluk, and at Koilkuntla and Owk (first section only) in the Koilkuntla taluk. Except at Owk, where there were a good many cases of anæmia amongst the women, the workers appeared to be in very fair health. There is no doubt that the kitchens attached to these works are at present anything but a success, and I have everywhere impressed on the Tahsildars that it rests chiefly with them, the Revenue Inspectors, and the Kitchen Superintendents, and is one of their most important duties, to combat the prejudices that exist to the acceptance of cooked food. In the Koilkuntla taluk especially, the separation of the caste sections of the kitchen sheds from the other sections was not sufficiently marked, and this defect was ordered to be remedied forthwith. Reductions in tasks to suit the capacity of the workers and allowances for distant residence from the work spot were being made on all the works visited. At the Owk work it was satisfactory to find two carpenters employed in attending to any complaints that the stone-breakers might make regarding the handles of their hammers.

The Head Assistant Collector visited the works at Panyam and Betamcherla and his account of the condition of the coolies employed thereon is on the whole favourable. He was with me when I inspected the works at Allagadda and Alamur.

The Pyápali Deputy Collector inspected the Kodumur work and found nothing particular to complain of. This officer's omission to visit the works near Maddikera and Pattikonda, though he appears to have been at those places for at least one day during the fortnight, has not been explained. I have received from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer notes of inspections of the above-mentioned works recently made by him, from which it appears that he was satisfied with what he saw and has no suggestions to offer as to the management of the kitchens.

The District Medical and Sanitary Officer draws my attention to the fact that it will be impossible to arrange for the frequent medical inspection of the relief works to be opened in future, unless the staff of subordinates at his disposal is strengthened. The Medical officers in charge of the Local Fund dispensaries in the affected taluks are almost all engaged on the special duty of attending the relief works, either in the morning or evening, without prejudice to their ordinary duties, and where works are started at places at a distance from these institutions, for example, at Chāgalmarri and Nossam, the workers will be without medical aid, if the existing state of things continues. The Surgeon-General states that, beyond a single hospital assistant, whom he has detailed for duty in this district, he has no others to send and suggests advising for private men for famine purposes. The Board's orders are requested in this matter.

The Executive Engineer suggests that during the existing hot weather the hours of attendance on relief works prescribed by the Famine Code should be modified in the interests of the workers, and that attendance should be enforced only between 5 A.M. and noon. This, I do not think, can be allowed, as the working day would be curtailed and the second meal, dispensed at the kitchens, would have to be served at an absurdly early hour.

(2) *In villages.*—The condition of the people in the northern and eastern sections is reported to be still good. *Western section.*—The Pyápali Deputy Collector's narrative contains no detailed information under this head, in spite of my having remarked on his last narrative that the information furnished was most insufficient, and that the result of the inspection of each village made by him and the Tahsildar should be as far as possible separately reported. What is stated in general terms is that prospects are gloomy and that more relief works should be opened. A relief work was started at Gonegundla on 9th instant and by the end of the fortnight was being attended by 1,500 workers. Another work near Katarkonda on the track between Mallyala and Kodumur has, it is believed, been started within the last few days. I hope to have more works in progress before the end of the month. On the now long established work at Kodumur, there was an increase of 700 labourers, while on the Hosur work near Pattikonda the numbers rose by 200. At Maddikera the rise was merely nominal. As regards the Ramallakot taluk, in which there are at present no works, the Deputy Collector promises to submit certain proposals at an early date. *Southern section.*—I have been on tour in this section since the beginning of the month. Halts have been made at Allagadda, Chagalmarri, Mutyalpad, Alamur, Rudravaram, Mahadevapuram, Pasarapad, Koilkuntla and Owk. Relief was not urgently required in the neighbourhood of Chagalmarri, where I found a large betel garden and several fields of ragi under wells; the people having expressed a wish to be provided with some employment before the end of the month, I requested the Executive Engineer to arrange to take up once more the work of embanking the canal, and this should afford suitable labour, provided that the tasks imposed be not in excess of the capacity of the workers. Again at Mutyalpad, there was no urgent demand for employment; but, as I found several persons at Godiganur and Todendlapalli in the immediate vicinity looking emaciated, I ordered road work to be started at once close at hand; to this business I understand that an overseer has been deputed. At Alamur a work had been already started, while at Rudravaram and Mahadevapuram most of the labourers were finding work in the Nallamalalas and the Reddis said that relief works were not required for the present. The Public Works Department is about to put in hand the repairs of some tanks at China Kumbalur; the District Forest Officer is prepared to offer line clearing along the foot of the hills, whenever required; a relief work is in progress

near Boyalkuntla; a choice of occupation is, therefore, offered to the people of those parts. At and near Pasurapad there had been fair crops under the canal. The Koilkuntla work, on which the coolies number between 800 and 900, seemed, so far as I could ascertain, to give sufficient relief to the centre of the taluk. On the three Owk works the numbers are rapidly increasing. Three new works, about which the Public Works Department was addressed some time back should be started without delay, viz., one in the village of Nossam, another somewhere between Mayalur and Vuyyala-vada and a third at Akumalla or Mukkumalla on the road proposed to connect Owk and Koilkuntla. Considering the condition of the Owk firka to be somewhat critical, I abandoned my intention of going as far south as Nossam, which, however, had been visited by the Head Assistant Collector in the previous fortnight, and came westward instead reaching Owk on 14th instant.

*Relief for Weavers.*—The scheme for the relief of weavers in the Pattikonda taluk was working at two centres, viz., Pattikonda and Kodumur. The Pyápali Deputy Collector spent a whole week at the latter place, but has furnished no information whatever under this head in his narrative. From a demi-official communication since received from him, I learn that some 800 weavers were relieved from the Kodumur centre, and that the weavers of Maddikera, where a sub-depôt was about to be opened, refused to accept our terms. Nothing is said as to what has been going on at the Pattikonda centre. My revised scheme for the relief of the Kurnool weavers having been approved by the Board, steps to offer relief in accordance therewith were taken by the Head-quarter Deputy Collector. I regret to say, however, that from a report just to hand it appears that the weavers have refused to work for the wages proposed and ask for the rates allowed at Adóni. A scheme for the relief of weavers in Sirvel and Koilkuntla taluks was submitted to the Board for orders towards the close of the fortnight.

*Jail population.*—The fluctuations in the jail population are reported to be due to no particular causes, except that a slight increase of 4 and 7 in the number of prisoners in the Pattikonda and Markapur sub-jails, respectively, is attributed to the present adverse season.

*Banganapalle State.*—The Head Assistant Collector reports that at least 300 of the Nawab's subjects are attending our relief works. Some 140 belong to the northern villages and the rest are almost all inhabitants of the isolated jaghir that lies to the south-west of the main portion of the State. I have spoken to the Nawab to-day of the necessity for offering relief to his subjects, and he has undertaken to open works on the Rampur pass road and at Banganapalle without delay. The Nawab does not hesitate to admit that the state of the people demands his attention.

*Sickness and mortality.*—No deaths were reported from want of food. Small-pox was slightly prevalent in parts, the public health was otherwise good.

*Remarks.*—Nil.

#### MEASURES OF RELIEF.

*On works.*—In what taluks open and comparison of numbers.

| Taluku.    | Number employed. |                 |
|------------|------------------|-----------------|
|            | Last fortnight.  | This fortnight. |
| Koilkuntla | 3,164            | 4,728           |
| Sirvel     | 1,669            | 2,686           |
| Pattikonda | 3,692            | 6,298           |
| Nandyal    | 1,505            | 1,950           |
| Total      | 10,030           | 15,662          |

*Gratuitous relief.*—Numbers relieved at kitchens and otherwise—

| Taluka.    |     |     |     |     |     |     | Number relieved<br>at kitchens. |                    |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|--------------------|
|            |     |     |     |     |     |     | Last<br>fortnight.              | This<br>fortnight. |
| Koilkuntla | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 222                             | 235                |
| Pattikonda | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 154                             | 363                |
| Sirvel     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29                              | 139                |
| Nandyal    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 92                              | 178                |
| Total      | ... |     |     |     |     |     | 497                             | 915                |

*Private charity.*—A Komati named Bala Subbanna and some others of Bachepalli in the Sirvel taluk have been feeding certain Chenchu women and children who have come down to their village from the hills and are in want of food. I may mention that the District Forest Officer is about to offer these hill people some relief work of a light description.

*Remarks.*—Nil.

## INSPECTIONS OF THE COLLECTOR AND THE DIVISIONAL OFFICERS.

*Taluka and places visited.*—I was on tour throughout the fortnight and visited the following places:—*Sirvel taluk.*—Allagadda, Padakandla, Obalampalli, Alamur, Peda Bhojanam, Maddur, Chagalmarri, Settivid, Godegenur, Mutyalpad, Todendlapalli, Chakravartapalli, Krishnapuram, Narsapuram, Nagalavaram, Rudravaram, China Kambalur, Srirungapuram, Appallapalli, Kotakonda, Mahadevapuram, Boyalakunta, Dipaguntla, Nagalapuram and Pasarapad. *Koilkuntla taluk.*—Koilkuntla and Owk.

The Head Assistant Collector was on tour for 12 days out of the fortnight and visited the following places:—Allagadda, Alamur, fields of Padakandla, Oblampalli, Yadavadu, Narasapuram, Muttalur, Mittepalli, Bachepalli, Mutyalpad, R. Krishnapuram, Nagalavaram, Rudravaram, Kondamayapalli, Sirvel, Govindapalli, Alamur works near Paniem, Balpanur, Chilkala, Voddaguntla and Betamcherla works.

The Deputy Collector of Pyápali visited the following villages:—Kodumur, Mamidyapad, Masa Masjid, Bavapuram, Pedda Tekur, Doddipaud, Bastipad, Chinna Tekur, Dhone, Tuggali, Pattikonda, Marlapuram, Venkatapuram, Laddagiri and Gorantla. It is not clear from his narrative how many days he spent in camp.

The Head-quarter Deputy Collector, Nandikotkur, was in camp for 13 days and visited the following places:—Damaguntla, Nagaluti, Nandikotkur, Jupaud, Tangadancha, Tarigopala, Tātipaud, Bollavaram, Bannur, Parumanchala, Timmapuram, Cherukucherla, Byrapuram, Velpanur, Ragadigudur, Abdullapuram and Mothukur.

The Cumbum Deputy Collector visited the following places:—Badducherla, Bhupatipalli, Lingajipalli, Soorepalli, Saidapuram and Kamalapuram.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

With reference to the Board's remark in paragraph 4 of Board's Proceedings, No. 168, dated 26th February 1897, that the Public Works Department in this district requires strengthening, I beg to state that the matter is really one of great urgency for the following reasons:—

(1) *Relief works that I call upon the Executive Engineer to open are started only after the occurrence of great delay.*—The most striking instance of this is the extraordinary delay that took place in starting the work at Gonegandla on the track between Kodumur and Yemiganur in the Bellary district. Having found the labouring classes in the northern portion of the Pattikonda taluk to be in need of work, I requested the Executive Engineer on 7th ultimo, to offer road work near the above-mentioned place without delay. I stated clearly that the requisition was made in consequence of my personal observation of the needs of the people. On 16th ultimo I despatched a reminder enquiring what arrangements had been made and when the work could be

started. To this the Executive Engineer replied by letter, dated 21st ultimo, that the work had been opened already; but having learned from the Sub-Divisional Officer at Kurnool that the work had not been started, I again addressed the Engineer on 27th ultimo, pointing out that the statements made by him and his subordinate officer differed, and asking him to inform me distinctly whether work was being offered or not. I have heard nothing further from the Engineer on the subject, and the reports received by me from my subordinate show that relief was not offered till 9th instant. Had I received notice that work could not be started without some delay, steps to start it with the help of the Local Fund Department would have been taken; but here the Executive Engineer left me entirely in ignorance of what he proposed to do.

(2) *Unsuitable persons are being employed on temporary engagements to supervise works.*—One Manika Mudaliar, who had been appointed to be overseer in charge of the Panyam work, having been reported against by the Head Assistant Collector, I requested the Executive Engineer to replace him by a more suitable man. He was thereupon removed and his place was filled by a Eurasian named Fox, who was, as stated by the Head Assistant Collector, both elderly and ignorant of Telugu, and turned out to be of intemperate habits. This man, after holding charge for a very short time, suddenly went off leaving six days' work unmeasured, and has apparently deserted the service. The Head Assistant Collector being in the neighbourhood has assumed charge of the work, and I have been obliged to telegraph to the Executive Engineer to appoint a fresh overseer forthwith.

(3) *It appears that, unless special orders are passed to the contrary, it will be almost impossible to open in future more than a very limited number of relief works.*—The Superintending Engineer, in his letter to me, No. 4475, dated 14th March 1897, states that the supply of Public Works Department upper subordinates is practically exhausted, and asks me to place at the Executive Engineer's disposal two Local Fund overseers for charge of new works in the Pattikonda taluk. I am quite ready to lend the services of some of the six Local Fund overseers for a limited period in cases of urgency and I may mention that the work near Boyalkuntla has been in charge of one ever since it was opened on the 21st instant; but it seems to me doubtful how far I should be justified in employing for any length of time my Local Fund subordinates on works, the execution of which has been ordered to be undertaken by the Public Works Department.

LOAN TRANSACTIONS.—Statement showing particulars of loan transactions under the Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans Act.

No. 308, REVENUE, 8TH MAY 1897.

| Taluka.     | Repair and construction of wells. |           |                  |           |                       |            | Other purposes.        |           |                  |           |                       |            | Total.                 |           |                  |           |                       |            | Number of wells.         |                               |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
|             | Applications accepted.            |           | Loans disbursed. |           | Applications pending. |            | Applications accepted. |           | Loans disbursed. |           | Applications pending. |            | Applications accepted. |           | Loans disbursed. |           | Applications pending. |            | Constructed or repaired. | Under construction or repair. |
|             | Number.                           | Amount.   | Number.          | Amount.   | Number.               | Amount.    | Number.                | Amount.   | Number.          | Amount.   | Number.               | Amount.    | Number.                | Amount.   | Number.          | Amount.   | Number.               | Amount.    |                          |                               |
| 1           | 2                                 | 3         | 4                | 5         | 6                     | 7          | 8                      | 9         | 10               | 11        | 12                    | 13         | 14                     | 15        | 16               | 17        | 18                    | 19         | 20                       | 21                            |
| Pattikonda  | 24                                | Rs. 4,815 | 24               | Rs. 2,570 | 122                   | Rs. 33,240 | 50                     | Rs. 4,550 | 50               | Rs. 4,550 | 406                   | Rs. 61,745 | 74                     | Rs. 9,365 | 74               | Rs. 7,120 | 528                   | Rs. 89,985 | ..                       | 24                            |
| Ramalakot   | 7                                 | 1,750     | ..               | ..        | 37                    | 11,920     | 1                      | 250       | 1                | 250       | 13                    | 1,240      | 8                      | 2,000     | 1                | 250       | 50                    | 13,160     | ..                       | ..                            |
| Nandikotkur | 1                                 | 250       | 1                | 250       | 4                     | 610        | 3                      | 450       | 3                | 450       | 3                     | 300        | 4                      | 700       | 4                | 700       | 7                     | 910        | ..                       | ..                            |
| Nandyal     | 1                                 | 200       | 1                | 75        | 35                    | 10,475     | 11                     | 1,200     | 7                | 875       | 10                    | 1,170      | 12                     | 1,400     | 8                | 950       | 45                    | 11,645     | ..                       | 2                             |
| Sirvel      | 12                                | 2,250     | 12               | 2,250     | 65                    | 16,920     | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | 12                     | 2,250     | 12               | 2,250     | 65                    | 16,920     | ..                       | 1                             |
| Koilkunda   | 8                                 | 1,490     | 8                | 1,490     | 21                    | 7,080      | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | 8                      | 1,490     | 8                | 1,490     | 21                    | 7,080      | ..                       | 12                            |
| Cumbum      | ..                                | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                       | 8                             |
| Markapur    | ..                                | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                     | ..        | ..               | ..        | ..                    | ..         | ..                       | ..                            |
| Total       | 53                                | 10,755    | 46               | 6,655     | 290                   | 86,695     | 65                     | 6,450     | 61               | 6,125     | 432                   | 54,455     | 118                    | 17,205    | 107              | 12,760    | 722                   | 1,41,150   | ..                       | 47                            |

| Taluka.     | Purchase of fodder.    |         |                  |         |                       |         | Cattle and seed grain. |         |                  |         |                       |         | Total.                 |         |                  |         |                       |         |
|-------------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
|             | Applications accepted. |         | Loans disbursed. |         | Applications pending. |         | Applications accepted. |         | Loans disbursed. |         | Applications pending. |         | Applications accepted. |         | Loans disbursed. |         | Applications pending. |         |
|             | Number.                | Amount. | Number.          | Amount. | Number.               | Amount. | Number.                | Amount. | Number.          | Amount. | Number.               | Amount. | Number.                | Amount. | Number.          | Amount. | Number.               | Amount. |
| Pattikonda  | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Ramalakot   | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Nandikotkur | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Nandyal     | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Sirvel      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Koilkunda   | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Cumbum      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Markapur    | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      | ..                     | ..      | ..               | ..      | ..                    | ..      |
| Total       | 1                      | 100     | 1                | 100     | 31                    | 3,180   | 28                     | 29      | 30               | 31      | 32                    | 33      | 34                     | 35      | 36               | 37      | 38                    | 39      |

No. 308, REVENUE, 8TH MAY 1897.

Resolution—dated 2nd April 1897, No. 270.

Submitted for the information of Government.

2. The distress is deepening in the district; the supply of drinking water is getting scarce; there is hardly any agricultural operation or standing crop in the affected tracts; what little of pasture and fodder there was is fast disappearing; the numbers on relief-works have gone up by more than 50 per cent. and the number of kitchen inmates has nearly doubled. Several dried-up wells were deepened during the fortnight by means of famine labour; and arrangements are being made for the supply of drinking water to the Panchama classes from *caste-wells*, as their own wells have in many places run dry. With the advance of the hot weather, the advent of cholera is a possibility, and no pains should therefore be spared to increase the supply of drinking water and to guard it from contamination.

3. Prices are fluctuating, but the markets are well supplied, and trade is active.

4. The condition of the people is reported to be fair except at Owk works where the women are, many of them, anæmic. This fact was already noticed by the Sanitary Commissioner, and the Board has issued the necessary instructions in the matter in its Proceedings, dated 15th March 1897, No. 230. The numbers on relief-works have increased from 10,030 to 15,662 during the fortnight and had further risen to 18,806 by the 20th March. The rise is general in all the affected taluks, the largest increase, nearly 2,600, being in Pattikonda. In this taluk, the prospects are gloomy, and more relief-works are required, which the Collector promises to start before the end of the current month. The Collector states, as the result of his personal inspection of the tract, that in the Sirvel taluk the works now in progress are sufficient to meet present requirements, but that more would be required by the end of the month. He, however, found several persons near Mutyalpad looking emaciated, and ordered the opening of a work for their benefit. The Sanitary Commissioner's opinion as to the need for relief in this taluk is somewhat different, and that officer's report has been communicated to the Collector for information and guidance in B.P., dated 11th March 1897, No. 220. The condition of the Owk firka in Koilkunda taluk is considered critical, and more works are stated to be urgently required there; but the Public Works Department officers in the district seem—as usual—to be unequal to the task of organising relief-works with the promptitude which the occasion requires.

5. The attention of Government is specially invited to the general remarks made by the Collector at the close of his narrative regarding the inefficiency and inadequacy of the Public Works staff working in the district, and the urgent necessity for strengthening it. The matter has been brought to the notice of Government in B.P., dated 14th January 1897, No. 34 (paragraph 8). B.P., dated 26th February 1897, No. 168 (paragraphs 3 and 4). B.P., dated 4th March 1897, No. 220 (paragraph 5).

the works to be taken charge of by the Public Works Department; but it would appear from the Collector's remarks referred to above that the plea now put forward is want of sufficient establishment. This would not, however, explain the direct conflict of opinion as to a matter of fact between the Executive Engineer and his subordinate, referred to by the Collector. The Board requests that the paragraph regarding the District Engineering executive and its shortcomings may be sent to the Chief Engineer for disposal. Government ordered that all relief-works in the Kurnool district should be placed under the control of the Public Works Department, and orders were issued for further strengthening the Public Works staff in the district so long ago as November last—G.O., No. 678, Revenue, dated 30th November 1896. No effective steps seem, however, to have been taken to carry out these orders, and it is to be feared that, if the present state of things continue, the administration of relief in the district, the scope of which is widening rapidly, must come to a deadlock at no

distant date. Pending the strengthening of the Public Works staff, the Collector should organize the necessary relief-works to the best of his ability with the aid of the Local Fund subordinates.

6. The increase in the numbers fed at kitchens, which is specially noticeable in the Sirvel and Pattikonda taluks, shows that better attention is being paid to this form of relief; but the small percentage of these numbers to the numbers on relief-works drawn in this connection to the remarks of the Board in paragraph 5 of its Proceedings, dated 8th March 1897, No. 202. The numbers of kitchen inmates in the Sirvel taluk in the fortnights ending 28th February and 15th March 1897 are stated to be 29 and 139, respectively, whereas the numbers reported in the weekly season reports for 27th February and 13th March are 145 and 285, respectively. The large variations between the two sets of figures should be explained.

7. The staff of medical subordinates in the district is inadequate; and the Collector writes: "the Surgeon-General states that beyond a single hospital assistant, whom he has detailed for duty in this district, he has no others to send and suggests advertising (apparently by the Collector) for private men for the purpose." It is requested that the attention of the Surgeon-General may be drawn to section 149 of the Famine Code, which lays on him the responsibility of providing the requisite staff of medical subordinates for special duty in famine districts, and that he may be ordered to supply the additional officers required without loss of time.

8. The Collector's action in negating the proposal to change the working hours on relief-works was, under the circumstances, correct, but the Board would ask Government to consider the terrible ordeal of working without shade, under the Deccan sun. In the last famine it was not unknown that workers began stone-breaking at 3 A.M., and the Board would ask Government to consider whether the rules might not be so far relaxed as to allow of gangs leaving work when their task was finished. This they might do early by coming in the dark and giving up the noontide recess.

9. The condition of the people in the Banganapalle State is reported to be bad, and nearly 300 of the Nawab's subjects are stated to have come on the relief-works in Koilkuntla. The Collector adds that he has spoken to the Nawab and that the latter has promised to open works in the State; but in the last season report it is stated that the people in the State are unwilling to accept famine wages and that employment has been provided for the needy on ordinary works where a man earns 2 annas 8 pies a day. While on this point, the Board observes that the Famine Code makes no distinction between the subjects of Foreign States and British subjects as to admission to gratuitous relief (section 87), but it nowhere says that they should be admitted to works. It is presumed, however, that they should be admitted; and, considering the many thousands of British subjects from the Deccan districts who are enjoying the hospitality of Mysore at the present time, it would, the Board thinks, be invidious to draw any distinction.

10. The weavers' relief scheme for Pattikonda is reported to be in operation, but the scheme for the Kurnool town has not yet found favour with the local weavers. The Collector is requested to enquire into and report the real cause of the refusal of the weavers to accept even the favourable terms offered by the scheme sanctioned in B.P., dated 5th March 1897, No. 192.

11. The information furnished about the Pyápali Deputy Collector's division is in several respects defective and this is mainly owing to the dilatoriness of the Divisional Officer in supplying the required information. The Collector refers four times in the present narrative, and each time unfavourably, to this Deputy Collector. His name is Muhammad Sufdar Hussain Sahib. The Collector should impress on him the importance of submitting famine reports and returns with promptitude and punctuality. It is observed that the loans statement, which should have accompanied the fortnightly narrative for the period ending 28th February last, was subsequently submitted by the Collector in an incomplete form, that the incompleteness was due to the fact that particulars for the Pyápali division had not been reported for that period and that the Board has, in its Proceedings, No. 2297, dated 26th March 1897,

instructed the Collector to warn the Deputy Collector that a recurrence of unpunctuality will necessitate his being reported to Government. The Deputy Collector should be directed to expedite the proposals promised by him in connection with the Ramallakot taluk.

12. A large number of applications for loans is pending in the Pattikonda taluk. The Board considers that a Special Tahsildar for loans work may be appointed for the Kurnool district also.

13. The Collector should consider whether it is necessary that the stone-breaking hammers should be refaced. The ends must be worn out by this time, and the matter was referred to in a recent communication to the *Madras Mail*.

(True Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) L. E. BUCKLEY,  
Famine Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.  
" Collector of Kurnool.  
Copy to the Sanitary Commissioner.  
" " Collectors of other affected districts.

ORDER—No. 308, Revenue, dated 8th May 1897.

Miscellaneous.

Paragraphs 4 and 5 will be transferred for disposal to the Chief Engineer

2. The attention of the Surgeon-General will be drawn to the remarks in paragraph 7. He is reminded of the responsibility imposed on him by section 149 of the Famine Code and is requested to state if he cannot provide additional staff for the affected districts by making the men elsewhere do extra work.

3. In regard to the remarks in paragraph 8 the Government does not consider that any general relaxation of the rules is necessary as all coolies in this country have ordinarily to work without shade. It may, however, be desirable to allow particular gangs to work as the Board proposes for a specified period. The officers in charge of works may therefore be given discretion to relax the rules whenever necessary to the extent recommended by the Board.

4. The Government concurs in the views expressed in paragraph 9.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,  
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Revenue Settlement,  
Land Records and Agriculture).  
" the Local and Municipal Department.  
" the Public Works Department.  
" the Financial Department.  
" the Accountant-General.  
" the Surgeon-General, through the Public Department.

Exd. Shaik Karim.

70 Copies.